



# The National Quarterly

July 2011

## WOMEN IN MINING

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## Annual Meeting a Resounding Success!

By Christine Ballard, Nevada Chapter

Women in Mining recently held its most exciting national event: the WIM Annual Meeting. This year, the Nevada Chapter hosted the meeting which was held at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, NV, May 19-21. Reps were present from the state Chapters California, Colorado and Nevada, the Missouri Univ. of Science and Technology (MST) and the prospective new Student Chapter from the Univ. of Kentucky (UK). Several At-Large members also attended. Sadly, WIM National President, Jann Higdem, was not in attendance this year due to a family emergency. Vice President Heather Erickson ably stepped in and conducted the first half of the National business meeting.

Thursday was an exciting day. The Education Foundation held their yearly meeting on Thursday morning, with seven of the nine Directors in attendance. Upcoming events were discussed. The WIM Foundation was accepted for the short course at the Hartford, CT, NSTA in October and requests for two-hour, back-to-back workshops were submitted for both New Orleans and Seattle. In October, the Foundation will again be participating in the Silent Auction at the Silver Summit in Spokane, WA.

After the meeting adjourned, a workshop was conducted for members attending to learn how to do several activities. Arloa Woolford led off with Minerals and Their Products and ended the class with Drift Away. Scotty Norman presented Pet Rock, Denise Talvitie did both Extraction and Flotation, and Jackie Dorr presented Renew-A-Bean.

The tunneling activity (Drift Away) involved groups of two or three members. Each group worked with a loaf of bread, softened cream cheese, pretzel sticks, and plastic knives and spoons. Using a tunnel shaped template, the goal was to tunnel through the bread with the tools. The pretzel sticks represent rock bolts which are used to reinforce the roof of the tunnel. The cream cheese was used like shotcrete in a real rock tunnel. WIM members had a blast with the tunneling activity.

(cont. on page 2)



Hannah and Jessica

## The National Quarterly

### National Meeting Review (cont. from page 1)

Who knew that adults could have so much fun decorating a pet rock? As we glued pipe cleaners, craft eyes and buttons on our respective rocks, it was a great time for bonding and discussion about teaching kids the value of mining in our everyday lives. The resulting pet rocks were very creative, and hopefully some of the rocks are still on some desks (mine is!). Scotty Norman clearly had fun presenting this activity which is geared toward younger children.



*Rhonda Wright*

To demonstrate some ways minerals are extracted from their host rock, Denise Talvitie broke everyone into teams to show both Extraction and Flotation. In Extraction they were each given a plastic cup full of Total cereal, which is advertised to have 100% of a person's required vitamins and minerals. Members added a few tablespoons of warm water to each cup and mashed up the cereal, then using a magnet to stir the mush, small iron filings appeared on the magnet. It was a pretty nifty activity! In Flotation, dry roasted peanuts and raisins were added to a glass of plain water and a glass of sparkling soda to determine which item would float in which medium. Jackie Dorr presented Renew-A-Bean, which is an activity designed to demonstrate how consumption of both renewable and non-renewable energy resources can change through conservation.

The opening reception that evening included welcoming speeches by Tim Crowley, President of the Nevada Mining Association, and Russ Fields, Director of Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering, and a great friend of Nevada Chapter members.



*Tim Crowley and WIMers*



Friday morning the tours began early. Members loaded into a bus and we headed east on Interstate 80 for the open pit gold mine at Florida Canyon about 127 miles northeast of Reno. WIM members were warmly greeted by the staff at Florida Canyon. Over the last 20 years of mining, Florida Canyon has produced a cumulative 2 million ounces of gold. Active mining at Florida Canyon ceased several months prior to the tour, so no equipment was running. The very large leach is still in operation. More than one million ounces of gold are estimated to still be contained in the leach pad material. For that reason, leaching continues to date. Workers could be seen on the sides of the leach pad setting the hoses which deliver the diluted cyanide leach solution. Interestingly, the leach pad is so large, the west side of the pad has already been reclaimed.

