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corporate affiliates and MRS symposia chairs. Anne was secretary to the director of publications for the Instrument Society of America from 1973-1980 and then secretary in the Purchasing Department of Joy Manufacturing Company until she joined MRS two years ago.

Lucy Blackford, Membership Records

In January 1985, Lucy joined the staff with responsibility for membership records and other computer data bases. Lucy, who had worked for the Society on a part-time basis during 1984 as a computer specialist, now maintains all membership records and special interest lists for promoting membership and meetings. She recently instituted a bulk mailing system whereby institutions with large MRS representation may obtain a bulk shipment of MRS literature such as a calls for papers and preliminary programs

for speedier internal distribution. Anyone interested in using this service is encouraged to contact her for details.

Patrick M. Gruden, Graphic Artist

Pat joined the staff in June 1985 to handle design and production of proceedings, abstract books, and general promotional and meetings materials for the Society. Pat has a diverse background in printing and graphics with Gulf Oil Corporation. He has recently completed the Society's 1985 Membership Directory, program and printed materials for the 1985 Fall Meeting, and production and promotional materials for the five proceedings volumes resulting from the 1985 Spring Meeting in San Francisco. He is responsible for the design, layout, and production of the **MRS BULLETIN**.

"MRS is at a critical stage of growth," according to John Ballance, "and the expertise provided by the staff will enable us to refine administration of current member services and to implement new innovations." In addition to the new *Journal of Materials Research*, and expansion of book publishing, meetings, and short course and corporate participation programs, MRS is experiencing significant activity on the local and international levels, according to Ballance. New Sections, Student Chapters, and MRS groups in Europe, Asia, Australia, and elsewhere will require support from Headquarters in the coming year.

"We are enthusiastic about the new activities planned for 1986," he said, "and invite the members to contact the Headquarters staff to discuss their ideas on any of these programs."

MRS Corporate Participation Program

As a Corporate Affiliate of the Materials Research Society, your organization is kept abreast of the Society's goals and activities and afforded special opportunities to enhance your research programs through:

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For complete details on the program, contact MRS Headquarters, 9800 McKnight Road, Suite 327, Pittsburgh, PA 15237; (412) 367-3003

IN MEMORIAM Frederick W. Vratny

Frederick W. Vratny, a Distinguished Member of the Technical Staff at AT&T Bell Laboratories, died September 4, 1985 after a prolonged illness.

Fred Vratny earned the BS degree in chemistry in 1953 from the University of Michigan where he was a Regents Scholar. He was awarded the MS and PhD degrees in physical chemistry in 1956 from the University of Indiana, where he authored a thesis on the analytical aspects of Raman spectroscopy. Prior to joining Bell Laboratories, Vratny spent four years as a Professor of Physics and Chemistry at Purdue University.

Fred Vratny joined Bell Laboratories in 1960. His early work was devoted to the study of thin films for circuits and discrete devices. He also contributed to the understanding of conduction in thin dielectrics and applied this knowledge to the invention of novel switching devices and varactors. Vratny next contributed extensively to the technology and metallurgy of tantalum, tantalum oxide and tantalum nitride thin films and their application in thin film circuitry. He pioneered in understanding the sputter deposition and etching of these materials, and much of the insight gained in this period was crucial to the successful manufacture of thin film circuits.

Following his work in thin film circuit technology, Vratny became involved

in the development of materials and processes for integrated circuit fabrication, where he contributed significantly. He studied photoresist materials, cleaning processes, and the source and nature of VLSI circuit defects. He brought to his work in this field the highest level of scientific curiosity and thoroughness, and consequently established the basic understanding required for sound engineering of processes and equipment. Vratny also contributed to the development of x-ray lithographic technology by studying the materials and fabrication processes required to form x-ray masks.

Finally, Vratny followed his interests in integrated circuit technology to the field of packaging, where he produced inventive solutions to the packaging problems posed by modern VLSI circuitry. His work in this area again focused upon materials and processes required for the solution of practical problems. In all, Vratny was awarded 18 patents for inventions in sputtering technology, plating, imaging devices, x-ray lithography, and device fabrication. A like number of patent applications remained pending at the time of his death.

Fred Vratny was a dedicated, generous colleague whose presence at Bell Laboratories will be missed.

H. J. Leamy
AT&T Bell Laboratories

Subscription Information on *Journal of Materials Research*

The Materials Research Society has announced the publication of a major new archival journal, called *Journal of Materials Research*, to document interdisciplinary results in forefront areas of materials research. The first issue is scheduled to appear in January 1986. The Journal will be published for the Materials Research Society by the American Institute of Physics.

Members of MRS will receive a subscription to *Journal of Materials Research*; \$25 from members dues will be allocated for the Journal. Student

members may subscribe for \$15 in addition to their \$15 dues.

Foreign subscribers to *Journal of Materials Research* may obtain their issues by air freight for an additional charge of \$15 in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa, and for \$23 in Asia or Oceania. Members desiring air freight service should forward payment to:

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