



Summer 2017

# *Mining History News*

Quarterly Newsletter of the Mining History Association

## **Spread the Word ... Mining History**

The Fairbanks conference was a great success, a real multi-course treat served up by Paul White and all those who helped bring together this very memorable event. The conference attracted 108 people including many new Alaska members, several international members, and more women than at any previous MHA conference than I can remember. There were many excellent talks. On behalf of the entire MHA membership, I would like to thank all those who organized and attended for making this a truly wonderful conference.

Conference venues that are far from where the largest number of MHA members reside (the western US) add to the costs and preparation required for MHA members to attend. However, what these conferences can offer would cost far more if done through an adventure outfitter or tour company. The Fairbanks conference was a real adventure. We got a chance to go beneath the permafrost, see piles of mammoth and other extinct creatures' bones, tour old and new gold mines, visit a dredge, and meet some really interesting folks that shared their stories of life in this amazing mining area.

Conference sites like Scranton, Pennsylvania and Fairbanks, Alaska help stretch our exposure to the great variety that exists in mining technologies and its challenges, and offer insights into the social fabric of these mining communities. They expose us to new geographic and climatic vistas (I don't think I ever saw darkness in my two weeks in Alaska. Well, except when I was underground).

Conference venues can take us to places many of

us would not otherwise visit. We learn something new that's often totally unexpected and discover places we would like to explore even more. Importantly, we do it in a community of friends, both old and new. Over the coming months, the MHA website will post images of some of what the Fairbanks conference offered. I encourage attendees of the Fairbanks conference to deluge Mike Kaas with pictures to share with all the MHA membership.

MHA membership, interest in mining history, and an understanding of mining as it exists today are items on my list of things I wish to address over my term as your president. Brian Leech, Tetiana Soviak, and I all gave presentations that dealt with the media and the public's perception of mining. Brian's and Tetiana's lectures brought us up-to-date as to what the mainstream media has become and the perception of mining as depicted in video games and on reality TV. As for me and probably many MHA members, the media that influenced us to take an interest in mining was found in books, TV westerns, and motion pictures. This change in media influence seems to highlight a problem that both mining history organizations and the mining industry itself are experiencing: an aging population and a need to attract young persons.

I know that there are much younger people than I who are interested in hearing about mining history because recently I met three of them. They were in their 30s and 40s. One was the server at the bar and dining car on the Alaska Railroad. Another was someone in a REI store where we were both

## Spread the word...

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trying on hiking boots. The third was at a hotel breakfast table we were sharing. What were their interests which aligned with mining and mining history? They were collecting rocks, writing historical novels, and having a friend who is a geology professor. Please share your thoughts regarding how we might attract more people to share our interest in mining and mining history. I don't want a larger MHA, I just want a sustainable one.

Have a great summer!

Peter Maciulaitis  
MHA President 2017-2018

Entire MHA at Fairbanks Exploration Co.

## Fairbanks Award Recipients:

### **Rodman Paul Award:**

*William R. Hunt. Professor of History Emeritus, University of Alaska-Fairbanks*

### **John Townley Award:**

*J. A. Byczynski, Rethinking Radicalism on the Cuyuna Iron Range, 1912-1933.*

### **Clark Spence Award:**

*M. Wasserman, Pesos and Politics: Business, Elites, Foreigners, and Government in Mexico, 1854-40*

### **Special Recognition:**

*Erich Obermayr and Robert W. McQueen, Historical Archaeology in the Cortez Mining District.*

### **Mary Lee Spence Award:**

*Catherine Spude, All for the Greed of Gold: Will Woodin's Klondike Adventure*

### **Besleme-Orrell Heritage Award:**

*The Rimrocker Historical Society*

### **Ed Hunter Award:**

*Mark and Lynn Langenfeld*



# Mining History Association 2017-2018

## Officers

Peter Maciulitis, president  
Keith Long, vice-president/president-elect  
Erik Nordberg, past president  
James E. Fell, treasurer  
Brian Leech, secretary

## Council Members

Terry Reynolds, 2017-2020  
Cathy Spude - 2017-2020  
Jane Bardal, 2015-2018  
Terry Humble, 2015-2018  
Paul White, 2016-2019  
Jennifer Hildebrand, 2016-2019  
Dana Bennett, 2016-2019

