WOMEN IN MINING

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The National Quarterly

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WIM has a Blast at MS&T
By Catherine Johnson and Elizabeth Schuman

The MS&T, Rolla Student Chapter had a blast hosting the 2016 National Annual Meeting. We were honored with attendees from across the nation and had the opportunity to discuss many ideas for Women in Mining that will lead us into the future.

The meeting kicked off with a “meet and greet” on Thursday at Meramec Vineyards. A welcoming address was given by Gen Sutton from the Doe Run Mining Company.

(cont. on page 2)
Bright and early on Friday morning, field trip day began with breakfast and a tour of the Missouri University of Science and Technology campus. The first stop was the Virtual Surface Mining Simulator Lab. It contains Dragline and Shovel-Truck Simulators supplied by Immersive Technologies and a Shovel Simulator from Joy Global Inc.

WIMers were given instructions by (some very patient) teaching assistants on how to operate the Simulators. This facility is the only one of its kind in a university where students can train for heavy equipment operation in this virtual environment. The attendees were able to play around on our dragline and shovel simulators without doing too much “virtual” damage.

We then headed to Capital Quarries for a drone demonstration. The drone is used to photograph the rock storage piles, and from these pictures calculations can be made to accurately measure the company’s inventory.

Capital Quarries’ UAV used for surveying and stock pile dimensions.
FROM THE PRESIDENT
Stephen Tibbals

I was on my way to the annual WIM Executive Board Meeting and was looking forward to the meeting and seeing a lot of people I hadn’t seen in a while. This year the meeting was scheduled to be in Rolla, Missouri and was being hosted by the Missouri University of Science and Technology (MS&T) Student Chapter. Little did I know that I would end up being elected President of WIM National two days later.

Rolla is a small town in the rolling hills of Missouri, which for me was a great change from the desert in North Central Nevada in the winter. Even in April all the trees had their leaves and the temperature was mild. The Student Chapter, led by their advisor Catherine Johnson, did a great job of organizing the meeting. They started with a trip to the University where we toured not only the Mining Department but the entire campus. We also got to watch some spectacular demonstrations of explosives at the MS&T Experimental Mine and tour a limestone quarry owned by Capital Quarries outside of Rolla.

My thanks go out to the Rolla Student chapter for a wonderful and informative time.

The board meeting was held on Saturday April 16th and ran all day. I was surprised we actually got everything done that was on the agenda. Even for an organization like ours, there always seems to be items that need addressing. There has been a lot of talk within WIM about the direction of the organization and making it relevant to our changing society and industry. Most organizations I belong to are going thru the same problems as WIM. How to expand our membership, how to stay current with our goals and objectives and how to make what we do matter. These are all important to items for WIM and its members.

At the end of the first half of the meeting is always the election for officers for the coming year. This is always a fun time to see who will end up being elected as president. Turns out it was me! If you are new to the organization it might be worth mentioning that this is not the first time I have been elected president of WIM. Several years ago I served two terms as president and found it to be a very rewarding position. Believing that being president is not a life time position, I did not run for re-election after the second term. I am honored to have been elected again and will pledge to work hard to do a good job over the next year to make WIM a better and more relevant organization.

We have issues to face over the coming year and we will all need to think about what is important to WIM and how our organization needs to change to be ready for the future. WIM is a great organization and is in great shape right now with membership up and lots of great events and projects going on within the chapters as you will read in this newsletter. We look forward to making it better every year.
**DENVER CHAPTER REPORT**

**April 14-16:** Betty Mahaffey, Sharon Kirts, Resa Furey and Heather Erickson attended the WIM National Annual Meeting in Rolla, MO, hosted by the MS&T WIM Student Chapter. It was a wonderful event that proves to us the importance of the work that WIM National Organization and the subsidiary chapters do to educate the public on the importance of the industry, as well as provide networking and professional development opportunities.

We wish to extend a special commendation to Elizabeth Schuman, president of MS&T WIM Student Chapter, Catherine Johnson, the student advisor, and the members of the Chapter for an excellent and exciting conference.

