

Mining History Association

Dillon, Montana – University of Montana Western Campus
Annual Meeting June 2-5, 2011

Presentation Abstracts and Presenter Brief Biographies

Friday June 3

Session 2: Miners and Mining in Montana and the Pacific Northwest

Chair: **Mark Langenfeld**, MHA President 2011-2012

Ron Limbaugh, *Comparative Gold Rushes: East Bannack (Montana) v. Boise Basin (Idaho)*

Presentation will discuss findings from a database compiled to compare 6,000 individual claim entries from Bannack, Montana for the gold rush years 1862-63 with nearly 3,000 from Boise Basin in Idaho for the same period. The 1870 census data for the two areas is included to study the rush longitudinally. These two Rocky Mountain mining districts began at nearly the same time with gold rushes to newly-discovered placer diggings. Both developed extensive lode claims as placer ground played out. Both were located in remote mountainous areas, far from centers of government, supply and transportation. Both were profoundly affected by the political and social disruptions of the Civil War, and their elections influenced by the influx of refugees from the border states. During the height of the gold rush, miners and merchants in both districts complained that a rising criminal element threatened their peace and security. In both areas, benevolent and fraternal institutions arose in response to social isolation and individual needs--and perhaps to counter threats to personal safety and security as well. The intent of the paper is to develop these similarities, but also to focus on geographic and demographic variables that may help explain differences in the social and political development of these two districts, particularly their divergent responses to real or perceived threats to order and stability.

Emeritus Professor upon retirement 2000, History Department, College of the Pacific; Ph.D., University of Idaho, 1967; Rockwell Hunt Professor of California History, 1966 – 2000; Director, John Muir Center for Regional Studies, 1989 - 2000; President Mining History Association 2008; numerous articles and reviews in professional journals on a variety of topics, including mining history, environmental history, and California history; nine books authored, co-authored, or edited, including *Calaveras Gold* (2003) and *Tungsten in Peace and War* (2010).

Roger Burt, *Miners, Masons and Vigilantes: What Was Unusual About Virginia City?*

This paper will provide an introductory outline for the wider consideration of links between miners, Freemasonry and vigilantism in the early 1860s. It will look at the formation of the early masonic lodges in Montana and Idaho and investigate the structure of their membership through to the early 1870s. Consideration will be given to their occupational, ethnic, and age structure as well as their changing economic status. Experience in these districts will be compared with similar analysis of early lodges in California and Nevada to identify areas of significant difference.

Emeritus Professor on retirement 2004, History Department, University of Exeter, Devon, UK; Ph.D., London School of Economics, 1970; Dean of Social Studies, University of Exeter, 1992 – 1995; President of the International Mining History Congress 2001; numerous articles in professional journals relating principally to the history of mining and metallurgy in the UK and other parts of the world; numerous authored, co-authored and edited books relating to British mining history; and Freemason since 1989. Member of Quatuor Coronati Lodge and Director/Company Secretary of QC Correspondence Circle Ltd.

Session 3: Social History of Rocky Mountain Mining Towns

Chair: **Eric Nystrom**, MHA Newsletter Editor & Nominating Com. 2010-2013; Rochester Institute of Technology.

Ellen Bauml, *Children in the Montana Mining Camps*

The richest of the Montana gold strikes at Grasshopper Creek (1862), Alder Gulch (1863), and Last Chance Gulch (1864) attracted an eclectic population. Among them were officials, merchants, and service providers who brought their families to the booming camps. Children were few, but those who spent time in the three great camps had fascinating experiences and perspectives different from those of their elders. They went to school, made up their own games, and were exposed to the vices and violence of everyday life. Like their parents, children caught the gold fever. This presentation demonstrates how children are the same no matter where they live. However, because of their hardships and material deprivations, mining camp children experienced life more intensely. They learned to make the most of their peculiar circumstances.

Interpretive Historian/Historical Signs Coordinator, Montana Historical Society, 1992-present; Adjunct faculty, Helena College of Technology of the University of Montana, 1996-present; Ph.D. (Special Studies in English, History, Classics) University of Kansas 1985; author and editor of eight books and articles on mining; recipient of the 2011 Montana Governor's Humanities Award, 2010.

