



WOMEN IN MINING

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The National Quarterly

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Notes from the President

Greetings from Nevada!

First the good news: The Nevada Division of Minerals' *Major Mines of Nevada 2008* production summary is hot off the press, and although the financial crisis of one year ago has yet to become a distant memory, the minerals production trends indicate our minerals industry is holding strong. Nevada's mining industry set an all-time record in 2008 for total value of all mined commodities (at about \$6.1 billion), and also lead the nation in the production of gold, barite, and lithium compounds during the same period.

What impresses me most about our industry as a whole is, the favorable reports that are circulating are more than just political rhetoric; the industry is proving its contribution to the stabilization of our economy through collective action. On a national level, per the Energy Information Administration (EIA), although coal use in the US dropped slightly in 2008 from 2007, coal exports were up almost 38% and overall US production increased 2.2%. Improvement in the price of many mineral commodities have allowed companies across the country to increase their exploration and development efforts, which in turn increases both capital investment and employment levels. Of the mining operations reporting in Nevada, direct employment went from an average of 9,559 persons in 2004 to an average of 12,198 persons in 2008, a +28% increase over four years – and according to national data published by the Mine Safety & Health Administration earlier this year, almost 14,000 new miners were employed in 2008 from the previous year, a 3.7% increase. Utilization at steel mills in the US is currently back above fifty percent, which insures more consistent deliveries of coal and ferrous metals than was the case at the end of calendar 2008.

Now, some not-so-good news: These positive recovery indicators continue to be under the threat of several legislative bills currently in the 111th Congress, namely: Waxman-Markey American Clean Energy & Security Act H.R. 2454 (Cap & Trade bill which passed in the House in June and has been placed on the calendar in the Senate); The Hard Rock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2009 H.R. 699 (in House Subcommittee on Energy & Minerals Resources) and the Senate version S.796 (in Senate Committee of Energy & Natural Resources); and The Clean Water Restoration Act S.787 (in Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works). Please take the time to do a little research of your own on these legislative items and write, call or e-mail your respective congressmen and senators, as full passage of any of these bills will detrimentally change the face of mining as we know it, and the resulting loss of jobs anticipated will only add to an already unacceptable unemployment rate nationwide. For full text of the above referenced legislation, please go to www.thomas.loc.gov, use "Bill Number" in the search engine to pull up the full text, co-sponsors, amendments, and congressional actions related to each bill.

Thank you for your continued support!

Scotty Norman
WIM-National President

Education Foundation

WOMEN IN MINING EDUCATION FOUNDATION FIRST QUARTER REPORT 2009

By Arloa Woolford

A wonderful, well-organized Annual meeting for both WIMEF and WIM National was hosted by the student chapter at MS&T Chapter in April at Rolla, MO and despite some major weather problems in travel, everyone arrived safely and good weather arrived in Rolla until the end of our meeting.

The Education Foundation had their meeting on the 15th at the Experimental Mine office on the campus of Missouri S&T. Barbara Robertson was appointed to fill one of the vacant Director's spots on the Board and that gave us the quorum needed to conduct our business. A review of the website was one of the major items on the agenda and having some of the students as well as other WIM members in attendance many ideas were discussed at length with several of them adopted. We will be in contact with the website designer and in the next few months hope to have these suggestions in place to make the site even more user friendly.

The Foundation was able to complete their agendas for both meetings that afternoon so we did not have to reconvene a meeting on Saturday. Ebony McGee of the California Chapter was selected to fulfill the remainder of Carol Berry's term, as Carol resigned. Officers were elected for the 2009-2010 year: Arloa Woolford, President; Sally McLeod, Vice-President; Jackie Dorr, Secretary; Scotty Norman, Treasurer. Georgene Robertson and Scotty Norman were elected National Representatives to the WIM National Executive Board.

It is always great to renew friendships, meet new members and welcome long-standing ones who came to take part in some of the events. Phyllis Lyday and her husband, Travis were there from Alabama and Claudia McHale of Missouri (formerly of California) came to visit with many of the members.

We were successful in securing a short course for the Minneapolis NSTA conference in October and Scotty Norman and Denise Talvitie will be conducting this class. For Ft. Lauderdale in November and Phoenix in December we will be doing two-hour workshops and Jackie Dorr will be the lead for the Ft. Lauderdale class and I am trying to secure help from members near each location.

With the help of members and friends, 120 sample boxes were filled with 8 mineral and 8 rock samples plus a core sample to ship off to Augusta, GA to be given to each of the two leaders from the 60 teams competing in this year's National Science Olympiad. From the reports I received from the organizing committee, each of the leaders were thrilled to receive these and promised to use them in their schools.

The Foundation will have a presence at this year's Silver Summit in September in Spokane, WA with a booth and also as the recipient of most of the funds raised during a Silent Auction at their Awards Dinner. We are now in the process of gathering items to be auctioned off. Many thanks to Jann Higdem for her help in securing our attendance at this event as well as a donation from her company to be used in the auction.

Grant applications are being prepared for submission as well as a list of potential sustaining members.

If any members might be able to help with any of the upcoming events or items for the Silent Auction please contact me.



WIM Members gather around Prazen Statue “Joe Miner” at McNutt hall in Rolla, MO.

Top Row – Left to Right: Jen Wilson, Jessica Austin
 Second Row Standing – Left to Right: Scotty Norman, Patrick McChesney, Heather Erickson, Sally McLeod, Patty Deer Jann Higdem, Barbara Robertson, Christine Johnston, Jackie Dorr
 Third Row – Bobbi Meikel, Claudia McHale, Arloa Woolford

Members of the Education Foundation take a break during their meeting at the Experimental Mine, Missouri S&T.

