

NAAML P

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ABANDONED MINE LAND PROGRAMS

NEWSLETTER
Fall 2019 Vol. 41 No. 2

INSIDE

President's Message	
NAAML P 2019 Conference	2
Scholarship Winners.....	5
Dave Bucknam Award	6
Stan Barnard Award	6
NAAML P Awards.....	7
NAAML P Hardrock Awards	9
NASLR Awards	10
Madeline Roanhorse	12
Winter Business Meeting	12

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Winter Business Meeting
Charleston, West Virginia
Feb 25 - 27, 2020

MISSION STATEMENT

1. To provide a forum to address current issues, discuss common problems and share new technologies regarding abandoned mine land reclamation;
2. To foster positive and productive relationships between the states and tribes represented by the Association and the federal government;
3. To serve as an effective, unified voice when presenting the states'/tribes' common viewpoints; and
4. To coordinate, cooperate and communicate with the Interstate Mining Compact Commission, and all other organizations dedicated to wise use and restoration of our natural resources.

Letter From the President

I would first like to thank the Pennsylvania BAMR folks for hosting a great conference in Pittsburgh. It was a very positive collaboration between the NAAML P, the National Association of State Land Reclamation (NASLR), and the Pennsylvania Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conferences. I enjoy our conference more each year. The plenary sessions provide messages of support, hope and encouragement. The technical sessions provide valuable insight to current trends and new technologies. We get to acknowledge and celebrate the amazing work of our colleagues during the banquet. Then there's Tuesday Tour-day. It is a privilege to visit the host State, see various reclamation projects, learn about the local history and culture, and finish the day with a barbeque (or river cruise). I truly cherish the relationships that have formed during these events. Congratulations to Alabama, Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio for their AML Reclamation Awards; and to Colorado and Nevada for their Hardrock Reclamation Awards. Congratulations to Bob Scott for receiving the Stan Barnard Memorial Award. Your leadership and services to Kentucky and NAAML P are certainly deserving, and appreciated. Sadly, Tom Henderson received the Dave Bucknam Award posthumously for his memorable and effective teaching.

The most notable speakers of the Plenary Session may have been Congressmen Glen Thompson(R-PA) and Mark Cartwright(D-PA). They announced the introduction of The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Amendments of 2019 (H.R. 4248). The Bill now has 22 cosponsors, and is gaining momentum. John Stefanko (PA) and Alan Edwards (WY) proved great testimony at a House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources hearing, on November 14th. If you missed the hearing and would like to watch it, the video can be found at the following link:

https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/emr-legislative-hearing_november-14-2019

The subcommittee recognized the importance of the AML Program, and would like to see Reauthorization passed. A sincere thanks goes out to IMCC for their work coordinating this hearing, and the testimony preparation for John and Alan.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our most recent President, Autumn Coleman. She has provided great leadership to the Association as President, as well as chairing various committees and workgroups. Autumn has been a great friend, valuable colleague, and I wish her the best at the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. I will certainly be reaching out for insight and advice.



Next, I would like to thank the membership for trusting me to serve as your President. I am grateful for the opportunity, and am committed to serve you the best I can. This year will be very exciting, and challenging. I look forward to hosting the 2020 Winter Business Meeting at the Embassy Suites of Charleston, WV on February 25-27.

Our work towards Reauthorization of the AML Fee continues, and it will need the skills and knowledge from each of our State and Tribal Programs. Many accomplishments have been made, and I feel like we are well positioned as we move forward. The hard work of the Data, Messaging, and PI&E Committees have provided an accurate picture of the responsible, efficient and legitimate work completed by AML on a National level. Coordination with OSMRE continues as we work on transparency of the program. Current initiatives include updating footnotes in the Greenbook, adding the full history of funding to their website, along with grant closeout reports from each of the State and Tribal Programs. Graphics which help explain where AML funding comes from, how it is divided, and where it has been spent have been added to OSMRE's website. The AML Fact-Sheet Narrative has also been added.

