



WOMEN IN MINING

The National Quarterly

Volume 29, Issue 10

October 2010

Inside this issue:

- Cover Story: **1-3**
The Outlook in Nevada By
Deb Struhsacker
- 2010 - 2011 WIM **4**
Nevada Chapter
Calendar
- Nevada Chapter **3**
News
- A Note from the **5**
President
- California **6**
Chapter News
- Student Chapter **7**
News
- Denver Chapter **8-9**
News
- EF News* By **10**
Arloa Woolford
- Back **11**

The Outlook in Nevada—Gold Shines Bright but the Economy is Dull *by Debra W. Struhsacker*

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." Charles Dickens' famous opening sentence from *A Tale of Two Cities* describes perfectly the situation for mineral activities in Nevada. Thanks to high gold prices, mining is booming and exploration companies are actively testing promising mineral targets with the hopes of discovering Nevada's next mine.

Yet despite this buzz of activity, both the big mining companies and small exploration companies alike are constantly looking over their shoulder to see what's headed their way come the November election and the 2011 Session of the Nevada State Legislature. The State's financial crisis is causing their anxiety and creating well founded fears that State Legislators are going to demand more revenue from mining as policymakers look for ways to fill a \$3 billion shortfall in the State's biennium budget.

The economic outlook in the Silver State is bleak. At 14.3 percent, Nevada has the highest unemployment rate in the nation due mainly to the simultaneous melt-down of the State's traditional "bread and butter" industries - gaming and construction. Nevada also tops the list in home foreclosures, with experts estimating that this has created a 20-year glut of houses in Nevada, leaving little hope that the construction industry will rebound anytime soon.

On the other hand, mining is booming - or at least legislators think so with gold at record high prices. Consequently, they are focusing a spotlight on Nevada's mining industry as a source of revenue to help balance the State's budget.

This was certainly the case in the February 2010 Special Session of the Nevada State Legislature when both the Governor and the legislators proposed various schemes to raise revenue from mining. What ultimately evolved from this week-long session was a new fee on mining claims that has Nevada's mineral exploration community up in arms.

The 2010 Special Session Claims Fee created a one-time fee based on the number of claims owned. Legislators apparently assumed that entities that own many claims must be big, profitable mining companies that can afford to pay this fee. Unfortunately, this is incorrect. Many Nevada exploration companies own hundreds and even thousands of claims but do not own or operate producing mines.

Operating under the misconception that companies with many claims can afford to pay the highest fees, legislators enacted a tiered fee scheme that requires owners of more than 1,200 claims to pay \$195 per claim. Those with 1,200 to 200 claims must pay \$85 per claim. The fee for claimants with 199 to 11 claims is \$70 per claim. Those who own 10 or fewer claims are exempt from the fee. Legislators project this new claims fee will raise \$25.7 million.

The data base upon which legislators relied for this revenue projection shows there are 214,882 claims currently on record. The exploration community estimates that roughly 80 percent of these claims are owned by entities involved with the prospecting and exploration phases of the mining lifecycle rather than claim owners who operate mines. Thus this tax disproportionately burdens a sector of the industry that has no revenue from mining with which to pay the fee.

The claims fee has galvanized the exploration community into action. A new grassroots group, the Nevada Mineral Exploration Coalition (NMCE), was recently formed to try to repeal the fee and to ensure that this one-time fee does not become permanent. NMCE also plans to increase public awareness of the important role that mineral exploration plays in the sustainability of Nevada's mining industry because the mineral deposits being explored today will become tomorrow's mines and sources of future new jobs, local tax revenues, and Nevada Net Proceeds of Minerals tax payments.

Another revenue issue that is likely to be a hotly debated topic in the 2011 session of the Nevada State Legislature is the Net Proceeds of Minerals tax. Some legislators and citizens groups feel that the deductions that can be taken to reduce a company's Net Proceeds of Minerals tax liability are too generous. One such group, the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN), sponsored a ballot initiative to amend Nevada's Constitution to change this tax from a net to a gross proceeds tax and to make five percent the minimum tax rate rather than the maximum tax rate which is the current constitutional limit.

Although everyone in the mining industry was relieved when PLAN failed to collect enough signatures to place their initiative on the November ballot, most people expect that legislators will take a close look at the scope of the allowable deductions in the upcoming session. Because the deductions are defined in statute, legislators already have broad authority to change the deductions. However, it would take a constitutional amendment to change the net tax to a gross tax or to increase the tax rate.

