



Mining and Metallurgical Society of America

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President's Message
YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

By Michael D.S. Blois

We are fast approaching the MMSA's Annual General Meeting in Minneapolis on Monday February 26th, 2018.

As I write this newsletter on the Sunday morning of the Super Bowl, the outside temperature at kickoff time this afternoon is forecast to be 3 °F; supposedly making this the coldest Super Bowl on record. I do realize that once everybody is inside the stadium, they are supposed to warm up to a relatively balmy 70 °F!

It is still too early to forecast what the temperatures will be in Minneapolis in a couple of weeks. This will be when we gather for the MMSA AGM and dinner, which as usual will be part of the SME Annual Meeting! I expect that the low temperatures, and other reasons, will result in a lower attendance for both the MMSA and SME events than usual. However, the MMSA has a number of very important questions on the ballot this year and therefore I want to encourage all of the members to consider the ballot propositions and to vote by proxy if you are not able to attend the AGM in person.

The first two questions ask the membership to expand the number of QP categories from five to seven. Currently the



Michael D.S. Blois
MMSA President, 2017-2018

QP categories are Geology, Mining, Ore Reserves, Metallurgy/Processing and Environmental Permitting & Compliance. The QP Enhancement Committee under the chairmanship of Bob Cameron has, over the past 18 months, been considering suggestions for expanding the number of categories. The two proposed new categories are:

- Mineral Valuation & Finance, and
- Minerals Project Costing, Infrastructure & Management.

More details about the rationale behind the choice of these two categories, together with the QP qualification criteria, are provided in the MMSA website. The MMSA Council has recommended that these two new categories be approved by the mem-

bership.

The third question on the ballot asks for approval for the creation of a Senior Qualified Professional status, in addition to the existing QP status. Betty Gibbs has previously published details of this proposal and they are available on the MMSA Web site.

I am pleased to say that we have received more feedback about this proposal, from the membership, than for anything else in the past few years. The feedback included a very lively debate at the well-attended Colorado Section lunch in January. This is good in that it means that the membership is active and thinking about the MMSA's activities; I would like to thank all contributors for letting us know

your opinions. The feedback has been both in support of the resolution, and opposing it.

I have personally reached out to a number of members and listened to the varying opinions. As a result of the suggestions and feedback, the Quality Membership Committee (under the chairmanship of Mick Gavrilovic) has made a number of improvements to the proposition.

The Quality Membership committee has been working on this concept for 18 months and it has been debated at the last two Council retreats. It has also been discussed at numerous monthly Council Conference Calls. The Council has approved of the creation of the SQP status.

The MMSA has written to the CIM, the SME, the AusIMM and the

SAIMM explaining the rationale behind the proposal to create the SQP status and the proposed criteria for the award of this higher status.

First and foremost, it is very important that we achieve a quorum of votes so it is very important that all members vote either in person at the AGM or by proxy. On behalf of the Council, I ask you to approve each of the three resolutions on the ballot. Please also vote in the Councilor elections.

If you have not yet submitted your proxy, go to the link on the Web site, vote, and comment. Comments will be accepted at any time until February 23.

Thank you for your on-going support of The MMSA.

Membership Applications

New Regular and QP Member Applications:

The following individual(s) have submitted membership applications and or changes to their membership status. They have either received approval of the Membership Committee as candidates or are currently under review:

If any member of MMSA has good cause to believe that any of the applicant(s) should not be granted Regular membership or QP membership, as appropriate, you are requested to make known your objections, in writing, to **Betty Gibbs**, Executive Director, within 30 days from issue of this Newsletter. In the absence of any objections and after receiving approval of the various committees, the candidate members and those members requesting a change of status will be confirmed as Regular Members or QP Members, as provided by the ByLaws.

Applicant

Endorsers

Applicant Endorsers

No New
Member
Applications

QP Applications

Marco Carrasco
Ed Finch
Glenn Gruber
Henry Lamb
(Supervisor)

Area of Special Expertise

Metallurgy/Processing

MMSA News

Annual Meeting and Dinner— Minneapolis MN, Hilton Minneapolis, February 26, 2018.

If you are going to the SME Annual Meeting in Minneapolis and plan to attend the MMSA Annual Dinner, send your reservation to the MMSA office or pay on-line through the shopping cart. <http://www.mmsa.net/payments>.

Dinner Reservations must be made by February 20.

MMSA will be presenting a Gold Medal to Thomas V Falkie at the Dinner. Tom is being honored "In recognition of a lifetime of contributions to the mining industry through education, industry management, and government service."

The **Annual Meeting** will start at 5:15 p.m. in Marquette 8 at the Hil-

ton Minneapolis. If you cannot attend the meeting in person, return the proxy. The links to the proxy are on the main page of the MMSA Web site.

The Annual Dinner starts right after the Annual Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Marquette 9 room.

The Meeting is deliberately scheduled just before the dinner so we are encouraged to keep it to the hour!

The Annual Meeting draft agenda and attachments will be published before the meeting on the Members Only page of the Web site. If you cannot attend and have any comments about any of the topics, contact the MMSA office.

If you have sent comments with your proxy, those comments will be presented to the Council before and during the meeting.

Membership Update

The following changes in membership have taken place since the last newsletter, with the authority of the respective membership committees.