## Board Members

Rebecca Lange, membership chair  
Eric Clements, journal editor  
Barbara Clements, journal compositor, social media  
Michael Kaas, website coordinator  
Nathan Delaney, newsletter editor

## Nominating Committee

Barbara Clements, 2017-2020  
Brian Leech, 2015-2018  
Cathleen Norman, 2016-2019

## *MHA Committees*

### Rodman Paul Award

Johnny Johnsson, Chair  
Duane Smith  
Karen Vendl

### Clark Spence & Mary Lee Spence Awards

David Wolff, Chair  
Keith Long  
Robert Spude

## Cherry Hunter Award

Mark Langenfeld, Chair  
Lynn Langenfeld  
Mark Vendl  
Karen Vendl  
Silvia Pettem

## MHA Distinguished Service Award

Ed Raines, Chair  
Mark Langenfeld

## MHA Research Grants Committee

Brian Leech, Chair  
Eric Nystrom  
David Wolff

## Besleme-Orrell Heritage Award

Robert Spude, Chair  
Ginny Kilander  
Stephanie Saager-Bourret

## Budget & Finance Committee

Jay Fell, Chair ex officio  
Lynn Langenfeld  
Bob Spude  
John Stewart  
Mark Vendl  
Stan Dempsey

## Editorial Board/John Townley Award

Duane Smith, Chair  
Silvia Pettem  
Ron Brown  
Jay Fell  
Ron Limbaugh  
Jeremy Mouat  
Mark Vendl



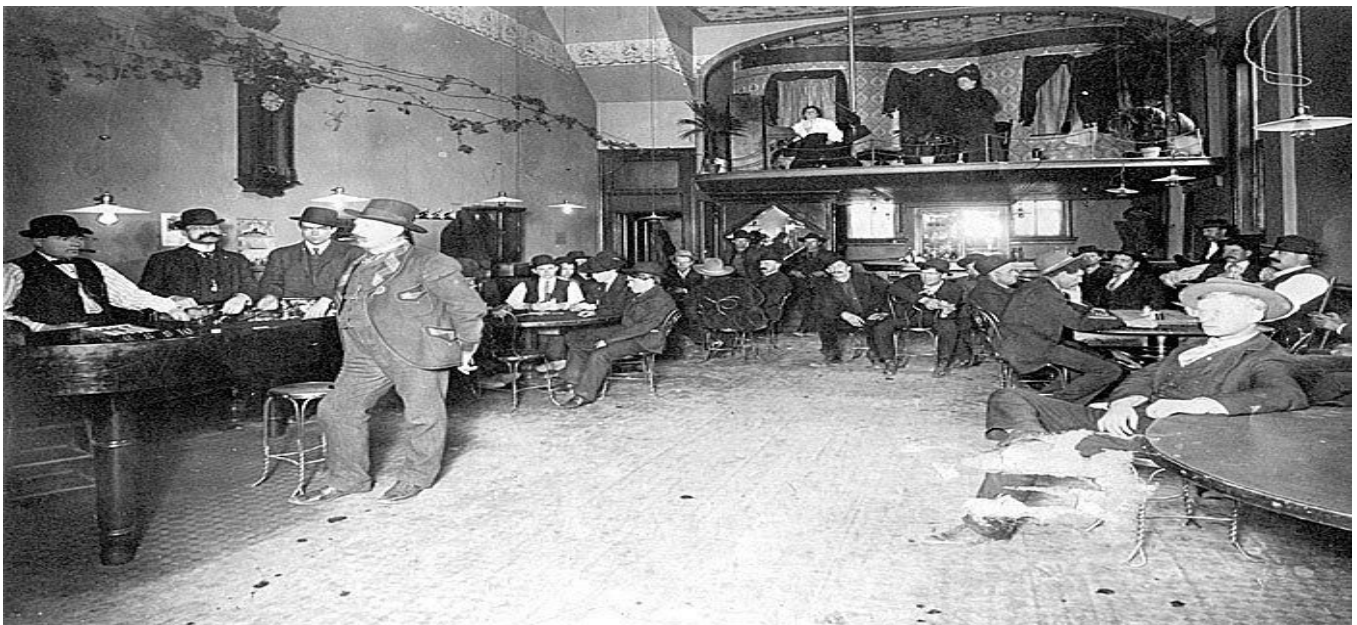
**Call for Presentations  
29 th Annual Conference  
Mining History Association  
7-10 June 2018  
Deadwood, South Dakota**