In evaluating the debate over the current Net Proceeds of Minerals tax and whether the mining industry pays enough, it is important to realize that miners already pay substantial taxes *in addition to* the Net Proceeds of Minerals tax. The 2009 NV Department of Taxation report shows that miners paid \$97.5 million in Net Proceeds of Minerals taxes. The Nevada Mining Associations' website states Nevada miners also paid sales & use taxes and property taxes that contributed another \$200 million to the State's coffers above and beyond the Net Proceeds of Minerals tax.

In addition to these state issues, there are several concerns on the Federal level that are keeping Nevada Miners up at night. First, the permitting process for mines proposed on public lands is taking an average three to four years to complete. The delays due to permitting are truly unfortunate in light of the fact that developing these mines creates jobs that would help ease Nevada's unemployment problem. It is clear that mining continues to be essential in sustaining the economy in Nevada's rural mining communities by keeping people gainfully employed. The unemployment rate along the I-80 mining corridor is substantially less than the statewide rate of 14.3 percent.

Other problematic Federal issues include the Obama Administration's interest in creating two national monuments in Nevada. If enacted, the proposed Nevada National Monuments would put many thousands of acres off limits to mining. The special protection measures devoted to sage grouse habitat is also making it more difficult for miners and explorationists to gain access to and work on projects within a two-mile radius of areas with identified sage grouse habitat. Finally, the EPA's proposal to create a bonding program using its authority under the Superfund law threatens to burden mine developers with new, duplicative, and onerous bonding requirements. Nevada mines and exploration projects already have robust reclamation bonds; BLM and the Nevada Division of environmental Protection hold over \$1 billion in reclamation funds to ensure that Nevada minerals project will be fully reclaimed.

Yet despite all of these uncertainties and challenges, Nevada's miners and explorationists continue to advance many exciting projects. Throughout the state, companies are actively exploring for gold, silver, copper, molybdenum, lithium and other minerals. New mines are being developed and permitted, and more are certain to be discovered.

Mining truly is a bright spot in Nevada's economy. According to the Nevada Mining Association, over 14,600 people work at Nevada Mines, with another 51,800 who work for companies that provide goods and services to the mines. The average worker in a gold mine earns a family wage of \$78,600 per year. Nevada's mining and exploration companies help fuel the economy in rural communities throughout the State, and miners and explorationists are proud of the contributions they are making to Nevada's economy. All Nevadans understand that difficult decisions lie ahead. Nevada businesses expect to be called upon to help solve Nevada's financial crisis. We hope when policymakers turn to mining for more revenue that they take a balanced approach that recognizes what we already contribute to the economy and the public policy benefits of ensuring the long-term sustainability of Nevada's mining industry.

Ms. Struhsacker is a long-time member of the Nevada Chapter of Women In Mining

NEVADA CHAPTER 2010 MEMBERSHIP = 32

2010 OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT.....	STEPHEN TIBBALS
VICE PRESIDENT.....	SHERRY HUELSEN GADDY
TREASURER.....	AMERICA GILLESPIE
SECRETARY.....	CHRISTINE BALLARD
SR NATIONAL REP.....	STEPHEN TIBBALS
JR NATIONAL REP.....	SALLY MCLEOD
ALTERNATE REP.....	CHRISTINE BALLARD

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP = 6

COEUR ROCHESTER GROUP
M-I SWACO
ROUND MOUNTAIN GOLD CORP

GOLD CORP MARIGOLD MINE
NEVADA HOTEL
P&H MINEPRO

Nevada Chapter to Host 2010-2011 WIM National Meeting

After an excellent discussion the Nevada Chapter of Women In Mining decided that the location for the 2010-2011 WIM National Meeting will be the Carson City/Virginia City area of Nevada. Having a meeting in Alaska would be expensive and it would be difficult for everyone to participate. Having it in Nevada will allow all the members of the Nevada Chapter to participate if they wish. Virginia City has a wealth of mining history, both locally and country-wide, and prices are reasonable. The Chapter hasn't yet decided on where to have the field trip but some of the local geothermal plants are being considered.

Additional information will be provided in the January edition of the Quarterly.

A Note from the President

Greetings everyone!

Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable summer; here in North Idaho, we had no summer, well maybe 1 month.

You have probably noticed that our economy is not the best it could be right now; businesses are closing down, homes foreclosed on, etc. You may find solace that our government recently declared us officially out of the recession. I don't see it yet, do you? The mining industry in particular has been hit hard. There are those unthinking people who would have it completely shut down, obviously not realizing that "If it isn't GROWN, it has to be MINED!".

