



Summer 2011

# *Mining History News*

Quarterly Newsletter of the Mining History Association

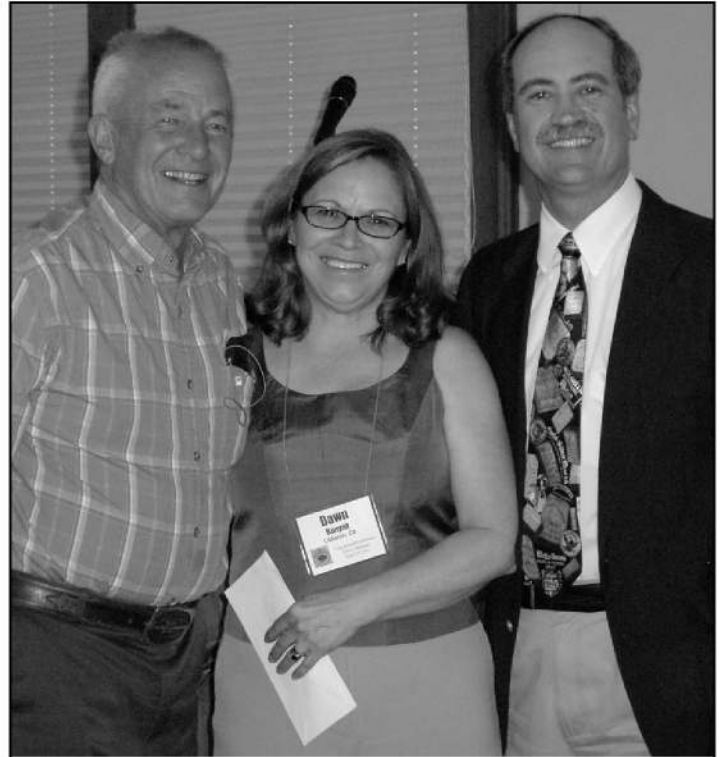
## **Chillin' in Dillon**

While much of the "lower 48" sweltered in record-setting heat, MHA 2011 conference attendees at times found themselves scraping frost from their windshields and dodging snowflakes. But, that aside, our welcome to Dillon, Montana, was anything but chilly. (And, I should note, the weather moderated very nicely in time for Sunday's field trips.)

The more than 130 registrants partook of a full schedule of memorable events, excellent presentations, and enjoyable outings to interesting sites like Barretts Minerals' talc plant, Bannack, Granite, Philipsburg, Alder Gulch, and Lloyd Harkins' fabulous "boneyard" at Silver Star, and to mines including the Granite / Bi-Metallic and Broadway-Victoria. Southwestern Montana was an outstanding venue and, due in no small part to the region's vibrant mining heritage, MHA 2011 was a resounding success.

We owe many thanks to conference organizer Ron Limbaugh and harried -- but seemingly always coolheaded -- program coordinator Bill Culver for their unstinting efforts. Well done! Additional thanks are due each of our session chairs, presenters, event speakers, volunteers, tour hosts and vendors for their important contributions to the effort. We are also indebted to our gracious hosts at the Beaverhead County Museum and the University of Montana Western campus for their assistance and the use of their splendid facilities.

This is also a good time to express our gratitude to immediate past-President David Wolff and outgoing Council members Bill Culver and



*Dawn Bunyak, 2011 Rodman Paul Award recipient, at the MHA Banquet in Dillon with committee members Duane Smith and Johnny Johnsson. (Photo courtesy Johnny Johnsson.)*

Peter Maciulaitis. The Association fared well under your stewardship, gentlemen.

Now, please welcome Councilors Bob Weldin (2005-2006 MHA President) and Rebecca Lange to their 2011-2014 terms, and Sheila Kelly to fill the late John Hillman's 2009-2012 term. And, of course, one of MHA's founders and guiding lights -- Bob Spude -- has come aboard as Vice-President / President-Elect. With this dynamic mix of experience and new faces, we're off to a strong start for the new year! It will be my distinct privilege and pleasure to work with this talented and dedicated group as your new President.

