The American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) — the association for associations — provides the following definition of an association:

“an organization or group of individuals affiliated with one another who share a common purpose, interest, or mission and exist for the mutual enrichment and advancement of their membership.” (https://www.asha.org/associates/Why-Do-Associations-Exist/)

Further, the ASAE defines a Professional Association as an organization that is established:

“to further specific professions and the interests of those who work in them” and the membership “is comprised of individual members within the profession who share a common belief or purpose.”

This is the long way of saying that MMSA is a membership organization that is driven by the needs and requirements of its membership.

In 2018, the MMSA Council decided it was important to get feedback from the MMSA membership, so a survey was sent out to the membership in January 2019. The goal of the survey was to provide a foundation for guiding the decisions for the future actions of MMSA.

More than a 100 members responded to the survey. In the current times of survey-fatigue (who hasn’t recently stayed in a hotel where you were barraged with requests for feedback?), we were quite pleased with the response. Nearly 30% of our members responded. Statistically speaking, this is outstanding for this type of survey. We would like to thank everyone who participated.

The survey consisted of 9 questions ranging from the usual demographic questions (how long have you been a member) to questions regarding the stated mission of MMSA, our current programs, ideas for collaboration, other activities that would increase membership value and the reasons for belonging to MMSA. Additionally, the respondents had the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions. A summary of the questions and the responses are available on the MMSA website at:
Overall, each of our listed current programs received a score greater than 3.3 on a scale of importance ranging from 1-low to 5-high. Of the 15 programs listed, the top five ranked programs were:

- Management and development of the QP program (score of 4.40 out of 5.00)
- Outreach to legislators and regulatory agencies (4.23)
- Collaboration with other organizations to develop programs that benefit the industry (4.16)
- Recruiting new members to MMSA (4.12)
- Position papers on regulatory topics (4.10)

The survey also included a list of 10 activities that could potentially increase MMSA’s membership value. The top five were:

- Recruitment of young people into mineral industry careers (4.14)
- Career mentoring for young professionals (3.91)
- Topical conferences for regulators regarding the Minerals Industry (3.82)
- Networking opportunities/social media (3.81)
- Webinars for topics such as technical report writing and valuation procedures (3.56)

So – what is the take-away from the survey? We believe the following recurring themes from all the questions and comments provide the basis and the drivers for MMSA going forward:

- Attracting and keeping younger people in mineral industry careers as well as MMSA
- Promoting strong ethics
- Continuation of a high quality QP program
- Promotion of mining to the general public and legislators
- Collaboration with other organizations without repeating what others are doing

The challenge is converting this feedback into actions and programs that will keep MMSA dynamic and relevant to our global mining community. To that end, the Executive Committee is working on an organizational structure we believe will provide the platform for MMSA’s course of action. We have taken the survey and the initial suggestions from the Collaboration Committee and have started to

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<td>Mark A Bowron</td>
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<td>Vivek Galla</td>
<td>Mining; Ore Reserves; Mineral Valuation/Finance; Minerals Project Costing, Infrastructure, Management</td>
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put together a framework that will hopefully break down our course of action into bite-sized pieces.

Both the results from the survey and the Collaboration Committee suggestions are quite broad. There is a danger of trying to do too much at one time which would dilute our efforts, so we are working to make sure we have a reasonable process for choosing and implementing MMSA’s future activities. Our intention is to roll out this framework within the next couple of months so stay tuned!

Continued feedback and ideas from membership are always welcome.

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**MMSA News**

**The AML Conference Committee**

A survey was sent to participants after the AML Conference on April 9. Questions were asked to find out what the participants thought were the important parts of the conference and asked for suggestions for future conferences. Nineteen of the participants answered the survey. Many had comments that will help guide the future activities of the Committee. Following are some of the results and a few of the comments provided.

Sixty-five percent of respondents thought the conference met or exceeded expectations and the event was well organized. Eighty percent of the respondents indicated that the information presented at the conference was useful and relevant. The speakers and panels were considered the most useful and informative aspects of the conference. One person preferred a speaker only format. All who answered wanted to continue to have AML conferences.

The most preferred topic for a future conference was more information about liability release vehicles, although all of the topics covered in the conference were considered important.

- “I thought the conference was really well done. I would appreciate a longer conference (multiple days), but I understand the logistical issues and people’s work schedules. Some video footage from some of the panelists would be interesting to see their work in a more “active” setting than just stills. I definitely thought it was well done and informative.”
- “Presentations were well organized. Most of the presenters seemed to know what they were talking about. I was surprised that the AML legislation has been in process for ~25 years. I was disappointed that there has been so little progress made and that little or no progress is apparent in the future.”
- “I think more attention needs to be spent on the legal aspects of this action even though the political side of things seems to be the biggest hang-up to passing legislation I’m concerned how any new law will mesh with existing law.”
- “I’d rather hear more detail on a limited number of topics than a little bit of detail on a lot of topics.”

