



## Section Chair Report

I trust all our membership has started the new year on productive and solid footing. I would also like to thank the Colorado School of Mines Student Chapter for hosting our last meeting, as well as the Panel of Consultants who donated their time, experience, and insights as well as those who were in attendance. A reminder that the SME Annual Conference and Expo will be in Phoenix, Arizona February 23 through the 26.

This month we are pleased to once again be joining our friends at Mining 4 Beer for an evening of networking and socializing. The event will be held at Golden's Mountain Toad Brewing (900 Washington Avenue) on **Tuesday, February 11 @ 5:30**. The event is free to attend so please bring yourselves, your friends, your stories, and your thirst for some tasty beer.

I am pleased to announce we have secured Dr. York Smith, from the University of Utah, to speak with our section on April 16<sup>th</sup> on the subject of Lithium: Resources, Recovery, and Recycling. Dr. Smith is joining us on behalf of SME's Henry Krumb Lecture series. The talk is sure to be informative, and entertaining. Details will follow but be sure to save the date.

Want to help make our great events even better? We are looking for volunteers for our programs committee. Become part of a great team and expand your network while volunteering a small portion of your time.

As Chair of our SME Chapter, I am here to serve our members. If you have any criticisms or feedback, please do not hesitate to reach out. You can email me at [rschwering@hardrock-consulting.com](mailto:rschwering@hardrock-consulting.com).

Richard A. Schwering

## February Colorado SME Meeting (in collaboration with Mining4Beer)

Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2020  
5PM – 7 PM  
Venue: Mountain Toad Brewing – Golden  
900 Washington Ave, Golden, CO 80401



## Health and Safety Minute

Cold temperatures outside mean an increase in the potential for cold stress increases.

To prevent frostbite be sure to:

- Check the temperature and limit your time outdoors if it's very cold, wet or windy
- Wear several layers of clothing
- Cover your ears, hands, and face whenever possible

Minor frostbite can be treated with basic first-aid measures. For more serious cases and for potential hypothermia, treatment requires medical attention which may involve rewarming, medications, wound care, surgery and various therapies, depending on the severity.

## Colorado Section of SME Member Spotlight



**Name:** Jill Nelson

**Profession:** Mining Engineer turned Recruiter, Co-Founder and Owner of Brooks & Nelson

**Years in Industry:** Since 1982, 26 years of my 38 years worked have been in mining (the other 12 years were in the waste industry).

### **Tell me about an experience you've had which would be something folks outside of the mining industry would never know about?**

Back in the 80's, I was the Project Manager of permitting the expansion for our coal mine in Wyoming. We spend three years collecting baseline data to establish the pre-existing conditions before mining occurred. Then we developed operations plans with detailed monitoring and closure plans that exceeded the performance of the post-closure lands compared to pre-existing. If the world outside of mining really knew how much goes into planning the life cycle of a mine to return the post-mined land into often upgraded natural habitat, it might change the public perception of our industry.

### **What inspired you to seek a career/degree in the mining industry?**

Getting into mining was coincidental. Starting in Electrical Engineering at SDSM&T made sense with my love of math. However, the MinE professors capitalized on my love for the outdoors versus working on circuit boards and convinced me to switch to mining. I never looked back. Often when asked what inspired me to go into mining, my pat response is "to spite my grandfather". He was a politician in South Dakota who drove the mining tax on Homestake.

### **In your opinion, how has the industry changed since you began?**

The industry changes since 1982 are phenomenal! Technology, social license to operate coupled with the international focus make mining an intriguing industry. Yet mining remains the pillar for our society along with farming in providing raw materials for the world. Humble, hard working and prideful, miners make things happen while often leaving their reputation un-marketed to the naïve outside world.

### **What do you hope to see in the mining industry in the future?**

A radical advance in society's acknowledgement of the need for mining to sustain the world's needs. The industry needs to assert its voice in educating our society around the role of mining.



**122nd National Western Mining Conference & Exhibition**

June 10-12, 2020

Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction

If you're looking to stay ahead of the latest trends in mining innovation, technology and sustainability, the National Western Mining Conference & Exhibition is the place to be. With informative sessions, networking opportunities and exhibitors showcasing the latest industry products and services, the 2020 CMA Conference is your connection to the best and brightest in the mining industry

[CMA Conference Information](#)

## SME Colorado Section Membership Renewal Reminder

If you have not done so already, please take this opportunity to sign-up for or renew your SME Colorado Section membership for the 2019-2020 year.

### How to join or renew:

**Online:** Credit card payments can be made online by visiting our website and selecting the 2018-2018 SME Colorado Section Dues link under the Our Events heading.

<http://community.smenet.org/colorado/events/>

**Mail:** Check payments of \$25 payable to *SME Colorado Section* mailed to Tem Tumurbat – SME Colorado Section Treasurer, 1400 16<sup>th</sup> St Suite 200, Denver, CO 80202-1471.

### Why you should renew:

The section dues that we collect are vital to our ability to continue our programs. Our Section's focus is on advocating for our profession and industry here in our region. Some of the things that your Colorado Section dues help us to provide are scholarships for college students, majoring in mining disciplines; support for the Colorado State Science & Engineering Fair; provide teaching materials and perform outreach to Colorado science teachers through their State association, sponsorship for K-12 teachers participating in the *All About Mining – A Total Concept of the Mining Industry* course, and help support the Colorado Mining Museum and the National Mining Hall of Fame. So, by supporting the SME Colorado Section, you are directly supporting and advocating for your profession.

## Upcoming Meetings

Section meetings are typically planned for the third Thursday of the month.

February 11, 2020 – Happy Hour in collaboration with Mining4Beer at Mountain Toad Brewing – Golden

March 19, 2020 – Happy Hour – Location TBD

April 16, 2020 – Dr. York Smith, SME Henry Krumb Lecturer Dinner – Location TBD

## Monthly Meeting RSVP

Costs may vary, but they are typically as follows:

**Happy Hour:** Free to all!

**Dinner Cost:** \$50 per person. Students welcome at \$20 per person with reservation

RSVP and online payments can be made through Colorado SME Eventbrite page. Links to the Eventbrite page can be found on the section page:

<http://community.smenet.org/colorado/events/>

Credit card payments can be made online using the Eventbrite page. If you plan to pay by check or cash, email James des Cognets to RSVP. Check or cash payment due at the meeting.

Contact James R. des Cognets  
jdescognets@rcflp.com, with any questions regarding the meetings.



## We want to hear from the Colorado SME Members!

The Colorado SME chapter wants to connect with our members. Find us on social media!

[SME Facebook](#)

MEC on Twitter

MECEducation [@MECEducation](#)

[SME LinkedIn](#)



## SME COLORADO SECTION

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Visit the SME Colorado Section web site: <http://community.smenet.org/colorado/home>

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You may also update your information with SME at: <http://www.smenet.org>