December Awards Banquet to Induct the 2023 Honorees

Xavier García de Quevedo, Executive Vice President and Vice Chairman, Grupo Mexico
2023 Inductee, American Mining Hall of Fame

Xavier García de Quevedo received his Bachelor’s degree as a Chemical Engineer from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, with postgraduate studies in Administration and Finance from Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey. He is currently the Executive Vice president and Vice Chairman of Grupo Mexico. He is also a member of the Boards of Directors of Grupo Mexico, Americas Mining Corporation, Southern Copper Corporation, Grupo Mexico Transportes and Ferromex. Since January 1, 2011, he has held the position of President of the infrastructure division that includes energy, oil & gas, highways, and engineering and construction projects. From December 2009 to June 2010, he was Chairman of the Board and CEO of ASARCO LLC and previously was the Executive President of ASARCO LLC from November 1999 to September 2001. He was also the Executive President of Minera Mexico from October 2001 to November 1, 2014, and President of Americas Mining Corporation from September 7, 2007, to October 31, 2014.

García de Quevedo began his professional career in 1969 with Grupo México as an operations supervisor. He was President of Grupo Ferroviario Mexicano, S.A. C.V. and Ferrocarril Mexicano, S.A. C.V. from July 1997 to December 1999 and held the position of Vice President of Exploration and Development of Grupo México from 1994 to 1997. He previously worked for Grupo Condumex, S.A. C.V., (electro manufacturing, telecommunications and auto parts) as Executive Vice President.

García de Quevedo was Chairman of the Mining Chamber of Mexico from November 2006 to August 2009. In August 2022, the Mexican Union of Associations of Engineers (UMAI), awarded him a gold medal for "Excellence in Engineering 2022" in the category of Operation / Management. He is an active member of the Association of Mining Engineers, Metallurgists and Geologists of Mexico (AIMMGM), MIT Leaders for Global Operations Governing Board, and the US Chamber of Commerce.
R. Gene Dewey was born in Sewickley, PA in April of 1940. He graduated from the University of Arizona with a BS degree in Business in 1961. After a short stint in the steel industry, he joined Kennecott Copper Corporation in AZ at the Ray Mines Division where he held positions in accounting, operations, and maintenance.

In 1967 he relocated to Molycorp, Inc’s new open pit molybdenum mining operation near Taos, New Mexico. In 1969 he worked with Fluor Utah to design a computerized DCF-ROI program. He was instrumental in implementing an innovative cost accounting system as well as establishing a component rebuild and replacement system for the mining equipment.

Dewey became the General Manager in 1974. In 1976 he was promoted to VP of Mining and Exploration and transferred to the New York office. In 1977 Molycorp merged into Unocal Corporation. In 1979 he relocated to Unocal’s office in California, was promoted to President of Molycorp in 1985 and to VP of Carbon and Minerals in 1991 with responsibilities for world-wide mining and exploration, graphite operations in Texas, operations and marketing of Unocal’s calcined coke, green coke, needle coke and solvents.

He was the principal liaison for Molycorp in their partnership with the world’s largest niobium mine in Araxa, Brazil. Molycorp was also the only producer of primary rare earths in North America from its mine in Mountain Pass, California.

He retired in June of 2000, bought a 47-foot cutter rigged sloop and sailed it from Ft. Lauderdale to Trinidad in 2001 and back in 2002. Since that time, he and Lynne have been sailing around the world a few weeks every year.

Dewey was a member of the Board of Directors of the American Mining Association and the National Mining Association from 1986 to 2000. He has been a member of SME since 1969 and has served as the Los Angeles section chairperson. He is a founding member of the National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum, a member of the Mining and Minerals Education Foundation and The Mining and Metallurgical Society of America.

In 2015 he and his wife Lynne started a foundation at the Lowell Institute for Mineral Resources at the University of Arizona.
Edson R. McCord, Retired  
Electric Drive Truck Expert  
2023 Medal of Merit Recipient

Edson R. McCord was born and raised in Rhinebeck, New York where he first became interested in earthmoving machinery. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1971 and pursued a Master of Science degree from New York University School of Engineering before going to work for International Harvester in 1973. He also was awarded an honorary Ph.D. in Engineering Technology from the Wentworth Institute of Technology.

