Call for nominations for the WAAIME Executive Committee

The WAAIME Committee is seeking nominations for the incoming WAAIME Executive Committee member. Nominees are selected from the outgoing committee member’s area. Since the outgoing committee member is the Eastern Representative, the incoming committee member will be from an Eastern Section.

Please email an electronic copy of a photograph and brief biography to Genny Homyack at homyack@smenet.org. If you have any questions, please contact Genny at WAAIME, 12999 E. Adam Aircraft Cir., Englewood, CO 80112, phone 303-948-4211, fax 303-948-3845 or email homyack@smenet.org.

The due dates for nominations are:

- Nov. 30 — All nominations with photos and biographies should be at SME Headquarters.
- Dec. 2 — SME Headquarters will forward the nominees to the WAAIME Executive Committee.
- Dec. 15 — WAAIME Chair will notify SME Headquarters of the incoming committee member.
- Dec. 19 — WAAIME Chair will notify incoming committee member and invite the individual to the SME 2016 Annual Conference & Expo in Phoenix, AZ.

Executive Committee will meet in Phoenix

The WAAIME Executive Committee will meet at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown hotel on Sunday, Feb. 21, 2016, 8 am to noon. On Monday Feb. 22, from 5-6:30 pm, WAAIME will host a reception for members and scholarship recipients, also at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel. If you are interested in sponsoring the reception, please contact Laura Johnson, email johnson@smenet.org, phone 303-948-4222.

This year, WAAIME will host its silent auction on the SME exhibit floor in the Phoenix Convention Center. Please see the year-end review by Jean Davin (below) for more details. If you have any questions regarding the WAAIME events, please contact Genny Homyack at homyack@smenet.org or phone 303-948-4211.

Year-end report on WAAIME activities

By Jean Davin, 2015 Executive Committee chair and Eastern Representative

Hello to all supporters of WAAIME. The WAAIME Executive Committee has been busy since the SME 2015 Annual Conference & Expo, including our recent midyear meeting in Kentucky. This is a recap of the major items that were discussed.

Scholarships

Our scholarship program will conform to the deadlines set by the other SME divisions this year. Our option was to conform or write a new program, and time limitations precluded the latter. The interviewer document has been updated and should be a major help to the process, as it was during this past scholarship round. Notification of the WAAIME scholarship application site has been forwarded to many universities as well as to the three other AIME member societies, SPE, TMS and AIST.

WAAIME interviewers will now be able to interact with the members of the Scholarship Ad Hoc Committee to give further information about their scholarship students. The Ad Hoc Committee, consisting of Kathryn Dew, Beth Price, Lydia Hull and Karen Jass, will schedule webinars or Skype sessions with the WAAIME interviewers during the next few months to determine scholarship amount recommendations. These recommendations will be passed onto the executive committee members, who will make the final determination based on the budget. The international sections have presented documentation of their scholarship programs to the executive committee during the last two meetings. It is interesting to note that, with WAAIME assistance, the international students are prepared for their careers with lessons in English and workplace etiquette. Employers and graduate schools see these items as a requirement.

Lima section program

The Lima Peru Section reported that the closure of the Cajamarca Peru Section and the transfer of its funds to the Lima Section should be completed by the court system by the end of 2015. The university scholarships that were awarded by Cajamarca will now be awarded by Lima. A new initiative by the Lima Section stirred a lot of interest and excitement at the WAAIME meeting, as well as at the SME Board meeting. The international accounting firm of Ernst & Young has teamed up with the Lima Section to present interesting round table discussions to recruit...
WAAIME revisits finances, plans silent auction and 100th anniversary

Professional women working in the extractive industries to join WAAIME. The Peruvian Institute of Mining Engineers, Pacifico University and Revista G, a monthly business magazine in Lima, also helped in this recruitment plan. The end result of this year-long transformation was 120 new members in the Lima Section. Fantastic! This recruitment program will be reviewed for the possibility of implementation in other WAAIME sections.

The executive committee is planning to purchase WAAIME pins to be used for multiple purposes, including longevity awards (10-, 25-, 30-year members) and for 100-year celebration participants in 2017. The pins will include the WAAIME diamond shape and are currently being designed by an SME graphic designer.

The International Representative, Cecilia Martinez, submitted her resignation from the executive committee after the midyear meeting and was replaced by Blanche Blattner of the Lima Section. Therefore, Barbara Filas will become chair of the WAAIME Executive Committee in Feb. 2016.

WAAIME silent auction booth needs volunteers

SME has generously donated a booth at the Phoenix Convention Center to be used by WAAIME for its silent auction at the SME 2016 Annual Conference & Expo. We are well known for having an eclectic assortment of items for our auction, such as jewelry, mining artifacts, sterling, statues, minerals, ties, a candle holder and almost anything else you can donate. So, any donations you would like to send us would be gratefully received and should be sent to SME headquarters marked WAAIME Silent Auction. A donation receipt will be mailed to you for tax purposes.