*"Dillon..." (continued on page 2)*

"Dillon..." (continued from page 1)

Part of every MHA meeting is the formal recognition of excellence in our field of study. This year, the Association's Rodman Paul Award for outstanding contributions to mining history was presented to Dawn Bunyak to acknowledge, among other things, her extensive work documenting the evolution and adoption of flotation milling and the role of women in the development of mining technology. Eric Nystrom took home the John Townley Award for his Journal article "Underground Photography and American Mining Before 1920." There were many worthy contenders for the Clark Spence Award, and the result was shared honors: Ron Limbaugh, for his *Tungsten in Peace and War, 1918-1946*, University of Nevada Press, 2010, and Duane Smith, for *The Trail of Gold and Silver: Mining in Colorado, 1859-2009*, University Press of Colorado, 2009. Sheila Kelly received a Certificate of Special Recognition for her *Treadwell Gold: An Alaska Saga of Riches and Ruin*, University of Alaska Press, 2010. The Research Grant Committee also awarded funding to three worthy projects: Leif Frederickson, University of Virginia, "Drawing a Line in the River: The Political Ecology of Mining in the Transboundary Flathead;" Tassie Katherine Hirschfeld, University of Oklahoma, "Health and Disease in an Oklahoma Mining Town: Early Twentieth Century Clinic Records from Picher, Oklahoma;" and the Atlantic City (Wyoming) Historical Society, "Bullion Deposits in the Denver Mint Attributed to the Carissa Mine."

Congratulations, all!

Mike Kaas and his committee have been working diligently to evaluate various proposals for upgrading MHA's website. Expect to see the fruits of their labors soon. Mike also graciously volunteered to step into the big shoes left by retiring website liaison Mark Vendl (at least for "a couple of years," said Mike).

Now, a quick look to the future: Bill Hawes outlined his exciting arrangements for MHA

2012 in Prescott (pronounced "presskit," as Bill reminded us), Arizona. The call for papers will issue soon (*See p. 7 of this Newsletter: --ed.*) so it is not too early to start your planning for our return to the Copper State. I reported briefly on the ongoing planning for MHA 2013 in Galena, Illinois, and the Council approved Stephen Hart's Trinidad, Colorado, proposal for MHA 2014.

Finally, here is one last tantalizing prospect. Plans are now afoot to convene our "Silver Jubilee" 2015 conference on the Comstock. This is doubly appropriate, given both the obvious silver connection and that it is MHA's birthplace. Expect some very special events to mark the occasion.

Meanwhile, let me hear from you. Ideas? Constructive criticism? Volunteering? It's all fair game.

Mark Langenfeld  
Monticello, WI  
lmlangenfeld@tds.net

## 2011 Election Results

**Terms begin June 2011**

President: **Mark Langenfeld**

Vice President/President Elect:  
**Bob Spude**

Council (2011-2014): **Rebecca Lange, Bob Weldin**

Council (2009-2012): **Sheila Kelly**

Nominating Committee: **Peter Maciulaitis**

## Transitions

**Neil W. Wiker, Green Valley, AZ  
(March 2011)**

# Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company Records Digitized, Available to Researchers

A project to digitize historical records of the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company (CCI) has been completed by the Central Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan University Archives. A new website offers online access to more than 70,000 documents, 250 maps, an assortment of photographs and fourth-grade lesson plans that adhere to Michigan Education Standards.

The collection spans the period from 1882-1960. It documents major turning points in the history of American iron ore mining: the industry's shift from a reliance on low-to medium-grade ore supplies in the eastern Alleghenies to a reliance on high-grade ore in the upper Midwest; the long-distance shipping required to transport product from the Lake Superior basin to the lower Great Lakes; the consolidation of iron ore mining in the hands of large corporations from 1895-1904, stimulated by the emergence of U.S. Steel as America's first billion-dollar corporation; and the replacement of natural with artificial, pelletized ores in the aftermath of World War II.

