

# Highlights of the WAAIME Executive Committee meeting



by Jean Davin, WAAIME Executive Committee Chair and Eastern Representative

Dear WAAIMES — We in the East are hoping that this winter is over. Best wishes for a happy spring to all of you. As the new chair of the executive committee, I have summarized the annual meeting to apprise you of our activities.

## Change in investment bankers

WAAIME made a change in investment bankers from Hirtle Callaghan to UBS. It was found that SME's portfolio had a return of 13.68 percent with UBS in 2013, and the WAAIME portfolio had only an 8.47 percent return that same year. An additional benefit of the change for SME and WAAIME was a reduction in fees due to almost doubling the investment amount managed by UBS. The Executive Committee also approved an investment policy based on SME's policy. This was approved by the SME Board of Directors at its meeting.

## Section Grant Program

SME approved our proposed Section Grant Program. Ten sections applied for funding for special projects. These proposals were very diversified and included the support of elementary school projects and earth-science equipment purchases for rural schools, as well as equipment and programs for university students. The requests were all excel-

lent, so the executive committee decided to award each of the 10 sections \$2,000 to assist them in completing their projects. The executive committee requires feedback on this program and will review the program's success at the mid-year meeting.

## Founders Award

SME approved our proposed Founder's Award. The particulars are included in this newsletter with the hope that the first award can be presented at the 2015 annual meeting. Please review the criteria to see if there is a worthy candidate within your section or a member-at-large.

## Approved disbursements

The executive committee also approved disbursements to the SME Minerals Education Coalition program for \$5,000 and to the Colorado Mining Association's Total Concept of the Mining Industry program for \$3,000. The latter organization is planning to extend its reach by using the Internet to present its program to earth science teachers.

## Scholarship applications

Approximately 136 scholarship applications were reviewed, which included about one-third graduate students, mostly Ph.D. candidates. The preliminary grant amount total is \$243,000. A new application is being designed for review at the midyear meeting. This will also include an interview procedure to standardize the interviews.

## Investment portfolio

Our investment portfolio is currently about \$8.4 million with operating expenses of approximately \$60,000 or less. Grants to the international sections, section grants, awards and scholarships are other deductions.

## Recommendation to join SME Foundation

A recommendation was presented by an SME ad hoc committee proposing that WAAIME join the SME Foundation Board instead of remaining a separate division. This proposal will be reviewed by the executive committee.

## Executive Committee changes

The Executive Committee had several changes in personnel, as Beth Price, Western Representative and chair, completed her three-year rotation and was replaced by Barbara Filas, the incoming Western Representative. Veronica Yovanne Brahm, International Representative, submitted her resignation so that Cecilia Martinez from Lima, Peru could be appointed as the new International Representative for the remaining two years of this term. Our thanks to Beth and Veronica, and welcome to Barbara and Cecilia.

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**BARBARA FILAS** is the new Western Representative on the WAAIME Executive Board. Filas earned a B.S. in mining engineering from the University of Arizona. She is a licensed professional engineer, a certified environmental professional and a qualified mine safety instructor. She has held executive positions with Knight Piésold and several other mining companies. Filas has served on the executive committees three SME divisions: Coal & Energy, Mining & Exploration and Environmental. She was instrumental in founding the SME Student Mentor program and was president of SME in 2005.



FILAS

**MARIA CECILIA MARTINEZ MOYA**, a vice president with the Peru-Lima Section, has replaced Veronica Yovane Brahm as the International Representative to the WAAIME Executive Board. She will serve the last two years of Veronica's term.

## WAAIME's announces the Founders Award guidelines

The Founders Award was established by WAAIME in 2014 to be awarded in 2015 and each year subsequently. It is presented to a person in recognition of her or his exemplary service to WAAIME and its goals. This award is designed to replace the WAAIME National Honorary Member program and to recognize those members who have contributed significantly to a local section, the national board or committee or to further the goals and purposes as set forth in WAAIME's incorporation. This award is funded by our founding section, Tri-State (NY-NJ-CT) and is given in honor of their many years of service and hard work to build the WAAIME fund that promotes the many industries that make up the original American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers, and its member societies, SME, SPE, TMS and AIST.

Eligibility criteria for the award is as follows.

