

Montanans and Miners

by Alan Joscelyn

From my perspective as a fourth-generation Montanan who has worked in mining for the past twenty years or so, let me offer some observations on what's happening with the people of Montana and mining. Maybe my thoughts will have some relevance for those of you in other states as well.

Our State was built by mining. Our State Flag displays the motto "*Oro y Plata*" beneath a crossed pick and shovel, and at one time, we were proud to call ourselves "The Treasure State."

What a contrast to today's Montana, where mining has been under siege for the past 15 years. Where the New World developers finally found it expedient to just give up trying to get permission to mine the stupendously rich veins in an old-time mining district near Cooke City, and instead to surrender their project to the federal government. Where we the mining industry spent \$2 million fighting off anti-mining Initiative 122 in 1996, only to see Initiative 137 enacted in 1998. The Montana Environmental Information Center's Initiative 137 attacked surface mining/cyanide leaching as a "failed technology." Despite ranking dead-broke last in the nation in per-capita income, we passed the initiative last November, taking away from ourselves one of the most fabulously productive tools available to a resource-rich state.

What's going on here? How can a handful of activists do this? Where are the good people of our State, the people who make a living here, whose families have made a living here, who know from whence we came?

The good people of Montana haven't gone into hibernation, and they haven't been brainwashed. In fact, they've been trying to send us a message, and the message is that they just don't trust us — we, you and I — the mining industry. Why do I think this? Simple. If a majority of the public had some affirmative measure of trust in the industry, they would shake off the allegations of the anti-mining activists and give miners reasonable leeway to do mining in Montana. That this trust doesn't exist is implicit in the difficulty with permitting new mine projects and in the passage of I-137. Lack of trust has made it easy for anti-mining activists to do what they've done.

So, why doesn't the public trust us? I think it has to do with history, and with change in our society. I also think it has to do with the inability of we miners to demonstrate that we are ready to accept the responsibilities society insists we accept before it will recognize us as full members of the modern business community.

Let's talk first about our history, and how things have changed. Around the turn of the last century, our great-

grandparents lived on farms and ranches and in farming, mining and timber towns. They actually worked in the outdoors, farming, cutting trees, mining, building. They raised cattle, pigs and chickens for food, and did their own dirty work when it came time to butcher. They understood the price end of the equation — that eating meat means killing, that burning coal and producing copper means holes in the earth, that lumber means cutting trees, that eating bread means breaking sod and cultivating fields.

More and more, though, people today don't know these things. Fewer and fewer of us actually have to deal with hows and whys of how our daily bread and comforts are produced. Many of us live more and more in an antiseptic, hi-tech virtual world in which there is no obvious connection between the comforts we enjoy and the price paid to produce them. Our main connection with the outdoors is for recreation.

The result is that anti-mining activists have an easy time of it when they focus the attention of today's public on the unlovely aspects of mining. There's an old saying, if you want an omelet, you have to break a few eggs. Likewise, you have to dig in the earth, disturb nature, if you want the products built with the metals reposing in the earth's crust. It's a fact of life, but it's one no one wants to acknowledge in today's world.

And what about our mining heritage? My State was built by mining, and we miners are proud of this heritage. We like to call attention to it when somebody gets down on us, as seems to have been happening quite a bit lately, and maybe we're a little puzzled that it hasn't made much of an impression when it counted. The problem is, while we like to remember the colorful characters and stories, there's another angle to the story.

Every Montana kid takes Montana History, and learns about the bad ol' Anaconda Company, plundering Montana's wealth and sending it back to New York, and leaving what? The Berkeley Pit and the Anaconda smelter, the combination that gave us the biggest Superfund Site in the country. There

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President's Message

Jim Duff, Coeur d'Alene Mines



In the last issue of the *Bulletin* I presented the goals for the Northwest Mining Association that were adopted at the December 1998 meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Association staff and Trustees have been extremely active during the first three months of 1999, and we are fully engaged on key issues of vital interest to the hardrock mining industry. In this message I

will highlight some of the background on NWMA's work on the dominant issue of the moment, the proposed revised BLM 3809 regulations. I will also touch upon some of the expected issues that the Association will focus on during the balance of the year.

The BLM released its proposed revisions of the 43 CFR 3809 regulations on February 9, 1999, and announced that the comment period would be open until May 10, 1999. The NWMA Public Lands Committee under the able leadership of Co-Chairmen **Paul Jones** and **Bill Prince** immediately sprang into action and organized several working groups to analyze and prepare comments on different aspects of the 3809 rulemaking process.

The leadership of the Public Lands Committee met with representatives from the state mining associations and the National Mining Association in early-March and established a coordinated and joint effort whereby the NWMA and the NMA combined their efforts to establish joint NWMA-NMA working groups. In addition, the NWMA has been working with the state associations and the NMA to stimulate and coordinate individual comments and participation at the sixteen public hearings.

At the hearings held to date in Reno, Elko and Fairbanks, the comments have been overwhelmingly opposed to the proposed regulations. An Action Alert was recently faxed to all Association members with information about the public hearings. Your participation in the 3809 process is important. For more information please contact Laura or Ivan at the NWMA office.

Paul Jones and Bill Prince have set a new standard for

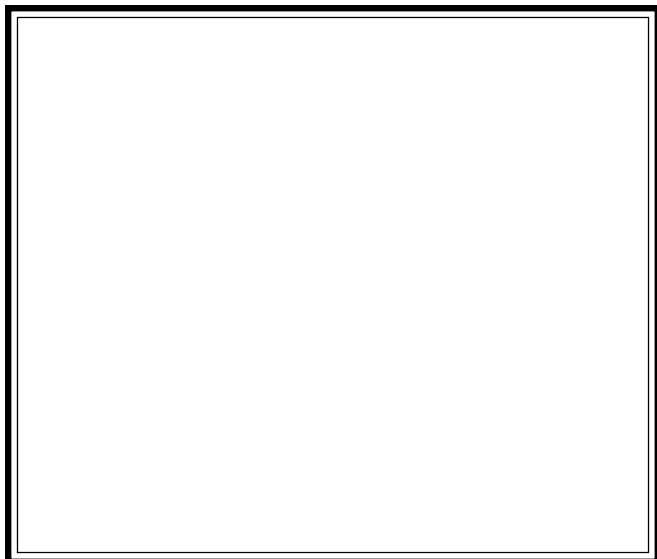
effective committee organization. As the year goes on, the NWMA will continue to rely upon its committees to carry out the critical task of advocating and advancing the interests of the hardrock mining industry. Some of the other key issues that I anticipate we will be working on include:

- federal mining law reform;
- Department of the Interior's actions on the validity of mill site claims relative to the ratio of lode claims and excess reserves policy for industrial minerals;
- the U.S. vs. United Mining Corporation lawsuit (the "comparative value" test for the validity of mining claims);
- abandoned mine land reclamation;
- National Forest land mineral withdrawals;
- work with the state associations and other industry groups to prevent the spread of "anti-cyanide" and similar anti-mining initiatives;
- develop an effective strategy to improve mining's image with the public.

In every case these efforts will involve cooperation and coordination with the NMA, the state associations and other industry groups.

Besides the Public Lands Committee, the following NWMA committees will be heavily involved in shaping issues: Mining Law Committee, **Steve Alfors**, Chair; Abandoned Mine Lands Committee, **Cole McFarland**, Chair; and Environmental Issues Committee, **Lisa Kirk**, Chair. Other committees with vital roles include: Public Education and Outreach, **Eric Williams**, Chair; Membership Development, **Lyle Taylor**, Chair; and Supporters Committee, **George Byers**, Chair. Please watch the Committee Reports section of the *Bulletin* for updates of the activities of these committees throughout the year.

Any organization is only as strong as the effort that the membership is willing to dedicate to achieve the purpose and goals of the organization. I strongly encourage all our members to participate in NWMA activities, and our committees are an excellent place to start. If you have an interest in the issues being addressed by our committees and are able to devote time and energy to these or other efforts of the NWMA, please contact the committee chair or myself.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We will soon be mailing the first 1999 NWMA convention brochure and new service directory to all members. Our mailing list needs to be as current and correct as possible to avoid delays and extra expense. If you are aware of any individuals that are no longer with your organization but whose NWMA materials are still arriving at your office, please give Hazel a call at 509/624-1158. She will verify the information and correct the records of those who are no longer with your company. By doing so, the Association will save a substantial amount in postage and also make sure that everyone will receive information from NWMA in a timely manner. Thank you for your help and cooperation.

Annual Meeting Program Set

Plan now to be in Spokane from November 29 through December 3 for NWMA's 105th Annual Meeting and Exposition. Join Convention Chair **Leigh Freeman**, President of Orvana Resources, and Vice Chairman **Greg Hahn**, President & CEO of Summo Minerals, and the session chairs as we focus on "**Effective Strategies for the 21st Century.**" Leigh and Greg have put together an outstanding program. The exploration track will focus on Ore Reserve Expansions and New Discoveries in North America with a special emphasis on Alaska and Nevada. The always popular Left Lateral Leaps and Giant Ore Deposits will be featured along with a new session by **Earl Abbott** on Friday afternoon entitled Giant Ore Deposit Models.

The business and finance track will feature three sessions, New Strategies for the New Millennium, chaired by **Doug Silver**, Mining Finance 2000, chaired by **Allan Marter**, and a new session entitled Innovations in Project Management, chaired by J.R. McPherson, MTB Project Management. There will be two geophysics sessions and a geochemistry session this year. With low metal prices, everyone is tightening their belts and looking for innovative ways to increase productivity and efficiency and lower costs. Our 1999 Annual Meeting will meet this challenge by offering three operation oriented sessions: Innovations in Underground Mining, Innovations in Open Pit Mining, and Innovations in Metallurgical Processing.