For the next 20 years, McCord was actively engaged in the development, sales, marketing and manufacturing of construction equipment. This included seven years in France where he managed Dresser Industries’ subsidiary for design, manufacturing and support of hydraulic excavators.

McCord’s mining career began in 1994 when he was appointed president of Komatsu’s Haulpak division in Peoria, Illinois. Komatsu’s position as the leading supplier of electric drive mining trucks was strengthened through the development of new 200 and 240-ton trucks as well as the introduction of the 930E, the world’s largest truck at 320 tons and the first AC drive truck. To this day, the 930 is the market leader in the 320-ton class. He was also instrumental in Komatsu’s leadership position in trolley assist systems and was an early proponent of autonomous haulage.

In 2004, McCord joined Caterpillar to lead their mining truck business and develop electric drive trucks to complement Caterpillar’s mechanical drive product line. During his 10 years at Caterpillar, new mechanical drive models were introduced in the 150, 200, 240 and 400-ton classes along with 320 and 345 electric drive models. He was also responsible for Caterpillar’s trolley assist program, LNG alternatives to diesel power and Caterpillar’s autonomous haulage system program.

Upon retirement in 2014, McCord was Director, Surface Extraction and Haulage with responsibility for Caterpillar’s hydraulic mining shovels, electric rope shovels, draglines and trucks from 35 ton to 400 tons.

He and his wife, Anne, reside in Burlington, Wisconsin where he spends his time pursuing his hobbies of British sports cars and vintage automobile racing.
Benny Corbell holds a B.S Degree in Mining and Mineral Engineering from the University of Arizona. He is an experienced Mining Engineer working in the mining & metals industry. Corbell has been a Professional Engineer (PE) since 2015.

Mining is in his blood growing up in Morenci, Arizona and as part of a large mining family. He is a 4th generation miner. Corbell graduated from Morenci High School. He was a two-time state wrestling champion in the 119 and 125 pound weight classes in the 1A-2A Division.

He graduated from the U of A ROTC program in 2009 and spent 10 years in the United States Army Reserve from 2004 – 2017. He served as a Human Resource Specialist, Signal Officer and ultimately as an Engineer Officer with the rank of Captain.

He joined Freeport-McMoRan in 2009 at the Morenci Mine as an Ore Control Engineer and held various positions until 2012 when he transferred to the Oro Valley Office working on Long Range Surface Mine Planning. He spent 6 months at the Henderson Mine in Colorado and transferred to the Sierrita Operations as a Geomechanical Engineer in 2013. He left Sierrita as a Senior Drill and Blast Engineer in 2017 and transferred to the Climax Mine in Colorado as Mine Operations Superintendent. In 2019 he moved to Bagdad Mine as The Chief Engineer and in 2021 was promoted to the position of Mine Manager.

Corbell, credits his success to gaining experiences while working at multiple sites, learning from talented leaders and coworkers, and having the support of his family. While working as an engineer, for example, he gained a clear vision around slope stability that focused on safety, developing appropriate dewatering plans, and optimizing blasting to help the team achieve maximum tonnage daily.

In his off time, he enjoys spending time with his wife and three boys, visiting family, and hunting.
Joseph R. De Lamar (1843 – 1918) was born in Amsterdam in 1843. De Lamar worked as a seaman until he was twenty. Three years later he received a captain’s command. In 1878, De Lamar came to New York and went west, to Leadville, Colorado. In 1879 he bought the Terrible Lead Mine and operated it until 1885, at which time he sold it. He then obtained control of a mine west of Silver City, Idaho. He sold a half interest to English concerns for $2,000,000 and turned his interest to the Cripple Creek Mining District in Colorado. He continued investing in mines. At the time of his death, he was one of the wealthiest men in America. Three once mining cities, now ghost towns, bear his name; Delamar Nevada, De Lamar, Idaho and Delamar, California.