"There is an enhanced encoded archival description (EAD) finding aid that guides researchers to content in the online database and provides a contextual understanding of how that record came to us," said Rachael Bussert, project archivist. "It guarantees the authenticity of the material."

Annual reports of the company's land, lumber and mining division document the operations and provide detailed cost data. They also provide accounts of the ethnic composition of the workforce, labor union and strike activity and the company's social welfare and safety programs.

"In essence, the annual reports bring together all the various financial, production and labor records found in the

other disparate components of the collection into one easily accessible source," said Marcus Robyns, university archivist.

The historic maps and plans describe individual mines and their surrounding communities on the Marquette, Minnesota and Wisconsin iron ranges, timber interests of CCI and other large landholders in the central and western Upper Peninsula and the watersheds that CCI tapped in the early 20th century to produce hydroelectric power for its mining and related operations.

CCI once owned and managed nearly one million acres of forest land in the Upper Peninsula. The record series explains how corporate logging operations were carried out and how forestry practices evolved. It includes copies of each logging contract, maps showing the location of the job, monthly cost sheets and monthly details of deliveries to other operations and outside parties broken down by species and cuts of wood.

The fourth-grade lesson plans explore mining history, maple syrup production on Grand Island and wildlife on Grand Island. They teach students how to critically analyze primary resources and are based on Michigan Content Level Standards and Expectations.

The Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Mining Company Digitization project was funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Bussert was assisted by NMU students Miranda Revere, Chris Kern, Megan Warnos and Olivia Ernst.

To access the collection, visit <http://archives.nmu.edu/cci>

## Send Us Photos for the MHA Website

**Mike Kaas**, MHA's new Website Editor, is looking for photos from past meetings and field trips for the website. He would like to create an expanded photo gallery, illustrating both the historic locations the MHA has visited and participants having a good time. Email Mike at:

[minermike@att.net](mailto:minermike@att.net)

## Hall Seeks Nominations

The American Mining Hall of Fame invites MHA members to submit names for consideration for induction into the American Mining Hall of Fame. Nominations should be up to 350 words in length, and include a photo of the candidate and the year of his or her birth and death. For examples, go to [www.miningfoundationsw.org](http://www.miningfoundationsw.org) and click on "Hall of Fame," then at the bottom of the page that comes up, click on "Inductees from Mining's Past."

Send nominations to Bill Hawes ([hardrockhawes@msn.com](mailto:hardrockhawes@msn.com)) or to P.O. Box 501, Humboldt, AZ 86329.

# Historic Value of Georgia Manganese Mine Debated

A long-simmering dispute over the routing of an interstate highway in Georgia has become a fight over mining history. Georgia's Department of Transportation (GDOT) plans to build a federally-funded highway, the U.S. 411 Connector, directly through the location of Dobbins Mine, the site of one of the oldest, most productive manganese mines in the country. Dobbins Mine, located in mineral-rich Bartow County, Georgia, started production of manganese ore in 1867, very soon after the steel-hardening properties of manganese were discovered, and was a major contributor of manganese to United States steel production during World War I.

Now the 200+ acre site is at the center of a dispute over the highway. After evaluation that included the creation of a historic context study for mining in northern Georgia, consultants for GDOT concluded that the remaining mine features are not sufficiently historic to warrant protection. Those favoring an alternate route for the highway, including nearby landowners, conducted a separate historic evaluation of Dobbins Mine that contradicted the GDOT consultants' findings. This second evaluation, conducted by Dr. Donald L. Hardesty, a longtime member of the MHA, and R.S. "Steve" Webb, concluded that the mine's history and remnants on the landscape were certainly worthy of listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

In the next step, the competing interpretations of the historic value of Dobbins Mine will be evaluated by the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and those

## Resources

The documents may be accessed with an FTP client, or some web browsers (not Internet Explorer) at:

**host:** ftp.sutherland.com  
**username:** ftp\_dmlgob  
**password:** dmlgob2011

Comments about the historic status of Dobbins Mine may be directed to officials of the Georgia SHPO and FHWA:

Dr. David Crass  
 Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer and State Archaeologist  
 Director, Historic Preservation Division  
 Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
 254 Washington Street, SW  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Mr. Rodney Barry, Division Administrator  
 Federal Highway Administration  
 Georgia Division  
 61 Forsyth Street, S. W., Suite 17T100  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8821

agencies will decide if the site of Dobbins Mine is eligible for protection.