Jeff Safford, *Social Welfare in Territorial Virginia City, Montana 1864-1869*

Focus on aspects of Madison County's history removed from the historic and continual concentration on the more colorful--and too often violent--conditions associated with the Territory's early gold mining years. It's a study of Madison County's and Virginia City's experience in dealing with issues relating to social welfare--safety from social insecurity. How the county and the mining camp responded to those who were in need--the county's paupers, homeless, orphaned

children, the physically ill and disabled, and the mentally impaired--is as important to our understanding of the community's welfare as safety against disorder. It's an effort to diverge from the habitual concentration on Virginia City's early history of violence and vigilantism. The thesis is that the city's and county's administrators took up care for the needy with much sincerity and compassion, but fell short of desired objectives because of, among other factors, strong public opposition to governmental tax-based programs, and to hard times and consequent lack of resources.

Emeritus Professor of American History, Montana State University; Rutgers University Ph.D. 1968; relevant publication: *The Mechanics of Optimism: Mining Companies, Technology, and the Hot Spring Gold Rush, Montana Territory, 1864-1868*, University Press of Colorado, 2004 – a part of its "Mining the American West" series.

Jane Bardal, *Southwest New Mexico Mining Towns*

Presentation examines industrial mining in southwestern New Mexico through the postcard images of the era. Postcards with pictures came into existence in 1901. A mining camp of any size at all would have a post office, and people wrote each other more frequently than today. People wanted to show off signs of development and progress in their towns, such as tree-lined main streets and substantial buildings. They were also proud of industrial developments. Postcards showed the day to day operations, such as freight teams, concentration mills, and trains.

Psychology Instructor, Central New Mexico Community College, Albuquerque, NM, 1997-present; Ph. D. University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, 1996; relevant publication: *Southwestern New Mexico Mining Towns*, Charleston: Arcadia Publishing, 2011.

Session 4: Environmental Experiences and Hope for the Future

Chair: **Karen Vendl**, MHA Past President 2009-10

Stacie Barry, *Cultural and Environmental Remediation in Butte, Montana*

This project compares and contrasts the markers of cultural remediation and environmental remediation in Butte for the time period 1950 - 2009. This investigation considers mining culture, neighborhoods, fires, traditional cultural properties, public health, historic preservation, foodways, natural features, parks and recreation, community groups, community plans, historic and environmental designations, extent of environmental contamination, and environmental remediation. The project did not investigate several cultural markers that are important to the community in great depth, such as the labor history, because it was a more important marker prior to 1950, and because it has been researched extensively by others, such as Malone in *The Gibraltar*.

Operations Manager of Energy Services, National Center for Appropriate Technology, Butte, Montana, 2008-present; Ph.D. Candidate, Interdisciplinary Studies, emphasis in Environmental Science, Health, Anthropology, and Communications, University of Montana; publications: *Domestic Pets as Bioindicators of Mining-Related Contaminants: An Investigation of Sentinel Species for Assessing and Monitoring Contamination and Remediation*, Lambert Academic Press, 2009; with Diane Byrne, John Schuttler, Gary Williams, *Historical Research Investigation, Lower Duwamish Waterway, Seattle* Washington, Heritage Research Center, 2004.

Richard Francaviglia, *Borax Lake, Oregon: From Mineral Extraction to Habitat Preservation*

More than a century ago, the Alvord Desert of southeastern Oregon was the site of a commercial borax producing operation that lasted about a decade (1898–1907). From the 1870s until the mid-1890s, the major economic activity in this remote area of Harney County was cattle ranching. However, in 1897, two men (Charles Taylor and John Fulton) who operated a borax mine in Nevada's Black Rock Desert heard about the "alkali" deposits at Hot Lake from an Oregon ranch hand. Taylor and Fulton visited the site and discovered that it was rich in borax. In 1898, borax production began using a work force of about thirty Chinese workers. With this new activity, the site acquired a new name – Borax Lake.

