

# GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEVADA NEWSLETTER

Geological Society of Nevada, 2175 Raggio Parkway, Room 107, Reno, NV 89512  
(775) 323-3500 - Hours Monday -- Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Website: [www.gsnv.org](http://www.gsnv.org) • E-mail: [gsn@gsnv.org](mailto:gsn@gsnv.org)



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## CALENDAR OF GSN EVENTS

**May 3-5 2013 G.S.N. SPRING FIELD TRIP to Marigold Mine & the Cove project is FULL!!**

**May 8, 2013 Wednesday** **WINNEMUCCA CHAPTER MEETING (Every 2nd Wednesday).**  
The meeting will be held at the Martin Hotel, 94 West Railroad St. Refreshments @ 6 PM; Appetizers @ 6:30 PM, Talk @ 7:00 PM. **SPEAKER: Rebecca Morris.** **TITLE: "Hypogene mineralization and alteration associated with intrusive phases at the Chilito copper-moly porphyry prospect, Gila County, Arizona" (Abstract, p. 6).** **Sponsor: INSPECTORATE AMERICA.** For more information contact Leann Graf at [leann.graf@newmont.com](mailto:leann.graf@newmont.com).

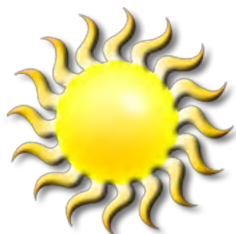
**May 16, 2013 Thursday** **ELKO CHAPTER MEETING (Every 3rd Thursday)**  
The monthly meeting will be held at the Western Folk Life Center, 501 Railroad St. Refreshments at 6:00 PM, Talk begins at 7:00 PM. **SPEAKER: Warren Thompson, Premier Gold Mines. TOPIC: Cove Gold Project. SPONSOR: MAJOR DRILLING.** For more information contact Jared Townsend at [jtowndsend@barrick.com](mailto:jtowndsend@barrick.com)

**May 17, 2013 Friday** **GSN MEMBERSHIP MEETING (Every 3rd Friday)**  
The monthly meeting will be held at the Reno Elks Lodge, 597 Kumle Lane, Reno, NV. Drinks at 6:00 PM, Dinner at 7:00 PM, and Talk at 8:00 PM. **SPEAKER: Larry Martin and Corrado De Gasperis, Comstock Mining Inc. TITLE: "Comstock Mine Project" (Abstract, p. 3). SPONSOR: HARRIS EXPLORATION DRILLING & ASSOCIATES, INC.** Dinner reservations must be made by 4 P.M., Wednesday, May 15. Contact Laura Ruud at (775) 323-3500 or e-mail [gsn@gsnv.org](mailto:gsn@gsnv.org) for reservations.

**May 30, 2013 Thursday** **SOUTHERN NEVADA CHAPTER (Every last Thursday of the month)**  
The monthly meeting will be held at the Lilly Fong Geoscience Bldg, Room 105, UNLV. Social @ 6:45 PM and talk @ ~ 7:15 PM. **SPEAKER and TOPIC: TBA.** For more information contact R. Paul Bowen, 702-247-7765, [paulbowen@cox.net](mailto:paulbowen@cox.net).

**Jun 29, 2013 Saturday** **GSN Golf Tournament—Hosted by Inspectorate!** Lakeridge Golf Course. Price \$40/person includes golf, cart, dinner and drinks. \$15 for dinner only. Each team must include two GSN Members on it. (sign up sheet, p. 10).

**Jul 20, 2013 Reno Aces Night—sponsored by National EWP. Details to come!**



## GSN MAY MEETING SPONSOR

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT**  
**David Emmons, G.S.N. President 2012—2013**

Dear Members,

At our April meeting in Reno, Jon Powell gave an excellent presentation on the Newmont's Long Canyon Project - thank you Jon and Newmont. Our presentation in May will be on the "new" Comstock mine by Corrado De Gasperis, President and CEO, and Larry Martin, Vice President Exploration and Mine Development with Comstock Mining Inc.

This will be my last President's column for GSN. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as an officer of GSN over the last four years. I thank all of the members of GSN for their support of GSN and the members of the Executive Committee (EC). The EC is an all volunteer group and generously gives their time and talents to GSN. Please thank them and Laura Ruud, GSN Office Manager, the next time that you see them. Laura is a key in making GSN the successful organization that it is.

The slate of candidates for the 2013-2014 EC is excellent. GSN will be honored to have them as officers. I wish all of them the best of success with GSN and request your support for them.