**April 20:** Our monthly dinner meeting was held at the New Peach Garden in Golden, CO. Catherine Skokan, retired Colorado School of Mines Professor, spoke on plate tectonics and continental drift. Her presentation was very educational, and included a fascinating slide show.

**April 23:** The chapter hosted a goal setting workshop with the theme “How to Get What You Want: 5 Steps to Accomplishing Your Goals.” There was a great group of both WIM members and non-WIM members and the experience was incredibly valuable for everyone who participated. Workshop facilitator, Michele Ashby, was very inspirational and her life experiences and accomplishments are truly incredible, providing us all a high bar to aspire to with both personal and professional goals. WIM Chapter President Lois Brooks also gave a great presentation on Sheryl Sandberg’s *Lean In* and provided a list of valuable resources for follow-up reading and a source for further discussions.

Special thanks go to SME for providing us the space to gather and Jackie Dorr for acting as our host there. This is the first of many professional development workshops to be offered by WIM Denver Chapter for members and non-members alike.
May 14: Boy Scout Day at Dinosaur Ridge. WIM Denver Chapter has participated in Boy Scout Days for many, many years with a booth. It was a cold and cloudy day but that couldn’t keep the Boy Scouts away from Dinosaur Ridge! WIM volunteers Nyssa Loeppke, Brenda Steele, Amanda Adams and Karen Jass (not pictured) had a great time sharing the different uses of minerals in our everyday lives. Thanks (as always) to Colorado Mining Association for the use of their excellent mineral cases. The day is always well attended by lots of scouts and their families.

May 14: WIMers attended the 75th Annual Sowbelly Dinner – the Clear Creek-Gilpin County Metal Miners Association’s primary scholarship fundraiser. This off-beat dinner features traditional miner’s fare suitable for taking underground in a lunch bucket and includes Cornish pasties, beans and apple pie. The evening’s entertainment is at times riotous, funny and sarcastic, and pays homage to the industry that supports us all.

May 18: Our special dinner meeting speaker was Shannon Mann, Course Coordinator for the Colorado Mining Assoc. Education Foundation and WIM member. Shannon reviewed last summer’s “All About Mining” summer field course for K-12 teachers. WIM Denver Chapter sponsored two teachers to the course, which offers online lectures, quizzes and lesson plans. Following the online courses, teachers participate in three days of in-depth reviews on the Colorado School of Mines campus, and then enjoy a five-day road trip to visit mines and operations throughout Colorado.
NATIONAL MEETING

MS&T Student Chapter in Rolla, MO, hosted the WIM National meeting April 14-16 with interesting speakers, a great reception and wine tasting at a vineyard on Thursday evening. Great tours of the experimental mine on campus and it was interesting to see the new construction taking place they had been planning for several years. Seeing old friends and meeting new ones is always a plus at the annual meetings.

The Foundation did not meet, as many of the Directors were unable to attend. Bonnie Love and Karon Jury-Ferjanec attended with Karon acting as an EF Alternate, and Arloa was the Alternate for Nevada Chapter. We did have a conference call early in April but did not have time to elect new officers so another conference call will be scheduled. We recently learned that one of our Directors is recovering from a broken hip, the result of a fall while playing ball with her grandkids. We wish her a very speedy recovery. I am happy to report that I am doing better every day after my recent illness and long hospital stay, but do realize it is going to take some time before I am totally back to full speed so please bear with me.

MINExpo 2016

The Foundation will once again have a donated booth at NMA’s MINExpo 2016 that begins on 26 September in Las Vegas, ending on the evening of the 28th. Our booth number is L53 in the Central Hall, which should give us very good exposure this year.

We do have some volunteers and would like to encourage any WIM members who may be attending the event for their company to donate a few hours to staff the booth. We always appreciate the help members from various Chapters and At-large gives us at this event. Please let me know if you might be able to help. Email Arloa Woolford at wimer23@reagan.com.