Suzan Kozak (Vice President), Jeff Graves (Secretary-Treasurer), and I look forward to what this next year has to offer. Please stay engaged with the ongoing initiatives of the Association as we continue to push for Reauthorization, and continue to build our legacy of achievement. Thank you for your work and continued commitment to restore the lands and water of this great nation. I hope each of you have a great holiday season, and look forward to seeing you in February.

Sincerely,



Travis Parsons
NAAML P President

Pennsylvania's AML Program Hosts The 2019 NAAML P Conference In Pittsburgh



Over 450 attendees from across the country gathered in Pittsburgh in early September for the annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAML P) Conference. The conference was conducted jointly with the National Association of State Land Reclamationists (NASLR) and the Pennsylvania Abandoned Mine Reclamation (PA AMR) conferences. The conference theme was Restore-Transform-Revitalize and the venue for the conference was the Wyndham Grand Downtown Hotel located in the "Golden Triangle" near the "Point" in downtown Pittsburgh.



The conference kicked off on September 8th with a welcome reception with the conference's 52 sponsors and exhibitors. Monday September 9th started with a plenary session hosted by Pennsylvania's AML Program Director, Eric Cavazza. Speakers included Patrick McDonnell, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Secretary; Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County Executive; US Congressman Matt Cartwright (PA-8th) (via Video Remarks); and US Congressman Glenn Thompson (PA 15th). The highlight of the plenary session was the announcement by Congressmen Cartwright and Thompson of the introduction of HR 4248, The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) Amendments of 2019 which, among other things, would reauthorize the AML Program for an additional 15 years until September 30, 2036. A panel discussion on reauthorization, hosted by former Executive Director of IMCC Greg Conrad followed the plenary session. Five concurrent technical sessions filled out the remainder of the day. An awards banquet was held Monday evening where OSMRE, NASLR and NAAMLPL all recognized award winning reclamation projects. NASLR and NAAMLPL awarded scholarships and OSMRE's NTPP Training Program posthumously recognized Tom Henderson as the Dave Bucknam outstanding instructor for 2019. The banquet concluded with the announcement that Bob Scott, Director of Kentucky's Division of Abandoned Mine Lands, was selected as NAAMLPL's Stan Barnard award winner for 2019.





On Tuesday, attendees boarded buses for field trips. The tours included the Flight 93 National Memorial Tour; the Fallingwater and Ohio State Park Tour; the Tour-Ed Underground Mine & Museum and Steel Facilities Tour; and the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden and Pittsburgh International Airport AML Pilot Site Tour. Each tour included a mix of AML tour stops in addition to the historic and cultural tour stops. The day concluded with an evening dinner cruise on Pittsburgh's three rivers on a perfect weather evening.

NAAMLPScholarship Awards



Chris Brown - Utah State University

Chris grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah and graduated from Utah State University in 2017 with a BS in Watershed Science and Earth Systems and a minor in GIS. While working as a Mine Land Reclamation Intern on a mine in Southeastern Idaho and as an AML Inspector in North Dakota, he has found a strong interest in working with, and helping develop land reclamation practices in mining.

Chris is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Rangeland Science from Utah State University, studying under Professor R. Douglas Ramsey. His thesis work entails evaluating coal mine reclamation in Central Utah using drone imagery, and developing methodologies for land managers to effectively apply remote sensing to their reclamation projects. Chris has a wide base of hobbies that include spelunking, climbing, canyoneering, carpentry, and drones.



Chase Carroll - University of Utah

Chase is a senior in the Mining Engineering department at the University of Utah. He was born and raised in Utah and has always had a passion for spending time outdoors. He got involved in mining because of his interest in heavy equipment and digging holes. One time, at the age of 9, Chase dug sprinkler line trenches for a neighbor all day for payment of only pizza and a dollar. He now spends his free time in the local lakes of Utah enjoying watersports and fishing.

Chase is the Chapter President for the Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration at the University of Utah and previously served as the Lead Ambassador for the College of Mines and Earth Sciences for two years. He recently completed his 3rd summer internship with Granite Construction in Salt Lake City where he worked on groundwater management, process efficiency, and mine closure projects. Chase is excited to graduate and get out into the mining industry to make a measurable impact.