EPA's Toxic Release Inventory is one of the most important issues our industry will face in 1999. **Rich DeLong** of Environmental Management Associates is chairing a session focusing on TRI and the impact of this program on our industry. A second environmental session is being organized by **Cindy**

Gee from White Cloud focusing on "Optimizing Your Environmental and Regulatory Expenditures."

Back by popular demand will be a session on Industrial Minerals. Friday morning's Legislative Affairs Session will focus on critical issues affecting the U.S. mining industry and will include an update from Washington, D.C. by key congressional staffers.

This year's Keynote Session will focus on developing a new message to improve mining's image with the public and begin winning in the court of public opinion.

Leigh and Greg have also lined up four outstanding short courses. NWMA is teaming up with the Society of Economic Geologists to produce a short course entitled, "Ore Reserves in the Real World." Larry Smith of MRDI is organizing a short course on project design and reporting requirements for exploration and development projects, with an emphasis on reporting standards established by various securities exchanges in the U.S., Canada and Australia. **Chris Hatton** of URS Greiner Woodward-Clyde is organizing a short course on tailing impoundment risk management. **Lisa Kirk** of Maxim Technologies, Inc. is organizing a short course on estimating bond costs for mine closure.

Look for the first convention brochure for more exciting details and your convention registration and hotel registration forms. Register early and don't be left out. NWMA's 105th Annual Meeting and Exposition promises to be a "can't miss" opportunity to learn about *Effective Strategies for the 21st Century* from our industry's leading experts.

Winning the War Against Mining

Presented at Northwest Mining Association's 1998 Annual Meeting

John Rishel, Legislative Staff, U.S. House Committee on Resources

From a preliminary analysis of the upcoming 106th Congress, it appears that mining law issues are no more likely to be resolved than they were in the last Congress. The present situation provides a good opportunity to evaluate how mining is viewed politically and how to change the current perception—because ladies and gentleman—we are not winning the political struggle to preserve our domestic mining industry.

The most important issue facing the mining industry, indeed all industries which produce or utilize natural resources is a policy initiative, pushed by national environmental groups, to regulate land uses in accordance with so-called principles of sustainable development—another way of putting limits on economic development and population growth by means of centralized government planning. Environmentalists want to control population, consumption and technology. Or as is currently popular, putting it in a 30-second sound bite—environmentalists will achieve sustainable development through death, poverty and ignorance. There has to be a better road to the future.

The mining industry is steadily being driven offshore as new permits become mired in bureaucratic red tape and as U.S. exploration expenditures continue the steady erosion that began in 1992. The latter is primarily caused by political uncertainty and high mining claim fees.

But, the mining industry is not alone. The domestic oil industry is also disappearing—more than 500,000 industry jobs up in smoke, with more lost every day. And this figure doesn't count indirect oil-related jobs like the thousands of steelworkers formerly employed in shuttered Texas steel mills that produced drilling pipe and well casing. While oil imports continue to

climb, more and more U.S. land with oil potential is withdrawn from oil and gas exploration. We are now even importing increasing amounts of timber, a resource that America's forests can produce in abundance.

Members of environmental groups comprise a small portion of our population—probably less than 3 percent. Why are they so successful?

Environmentalists are successful for three reasons: (1) they are well-funded by private charitable foundations, (2) the U.S. is now around 85 percent urban—most urban Americans do not understand how much their daily lives depend on resources, and (3) environmentalists are activists—they write their representative and senators on a regular basis, they comment on proposed rule-makings, and they write letters to the editor.

Most of you probably don't realize how much the environmental movement depends on funding from private charitable foundations to pay for their advocacy campaigns. A recent article in the *Boston Globe* estimated that environmental groups receive around \$400 million—yes, that's \$400 million—annually from foundations. Much of this money ends up financing environmental initiatives against mining, forestry, ranching and oil and gas.

Environmental groups received more than \$2 million in tax-free grants to destroy southeast Alaska's timber-based economy in the Tongass National Forest.

Tax-free grants from foundations support the Mineral Policy Center (MPC), one of your prime antagonists. With an annual budget of \$750 to \$800,000, it's obvious that \$25 a year membership dues from the 3,000 members that MPC claims

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1998 Convention Papers

Advances in Metallurgical Processing

Chair: *Cregg Bossard*

1. The Filblast Cyanidation Process – A Maturing Technology. Robert Keane, KD Engineering Co., Inc., Bruno Sceresini, ATOMAER PTY Ltd.
2. Release Analysis: A Valuable Tool For Determining Liberation Size, Concentrate Grade and Recovery in Mineral Processing Systems. Philip Thompson, Dawson Metallurgical Laboratories, Inc.
3. N2TEC Flotation-A Proven Alternative. John Gathje, Newmont Metallurgical Services, G. L. Simmons, Newmont Gold Company.

Area Reports I

Chair: *Robert E. Derkey*

4. Update on Production and Exploration Activity in Nevada. Jonathan G. Price, Joseph V. Tingley, Nevada Bureau of Mines, Alan R. Coyner, Doug Driesner, Nevada Division of Minerals.

Area Reports II

Chair: *Robert E. Derkey*

5. Yukon Territories. Mike Burke, Yukon Geology Program.
6. Alaska's Mineral Industry 1998. A Snapshot. Dick Swainbank, Ph.D., Alaska Division of Trade & Development.

Environmentally Responsible Mine Closure & Reclamation

Chair: *Luke Russell*

7. Closure Planning & Implementation-The Barrick Mercur Mine, Tooele County, Utah. Glenn M. Eurick, Barrick Gold Corporation.
8. The State of Mine Closure: Concepts, Commitments, and Cooperation. Terry Mudder, Ph.D., TIMES Limited, Kevin Harvey, Environmental Management Consultant.
9. Sustainable Development Golden Cross Mine Case Study. Luke J. Russell, Coeur, The Precious Metals Company.

Exploration Updates on Nevada Gold Mines

Chair: *Steve Craig*

10. The Next Chapter for Exploration at the Sleeper Mine and Vicinity, Humboldt County, Nevada. Winthrop A. Rowe, X-Cal Resources, Ltd.
11. Geology of the Murray and SSX Underground Mines, Jerritt Canyon Mining District, Elko County, Nevada. Joseph A. Kantor, Don Colli, Rich Eliason, Independence Mining Co., Inc.

Geophysics I – Geophysical Applications

Chair: *Scott Urquhart*

12. 3-D Inversion of Penasquito Gravity Data. Oleg Portniaguine, Michael S. Zhdanov, University of Utah.

Geophysics II – Case Histories

Chair: *Scott Urquhart*

13. Aeromag and AMT Interpretation at Cerro Casale Gold Project, Chile. Scott J. Thomas, Peter Kowalczyk, Tracy Campbell, Placer Dome Exploration, Inc.
14. Geophysics at the El Penon Gold-Silver Deposits, Northern Chile. Robert Ellis, Ellis Geophysical Consulting, Inc., Charles Robbins, Meridian Gold Company.
15. A Novel Method for Detecting Liner Leaks. William Frangos, Graduate Student, University of California-Berkeley.

Industrial Minerals and Construction Aggregates

Chair: *Chris T. Higgins*

16. The Status of Industrial Minerals in the United States. Aldo F. Barsotti, David E. Morse, Lucy McCartan, U.S. Geological Survey.

International Reports I

Co-Chairs: *Ivan Urnovitz & Ken Assmus*

17. The Role of the Metal Mining Agency of Japan in Global Resources Development. Susumu Nagae, Metal Mining Agency of Japan.
18. An Update on Mining Activities in Mongolia, Jim K. Cambon, Simons Mining Group.

International Reports II

Co-Chairs: *Ivan Urnovitz & Ken Assmus*

19. Community Partnerships for Successful Operations. Patricia Bennett, Institute of the Americas.
20. West Africa, Old Discoveries-New Opportunities. John B. Hite, East Asia Gold Corporation.
21. Technical Assistance Project to Mining Development and Environmental Control. Antonio Bermeo, Ministry of Energy & Mines, Ecuador.

Keynote Session – “Setting High Standards”

Chair: *George G. Byers*

22. Alaska Governor Tony Knowles
23. John Lutley, The Gold Institute

Legislative Affairs

Chair: *Laura Skaer*

24. The Ebb and Flow of Federal Point and Nonpoint Source Authority Under the Clean Water Act. Brian R. Hanson, Joseph H. Baird, Baird Hanson LLP.
25. Winning the War Against Mining. John C. Rishel, Senior Staff, U.S. House of Representatives.

Mining Finance 1999

Chair: *Borden Putnam, III*

26. A Kaleidoscope of Deals. I. S. Parrish, T. V. Mullen, Jr., DMBW, Inc.
27. Introduction of Producer Hedging in a Low Gold Price Environment. John Lutley, The Gold Institute.

North American Discoveries

Chair: *Curt Freeman*

28. Geology and Mineralization of the Shotgun Gold Porphyry Project, Southwest Alaska. Greg Johnson, NovaGold Resources Inc.

Open Pit Mining

Chair: *Steve Banning*

29. Open Pit Highwall Monitoring and Instability Mitigation. Jeff H. Levell, Pegasus Gold Corporation.
30. Royal Oak's Kemess South Mine-British Columbia's Newest Low Cost Gold Producer. Brian E. Robertson, P.Eng., Royal Oak Mines Inc.