- The nominee must be a WAAIME member in good standing of at least five years.
- The nominee must not have been awarded National Honorary Member status.
- The nominee must be willing to accept the award in person at the annual meeting.
- All members, including members-at-large, may be considered subject to the above.
- Any nomination of a current member of the WAAIME Executive Committee will be considered active when the nominee has rotated off the executive committee.

### Timeline

The award typically adheres to the following timeline:

- Call for nominations in the May newsletter.
- Nomination deadline — July 1.
- Qualified nominations are forwarded to the executive committee — July 15.
- Executive session at September midyear meeting completes voting.
- Recipient is notified in October.
- Award is presented at the SME Annual Meeting

### Nominations

Nominations for the award should contain the following information:

- Completed nomination form including demographic and contact information for the nominee and the principle nominator.
- Up to five letters of support detailing the nominee's qualifications for the award (two-page maximum, each).
- Nominee's biography or résumé (two-page maximum).
- Nominee's experiences/history within WAAIME, including any positions held in the local section(s) and/or on the national board/committee.

All nominations submitted will be considered active nominations for a period of three years. Nominations must be submitted in accordance with the guidelines provided herein and on the accompanying nomination form.

### Administration

This award is administered by the WAAIME Executive Committee. The award committee consists of the three members of the WAAIME Executive Committee and can include up to two additional WAAIME members at the discretion of the executive chair. All voting will be completed during an executive session at the midyear meeting. Recipients of the award shall be selected by majority vote of the committee with notification to the SME board. The award need not be presented in any given year if a suitable candidate cannot be selected by the majority.

### Award and its presentation

The award consists of a 14-karat gold charm/pendant designed by the Mexico-DF Section of WAAIME and engraved with the recipient's name and date of presentation. The recipient will also be able to designate where a \$500 donation may be given, for example, to a section, to a university program or student section, or to any other earth science-based entity or program. The charm and \$500 bequest are fully funded by the Tri-State Founder's Fund and WAAIME. The award will be presented at the SME Annual Meeting

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The WAAIME Division of SME  
 12999 E. Adam Aircraft Circle  
 Englewood, Colorado 80112



**WAAIME FOUNDERS AWARD NOMINATION FORM**

**Criteria for selection of candidates:**

**The nominee must be a WAAIME member in good standing of at least five years.  
 The nominee must NOT have been awarded National Honorary Member status.  
 The nominee must be willing to accept the award in person at the SME Annual Meeting.  
 All members including members-at-large may be considered subject to the above.**

Name of candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of candidate (home): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of nominator (home): \_\_\_\_\_

Please make sure the following items are included with this form

Up to five letters of support detailing the nominee's qualifications for the award  
 (two-page maximum, each).

Nominee's biography or résumé (two-page maximum).

Nominee's experiences/history within WAAIME including any positions held  
 in the local section(s) and/or on the national board/committee.

Due Date	Task
May	Call for nominations in the May newsletter
July 1	Nomination Deadline
July 15	Qualified applications are forwarded to the executive committee
September	Executive session at midyear meeting to complete voting
October	Recipient notified
SME Annual Meeting	Award is presented

Please forward the nomination form and required attachments to:

Mary O'Shea  
 WAAIME staff liaison  
 SME  
 12999 E. Adam Aircraft Circle  
 Englewood, CO 80112  
 303-948-4211  
 oshea@smenet.org



## Executive Committee

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WAAIME scholarship recipients and Iris Whinnen-Owen (center front row) enjoyed the reception at the SME Annual Meeting.



The Utah-Northern Section hosted a coffee for WAAIMEs and students at the Alta Club during the annual meeting.



Jessica Elzea Kogel and Winnell Burt (right center and right) had an interesting conversation with scholarship recipients at the WAAIME reception.

Beth Price, outgoing Executive Committee chair, models her thank you gift from the committee.



### Student reception

The WAAIME reception for the students was, once again, very popular, with about 100 students and guests attending. In addition, the Women of SME breakfast was also well attended, and Barb Filas recruited people there to assist us as interviewers. At the SME awards banquet, WAAIME proudly listed two pages of scholarship recipients, including local section scholarships, in the dinner program. That boosted our total scholarships granted last year to at least 161. Hopefully, more sections will send in the names of their local scholarship students to be included in the booklet next year.

### Alta Club breakfast with UT-N Section

The executive committee and WAAIME members were invited to a coffee at the Alta Club hosted by the gracious ladies of the Utah-Northern Section. Some of the students also attended, and we all enjoyed our lively discussions and great food. Many thanks for your hospitality, ladies.