Exploration has hit a bit of a down turn, particularly for the junior companies. Most of the members of GSN have seen this before (those older than 30 years). The gold price is still high; remember 2000 when it was \$250/ounce. Society will always need metals including gold, so as I mentioned last month things are cyclical. Most exploration geologists have a "Pollyanna" mentality. So keep up your optimism and keep searching for that booming stream-sediment anomaly, soil anomaly, VG in outcrop and the best drill hole of your life.

I wish to thank all of the geologists and the hydrologist that were presenters at the GSN meetings in Reno. I know that it is a lot of time and effort to prepare and give a presentation for GSN. The presentations are one of the key goals of GSN: To convey geological information to the members of GSN.

Finally, this month's quote:

***What happens to us, is irrelevant to the world's geology, But what happens to the world's geology, is not irrelevant to us. – Hugh MacDiarmid, Scottish Poet.***



**Thank You to GEOTEMPS INC.**  
**For Hosting the April 17, 2013 Meeting in Reno!**



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# FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2013 Membership Meeting

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## **Reservations Are Required - Please Cancel if You Are Unable to Attend**

GSN CANNOT GUARANTEE DINNER SEATING WITHOUT ADVANCE RESERVATIONS.  
Please call 775-323-3500, Fax 775-323-3599 or e-mail gsn@gsnv.org by **4 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, May 15, 2013.**

Social Hour: 6:00 PM – Dinner: 7:00 PM – Speaker: 8:00 PM

**\$25.00 per person.** Location: Elks Lodge, 597 Kumle Lane, Reno, NV

Directions: across (W) from the Reno-Sparks Convention Center  
(S. Virginia Street, behind the Les Schwab Tire Center)

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## **Comstock Mine Project Storey County, Nevada**

Corrado De Gasperis, President and CEO  
and  
Larry G. Martin, Vice President Exploration and Mine Development  
Comstock Mining Inc.

The Comstock District produced in excess of 8,200,000 ounces of gold and 192,000,000 ounces of silver during the time period between the mid 1800's to 1965 (Bonham, 1969). Comstock Mining Inc. (Comstock) is a NYSE public company listed under the symbol LODE and was established in July 2010. Comstock merged GoldSpring Inc. along with The Plum Mining Co. LLC, now Comstock Mining LLC which dates back to 1996. Comstock has 100 employees and is currently mining and crushing approximately 4,000 tons per day of ore (ore is defined as mineralized material reporting assay grades of greater than 0.020 ounces per ton gold equivalent). The open-cut mining operation resumed in August 2012 used Cat 988 front end loaders and utilized a fleet of 30 ton highway haulers. Beginning in February 2013, the mining operation was revised to CAT 988 front end loaders and 40 ton CAT articulating haul trucks. The 40 ton trucks travel on designated haul roads with traffic controls, stockpiling ore in staging areas for the crushing facility. The crushed and agglomerated ore is stacked by conveyor onto a heap leach pad that will eventually reach its design height of 105 feet. The ore is extracted by cyanidation with pregnant liquors processed by a Merrill Crowe plant. Expected recoveries from a multitude of bottle roll and column leach tests are approximated at 72 % for gold and 48 % for silver.

The Comstock Mine Project consists of approximately 5,900 acres of mining claims and parcels in the Comstock and Silver City Mining Districts. The land holdings controlled by Comstock contains 1,350 acres of patented claims and private surface parcels and 4,550 acres of unpatented mining claims administered by the U.S Bureau of Land Management.

The precious metals mineralization is hosted within Miocene-aged volcanic units, primarily the Alta andesite, Santiago Canyon rhyolite and quartz porphyry intrusive. Structural preparation of the host rocks for mineralized fluid conduits are produced by numerous episodes of fault movement and multiple episodes of mineralization.

The primary structural zone for the present Lucerne Mine Project is the Silver City Fault Zone. The Silver City Fault Zone is a 450 feet wide zone that has been identified as a series of sub parallel northwest striking faults. The individual northwest faults are the Drysdale fault, primarily developed in the meta-volcanics and footwall of the Billie the Kid fault. The Billie the Kid fault is commonly interpreted as the boundary between the meta-volcanic and meta-sedimentary rocks and the Miocene volcanics. The Silver City fault is identified in the historic Lucerne open cut as the dark brown colored ferro-manganese, calcite and quartz stock-work fault zone. The Gold Canyon fault's quartz stockwork was exposed late in November 2008 by a flash flood. Drilling has confirmed along strike and down dip, that the Gold Canyon fault is a sub-parallel fault of the Silver City Fault Zone.