There are governmental agencies that seem to want to shut it down too, like the EPA, USFS, and BLM. Here we are working hard to stop the EPA's latest Amendment to a Record of Decision, which has openly stated they plan to remain in our 1,500 sq. mi. Superfund area for the next 40-90 years! The Region 10 Administrator was bold enough to state that it would be nice if the State concurred with them, but it was not necessary. This statement implies that the federal government controls state governments, and may become a real Constitutional 10th Amendment issue. This kind of action is going on all over the country. The federal lands are steadily being locked up into Wilderness areas which disallow mining and logging. Did you know that the federal government owns 81% of the entire western 13 states and with last year's passing of H.R. 146 & the H.R. 3534 currently on the floor, they will be acquiring a lot more land in the next 40 years? The Clean Water Act, S. 787, will greatly affect what can be done with water, even a drop. All sectors of mining are being pelted, especially coal.

My questions to you: Does this bother you? It bothers me. What are you going to do about it? Here, we have been writing editorials almost daily to the papers, and are holding a mining symposium in October with a panel of political incumbent and candidates, as well as authorities on the subject of what is felt as an E.P.A. "takeover". There is even a petition asking the Governor not to sign the ROD amendment. It is my hope that each of you can find a way to express your feelings. To your politicians at all levels, to your co-workers, to your friends, to us. We can't wait for the other guy to deal with it, because the other guy's counting on you to deal with it.

On that note, WIM is endeavoring to form a committee of members that would like to, and has some time to, keep us all on top of current events that affect our industry. If you would like to be on the committee, please let me know. So far Georgene Robertson and Dayan Anderson have asked to be a part of it. Thank you ladies! Another way everyone can help is to forward to your Presidents, anything you receive that you think we might all want to be aware of. This can then be forwarded to all of us, to react to or not.

It is sad to see the final dissolution of the Washington D.C. Chapter, their strength and unity will be missed. Adele Abrams & Lisa Carrothers are to commended on all of their work. Its members are invited to remain with WIM as at-large members. Glenna Davenport is in the beginning stages of forming a new Arizona Chapter. The students at the University of Kentucky are looking into the requirements of starting up a chapter as well. This is such good news! We, who are already members, also need to increase our resources and voices by getting new members to join our chapters and at-large rosters. New members help bring new ideas to the table and rejuvenate some of us "older" members!

Jann Higdem
WIM National President
jann@eclecticsilver.net

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER 2010 MEMBERSHIP = 35

2010 OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT.....	<i>BETTY PETERS</i>
VICE PRESIDENT.....	<i>EBONY MCGEE</i>
TREASURER.....	<i>DARLENE BRAY</i>
FIRST RECORDING SECRETARY.....	<i>KARLA BROWN</i>
SECOND RECORDING SECRETARY.....	<i>JANE JONES</i>
HISTORIAN.....	<i>DINAH SHUMWAY</i>
SR NATIONAL REP.....	<i>BOBBI MEIKEL</i>
JR NATIONAL REP.....	<i>PATTI DEER</i>
ALTERNATE REP.....	<i>CHRISTINE GRANQUIST</i>

WIM CALIFORNIA CHAPTER VISITS Brubaker-Mann, Inc.

The one frustrating thing about being in the mining industry is that generally the mined rocks and minerals are mixed together with other materials and their independent value isn't visible to the human eye. However, that was not the case when we visited the Brubaker-Mann's Marble White Quarry in California's Mojave Desert in July. As we arrived at the mine location the sun was causing the white marble rocks to glisten, and we all searched for the perfect sample to take home for our collections.

Brubaker - Mann Inc. is one of California's leading colored rock producers. They are the only company in California with such a large selection of natural rock colors including gold, green, white, pink, wine red and lilac; much of which is used by landscapers and homeowners for decorative purposes. These colors come from eight different quarry areas located throughout the Mojave Desert.

WIM California Chapter Members had the fun of experiencing this beautiful quarry first hand.

After the mine tour, we assembled for dinner at the Silver Lakes Country Club which was located a few miles away. A meeting followed which included an award presented by WIM California Chapter President, Betty Peters to Julie Mann-Clemmer. Julie is an active WIM Member and President of Brubaker-Mann Inc. The award was given to recognize their many





Five members of the Missouri Tech Chapter made the trip to Golden for the National Meeting. In this photo are (left to right): Jessica Stacey, Kaleb Kordes, Hannah McNally, and Steven O'Donnell. Not pictured is Kelly Hunter. It was really great to have them at the meetings! We look forward to hearing more from this chapter.