Science and Society: The Issues and Mining

Chair: *Rich Shepard*

31. Quantifying and Analyzing the Subjective. Richard B. Shepard, Ph.D., Applied Ecosystem Services, Inc.
32. The Questions People Ask. Richard Wheeler, Applied Ecosystem Services, Inc.
33. Reconciling Fish and Wildlife Protection with Resource Extraction. Nancy Gloman, Jodi L. Bush, U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

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1998 Convention Papers *(continued from page 4)*

SEG Giant Ore Deposits

Chair: Keith Laskowski

34. The Discovery of the Tampakan Cu-Au Deposit, Mindanao, Philippines. Jens Balkau, Malcolm Norris, Rod Watt, Danny Marcos, WMC Resources Ltd., Alan Buenavista, Indophil Resources Ltd.

SRC/NIOSH Open Industry Briefing

Chair: J. R. M. (Ros) Hill

35. Lowering Respirable Dust Exposures at Mineral Processing Facilities. Andrew B. Cecala, Robert J. Timko, Edward D. Thimons, Pittsburgh Research Lab, NIOSH.
 36. Diesel Aerosol Sampler Comparison in a Metal Mine. B. K. Cantrell, Ph.D., NIOSH, W. F. Watts, Jr., Ph.D., University of Minnesota, Center for Diesel Research, J. S. Stachulak, Ph.D., INCO Limited.
 37. Surface Mine Truck Haul Safety. R. R. Backer, C. M. K. Boldt, NIOSH.

The Mining Industry, Environmental Ethics and Risk Assessment: Visions vs. Delusions

Co-Chairs: Terry Bauer & Reese Hastings

38. Development of a Comprehensive Environmental Risk Management System. Terry D. Bauer, P.E., Pincock, Allen & Holt.

Underground Mining

Chair: Mike McLean

39. The Sunshine Mine Today. William K. Hasz, Sunshine Mining Company.
 40. Improvements in Underground Mining at Jerritt Canyon Joint Venture. Greg Struble, Carl Brechtel, Independence Mining Company.

USGS Open Industry Briefing

Chair: Arthur Bookstrom

41. Grade, Tonnage and Tailings – Models of Coeur d'Alene-Type Polymetallic Veins. Keith R. Long, U.S. Geological Survey.

If you presented a paper at the 1998 convention and want to see it listed here, please call Kell at the NWMA office.

Individual papers may be purchased for \$3.00 each with a minimum order of two papers.

42. A complete set of the papers listed (members \$50.00, non-members \$75.00).

1998 Short Course Manuals

43. **Geology, Geophysics, Geochemistry and Economics of Silver Deposits** (members \$85.00, non-members \$100.00)

Chair: Clancy Wendt.

44. **Practical Geophysics, Full Color! Two Volume Set** (members \$195.00, non-members \$250.00) Chair: Hans Rasmussen.

1998 Convention - Featured Speakers on Video (\$10.00 each)

45. Tony Knowles, Governor of Alaska
 46. Jack E. Thompson, Chairman, President and CEO of Homestake Mining Company
 47. Bruce Vincent, President of the Alliance for America and Communities for a Great Northwest

1998 Convention & Exposition Registration List

48. Disk (\$150.00)
 49. Labels (\$100.00)
 50. Hard Copy (\$50.00)

Northwest Mining Association Company Store

51. Golf Shirt-Cream w/ green trim	S M L XL	\$35.00
52. Denim Shirt-Classic light blue	S M L (runs large)	\$30.00
53. Sweatshirt-Light gray	S M L XL	\$25.00
54. Mock Turtle T-Green, Navy, Blue	S M L XL XXL	\$20.00
55. Hat-Green/muddy gray	adjustable	\$10.00
56. Coffee Mug-Cream w/ green logo		\$ 3.00
57. NWMA Pin		\$ 2.00
58. Bumper sticker-"IF IT CAN'T BE GROWN, IT'S GOTTA BE MINED"		\$.50

Circle the number/s next to the paper/item/s you want to order and mail or fax this form back to NWMA. Please send payment with order. Orders will not be processed without payment. Shipping charges will apply to Short course manuals and NWMA company store items.

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NWMA Leads Mining Industry Opposition to 3809

At a National Mining Association (NMA) 3809 Task Force meeting held in Denver on March 10, NWMA and NMA agreed to establish joint workgroups to evaluate and comment upon the BLM proposal. Eleven workgroups were established, eight to analyze the draft regulations, one to analyze the draft EIS, one to analyze the Regulatory Flexibility Act Unfunded Mandates Cost Benefit Analysis, and one to analyze NEPA compliance. The NWMA/NMA review process is well underway with comments currently due May 10.

NWMA established a Steering Committee in February led by Public Lands Committee Co-chair **Paul Jones**. The committee consists of Paul, Public Lands Committee Co-chair **Bill Prince, Debbie Struhsacker, Jami Fernetto, and Laura Skaer**. The committee will coordinate the analysis of changes being proposed to the 3809 regulations. A planning schedule was adopted and workgroups formed to coordinate the review and comment process. The workgroups also will evaluate the draft Environmental Impact Statement, the Benefit-Cost/Unfunded Mandates Reform Act Analysis and the Initial Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act Analysis.

NWMA faxed an Action Alert to all members soon after the Department of the Interior published the proposed regulations on February 9. Members were urged to obtain a copy of the proposed regulations, request that the comment period be extended, order a copy of the Initial Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act Analysis, and attend one of the public hearings planned by the BLM. Besides initiating efforts to coordinate 3809 related activities with state mining organizations and NMA, contact was made with the Mining and Metallurgical Society of America, SME, Women in Mining, the Society of Economic Geologists and others.

To help publicize the adverse impact the BLM proposal would have on U.S. mining operations, NWMA arranged for articles to be published in E&MJ, Miners News, The Mining Record, The Northern Miner, and the SEG newsletter.

The NAS Study

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) is in the middle of a fast-track study requested by Congress on hardrock mining on federal lands requested by Congress. NAS was directed by Congress to "identify and consider the operating, reclamation and permitting requirements for locatable minerals mining and exploration operations on federal lands, determine the adequacy of federal and state environmental reclamation and permitting statutes and regulations applicable to locatable minerals on federal lands to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation and to make recommendations and conclusions regarding how federal and state environmental, reclamation and permitting requirements and programs can be coordinated to ensure environmental protection, increased efficiency, avoid duplication and delay, and identify the most cost effective manner for implementation." The NAS established an independent Committee on Hardrock Mining to undertake these tasks. The 13 member committee is chaired by Perry Hagenstein and Sam Adams is its vice chairman. National Resource Council staff responsible for the project is Craig Schiffries. A list of committee members, their backgrounds and more information about the congressionally mandated study can be found on the NAS website, www.nas.edu/besr.

The NAS scheduled four meetings to gather information and receive testimony from state regulators, industry

representatives, environmental organizations, and the public. The first meeting was held in Washington, D.C. on February 17 and 18. On March 8 and 9, the NAS held a second meeting in Denver, which was preceded by a comprehensive tour of Independence Mining Company's (IMC) Cripple Creek and Victor Mine. During the tour a representative of the Sierra Club called Cripple Creek and Victor "an exemplary mine." The NAS committee saw an environmentally responsible operation resulting from a strong state regulatory program, modern environmental protection technology, and corporate commitment. John Hardaway and the entire IMC staff deserves congratulations for building and operating an outstanding mine and conducting an excellent tour.

At the meeting, the NAS heard from EPA, Stuart Sanderson, president of Colorado Mining Association, and **Steve Alfors, Alfors & Carver**, chair, NWMA Mining Law Committee, among others. From the testimony and information provided to the NAS, it is apparent that there are very few, if any, gaps in current western state programs regulating mining on public lands. Two areas of possible change involve the need for Notice of Intent bonding and expanding the approval process for small mining operations disturbing 5 acres or less. During the public participation forum in Denver, Laura Skaer told the committee that the mining industry supported providing financial assurance or bonding for all operations above casual use and that the individual states were in the best position to implement financial assurance requirements. In addition, NWMA provided the committee with a copy of a 6-foot long Permitting Flow Chart and a Permitting Directory for Hardrock Mining.

As this issue of the *Bulletin* is going to press, the NAS held a third meeting in Reno, Nevada. The fourth meeting will be held May 13-15 in Spokane, Washington. The NAS study must be completed and submitted to Congress by July 31, 1999.

Congressional Activity

Senator Slade Gorton (R-WA), Chair of the Senate Interior Appropriations Committee, placed language in the supplemental appropriations bill mandating that the public comment period on the 3809 regulations extend at least 120 days after the NAS study is completed. The supplemental appropriations bill passed the Senate on a voice vote and is now in Conference Committee. No similar provision was in the House bill, but the House has been asked to concede to the Senate position.

NWMA is working closely with Senator Gorton, Representative George Nethercutt (R-WA), Vice Chair of the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee and Representative Norm Dicks (D-WA), Ranking Member of the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, to ensure that the extension survives the Conference process and is in the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Bill when it is sent to the President. It is possible that the bill could be passed and signed by the President prior to May 10. However, NWMA is operating on the assumption that industry comments must be submitted by May 10. Should the comment period be reopened by Congress to provide for the additional comment period following the NAS study, NWMA will take full advantage of that opportunity.