The mine geologist, Eric Berentsen, accompanied the tour and relayed the geologic story of the gold deposit at Florida Canyon in excellent layman terms. Because Florida Canyon is currently not operational, the parent company, Jipangu, has begun production at the nearby Standard Mine. The Standard Mine is close enough to Florida Canyon that the ore is leached on the Florida Canyon leach pad. However, the roads to and from the Standard Mine were not deemed to be navigable by the tour bus, so we did not get to see any active mining.

*(cont. on page 12)*

FROM THE PRESIDENT  
Betty Mahaffey

I want to express my sincere appreciation to the membership for giving me the honor of being elected your president. I am sincerely grateful to all of you for the confidence you have shown in me.

We all are deeply grateful to the Nevada Chapter for the wonderful program they organized for the National meeting in May. It was interesting as well as fun. The site visits gave us an opportunity that many of us would never have had to visit an operating heap leach facility and a geothermal operation. The operators of these facilities were very generous in giving their time to us. Our “time off” in Virginia City was a relaxing break—it is a wonderful place to relive our mining heritage. The last night at the Basque restaurant was a blast!! We all had so much fun with the outstanding food and drink and the entertainer was simply the best!!

At our business meeting, I was so impressed with the intelligence and commitment of our members. Each member brings a unique perspective and it is exciting to be part of such an outstanding group. The members’ stated goals were to “increase the membership” and to find “ways to bring us together in more effective ways” and I would like to make these goals the theme of my service. I would like to ask the members to consider ways to achieve these worthwhile goals.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Jann Higdem for her service as president of Women In Mining last year. She is very dedicated to WIM and I am please to inform you that she intends to remain an active member and will work on legislative issues on our behalf.

I am looking forward to the conference call meeting with the Executive Committee on July 9, and I hope that all of you have a fun and exciting summer.

**2011-2012 National WIM Officers**

- President ----- Betty Mahaffey (Denver Chapter)
- Treasurer ----- Stephen Tibbals (Nevada Chapter)
- Vice President ----- Christine Ballard (Nevada Chapter)
- Secretary ----- Hannah McNally (MS&T Student Cptr)

**Committees:**

- ByLaws ----- Ed. Foundation
- Finance ----- Nevada
- Historian ----- UK Student Chapter
- Membership ----- At-Large
- National Quarterly ----- Denver
- Public Relations ----- California
- Legislative ----- Jann Higdem, At-Large



## The National Quarterly

### WIM CALIFORNIA CHAPTER HAS BEEN BUSY!

By Betty Peters

At the Chapter's Annual Meeting held on March 29<sup>th</sup> at the Rio Tinto Minerals Borax Mine in Boron, California, the following officers were elected: President – Darlene Bray, Vice President – Bobbi Meikel, Treasurer – Jackie Simmons, Secretary – Michelle Gordon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Secretary – Christine Jones, Senior National Rep – Patti Deer, Junior National Rep. – Christine Granquist, Alternate Rep. – Karla Brown and Historian – Gena Oliver. Prior to the official meeting we had the pleasure of touring the largest surface mine in California – Rio Tinto Minerals Borax Operations.



*WIM California Chapter at Rio Tinto Borax Mine in Boron, California*

WIM members were pleased to be a part of Mojave Environmental Education Consortium (MEEC) put on by the Youth Environmental Leadership Conference (YELC). This program exists to raise students' awareness with regards to environmental issues through a hands on learning method, while encouraging students to put their knowledge into action. WIM California Members, Christine Jones, Karla Brown, Julie Park and Patti Deer volunteered to teach the students what minerals are needed when toothpaste is manufactured. They had a good lesson on the value of minerals and the need for mining.

*(cont. on page 5)*



## The National Quarterly

### California Report (cont.)

On April 30<sup>th</sup> a group of WIM California Chapter Members boarded airplanes and flew up to California's Capitol, Sacramento, where they joined 100 young girls attending a Girl Scout Geology Camp. They taught the Scouts about how toothpaste is made and what minerals are required to make it effective. WIM Members who attended are Joyce Fitzgerald, Vicki White, Cyndy Mandell, Kim Critchfield, Patti Deer, and Darlene Bray.