Compliments of WorldWide Drilling Resource®

Eighteen of the National Meeting attendees toured Henderson Mine.



Compliments of WorldWide Drilling Resource®

**MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
2010 MEMBERSHIP = 26**

2010 OFFICERS:

- PRESIDENT.....**STEVEN O'DONNELL**
- VICE PRESIDENT.....**BEN SUTTON**
- TREASURER.....**JESSICA STACY**
- SECRETARY.....**KELLY HUNTER**
- SR NATIONAL REP.....**STEVEN O'DONNELL**
- JR NATIONAL REP.....**HANNAH MCNALLY**

DENVER CHAPTER 2010 MEMBERSHIP = 36

2010 OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT.....*HEATHER ERICKSON*
 VICE PRESIDENT.....*BETTY MAHAFFEY*
 TREASURER.....*CHRISTINE JOHNSTON*

CHAIRWOMEN:

PICK & PEN NEWSLETTER.....*BETTY MAHAFFEY*
 PROGRAMS.....*SHARON KIRTS*
 REC SECY/CORR SECY/MEMBERSHIP.....*JACKIE DORR*
 SCHOLARSHIP & SPECIAL AWARDS.....*KAREN JASS*
 SR NATIONAL REP.....*HEATHER ERICKSON*
 JR NATIONAL REP.....*BETTY MAHAFFEY*

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP = 12

COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING & SAFETY
CRIPPLE CREEK & VECTOR GOLD MINING COMPANY
BROKEN HANDLE MINING
DENVER GOLD CORP
JACK PINE MINING
ROCKY MT COAL MINING INST
TRAPPER MINING INC.

CALAIS RESOURCES INC
HAZEN RESEARCH, INC
OXBOW MINING, LLC
ROYAL GOLD INC
WESTERN MUSEUM OF MINING & INDUSTRY

The Colorado Chapter Activity Report By Betty Mahaffey

The Colorado Chapter of Women In Mining always has a full agenda going!!! We work hard to expand our knowledge of the mining industry and our monthly meetings are full of interesting information—both historical and contemporary. Our meeting planner, Sharon Kirts works hard to organize informative and interesting meetings, and we manage to have a lot of fun along the way.

In January, one of the Colorado chapter's best friends spoke to us about the challenges and rewards of a small mine operator. Tom Hendricks presented a lively discussion on the challenges and rewards of a small mine operator. He passed out ore samples, showed old photos and mine artifacts. It was a fun and interesting program. He is the owner and operator of the Cross Gold Mine near Nederland, Colorado and is part of Caribou Mining District in Boulder County, which first became operational in 1870. He was a 19-year old geology student in 1970 and was convinced that the silver in the mines could make a profit and has made it his life's work. He is considered to be one of the foremost experts on underground gold/silver mining and gravity/flotation mill operations.

In February, Hugh Miller, Associate Professor, Colorado School of Mines spoke on the "Mannduque Mine Disaster." This happened in 1996 at the Mannduque open pit copper mine in the Philippines. When the company finished its operations at this location, it plugged up the old pit with concrete so that it could be used for tailings disposal for other operations. Eventually, the dam failed and the tailings were discharged into the nearby Boac River causing massive damage to the surrounding area. This was a very interesting presentation, which provided a clear and tragic view of the unintended consequences of inadequate regulations and monitoring.

These used to be thriving rice fields, which have been barren since the 1993 collapse. Nothing has been able to grow on this once fertile land. The farm has been abandoned. The photo is from the Internet by Alan Lissner.

In March, "Chocolate" Dan Monroe presented a talk entitled "Mining in Gilpin County, Some Unique, Some Mundane: A Few Items for Perspective." Chocolate Dan is a prominent member of the Gilpin County Historical Society. He has presented numerous lectures and courses on mining history and is a local expert on the history of

Dan provided an overview of John Gregory, and other prospectors, and the methods they used to discover gold in Colorado. His talk detailed the knowledge that they acquired, first by prospecting and mining in South Carolina, then in the California gold rush, and how they took this experience to prospect for gold in Colorado. He described the methodology and route taken to discover gold in the Central City/Black Hawk area. He also provided anecdotes and interesting items of information about the early mining industry.