While aware that the MHA does not take an "official" position on such matters, advocates for protecting Dobbins Mine have encouraged individual MHA members to examine the reports and contact the Georgia SHPO, as well as the FHWA, with comments. See the box above for information on obtaining the documents and addresses for sending comments.

## Attention MHA Authors!

Have you written a book on some aspect of mining history that you think your fellow members might find interesting? **The MHA Newsletter runs an annual column in the Fall issue with announcements of books on mining history written by our members** in the past year or two. These announcements supplement, but do not replace, our traditional list of publications and book reviews in the annual *Mining History Journal*, and serve as an additional way to bring your work to the attention of our membership.

### How to participate:

Send the complete bibliographic information (author, title, publisher, publisher location, year, number of pages, binding, price, and ISBN) plus a 100-150 word summary of the book (like you would use for a dust jacket) to Eric Nystrom, Newsletter Editor, at [eric.nystrom@rit.edu](mailto:eric.nystrom@rit.edu). Works of popular history, academic studies, poetry, fiction, and art are all welcome, as long as they concern the broad themes of mining history of interest to our society. The Newsletter Editor reserves the right to edit all content. Submissions will be accepted throughout the year and printed in the Fall newsletter, which appears in September. **Authors must be members of the MHA.**

Submissions for the upcoming Fall newsletter will be accepted until the **August 15 deadline**, so send your book details right away!

# National Mining Hall of Fame in Leadville Welcomes 2011 Inductees

The National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum (NMHFM), in Leadville, Colorado, is pleased to announce the 2011 National Mining Hall of Fame inductees. Representing the coal, metallurgical/processing R&D, marble, and lead industries, this year's inductees cover a diverse cross-section of the mining industry.

William Diamond, Wayne Hazen, Redfield Proctor and Jeffrey Zelms will join 210 other mining industry pioneers when they are formally inducted into the National Mining Hall of Fame at the 24th Annual Induction Banquet & Ceremony on September 10, 2011. They were selected for being visionaries, leaders and ambassadors both within their own sectors and across the industry at large.

**William Francis Diamond** (b. 1914) had an impressive engineering and managerial career that spanned four decades with Island Creek Coal Company. During that time, he was responsible for the engineering and construction of the deepest coal mines producing in North America at the time. **Wayne Colby Hazen** (1917-2009) founded Hazen Research, Inc. in Golden, Colorado. He served as President and CEO of the company for 22 years and grew it from a one-building laboratory to the largest private metallurgical and processing R&D contractor in the United States. **Redfield Proctor** (1831-1903) founded the Vermont Marble Company, which became the world's largest marble company by the beginning of the 20th century. He also had a notable career as a public servant, serving as Governor of Vermont, Secretary of War in the cabinet of President Harrison, and U.S. Senator from Vermont. **Jeffrey L. Zelms** (b. 1944) helped keep the U.S. lead industry alive during the most volatile period in its modern history. As CEO of The Doe Run Company, he guided the company through the collapse of the lead market in the 1980s and the recession in the 1990s, ensuring that lead mining remained a viable industry in the United States.

NMHFM Executive Director Bob Hartzell said, "We are very proud to have the opportunity to honor these luminaries of the mining industry by inducting them into our Hall of Fame. Each has made an indelible contribution to mining, and they join the company of some legendary mining figures in the Hall of Fame."