Johnathan Prose - Kishwaukee Community College/Iowa State University

Johnathan is a transfer student who will be studying Civil Environmental Engineering at Iowa State University this fall. Previously, he attended Kishwaukee Community College for two years. He received his Associates Degree in Engineering Science in the summer of 2019. While attending Kish, Johnathan was very involved. He served one term as the Student Trustee and as the President of the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society. Outside of his leadership, Johnathan volunteers his time in the community. Two organizations in which he volunteers his time are 4-H and the Village of Progress.

Johnathan has received a number of awards for his leadership and service in Phi Theta Kappa including the Phi Theta Kappa All-Illinois Academic Team Award and Coca-Cola Bronze Scholar Scholarship. Outside of school, he works part-time as a Physical Assistant for a family member with a disability and seasonally as a youth soccer referee for the Park District. The summer of 2019 he worked full time as a Civil Engineering Intern at IMEG Corp.

NASLR Scholarship Award



Nick Shepherd - University of Oklahoma

Nick is a graduate student at the University of Oklahoma (OU), pursuing a doctoral degree in environmental engineering. He began his mining reclamation research as a high school student in 2009 when he conducted independent science research projects at the Tar Creek Superfund Site in northeastern Oklahoma. He has earned both his bachelor's in environmental engineering and master's in civil engineering with an emphasis on water resources. While at OU he joined the Center for Restoration of Ecosystems and Watersheds (CREW) research group. His research interests are largely focused around mine drainage evaluation and treatment. His past projects include long-term water quality monitoring of existing passive treatment systems and mining-impacted watersheds at the Tar Creek

Superfund Site with CREW, leachability of spent media from vertical flow bioreactors, impacts of beaver recolonization on mining-impacted streams, and recovery of fish communities following the implementation of passive treatment.

Since high school and throughout his college career, he has conducted research in mining impacted areas, competed in multiple international competitions, and presented at numerous conferences. As a PhD student, he has continued his research at the Tar Creek Superfund Site under Dr. Robert W. Nairn, investigating: the chemical and biological environmental impacts from historic untreated mine drainage discharges; viable approaches to capture and treat historic untreated mine drainage discharges; and the supporting, provisioning, regulating, and cultural ecosystem services provided by mine drainage treatment through passive treatment system implementation in specific sub-watersheds. Mr. Shepherd has excelled academically, and, anticipating graduation in 2022.

Dave Bucknam Award - Tom Henderson



For those who never knew Tom, it is impossible to fully appreciate the influence he had on his peers and reclamation projects. Tom consistently held himself and his projects to higher performance standards than are typically achieved in our profession. The SMCRA program greatly benefited from Tom's constant pursuit of excellence. His character and enthusiasm motivated colleagues and students.

Tom was also a strong advocate of using science and technology to facilitate excellence in reclamation projects. He viewed the training, software, and technology offered by the TIPS program as an effective tool to enhance SMCRA implementation. He regularly used and shared his knowledge as a PhD in Hydrogeology, as well as applied field experiences, in his role as a TIPS instructor. His approach consistently demonstrated that technology combined with a gregarious "can-do" attitude can optimize the outcomes of reclamation projects.

I have had the great pleasure to have worked with Tom on a number of different occasions. He was by any measure a nationally recognized expert and authority in both practical and theoretical applications of hydrogeology in mine remediation. His efforts both within and outside the classroom have resulted in significant achievements.

Beyond his technical abilities, as an instructor I can name few others that can equal his passion and enthusiasm for sharing information with his students. I am sure that student evaluations will clearly bear this out. From a personal perspective I can undeniably state that there are few other professional colleagues from which I have learned more from in my career.

*Richard Beam P. G. , Professional Geologist Manager
PA DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation*

Stan Barnard Award - Bob Scott

Bob is a dedicated public servant committed to the elimination of health and safety hazards and the restoration of environmental degradation resulting from abandoned and unreclaimed mines located across Kentucky. He has been involved in national AML issues by actively serving as Kentucky's delegate to the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAML) since 2012. He is a long-standing member of the NAAML Training and Research Committees and in that capacity has worked to ensure that the Association has a voice on the OSMRE Training Steering Committee and also has input on directing any limited research funding to efforts that would benefit the members of NAAML.

