



Winter 2014

Mining History News

Quarterly Newsletter of the Mining History Association

From Lantern Slides to Power Points, It's All Storytelling with Pictures

One of the features of the MHA Annual Meetings that I most enjoy is seeing newcomers make presentations. New blood is the life of every organization, but not all newcomers feel at ease making presentations. So, here are a few helpful hints on planning and executing an illustrated lecture program.

The most important part of story-telling is to give your full attention to the most important part of your job as a speaker, and that is communicating with the audience. We'll get to the story-telling in a second, but for now just remember that communication with your audience is paramount.

First, choose a subject that will fit into the time constraints. Many subjects are too complex, and many stories are too long to tell in a short time frame. You can save yourself a lot of headaches simply by learning when a story has too many plotlines or chapters, and will not fit into a given time slot. When you make that discovery you must move on to another topic.

If you discover that a subject is too big or a story is too long after you have done quite a bit of research, it may be possible to find parts of the story which can become a short story that will fit into a short time frame. This technique depends upon thinking in terms of a short story. Almost always, short stories are limited to a single plotline, perhaps with a single subplot.

You have to remember that it is a story that you are telling. It can be a story about a person and

how the person fits into a series of events, or it can be a story about a thing (like a mine or a smelter), a process, or an invention. But remember that you are telling a story. A good story needs a beginning, a plot line, and an ending. Often an introduction that puts the story into a particular context is of great benefit. At the end, it may help to have a summation with an illustration that helps make the point.

So with the story in mind, jot down the major points that you want to cover. Then list things that can be used to illustrate every single one of those points, from old (period) photos to new photos; to drawings and artwork; to lists, tables, charts, graphs, and timelines; from small scale (regional) maps to large scale (local) maps; and from scaled drawings, detailed representations and plans, to cross sections, to three dimensional representations. Then, think again, and make another list of illustrations that will help you tell your story, keeping in mind that some illustrations that are essential to your points, may not be sufficient to move along your story. After you compile your two lists of illustrations, combine and rearrange both types of illustrations into a timeline to see how the story flows. And then rearrange them again into a thematic series, or even perhaps several themes. Compare and contrast the arrangements, and think about what holes there are from the point of view of how well the story is told by the illustrations alone.

Lantern Slides... (continued on page 2)

Lantern Slides...

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Try to get the illustrations to tell the story in a seamless flow. If you can accomplish this goal, two things will happen. First, you won't need notes. And second, your presentation itself will be less "lectural," and more like telling a story. This principle actually applies even to formal lectures, because here the idea is to explain something, and the more complicated that something is, the more the explanation needs to be put into a story line with accompanying illustrations.

In the next issue of the newsletter, we will pick up this theme again, and talk a bit more about how to explain complex and technical ideas with illustrations.

Ed Raines
Golden, CO
eraines@mines.edu

British Institute Publishes Mining History Guides

The Library of the North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers (typically called simply the "Mining Institute") in Newcastle upon Tyne recently announced they have created and published annotated guides to multiple topics in mining history. The guides are intended to highlight resources available in the Mining Institute's comprehensive library, but diligent researchers might find these items elsewhere, or obtain them through interlibrary loan from other institutions. The guides focus on the British mining industry, as might be expected. Some cover particular topics, such as mine accidents and safety, mining poems and songs, safety lamps, mine housing, and researching family histories connected to mining. Other guides explore a particular set of sources in depth, such as government reports on mining statistics, or mine inspector's reports. A list of books on mining generally is also included. These valuable guides can be found online: <https://www.mininginstitute.org.uk/about-us/42-resource-guides2>

Join the Mining History Association in Virginia City and Gold Hill, Nevada Annual Meeting June 11-14, 2015

"Going Back to the Comstock: MHA's Silver Anniversary"

Preliminary details available on the MHA's website:
<http://mininghistoryassociation.org/VirginiaCity.htm>

Complete conference details and session program forthcoming in Spring 2015 *Mining History News*