Geo-Graphic Designs, Salem, Oregon

Session 5: Preservation of the Western Mining Past

Chair: **Mike Kaas**, MHA Council Member, 2010-2013

Eleanor Swent, *The Historic Glover House in Lead, SD, and the Story of George W. Glover, Jr.*

George Washington Glover, Jr., was the son of Mary Baker Eddy, founder of Christian Science. After the gold rush that followed the Custer expedition, he staked claims in the Black Hills and was president of the Glover Mining Company. He spent his last years in Lead, SD, and his descendants still reside there. In 1898, Mrs. Eddy sent workmen and materials to Lead and built a rather grand house for her son. The house was later bought by the Homestake Mining Company, and used as a residence for senior staff. I had the privilege of living there in the 1950s, and this sparked my interest in the story of George Washington Glover. In 2002 I recorded a conversation with his grandson, William Glover, who still resides in Lead. The family story differs somewhat from the official Christian Science version.

Retired Senior Editor, Regional Oral History Office, University of California-Berkeley; LL.D. South Dakota School of Mines & Technology; Project Director, 66-volume oral history series documenting mining in the 20th century; born in Lead, North Dakota, with extensive family ties to Homestake Mining Company. Former president, MHA

Cathleen Norman, *Lake City and Ouray – Comparison & Contrast in the San Juan Triangle*

Lake City and Ouray are two silver mining towns that sprang into existence during the mid-1870s in southwestern Colorado. Expulsion of the Utes from their traditional hunting grounds opened the remote mountainous San Juan area to exploration, settlement and mining exploitation. With Silverton, Lake City and Ouray comprised the original "San Juan

Triangle.” Later regional mineral discoveries produced Telluride and Rico. Multiple factors influenced the origin and subsequent development of each town in the San Juan mountain region: geographic location, elevation, richness and composition of mineral deposits both precious and base, town founders’ intentions, accessibility by toll road then railroad, ethnic make-up of miners and mine owners, as well as natural resources other than mineral deposits. Separated by 32 miles and formidable Engineer Mountain, the two communities have experienced similar and divergent trends in boom-and-bust cycles, post-World War II growth and tourism from the mid-twentieth century through the present day. Each is the seat of a county of vast geographic size and sparse population (both towns have fewer than 1000 year-round citizens). An examination and comparison present Lake City and Ouray as excellent example of well-preserved mining-towns cum tourist centers. Each municipality has taken a different approach to preserving its historic resources, attracting tourists and marketing its unique assets

Historian, author and preservation consultant; conducted cultural resource surveys in Lake City and Ouray in the two National Register Historic District that comprise each town, documenting all structures within town limits, assessing architectural integrity of each district and providing preservation recommendations. Member of MHA since her first MHA presentation at the annual conference in Ouray in 2000.

Ellen W. Smith, *An Exploration of Applying Historic Preservation to a Non-Architectural Historic Property*

This presentation explores the *Save American Treasures* grant program by applying the process to the Gemini Mine Head Frame, located in Eureka, Utah. A hypothetical project is laid out as part of the larger goal of preserving the historic character of a mining community. By exploring mining in America, the significance of mining structures to national and local heritage is clarified. The unique character of the communities that develop around the Mining Industry in conjunction with a brief history of Eureka, Utah is presented to support the importance of mining structures as community icons. The pre and post collapse condition of the Gemini Mine head frame is presented with an exploration of restoration vs. reconstruction options. The *Save America’s Treasures* grants program eligibility criteria and review criteria will be explored as a financial support option for the hypothetical project. Finally, this information is analyzed to develop a theoretical scope of work that would be required for the stated goal to preserve the historic identity of one historic mining town.