The 2011 Prazen Living Legend of Mining Award will also be presented at the September event. The Prazen Award recognizes organizations and individuals who excel in informing the public of the vital importance of mining and minerals. This year's recipient is the **Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Minerals Association (OAIMA)**, which

undertakes a wide variety of programs and projects all designed to educate the public about the minerals industry. An example of OAIMA's commitment to educating the public about the importance of the minerals industry is its Project STONE (Science Teaching for Ohio's New Economy) program, developed in partnership with Wright State University. Project STONE is an earth and space science inquiry-based professional development program for Ohio earth science teachers that is based on real-world situations. During this two-week program, teachers learn of the critical role that mining plays in the civic, cultural, environmental and economic life of our communities.

OAIMA has also created a Scholarship Program, which to date has awarded more than \$20,000 to students taking courses relating to exploration, excavation, engineering, acquisition, production or other areas of the industrial minerals industry, for use in pursuit of their degree. "It is through the excellent work of organizations such as OAIMA that the industry can continue to increase public awareness, perception and understanding of the impact that mining has on everyday life," said Hartzell.

The National Mining Hall of Fame inductees and Prazen Award recipient will be honored at the 24th Annual Hall of Fame Induction Banquet and Ceremony to be held on September 10, 2011 at the historic NMHFM campus in Leadville, Colorado. Opened to the public in 1987, the NMHFM boasts one of the most comprehensive mining memorabilia equipment and minerals collections in North America. The more than 20,000 square feet of exhibit space are dedicated to the institution's mission to "tell the story of mining, its people and its importance to the American public." Feature exhibits include the walk-through Hard Rock Mine, Prospector's Cave, and Coal Mine replicas; the Gold Rush Room, featuring two 24-oz gold nuggets; the Industrial Minerals Room; the Crystal Room; and the Frost Gallery, showcasing artifacts dating from the ancient copper mines of Cyprus through to the modern day.

The NMHFM is home to the National Mining Hall of Fame, which honors individuals for their significant contributions to the mining industry, preserving their legacy for future generations. The NMHFM also owns and operates the historic Matchless Mine & Baby Doe's Cabin, once owned by "Silver King" Horace Tabor. The Museum is housed in the original 1890s high school building in historic Leadville, Colorado. The NMHFM is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit corporation and is the only federally-chartered mining museum in the U.S.

## Colorado Mining Museums Offer Summer Events

Two important mining museums in the state of Colorado have announced special summer events of interest to MHA members.

The Western Museum of Mining and Industry (WMMI), located at 225 North Gate Blvd. (at 1-25 Exit 156A), in Colorado Springs, is celebrating its 29th Anniversary this year. The museum opened in 1982 with the mission to preserve America's rich western mining heritage and educate the public about the importance of mining -- past, present and future. In honor of this milestone, the museum is offering admission for just \$2.90 per person all day on Tuesday, July 12.

WMMI will also fire up some of its impressive outdoor machinery displays in July. On July 8 and 22, museum staff will operate the 1928 Osgood steam shovel and a working compressed air locomotive as part of the 10:00am and 1:00pm tours. For additional information about these events or the museum, visit [www.wmmi.org](http://www.wmmi.org) or call 719-488-0880.

The Cripple Creek District Museum is located at 5th and Bennett Ave., in Cripple Creek, only about an hour from Colorado Springs. The museum's summer hours (until mid-October) are 10:00am to 5:00pm every day of the week. On summer Sundays, Museum Archivist Melissa Trenary offers guided walking tours of the five-building museum complex at 2:00pm. The museum will be represented at Victor Gold Rush Days July 15-17, and plans art and history events throughout the summer and fall months. Visit [www.cripple-creek.org](http://www.cripple-creek.org), email [CCDMuseum@aol.com](mailto:CCDMuseum@aol.com), or call 719-689-9540 for additional information.

### "Mug Shots" Needed!

The MHA commemorative mugs were a hit again this year, but we need your help for the next version! Mark Langenfeld asks that anyone who has a particularly striking (but representative) photo from the MHA's 2011 Dillon conference email [mlangenfeld@tds.net](mailto:mlangenfeld@tds.net) to "audition" it for the starring role on next year's commemorative cup.