The WIM California Chapter Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser was very successful. The event was "sold out" and we enjoyed not only seeing the teams have a fun day together, but we also had a chance to network and again remind them of the value of the WOMEN IN MINING organization. This year's event was again held at the Spring Valley Lake Golf Course in Victorville. Many of our members took off work, made the drive over to the event and played a key roll in making the event successful.



The leaders, Bobbi Meikel, Karla Brown, Desirea Haggard, Rhonda Wright, and Kim Critchfield did a fantastic job of organizing and running the event. The money raised from this event will certainly help the California Chapter continue its efforts to educate the public about the value of minerals and the need for mining.

Check-in tables



Seven of our Chapter members had the pleasure of attending the WOMEN IN MINING National meeting in Nevada. We thoroughly enjoyed the tours of the Florida Canyon (Gold) Mine and the Geothermal plant near Fallon. We ended the tour day with a trip to Virginia



City where we stepped back in time and remembered what mining was like in 1860. We all were proud of the heritage and history that supports the mining industries we all represent.

**Thank You Nevada Chapter for an excellent job!**

California Chapter will be hosting the 2012 WOMEN IN MINING Annual Meeting. California Chapter members all voted at our Annual Meeting to hold the event in Southern California and hopefully near the beach. Why? Well, in California, "Life's a Beach!" Hope to see You there!

**Stay tuned!**

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### UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

By Kathryn Gardner

The group took a field trip to Consol's Buchanan Mine in Southwestern Virginia in April of 2011. This day trip to visit the longwall underground mine was the first time underground for several of the students in attendance. The group was able to view a longwall in action, as well as a continuous miner and a roof bolter. The trip underground allowed many of our members to decide if they liked this type of mining, as well as viewing a different type of mining.



The student chapter had one member in attendance at the National Women in Mining Conference in Reno, Nevada, from May 18-21, 2011, where the chapter was approved by the WIM Executive Board as an official National Student Chapter with voting board members. Kathryn (Katie) Gardner, president of the UK chapter which was formed in the fall of 2010, traveled to participate in the meeting and petitioned to have the UK Chapter ratified as a National WIM Student Chapter. The Chapter was successfully accepted and, as a result, was allowed to participate in the National Executive Board meeting, helping participate in decisions made about the National organization. Katie attended a Women in Mining Education Foundation training session (see below), learning several different activities to aid in teaching students about minerals and the mining process. In addition, the entire group took a field trip to a local gold mine, Florida Canyon Gold Mine in Lovelock, Nevada, and also a geothermal power plant.

The UK WIM Chapter hopes to continue to grow and gain female, and male, members from not only the mining engineering department but other fields in the coming year. In addition, we hope to aid in the retention of freshman students in the program, and to aid in easing the transition between high school and college for these students.

***Katie Gardner,  
Christine Ballard,  
Hannah McNally,  
Steve Tibbals and  
Heather Erickson  
arrange their Pet  
Rocks for a group  
photograph.***



## The National Quarterly

### EDUCATION FOUNDATION, First Quarter 2011-2012

By Arloa Woolford

The first quarter went by quickly with a lot of final planning taking place for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WIM Annual Meetings that was held in Sparks, NV at John Ascuaga's Nugget.

The Foundation held their yearly meeting and presented a workshop for members attending to learn how to do several activities. Arloa Woolford led off with Minerals and Their Products and ended the class with Drift Away. Scotty Norman presented Pet Rock, Denise Talvitie



*Patty Deer & Steve Tibbals  
piercing balloons.*

did both Extraction and Flotation, and Jackie Dorr presented Renew-A-Bean. This workshop was videoed to provide instruction for all our Chapters on how to do these activities. From the pictures, it appears that everyone attending had fun along with

learning how to do some of our hands-on activities. Now they need to take this information back to their Chapters and show others how to do them so more members will feel comfortable presenting in a classroom or to civic groups.