The Silver City Fault Zone hosts mineralization with various gold grades and silver to gold ratios. This phenomenon is a function of cross cutting north, northeasterly striking mineralized vein swarms intersecting the Silver City Fault Zone and is further identified by enhanced mineralized grades. The projection of structural intersections has been used to target exploration and development drilling. One of the successes during the 2012 drill program was recognizing the Chute zone.

(Continued on p. 6)



(Cope, cont.)

citizenship and perhaps there were more civilized opportunities in the United States. With that in mind, I purchased an airline ticket that took me to Houston, Tucson and Denver. With minimal experience and no MS degree the opportunities were limited in Houston's oil and gas industry, the copper industry in AZ was in the dumps but Denver had plenty of opportunities and I decided to move to there. In a short time I landed a job with Freeport Exploration working in Montana and Idaho in the summer months and Denver in the winter. Living in motels and apartments and dining on expense account while in the field sure seemed better than the bug infested camps of the great north. In the fall of 1980 after two years with Freeport I decided to return to school to complete an MS at Colorado State under Tommy Thompson.



With the "Gold rush" Discovery Team – 2011  
(2nd from right in back)

Following graduate school new opportunities continued to unfold with companies like St. Joe Minerals, Atlas Precious Metals, Pathfinder Exploration and ultimately with Barrick Gold Exploration as a Senior Exploration Geologist in 1996. Assignments with the various companies took me to places like Lead, SD; Durango, CO; Spokane, WA; Eureka, NV and finally Elko, NV which has been home for the past 19 years. While with Barrick, I have been fortunate to have held positions of increasing responsibility leading to my current role as Vice President Exploration – North America, a position I have held since 2007. The 17 years with Barrick have gone by very quickly and have provided the opportunity to work with a great team of geologists and support groups, all of whom play a critical role in successful exploration programs. With the consistent support of Barrick these programs have enabled me to participate in the discovery and delineation of numerous gold deposits in Nevada and have afforded the opportunity to work on many projects throughout North America. Unfortunately recent years have found me spending more time behind a desk than in the field.

My involvement in GSN began in 1987 while attending a pre-meeting field trip and then the first big symposium in Reno. At the time I was working for Atlas and based in Durango, CO. The following year I transferred to Eureka, NV and I have been a member of GSN ever since. Although never having served as an officer of GSN, in recent years I have tried to ensure that Barrick has provided financial support for the Symposiums and field trips and provided access to the mine sites for the many field trips through the years.

As I reflect back on the thirty odd years of industry experience and the years and events leading up to becoming a geologist, I realize that things have come full circle. My love for nature and science persists. My fascination with Arizona and the southwest United States continues and my wife Kathy and I have a vacation retreat in Sedona which serves as a base camp to explore the forests and desert landscapes I dreamed about as a child growing up in Ontario. Most importantly as with my grandfather, every time I find one of those boxed mineral collections during our rock shop and antique store perusing, I buy them as a gifts for my grandchildren hoping it will kindle a flame leading to a lifelong appreciation of nature and perhaps a career in geology.



The land of childhood dreams

(Comstock Abstract, cont.from p. 3)

The following selected drill intercepts are from the Chute zone:

<u>Drill Hole</u>	<u>Intercept (from to)</u>	<u>Length (feet)</u>	<u>Gold opt</u>	<u>Silver opt</u>
E11-06	735 - 910	165 (10 feet stoped)	0.091	1.118
E11-10	970 - 1,100	130	0.049	0.419
E11-24	630 - 900	270	0.141	0.609
E12-05	930 - 1,040	110	0.156	0.434
E12-10	830 - 905	75	0.112	1.387
E12-15	810 - 870	45 (15 feet stoped)	0.187	2.959
E12-17	825 - 970	145	0.095	0.757

The Chute zone has not been fully defined. Additional Reverse Circulation and Core drilling is being planned.

The Chute zone is one of many target areas within Comstock's near future exploration and development plans. The exploration model that is currently being used by Comstock's geologic staff remains dynamic and open to revision and improvements. Every additional drill hole adds to the model and in addition, the mining of the open cut operation has produced a wealth of information and confirmation of early conceptual interpretations.

**G.S.N. WINNEMUCCA CHAPTER MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2013**

**Location:** The Martin Hotel, 94 West Railroad St. Winnemucca, NV

**Time:** Refreshments @ 6 pm, Appetizers @ 6:30, Talk @ 7:00



**INSPECTORATE**

**Sponsor for the Evening:**

**INSPECTORATE**

**Speaker: Rebecca Morris**



**INSPECTORATE**

**Abstract**

**Hypogene mineralization and alteration associated with intrusive phases at the Chilito copper-moly porphyry prospect, Gila County, Arizona**

The Chilito porphyry Cu-Mo prospect is located in southwestern Gila County, Arizona. This region is host to favorable porphyry copper deposit terrain situated along a trend between two large, producing copper-molybdenum ore deposits. The study area consists of a horst block bound on the west by the Keystone Fault and on the southeast by the O'Carroll Fault. There are several historic copper, lead-zinc and manganese replacement deposits adjacent to the Chilito property, peripheral to the horst block.