From left: Sally McLeod; Scotty Norman; Arloa Woolford; Barbara Robertson and Jackie Dorr



California Chapter Report By Betty Peters

The California Chapter of WOMEN IN MINING has had an incredible spring. Our March Annual Meeting was held at the new Green Tree Restaurant in Victorville. New officers were elected and plans for the future identified.



After much consideration of the economic issues facing companies, a decision was made to not hold our annual fundraising golf tournament. In lieu of that, a letter was sent out explaining our position and as a result some donations were made to help continue the California Chapter programs.

A decision was also made to hold meetings at the various mines in our area. We would seize that opportunity to present the Plant Manager with an award recognizing their years of support for the California Chapter of WIM. We also plan to create display boards showing pictures of our activities and have them placed in staff lounges or lobbies so that other employees in the various companies will catch the vision and become members. Our brochure will be available in front of the display. So far we have had great responses to the display and we have recently acquired two new members.



On May 5th WIM California Chapter recognized CalPortland – Mojave Plant for their years of support. A plaque was presented to Human Resources Manager, Bart York. After the presentation we had the pleasure of touring the mine and plant and then held our meeting.

The new WIM year started out with WIM Members teaching young students about mining and minerals at the Lucerne Valley Library and the Oro Grande Elementary School. Three classes were also held at Mountain View Elementary Fillmore.



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In May, members flew to Northern California to attend a Girl Scout Camp leading workshop at the "GIRL SCOUTS ROCKS ROCK" campout. As a result, those in attendance received their Geology Badge. This required 4 full days for WIM workshop leaders.

A few days later, a group of WIM Members flew or drove up to Sacramento to staff a booth at the 21st Annual State Scientist Day held on the west steps of the State Capitol. Joyce Fitzgerald wrote: "We brought enough "Countable" supplies for 750 students to do the toothpaste exercise and we ran out with 1 hour left to go.....fortunately, I brought along the "Large Group" toothpaste kit and we had enough supplies to finish out the day. Carol Berry showed up and gave us a report on how we were doing and she said that we were definitely the most popular and populated booth at any one given time.



Two days later a couple of WIM Members taught a class at Serendipity Day at Topaz Elementary School. Activities took place with three different classes.

In July we will be meeting at TXI Riverside Cement and having the pleasure of spending time with their management to learn what we can about their company.

It's been a busy but very productive spring. We look forward to hearing about the activities of the other WIM Chapters.



Nevada Chapter Report - July 2009

By Arloa Woolford

The Chapter is in full gear with several projects on our agenda. We have held meetings in Austin, Battle Mountain and Winnemucca with very good attendance.

Rotating the meeting venues is proving successful to accommodate our out-of-area membership.

Three members travelled to Rolla, MO for the National meeting, despite some major travel hurdles encountered both going and returning home. Blizzard conditions, airport delays and heavy rain were encountered at every turn and concern of missing flights were uppermost in our minds but we made it to Rolla and enjoyed the meetings, tours and dinners that the MST Student Chapter had organized for all of us.

Scotty Norman was re-elected as WIM National President and Arloa Woolford will remain as President of the WIM Education Foundation while Sally McLeod will serve as Vice-President of both groups for the upcoming year. One of our long time members, Susan Yadon, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for 2008.

We sponsored the Mackay Women's Mucking Team to attend the Intercollegiate Mining Competition in Butte, MT where they took home first place in mucking, track stand and swede saw; second place in survey, gold panning and hand-steeling; and a third place in jack leg drilling, putting the team in second place overall. A good showing from team members: Anna Perry, Molly Hunsaker, Patricia Capistrant, Rachel Wearne, Eve Marie Hirt and Raquel Minkie. Eve Hirt is a member of the Nevada Chapter and many of these girls competed for the first time.

We also monetarily contributed to the Mining Championship Contest held during the Jim Butler Days celebration in Tonopah, NV over Memorial Day.

Our annual Dan Harper Memorial Scholarship at Mackay was awarded to Heather Yadon. Heather is a fourth-year student majoring in geological engineering. Our three high school scholarships of \$750 each were awarded to Brendon Musselman of Round Mountain High School, William Roundtree and Zachary Zastoupil both of Elko High School. All three will be attending UNR's Mackay School of Earth Science and Engineering this fall.

Our 2010 WIM Calendar is in the works and will include pictures of women in several Northern Nevada mines that correspond to the careers used in the WIM Education Foundation Career Activity. The use of pictures of the various careers has proven to be a huge benefit during school visits and workshops.

Our June meeting included a training session led by Arloa and Scotty for our members as well as a couple of teachers from Round Mountain, which was a big success and enjoyed by all who attended. A local geologist updated and revised one of our old activities, layer cake core drilling, baked the actual cake and led the activity. With several other geologists in attendance it was a big hit, and the cake was used as dessert for our lunch.

Several chapter members attended a field trip to M-I Swaco's barium sulfate operation, the Greystone Mine, in Lander County, on July 24th. We sometimes forget that Nevada has other mining besides gold and this gave us all a chance to learn more about barite.



Back row are members Richard Dorman and Stephen Tibbals; front is Christine Ballard, Scotty Norman, and Arloa Woolford.

WOMEN IN MINING

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WOMEN IN MINING is a non-profit 501 [c][6] organization.

WIM is an organization for persons interested in or associated with the mineral resources and mining industry. **WIM's** purpose is to educate members concerning all aspects of the industry and to promote public awareness of the importance of minerals in our everyday lives.

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