Compliance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act

Early in 1998 NWMA successfully sued Bruce Babbitt because DOI failed to comply with the legal requirements of

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NWMA Leads Mining Industry Opposition to 3809 *(continued from page 6)*

the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA). As a result, a federal court invalidated a set of bonding regulations that were onerous to small businesses. The purpose of RFA is to avoid such situations by requiring federal agencies to properly analyze impacts of proposed regulations on small businesses.

NWMA has been in contact with the SBA regarding Interior's continued failure to comply with the RFA, as evidenced by the flawed economic analysis submitted by the BLM regarding the proposed 3809 regulations. The SBA Office of Advocacy sent a letter to Acting BLM Director Tom Fry in March asserting that BLM's characterization of the debate over whether the revisions to subpart 3809 are necessary "is extremely misleading." The letter states, "[I]t is the Office of Advocacy's understanding that the concern over the necessity of the revisions is so widespread that Congress requested an independent study be undertaken by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to determine the need for the action. A congressional request for an independent study indicates that this is, indeed, an extremely serious matter that deserves more objective treatment in the BLM preamble."

The letter goes on to strongly suggest that BLM provide an extension of time to the public comment period beyond the date for completion of the NAS study if the BLM is to avoid "questions about its compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act (APA)..." "Failure to allow the public an opportunity to review and possibly incorporate the findings of the NAS study in their comments may be considered arbitrary and capricious behavior that may be subject to challenges under the APA."

The SBA letter closes by stating, "Extending the comment period until after the NAS study is released will not be contrary to the public interest. If anything, failure to extend the comment period until after the study is completed would be contrary to the public interest and reinforces the public's skepticism about the fairness of the regulatory process. Accordingly, the Office of Advocacy respectfully requests that BLM extend the comment period to allow ample time for NAS to complete its study and for the public to review the study."

WGA's Response to BLM

In February, Bruce Babbitt rejected a request by WGA and 16 Western Senators to postpone the proposed 3809 rulemaking until after completion of the NAS study. In response, Jim Geringer Wyoming Governor and Chairman of the Western Governors' Association, sent a letter to Secretary Babbitt in March which stated, "I'm surprised, Bruce, that you were so cavalier in your dismissal of the collective request of so many elected officials." Geringer's letter pointed out that for two years the governors of the WGA, collectively and individually, have repeatedly requested an explanation of why the BLM is pursuing this rulemaking. The WGA wants to know "What's broken?" Thus, the request to wait for the NAS study.

The closing paragraph of Governor Geringer's letter reflects the frustration that many of us feel with respect to the proposed rulemaking. "We're not asking for much, Bruce. Your perception of the facts would help. Without an objective analysis of any inadequacies in the current 3809 regulations, from either BLM or NAS, it is impossible for us to comment meaningfully on BLM's proposed 3809-rulemaking. We're here to do the people's work, Bruce. We're here to be your partners. All you need to do is ask."

The BLM Public Hearings

A series of 16 public hearings commenced on March 23rd in Reno, Nevada. At some sites, the hearings are preceded by BLM question and answer workshops. In actuality, there are very few answers. The standard BLM answer is "That's a good comment, please put it in writing." While it is clear that the Secretary and the Solicitor find the administrative procedure rulemaking requirements to be an irritant to their agenda, the state office and district office personnel seem genuinely interested in comments made by miners, the public, and state officials. So far, the overwhelming sentiment expressed at the hearings is in opposition to the proposed rulemaking.

The formal public hearings are conducted by an administrative law judge or a representative of the state BLM office. Speakers are limited to 5 minutes and the BLM just listens. For the most part, these public hearings have not resulted in large audiences seen during the 1997 scoping sessions. This does not seem due to a lack of concern, but rather to cynicism about the process.

At the hearings in Reno, a total of 48 people spoke in the two sessions, with all but two opposing the proposed changes. Leo Drozdoff from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection gave an effective presentation which criticized the draft 3809 regulations in several areas. He pointed out, 1) the BLM still has not provided a detailed statement of need, 2) noted the proposal does not recognize that the best run mine will create disturbances, 3) the BLM oversteps its authority, especially in the area of surface and groundwater, and 4) the DEIS is "profoundly insufficient in its presentation of the no action alternative," as it ignores the successful joint relationships Nevada and other states have with the BLM." The hearing in Elko followed the same pattern with a total of 50 speakers in the afternoon and evening sessions, with only 3 speaking against the regulations.

At the hearing in Fairbanks on March 30, a member of the BLM Task Force stated that the major issues are, 1) presumption of pit backfilling, 2) extending the comment period to 120 days beyond the NAS study, 3) duplication with state regulations and programs, 4) authority for enforcement and civil penalties; 5) effect of new regulations on BLM workloads and resources, and 6) citizens accompanying BLM on mine inspections. At this set of hearings 24 people testified, and all opposed the proposed regulations at the hearing in Phoenix held the same day, 31 people testified and 22 opposed the regulations.

Another BLM hearing was held in Denver on March 31. Approximately 41 attended the two sessions, and 14 provided testimony. The hearing began with the BLM presenting a PowerPoint presentation that included "examples" of why the 3809 regulations need to be revised. One of the mines shown was the Berkley Pit in Butte, Montana, which is on patented land. The audience pointed out this discrepancy and the BLM has since dropped that picture from their presentation. Mike Long, Director of the Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology, gave an excellent presentation on the Colorado program and demonstrated the lack of a need for the proposed changes. Other comments touched upon the inadequate analysis of the impact on small businesses, the deficient analysis of state programs, and the inconsistency with the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 requiring federal agencies to encourage the development of federal mineral resources. In Salt Lake City, 21 people spoke at the hearing held April 7 and only 3 favored

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

States and Provinces

BRITISH COLUMBIA

LRMP process falters

For some time the provincial government has been attempting to bring together all the stakeholders to develop a comprehensive new land use plan. Referred to as the Land and Resource Management Planning process, the BC mining community has been an active and diligent participant. Frustrated by always being given short shrift at each stage of the game, BC miners have finally called it quits and withdrawn from the process.

According to the BC Environmental Information Institute, many of the basic issues and concerns are much the same as those experienced by miners trying to work on public lands in the United States. There are large new set asides for parks and natural areas, tough environmental restrictions being arbitrarily applied to exploration and mining activities, and increased uncertainty about being able to secure a permit to mine.

Another familiar problem is the preoccupation with forestry issues by non-mining interests. As a result, the provincial government is not listening to the needs of the mining community. For example, it is attempting to apply forest management strategies and rules to mineral development activities. Another fatal flaw is an ongoing attempt to create areas zoned for mining, but placing mineral potential low on the list of selection criteria. A process of non-selection may be a more apt description. Miners are being artificially limited to just those areas that are low priorities for the other more influential stakeholders, such as the environmentalists and tourism industry. It appears that the way things are going BC miners will be free to work anywhere there is no scenery, riparian areas, protected wildlife species, or other "special resources."

The irony of this unfolding situation is its occurrence in a province that is home to a world renowned mining community. The miners and consulting firms of BC are generally recognized as being among the most adept at finding and responsibly developing mineral deposits, yet their own government appears bent on discouraging application of this expertise to benefit their own citizens.

NORTHWEST TERRITORY & NUNAVUT

Nunavut Newest Canadian Territory

The Association would like to extend its best wishes to the new Canadian territory of Nunavut. Essentially the eastern half of the former Northwest Territories, Nunavut came into being on April 1, 1999. Newspapers in the United States reported this momentous occasion for the people of that area. The impressive official inaugural ceremonies were broadcast in the U.S. on CSPAN 2. The new leaders of Nunavut see their economic future tied to tourism and continued natural resource development. Two mines are currently operating in the territory. We wish everyone in Nunavut, as well as our colleagues in the resized Northwest Territories, success in developing a strong and diversified economy.

OREGON

Chair: Rich Shepard, Applied Ecosystem Services,
503/667-4517

Legislative Update

In a refreshing change of pace, several pro-mining bills are making progress this session. HB 2419, a bill to protect mines and quarries from nuisance lawsuits as a result of encroachment from urban development has passed out of the House. It will prevent mines from losing their permits or zoning status in the event of temporary shutdowns as long as their permit remains valid. This is especially important where a mine is considered a non-conforming use under current zoning. HB 2188, a bill introduced by DOGAMI, also has passed out of the House. It would allow modification of existing permits to address very specific slope stabilization issues that could arise primarily at sand and gravel operations that are otherwise exempt from most reclamation requirements.

OCAPA Donates \$400k

In 1997 members of the Oregon Concrete & Aggregate Producers Association voted to double their dues for a two year period in order to raise funds to support the Oregon Salmon Plan. As a result, OCAPA was able to present Governor John Kitzhaber with a check for \$400,000, which will go to improve salmon habitat across the state this year. This donation was leveraged using matching funds from a variety of sources to make possible thirteen projects with a total value of \$1,431,735. OCAPA members that employ NWMA members include Ash Grove Cement and Eugene Sand & Gravel. NWMA supported OCAPA's efforts to pass the legislation in 1997 that made this private-public effort possible.

WASHINGTON

Chair: Dan Robertson, Battle Mountain Gold Co.,
509/476-3144

* Small miners gained some ground in their effort to ease onerous restrictions on hand panning and other low-impact prospecting activities imposed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. An amendment was successfully attached to a regulatory reform bill by Senators Don Benton, Bob Morton, Tim Sheldon, and Paul Shin. There is no indication yet from the Governor's office regarding his position on the amendment, which is now before the House.