***Thank you to IDS and GEOPROS, INC.***

***For Hosting the April 10, 2013 Meeting in Winnemucca!***

**G.S.N. ELKO CHAPTER MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2013**

**Location:** Western Folklife Center, Elko Nevada

**Time:** Refreshments @ 6:00 p.m. and Talk @ 7:00 p.m.

**Sponsored by:**

***MAJOR***

Drilling America, Inc.

**Speaker:** Warren Thompson, Premier Gold Mines

**Topic:** Cove Gold Project, Lander County, Nevada

**Abstract**

The Cove Gold Project is located along the prolific Battle Mountain/Eureka gold trend in the Fish Creek Mountains approximately 35 miles south of Battle Mountain, Lander County, Nevada.

Echo Bay Mines, Ltd. first conducted mining at the McCoy/Cove Mine from 1987 to 2001 producing 2.6 million ounces of gold and 100 million ounces of silver from polymetallic veins of sphalerite and argentiferous galena associated with strongly argillized felsic porphyry-filled fault structures and fractures. In 2003, Newmont acquired the mining claims and conducted limited exploration activities. Victoria Resources (US), Inc. entered into an exploration joint venture agreement with Newmont in 2006 which subsequently led to the discovery of the Helen Zone in 2007. June 2012, Premier Gold Mines USA purchased the entire Victoria Resources (USA) claim position at Cove and continued with Victoria's ongoing surface exploration drilling program. The Helen Zone is comprised of horizontal bedding replaced disseminated Carlyn-style mineralization and steeply dipping structurally-controlled higher grade ore shoots. Preliminary information indicates that the Helen Zone is a potential high-grade deposit amenable to underground mining. The Helen Zone, as defined by Victoria Resources (US), is located approximately 2,000 feet northwest of the Cove Mine open pit. The Helen Zone is overlain by approximately 600 feet of volcanic rocks and an additional 1000 feet of Triassic sediments. Recent exploration drilling by Premier Gold Mines USA has shown strong continuity of gold mineralization between the currently defined Helen Zone and the historic deeper drilling in the Cove Mine open pit.

The mineralization at the Cove Gold Project is hosted in Triassic carbonate and siliciclastic sedimentary rocks that define an overlap sequence deposited over the Late Permian-age Golconda Allochthon. Late Mesozoic compressive stresses formed NW-striking, low-amplitude folding and NS-, NNE-, and NW-striking deep-seated normal fault structures. Granodiorite was intruded into the existing structural fabric within the sedimentary package during the Jurassic. Continued intrusive activity occurred in the Middle to Late Eocene, using this existing structural fabric. Long-lived, pulsing, porphyry-style igneous and coeval hydrothermal activity in the Cove area gave rise to proximal economic gold skarn, gold/silver base metal veins, and more distal Carlin-type, disseminated, carbonate replacement gold deposits. Post-gold mineralization igneous activity in the area included Oligocene felsic welded ash-flow tuffs, culminating with more recent spatter cones localized over the basin-bounding range front faults.

Property wide, the Cove Gold Project offers similar setting of favorable host rocks in contact with highly prospective feeder structures creating a target rich environment poised for new multi-million ounce gold and/or silver discoveries.

***Thank you to SGS MINERALS***  
***For Hosting the April 18, 2013 Meeting in Elko!***



Six students from the Mackay School of Earth Science & Engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno each received a \$2,000 check to help cover their Field Camp expenses this summer. The money was provided through your generous donations to the GSN Foundation in addition to a \$5,000 donation from Goldcorp this year.

Pictured l to r: Tom McDonald, Andrea Troiano, Andrew Durham, Murya Dube, Ken Coleman, Dave Emmons (GSN President), Cami Prenn (GSN Foundation and Board Member) and D.D. LaPointe (GSN Foundation).

Not pictured: Austin Smith.



***Mineral Sale!***

**Wednesday, May 8th  
10:00am - 1:00pm**

**Come to the Old Mackay Building and pick up some cool rock specimens and help support Mackay School of Mines!**

*Thank you to our generous donors in April!*

**G.S.N. STUDENT DINNER FUND**

**Sam Arentz  
David Clarke  
Del Flint**





## OBITUARY

### Michael R. Cartwright

June 8, 1946—March 8, 2013

Michael R. Cartwright passed away on March 8, 2013 in Reno, Nevada.