CEDAR

Coal Education Development and Resource (CEDAR) of Southern West Virginia hosted its 15th Regional Coal Fair, touring more than 800 visitors during the weeklong display held April 11 – 15, 2016 in Logan, West Virginia at the Chief Logan Convention Center. Nearly 140 projects were on display from students in grades K-12 from Mingo, Logan, Boone, McDowell, Wyoming and Wayne counties, which demonstrated how coal is formed, mined and transported, as well as how the industry affects our daily lives. Students entered exhibits in seven categories: art, English/literature, math, music, science, social studies and technology/ multimedia. Each category is split into three grade levels (K-4), (5-8) and (9-12) and prizes are awarded to the top three entries in each group. CEDAR is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit corporation. Its mission is to facilitate the understanding of the benefits provided by the coal industry through grants for coal study units, hosting an annual regional coal fair and providing scholarships to high school seniors. CEDAR of Southern West Virginia was formed in 2002 through the efforts of Arch Coal’s Coal-Mac group.
CONGRATULATIONS!

Georgene Robertson, Human Resources representative at Coal-Mac, recently was inducted into the Tug Valley Mining Institute (TVMI) Hall of Fame. Robertson has worked in the coal industry for 31 years, 28 of those at Coal-Mac. She has been involved in the CEDAR coal education program in eastern Kentucky since its inception in 1993, and was instrumental in starting the southern West Virginia CEDAR chapter in 2001. She has served as president of CEDAR of Southern West Virginia and is a member of the national Women In Mining Education Foundation Board of Directors. Congratulations, again, Georgene!!

RETIREMENT OF A GREAT WIM FRIEND

Bill Durbin, with the Nevada Division of Minerals, retired the end of June after 27 years with the Division. He was honored at a recent retirement party in Carson City and I was very sorry I was unable to attend. Bill was a great source of educational information, mineral samples, as a speaker for WIM events, and many school classes. A long-time member of the NvMA Education Committee, Bill coordinated classes with the Division’s Abandoned mine hazards around the State. He was active with the former Minerals Education Coalition while it was active, was an original supporter of the McCaw School of Mines in Henderson, NV, and still sits on their Board. He also sits on the Tonopah Mining Park Board. They have been working hard to put together a lot of old mining equipment after his help in securing mine hazards on the property. He plans to stay active with outreach and education mainly in the Las Vegas area as well as enjoying trips with geologist friends to find new rocks to lick. Enjoy your retirement Bill, and thanks for the years of help with the Education Foundation.
NEVADA CHAPTER REPORT
by Katie Gardner

This last quarter saw the busiest bar event that we bartend, as well as two meetings, with plans for another one in June.

The last full group meeting was held on March 13th at the Dos Amigos restaurant in Elko. Several of the WIM members were in attendance, and elections for the current year were held. Upcoming bars and events were discussed, as well as future events that the group plans to hold.

The bars tended by the group this quarter were the Nevada Muleys Banquet and the Shooting the West Banquet. The Muleys Banquet, held in Winnemucca on April 16th, is our biggest bar each year, with this year being no exception. The group brought in over $6500 with almost $800 in tips, which will go directly to our scholarship fund.

Several of the officers got together in the end of April at the Wingers restaurant in Elko to discuss the strategy for the year going forward. The group is planning to expand our educational activities to working with the local Girl Scouts troop, as well as helping out at the UNR Girls Math and Technology camp in July.

Our next meeting was held on June 25th in the “living ghost town” of Austin, NV, an excellent example of a historic mining town located on the Loneliest Road in America, Highway 50. It was held at the International Café and Bar. After the meeting, members had a chance to explore the unique gift shops and museums around the town.

Finally, our chapter president Megan Tibbals was recently featured in the Elko Mining Quarterly: http://elkodaily.com/mining/article_bc02dc48-180e-5855-9c3a-0aab3e38095a.html

NEVADA CHAPTER
2016-2017 Officers

President - Megan Tibbals
Vice President - Kelly Cooper
Secretary - Kelly Johnson
Treasurer - Julie Pugh
National Reps - Stephen Tibbals, Katie Gardner
Alt National Rep. - Arloa Woolford
The WIM California Chapter has had a busy few months. We have enjoyed the benefit of having new members become involved with the various events provided in this report. A huge “Thank You” to those new members who are willing to volunteer to help and to those more experienced members who are mentoring the Chapter’s future leaders. Note that some events were not reported in the last NQ.