Senior archaeologist, federal division of Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure; 16 years’ experience in historic and prehistoric archaeology and architectural history. Extensive involvement in private, public and agency projects has allowed her to gain a wide range of historic preservation compliance (CFR 800-106, DOT4f) knowledge. Four years as lead project archaeologist on a superfund remediation project. BA in Anthropology with a minor in American Indian Studies, and a Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation. She is widely recognized in the Great Basin for her historic research and has presented her work at the Utah State Archaeological Society meetings, the annual Utah State History meetings, the Utah Professional Archaeology Council Convention and at the Heritage Foundation Conventions. She currently works in the aiding in cultural resource identification and preservation issues

Play by Lisa Hayes: *From the Mountains of Mourne to the Mines of Montana*

Theatre of the Beaverhead County Museum – Community invited – no charge for admission.

This is a “museum theater play” performed at the International Theatre Museum Alliance conference in Belfast, Ireland in 2007 and was performed again at a theater near Detroit in 2010. The play is 30 minutes long, uses four actors and focuses on Irish miners in Butte, Montana in the early 20th century.

Professional actress & playwright who went back to school and earned a Ph.D. in American Studies at SUNY Buffalo. Presently Director of Education and Public Programs at the Accokeek Foundation in Maryland.

Saturday June 4

Session 6: Mining Cases from Australia, Mexico and Tanzania

Chair: **Jody Pavilack**, University of Montana

Nathaniel Chimhete, *Gold Mining in Tanzania & Nyerere’s Legacy*

The paper examines the rise, development and demise of Tanzania’s formal gold mining industry from the 1920s up to the early 1970s, and how people living in mining areas explain the disappearance of foreign-owned gold mines by 1970.

Using mining records and newspaper reports it challenges the notion that Nyerere’s socialist experiment was responsible for the decline of the formal industry. It argues that that mining Tanzania’s patchy, low-content gold ores was not profitable in an economic environment where the price of gold on the international market remained fixed, and production costs continued to rise. It contends that by the time Nyerere took power at independence in 1961 the country’s formal gold industry was in decline, and by the time the State Mining Corporation, a parastatal which was mandated with the revival of the industry, took over in 1973 all the big gold mines had closed down. Despite this, people in mining areas attribute the closure of foreign-owned mines to Nyerere whom they say wanted to prevent the plunder of the country’s mineral resources, and let his people mine when they were ready to. Furthermore, the paper argues that although Nyerere believed in self-reliance and actually assisted small-scale miners in some areas to exploit their mineral resources, his mining policy and views were more nuanced than how they are remembered. Contrary to the popular belief that Nyerere set up military barracks and police posts at sites formerly occupied by foreign-owned mines to prevent the plunder of the country’s

mineral resources by the same companies, they were established primarily to curb illegal mining, carried out mostly by Tanzanians, and to take advantage of the physical infrastructure already in existence in these areas

Ph.D. Candidate, University of Iowa, August 2004-present; dissertation topic: *A History of Small-Scale Gold Miners in Tarime District, Tanzania*.

Timothy J. LeCain, *Cattle, Silkworms, and Empire: A Comparative Envirotechnical History Japanese and American High-Modernist Copper Mining*

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the two countries that would soon emerge as the most dynamic imperial economies in the world – Japan and the United States – erected the edifices of their increasingly science and technology driven societies on the backs of two remote copper mines: the Ashio in Tochigi Prefecture and the Anaconda in Montana. Although located in very different cultural, social, and political environments, the Ashio and Anaconda copper mines followed strikingly similar paths of technological growth and development as they became central to the national and imperial strength of their home nations. Both mines epitomized the high-modernist engineering ethos of legibility, rationalization, and efficiency, suggesting both the global spread of the modernist ideology as well as the influence of powerful new mining technologies. Both mines also resulted in devastating environmental damages that were closely associated with changing technologies. This paper will survey the early results of a three-year NSF-funded project to investigate the culturally and socially determined constructions of and reactions to engineered spaces, industrial technology, and their environmental and social fallout in these two mining regions. In particular, the paper will compare the ways in which Japanese and American agriculturalists viewed and responded to the environmental damages caused by copper mining and smelting as they affected very different organisms, both of which held great cultural, economic, and imperial significance for their respective nations and regions: silkworms in Japan and cattle in Montana.