We are also in need of volunteers to staff the booth. Funds from the silent auction have been earmarked for the WAAIME local sections and programs are currently being reviewed for support. If you could help us with either a donation or gift of your time at the SME conference, please let us know by email through our SME assistant, Genny Homyack. Our thanks in advance.

Finances

The WAAIME portfolio took a hit from the recent downturn in the stock market resulting in a current balance of $7.8 million. This was the 10 percent correction that had been predicted by our investment bankers, UBS. Unfortunately, this will have a major impact on our scholarship funding in 2015-2016. It is hoped that the market recovers sufficiently to minimize our scholarship funding decrease. Other ideas were discussed to minimize the impact of the downturn, including limiting scholarships to undergraduates, lowering the amounts of all scholarships or hiring a fundraiser to solicit donations from companies. The executive committee will look at the portfolio at year-end before making decisions.

An additional fund, Atlanta SMID Core, was recommended by UBS to be included in our portfolio. The executive committee accepted this recommendation and funded it with $250,000.

The WAAIME budget, prepared by SME personnel, was presented and accepted. However, it did not take into account the 10 percent market correction, so our expenditures will be modified, as needed, to avoid deficit spending. SME will provide monthly profit and loss expense sheets, as well as the monthly report from UBS, to allow the executive committee to further monitor finances.

A discussion was held regarding cost saving measures, including eliminating the newsletter from being bound into Mining Engineering and mailing the printed versions of our directory and newsletter. It was decided to stick with the electronic versions for all members, including International Section members, and request that sections make sure that all their members receive our communications. Please help us in this endeavor.

100th anniversary

There was a 100th anniversary planning session at the midyear meeting that resulted in a lot of great suggestions. Kathryn Dew (dewk@holdendomain.com) and Beth Price (aaeprice@att.net) are on this ad hoc committee and are looking for additional members. If you are interested in helping plan this event for February 2017, please get in touch with these ladies, executive committee members or Genny Homyack (homyack@smenet.org) at SME.

The plans include a major reception with our students and alumni, a WAAIME-only luncheon with the international sections helping with international dress and music, special gifts for WAAIME attendees, an outing in Denver for WAAIMEs, solicitation of WAAIME alumni to highlight stories of the impact a WAAIME scholarship had on their careers, as well as solicitation of our alumni for donations to pay our help forward. The plans are truly exciting, so please place the SME 2017 Annual Conference & Expo in Denver on your calendar.

Thanks for your dedication to WAAIME. The letters we are soliciting from our alumni will truly show what a wonderful impact the WAAIME scholarship program has had on thousands of lives in the almost 100 years of WAAIME’s existence. Best wishes to all for a great holiday season and a healthy new year from the WAAIME Executive Committee:

- Jean Davin, Chair (jeandavin@yahoo.com)
- Barb Filas (barbfilas@gmail.com)
- Blanche Blattner (blancheblattner@hotmail.com)
Blanche Blattner is the new International Representative

Blanche Blattner has been involved in the mining industry since she was 16, first with her father and now with her husband Stu and three of her five children. She and her husband own TUMI contracting company, and she divides her time between Denver, CO and Lima, Peru. Blattner’s raise boring operations began in Denver, but his U.S. experience in the business led him to found, in 1998, TUMI Raise Boring, a Peruvian company unique in its kind. The company manufactures and provides raise boring contract services and recently gained a presence in Australia. It is a family-oriented business with global customers, so Blanche has been able to travel around the world. Although now semi-retired, she still holds the company title of chief financial officer.

Blanche sees an inroad to gain new members through the Peruvian Institute of Mining, which has provided the Lima Section with office space, a place to house important documents and a legal address. The section has also partnered with Pacific University to recruit new members and is hoping to get involved with the Amauta Group, which manages the largest mining convention in Latin America.

Blanche has brought lots of fresh ideas and energy to the section in Lima. In September, she replaced Cecilia Martinez as the new International Representative on the WAAIME Executive Committee.

WAAIME News

Local Sections

Pinal Mountain Section gives books to local schools

By Mary Anne Moreno, Section Chair

WAAIME has distributed books on rocks and minerals to fourth-grade students in Globe, Miami and San Carlos schools. This effort has been made possible by generous contributions from the national WAAIME association and from local mining companies, such as Carlota Copper, BHP Billiton and Freeport-McMoRan.

This year, the group received a very generous donation from Resolution Mining that allowed the ladies to purchase 800 books. These were distributed to every fourth-grader in Superior, Globe, Miami, San Carlos, Whitewater, East Fork, Cibecue and Fort Thomas schools.

All students received a personal copy to assist them in identifying rocks and to educate them about the minerals that abound in the area. Ultimately, it is hoped they will develop an abiding interest in geology and the environment and look forward to careers in the minerals industries.