MHA Seeks Nominations of Books Published in 2013 or 2014 for the Spence Awards

The **Clark C. Spence Award** recognizes the mining history book that comes closest to achieving the rigorous documentation and narrative standards set by the works of Clark C. Spence, professor emeritus, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

The newly-established **Mary Lee Spence Documentary Book Award** recognizes the mining history book that best represents the high quality of editing documents, letters, diaries, photographs, oral histories and similar works set by Mary Lee Spence, professor emeritus, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

To be considered for either award, a book must focus on the history of a specific mining region, or a mining-related theme or topic, especially within the American West, or an individual or individuals prominent in the history of American mining. There are no temporal limits on subjects. The book must be published either in the year 2013 or 2014. Each award comes with a \$500 cash prize, which will be presented to the winning authors at the 2015 Mining History Association Annual Meeting.

Authors or publishers should send three copies of the nominated work to:

David Wolff
MHA Book Award Committee
Black Hills State University
1200 University St., Unit 9003
Spearfish, SD 57799

Two books shared the award for the best book in mining history published during 2011-2012. Congratulations to Christopher J. Huggard and Terrence M. Humble for *Santa Rita Del Cobre: A Copper Mining Community in New Mexico* published by University Press of Colorado and to Richard E. Lingenfelter for his two volume *Bonanzas & Borrascas* set published by The Arthur H. Clark Co. Ronald M. James and Robert E. Stewart also received an award of special recognition for their book *The Gold Rush Letters of E. Allen Grosh & Hosea B. Grosh* published by University of Nevada Press.

MHA Offers Research Grants

The Mining History Association Research Grant Program is open to all who are currently engaged in or who plan to conduct mining history research, including graduate students, academic scholars, public sector professionals in related disciplines, independent scholars, writers, and educators. Research may focus on technology, business, social and cultural life, the environment, or any other aspect of mining, its associated industries, and its communities.

Funds are awarded on a competitive basis. The Grants Committee, at its discretion, may make two grants per year. Funding may vary, up to a maxi-

mum of \$750 per grant. Awardees will be asked to disseminate their research results either by submitting a presentation for consideration at the 2016 MHA Annual Conference in Telluride, CO, or an article to be reviewed in consideration for publication by the *Mining History Journal*.

Applicants must submit a completed application form and a resume or vita before midnight on April 15, 2015 to brianleech@augustana.edu. Forms and additional information about the grant may be found at: <http://mininghistoryassociation.org/Research-Grants.htm>

Mining History Association Dues Reminder

Our society depends on members like you -
thank you for your support of the MHA!

Student:	\$20.00
Individual:	\$35.00
International:	\$45.00
Institutional (journal only):	\$30.00
Sustaining:	\$60.00
Patron Membership:	\$100.00
Corporate Member:	\$500.00

Diane Dudley, Membership Chair
Mining History Association
323 Daniels Place
Cañon City, CO 81212

Note: MHA address has changed!

Missouri Mining Engineers Tie the Knot Below Ground

MHA member Jeff Schramm passes along news of two mining engineering graduates of the Missouri University of Science and Technology, in Rolla, MO, who said "I do" in December while 100 feet underground in the school's experimental mine. **Genevieve (DuBois) Bodnar** and **Greg Sutton** wore hard hats, overalls, and heavy boots for the ceremony, performed in the glow of portable lights before a hard hat-wearing audience of family and friends. The bride and groom met at a SME meeting and both work in the mining industry. The wedding ceremony concluded with a bang – made by seven blasting caps on a delay circuit, set off with an old fashioned plunger detonator. Details: <http://discover.mst.edu/2015/02/10/alumni-couple-says-youre-mine/>

Candidate Biographies for MHA Elections

Please cast your vote by mailing in an
official ballot (page 6) by April 15, 2015

Erik Nordberg

Candidate: Vice President/President-Elect

Erik Nordberg is Director of the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. The Reuther Library collects and preserves records of the American labor movement, related social, economic, and political reform groups, and twentieth century urban America. These include materials relating to working life such as manuscripts of miners and mining in the collections of the Industrial Workers of the World.