* Governor Gary Locke recently declared that "extinction is not an option" when it comes to salmon. While his declaration meets the first rule of modern sloganeering - make sure it can fit on a bumper sticker - even his own agencies have publicly expressed the opinion that extinction of some runs appear to be unavoidable. Unfortunately, the governor's statement represents just the kind of posturing that makes workable solutions so hard to come by in the natural resource arena.

Crown Jewel Project Update

Battle Mountain Gold Company (BMG) recently
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COMMITTEE REPORTS *(continued from page 8)*

announced that the Washington State Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) had ruled in favor of BMG and Washington State's Department of Ecology on eight legal issues raised by special interest groups challenging the Crown Jewel Project's water rights. The PCHB ruled that the project's water rights and stream flow mitigation plan was consistent with Washington law. To date, the PCHB has issued decisions on 30 of the 47 issues raised in appeals and BMG has prevailed on all rulings. The remaining issues and a final ruling on a project's water rights are expected this fall.

Note: As this issue of the *Bulletin* goes to press, we have been advised that Battle Mountain Gold has received a letter jointly signed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of the Interior revoking the Record of Decision issued by the USFS in 1997. The main reason cited by the agencies was their contention that BMG had too many mill site claims for the number of valid lode claims included in their proposed operating plan. The letter referred to an opinion written by Interior Solicitor John Leshy late in 1997 stating that only one mill site claim could be associated with each valid lode claim on a mining property. This interpretation is inconsistent with long established practice, including some recent approvals granted by the BLM. A full story will appear in the next *Bulletin*.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Chair: (acting) Dale Avery, NIOSH Spokane Research Lab, 509/484-1610

NWMA president **Jim Duff** has decided to establish a committee to work on health and safety issues. **Dale Avery** has agreed to help organize this new committee. One of the first tasks is to establish lines of communication with similar committees already established by other mining associations. Among other functions, the committee will help NWMA members stay informed about emerging issues as well as the latest technical developments.

* NIOSH has announced that \$7.5 million in research grants will be made available to implement NORA, the National Occupation Research Agenda. A number of the priority areas have direct applicability to mining safety and health concerns. More information can be obtained at www.nih.gov/grants/forms.htm and final applications are due June 10, 1999.

* The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) also has mining related research and development money available. The *Industries of the Future* program has \$2 million for grants. DOE hopes to encourage "cross-cutting technologies" and efforts that can have a positive impact on the environment. For more information, contact Ivan Urnovitz at the NWMA office.

PUBLIC LANDS

Co-Chair: Paul Jones, Royalstar Resources Ltd., 303/278-1416

Co-Chair: Bill Prince, Dorsey & Whitney, 801/350-3581

BLM Excess Reserves Policy

Ted Eyde, GSA Resources, is working with an ad hoc industry coalition to fight yet another example of arbitrary and

capricious policy making by the Department of the Interior. The Association recently added this issue to a growing list of priority items. The policy was put into effect by then BLM Director Pat Shea on September 14, 1998 (Instruction Memorandum No. 98-167), appears to directly contradict any common sense notion of what constitutes a valuable mineral deposit. According to the BLM, if an industrial mineral deposit is so large that it may take over 40 years to mine and market it all, then some of your mining claims may not be valid. If this sounds too crazy to be true, here is a direct quote from that memo: "The examiner should consider land containing industrial mineral resources which can not be mined and marketed within 40 years to be non-mineral in character, not presently marketable and, therefore, not available to support a mining claim [patent application]." There is concern that this convoluted logic could come to be applied to other types of lode deposits if a precedent is set.

Perhaps the BLM should market the crystal ball they are using to predict demand for any mineral over the next 40 years. Those being used by everyone else do not see so far or so clearly.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Co-Chair: Lisa Kirk, Maxim Technologies, Inc., 406/582-8780

Co-Chair: Scott Hardt, Dorsey & Whitney, 303/629-3400

Lisa Bithell Kirk, Sr. Geochemist, Maxim Technologies, Inc., has been reappointed as chair of the Environmental Issues Committee. Her e-mail address is lkirk@avicom.net. She will be assisted by her new co-chair, Scott Hardt, an attorney with the law firm Dorsey & Whitney LLP in Denver. He has experience in environmental regulatory work in such areas as water quality, threatened and endangered species, NEPA, CERCLA, and litigation.

The committee has set the following objectives for 1999.

1. Initiate subcommittee work on solid waste and air quality issues. Solid waste and EPA national mining strategy issues will be tracked by subcommittee chair Dave Holland of Hecla Mining (dholland@hecla-mining.com or 208/769-4156). Issues include Bevill amendment revisions, land disposal regulations, and CERCLA reform.

2. Rich DeLong of Environmental Management Associates will serve as subcommittee chair for air quality issues (rfdelong@emacorp.com or 802/828-3939). Issues include Ozone and particulate matter, regional haze, and SO_x-NO_x-Ozone.

3. Respond to water quality issues through a restructured NPDES committee, led by Luke Russell of Coeur d'Alene Mines (lrussell@coeur.com or 208/667-3511). Water quality issues constitute the primary challenge for NWMA members at operating mines this year, including proposed EPA revisions to water quality regulations and TMDL implementation.

4. Address fisheries issues pertaining to T&E species by combining the efforts of the fisheries subcommittee, chaired by Rebecca Watson of the Gough, Shanahan, Johnson & Waterman (rww@gsjw.com or 406/442-8560) with the water quality subcommittee. Becky needs input from members interested in Clean Water Act/Endangered Species Act compliance, bull trout listing; proposed cutthroat listing, NMFS expansion of jurisdiction via salmon and "essential fish habitat," and interplay between TMDL development and ESA-listed fish.

(Continued on page 10)

COMMITTEE REPORTS *(continued from page 9)*

5. Respond to TRI issues, through the ongoing efforts of the TRI subcommittee, chaired by Lisa Kirk of Maxim Technologies, Inc. (lkirk@avicom.net or 406/582-8780). Technical issues include general reporting requirements; cyanide release predictions; and proposed changes to TRI Reporting and de minimis exemptions for persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals.

All efforts of this committee are done in coordination with other national and state mining organizations. Also, we are actively seeking e-mail information for all committee members, to improve our ability to communicate rapidly. Forward your e-mail address to NWMA at kmcaboy@nwma.org. All NWMA members are encouraged to get involved by contacting the lead person of the issue that is of most interest to them.

TRI Closed Facilities Need Not File TRI Reports

In an October 20, 1998 letter from EPA to the TVX Mineral Hill Mine in Gardner, Montana, EPA confirmed that Mineral Hill did not need to file a TRI report covering calendar year 1998 since the mine was not conducting extraction activities during that period. The TVX mine has been in "care and maintenance" since late 1996. In the letter EPA states, "If the 'environmental monitoring, water treatment and facility upkeep' taking place at your facility, do not include any of the mining activities described in Major Group 10 of the Standard Industrial Classification Manual, then Mineral Hill Mine would not fall under SIC Code 10 – Metal Mining, and Mineral Hill Mine would not have to consider the requirements of EPCRA section 313 based on that particular SIC Code."

This letter may prove useful to other NWMA members in determining whether they must report under TRI for inactive facilities.

LDR Rule

The National Mining Association (NMA) has joined other organizations in challenging the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) final Phase IV Land Disposal Restrictions (LDR) rule. In a brief filed with the federal appeals court for the DC circuit, NMA argued that EPA's LDR rule arbitrarily and capriciously: (1) attempts to assert jurisdiction over mineral processing secondary materials (MPSM) that are stored, not discarded, as part of on-going mineral processing production operations; (2) attempts to re-impose the toxicity characteristic leaching procedure on mineral processing waste, despite previous court rulings to the contrary; and (3) subjects MPSM stored in ponds and piles as part of production operations to RCRA hazardous waste regulations and MPSM stored in tanks, buildings or containers to a conditional exclusion that imposes an alternative set of RCRA Subtitle C requirements. The government's response brief is due May 24.

Membership Report

Chair: T. Lyle Taylor, Geotemps, Inc., 775/746-7146.

NWMA constantly strives to serve the needs of a very diverse membership. The range of abilities and expertise of

our members is the Association's greatest strength when dealing with issues important to you and our industry. We challenge ourselves to meet the high expectations of our members, and appreciate the support long time members have provided our organization.

New individual members bring added dimensions and increase our ability to serve the best interests of the mining community.