Bob became president of NAAML in 2017, and under his leadership the association remained steady and worked collectively to meet the challenges brought on by a host of AML issues and initiatives being pursued or considered at the national level. These included the federal RECLAIM Act (a.k.a: The Revitalizing the Economy of Coal Communities by Leveraging Local Activities and Investing More Act); the first couple of years of the AML Pilot Program; continued federal budget sequestration; reauthorization of SMCRA Title IV; various issues related to federal budgets and associated continuing resolutions; and OSMRE oversight issues. In his various NAAML officer roles, he helped guide the states' advocacy for AML funding and legislative priorities, constantly making people aware of AML Emergencies and that state AML Programs are the only game in town to address these suddenly-occurring, often life-threatening AML problems. His leadership skills during these years provided a positive and influential impact on the direction of NAAML.

Bob is well respected leader among the membership of NAAML as well as the staff of the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement. In all that he does, Bob exudes Stan-like qualities. Like Stan, his positive attitude and subtle sense of humor are infectious, and similarly, he has a way of putting people at ease and getting everyone to work together.



Dessecker Mine Project, Ohio

National Award Winner

The land owned by the Camp Tuscazoar Foundation and the Boy Scouts, was subjected to a number of health, safety, property and general welfare threats from historic mining, including acid mine drainage, open portals, and hazardous equipment left in the open. To address the hazards, Ohio's AML Program sealed the portals, eliminated a dangerous highwall, removed hundreds of tons of debris, and preserved historically significant mining assets for the next generation. The state formed a partnership with the community to solve many of the AML problems. The result now allows Scouts, visitors and people living nearby to enjoy the former mine site safely.



[Watch a video about the Dessecker Mine Project](#)

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mineral Resources

Roger Cornett Slide, Kentucky

Appalachian Region Award Winner

On a rainy Friday night in April 2018, Kentucky AML received a call from a resident concerned about a sudden landslide near his home, his rental properties, and a neighbor's house. The landslide brought down tons of mud, trees, and old coal, threatening people's lives and property. Kentucky's quick response abated the threats to the residents and the safety of their property.



[Watch a video about the Roger Cornett Slide](#)

Kentucky Department of Natural Resources
Division of Abandoned Mine Lands

Narrow Lake Abandoned Mine Land Site 1805, Indiana Mid-Continent Region Award Winner

A dangerous and large highwall loomed above a road and a lake in the Greene-Sullivan State Forest, posing a danger to anyone driving, hiking, or fishing near Narrow Lake. Indiana's AML program worked with two sister agencies in the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to address the AML hazard. The collaborative effort removed almost 4,000 linear feet of highwall, and the agencies created additional cabin areas, built a new boat ramp, constructed more than a mile of trails, and added new fish habitat, all of which improved recreational opportunities at the site.



[Watch a video about the Narrow Lake AML Site 1805](#)



[Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Abandoned Mine Land Program](#)

Wise Hill Underground Mine Fire Mitigation, Colorado Western Region Award Winner

One of the biggest underground mine fires in Colorado burned for more than 70 years, frustrating repeated efforts to contain or extinguish it. After several unsuccessful attempts to suffocate it, the fire migrated thousands of feet, grew in size, and threatened a nearby coal mine, and a town. The fire also generated toxic gases and heat that could have ignited surface vegetation, potentially leading to wildfires. Colorado's program used methods learned from a previous underground mine fire project to mitigate the threat and contain the fire deep underground, minimizing the danger of wildfire and toxic fumes.



[Watch a video about the Wise Hill Underground Mine Fire](#)



[Colorado Department for Natural Resources
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety](#)

Marvel Gob Fire, Alabama Small Project Award Winner

An ongoing mine fire at Alabama's old Marvel mines caused havoc in a small community with surface temperatures reaching as high as 930 degrees Fahrenheit on the surface. More than an acre of gob material was burning, generating noxious odors, smoke and fog. Alabama's AML program put out the fire, and reclaimed the site in 50 working days. The project is considered small in scale by reclamation standards, but for people living nearby, Alabama's AML Program solved an important community concern.