In April, we held our raffle drawing, and the membership worked hard selling raffle tickets and we earned enough money to provide a female student at the Colorado School of Mines with a \$1,500 scholarship.

As everyone knows, our master meeting planner Sharon Kirts was the principle organizer of the annual National Conference meeting in Golden. The Colorado Chapter had a great time hosting this event and from all indications, it was a huge success.

So as you can see, the Colorado Chapter works hard to keep up its knowledge about the mining industry, both past and present with lively and interesting presentations and discussions.



EDUCATION FOUNDATION Second QUARTER 2010

By Arloa Woolford

This quarter has been rather quiet for most of the Directors as far as conferences and meetings go, so we are all hopefully rested and ready for the upcoming quarter which will find many of us traveling.

Material was sent to Missouri for their annual Teacher Workshop and individual requests of various types were answered.

The NSTA conferences will begin in late October in Kansas City, MO. We were not accepted for a short course but understand that the WIM Student Chapter at Missouri Science & Technology will be hosting the SME booth.

November 11 thru 13, the Baltimore conference will be held and our short course will be on Friday, November 12 from 8 a.m. until noon in the Peale Room of the Hilton. I think I have found members who will do the presenting there.

December 2nd thru 4th will be the Nashville conference and Phyllis and Travis Lyday along with Denise Talvitie will be the presenters.

The Silver Summit will take place October 21 and 22nd in Spokane, WA and once again, they will have a Silent Auction to benefit the Foundation. If any of your companies have items that they would like to donate either for the actual Auction or as door prizes, please get them to me as soon as possible. Donors will be acknowledged by letter along with the name of the winning bidder on any auction prize.

We were not successful in securing a short course for the National NSTA conference in March 2011 in San Francisco, CA.

On 2 October, I will lead an all day workshop for Girl Scouts in Northeastern Nevada to be held in Elko, NV. A Nevada Chapter member is the Director for the area and is anxious to have the girls learn more about minerals and rocks. Should be a fun time for all of us.

2010 WIM Education Foundation Officers:

PRESIDENT.....ARLOA WOOLFORD

Vice PresidentSALLY MCLEOD

TREASURER.....SCOTTY NORMAN

SECRETARY.....JACKIE DORR

Rest of Education Foundation Directors:

GEORGENE ROBERTSON

DENISE TALVITE

EBONY MCGEE

BARBARA ROBERTSON

DEBBIE SHUMACHER

Reminder:

October 10-18 is
Earth Science Week

We encourage members
To take part in activities
In their area!

WOMEN IN MINING

WOMEN IN MINING
P.O. BOX 260246
Lakewood, CO
80226-0246

Phone: 303-298-1535

Email: wim@womeninmining.org

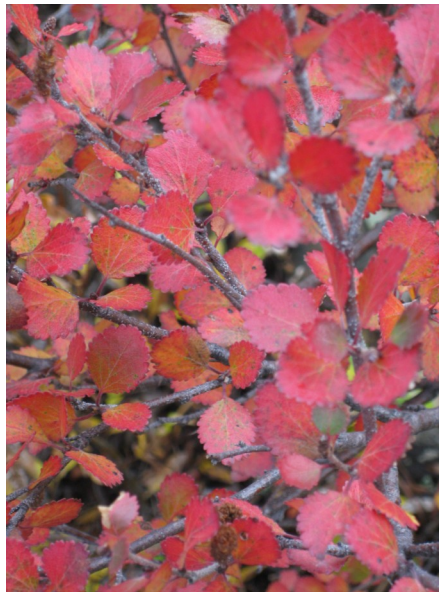
For more information, visit:
WWW.WOMENINMINING.ORG

WOMEN IN MINING is a nonprofit
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.

WOMEN IN MINING
NATIONAL QUARTERLY
P.O. BOX 260246
LAKEWOOD, CO 80226-2046

2010-2011 Editor: Sally McLeod



**Fall in Denali
National Park
Photos by
Sally McLeod**

ENJOY!

**Your
National
Quarterly
Editor**

NATIONAL CONFERENCE CALLS:

JULY 10 and OCTOBER 9, 2010

JANUARY 22, 2011



National Quarterly will be published on July 1, 2010, October 1, 2010, January 2, 2011, and April 1, 2011.

Articles are due by June 1, 2010, September 1, 2010, December 1, 2010 and March 1, 2010.

Leads for each edition are: July 2010 = Denver, October 2010 = Nevada. January 2011 = MST, and April 2011 = California.