*Resa Furey, Georgene  
Robertson & Christine Ballard  
try flotation activity*



*Drift-Away  
tunneling activity  
with cream cheese  
"shotcrete" and  
pretzel "roof  
bolts."*

Several inquiries have been received via our new voice-message service. I turned one request over to Debbie Schumacher to handle, as she had the most experience in handling that particular question. Some requested our help in distributing information to all our members, and one on which I

am working with a woman from the European Industrial Minerals Association. Another request came from a woman in British Columbia who is working on establishing a science curriculum for high school students there, asking about using some of our activities. She is also very interested in the career information we have and we have talked several times. When I explained that we introduced this into our 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grades, she was amazed, as they will include it in their high school curriculum.

At our meeting, we did review the work done by a member's brother on ideas for putting all the previous calendar pictures on the website. I am waiting to get the actual CD of these ideas so we can finalize this project and get them on our site. Unfortunately, the setup to view the pictures at the Annual Meeting had to be changed from our original plan due to electrical outlet availability.

We have heard back from NSTA on our proposals for the three upcoming regional conferences. We were not approved for either Seattle or New Orleans for the 4-hour short course, so I requested the possibility of a 2-hour back-to-back workshop. We were approved for the Hartford short course and I will keep the Directors informed of time and location. The dates for Hartford are Oct. 27-29. This will make it a bit tight since the Silver Summit is Oct. 20-22 in Spokane and we have been invited back again this year for the Silent Auction.

## Education Foundation 2011-2012 Officers & Committees

### Officers:

President----- Arloa Woolford  
 Vice-President----- Ebony McGee  
 Secretary----- Jackie Dorr  
 Treasurer ----- Scotty Norman  
 National Representatives----- Denise Talvitie and Georgene Robertson

### Committee Chair Appointments:

Website----- Barbara Robertson, Jackie D. and Arloa W.  
 Finance----- Scotty Norman  
 NSTA ----- Denise Talvitie and Ebony McGee  
 PR ----- Jackie Dorr



The chairmen of the committees will solicit help by WIM members from various Chapters to fulfill their duties, as each of these committees is vital to the continued growth of the Education Foundation.

Some Directors will be working on making contact with individual States and other Science organizations to inquire about our presenting at some of their conferences. I am waiting for biographies from a couple of WIM members who are interested in filling the position on our Board left vacant by the resignation of Sally McLeod.

We had seven of our nine Directors present for all the Foundation events and most of the Annual Conference. This was a great turnout and added many viewpoints on items being discussed. I hope that next year, we can get all our Directors to attend the Annual Meeting in California.

## MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

by Steven O'Donnell

The Missouri University of Science and Technology (MST) Chapter of Women in Mining participated in the annual **Haunted Mine**, hosted in the Experimental Mine at MST. Through the Haunted Mine project we are able to bring people of all ages into our mine and let them explore underground. . . with the occasional scare! The Haunted Mine is also a great fund raiser for our Mining Department and the MST WIM Chapter.

This year the MST WIM Chapter, in conjunction with the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration GEM Committee, sent representatives to the National Science Teachers Association conference in Kansas City where mineral samples and information about the importance of mining and minerals were distributed.

The MST WIM Chapter also attended Missouri University of Science and Technology's first Mining Industry Night where the department invites all undecided freshmen and sophomores to attend and learn what the Mining Industry is all about. Many representatives from industry came and talked to the students about what mining is and where it is going. Hopefully this will become an annual event as it was very informative even to upper classmen.

The MST WIM chapter also worked diligently on the National scrapbook.

*Steven O'Donnell  
and Jessica Stacy  
dip into the Renew  
A Bean classroom  
activity during the  
WIM Annual  
Meeting.*



### 2011-2012 Officers:

President-----Jessica Stacy

Vice President -----Hannah McNally

Secretary-----Melody Franks

Treasurer-----Steven O'Donnell

**The National Quarterly  
DENVER CHAPTER**

Congratulations to Denver Chapter President Betty Mahaffey on her election as WIM National President during the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual WIM National meeting held May 19-21 in Sparks, NV. Our own Christine Johnston was presented with the Distinguished Service Award, along with Nevada Chapter member Steven Tibbals. The meeting was attended by Denver Nat. reps Betty Mahaffey and Resa Furey, outgoing Nat. VP Heather Erickson, WIM EF rep Jackie Dorr, along with Karen Jass and Sharon Kirts.