[Watch a video about the Marvel Gob Fire](#)



[Alabama Department of Labor
Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation](#)

Hough Mine Reclamation Project - Colorado NAAML P Hardrock Environmental Reclamation Award

The Hough Mine is an abandoned mine located approximately 17 miles west of Lake City in Hinsdale County, Colorado. The site lies near the northwestern edge of the Lake City Caldera of the San Juan Mountains and is adjacent to the Engineer Pass Road at an elevation of 12,700 feet, in the headwaters of Palmetto Gulch, a tributary to Henson Creek. It's located on privately held claims and consisted of a shaft, driven to 425 feet with multiple working levels, two waste rock dumps, and an adit that discharges water at a rate of approximately twenty gallons per minute. Mine waste covered approximately 7 acres, overwhelming adjacent drainages with impacts from the waste.

The expansive foot print and irregular grade of the waste piles allowed for a large amount of water to continuously move through the mineralized waste rock generating acid rock drainage and leaching heavy metals into Palmetto Gulch directly, and then to Henson Creek downstream. The pH of Palmetto Gulch ranged from 2.7 to 5 throughout pre-reclamation monitoring.



Tara Tafi, of the Colorado Inactive Mine Reclamation Program, accepting for the Hough Mine Reclamation Project

Reclamation design involved consolidating the two waste rock piles into one repository, capping the wastes with an impermeable liner and rock cover from an on-site borrow source and installing hydrologic controls throughout the site. Work began in July of 2013 and was completed in the fall of 2014. The total cost of the reclamation of the Hough Mine was over \$467,000. Funding for the reclamation was provided by a Non-Point Source grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment with matching funds from a state severance tax.

Post reclamation sampling from 2015 to 2017, show continued water quality improvements in some metals, specifically in Henson Creek below the confluence with Palmetto Gulch.

[Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety
Inactive Mine Reclamation Program](#)

Gold Butte National Monument Project - Nevada NAAML P Hardrock Physical Safety Reclamation Award

The Gold Butte AML Project is located in the recently created Gold Butte National Monument located northeast of Las Vegas in Clark County, Nevada. The project consisted of 40 hazardous abandoned mine openings spread out over 220 square miles in two historic mining districts, Bunkerville and Gold Butte. Gold, silver, copper, zinc, platinum, cobalt, nickel and vermiculite were mined historically in the districts during the early 20th century.

Wildlife surveys identified significant bat habitat at many of these locations and noted desert tortoise using the abandoned mine openings. The Nevada Division of Minerals and the Clark County Desert Conservation Program partnered to perform the closures at the sites with significant wildlife habitat. The Division also worked with the BLM to perform wildlife and cultural surveys and ultimately signed a categorical exclusion to perform the closures. The Division and its contractor determined that using a helicopter to access and transport materials to these remote sites would significantly shorten the project timeline resulting in an overall savings.



Robert Ghiglieri (left), Nevada Abandoned Mine Lands Program, accepting for the Gold Butte National Monument Closure Project

Reclamation was completed on October 15th 2018, after 29 working days for about \$270,000. Twenty-eight of the 40 hazards closed were wildlife compatible closures, three of which had tortoise doors. The remaining 12 sites were closed with polyurethane foam plugs.

After completion of one of the tortoise doors, the state contractor moved their equipment to the next site and then returned to take the closure photo just in time to see a tortoise exiting the mine. This was the first time in Division history that a tortoise was witnessed using one of the wildlife compatible closures. The Gold Butte project was an example of successful collaboration between multiple agencies to remediate abandoned mine hazards protecting the public while keeping significant wildlife habitat.

