Highlights of the 2015 Annual Meeting
By Kathryn Gardner

The WIM National Annual Convention, hosted by the Nevada Chapter this year, was held in Elko, NV April 9-11, 2015. About 35 members and guests attend the conference. The meeting started off on Thursday at the Western Folklife Center, home of Elko’s Annual Cowboy Poetry Gathering, with the WIM Education Foundation session. They presented activities that ranged from matching products to the Nevada rocks and minerals that are used to manufacture them, to the favorite pet rock activity, a plate tectonics activity using an orange to represent the Earth, and piercing a balloon with skewer without popping it.

The evening concluded with a welcoming cocktail reception at the Western Folklife Center where the group got a chance to socialize.

Shannon Mann, Gena Oliver, Arloa Woolford

WOW—Ten skewers and still going strong! Megan Tibbals, Ashley Mullaney
The next day we took a field trip to Barrick’s Cortez Mine and toured both the surface and underground operations. Participants could choose which tour to attend, and were provided lunch and an informational session as well. The tour was very exciting, with the underground tour seeing a heading drilled out, bolting, and a loaded face round. The surface tour went to the open pit and the processing mill and got to play on one of the largest haul trucks in the industry (see page 4).

After the mine tour, we visited the California Interpretive Trail Center, an attraction on the way back to Elko which highlights the stories of the pioneers who set off to California between 1841 and 1869.

Saturday was the annual business meeting, held at the Stockman’s Hotel. The agenda was filled with old and new business, as well as election of officers and committee appointments for the next fiscal year. At lunch we were fortunate to have Nevada Mining Association’s President Dana Bennett speak. Dana had an excellent message for us, discussing the geographical distribution of members of Nevada’s Legislature, with many being primarily from the Las Vegas area and new to Nevada, thus unaware of the importance of the mining industry. The NMA helps explain the essential minerals that Nevada produces. She also touched on the subject of what the industry can do to increase the number of women in jobs on mine sites.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Annual WIM National Meeting in Elko, Nevada was another great success and I want to express my appreciation to the Nevada Chapter for hosting this event. I also want to thank the National Representatives for electing me to serve for another year as President of WIM National. I am honored to lead this very amazing National organization and I look forward to another productive year.

I came across this quote that prompted the note below:

“Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something.” ~ author unknown

Summer is upon us which can give Chapters and their members the time to review how they can improve their classroom teaching skills and involve the majority of the Chapter members instead of just a handful who “always handle it.” I know we have that issue with the California Chapter, and I assume it is typical of most Chapters. Most members were hired by their company to do a particular job, which most likely did not require standing in front of a host of people (young or old) doing what you can to show them the value of minerals and how important mining is. Yet, there are those who are experienced and perhaps the summer months would be a good time to seek future volunteers and get them trained. It’s time for an e-mail explaining the need, how education will take place, and then asking if they are willing to make an effort to learn some skills and apply their efforts in the future. Then a training date, time and place should be set, and when the class is over, some kind of recognition would be appropriate. The demand for WIM members to educate is barely being met. I am sure that if we put the word out that our programs were available, it would have a significant impact on the positive aspects of mining. So be encouraged, and remember...

“Volunteers are paid in six figures…S.M.I.L.E.S.” ~ Gayla LeMaire

With all of that said, have a wonderful summer season and I look forward to seeing everyone at the National Conference in the spring of 2016. It is being hosted by the WIM Student Chapter of Missouri University of Science & Technology in Rolla, MO. See you then!!!

Darlene Bray
President
WOMEN IN MINING National
The annual banquet was held Saturday evening at the local landmark, the Star Hotel, a Basque restaurant famous for excellent beef and a family style dinner. Our honored speaker was U.S. Rep. Mark Amodei (R-NV). His talk focused on what can be done to facilitate permitting, such as with Newmont Mining Corp.’s Long Canyon project. He discussed the advantages of having mining in his district, as the jobs provided by the industry are high paying and include excellent health benefits.

Overall, the weekend provided attendees with great speakers with relevant topics, a tour of a dynamic large producing underground and surface gold operation, and learning experiences through the WIM Education Foundation. The Nevada Chapter would like to thank everyone for attending and making the experience an excellent one.
Our new year started out with 5 Directors making their way to Elko, Nevada to attend the Annual Meeting April 9-11, 2015.