*Karen Jass and Sharon Kirts*



*Resa Furey and Georgene Robertson*

Denver Chapter does not hold regular meetings during the summer, instead we are gearing up for field trips to local mining operations. As was reported during the National Annual Meeting, the 2010 WOMEN IN MINING – Denver Chapter Scholarship was awarded to Ms. Sarah Jones, of Arvada, CO. Sarah was a Senior in Mining Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, CO. Sarah is a dynamic young lady and is active in many extracurricular activities associated with the Mining Department at CSM. The \$1,500 scholarship was awarded in the fall of 2010.

For the 2011 scholarship, letters and application forms were sent out to six CSM departments, to local newspapers and the information was posted on the Denver Chapter’s website. The recipient is Stephanie Biagiotti, also from the Colorado School of Mines. When school reconvenes in the Fall, we will report on her activities and biography.

The Denver Chapter once again gave \$1,000 to the Colorado Mining Association Education Foundation to fund two \$500 scholarships to teachers attending the month-long summer course “All About Mining” teacher’s course (formerly called Total Concept of Mining). The course began in June and continues until mid-July.

**2011-2012 Officers and Committee Chairs**

- President ----- Betty Mahaffey
- Vice President----- Amanda Adams
- Treasurer ----- Christine Johnston
- Secretary/Membership----- Jackie Dorr
- Finance ----- Resa Furey, Sharon Kirts
- Past Pres/Historian ----- Heather Erickson
- Pick & Pen/Scholarship----- Karen Jass
- Programs ----- Sharon Kirts
- Public Relations ----- Resa Furey
- Ed. Foundation Dir----- Jackie Dorr

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### VIRGINIA TECH STUDENT CHAPTER

Virginia Tech's Student Chapter of WIM had a very eventful 2010-2011 school year. The Chapter looked to extend more support to the community this year via the Government Education in Mining Program. We were lucky enough to add two public schools to our list of participants! This summer we look forward to participating in activities with several diversity-in-engineering oriented programs that take place on the Virginia Tech campus.

In addition to our service work, students from our chapter had the opportunity to visit two mining operations. The first was to visit Alpha's Mountaineer underground coal mine in Logan, WV. The second was to Cargill's underground salt mine in Cleveland, OH. Experienced students and inexperienced alike made the most of the opportunities. We are very grateful to both companies for their continued support of our Chapter!

Members of the Chapter seized the opportunity for a free dinner on two separate occasions. The first was to the Olive Garden in Christiansburg, VA, and the second to the Homeplace in Catawba, VA. In order to fund these dinners, the Chapter has increased fund raising efforts through restaurants such as Buffalo Wild Wings in Blacksburg, VA. The Chapter has also increased their campus activities to become involved with Virginia Tech's Students Engineering Council. Involvement with this organization requires several commitments such as participation in engineering week on campus, but the incentive is high due to "slush funds" that they award to campus engineering organizations. Thanks to the SEC's generosity, the 2011-2012 year will have an account balance of \$2,073.

The Chapter's new officers have been elected, and our National Representative is Jamie Howard. Jamie is a rising senior at Virginia Tech. He was worked underground coal operations in Beckley, WV with ICG, participates in undergraduate research within the department, and will be working in Towson, MD this summer at an aggregate operation with LaFarge. The Virginia Tech Chapter of WIM is looking forward to another great year in 2011-2012!

*Photograph from  
Virginia Tech's  
Website WIM page*



## The National Quarterly

*National Meeting Review (cont. from page 2)*

The next stop on the tour was to the Soda Lake Geothermal Power Plant which is near Fallon, Nevada. Members were welcomed into the control room of one of the main power plants. The control room appeared to be a throwback to bygone days; machinery was bulky, monitors were monochrome amber and the dials were analog. Although the controls were old, everything works like a well-oiled machine. Production



supervisor Dale Smith explained about production wells and injection wells, heat exchangers and the best time to produce geothermal energy (when the ambient temperature is coldest). The manager, Greg Champneys, then allowed everyone to walk around the power plant and take pictures. It was nice to see a fully operational alternative energy power plant providing power to the local community.