Past-president David Wolff still has some of the past year's mugs available. The cups, which celebrate our 2010 Silver City conference, are white with a full-color image of the Bullfrog headframe taken by Eric Nystrom. Email [David.Wolff@bhsu.edu](mailto:David.Wolff@bhsu.edu) to order yours for \$8.00 including S&H.

## Spence Award for Best Book on Mining History, 2011-2012

The Clark C. Spence Award Committee of the Mining History Association is accepting nominations for the best book published on mining history during 2011-2012. The committee considers books that meet the documentation and narrative standards set by the works of Clark Christian Spence, professor emeritus, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

To be considered, the 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 2011 or 2012. A \$500 cash prize will be presented to the winning author or authors at the 2013 Mining History Association Annual Meeting.

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

**David Wolff**  
**MHA Spence Award**  
**301 Yellowstone Pl.**  
**Spearfish, SD 57783**

Two books shared the award for the best book in mining history published during 2009-2010. Congratulations to **Ronald Limbaugh** for *Tungsten in Peace and War, 1918-1946* published by University of Nevada Press and **Duane Smith** for *The Trail of Gold and Silver: Mining in Colorado, 1859-2009* published by University Press of Colorado. **Sheila Kelly** also received special recognition for her book *Treadwell Gold: An Alaska Saga of Riches and Ruin* published by University of Alaska Press.

## Future MHA Meetings

**Prescott, Arizona: June 7-10, 2012**

**Galena, Illinois: June 6-9, 2013**

**Trinidad, Colorado: June 5-8, 2014**

# Call for Papers

## 2012 Mining History Association Annual Conference

The Mining History Association will meet in historic Prescott, Arizona, June 7-10, 2012. The Program Committee invites proposals for individual presentations or complete sessions (including chair) on any topic or aspect of mining history. Sessions normally include three papers of twenty minutes each. There are no temporal or geographic limits. **In recognition of the 100th anniversary of statehood for Arizona and New Mexico, presentations addressing the last century (or more) of mining in the Southwest are especially welcome.**

Proposals should include title of presentation, an abstract (not to exceed one page) for each presentation, plus biographical information about each presenter, including mailing/email address. Please note, speakers must register for the conference in order to give their presentations. **Please send the written proposals to the program sessions committee chair by November 15, 2011.** Submission by email attachment is preferred.

**Bob Metz, Program Sessions Chair**  
1729 Desert Vista Drive  
Tucson, AZ 85748  
[ramgeo@cox.net](mailto:ramgeo@cox.net)

### **MHA Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates**

The MHA Nominating Committee is responsible for setting up MHA elections. We need your help! Are you, or someone you know, willing to serve the MHA as a member of the council or one of the standing committees? Do you want to propose the nomination of a fellow member for office? Many MHA positions require only modest amounts of time plus attendance at our annual meeting. Please email the Nominating Committee (care of Eric Nystrom, [eric.nystrom@rit.edu](mailto:eric.nystrom@rit.edu)), or write to us: MHA Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 552, Sedalia, CO 80135. Please have your suggestions for the upcoming year to the committee by October 15.

#### Nominating Committee Members

**Bill Wahl** (2009-2012)  
**Eric Nystrom** (2010-2013)  
**Peter Maciulaitis** (2011-2014)

*Mining History Association*  
P.O. Box 552  
Sedalia, CO 80135

## **First Class Mail**

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## **Upcoming Events**

### **17th Australian Mining History Association Conference**

Sept. 13-19, 2011  
Hahndorf, South Australia  
<http://www.mininghistory.asn.au>

### **Western History Association Conference**

Oct. 13-16, 2011  
Oakland, CA  
<http://www.westernhistoryassociation.org>

### **9th International Mining History Congress**

April 17-20, 2012  
Johannesburg, South Africa  
<http://imhc.co.za>

### **23rd Mining History Association Conference**

June 7-10, 2012  
Prescott, AZ

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*. The 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 Newsletter Editor Eric Nystrom at the MHA address or by email: [eric.nystrom@rit.edu](mailto: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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