Before moving to Detroit last October, Nordberg worked as a professional archivist in Indiana and Michigan, including 18 years with the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections in Houghton, Michigan. While at Michigan Tech, he was responsible for a comprehensive program for collecting, preserving and sharing the cultural history of Michigan's historic copper mining district. He was also involved in a variety of public history programming such as lectures series, tour programs, development of web content and publication programs. He is recipient of the Charles Follow Award from the Historical Society of Michigan for outstanding contributions to the preservation and promotion of Upper Peninsula history. The Mining History Association has also recognized Nordberg with the Rodman Paul Award for outstanding contributions to mining history, as well as its John Townley Award for the best article in their annual *Mining History Journal*. Erik and his wife, Jane, coordinated MHA meetings in Michigan's Copper Country (1997) and Minnesota's Mesabi Iron Range (2008). After leaving Michigan Tech, Nordberg served as Executive Director of the Michigan Humanities Council, a nonprofit organization coordinating statewide cultural programming.

Nordberg received his Bachelor of Arts in Combined Humanities from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland. He went on to earn his Master of Philosophy degree at the University of Dublin – Trinity College in the Republic of Ireland and a Master of Science – Li-

Biographies... (continued on page 5)

Candidate Biographies for MHA Elections

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brary Science degree and Graduate Certificate of Archival Administration from Wayne State University. He is currently working toward his doctorate in Industrial Heritage and Archaeology at Michigan Tech.

Brian Leech

Candidate: Nominating Committee

Brian Leech has served as secretary for the Mining History Association since 2010 and he is also chair of the research grants committee. He received a PhD in American history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He now teaches courses about modern U.S. history, the American West, and natural resources at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. His major interest is in mining history of the American West. He has published articles about open-pit mining and post-industrial life in Butte, Montana and he is currently working on a book manuscript about Butte. If elected to the nominating committee, he hopes to find both candidates who have long been dedicated to the association as well as people with a burgeoning interest in mining history.

Jane Bardal

Candidate: Council

Jane Bardal published the book, *Southwestern New Mexico Mining Towns* (Arcadia, 2011), which highlights 200 images from private postcard collections to tell the story of mining in southwestern New Mexico in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Most recently in her mining history work, she has started the Mining in New Mexico Oral History Project (and gave a presentation at the MHA in Trinidad titled, "The Mining in New Mexico Oral History Project: The Grants Uranium District") that is focused on uranium miners. She has interviewed two women who grew up in the mining towns described in her book, and so far she has interviewed five people who worked in the Grants Uranium District. She teaches psychology at Central New Mexico Community College.

Terry Humble

Candidate: Council

Terry Humble was born and raised in the mining town of Santa Rita, NM. After a stint in the U.S. Navy, Terry worked as an underground hardrock miner in southwest NM and also as a heavy duty diesel mechanic for local mining companies. He became interested in mining history when upon returning to Santa Rita after his Navy discharge, he found his home town being completely moved out to make room for the enlargement of the open pit copper mine. Terry has published several articles on history in the *Mining History Journal* and the *Wild West History Journal* and is the co-author with Chris Huggard of the well-received *Santa Rita del Cobre, A Copper Mining Community in New Mexico* (Boulder: University Press of Colorado, 2012). He is also the co-author of *Copper Mining in Santa Rita, New Mexico 1801-1838* (Santa Fe: Sunstone Press, 2012) with Helen Lundwall and *Images of America, Silver City* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2013) with Carolyn O'Bagy Davis. He gave a talk at the MHA convention in Prescott in 2012 on Santa Rita, NM. Terry gives a monthly tour on the history of the underground mines and the Santa Rita open pit in southwest NM. He is often called upon to give talks on local history. He has been an MHA member since 1996.

On Facebook? "Like" the MHA!