Regular Member Additions:

Jorge Lozano
Xavier Ochoa

QP Members Confirmed:

Jorge Lozano, Mining
Xavier Ochoa, Mining

Membership Deletions:

None

MMSA presently has a total of **343** members, **6 in process**. Currently, **196** members are QP members

Additions, deletions and routine changes to the Society's data base and member biographies are accessible through the Members Only page in our web site, at www.mmsa.net. This data base is the best source for information on any particular member.

The **MMSA booth** at the SME Exhibit Hall is 2710. Stop by and visit. If you have time, be a booth babe/dude for a while!

Committee Updates

The **Membership Recruitment Committee** has been active. A proposal for increasing membership will be available in the meeting packet before the Annual Meeting and will be discussed during the meeting. If you can't come to the meeting, send your comments to the MMSA office.

The **QP Committee** has been discussing improvements for the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program. A revised log has been proposed that is simpler than the original (which had problems). The Committee will be discussing the following points:

- Number of CPD hours required for QPs with more than one category.
- Percentage of Professional Practice hours.
- Percentages of hours for other activities.

A brief summary of the Committee activity will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

AML Conference Committee

Good Samaritan Protection to Enhance Abandoned Mine Land Cleanup. The conference will be held at the Colorado School of Mines on April 26, 2018.

The Committee has been refining the program, confirming speakers, and building a mailing list of targeted industry, agency, and academic professionals.

The latest program information can be downloaded on the MMSA Web site. Tickets are free and you can sign up at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/good-samaritan-protection-to-enhance-abandoned-mine-land-cleanup-tickets-42200821794>

Social Media Update—The Social Media Manager has been posting interesting tidbits on the MMSA Facebook page. The activity has been increasing since the beginning of 2018. Some posts were made in December 2017. In January, the page views increased by 165% and the reach (clicks for likes and shares) increased by 187%. The posts are read and shared with other Facebook people.

Some of the posts are humorous, like this one:

If you find yourself lost in the woods, take your pocket knife and carve three survey stakes and drive them into the ground 20 feet apart in a straight line. Then sit back and wait for a dozer hand to come by and knock them over.

Visit the page at: <https://www.facebook.com/MiningMetallurgicalSocietyOfAmerica>

You don't have to sign up for Facebook to see the page.

MMSA/CMA Breakfast April 4, 2018

MMSA/CMA Breakfast is sponsored by MMSA and will be held during the *CMA 120th National Western Mining Conference & Exhibition*.

The breakfast is on Wednesday, April 4, 7:00am-8:30am

The topic is: *Trends in Mining in Mongolia and China - With an Emphasis on Gold*

The speakers are MMSA members John Fognani, Haynes and Boone, LLP and Barney Guarnera, Broad-

lands Mineral Advisory Services. Pre-Registration is required. The breakfast will be held at the Colorado Convention Center, 700 14th Street Denver, CO. Contact: Stephanie Shark, email: sshark@coloradomining.org

(303) 575-9199. On-line registration is available until March 25. <http://www.coloradomining.org/event/2018NWMC>

Women's Mining Coalition 26th FlyIn is scheduled for the week of April 22. MMSA will be

sponsoring several people to attend. WMC will have a booth at the SME Exhibit Hall in Minneapolis. WMC will host a Reception at the booth on Tuesday February 27, 3pm to 5pm.

Mineral Property Evaluation

Handbook for Feasibility Studies and Due Diligence

Less than 30% of the projects that are developed in the minerals industry yield the return on investment that was projected from the project feasibility studies. The tools described in this handbook will greatly improve the probability of meeting your projections and minimizing project execution capital cost blowout that has become so prevalent in this industry in recent years.

The book is available from the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (SME).

<http://www.smenet.org/store>.

<http://smemi.personifycloud.com/PersonifyEbusiness/Store/ProductDetails.aspx?productId=2069514>

Current Trends in Mining Finance

April 29 to May 2, 2018.

The focus of the CTMF Conference is about the outlook, trends and issues that affect capital raising in the global mining industry. Speakers at the conference and workshops present case studies about how management and investors can employ best practices and technology to anticipate, track, manage and reduce technical and non-technical risks associated with mining projects. Register early to attend the conference, any of four workshops and receptions.

To speak and or join the sponsors contact Tim Alch timalch@gmail.com Space is limited. Visit <http://conta.cc/2zWfiQQ> and <http://conta.cc/2wLKrEo>

Women's Mining Coalition commented on the NEPA process:

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance; Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 83 Fed. Reg. 302

"... it suffers from an inefficient process and lack of timeliness in completing the work in order to reach a permit decision. The lengthy process for mineral exploration programs discourages companies from investing in an area which includes significant acreage managed by the US Forest Service. It also limits the

profitability of expansion of existing operations or developing new operations because of the length of time that a proponent must wait, tying up capital investment while incurring continuing maintenance fees."

See the letter at:

<http://wmc-usa.org/pdfs/WMC%20USFS-NEPA%20review%20comments%202-2-2018.pdf>

QP seals are available from MMSA.

The seal comes as a self-inking rubber stamp and the stamp is about 1 high by 2.6 inches wide. The stamp has the MMSA logo, member name, and member number. The cost is \$35, including shipping. To order a QP seal, contact the MMSA office or order directly from the MMSA Web site (www.mmsa.net/payments). The QP seal is in the Products category.

2008 MMSA Centennial Medallions are available for the great price of \$40. The coin has 1 oz of silver and 24 carat gold plating.