Michael was born in Iowa City, Iowa on June 8, 1946 to Thomas B. Cartwright and Eleanor Rose Thienel. He is survived by his wife Florence and son Jonathan, both of Reno. Michael and Florence had been married for 45 years.

Michael served in the United States Marine Corps from 1964 to 1968. He also served in the Nevada Army National Guard until he entered college. Michael attended the University of Nevada, Reno where he first earned his Bachelor's degree in Geology from the Mackay School of Mines. He later returned to UNR and earned his Masters of Business Administration.

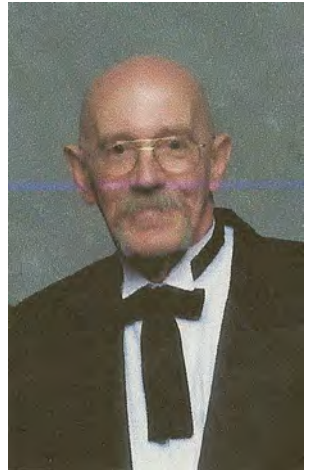
Starting as a junior explorationist, he grew to become Chief Geologist for two major international mining company operations. He also served as Consultant-in-Charge of Royalty Valuation and Acquisitions for Euro-Nevada Mining Corporation. In 1986 Michael developed his own business, Mineral Business Appraisal of which he was very proud. Michael specialized in mining industry analysis and valuation for surface and underground mining operations.

Every new project allowed him to gain more knowledge, experience and skill to improve his business and to share his experience with others. He was involved with many industry groups and organizations to include the University of Nevada Alumni Association, the Society of Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration, Inc., the American Institute of Mineral Appraisers among others.

The real light in Michael's life was spending time with his granddaughters, Jessica and Rachael. They played together, took many field trips looking for pretty rocks as well as attending the girls' school events. Most of all they just enjoyed spending time together.

Michael will be missed very much by all whose lives he had touched.

Services are to be held on May 17, 2013 at 10 am at the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, Nevada.



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### REDESIGNING THE G.S.N. WEBSITE

Greetings GSN members. Over the past few months, the GSN has been in the process of redesigning our website [www.gsnv.org](http://www.gsnv.org). We have updated content, added more pictures, and spruced up the website. In addition, we have added a member's login area where members can access the membership directory. The menu flow better and the overall aesthetics of the site is more modern. The migration will continue through the first half of May. The new site will go "Live" around May 20<sup>th</sup>. Please keep checking in on the [www.gsnv.org](http://www.gsnv.org) website for the new design.

Keith Fowlow-Publications Chair





## G.S.N. ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT—JUNE 29, 2013!!



Inspectorate is pleased to announce the **GSN Annual Golf Tournament 2013** on **Saturday, June 29, 2013**. Tee time will commence at 1:00 p.m. with a "Shotgun Start" at Lakeridge Golf Course. The tournament is restricted to the first 100 people to enter, so sign up early! Deadline for reservations is Friday, June 14th. To register, please fill in the form below and send to the GSN office fax (775) 323-3599, or scan and e-mail it to [gsn@gsnv.org](mailto:gsn@gsnv.org). You can register individually, or as a foursome. A fee of \$40.00 per person will include golf, cart and a tri-tip dinner at the Lakeridge Country Club. Non-golfing guests can attend the dinner only for \$15 per person. Mulligan's may be purchased for \$5/each with a limit of four per person. Dinner will follow the tournament and raffle tickets for prizes will be sold at 5/\$20.00 or \$5.00 each. All proceeds raised from Mulligans and raffle tickets will benefit the GSN Foundation. Please join us for a great time and we thank you in advance for supporting the GSN Foundation.

Please provide the following information for each golfer and guest:



### Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ave. Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Teamed with: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

GOLF FEE (\$40/EA): \_\_\_\_\_ DINNER GUESTS (\$15/EA) \_\_\_\_\_



INSPECTORATE

A BIG THANK YOU TO:

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For Sponsoring and Hosting the GSN Annual Golf Tournament - 2013



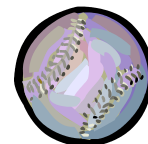
## **G.S.N. - RENO ACES NIGHT!**



The G.S.N.'s Second Annual Reno Aces Night event is scheduled for **Saturday, July 20, 2013**. The evening will include a ticket to the baseball game, hot dogs, BBQ chicken, beans, pasta salad, cookies and soda. **NATIONAL EWP IS OUR GENEROUS SPONSOR FOR THE EVENING!** More information will be sent via email later this month! Contact the GSN office if you want to sign up to attend! [gsn@gsnv.org](mailto:gsn@gsnv.org).