Felix P. McDonald (1875 – 1936) was born in 1875 in England. He came to the United States in 1887, first living in Pennsylvania before moving to Utah in 1899. He worked as a miner in Mercur, Utah, where his older brother John was the superintendent. From Mercur, Felix worked at, and became superintendent of the Commercial mine, then went to the developing Ohio Copper mine in the Bingham Canyon area. Here, as superintendent, he developed a system of caving ore into raises feeding grizzlies over transfer raises. While this method involved driving additional raises, it was more economical due to the decrease in manpower needed than the alternate caving method which used tramming levels to move the caved ore to transfer raises. The Anaconda Copper Co. hired McDonald as the general superintendent and he successfully developed Inspiration. Soon, other block caving operations adopted his method. His method is still in use today. Inspiration Consolidated Copper Co. honored him by naming the main shaft at their Christmas Mine after him.

Stuart A. Bengson (1943 – 2021) was born in Marquette, Michigan in 1943. He graduated from Amphi High School in Tucson, Arizona in 1961, obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry in 1970 and a Master of Science in National Resources Administration in 1978, both from the University of Arizona. In 1973, Bengson joined ASARCO LLC (Asarco) as an Agronomist at the Mission Complex in Sahuarita, Arizona. Over a 34-year career, Stuart was best known for his pioneering work in reclamation of tailings and mined lands at active and inactive mine sites in Arizona, New Mexico, California, Texas, Utah and Montana. He pioneered mine tailings reclamation using livestock and biosolids and successfully implemented innovative technologies for drip and micro-sprinkler irrigation. Bengson received numerous awards recognizing his accomplishments in the field of metal mine reclamation and land management. They include: 1984 SWCS Conservation of the Year Award, 1989 and 1991 SRM President’s Award; 2003 Pioneer of Reclamation Award (American Society of Mining and Reclamation) and the 2016 Lifetime Conservation Heritage (Pima Natural Resource Conservation District Aacd).

Dr. Stanley M. Howard (1945 – 2021) was born on September 5, 1945 in Torrington, WY where he graduated from high school. He received his Bachelor’s Degree in Metallurgical Engineering in 1967 and his Doctorate Degree in 1971 from the Colorado School of Mines.

He then began a distinguished 50+ year career at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in teaching, mentoring, research and contributions to science and engineering. He served as the chair of the Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering from 1994-2000. Dr. Howard was an active member of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum Engineers (AIMe) and The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society (TMS) since 1966 and held many volunteer TMS leadership positions. In 2016 and 2019, he served as President of TMS. In recognition of his volunteer service, he was awarded the 2021 Alexander R. Scott Distinguished Service Award in March of 2021. He was also a long-time Registered Professional Engineer. He has numerous publications to his name. In 1986 he co-founded Group V Metals, Inc which licensed technology to produce the purest tantalum and niobium compounds commercially available in the world with customers in Japan and Europe.
In the spring of 1962, Richard J. “Dick” Ames founded Richard J. Ames Excavating in Lakeville, Minnesota, with a used Caterpillar D8 dozer and a strong work ethic born on the family farm. By late summer, Dick had asked his younger brother, Raymond “Butch” Ames, to join him in the business and, in 1963, the company was renamed Ames Construction, Inc. One by one, Ames family members joined the fledgling company, including their brothers John and Ron Ames and nephew, Mark Brennan.

While road construction and soil conservation work were the company’s mainstay, the housing boom following World War II also opened doors for the growing business, as Ames began residential site development work with a local developer. When the housing market stalled in the late 1960s, the company pursued commercial work and aligned with local major private general contractors.

By the mid-1970s, Ames Construction had built strong business relationships and opportunities arose for pursuing work outside of their home state, which ushered in an era of growth that uprooted family members to establish offices in different regions of the country. The company’s willingness to travel also opened doors to expand market opportunities. In the 1980s and 1990s, Ames added capabilities and broadened its reach to include projects in water resources, railroad, transportation, energy and mining.