Associate Professor of History, Montana State University; Ph. D. University of Delaware 1998; George Perkins Marsh Best Book in Environmental History Prize, 2009, American Society for Environmental History, for *Mass Destruction: The Men and Giant Mines That Wired America and Scarred the Planet*, also awarded “Outstanding Academic Title for 2009” by *Choice*, the review journal of the American Library Association.

Sessions 7: Mining Lawyers and Corporate Miners

Chair: **John Stewart**, MHA Council Member, 2009-2012

Brian Leech, *Copper & Coal: Eminent Domain Law and Surface Mining in Montana*

This presentation seeks to connect the story of copper mining with coal mining through companies’ advocacy of and residents’ displeasure with eminent domain, which is the power of the state to seize a citizen’s property with due monetary compensation, but without the owner’s consent. Legal scholar Alexandra Klass has shown that states in the interior West have long given broad authority to natural resource developers through such legal means, but historians have generally failed to examine the use of eminent domain by private companies other than railroads. The history of eminent domain in Montana is particularly wrought with classic tensions between the public good and private rights—in this case, between state residents’ desire for economic development and their desire to maintain private property rights. In one situation, the Anaconda Company failed in its early efforts to gain access to property in Butte for use in open-pit copper operations. During the 1950s, two Butte neighborhoods challenged by Anaconda’s pits funneled residents’ discontent into effective protest. Turning to the state legislature, Anaconda won the right of eminent domain for all surface mining operations in 1961, effectively deadening most legal means of protest. In another situation, however, grass-roots protestors and state legislators more effectively challenged coal companies’ use of this same eminent domain power in eastern Montana, leading to its removal from state law in the 1970s. This presentation seeks to explain why eminent domain law worked for the Anaconda Company in western Montana, but failed for coal companies in eastern Montana

Ph.D. Candidate in American history, University of Wisconsin-Madison since 2008; Working Dissertation Title: “‘An Urban Removal Problem’: Open-Pit Mining, Industrial Hazards, and the Disappearance of Ethnic Neighborhoods in Butte, Montana”

Rudy Davison, *Liberty Bell Mine vs. Smuggler-Union*

W.L. Cornet staked the Liberty Bell claim in 1876, but he only developed the mine about 100 feet recovering a limited amount of complex ore that was not profitable. As a result, the Liberty Bell lay dormant until 1897 when Arthur Winslow bought the property for the United States and British Columbia Mining Company and then organized the Liberty Bell Gold Mining Company in 1898. After about a year, Winslow found the profitable vein that eluded Cornet, and for the remainder of the mine's 24 year history it produced 635,915 ounces of gold and 4,544,699 ounces of silver that had a combined value of \$16,171,089.27 when the mine prematurely shut in the summer of 1921. This made the Liberty Bell the third richest producer in the Telluride area, but my story is about why the mine shut. In 1917 though, the Smuggler-Union sued the Liberty Bell for trespass for removal of ore taken from Smuggler-Union property. Both mines had claims that abutted each other, but the Liberty Bell asserted that the surface outcrop on a small triangular piece on one of its claims that overlapped a Smuggler-Union claim justified following the ore in this vein. The suit lasted four years and when a verdict was reached in 1921, the judge found the Liberty Bell had trespassed on Smuggler-Union property and needed to repay the Smuggler-Union \$403,853.08 for illegally mined ore. It is interesting to note that the glamorous Bulkeley Wells was the Smuggler-Union manager during this law suit and when he heard the news about the verdict, he

telephoned his paramour Louise Sneed Hill in Denver to tell her the news before informing his father in law Colonel Thomas Livermore who was the principal shareholder in the Smuggler-Union.