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## **GSN 2013-2014 ELECTION RESULTS**

### **OFFICERS FOR THE 2013-2014 G.S.N. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**PRESIDENT:** Tommy Thompson  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Jonathan Price  
**SECRETARY:** Lori Carpenter  
**TREASURER:** Bob Kastelic  
**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:** Susie Mason  
**PUBLICATIONS CHAIR:** Keith Fowlow

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS—Class B: Three Year Term – 2013 to 2016**

David Caldwell and Greg French

## **NOMINATIONS FOR CHAPTERS—ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN MAY.**

### **WINNEMUCCA CHAPTER OFFICER NOMINEES FOR 2013-2014**

**President:** Andy Jansen  
**Vice President:** Ed Tester  
**Treasurer:** Lisa Giuliani  
**Secretary:** Peter O'Byrne

### **ELKO CHAPTER OFFICER NOMINEES FOR 2013-2014**

**President:** Josh Sovie  
**Vice President:** Jon Powell, Lynette Kleinsasser, or Kyle Larson  
**Treasurer:** Ajeet Milliard, Brendan Howe, or Samuel Siebenaler  
**Secretary:** Laura Nuno or Allie Phillips  
**Membership Chair:** Anna Perry

### **SOUTHERN NEVADA CHAPTER OFFICER NOMINEES FOR 2013-2014**

**TO BE ANNOUNCED**

**Please thank our outgoing members who have served the G.S.N. so well!**

**GSN Mothership:** David Emmons, Carmen Arbizio and John Hoskins

**GSN Elko Chapter:** Jared Townsend and Ajeet Johnson

**GSN Winnemucca Chapter:** Leann Graf, Mike Beyer and Randy Vance

**GSN Board of Directors:** Marcus Johnston and Bill Howald

# NORTHWEST MINING ASSOCIATION

Laura Skaer, Director

## Sage-Grouse Update

A number of western governors expressed concern about Sally Jewell's appointment to be the next Secretary of the Interior. While the governors did not always agree with Secretary Salazar, at least Secretary Salazar is a westerner who understood public land issues. Not so with Ms. Jewell whose background suggests that her agenda would be about protecting public lands from productive activities like mining, oil and gas, grazing and ranching, emphasizing national parks and recreation on the public lands and promoting the agenda of a number of environmental groups. At a breakfast with the Western Governors' Association, Secretary Salazar committed to facilitating a meeting between Ms. Jewell and the western governors. Hopefully, that will happen soon.

Several U.S. Senators raised questions at her confirmation hearing about support for anti-multiple-use environmental groups by organizations and foundations Ms. Jewell is affiliated with. Also, Sen. Risch (R-ID) spent a significant time at the hearing focused on Sage-grouse. Sen. Risch placed a hold on Ms. Jewell until he was satisfied that DOI would work collaboratively with the western governors to prevent a listing. She was confirmed by an 87-11 vote.

On March 7, House Natural Resources Committee Chairman, Doc Hastings, sent a follow-up letter to Secretary Salazar and Dan Ashe, Director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, expressing concern over BLM's National Technical Team Report (NTT Report) and the concerns raised by a number of peer reviews scientists. Chairman Hastings asked a number of questions and requested multiple documents, including all memoranda and drafts associated with IM's 2012-043 and 2012-044 and the NTT Report. Although the documentation was requested by March 22, it has not yet been received. BLM did supply a four page list of projects that have been delayed, altered, denied or deferred because of sage-grouse, including 26 in Nevada. The Nevada list included three locatable mineral projects, several proposed oil and gas lease sales and renewable energy projects. Contact me at [lskaer@nwma.org](mailto:lskaer@nwma.org) if you would like a copy of the list.

During the last week of March, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) released its final Conservation Objectives Team Report (COT Report). This peer review report was developed to assist BLM and the Forest Service in the land use amendment process to ensure conservation of Sage-grouse habitat and the Sage-grouse. The general conservation objectives are to stop the decline in habitat; targeted habitat management restoration; focus on the importance of state and federal management plans; and further research.

The final COT Report notes that both regulatory and volunteer mechanisms are important. USFWS indicates that the COT Report sets range-wide objectives, and the BLM's NTT Report suggests means of achieving the COT objectives. Our initial review of the document is revealing some significant changes between the draft COT Report and the Final COT Report. We will report our findings as soon as our review is complete.