Ames arrived at the site of its first mining client on Valentine’s Day in 1986 to work on a large infrastructure project. By building a relationship anchored with mutual trust, transparency and respect, Ames has never left the property. And in 1994, when called on by a client to help finish building a struggling six-million square foot leach pad at the Muruntau Mine in Uzbekistan, 40 Ames personnel traveled to the site within a week, trained local workers and finished the project.

For more than 35 years, Ames has successfully executed complex mining projects, which has placed them at the forefront of the mining industry. From infrastructure, mine development, and mine facility construction, to contract mining and mine reclamation work, Ames has an arsenal of experience including pre-production stripping, turnkey mine development, leach pads, tailings storage facilities, mechanical, contract mining, mine closure and reclamation work.

Today, Ames Construction is a full-service civil and industrial general contractor for projects in the federal, industrial, mining, railroad, renewable, transportation and water resources industries. Throughout Ames’ 60 years in business, the one constant has been creating partnerships with clients, vendors and the communities in which they live and work. These invaluable relationships carried Ames into the growth and expansion that continues today.
Arizona Copper Art Museum
2023 Special Citation

Arizona's Copper Art Museum originated from a simple spark. In 1958, John and Patricia Meinke of Minnesota saw in an antique shop several copper molds that captivated them. Later, Pat opened a small antique shop and kick-started today's massive collection displayed in the museum.

In 1978, their son, Drake, joined the business and started his collection. Over the years, both collections grew in size and prominence. A museum concept then evolved with a focus on connecting to an appropriate community with a foundation built around copper.

A two-year survey was conducted to find the best location within the U.S.A. for a museum of copper art. Arizona, nicknamed the Copper State, was easily chosen being the largest copper producer in the nation. Clarkdale, a former company town built by "America's Copper King," Senator W. A. Clark, was chosen as the new home for the museum's collection of copper art and artifacts. The museum occupies the former historic Clarkdale High School building and is an official Arizona Centennial Legacy Project. It opened as part of Arizona’s and Clarkdale’s mutual centennial celebrations of 2012.

The Arizona Copper Art Museum tells a genuine story that marries Arizona's greatest treasure with world legends and fantastic art. The affinities and history of copper is also featured and is very fascinating, bringing forth forgotten stories, legends and mysteries. Exhibits and collections are divided into six categories: information, military art, architecture, kitchenware, drink ware, and distillery and winery. A massive collection has been organized of over 6,500 works of copper art and architecture of Western European and Northern American emphasis, spanning from 3500 B.C. to present day.

The museum won the 2014 Arizona Governor's Tourism Award. The museum has also rocketed to the top 1% of 4,500 attractions in Arizona. Clarkdale is 16 miles SW from Sedona; the museum is in the center of town on historic route 89A.

To learn more, visit ARIZONA COPPER ART MUSEUM | HOME
Message from the Hall of Fame Chairman
Shawn Hamilton, Ryerson

Hopefully everyone is having an enjoyable summer and experiencing the leisure activities that the summer season often brings with their family and friends. Summer will pass quickly into Fall and before you know it, we will be gathering at the beautiful Marriott Starr Pass in Tucson to celebrate our wonderful slate of nominees at the 41st annual American Mining Hall of Fame Banquet that will occur on the evening of December 2nd. If you have not already done so, we want to encourage you to come join us along with your colleagues and friends to celebrate the outstanding achievements of those being honored. Thus far, we have experienced extraordinary interest in this year’s event, which only builds on the excitement and anticipation of this celebration! A heart felt thank you to all of you that have already lent your support with your generous sponsorship and ticket purchases, we are grateful for you. Without your support, our much-needed efforts to both inform and educate students about the importance of mining and minerals would be a very difficult task indeed. Please take a look at the Outreach Corner by Chris Earnest below in this newsletter and realize that your support is truly making a difference.

Platinum:

Gold:

Copper:


Miscellaneous: National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum
Summer Engineering Academy, National Outreach Coordinators collaboration, and the start of the school year.