We extend a welcome to the following new corporate members:

- **Environmental Reclamation, Inc.**, Smeltonville, ID
- **Euclid-Hitachi Heavy Equipment, Inc.**, Euclid, OH
- **Mascot Silver-Lead Mines, Inc.**, Kellogg, ID
- **MTB Project Management Professionals**, Englewood, CO
- **Nicolet Minerals Co.**, Rhinelander, WI
- **Rio Algom Mining Corp.**, Oklahoma City, OK
- **Royal Gold, Inc.**, Denver, CO
- **Bill Simon Equipment, Inc.**, Alton, IL

NWMA welcomes the following new individual members:

- **Ernie Anderson**, Western Small Miners Assn., Nucla, CO
- **Steve Ashmore**, Battle Mountain Gold Co., Oroville, WA
- **Robert C. Black**, Chubb Group of Insurance Companies, Warren, NJ
- **Richard A. Bonander**, Inter-Mountain Pipe & Threading, Casper, WY
- **Robert C. Briggs**, FMC Corporation, Delta, BC CANADA
- **Steve Brown**, Unocal Molycorp, Jean, NV
- **Gina Buttars**, Buttars Mining & Exploration, Inc., Carlin, NV
- **Carleen Cochran**, Battle Mountain Gold Co., Oroville, WA
- **Rick Cronin**, Thiessen Equipment Ltd., Langley, BC CANADA
- **Randy Farmer**, Teck Exploration Limited, Langley, BC CANADA
- **Jim Herrington**, Centralia Mining Co., Centralia, WA
- **Dave Jonson**, Retired, Golden, CO
- **Ed Kapello**, Centralia Mining Co., Centralia, WA
- **Alison Keyes**, U.S. EPA Library, Seattle, WA
- **William Lane**, General Minerals Corporation, Denver, CO
- **Olof Lundblad**, Driltech Mission LLC, Houston, TX
- **Steve Marshall**, HICOM International, Towson, MD
- **Howard Martinson**, Coeur d'Alene Telecom, Coeur d'Alene, ID
- **Ralph McMullen**, Elko Convention & Visitor's Authority, Elko, NV
- **Harold J. Noyes**, North Star Exploration, Inc., Golden, CO
- **Ken Pepperling**, ADT Environmental Solutions, West Linn, OR
- **George S. Riddle**, Specimen Mining Co., San Diego, CA
- **Michael Rutherford**, Centralia Mining Co., Centralia, WA
- **Geoffrey Snow**, Barranca Resources, Golden, CO
- **John Standish**, Energy Laboratories, Inc., Billings, MT
- **Rich Stearns**, Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee, WA
- **Ken Stoner**, Ogden Env. & Energy Services, Boise, ID
- **Marilyn Taber**, Battle Mountain Gold Co., Oroville, WA
- **Bill Wahl**, IMV Nevada, Amargosa Valley, NV
- **Max Washburn**, Houston, TX
- **Elizabeth Welch**, Cedaridge, CO
- **Jon Winter**, Battle Mountain Gold Co., Oroville, WA

ARTICLES

16th National ASSMR Meeting

The American Society for Surface Mining and Reclamation will hold its 16th National Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona on August 13-19, 1999. In addition to the technical sessions, there will be mine tours, and social events. Topics will range from abandoned mine reclamation to bioremediation to international environmental concerns. For registration information, contact Kathleen A. Garland at 505/827-5974.

Canadian Mining Hall of Fame

Toronto's Royal York Hotel was the scene of the 11th Annual induction ceremony for the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame. Nine individuals were honored, bringing the total number of members to 92. According to the *Northern Miner*, one of the sponsors of the gala event, selection criteria consider lifetime achievements in exploration, management or technology, or for contributions to the industry and Canadian society in general. Inductees included Norman Paterson for advancing exploration geophysics; George Carmack, Skookum Jim Mason, Tagish Charlie, and Robert Henderson for their roles in the Klondike gold rush (Skookum and Tagish are the initial First Nation members to be so honored); Arthur Griffis for mine engineering and several major discoveries; John Williams McBean for his geological and entrepreneurial abilities; Robert Smith for technical and management skills; and Harry Verney Warren for exploration geochemistry. Robert Ginn, director of the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame, made the presentations.

Mining Poet Laureate Sought

Demonstrating just how versatile miners really are, mining poetry is being sought by the National Mining Hall of Fame & Museum in Leadville, Colorado. While some may ascribe this newest of mining competition to the thin air found in Leadville (altitude 10,152 feet or 3,095 meters), the Association notes that Prospector Poetry has been a popular feature at our own annual meeting for the past several years. This has been much to everyone's amazement, including that of the primary promoter Mr. **Allan Marter**, a normally well grounded individual. Be that as it may, the Mining Hall has decided to go "prospecting along a new vein, in search of miners' verses." Submittals may be written or on tape and the "rhymes of the mines" will be judged by a jury of peers. The Mining Poet Laureate for 1999 will be invited to present their epic work at the 12th Annual National Mining Hall of Fame Induction Banquet on October 10, 1999 in St. Louis, Missouri. For more information, call the museum at 719/486-1229.

RMMLF CD ROM Available

With legal issues rising to the forefront, the release of the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation *Digital Library* is timely indeed. The CD-ROM contains over 2,000 articles in 131 books and manuals, making it one of the most powerful natural resource legal database yet developed. Some 70,000 pages of text are covered. The price for members is \$975 and can be obtained by calling 303/321-8100.

The Blasters Library

The International Society of Explosives Engineers has released its latest catalogue. Dubbed *The Blasters Library*, it contains over 100 titles. Members with responsibilities in the realm of explosives or blasting should obtain a copy of the catalogue by calling 440/349-4004.

Sacred Sites?

The Imperial project of *Glamis Gold* is embroiled in an unusual controversy. A Native American group recently asserted that the mine site has spiritual significance to them. It is interesting to note that this is the first time the issue has been raised in 10 years of project activities and related public reviews, and that the project is not on tribal lands or referred to in any treaty. The assertion is given weight due to an Executive Order issued early in the Clinton Administration, which was reported in the *Bulletin* at that time.

NWMA recognizes that matters of faith are highly subjective, and respects the rights of Native American tribes. Nonetheless, it is difficult to avoid viewing situations such as this without some degree of skepticism. Regrettably, we live in an era when a growing number of people seem prepared to use any tactic to achieve a political goal. Thus, the cynical among us find it extremely convenient that this alleged spiritual site has suddenly become an issue.

NWMA is unaware of any established process for nominating or verifying sites that may qualify as sacred under the terms of the Executive Order. Also unclear is exactly what action federal agencies can or should take when such sites are identified and properly documented. In such circumstances is mitigation appropriate or necessary, and how would taking issues be resolved? The responsible federal officials need to develop a program that is fair and equitable to all concerned. The situation that Glamis is experiencing is neither fair nor equitable.

George Frampton Nominated to CEQ

Former president of The Wilderness Society, George Frampton, has been nominated by President Clinton to serve on the Council for Environmental Quality. Frampton has been the acting chair of the CEQ since Katie McGinty resigned from the post last Fall, and most recently served as Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. Not surprisingly, the CEQ has greatly influenced the adoption of anti-development policies by the BLM and USFS, as well as the very doctrinaire approaches of such agencies as the EPA and National Marine Fisheries Service. Since Frampton has to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate, we would urge members to express their views on his suitability for such a position to their Senators.

Montana Gold Mine Receives Approval

Gold mining is not dead in Montana, despite the devastating repercussions of the recent cyanide ban. Elkhorn
(Continued on page 12)

ARTICLES *(continued from page 11)*

gold project recently received state approval to begin underground mining operations. The company plans on doing a bulk sample once financing arrangements are completed. The significance of the Elkhorn project is that the ban on the use of cyanide at mines does not apply to underground operations. I-137 language is very specific: “[2], mining for gold or silver by the open pit method using leaching by cyanide reagent in vats, heaps or otherwise is prohibited.” Even though relatively few properties lend themselves to underground development, at least a few opportunities for gold mining remain until such time as I-137 is repealed.

Wyoming Gemstones Publication

Gem and mineral collectors should appreciate a new publication from the Wyoming State Geological Survey. Titled, *Preliminary report on gemstones, semi-precious stones, lapidary materials, ornamental stones, and other unique minerals and rocks of Wyoming*, it may be ordered by calling 307/766-2286.

New Use for Cable Bolts

Scientists at the NIOSH Spokane Research Laboratory have developed an instrumented king wire that allows a cable bolt to also be used as a strain measuring device. The purpose was to help mining engineers to better forecast a potential rock fall. Obviously, unexpected rock falls pose a serious direct hazard to underground mine workers, but also create secondary hazards such as caved escapeways or blocked ventilation passages. Strain gages embedded in the king wire allow mine personnel to closely monitor ground movement and support load on the cable bolt. This allows preventive measures to be taken and provide data for improved selection of ground support used in a mine. For more information, contact either Lewis Martin or Richard Curtin at SRL by calling 509/354-1610.

Colorado Mineral Resource Publications

The Colorado Geological Survey has just released six new publications on mineral resources in that state. One of the new reports describes mining districts with gold and diamond deposits. The other reports describe and discuss coal resources. Contact Jim Cappa at 303/866-3293 for more information or check the CGS web site at www.dnr.state.co.us/geosurvey.

First U.S. Gold Discovery Commemorated

With the centennial of the Klondike gold rush fresh in our memories and California celebrating the sesquicentennial of the '49ers gold rush, it is easy to overlook the fact that the earliest gold fields were in the Southeast. The first authenticated gold rush in the United States occurred in North Carolina. In 1799, a 17-pound gold nugget was discovered in a stream bed. Amazingly, it was not until 1802 that farmer John Reed found

out that his favorite doorstep was worth a small fortune. A short time later the Reed Gold Mine went into operation and the rush was on. Two hundred years after the original discovery the mine is a state historic site. A special symposium will be conducted in Charlotte, North Carolina on September 16-18, 1999 to commemorate this noteworthy anniversary. Refer to the *Bulletin* Calendar for contact information.

Members on the Move

* **Svante Andersson** and **Hagby USA** were recently recognized by the Coeur d'Alene and Columbia Sections of SME for significant support provided to their programs over the years. NWMA joins in complimenting Svante on his dedication to the mining community.

* **Wilson Blake**, Consulting Mining Engineer, was quoted as an expert on rock bursts in a recent newspaper article on mines in the Silver Valley. The article, titled *DANGER around every corner*, also discussed efforts by NIOSH and member companies, such as **Hecla Mining** and **Sunshine Mining**, to prevent injuries to mine workers. It is good to see normally unsung, yet vitally important, activities getting deserved recognition.