After departing the Fallon area, the tour bus made a beeline for the last stop of the day—Virginia City. Although the bus arrived at close to 5 p.m. when most of Virginia City is closing down for the night, members still found plenty to do. The historic mining charm of Virginia City is irresistible. Some people ate dinner, others bellied up to the bar at the Bucket of Blood Saloon and others shopped the many trading posts and specialty stores. After a couple of hours, the bus loaded up and headed back to the Nugget.



Saturday was a day for the official meeting of the National representatives. There was much business to discuss and new officers to elect. Because Jann Higdem was absent from the meeting, business was conducted by Vice President Heather Erickson. Scotty Norman, a veteran parliamentarian and immediate Past President, sat nearby to lend a hand with procedures. The first half of the meeting is presided over by the current officers. After elections for the upcoming year take place, the meeting adjourns for lunch and then reconvenes with the newly elected officers conducting the remaining business session.

*(cont. on page 13)*

## The National Quarterly

### *National Meeting Review (cont. from page 12)*

During the 2010-2011 segment of the meeting, all Chapters circulated annual reports in print and representatives gave a verbal review of their respective Chapter's activities. The state Chapters raised money for scholarships through various means and everyone shared tips on how to award the scholarship money. Awarding scholarships is one of the most important functions that WIM undertakes every year.

Treasurer Steve Tibbals reported on the financial status of WIM national. A myriad of other business was conducted, and 2011-2012 WIM national officers were elected and committee chairs appointed (see page 2).

The 2010 Distinguished Service Award nominees were announced as Christine Johnston of Denver Chapter and Stephen Tibbals of Nevada Chapter. They were both selected by a vote of acclimation to receive this prestigious honor (please see page.18).

With the business of 2010-2011 concluded, members broke for lunch. Our luncheon speaker was Rachel Dolbier, Curator of the Keck Museum, who presented a slideshow about the history of the Mackay family. John Mackay was one of the few mining men to earn a fortune mining the Comstock Lode in Virginia City. His family's story reads almost like a modern-day soap opera. Some family members married royalty and others coped with physical disabilities. One of the things the family is famous for is the indescribably beautiful silver service that John Mackay commissioned. He sent silver from his mine in the Comstock to Tiffany and Company with instructions to create a silver service for his beloved wife. Rachel's talk was both informative and hugely entertaining. WIM is grateful for her contribution to the 2011 Annual Meeting.

After lunch, the meeting reconvened with the 2011-2012 officers at the head table. Betty Mahaffey did a wonderful job guiding the meeting through numerous agenda items. Committee assignments were handed out with every chapter taking its fair share of responsibilities. But the proudest moment came when the membership had the honor of voting on the issue of Student Chapter status for the fledgling University of Kentucky Student Chapter. The President of the UK chapter, Katie Gardner, was in attendance. After hearing about what the UK Chapter planned to do in the future, the WIM membership gladly welcomed the UK Chapter into the fold. It was a pleasure to see a new, fired up Chapter come into existence. UK will now enjoy all the benefits of full membership including the election of national representatives and taking their turn at writing the cover article for a future issue of the WIM Quarterly.

When business concluded for the 2011 National Meeting, there were still wonderful activities planned. Members were transported to the scenic campus of the University of Nevada Reno. A short walk up the historic Quad led to the Keck Museum. The Museum houses the Mackay Silver Collection of which Rachel Dolbier spoke in the afternoon. WIM members were allowed to roam the museum, enjoying the impressive mineral collection and the Mackay Silver Collection. After seeing the slideshow earlier, seeing the real deal was a lot of fun.

*(cont. on page 14)*

## The National Quarterly

*National Meeting Review (cont. from page 13)*

Capping a full day of activities, dinner was served at one of Reno's premier restaurants, Louis' Basque Corner. The meeting planners wanted to highlight Nevada's rich Basque heritage which is part of what makes Nevada so unique. Louis' was recently remodeled so the atmosphere was gorgeous. The WIM folks were engaged in friendly and gregarious conversation knowing that by the next morning, everyone would be heading their separate ways. For those who had never eaten Basque cuisine, the seemingly endless courses of food may have come as a surprise. A Basque meal, which is served family style, usually consists of soup, salad, beans, spaghetti or rice and French fries in addition to the main course. Nobody ever walks away from a Basque meal hungry!