As the summer sun beats down and the western US looks to the skies in hopes of rain, the outreach program is continuing its summer activities, expanding its network, and preparing for the start of the new school year. The outreach program has long assisted the Mining and Geological Engineering Department at the University of Arizona with their Summer Engineering Academy (SEA) summer camp for 11th and 12th grade students. This year students once again can participate either in-person, virtually, or both. The in-person camp took place on July 11th as a whole day of fun at the San Xavier Underground Mining Laboratory. Students started off the day with an introduction to Mining Engineering from Department Head Dr. Kray Luxbacher. This was followed by a student-favorite pyro-metallurgy activity led by Dr. Gail Heath. After competing to see which group could produce the most iron with the least amount of waste materials, the students headed underground to cool off.

Laboratory Director James Werner introduced students to modern underground mine operations while leading a tour of the east decline and took them through the south complex for an overview of the history of mining methods. During lunch, representatives from Caterpillar talked with students about opportunities available in the workforce and how their studies can lead them to a satisfying career. Once lunch was finished, James McNabb and Benjamin Meyer from the Geotechnical Center for Excellence (GCE) had students study how drones are used for mapping.
With the mapping complete, the students ran some tests on thermal cameras to explore how geotechnical engineers use technology to detect rockfalls. Although the weather was quite hot, the students enjoyed the great experiences.

On June 29th Chris chaired the 2nd meeting of the National Outreach Collaboration which he hosted in collaboration with Akudo Nwokeukwu, the Minerals Education Coalition Outreach Coordinator. The National Outreach Collaboration is a group Akudo and Chris have organized with a stated goal to “Promote outreach by building a cohesive, supportive mining outreach community. Share ideas and best practices for educating the public and prospective students. And Network, build relationships, and support outreach growth.” The Collaboration works to accomplish this with quarterly meetings and networking through which members can share materials, discuss outreach, and support those who are just starting their outreach journey. Participants in the collaboration come from universities, mining associations, museums, companies, and SME sections. The June online meeting consisted of a short presentation on the results of a survey conducted by SME of teachers’ perception of the mining industry and a breakout room discussion of the Collaboration’s member’s outreach programs. The next meeting will be held on-line at the end of September. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in joining the collaboration please click on this link. **National Outreach Coordinators Collaboration (NOCC) Group Signup**

As a final hurrah before class, the Summer Engineering Academy Virtual day will be hosted by the outreach program on July 27th. Our broadcast studio is ready as are the professors who will be joining us. Once students receive their activity kits, the preparations will be complete. It will be a great segue into the new school year. That’s right! Many schools in Arizona will come back from break at the end of July so the program has opened signups for presentations already. If you know of an educator who would like to see the outreach program come to their classroom this fall, please tell them to contact Chris at ear-nest@arizona.edu or visit **Overview | Lowell Institute for Mineral Resources (arizona.edu)** to sign up for a presentation.

*SEA Students familiarize themselves with the capabilities of a mapping drone.*
Shannon Panisko, Senior Director of Development, Montana Tech Foundation
Panisko received her education at Montana Technological University and joined Butte Broadcasting, Inc. where she worked for 18 years as an Account Executive and then Program Director. In 2016 she joined the Montana Technological University Foundation and is now senior Director of Development.

Hugo Untiveros, CEO, SMARTPROD
Untiveros is the Director for HC-Group. He received a Commercial Engineering degree from Universidad Arturo Prat in Chile. Upon graduation he joined Grupo Mexico in Peru. He subsequently moved to Modular Mining in Chile and in Tucson, Arizona. And in 2014 joined HC-Group. HC-GROUP, is a company dedicated to the supply of products and services in the area of Telecommunications, Mobile Computing and Technological Solutions to the Mining Industry, HC-GROUP was founded in 2005 in Tucson, Arizona, USA

Joel Campbell, Business Development Manager, Major Drilling
Joel Campbell is a Business Development Manager at Major Drilling Group International based out of Salt Lake City, Utah. Major Drilling Group International Inc. primarily provides contract drilling services for mining and mineral exploration companies. It offers a suite of drilling services, including surface and underground coring, directional, reverse circulation, sonic, geotechnical, environmental, water-well, coal-bed methane, shallow gas, underground percussive/longhole drilling, surface drill and blast, and various mine services.