Mary Anne Moreno, president of the section, noted that one of the most gratifying things about this effort is the excitement of the students getting the books and the fact that many of them are already rock collectors. The ladies enjoy the personal contact with the students in their classes as much as the students enjoy receiving the books.

(More photos on page 7)
Ellamae Anderson
In memoriam

It is with great sadness that the Washington-Spokane Section shares the passing of one of its most dedicated members, Ellamae Anderson, a life member of WAAIME. She joined in 1953 and held the office of president, vice president and treasurer. She was active with the Northwest Mining Association (now the American Exploration and Mining Association), where she was a trustee from 1977 to 1979. She received Life Membership in 1988 and received its first President’s Award in 1995.

Ellamae accompanied her husband, Eskil, an exploration geologist, on his trips throughout Washington and Alaska, helping with claim staking, core splitting, identifying minerals and driving a Willy’s jeep on almost impassable roads.

Ellamae was an avid supporter of the minerals industry and took on the responsibility of raising funds for the creation and installation of the bronze mining statue located in Spokane’s Riverfront Park. She was a lifelong learner. In her 60s, she became a graduate gemologist and ran her own business. She also enjoyed playing golf and bridge. Ellamae was determined, compassionate, caring, kind and humble, and she will be greatly missed by all who knew her.
WAAIME News

WAAIMEs and SME members attended PERUMIN in September

(Photo above, l-r) Susana Palomino, Blanche Blattner, SME President Steve Gardner, Katy Gardner and Gladys Del Carpio visited at the WAAIME booth at PERUMIN.

(Photo below) SME members, WAAIMEs and other attendees gather at the PERUMIN banquet in Arequipa, Peru.
The Lewis E. and Elizabeth W. Young scholarship grants are administered by WAAIME’s Pennsylvania-Western section. The grants may vary in amount depending on the money available from the investment of the capital donated to WAAIME by Lewis and Elizabeth Young.

An eligible recipient must be a graduate from a high school located in the general area of the Pennsylvania-Western Section — western Pennsylvania, West Virginia or Virginia — or a student enrolled in a college or university in the general area of the section. The grants are awarded on the basis of need, satisfactory scholastic achievement (C+ or better) and good character. Students must plan to study mining engineering, metallurgical engineering, material science or petroleum engineering in a four year curriculum.

Lewis Young was a noted mining engineer and president of AIME in 1949. Elizabeth Young was an active member of the Pennsylvania-Western section for many years.

The Young Scholars for 2015 are:

From Virginia Tech, all majoring in mining engineering:
- Nick Cox
- Britt Cupp
- Bradley Gifford
- James Heck
- Brooks Morrison
- John Naessens
- Daniel Rowles
- Neha Sharma
- Stuart Smith
- Sean Reed

From the University of Kentucky, graduate student in mining engineering:
- Ashish Ranjan Kumar

From the University of Pittsburgh, all majoring in Petroleum Engineering:
- Tyler Alan
- Andrew Wright
- Sara Saidman
- Payton Forrest

Young Scholars at Virginia Tech included (l-r) Sean Reed, Daniel Rowles, Nick Cox, Brooks Morrison, Neha Sharma, John Naessens, James Heck, Bradley Gifford and Erik Westman, professor and interim head in the Department of Mining and Minerals Engineering.

Young Scholars at the University of Pittsburgh included (l-r) Tyler Alan, Payton Forrest, Badie Morsi, professor in the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering; Sara Saidman and Andrew Wright.

Ashish Kumar (l) receives a Young Scholarship from Rick Honaker (r), professor in the Department of Mining Engineering.

Young Scholars at Virginia Tech (l-r) John Naessens, Stuart Smith, Sean Reed, Britt Cupp and Lydia Hull, WAAIME.
Winners of 2015-2016 WAAIME scholarships, presented by the Pennsylvania-Western and West Virginia-Southern sections, gathered for a photo at Virginia Tech. All are students from Virginia Tech.

Standing (l-r): Carolyn Kosloski, Michael Wright, Jason Ksanznak, Andrew Day, Chase Charron, Robbie Bennett, Kevin Moreland, Jenna Spencer, Eric Warrell, Chelsea Barrett, Brian Knott, Emily Casola, Justin Stehle, Erin McCullough and Erik Westman, professor and interim head in the Department of Mining and Minerals Engineering. Kneeling (l-r) Kody Musick, Patrick Reeder, Adam Fox and Joseph Bright.

At the right and below right are photos of two other fourth-grade classes that received books from the Pinal Mountain section. (Story on page 3)

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**Necrology**

date elected | name, city and section
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1957 | Merle Beal Tucson, AZ AZ-TSM
1941 | Theo Ertl Boulder, CO M-A-L
2005 | Emily Haffner Boston, MA UT-N
1995 | Margaret Heinrich Salt Lake City, UT UT-N
1971 | Leta Kruger Pleasantville, NY M-A-L
1965 | Jean Moseley Oakley, UT UT-N
1975 | Marietta Shively Salmon, ID AZ-TSM