* **Ta Li**, past NWMA president and former trustee, has been elected to serve as SME president in 2001. He is marketing manager for Morrison Knudsen Corp.'s Denver Mining Group. The Association extends its congratulations to Ta, as well as to SME members for selecting such a dynamic and capable leader.

* **Rich Shepard**, Applied Ecosystem Services and chair of our Oregon committee, had a thought provoking commentary entitled "Empty words, empty phrases" published in the March 1999 issue of *Mining Environmental Management*. The piece discusses how politically correct, but ultimately meaningless, words and phrases are poisoning the well of rational dialogue.

* **Stagg Engineering Services** has announced that Ray E. Richardson has joined the firm as Principal Operations Analyst. He is working out of their Denver office and may be reached at 303/455-7850.

* **Rebecca Watson** with Gough, Shanahan, Johnson & Waterman, was one of the primary organizers of the successful *13th Annual Developments and Trends in Public Lands, Forestry, and Mineral Law* symposium held by the American Bar Association in Scottsdale, Arizona. Other NWMA members who participated include **Joe Baird, Baird, Hanson & Quinn, Craig Hasse**, Euro-Nevada Mining Corporation, **Don Sherwood, Alfers & Carver**, and **Ivan Urnovitz**, NWMA.

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Montanans and Miners *(continued from page 1)*

are other tangible reminders of the good old days of mining scattered here and there around our State. Near historic Virginia City, there's the miles of dredge tails, lying exactly as they came off the dredge end-gate a hundred years ago. There's the old adits spilling tails down the hill into the creek, and abandoned shafts.

What do Montanans think of when they see these things? Do they see the paychecks the creation of these workings generated for our grandfathers and great-grandfathers? Do they see the food these workings put on Montana tables, the clothes bought, the schools paid for, the foundations laid for today's families? Nope, they just see the mess.

This, then, is the backdrop we modern miners are forced to deal with: Today's public doesn't think of mining unless it is forced to. When it is forced to, it has a tendency against mining because of the environmental disturbances and risks, and the tangible reminders that yesterday's miners didn't deal with such things very well.

How have we responded? From our point of view, we've responded aggressively. As we like to point out, modern mining is an intensively regulated activity, with in-depth environmental impact planning, stringent operating requirements and effective reclamation, all guaranteed by bonding. Modern mining has met the challenge of these new requirements. Anyone who works in the mining industry knows of the pride and satisfaction today's miners take in meeting today's strict environmental requirements.

How do we look, though, from the public's point of view? We look like we're only doing the expected.

Consider our response, to date, to the ugly legacies in our State, and elsewhere in the West, of mining past. We've said "well yes, the old-timers did create some messes, but you know, we don't do things that way anymore. It's a new day. We're professionals, we're intensively regulated, we do millions of dollars worth of planning before we turn a stone, we go through environmental analyses, we reclaim, and we post millions of dollars worth of bonds to guarantee the reclamation."

All true, but have you noticed? Nobody's impressed. Get this: The public at large takes it for granted that anyone who makes a mess by digging in the ground should expect to clean it up. Here's us patting ourselves on the back for being willing to clean up after ourselves, and here's the public wondering why we think it's such a big deal. The sad consequence is that when we make such a big deal of how we as modern miners clean up the necessary disturbances of mining, not only do we not get the reaction we're looking for—appreciation—we instead get the public wondering what kind of people we are to boast about something any upstanding citizen would do as a matter of course.

What else have we done, in the way of affirmative communications to the public? Not getting the positive reaction we're looking for from our willingness to meet modern regulatory requirements, we've tried the tact of telling people how much they need us. You know, "Everything Starts With Mining." And "If It Can't Be Grown, It Has To Be Mined."

Again, true, but this approach carries the faint, unsavory suggestion of a clumsy attempt at blackmail: "You have to let us mine, because otherwise, you'll go without the things you need and use every day."

The problem with this approach is that, while mining does provide what the people need and use, it ain't necessarily so that the mines have to be *here*. Everybody knows it. In the

end, what looks to the miner like righteous justification sounds to the non-miner a lot like a threat, and a lame threat at that. Predictably, the reaction to this tact is distrust at best (what's so bad about mining that they have to use this kind of argument to get us to accept it) to anger at the worst (who do these guys think they are threatening me?).

And then there's the economic argument, which is true, pertinent, and certainly good, but again defensive when the context is impacts to public resources and ability/willingness to prevent them.

We have to do more. At this point, when the public is forced to think about a mining issue, we simply aren't on the plus side of the ledger with them. We have to change that. We've demonstrated to ourselves that we can be trusted; now we have to demonstrate that to the public. How do we do this? By the **affirmative** demonstration to the public that we're worthy of their trust. By the affirmative assumption of responsibility.

Start with the historic mine disturbances. How can we ever expect the public to trust us in building new mines, when we so carefully disclaim any connection with, or responsibility for, the messes left by miners past? When we talk about how we're going to prevent our new mine from affecting a nearby stream, or the tailing impoundment from washing out, don't you think people have to be thinking, at least subconsciously, that the old-timers said the same thing? Until today's public sees us being willing to acknowledge the mistakes of the past, and take a leadership role in correcting them, the legacy of the historic mine messes will continue to poison our efforts to become trusted members of our communities.

Yes, there are legal liability issues. Using them as an excuse to do nothing is a cop out. CERCLA or no, there is nothing stopping today's miners from finding a way to take a leadership role in getting historic mines reclaimed. Until that happens, we'll never be able to hold our heads up and demand fair consideration for today's mining proposals.

What else can we do? We can let the public know that we recognize mining isn't simply an exercise of private property rights — that what we do affects resources which are public, not private — water, air, wildlife, and yes, even the aesthetics of the appearance of the land. How can we, in good faith, ask for fair and open consideration of the need to affect these resources to build and operate a mine, if we aren't willing to say it is our responsibility to be concerned with these resources?

Let's take the affirmative role in addressing today's environmental concerns, instead of our customary defensive role. When environmental groups come forward with legislative or administrative proposals, let's immediately engage them and find an affirmative way to respond to the concerns. Something other than saying, "that's not a problem."

We're all proud of what modern mining is, and what it can do and has done. We've been proud to take responsibility for our mining in the present. Now we must take responsibility for the past and the future. The past, by finding a way to be leaders in historic mine clean-up. The future by public recognition that what we do affects resources that belong to everyone, and that we accept responsibility for this, today and tomorrow. Until we accept the responsibility that necessarily follows what we do, we can't fully believe in ourselves, and we can't expect the public to believe in us.

Alan is a 4th generation Montanan and practicing attorney. The views expressed here are solely his own.

Winning The War Against Mining *(continued from page 3)*

will support 10 percent of MPC's budget, at most. Indeed MPC has received grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$200,000 from more than two dozen foundations over a four-year period.

Foundation grants also pay for "so-called local grassroots" environmental groups to oppose specific mining projects and for environmental legal foundations to file lawsuits against mining projects. The Charles S. Mott Foundation gave the Mole Lake Band of the Chippewa Indians a \$200,000 grant to oppose the Crandon, Wisconsin zinc-copper mining project. The Cabinet Resource Group, Clark Fork-Pend Oreille Coalition and the Montana Environmental Information Center have received grants from the Brainerd, Bullitt, Educational and Public Welfare Foundations to oppose the McDonald and Rock Creek Projects in Montana. Tax-free grants from the Brainerd, Bullitt, W. Alton Jones and Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Foundations to the Columbia River Bioregional Education Project and the Okanogan Highlands Alliance are financing the environmentalist's campaign against Battle Mountain Gold's Crown Jewel Project in Washington.

Make foundation funding of environmental advocacy campaigns a political issue. Why do these advocacy grants merit tax free treatment? What public interest is served by using millions of dollars of tax exempt grants to destroy a regional economy and local communities.

You have to teach urban Americans that **Mining Matters!** This is an area that is not directly concerned with legislative affairs, and I will not discuss it in detail, but you must make urban Americans realize that, every day, the quality of their life depends on mining. Mining makes it possible to provide them with food, clothing and shelter. Urban Americans need to understand how the policies pushed by environmental groups drive professional and highly skilled jobs overseas. These jobs are often replaced with low skill, entry level service jobs. How will this nation pay for high-priced, high benefit social programs with an economy based on low-skilled, poorly paid workers? Getting this message across takes time.

I do want to briefly discuss several areas where we need to try harder getting the **Mining Matters!** message out. As I said earlier, environmental activists put a great deal of effort into writing op-eds and letters to the editor. Oftentimes, anti-mining letters from environmental activists—and even unfavorable newspaper editorials—go unchallenged. These editorials and letters—most of which are full of environmental propaganda—not only need to be challenged, but unsolicited letters to the editor which tell mining's story, and why it's important are also needed. If your local newspaper publishes an unfavorable editorial—ask to meet with the editorial board, and present the case for mining.

One of the more ludicrous statements that often goes unchallenged in the news media concerns the value of mineralized lands. Sen. Bumper says that 2,000 acres in Stillwater, Montana are worth \$38 billion. Sec. Babbitt says that the Barrick patents in Nevada are worth \$10 billion and that he has "given away" \$15 billion in mining patents since he took office. Think about it! Based on stock market capitalizations, for \$38 billion you can buy the North American (United States and Canada) metal mining industry, including smelters and refineries, iron ore operations and for good measure, acquire significant reserves of coal in the process and several large mines located outside North America. Why let anyone get away with making such foolish statements?