The EF hosted a two-hour training session on Thursday. 20 members and guests were in attendance, including the editor of the mining section for Elko Daily Free Press, Marianna Kobak McKown. It was a big surprise to see a picture of one of our activities with attendees working on it, on the front page of the Elko Daily Free Press the following day. Not only was there a picture but a great article about both the Education Foundation and WIM. Marianna also had articles in two other issues of the newspaper along with pictures. It was great to get the publicity for all. Check out the great PR articles: http://www.elkodaily.com/mining/. Look for the mining page on the right, click on and read the current issue of the Mining Quarterly that has even more information about our annual meeting as well as pictures.

Before our training session, the EF Board of Directors met for their business meeting with discussion on work needing to be finalized for the new website design, election of officers, needs for the upcoming year as well as events we will be participating in. New officers are: Arloa Woolford-President; Bonnie Love-Vice-President; Jackie Dorr-Secretary; Scotty Norman-Treasurer. Bonnie Love and Georgene Robertson are the National Representatives, and Ebony McGee is the Webmaster.

An important requirement will be the need for signed photo releases for all pictures that are shown on the website. This was highly recommended by several attorneys and judges who were consulted prior to meeting. This is mainly to protect the Education Foundation and our website from lawsuits that could be filed because of the use of photos without permission from the individual or guardian. It is especially necessary for photos of children. It is noted that some states will allow publication of a photo if only a certain portion of the face is shown.

We talked about sending a brochure and letter promoting our website to associations and mining institutes around the nation, and asking them to direct any inquiries about mining information and activities to our website.
Greetings from Texas!

April 6-8: We participated in the South Central Joint Mine Health and Safety Conference as an exhibitor. It was our first booth as a group and it went very well. We did some “toothpaste” demonstrations and made several good contacts. We even signed up a few new members. It was a great opportunity to start letting people know we are here, and we are very thankful to their board for donating the booth space.

April 9-11: Kim Dennis and Donna Thornton attended the National meeting in Elko, NV. Both had a great time meeting new people and reconnecting with others. Thanks to everyone involved in putting together all the activities. We tentatively volunteered to host in 2017, so we have a lot of work ahead of us.

Our latest activity was participation in the Summer Reading Kickoff at the New Braunfels Public Library. Kami, Kay and Donna helped “birth” approximately 140 new pet rocks into the world. We had a very popular booth and have already been invited back for next summer’s kickoff.

Members toured the Luminant Coal Mine in Kosse, TX as part of our March meeting.

(cont. on next page)
Plans are underway for our first fundraising activity and hopefully next quarter’s article will be filled with more information from that. We have set a tentative date of August 22 for our second training session on WIM educational activities. This one will be held in Dallas at the Martin Marietta Regional Office. We would like to invite anyone interested to join us, especially any At-Large members, and we will send out more information when we confirm the date.

Bob and approximately 140 of his brothers and sisters were born during the Summer Reading Program Kickoff at the New Braunfels Public Library.

Pet Rocks ROCK!!!

(l-r) TX Chapter VP Kim Dennis, National Pres. Darlene Bray and TX Chapter Pres. Donna Thornton prepare to go underground at the Barrick Gold Mine during the tour as part of the National Meeting.
The school year is winding down and this will prompt a break in extensive activities; however, we expect there will be gem shows and teacher training seminars that we will be involved with in the months ahead. This Quarter was busy and, along with meeting the “demands of the job,” many members were able to participate in educating youth and adults about the important part minerals play in our lives. In addition, each spring we have our annual fundraiser Golf Tournament that provides the funding for our many future activities.

**WIM TEACHING**

April 22: Patti Deer, Tanya Lewis and Yoana King provided a booth at the Helendale Community Services District Earth Day event. They were able to teach students what minerals are in toothpaste.

May 2: Julia Lakes-Martinez was able to supply a Little Rock High School teacher with enough materials for his class to experience the “Cement is Not Concrete” exercise. The students were amazed.