If you're on Facebook, help us extend the reach of the official Mining History Association Facebook page by "Liking" us:

<http://facebook.com/MiningHistoryAssociation>

PLEASE MAIL YOUR MHA BALLOT BY APRIL 15, 2015

2015 Mining History Association Ballot

Vice President/President Elect (one-year term beginning June 2015)

Vote for one:

- Erik Nordberg
- _____ (write in)

Nominating Committee (one position, three-year term beginning June 2015)

Vote for one:

- Brian Leech
- _____ (write in)

Council (two positions with three-year terms beginning June 2015)

Vote for one:

- Jane Bardal
- Terry Humble
- _____ (write in)

Biographies are on page 4 and 5.

Mail ballot by April 15, 2015 to:

**Mining History Association
c/o Diane Dudley
323 Daniels Place
Cañon City, CO 81212**

MHA Honors Mining Heritage Projects with New Besleme-Orrell Award

In 2013 the council approved the creation of the Besleme-Orrell Mining Heritage Award. The award recognizes outstanding achievements which have demonstrably contributed to the understanding and appreciation of our mining heritage. Project eligibility includes, but is not limited to, document and image preservation, oral histories, museum displays/exhibits, the preservation and interpretation of mining architecture, mining landscapes, and engineering works, documentary film/video projects, and the development and use of well-grounded educational materials and/or curriculum units incorporating

important mining heritage themes. Nominees are generally non-profit organizations, such as museums, historical societies, or historic preservation organizations. The award is named for two MHA members that represent the grass roots nature of all such heritage projects, which both late MHA members Jim Besleme and Lew Orrell undertook. Only current MHA members may make a nomination, but the award can honor entities outside the organization. Nominations are due each year by February 1 to Bob Spude (spudes@msn.com), chair of the Besleme-Orrell Committee.

Cherry Hunter Award Highlights Mining Art

This award honors both its namesake (the late Cherry Hunter – long-time MHA member and accomplished artist) and award recipients whose works show outstanding commitment to and skill in recording mining history through the graphic arts. This award is not given on a yearly basis, only when a likely candidate is nominated. Nominations for the Cherry Hunter Award are welcome from any member of MHA, and should be tendered to Mark Langenfeld, the Chair of the Committee, for consideration (email: mlangenfeld@tds.net). Nominees may have credentials in any of the graphic arts. The Committee will base its decision on the body of a nominee's work and its contribution to mining history. Recipients receive a plaque and monetary award of \$250.

The Cherry Hunter Award has been given six times:

- 2006 Art Williams
- 2007 Ted Mullings
- 2008 Susan Robinson
- 2009 Muriel Sibell Wolle
- 2010 George Foote
- 2012 Jeff Ellingson

Past MHA Meetings Featured on Site

MHA Webmaster Mike Kaas has been working diligently for the past several years to document in word and image prior meetings of the MHA. His efforts have resulted in an excellent set of resources about each meeting, though Mike is always seeking more photographs, especially from the earlier gatherings. Each meeting page now contains information about the history of the location, the scholarly papers and tours, and photographs from the meeting whenever possible. The individual meeting pages can be accessed from the main Meeting page: <http://mininghistoryassociation.org/AnnualMeetings.htm>

Transitions

Gordon M. Bakken (Fullerton, CA)
December 2014

*Mining History Association
323 Daniels Place
Cañon City, CO 81212*

First Class Mail

Upcoming Events

2015 Mining History Association Conference

June 11-14, 2015

Virginia City / Comstock Lode, NV

2015 National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs Conference

Santa Fe, NM

September 28-30, 2015

<http://www.naamlp2015.com>

2015 Western History Association Conference

October 21-24, 2015

Portland, OR

2016 Mining History Association Conference

June 9-12, 2016

Telluride, CO

2017 Mining History Association Conference

June 2017

Fairbanks, AK

The Mining History News is published quarterly by the Mining History Association. It is sent to MHA members who also receive the annual *Mining History Journal*. MHA is an organization of individuals interested in the history of mining and metallurgy. Submissions for the newsletter are encouraged and should be sent to Eric Nystrom at the MHA address or by email: eric.nystrom@rit.edu.

Deadlines: Spring issue: February 15
 Summer issue: June 15
 Fall issue: August 15
 Winter issue: November 15

Change of Address: Please send all address changes to Diane Dudley, Membership Chair, at:

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