One little used tactic, which merits consideration as a way to reach the American public, is stockholder mailings. Every

public mining company makes four stockholder mailings a year. Why not include a flyer in each mailing about mining's role in society or on some especially pertinent mining issue? Credit unions used this tactic very effectively when they were fighting an effort by the commercial banking industry to restrict credit union membership. During this battle—every credit union mailing to members contained a flyer promoting the credit union's stance on this issue. They won handily.

You can win! But no outsider is going to step in and win this war for you. More of you in the mining industry have to become activists and get your message to the American people and through them to Congress.

I want to spend the remaining time on how a winning political strategy can be developed. First, the mining industry has to build a winning coalition in the House of Representatives. To date, the mining industry's strategy has been mostly Senate-based. There were good reasons for using this strategy. If you want to stop House-passed legislation, such as the Rahall bill for example, that the President will probably sign, the Senate is the place to be. One senator can tie the Senate up in knots. Also, it is easier to attach legislative riders to bills in the Senate than in the House.

The problem is that now you want to pass mining law amendments that you can live with—not just stop unfavorable legislation. Also, it has become increasingly obvious that the Clinton-Gore Administration is not going to sign any bill with "mining riders" because they are not going to risk alienating their environmental base. Thus, the current existing stalemate on mining law issues.

To win, you must do battle in the House. Winning the House means building effective political coalitions. You must reach out and find allies east of the Mississippi River. Use a bottom up strategy, from local to state to national, that re-enforces the national message put out by your state and national trade associations. Certainly, the mining industry, which has an estimated direct and indirect impact on the U.S. economy of \$524 billion, has sufficient influence to build a winning political coalition.

The House with 435 members, many representing urban districts on the east and west coasts, where Western land issues are not so important, can appear to be a daunting challenge. However, if you can swing the votes of an additional 60 to 80 House members from east of the Mississippi River, you will win in the House. Many members east of the Mississippi vote against you on mining issues because they only hear from environmental groups when these issues are before the House.

Reaching out to your stockholders (which I've already discussed) and to your vendors are obvious ways of extending your coalition into these districts.

Many of the products consumed or used in western mining operations are manufactured east of the Mississippi and shipped West. For example, the manufacture of mining machinery and milling equipment makes up a significant part of Milwaukee, Wisconsin's economy, yet two House members from Milwaukee have been consistent co-sponsors of various versions of the Rahall bill.

In the House, we are often lucky to obtain a 50-50 split in the Michigan delegation on mining issues, yet the mining industry buys a huge number of pick-up trucks every year—not to mention, the number of engines manufactured in Michigan which end up in mining machinery. You don't see any Toyota trucks in American mines. How can you get the automobile

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Winning The War Against Mining

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manufacturers involved in mining issues?

The National Mining Association has contracted with Dun and Bradstreet to do a study that identifies those congressional districts where mining suppliers constitute a significant economic force. This study, which should be out by next March, will help pin-point congressional districts where mining activists can be effective. However, many of you can help in the effort to identify target congressional districts because you see the relationship between mine and vendor from a perspective that a study like Dun and Bradstreet's can't possibly achieve. Where are the products—such as explosives, grinding balls, and tires—that are consumed in your mining operation manufactured? Where is the mining and milling machinery—such as pumps, haul trucks, grinding mills, flotation cells, screens—manufactured? Don't leave out the trucking and rail operations that bring these products to your mining site. Identify your vendors that have manufacturing and transportation operations based east of the Mississippi and ask them to become involved in the political issues that affect your operation.

The National Mining Association is also spearheading an effort to organize a Mining Caucus in the House. Presently, the Caucus has about 45 members and a major effort will be launched in the 106th to expand the Caucus' membership. Besides, providing a reliable base to work mining issues inside the House, the Mining Caucus will provide a means of judging how the industry is doing in building a winning coalition. If the Caucus starts growing and obtains members representing manufacturing districts east of the Mississippi, then we will know that the industry's coalition-building effort is succeeding.

I want to leave you with an important action item that you can help with now. The House Mining Caucus is holding a workshop for representatives and their staff members on Dec. 16, 1998 in Washington, D.C. Call your representative and ask him to attend this workshop. If your representative isn't aware of the workshop, fax them the information. At the same time, ask your representative to join the Mining Caucus. Copies of a "Dear Colleague" letter about the Mining Caucus and an agenda for the workshop on December 16th are being passed out.

Once again I want to emphasize that you can win this fight. You win by showing pride in mining and in the indispensable role it plays in American society. You also win by showing a readiness to fight to preserve an honorable and important livelihood. Through history, miners have conquered numerous hardships and challenges. These range from developing mining, processing, housing and transportation infrastructure in remote, often inhospitable, undeveloped areas (a reason you are a selected target of environmental groups); to surviving during depressions and financial panics; to finding and producing sufficient amounts of strategic raw materials during wartime; to developing new technologies to coax metals out of low grade ores when high grade ore is exhausted. Miners certainly ought to be able to successfully meet the challenges and overcome obstacles posed by the environmental movement.

NWMA Leads Mining Industry Opposition to 3809

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the proposed changes.

The public hearing process continues with hearings scheduled for Helena, Montana; San Francisco, Sacramento and Ontario, California; Washington, D.C.; Boise, Idaho; Eugene, Oregon, and Spokane, Washington during the last two weeks of April.

We appreciate all of our members who have responded to the action alerts by filing requests for extension of time and attending and commenting at the various public hearings. NWMA will continue to actively monitor this process, provide comments, and members will be notified if the comment period is extended or reopened.

Prospector Poetry Alert

Russ Babcock and Brian Jones need your help to assemble the poetry, which has been presented at the NWMA Annual Meeting over the last five years for a volume to be published this fall. They want a copy of your contribution, a biography (factual and whimsical!), and your permission to publish your priceless gift to American culture.

YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE, call Russ at 801/359-5232, fax: 801/323-0251 or Brian at 801/942-0648, fax: 801/942-0653.

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Contact NWMA for more information.



CALENDAR

Fly-In-For-Freedom, Holiday Inn Capitol, Washington, DC, **May 15-19, 1999**. Contact Harry McIntosh at the Alliance for America @ 518/835-6702 or email: allianceam@aol.com.

6th Annual Western Mine Safety & Health Workshop, Embassy Suites Hotel, Denver, Colorado, **May 18-19, 1999**. Contact Colorado Safety Association @ 303/373-1937.

Natural Resources Development & Environmental Regulation in Indian Country, Denver, Colorado, **May 20-21, 1999**. Contact the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation @ 303/321-8100 or visit www.rmmlf.org.

Spring Mini-Conference, Northeast Nevada Section of SME, Elko Convention Center, Elko, Nevada, **May 21, 1999**. Contact Kevin Sur @ 775/778-2944.

California State Gold Panning Championships & '49er Gold Expo, Nevada County Fairgrounds, Grass Valley, California, **May 22-23, 1999**. For Vendor space call 530/887-0390. For other information call 530/367-2891.

California Mining Association Annual Conference, Resort at Squaw Creek, Lake Tahoe, California, **May 26-28, 1999**. Call Carol Berry @ 916/447-1977.

Keys to Success in Latin American Mining-Infrastructure, Regulation, & Risk Management, Keystone, Colorado, **June 2-3, 1999**. Call the Institute of the Americas @ 619/453-5560.

Strategies in Western Water Law & Policy: Courts, Coercion & Collaboration, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, **June 9-11, 1999**. Call Natural Resources Law Center @ 303/492-1286.

MINETIME '99, 5th World Mining Technology Exhibition International Congress, Dusseldorf, Germany, **June 9-15, 1999**. Call: 212/356-0400.

8th U.S. Mine Ventilation Symposium, University of Missouri, Rolla, Missouri, **June 14-17, 1999**. Contact Buddy Poe @ 573/341-6061 or email: buddyp@umr.edu.

14th Annual Elko Mining Expo, Elko Convention Center, Elko, Nevada, **June 17-19, 1999**. Contact Elko Convention Center @ 775/738-4091.

Wyoming Mining Association's 44th Annual Convention, Holiday Inn, Sheridan, Wyoming, **June 24-26, 1999**. Contact WMA @ 307/635-0331 or email: wma@tcd.com.

Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Institute 95th Convention and Regular Meeting, Crested Butte Mountain Resort, Colorado, **June 25-29, 1999**. Call 303/238 9099.

Bohemia Mining Days, Cottage Grove, Oregon, **July 15-18, 1999**. Contact Preston White @ 541/942-7134 or visit www.efn.org/~bohemia.

45th Annual Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Institute, Monterey, California, **July 22-24, 1999**. Call RMMLF @ 303/321-8100.

18th International Conference on Ground Control in Mining, Lakeview Resort & Conference Center, Morgantown, WV, **August 3-5, 1999**. Call Karen Centofanti @ 304/293-7680.

30th Annual Institute on Mining Health, Safety & Research, Marriott University Park Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah, **August 8-11, 1999**. Call Cheryl Bradley, @ 801/581-7198.

16th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Surface Mining & Reclamation, Scottsdale, Arizona, **August 13-19, 1999**. Contact Arizona Mining Association @ 602/266-4416.

Explosives & Blasting Regulatory Conference, Heathman Lodge, Vancouver, Washington, **September 27-28, 1999**. Call Lynn Mangol @ 440/349-4004.

EXPOMINERIA, Exhibition & Conference, Acapulco Convention Center, Acapulco, Mexico, **October 20-23, 1999**. Call Mariella Ley @ 703/527-8000.

NWMA 105th Annual Meeting & Exposition, Spokane, WA, November 29-December 3, 1999. Contact Hazel at 509/624-1158 or visit www.nwma.org.