WIM CAL Awarded Scholarships totaling $10,000
The Chapter awarded five $2,000 college scholarships to California students who will be moving forward into a career related to the mining industry.

February 18th - Lucerne Valley Elementary School Science Night
WIM CAL employees of Omya responded to a request from Lucerne Valley Elementary School.
Carla Turner, Serena Garcia and Judy Puldas reported “It turned out great. It was a lighter crowd this year at the Science Fair. We probably made toothpaste with about 60-70 kids.”

March 9th – Students visit a Mine.
On March 9, the CalPortland Mojave Cement Plant hosted a group of 60 middle school students on a field trip. The day consisted of a drive to their quarry and a walking tour through the control room, up to the top of the tower, and around the mills. Following the tour, the plant provided a pizza lunch. Members from our chapter came to lead the students and provided a hands-on activity of making concrete.
Greetings from Texas!

**April 2016:** We were donated a booth at the South Central Joint Mine Health and Safety conference that took place in Grapevine, TX. We passed out information about the chapter and talked to lots of people about our organization. We even signed up a couple of new members.

Later in April Donna Thornton, Julia Andoe, Pam Danner, and Kim Dennis attended the National meeting in Rolla, MO. Our Chapter regular April meeting was held by conference call.

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**TEXAS CHAPTER**

2016-2017 Officers

President - Kimberly Dennis  
Vice President - Donna Thornton  
Secretary - Brandon Howard  
Treasurer - Cyndi Fine  
National Rep - Donna Thornton  
National Rep - Kimberly Dennis  
Alt National Rep - Pam Danner
May 2016: Donna Thornton and Kim Dennis presented a “train the trainer” day at Martin Marietta Hunter Cement Plant. Five members attended the training and learned many of the educational activities available on the WIM website. Fun and fellowship was had by all. We will be planning on another training session for next year!

The May regular meeting was cancelled due to several unavoidable conflicts.

We are planning to host the 2017 National Meeting “as big as Texas” and are looking at several options for next year’s meeting, so stay tuned!
Women in Mining Goes Underground:

In partnership with the University of Kentucky College of Engineering, Women in Mining took six high school women underground for the day. Sign-up for this workshop was available to girls interested in pursuing a degree in engineering, and more specifically, mining engineering. These women came from surrounding counties in Kentucky, and included sophomores to seniors in high school. Accompanied by two of our professors from the department of Mining Engineering, Dr. Braden Lusk and Dr. Kyle Perry, we took the group to our underground research lab in Georgetown, KY. There, we covered safety guidelines, and looked at the different types of explosives we would be using.

We had seven explosives to detonate, each more powerfully than the previous. Each student had the chance to prepare the explosive for detonation, yell “fire in the hole” three times, and hit the fire button. We stood behind a fiberglass barrier and watched and listened to the power exerted by the explosives.
Our second activity was creating explosive art. Using explosive material that came in sheet form, the students cut out designs, and taped them to pieces of steel. The explosives were then detonated, and the designs were imprinted into the steel. These became unique souvenirs to take home.

Another workshop will occur later this month with fifteen high school women. We are excited to continue connecting with future women mining engineers.

KENTUCKY CHAPTER
2016-2017 Officers

President - Victoria Karem
Vice President - Lauren Shields
Secretary - Laura Steeves
Treasurer - Brooklynn Yonts
National Rep - Brandon Fryman
National Rep - Emily Invergo
March 31st – Cyndy Mandel and Lois Papner provided a lesson on the value of mining by presenting the Chocolate Chip Cookie Mining lesson to adult members of Valley Prospectors of San Bernardino. Attendees had a good time and learned a lot about what it takes to make a profit in the mining industry!

April 3rd Teacher Workshop – The Geological Society of America invited WIM CAL to participate in a Teacher Workshop which was developed for middle school teachers. The event was held at the Ontario Convention Center and they had an excellent turnout. Joyce Fitzgerald and Patti Deer presented the Chocolate Chip Cookie Mining activity.

April 20th – The Helendale School District held their annual Earth Day event and we participated by having a booth. Patti Deer, Meggy Gidula, Suzanne Seivright, and Yoana King all participated and led students through making toothpaste.