If there are any questions, concerns or comments, please contact me at [jeandavin@yahoo.com](mailto:jeandavin@yahoo.com). Thank you all for your dedication to WAAIME, our students and the universities and industries who employ them. ■

# Utah-Coal fundraiser a success; Section awards science fair scholarships

by Alison M. Jones, Corresponding Secretary, and Gail LaFrentz, Scholarship Chair

The 19th Annual Coal Country Classic fundraiser was held on Sept. 7, 2013 at the Carbon Country Club in Price UT. For the last 19 years, Ellis Pierce of Pierce Oil/Golden West Industries, in conjunction with the WAAIME UT-Coal Section, has invited local energy producers, as well as companies from all over the United States, to come out for a little friendly golf competition. This year, we had 33 teams that played in a four-man, best-ball tournament.

The committee members start early putting up sponsor signs and greeting everyone. As a tradition, the WAAIME ladies sell raffle tickets before the event, as well as at several spots on the course during the day with the addition of bags of chips and candy. Of course, the chips and candy are free; we want everyone to spend their money to buy raffle tickets, and they do.

The players are treated to a hot breakfast, 18 holes of golf with cart, beverage carts, buffet lunch, a golf shirt and an awards ceremony.



One of our team sponsors, Chute Supply, put together a super team of four generations of Griffins, (l-r) Bill age 87, Boyd (old as dirt), Riggs age 11 and Brink, too young to tell. A fun time was had by all Griffins.

sold more raffle tickets in four hours than we had ever

This is made possible by our great sponsors who generously give to us each year. There are too many to mention one by one.

The net proceeds of \$16,340 is the largest amount from a fundraiser that the section has ever received. We



Ellis Pierce of Pierce Oil/Golden West Industries presents the net proceeds from the 2013 Coal Country Classic golf fundraiser to UT-Coal chair, Patty Rigby. Committee members are (l-r) Robert Richins, Ellis Pierce, Patty Rigby, Gail LaFrentz and Alison M. Jones. Not pictured Cindi Pierce, Jim Kulow, Tony Martines and Charlie Philips.

hoped to sell.

A special thanks to Ellis Pierce and Filter Service & Testing. Together, they donated a beautiful rifle named The Miners Special, which featured beautiful engraving on the stock honoring the coal mining industry. The raffle tickets almost sold themselves. Everyone wanted to win this prize.

## Section thanks Pierce

The WAAIME UT-Coal Section would like to thank Ellis Pierce and the committee members for all the work they do to make this a great outing for everyone. This year's event could not have been accomplished without the tremendous support received from sponsors and individuals. This allows the section to give out academic scholarships in energy-related fields and to help with educational programs in our area. Look for us next year, we will be having our 20th anniversary. ■

## Carbon School District Science Fair

The Utah-Coal Section awarded scholarships in the junior and senior divisions of the Carbon School District Science Fair. WAAIME judges sought out the best projects in the fields of energy, metallurgy, geology, earth sciences, material sciences and engineering.

Our judges reviewed many notable presentations and were happy to award Makade Bradley the second place award in the junior division for a project that studied best practices of metal processing. Mason Rogers took first place with his project that looked into the reclamation po-

tential of soil as the percentage of coal is increased.

In the senior division, judges were very impressed with Logan Engar's passion for his experiments with magnets and magnetic fields, and he won the second place prize. First place went to a team project by a sibling pair, Rhianon and Eliza Bradley, who engineered a "fitness-powered" machine used to make a couch potato power their entertainment.

We thank all the students who took the time to enter the science fair. ■



## Chile-La Serena assists local students

by Patricia Noulivos, Section Treasurer

The Chile-La Serena section of WAAIME wishes to share the activities being done by the group. Thanks to the contributions made by all of you, we have been able to award and maintain five scholarships and help the students at the Technical Lyceum Jorge Alesandri Rodriguez, the only mining school in the Coquimbo region.

The section has also given them mining security implements, items for the library and transportation assistance to field trips and practical studies.

We are a group that has been working for more than 30 years. We continue with monthly meetings, where we share a cup of tea and organize and hold recreational and cultural activities, such as bingo. ■



Students received mining implements from the La Serena Section presented by Patricia Narvaez (c), scholarship chair.