Both USFWS and the Washington DC Office of the BLM state that the NTT Report is a range-wide one-size-fits-all that is not necessarily applicable to individual land-use plans. USFWS emphasized that one size does not fit all in Sage-grouse management. It remains to be seen whether individual state BLM offices have heard this message, as several of them seem to be on a different agenda.

In March, BLM issued Resource Management Plan EIS's for three regions in Montana (Billings/Pompey's Pillar; HiLine; and Miles City). The Buffalo Resource Management Plan (WY) and South Dakota are scheduled for release in May, with the Bighorn Basin (WY) plan scheduled for June. Three plans are due in July (Lewistown MT, North Dakota and Northwest Colorado). Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Utah and the remainder of Wyoming are due out in September. We urge you to pay close attention to this issue. NWMA will be filing comments on these plan amendments.

# ROCK TALK

Reprinted from Deseret News Online, April 30, 2013

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865579245/Kennecott-We-will-emerge-stronger-and-better-than-before.html>

## Kennecott: We will emerge 'stronger and better than before'

By [Marjorie Cortez](#), Deseret News

Published: Tuesday, April 30 2013 6:30 p.m. MDT

SALT LAKE CITY — The massive landslide at Kennecott Utah Copper's Bingham Canyon Mine was a "challenging but disappointing event," a mine executive told the Salt Lake County Council on Tuesday afternoon.

While Kennecott needs to resolve several short-term issues to safely resume mining in the slide area, "we're determined to come out of this stronger and better than we were before," said Ted Himebaugh, general manager of integrated operations.

The April 10 slide moved an estimated 150 million tons of dirt and rock. By April 13, mining operations had resumed in an unaffected area of the 2.5-mile, open-pit mine. In that portion of the mine, crews are removing more than a billion tons of soil and rock to reach copper ore deposits.

Earlier, Kennecott officials said they expect production at the mine to drop by half in 2013.



A slide at Kennecott Utah Copper's Bingham Canyon Mine which occurred Wednesday, April 10 is shown Thursday, April 11, 2013. (Ravell Call, Deseret News)



Thursday, April 11, 2013. (Ravell Call, Deseret News)

"We'll try to do better than that, absolutely," Himebaugh said.

Brandon Drew of Operating Engineers Local No. 3, which represents heavy equipment operators and diesel mechanics, said no workers directly employed by Kennecott have lost income as a result of reduced operations.

"At no point has Kennecott indicated they were going to lay anyone off. In fact, they paid all of their employees when they couldn't work," Drew told the council.

Councilman Michael Jensen said Kennecott officials had briefed the Unified Fire Authority about the potential slide, and the two entities had trained jointly to respond to the event.

As it turned out, no one was injured when the slide occurred at about 9:30 p.m. Fourteen trucks and three shovels were damaged.

"From a fire department perspective, we were extremely happy how they handled it. They were very upfront with us," said Jensen, who is chief of the UFA.

Mine operators had carefully monitored the disturbed area weeks prior to the slide, "but we didn't have a clear understanding how big it was," Himebaugh said.

"We sort of had a plan like DEFCON," he said, referring to the U.S. military's graduated levels of readiness or states of alert. "When we get to this point, we do this. When we get to this point, we do that. Of course, it was untested."

Kennecott is the county's leading taxpayer but neither council members nor Kennecott officials made direct reference to the potential financial impact to the county.

Just as the county and economy benefits when Kennecott thrives, "we're sharing in our collective sacrifice," Himebaugh said. Mine regulators have not yet given Kennecott officials the OK to re-enter the slide area.

"It will benefit everyone to get Kennecott back on track as fast as we can," Jensen said.



Thursday, April 11, 2013. (Ravell Call, Deseret News)

## *Activity Update*

Mike Brady, March 2013

[www.activityupdate.com](http://www.activityupdate.com)

### NEVADA

Atna Resources Ltd. announced that recent drill results at the Reward Project include 68.6-94.5 meters @ 0.54 gpt Au (RW13-039); 128.0-153.9 meters @ 0.57 gpt Au (RW13-040); 22.9-30.5 meters @ 0.95 gpt Au (RW13-041) and 39.6-94.5 meters @ 0.74 gpt Au (RW13-044). (reserve = 10,756,000 tonnes @ 0.75 gpt Au proven+probable) *Press Release:* February 25

Canterra Minerals Corp. announced that it acquired an option to earn a 70% interest in the Highland and East Manhattan properties from Bravada Gold Corp. for \$130,000 cash, 1,750,000 shares and \$6,000,000 in exploration expenditures over 7 years. *Press Release:* March 4