May 13: the Annual California State Scientists Day took place in Sacramento and the California Chapter had a booth again this year. This event was held outside in front of the State Capitol. There were more than 1,000 kids at our booth. Handling the booth were Julia Lakes-Martinez, Joyce Fitzgerald, Stephanie Pridmore, Courtney Orozco, Paul Miller and Vicki White. Christine Cortino helped by transporting people to and from the airport.

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EVENTS

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
April 27: we held our Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament at the Spring Valley Lake Golf Course. We had a good turnout and everyone had a good time, along with hearing what everyone is doing in their respective areas of the mining industry. WIM members were busy making sure there was enough water, snacks and prizes to keep the players happy. We are already looking forward to next year. We, again, are very grateful for the companies that sponsor this event.

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED
The Chapter was able to award five students with college scholarship funds of $2,000 each. Some of the careers identified by students are Chemical Engineering and Environmental Studies which could lead to a career in mining.

MEETINGS

April 8-11: all three of our National Representatives had the pleasure of attending the National meeting held in Elko, NV, and they are still raving about the amazing underground mine tour.

April 16: a Chapter meeting was held at the CEMEX River Plant in Victorville. After the meeting, participants had the fun of preparing for the Golf Tournament by assembling the “Goodie Bags” and gifts which always make the participants smile.
May 21: a Chapter meeting was held at the RioTinto Mine in Boron. They had recently enlarged their Research Laboratory and were able to explain the importance that chemistry and research plays, especially at the mine site. They are able to insure the best quality and the best results for their customers. We were all impressed with their new facility, and we moved back up to the Visitor Center for our meeting. This amazing Visitor Center overlooks the largest surface mine in California and actually takes visitors through the process of “mineral in the ground to mineral into a product.”

June 11: a WIM Meeting was held at CalPortland facilities in Colton following a brief tour of their operations. CalPortland has expertise in cement production and distribution, ready mixed concrete, construction aggregates, asphalt, construction services and other building materials.
DENVER CHAPTER REPORT
By Jackie Dorr

April 9-11: Betty Mahaffey, Karen Jass and Jackie Dorr attended the WIM National Annual Meeting in Elko, NV. Betty was elected National Secretary. Karen IS THE designated Liaison to the WIM Student Chapters, and Jackie is editor of the WIM National Quarterly Journal.

April 15: Our dinner meeting speaker was Marilyn Krohn, owner and operator of a company specializing in sealing abandoned mine portals. Her talk about the myriad methods of mitigating historical properties as well as currently-operating facilities was fascinating. Marilyn has grown her company from a few hand tools and a pickup truck, to an entire team of workers using sophisticated state-of-the-art equipment.

May 9: Boy Scout Days at Dinosaur Ridge. Amanda Adams manned the WIM booth and fended off “Mr. Bones” the Dinosaur Man.

May 20: Speaker Jessica M. Smith, Assistant Professor, Colorado School of Mines. Her research shows that women constitute an average of 20-25% of production crews and at least half of engineering teams in northeastern Wyoming’s surface coal mines. Jessica spoke on her experiences working and conducting research in the mines to explore the historical and cultural factors behind what is one of the most successful cases of women’s integration into a male-dominated industry.

Summer is upon us and that means our monthly dinner meetings take a break for the months of June, July and August. The Chapter is planning exciting and interesting field trips for our members during this time.
WOMEN IN MINING (Nat’l, E.F. and Denver address)
P.O. Box 260246
Lakewood, CO 80226-0246
Phone: 866-537-9694, ext 1
Educ. Foundation, ext 2
Nevada, ext 3
Calif, ext 4
Denver, ext 5
U of KY, ext 6
MS&T, 573-341-4753
Email: wim@womeninmining.org
Texas: womeninminingtx@gmail.com

WOMEN IN MINING National 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.

2015-2016 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President Darlene Bray—California
Vice President Gena Oliver—California
Treasurer Bonnie Love—At-Large
Secretary Betty Mahaffey—Denver

Student Chptr Liaison – Karen Jass, Denver

Bylaws – Nevada Chapter
Finance – Denver & Calif Chapters
Historian – MS&T Chapter
Legislative – Nevada Chapter
Membership – Texas Chapter
National Quarterly – Denver Chapter
Public Relations – Calif & Utah Chapters
Website – Education Foundation

2015-2016 Editor: Jackie Dorr,
Denver Chapter
dorr@smenet.org

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