**The Program Committee of the Mining History Association invites proposals for individual presentations or complete sessions (includes 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. Presentations that address mining history in the Black Hills and the Northern Rockies are particularly 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 send the written proposals via email attachment to David Wolff by January 1, 2018. Submission by email is required.**

**The Program Committee for the MHA's 2018 Deadwood conference consists of: Brian Leech (Chair), Robert L. Spude, Bob Otto, and David Wolff.**

**David Wolff, MHA—Deadwood  
David.Wolff@bhsu.edu  
davidwolff@spe.midco.net**



The Bodega Saloon, Deadwood, c.1890

## Hunter Mining History Library

Ed and Cherry Hunter donated their mining history collection to the Lowell Thomas Museum in Victor, Colorado. The museum has embarked on a \$48,000 library improvement project. More than \$3,000 has already been donated in memory of Ed and Cherry.

For more information visit:

[victorcolorado.com/museumdonations.htm](http://victorcolorado.com/museumdonations.htm)

## Transitions

**Arthur Williams** passed away in March in Mesa, AZ. He was an enthusiastic, long-time member of MHA who loved to explore Colorado ghost towns and old mines. A graphic artist by trade, Art designed the MHA logo with the gold pan, nuggets, pick and mountains. For his efforts, he received, at the Globe, AZ conference in 2006, the second ever Cherry Hunter Award for the preservation of mining history through art.

**Gay Smith** passed away on April 28, 2017 at home. She was born on November 15, 1937 in Glasgow, Montana. During childhood, her family spent 2 years in the Panama Canal Zone where her father worked as an engineer. She was a graduate of UC-Boulder and married her college sweetheart, and later Fort Lewis Professor Duane Smith in 1960. Gay attended all the MHA conferences together with her husband and will be missed by many MHA.

## Attention MHA Authors: Publicity Opportunity

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 Nathan Delaney at **[nathan.delaney@case.edu](mailto:nathan.delaney@case.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 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.**

This year's submissions will run in the Fall newsletter and will be accepted until **October 1**.

## Interested in the history of Arizona's early mining days?

Download short articles from the three-volume set History of Mining in Arizona, edited by J. Michael Canty and Michael N. Greeley, and published by the Mining Foundation of the Southwest between 1987 and 1999. Read about the explorers, immigrant miners from Mexico and Europe, and the development of mineral resources found in the remote corners of Arizona from Ajo, Big Bug, and Old Dominion to Humboldt, Oatman, Tombstone, and Morenci. You can order a copy from MFSW or enjoy the individual chapters posted on the Mining foundation website at [www.miningfoundationsw.org](http://www.miningfoundationsw.org).



## Photos from Fairbanks Conference



**(Above) MHAers in the Pogo Mill. (Below) Members also had the opportunity to explore the Fort Knox Mine, presently Alaska's largest gold producing mine.**





## Photos continued...



## Congratulations to the MHA Research Grant Award Winners of 2017!

*Lorena Campuzano Duque, PhD Candidate, SUNY-Binghamton*

*Mica Jorgenson, PhD Candidate, McMaster University*

*John R. Henris, Asst. Professor of History, University of Arkansas - Monticello*

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

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## Upcoming Events

### **Economic History Association Conference**

15-17 September 2017  
San Jose, CA

### **Australasian Mining History Conference**

25-29 September 2017  
Traralgon, Victoria  
[www.mininghistory.asn.au](http://www.mininghistory.asn.au)

### **Western History Association Conference**

1-4 November 2017  
San Diego, CA

### **2018 Mining History Association Conference**

6-10 June 2018  
Deadwood, SD

### **2019 Mining History Association Conference**

5-9 June 2019  
Marquette, MI

*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 Nathan Delaney, [nathan.delaney@case.edu](mailto:nathan.delaney@case.edu),

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

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

**Mining History Association**  
c/o Diane Dudley  
323 Daniels Place  
Cañon City, CO 81212  
[www.mininghistoryassociation.org](http://www.mininghistoryassociation.org)