Paramount Gold and Silver Corp. announced that recent drill results at the Sleeper/Wood Zone include 91.44-252.98 meters @ 1.04 gpt Au, 13.1 gpt Ag (PGC12-027). (resource = 326,963,000 tonnes @ 0.33 gpt Au, 3.9 gpt Ag measured+indicated) *Press Release:* March 12

Veris Gold Corp. announced that recent underground drill results at the Jerritt Canyon/Smith Mine include 256.81-259.86 meters @ 12.62 gpt Au (SMI-LX-798); 171.41-185.13 meters @ 32.03 gpt Au (SMI-LX-799); 93.02-103.7 meters @ 4.32 gpt Au (SMI-LX-802) and 96.07-122.91 meters @ 5.56 gpt Au (SMI-LX-803). (resource = 3,805,000 tonnes @ 8.02 gpt Au measured+indicated) *Press Release:* February 28

Timberline Resources Corp. announced that based on recent drill results at the Lookout Mountain Project, resources aggregate 26,254,000 tonnes @ 0.62 gpt Au measured+indicated and 10,622,000 tonnes @ 0.41 gpt Au inferred. (was 18,838,000 tonnes @ 0.65 gpt Au measured+indicated and 16,679,000 tonnes @ 0.41 gpt Au inferred) *Press Release:* February 28

Silver Predator Corp. announced that based on recent drill results at the Taylor Project, resources aggregate 8,069,000 tonnes @ 64.8 gpt Ag measured+indicated and 1,557,000 tonnes @ 78.8 gpt Ag inferred. (was 5,845,000 tonnes @ 78.8 gpt Ag measured+indicated and 688,000 tonnes @ 86.7 gpt Ag inferred) *Press Release:* March 18

Rye Patch Gold Corp. announced that recent drill results at the Patty Project include 339.7-457.3 meters @ 0.34 gpt Au (RP-04); 707.3-710.4 meters @ 0.24 gpt Au (RP-07) and 30.5-39.6 meters @ 0.58 gpt Au (RP-03A). *Press Release:* March 1

Nevada Copper Corp. announced that recent drill results at the Pumpkin Hollow/North Project include 363.8-385.9 meters @ 1.5% Cu, 0.08 gpt Au (NC13-04); 557.8-635.5 meters @ 0.44% Cu, 0.11 gpt Au (NC13-01) and 477.3-495.3 meters @ 0.17% Cu, 0.01 gpt Au (NC13-02). (underground reserve = 21,200,000 tonnes @ 1.5% Cu, 0.21 gpt Au proven+probable) *Press Release:* March 11

Klondex Mines Ltd. announced that recent underground drill results at the Fire Creek Project include 69.2-70.7 meters @ 10.8 gpt Au (FC13-059U) and 39.3-41.9 meters @ 210.0 gpt Au (FC13-061U). (resource = 5,176,000 tonnes @ 9.9 gpt Au indicated) *Press Release:* March 7

Battle Mountain Gold Inc. announced that it acquired an option to purchase a 40% interest in the Phoenix/Lewis Property from Americas Bullion Royalty Corp. (was Golden Predator Corp.) for \$1,600,000 and 2,000,000 shares. *Press Release:* March 21

Corvus Gold Inc. announced that recent drill results at the North Bullfrog/Zuzu Zone Project include 3-93 meters @ 0.27 gpt Au, 0.4 gpt Ag (NB12-200); 25.9-115.8 meters @ 0.25 gpt Au, 0.5 gpt Ag (NB12-201); 0-27.4 meters @ 0.28 gpt Au, 1.0 gpt Ag (NB12-203) and 68.6-74.7 meters @ 0.49 gpt Au, 0.4 gpt Ag (NB12-207). (resource = 15,230,000 tonnes @ 0.37 gpt Au indicated) *Press Release:* March 7

Gunpoint Exploration Ltd. announced that based on recent drill results at the Talapoosa Project, resources aggregate 28,362,000 tonnes @ 1.11 gpt Au, 15.0 gpt Ag measured+indicated. (was 20,995,000 tonnes @ 0.92 gpt Au, 12 gpt Ag measured+indicated and 11,450,000 tonnes @ 0.89 gpt Au, 12 gpt Ag inferred) *Press Release:* March 1

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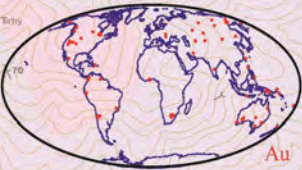
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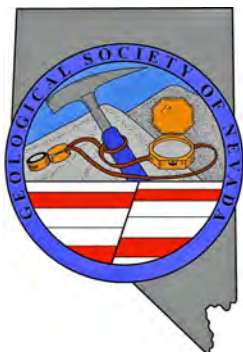


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