Paul J. Bartos, *How Does the Mining Industry Rate?- Using Innovation, Productivity Advance, Technology Adaptation, and Corporate Structure to Assess the 20th Century Mining Industry*

The fundamental nature of the mining industry with respect to innovation is often questioned. Is it the conservative, stodgy industry commonly depicted by its critics or is it instead a sophisticated, high tech industry as championed by many of its proponents? One way to address this question is to estimate the rate of revolutionary technological advances within mining and compare this rate to that of other industries. The number of revolutionary technologies developed in various sectors of the worldwide mining industry over the last century equate to a rate of one to three per century; a rate comparable to other “mature” industries such as cement and glass-making. In contrast, the microcomputing sector has had a revolutionary technology development rate roughly four times this. With respect to revolutionary innovation rates, mining appears to have far more in common with mature manufacturing industries than it does with the high-tech sector. Another way to address the question is by using productivity statistics to proxy for innovation. The productivity rate of U.S. metal mining companies grossly compares (albeit at a slightly lower level) with the rates associated with general manufacturing. This relationship has held true for the last sixty years. In contrast, the high tech sector has for the last two decades had productivity increases which greatly exceeded that of general manufacturing and metal mining rates. The data suggests that general (non-high tech) manufacturing has had average productivity advances roughly 10% better between it and metal mining over the last three decades. In contrast, high tech manufacturing has had annual productivity rates in excess of four times that for metal mining. Technology adaption rates and development of corporate structure also suggest that the mining industry has generally lagged behind.

Vice President / Chief Geologist, Esperanza Resources Corp., Denver.

Session 8: Researching Montana Mines and Mining

Chair: **Bill Hawes**, MHA Council member & MHA 2012 Conference Chair (Prescott)

NOTE: The panelists will provide a comprehensive overview of sources available through the Montana Historical Society (MHS) and the Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the researcher interested in both historic hard rock and coal mines in Montana.

Ellie Arguimbau, *Philipsburgh District Silver & Manganese Mining Records*

Presentation grounded in thirty years of experience processing corporate mine records, including the voluminous Anaconda Copper Mining Company records (1876-1974), spanning 800 linear feet. For this presentation the focus is on the extensive records of silver and manganese mining companies operating in the Philipsburg District donated to the Historical Society by the Antonioli family of Butte. The specific focus is on collections including the Hope Mining Co. of St. Louis (1880-1909), the Granite-Bimetallic (1881-1934), and the Philipsburg Mining Co. (1911-1944). The records include employment records, financial records, production records, legal documents, daily correspondence, and annual reports.

Archivist, Montana Historical Society, Helena, MT., 1977-present; Masters in Library Science, University of Washington, 1986; Ph.D. Candidate since 1977 (ABD) University of Colorado; M.A. in History, University of Colorado, 1971; recent publications: “Pearl Danniel: Homesteader in Big Dry Country” *Montana The Magazine of Western History*, Autumn, 1996; frequent contributor and editor: *Klepsetko Chapter Newsletter*, Society of Industrial Archaeology.

John Koerth, *Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality Abandoned Mine Web Site*

Presentation grows from supervision of mine reclamation in Montana for the Department of Environmental Quality for over a decade, and earlier work for state government working underground in the Butte District and in northern Mexico. The presentation will also go into the history of coal mining in Montana as a result of his work in the field cleaning up abandoned coal mines. And the presentation includes the DEQ’s Abandoned Mines Web site, providing historical documentation of over 100 hardrock districts in Montana.

Program manager for the Abandoned Mined Land program at Montana’s Department of Environmental Quality; B.S. in Agriculture, Montana State University, 1986; publications include book reviews on mining topics for *Montana the Magazine of Western History*, *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, and the *Journal of the Society for Industrial Archeology*. He has represented the State of Montana as an expert witness in federal court, producing expert reports and written testimony.

Brian Shovers, *Map & Photographic Resources of the Montana Historical Society*

Presentation will draw from experience providing researchers in the Montana Historical Society Library with historic documentation on Montana mining properties. The talk will focus on map and photographic sources at the MHS Research Center (the MHS Photographic Archives manages collections of over 500,000 images and the MHS Library manages a collection of over 11,000 maps). Also covered is the Klepsetko Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archaeology and its interest in both historic and active mines.

