

**NEWS RELEASE**

May 14, 2014

**SME Foundation to receive a \$1-million donation**  
*Robert S. Shoemaker's commitment will support educational programs*

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc. (SME) Foundation is very pleased to announce that Robert S. Shoemaker will donate \$1 million to support Ph.D. grants and general Foundation activities. A member of SME since 1952, Mr. Shoemaker served as the Society's president in 1978.

"It gives me great pleasure to be able to support the SME through this gift," said Shoemaker. "It has been an honor to be a member of the SME throughout my career and to be able to be a part of the great work that the organization is doing."

Mr. Shoemaker's career includes metallurgical engineering, mineral research and plant design for Union Carbide Research Laboratories and Carbide Metals, and as manager of plant design for Bechtel Corporation's mining and metals division offices in San Francisco, Toronto and Melbourne. After leaving Bechtel in 1981, he opened his own consulting firm, RS Shoemaker Ltd. In his retirement, Shoemaker is the docent at the North Star Mining Museum in Grass Valley, CA.

In his 1978 presidential interview in *Mining Engineering* magazine, Shoemaker was asked how the Society could be strengthened to be a more effective professional organization. His response was that members must maintain their areas of expertise through professional registration and continuing education. "To fulfill this charge, each of us must contribute more of ourselves to our Society," he stated. Shoemaker took his charge personally and has maintained participation in the Society's activities.

Thirty-six years later, his statement still rings true for the need to educate the general public regarding the importance of mining and minerals in our society. His gift will be realized at the rate of \$100,000 per year with the balance payable upon his passing. Robert S. Shoemaker made his mark on the world through his research and discoveries. With this generous donation, he will leave a legacy with the SME Foundation that will have a positive impact on the careers of mining industry professionals for generations to come.

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The mission of the SME Foundation is to support scientific, technical, education and other activities that foster interchange and understanding concerning the responsible development of the world's mineral resources, and further the professional disciplines serving the minerals industry.

SME is a professional society (nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation) whose more than 15,000 members represent all professions serving the minerals industry in more than 100 countries. SME members include engineers, geologists, metallurgists, educators, students and researchers. SME advances the worldwide minerals community through information exchange and professional development.

*SME exists to be THE resource and advocate for the mining community.*  
For further details, see [www.smenet.org](http://www.smenet.org)