April 22nd – Edwards Air Force Base sponsored an Earth Day Event on April 22nd and they invited us to have a booth at the event that was held inside Bailey Elementary School in Edwards, CA. Denise Talviite and Dara English did the silly putty exercise for students.

April 26th – Teacher Workshop. The CalPortland Cement Plant in Oro Grande opened their facility for K – 12th grade teachers to come on site, tour the facility and then have a class in “Cement is not Concrete” led by WIM Members Desirea Haggard and Samantha Murrey. The teachers came away much more aware of the value of mining and the need for minerals.

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER
2016-2017 Officers

President - Irene Zamorano
Vice President - Desirea Haggard
Secretary - Betty Peters
2nd Secretary - Suzanne Seivright
Historian - Vicki White
Treasurer - Joyce Pullium-Fitzgerald
National Reps - Gena Oliver, Amanda Daams
Alt National Rep - Deonna Robinson
May 9th - WIM CAL Golf Tournament – Annual Fundraiser. It was another excellent day out for the 144 golfers who participated in the WIM CAL Annual Golf Tournament. The terrific weather was the perfect setting for an exclusive fun-filled day of golf. The 36 teams teed off just after 8 a.m. and enjoyed a game of 18-hole scramble. Golf was followed by lunch, an awards ceremony with beautiful polished flow-banded rhyolite stone trophies from the Golden Queen Mine, and an amazing raffle with Angels and Dodgers tickets, a 60-inch TV, grills, golf games, golf clubs and clothing, gift vouchers and a swathe of other prizes donated by our wonderful industry supporters. Over $20,000 was raised on the day and all the funds go to support WIM’s educational outreach programs, classroom kits and scholarships.

May 18th – The Annual California State Scientists Day took place in Sacramento in front of the Capitol, and we had a booth again this year. There were over 1,000 kids, and each experienced how toothpaste is made. Handling the booth were Darlene Bray, Julia Bonser, Suzanne Seivright, Vicki White, Jackie Simmons, and Alejandra Silva (not all are pictured, and not in order).

May 18th – At the annual Serendipity Day at Topaz Preparatory Academy in Hesperia, we held classes teaching young students how toothpaste is made. Dinah Shumway, Cyndy Mandell, Yoana King, Jamie Nido and Patty Contreras all participated in the event. The students were very appreciative of WIM’s participation.
Lunch was provided by Buckley Powder at the MST Experimental Mine and afterward we were given an amazing hands-on explosives demo. That’s when things got REALLY exciting. The instructors explained the dangers of working with explosives and the safety techniques they teach. We were able to set up a water cannon, a wall of fire, and many other exciting demonstrations. Attendees all got to call “fire in the hole” and push the detonator!

WIMers hooked up and detonated a “Wall of Fire” using detonating cord and ether.
Saturday began the meeting day; many topics were discussed throughout the morning. Stephan Tibbals was elected National President for the 2016-2017 year. A brief break was taken for lunch at Matts Steakhouse and a talk entitled “History on Women in The Mining Industry” from guest speaker Curators Teaching Professor Dr. Diana Ahmed. Business resumed in the afternoon with the selection of committees and several discussions regarding the future direction of Women in Mining.

Business was drawn to a close and the group headed to Sybill’s for a banquet and to say goodbye after a great weekend! The guest speaker was Ralph Flori, Interim Chair of Mining and Nuclear Engineering, who gave an inspiring talk entitled “Improving the Future of Mining by Mining the Talent of Women.”

We would like to thank all the attendees for coming to Rolla, Mo. Can’t wait to see you all in Texas next year!

WIM National Officers
Kimberly Dennis, Stephen Tibbals, Donna Thornton, Amanda Daams
2016-2017 OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President Stephen Tibbals—Nevada
Vice President Donna Thornton—Texas
Treasurer Amanda Daams—Calif, Denver
Secretary Kimberly Dennis—Texas

Student Chptr Liaison Karen Jass—Denver

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

The next National Quarterly will be published October 1

Chapter Reports are due September 15
Send to: dorr@smenet.org

Lead Story Assignments:
October Issue — Nevada
January 2017 Issue — Denver
April 2017 Issue — Texas