The Nevada Chapter collected numerous donations for raffle gifts. Many folks walked away with prizes. A one Troy pound (12 Troy ounce) bar of silver was generously donated by the Nevada Mining Association. Raffle tickets for the silver bar were sold as a fundraiser for the Nevada Chapter. The winner was Sharon Kirts from Denver .

*Sharon & Silver Bar*



The highlight of the evening was an appearance by "The Safety Troubadour" Greg Vaught. Armed with nothing but his guitar and voice, he manages to drive home the importance of safety while on the job. His songs cover all aspects of safety from driving vehicles to avoiding slips, trips and falls. As the old saying goes, a spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down. The songs are surely entertaining, but the ultimate message is that the most important thing an employee can do on the job is to go home safely to their family every night.

What an honor it was to be part of the Chapter which hosted the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual WIM National Meeting. WIM members from all over the country had the opportunity to see some very interesting corners of Nevada from an open pit mine to a geothermal power plant; Virginia City to the Mackay Silver Collection; Basque food to entertaining songs with a serious message. Business was conducted, officers were elected and friendships were renewed

**The 2011 WIM National Meeting was a resounding success!**

*By Christine Ballard, Nevada Chapter*

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Some more photos from the meeting

**NEVADA CHAPTER REPORT**

By Arloa Woolford

Our new President is a recent graduate from UNR Mackay School of Earth Science and Engineering as a geologist, who immediately after election traveled to South Dakota for a 6-week geology field trip.

The Chapter again handled the bar for the Nevada Muley's Foundation, Dinner and Auction with over 450 people in attendance. This added considerable funds to both our scholarship fund and the general fund, and along with finalizing the details of the Annual Meeting in Sparks, NV in May, totally tasked the members so we were glad there were no activities planned for June. A picnic meeting is being planned for early July.

**2011-2012 Officers:**

President -----	Eve Marie Hirt
Vice President-----	Tinker Evans
Secretary -----	Karen Battiest
Treasurer -----	Tammy Harding

## The National Quarterly

### Women In Mining: Building a legacy of public mining goodwill, for only pennies by Dorothy Kosich, Deputy Editor, Mineweb reproduced with permission

*"These low-key heroines and, now, heroes of mining have built a legacy of respect and goodwill for U.S. mining that endures long after lavish, expensive PR campaigns have crashed and burned"*

Author: Dorothy Kosich

Posted: Monday, 23 May 2011

RENO, NV -

The \$5,000-plus, which comprise this year's proposed annual budget for the U.S. section of Women in Mining, probably wouldn't cover what typical mining and exploration companies spend for as coffee break in a single day during an annual general meeting. Yet, this dedicated and extremely hard-working group of volunteers has probably achieved more goodwill for U.S. mining among the general public during WIM's past four decades than a number of high-powered, considerably more expensive mining PR campaigns.

It had been at least a decade since this reporter had attended a WIM convention, but a visit to the annual convention Saturday revealed that the face of WIM has definitely changed. Nowadays some of those faces are male. Stephen Tibbals, manager of Nevada's Relief Canyon Mine, is the national treasurer of the organization. Among his male counterparts in WIM are university students, geologists, environmental coordinators, as well as other mining professionals.

WIM's influence can be found in the curriculums of science classes from first grade through graduate school throughout the world, where students now do considerably more than mine chocolate chip cookies. Today they are also learning about potential careers in mining from the fourth grade on; everything from welder to maintenance planner to blaster to driller to mining engineer to environmental technician to safety coordinator to warehouse tech to sample prep.

The various WIM chapters also conducted fund-raising activities for worthy causes such as scholarships for young people who study in mining-related fields. Be it a national teachers or national mining conference, the WIM booths are inevitably mobbed by teachers eagerly seeking materials and samples for their students. The WIM Education Foundation is hoping to conduct mining short courses at National Science Teacher Association conferences from late October to early December of this year in Hartford, Connecticut, New Orleans, and Seattle.