[Nevada Division of Minerals
Abandoned Mine Lands Program](#)

NASLR Mined Land Reclamation Award - Non-Coal Thelen Sand and Gravel, Richardson Pit - Antioch, Illinois

The Thelen Sand and Gravel, Inc., Richardson Pit was nominated by Rick Sterling from the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources, Office of Mines and Minerals. Thelen was approached by the Richardson Adventure farm to mine their property to provide revenue and create additional recreational uses of the property post mining. Thelen was selected by the Richardson Farm based on their reputation for concurrent reclamation and the fact that they have won the state reclamation award for another mine site. The Richardson Pit was permitted for 185 acres and mining commenced in April of 2012 and was completed in June of 2018. Mining consisted of above and below water mining and resulted in the creation of two waterbodies: a 60-acre lake and a 5-acre lake with a heart shaped island. To reduce offsite impacts to the neighboring subdivisions, Thelen conveyed the material over 7,000 feet, crossing 3 properties and under two roads to the main plant for processing.

The final use of the property is agricultural and recreational as it is adjacent to the Richardson Adventure Farm which has plans to expand their operation onto the reclaimed area. The Adventure Farm has many kinds of outdoor activities: ziplining, corn maze, zorbing, wagon and train rides to name a few. With the addition of the newly created lakes, the family envisions adding fishing, paddle boating, and the creation of a wedding venue – hence the request for the construction of a heart shaped island.

Thelen received a letter of recognition from the Richardson Family which is a 6th generation active farm, the Village President of Spring Grove, and more importantly from a neighbor of the adjacent subdivision who was initially horrified at the prospect of an active mine being across from his house. The neighbors are thrilled with their new views of the lakes as opposed to the views of the corn field.



Matthew Thelen & Ron Raup accepting the Non-Coal Award

NASLR Mined Land Reclamation Award - Coal Paramont Contura, Surface 88 Mine - Norton, Virginia

The Paramont Contura, 88 Surface is an active mine consisting of 2451 acres mining 10 coal seams. The site consists of surface area, surface steep slope and surface auger (highwall miner) operations. Mining began in 2006 and projections show the permit to extend mining into 2022. Post mining land use for this site is predominately unmanaged forest, light industrial, and public use. At this time the company has successfully reclaimed Phase 1 which consists of 340 acres.

The company faced numerous challenges including: Mining multiple seams while backfilling and eliminating highwall. The presence of old deep mine works impounding water. Poor water quality with high manganese. Calendar restrictions for bat habitat, coordinating tree and initial overburden removal. Mining beside five, 765-kilowatt high voltage lines (main lines for the east coast) onsite, and two others adjacent to the permit while protecting their structure and stability.

Experimental practices provided by Virginia Tech were used to reduce dissolved solids by identifying rock layers with lower metal concentrations and placed them in the fills designed to be in contact with water. Fills with higher metal concentrations were used in other areas. Using these practices showed a noted decrease in the TDS values of the fill drain and receiving stream. Virginia Tech is conducting a comparison study of the water discharges between Fill A and Fill B which were constructed with traditional techniques.

Over 5000 feet of stream was constructed which was inspected and approved by ACOE after 5 years. Native riparian trees and shrubs were planted, and the fish population has improved. After mining is complete a total of 15,000 feet of stream will be restored. The company relocated and constructed over 7000 feet of State Route 601 at a cost of \$1.5 million for materials, the company provided engineering services, labor and equipment. The site has 28 ponds with 18 monitoring points and no water quality violations have been issued since mining began in 2006.

Paramont Contura continues to be a model of compliance with state and federal regulators, and committed to environmental awareness while employing the highest quality of reclamation practices.



Mike Stiltner, Reclamation Crew Leader for Paramont Contura

NASLR Outreach Award American Rock Salt - Mt. Morris, New York

American Rock Salt (ARS) is located in the heart of the Genesee Valley in western New York state. ARS is a family owned business supplying rock salt to 12 northeastern states for de-icing roads, making it safer for millions of people to travel in winter. Founded in 1997 by local investors, ARS prides itself on its strong relationships with the local community.