## Chile-Santiago section activities

by Benilda Dahmen, Section Chair



Former scholarship recipient Katherine Pinochet (c) receives her degree in geology. She is accompanied by mining engineer Raúl López (r) and by Benilda Dahmen (l) president of the Santiago Section. Pinochet will become member of the Santiago Section.



The Santiago-Chile Section held a 2013 end-of-year luncheon with members (l-r) Ana Maria Samur, Cristina Sliming, Sara Ugarte, Rosita Klohn and Paulina Valenzuela.

## Founders Award

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### Amendments and other particulars

These regulations may be amended by the executive committee subject to the approval of the SME Board of Directors. Any amendments must be reflected in all appropriate award documentation and applications, with member notification through the newsletter. Questions may be directed to the executive committee through the WAAIME staff liaison at SME — Mary O’Shea, 12999 E. Adam Aircraft Circle, Englewood, CO. 80112 or 303-948-4200. ■

### Necrology

Name	City, State	Section Year joined WAAIME
Doris Geist	Penn Laird, VA	M-A-L 1973
Doris Shefelbein	Butte, MT	M-A-L 1970
Jean Shoemaker	Grass Valley, CA	M-A-L 1966

# Missouri-Rolla Section holds spring luncheon

by Ruth Robertson, Secretary

The members of the Missouri Rolla Section of WAAIME were glad to meet each other again on March 6, 2014 at the Hometown Grill after the long, cold winter. Laura O’Keefe, scholarship chair, reported that 12 students had applied and been interviewed for scholarships. The committee had been impressed by all of them, and they were all recommended to the WAAIME National Committee. This year, the students were mostly from the Mining Department at the Missouri University of Science & Technology.

Laurie Miller, the Engineering for Tomorrow chair, read a thank you note from the teachers at Steelville Schools expressing gratitude for our donation that enabled two classes to visit the lead mine. Miller also mentioned that she had applied to WAAIME national for a \$1,000 grant, so that we could continue to assist our rural schools. ■



Pictured at the Hometown Grill (from left around the table and coming forward) were Theresa McCarthy-Brow, Marybeth Wronkiwicz, Linda Laudon, Ruth Robertson, Rachael Hagni, Gil Worsley, Laura O’Keefe, Dotty Wolf, Jane O’Keefe and Jaci Hubner. Photo by Laurie Miller.

## Obituaries

### JEAN B. SHOEMAKER

Jean B. Shoemaker, 85, died Oct. 18, 2013 in Grass Valley, CA. She was born Barbara Jean Wiley on Jan. 4, 1928, to Earl and Gladys Wiley of Seneca, IL. The family moved to Roseburg, OR where Jean spent her childhood. As a young girl, she was a tomboy, preferring to be out of doors with her brothers, playing cowboys and Indians, riding horses and playing baseball or touch football. In 1948, she married Robert Shoemaker, had four children and became a full-time, stay-at-home mom while her husband traveled the world on business. The adventurous spirit, endless energy and vivid imagination that she had as a child served her well in her new roles as wife, mother and household manager. No matter where her husband’s work took the family — from Oregon to Wisconsin, from New York to California — Jean immediately became active in her church and community. When the children were young, she was not only a Cub Scout and 4-H leader, but also found time to pursue several hobbies, including sewing, Swedish embroidery and ceramics. As the children grew older, she volunteered as a Pink Lady at Peninsula Hospital, led



SHOEMAKER

arts and crafts classes at a convalescent home and became an active member of WAAIME, in which she held several leadership positions. In 1994, Jean was recognized by the WAAIME’s for her many years of service to the organization on a regional as well as national level.

After moving to Grass Valley in 1984, Jean pursued several new hobbies including stained glass making, knitting and reading. As a member of the Sierra Presbyterian Church, she participated in the women’s auxiliary, Bible study classes and the Holy Folders group. In 2006, Jean and Bob moved to the Eskaton Retirement village where her favorite activities were bingo and Kings in the Corner. She entered Hospice of the Foothills Compassionate Care Center in early August 2013, where she continued to enjoy visits from family and friends until she passed away. Jean will always be remembered by those who knew her for her easy going nature, her beautiful smile, and penchant for mischief and fun.

Jean is survived by her husband, Robert, to whom she was married for 65 years; sons, Steven J. Shoemaker and R. Scott Shoemaker; and a daughter, Jan Shoemaker; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Molly Jean Shoemaker Schaechtele. ■