The WIM's horizons are also spreading well beyond the classroom. In the recent National Quarterly newsletter, the Denver Chapter noted "our focus has been on people and organization that provide outreach to the public to inform and educate on the importance of the extractive minerals industry." For instance, the Denver Chapter devoted several of its meetings to the importance of minerals in achieving the so-called green society, and the accomplishments of modern mining reclamation programs.

While the WIM California Chapter members regularly lead mineral classes at schools, they also speak at conferences and network with the public.

Meanwhile, the immediate past president of the national organization, Jann Higdem, has been urging WIM member to keep up "with what is going on with the Environmental Protection Agency...revoking permits already issued to coal mining companies, labeling carbon dioxide as a toxin" and more. "My plea to each of you is, take a moment out of a less busy day and send an email to all of your senators and representatives, both state and federal stating your position on the EPA and what you would like to see them do regarding the EPA," Higdem wrote in the WIM President's Report. "If various conservation societies and non-governmental organization are more vocal than we are, who will they listen to?"

The Missouri University of Science and Technology (known as Rolla to most mining old-timers) has been active in International Intercollegiate Mining competitions and an experimental mine program.

The Virginian Tech WIM chapter invites freshmen to participate in mine tours to gain an understanding "for what it is like to work in a mining environment."

(cont. on next page)

***Mineweb, by Dorothy Kosich (cont.)***

The ranks of WIM membership contain a distinctly female Who's Who of the mining industry, filled with women who have dedicated much of their lives to the betterment of mining. Among just a handful of WIM members whose work has helped shaped today's mining industry are:

-- As the California Mining Association retooled itself into the California Construction and Industrial Minerals Association, the women of the California WIM chapters still proudly carry mining's banner in a state notorious for its hostility toward modern mining. The California WIM's motto eloquently states its decades-long mission: "We are dedicated to bringing a greater appreciation of the value of minerals to young people, our communities and our colleagues in the mining industry."

--Nevada's Arloa Woolford, now a mining retiree, and Colorado's Jackie Dorr, manager of the U.S. Mineral Information Institute, are pioneers and long-time stalwarts of earth sciences education at any grade level or educational institution within the U.S. school system.

--Minerals Economist, Dr. Leanne Baker, a member of the WIM Denver Chapter, is an internationally respected consultant to both the minerals and financial services industries.

--Newmont Mining Vice President, Government Relations, Mary Beth Donnelly, a long-time, nationally respected voice for mining in the beltway, was active for years in the now defunct WIM Washington, D.C. chapter.

--Women's Mining Coalition co-founder Debra Struhsacker, a Nevada WIM member, has been a steadfast and respected advocate for North American explorationists in environmental protection, mining regulation, permitting and other land uses, as well as other government affairs issues pertaining to mining.

Women in Mining chapters can also be found internationally in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Peru, South Africa, Sweden, Tanzania, the UK, and Zambia.

However, despite their decades-long legacy of hard work and dedication to educate students and the general public about the positive benefits of mining, a number of mining and exploration companies appear to have forgotten WIM when it comes to corporate donations.

Some days, the national WIM office struggles to find funds for office supplies or even to pay conference calls for its chapters. It's a shame considering how much is accomplished by its few hundred hardworking and dedicated group of volunteers.

For further information about Women in Mining, visit [www.womeninmining.org](http://www.womeninmining.org) or email [wim@womeninmining.org](mailto:wim@womeninmining.org)

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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.

2011-2012 Editor: Jackie Dorr,  
Denver Chapter  
Assistant Editor: Karen Jass



### Congratulations to our National Distinguished Service Award Recipients

**Steven Tibbals, Nevada Chapter**  
**Christine Johnston, Denver Chapter**



*Betty Peters presenting DSA plaque to  
Steve Tibbals at the Annual Meeting*



*Christine Johnston*

*Next National  
Conference Call:*  
**JULY 9, 2011**

The next National Quarterly will be published **October, 2011.**

Articles are due **September 1, 2011.**

The lead article will be from the **Education Foundation.**