Education is a large portion of their outreach program, and ARS encourages students to pursue careers in the mining industry and promote stewardship and sustainability. They sponsor an annual geology lecture at SUNY Geneseo, and provide internships for undergraduate geology students to work closely with their engineering, geology, environmental, and health and safety staff. ARS staff visit local high schools, colleges, and organizations, sharing knowledge about the mine along with history of salt mining in the region. ARS holds an annual guest lecture at Rochester Institute of Technology's Environmental, Health, and Safety Management program, offering guidance to students interested in pursuing a career in mining and mineral resources management.

When plans to expand operations by an additional 1,700 acres were being drafted, ARS implemented a community engagement program to inform the public. They met with local business groups, community organizations, environmental groups, school districts, and media to discuss expansion plans and answer questions. Their willingness to discuss the process garnered them support from environmental groups and local community throughout the state's permit review process.



Joseph Bucci, Jr. and William Glynn accepting the Outreach Award

ARS supports many charities, believing it is important to give back to the community. They sponsor an annual bike ride, promoting wellness within the company and community. Donations to a local historical society, will expand the museum and include exhibits which focus on the history of salt mining in the region. American Rock Salt, LLC is a shining example of how a mining company can get involved with its local community, foster good relationships, educate future scientists, and promote the mining industry.

Madeline Roanhorse

It is with great sadness and sympathy that we send our condolences to the family of Madeline Roanhorse. Rest In Peace Madeline Roanhorse. Thank you for your dedication on working on behalf of the Diné people.

Madeline was born May 8, 1960, in Lukachukai, into the Ta'neeszahnii (Tangle Clan), born for Tódích'íi'nii (Bitter Water Clan). Her nali is Tsi'naajinii (Black Streak Wood People); chei is Naakai dine'é (Mexican Clan). She passed away Oct. 19, 2019, in Oak Springs, Arizona.

"Madeline Roanhorse impacted our Nation for 30 years making sure abandoned mines were made safe for our people. 100's of coal, uranium and other mines were reclaimed under her leadership. It was my privilege to go with her to Washington DC, San Francisco, Denver and many other places advocating for proper cleanup and holding the government and companies responsible. We hiked up and down mountains and mesas reviewing mines needing to be reclaimed. She was respected by many in the environmental industry. Last year we attended EPA's annual Region 9 Tribal meeting in San Francisco. This is one of the biggest meetings for tribes to present their issues. She was phenomenal in those meetings. This year was at Akchin, south of Phoenix. On her way there she died in a car accident. Thank you Madeline, rest well."



Russell Begaye, Navajo Nation President

Winter Business Meeting, February 25 - 27 2020

[Embassy Suites Hotel - Charleston West Virginia](#)

[Book A Room At Embassy Suites - Group Code: NAM](#)

300 Court Street, Charleston, WV 25301 - Phone: 304-347-8700

A block of suites has been reserved at the rate of \$107.00-Single/Double - Feb. 24 to Feb.28

To reserve a suite at this rate, please make your reservation by 01/28/2020 by calling 1-800-EMBASSY or 304-347-8700 or go online to [Embassy Suites My Reservations](#). After 01/28/2020 the rooms will no longer be available at the rate listed.

Check-In time is 4:00 PM and Check-Out time is 12:00 PM. Requests for early arrival, late departure, room type or floor assignments cannot be guaranteed. Reservations must be cancelled by 4:00 PM the day of arrival to avoid charges.

Embassy Suites offers a complimentary shuttle to and from Yeager Airport.

FROM YEAGER AIRPORT - Take Airport Road down to Greenbrier Street. Take I-64 West. Take the Leon Sullivan Way Exit. At light turn RIGHT on Washington Street. Follow Washington Street 3 blocks. Embassy Suites is on the LEFT.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SPECIFICATIONS

Articles subject to editing. Submit an article by e-mail.
Include author's name, title of article, captions for photos.
Submit photos in TIF (preferred) or JPG format, and original photo size.
E-mail photos as individual files, not embedded.

Deadline for Spring Edition is April 15, 2020.

Email articles to **Bob Scott** (bobf.scott@ky.gov) or
mail articles to: Bob Scott, Director
Division of Abandoned Mine Lands
Department for Natural Resources
300 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40601

For more information call **Bob Scott** or **Ben Enzweiler** at
502-564-2141.