Karin Boan, Chief Operating Officer, Eclipse Mining Technologies
Boan has nearly two decades of experience ensuring that business operations run smoothly and efficiently and has spent the last eight years in the mining industry. After earning her Bachelor of Science in Nutrition Sciences, Karin went on to pursue a career in managing a wide range of business operations. She has served as the Operations Manager at First Colebrook Bank and later she became the Office Manager, then Senior Administration Manager, and finally the Director of Internal Operations at Mintec/Hexagon Mining. Her experience allows her to execute business strategies with precision and continuously ensure that the business’ daily operations run without error.

John Hugens, Jr. President, Hugens Metallurgy and Combustion
Hugen’s is an experienced Materials and Metallurgical Engineer with a demonstrated history of working in the mining & metals industry. Skilled in Operations Management, Copper, Manufacturing, Mining, and Lean Manufacturing. He graduated from University of Utah. Prior to starting his consulting company he worked for Fives North American Combustion, Inc. and Asarco.

Megan Zivic, Principal Hydrogeologist, Montgomery & Associates
Zivic is a professional geologist with 12 years of experience in water resources and mining services. She obtained her BS Degree in Geological and Earth Sciences/Geosciences from The University of Arizona and her Masters of Science in Hydrology & Water Security from The University of Oklahoma. She is presently the President of Women in Mining Arizona

Help us get bigger and stronger and healthier! Go out and find a new member! Ask a business associate or convince a friend. Shake it up, stir it and let it simmer!
The reconstruction and refurbishment of the diorama at the Bullion Plaza Museum in Miami is mostly complete with a final punch list put together on July 12. A grand opening will be held in early September.

Russel Hewlett, Tom Scartaccini, Jan Rasmussen, Larry Dykers, Bob Walish and Tom Foster, Exec Dir. Bullion Plaza Museum led the efforts refurbishing the diorama at its new location in the Bullion Plaza Cultural Center & Museum in Miami, Arizona. Bullion Plaza Cultural Center & Museum – In Historic Miami, AZ (bullionplazamuseum.org)
December 2, 2023 Hall of Fame Awards Banquet Information

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Sponsorships are offered at 5 levels: Diamond ($10,000), Platinum ($7,500), Gold ($5,000), Copper ($2,500) & Silver ($1,000). All sponsors are recognized on the Foundation’s website, press releases, banquet program and during the banquet ceremony.

TICKET SALES

Honorary, Sustaining, Gold, Silver and Voting members in good standing are extended member pricing for 2 banquet tickets at $250 per ticket. Non-member tickets are $300. Table of 10 is $3,000.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Attendees are extended a special room rate of $154+ tax + a discounted Resort Fee of $10.00 per night, discounted $85 golf rate and a 20% spa only discount. The contracted cutoff date for reservations at the group rate is Friday, Nov. 10 or call 877-622-3140. (ask for “SME Arizona Conference/MFSW/Summit 2023” rate).

For additional information, please go to: Events (miningeducationfoundation.org)

HALL OF FAME MEETING

Date: Wednesday, August 09, 2023
Time: 3:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.
Place: Zoom
RSVP: admin@miningfoundationsw.org or 520-577-7519
Message from the MMEF President
Robert Tracy, Thyssen Mining

The dog days of summer are upon us, which means that the 41st Annual Mining Hall of Fame Banquet & Fundraiser is less than 5 months away or more pressing for many, it also means the new school year is around the corner. Even with the summer break in schools, the Education Outreach Program has been busy including another successful Summer Engineering Program and the University of Arizona’s San Xavier Mining Laboratory. Since you are taking the time to read our newsletter, I can only hope you believe in the mission of the Mining and Minerals Education Foundation. If you are not a member, please consider joining. If you are already a member, please share your experience and the impacts the MMEF makes with a colleague. Growing our membership base will help us continue to positively influence the public's opinion of the importance of the mining and mineral industries. To support our continuing effort to expand the MMEF’s influence, we are also always looking for ways to expand our impact in educating the public. If you have any ideas or contacts for worthwhile donations that align with our mission and can help promote the MMEF, please let us know. Thank you to our members and sponsors for your support. Stay cool out there."