Library Manager, Montana Historical Society Research Center, Helena, MT.; March 2006 – present; M.L.S. Library Science & Archives, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1991.; M.A. History, Montana State University-Bozeman, 1987; most recent publications: *Montana Place Names: From Alzada to Zortman*, Montana Historical Society Press. 2009 (co-author);

Coming Home: A Special Issue Devoted to the Historic Built Environment & Landscapes of Butte and Anaconda, Montana, edited Patty Dean, Drumlummon Institute, 2009 (essay).

Session 9: Mining Papers

Chair: **Noel Kirshenbaum**, MHA Nominating Comm., 2008-2011, & MHA Past President 1996-97

Peter Maciulaitis, *Staying Informed Through the Pages of the Humboldt Register*

Between 1849 and 1854, more than three hundred thousand people came to California, many thinking that they would make quick and easy money by panning gold. The easily accessible placer gold was quickly depleted, and by 1851, there were already more wage workers in the California gold fields than there were independent owner miners. The discovery of silver along what became the Comstock Lode, helped turn the human tide of migration back eastward. The newspaper editor and his heavy, but oxen-mobile printing press were important elements in the mercurial world of the western mining frontier. Newspaper entrepreneurs followed the mining discoveries, helped boom the new districts, shared in the busts that usually followed, often moving on in the hope that a replaying of the story in another place would bring more profitable results. Following the Comstock discoveries, silver was discovered in several localities in the East Humboldt Range, in north central Nevada Territory. In early 1863, William J. Forbes and Charles L. Perkins started a newspaper using a printing press that had been transported over the Sierra Nevada Mountains from California to the fledgling town of Unionville. The Humboldt Register printed its first issue on May 2, 1863. Soon Perkins left the newspaper, but Forbes remained as editor and sole proprietor until he sold out in early 1867. During the years that Forbes ran the Humboldt Register, several towns sprung up along the East Humboldt Range. Unionville was chosen as the county seat of the newly formed Humboldt County. The Register reported the mineral discoveries, mining activity as newly incorporated companies attempted to develop prospects, and the movement of mining interest into new areas. The period of time in which a prospector could trade "feet" on his vein for shares in a new company transitioned to a time when shareholders faced assessment charges. The shares of a person who fell behind in his payments saw his shares sold for the highest bid above the amount of delinquent assessments. Letters and reports came back from former residents now in gold fields to the north, in Idaho and Montana. These items were reported in the pages of the Humboldt Register.

Corky Reinhart, *Smith Weed's Railroad - Chateauguay Ore & Iron in the Adirondack Mountains*

Northern New York's mining frontier today evidences little more than scattered ghost towns, abandoned foundations, and cleared land slowly returning to woods. Deep beneath these surface errata lays one of the earth's purest deposits of iron ore. The story of the development of this extraordinary mineral resource traces the history of the Chateauguay Ore and Iron Company and the opening of the rugged northeastern Adirondacks to railways for moving ore, blooms, charcoal, and all the materials necessary to sustain an enormous production of concentrated ore products from 1877 to 1967. One individual, Smith Mead Weed, brought the necessary organizational, entrepreneurial and political skills to realize the potential of this unique, magnificent, ore body

Former Director of the University Without Walls Program, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY (1996-2005) and African-American and American social historian. Ph.D. in History, University of Oklahoma, 1972. Among writing interests are abandoned mining communities – mostly in the Adirondack Mountains.

Emily Beeson, *New Park Mining – Memory in Papers*

The presentation will explore some of the holdings of the Park City Museum. Highlights include 1932-1957 contribution to war effort, correspondence w/ War Production Board, Office of Production Management, PC Mine & Mill Workers Union No. 99 support, Occupational Deferments for men working in mine, applications for employment, enlisted Reserve Corps miners from around the country to work in the mine during the war, injury reports & summaries. Miners working for themselves are included: how they did business; vouchers, banking. Also to be covered is the transition to Hecla Mining Company, the documents, checks and financial documents, ledgers, shift boss reports and other mining records, stockholder information, correspondence, oversized, etc.

Archivist, Park City Museum, Park City, Utah; **James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA** Master of Arts, May 2008;