Focus for next conference:

- “Site Characterization seemed to be a very big issue in our breakout group, so I would maybe start with that and how the legislation will have an effect on that.”
- “About 15 minutes to update the lack of progress on the legislation then how to navigate the liability resulting in successful cleanups.”

A question was asked about follow-up after the conference. The two most desired were 1) regular updates about legislation, on-ground progress with demo sites, other AML related issues, and 2) Webinars about AML topics.

A complete report on the conference is coming soon. The slides have been loaded to the AML Web page. The report will summarize points the speakers made during their presentations and include the results of the breakout sessions.

Watch the AML page for updates. [http://www.mmsa.net/AMLPage-All.html](http://www.mmsa.net/AMLPage-All.html)

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**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:**

No new Regular Members

**QP Members Confirmed:**

No new QP Members

**Membership Deletions:**

Glenn Hoffman

MMSA presently has a total of 349 members, 6 in process. Currently, 203 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](http://www.mmsa.net) This data base is the best source for information on any particular member.

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**World Bank: “Mining Minerals for Climate Action – Climate-Smart Mining: The Growing Role of Minerals and Metals for a Low Carbon Future”**

May 1, 2019 Washington DC

Of concern to the World Bank is the lack of presently identified mineral resources for the needs of generating electricity with the rapid increase of advanced technologies throughout the developing world.

A 3MW wind turbine requires 4.7
tons of copper, 335 tons of steel, 1200 tons of concrete, 3 tons of aluminum, 2 tons of rare earth minerals, plus zinc and molybdenum. With an expected increase in wind-generated electricity of 63% by 2023, there will be a shortfall in the minerals and metals needed to meet this demand.

Electric vehicles will need a 10 times increase in identified resources for lithium and 2 times for nickel. No matter how much we lower the demand side of generating electricity, there are not enough mineral/metal resources identified worldwide to take care of our future’s increased demands. To reduce the global carbon footprint will require a global increase in power generation of 3.5 times by 2050. This can only happen with mining the minerals and metals needed to build low carbon power generation.

This mineral shortage is a crisis because no one is paying attention to the mineral requirements of a digital/technical/green future.

The World Bank views mining as a “force for good” providing more people with electricity and higher standards of living. 


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**Women’s Mining Coalition 2019 FlyIn to Washington DC**

The week of April 29, 2019, Women’s Mining Coalition (WMC) hosted the 27th annual Fly-In to facilitate connections with legislators, agencies, and other professionals in Washington D.C., discussing current mining issues and policies. Participating women work in hardrock, coal, and industrial minerals industries and for companies that provide goods and services to mining companies. “It is so important that we participate in the legislative process,” said WMC President Sara Thorne.

Over the course of the 3 ½ day event, Fly-In participants had 251 face-to-face meetings with Congressional Offices (183 House Meetings and 68 senate meetings). Participants also met with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management (DOI/BLM). 2019 topics included U.S. reliance on critical minerals and the country’s over-reliance on mineral imports; the importance of keeping public lands open to mineral exploration and development; the importance of coal as a balanced, reliable, affordable source of energy; and the need for continued development of mining in support of renewable energy technology.

MMSA sponsored 5 women who attended: Ann Carpenter, Ruth Carracher, Teresa Connor, Elizabeth Zbiden, and Betty Gibbs. See the WMC Web site for more information and the issue papers presented to Senators and Representatives. [http://www.wmc-usa.org](http://www.wmc-usa.org)

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**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 shopping cart. 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. Contact MMSA office to order.
Two categories of bills have been introduced in the House and Senate related to mining. A couple of bills are about updates to the Mining Law of 1872 and another is about critical and strategic minerals. The mining law bills include provisions about funding for abandoned mine lands among other taxes and fees.

**Mining Law Update Bill in the U.S. House of Representatives.**

The House Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources had a hearing on May 9, 2019 about the proposed bill:


Witness testimony and a video of the complete hearing can be seen at:


The National Mining Association is working with committee staff and Members in both the House and Senate to help them better understand the hardrock mining industry, the benefit to taxpayers, and how modern mining techniques improve reclamation activities.

The AEMA Statement about the bill is at:

https://www.miningamerica.org/aema-statements-on-proposed-mining-law-reforms/?

**Hardrock Mining Reclamation Act**

(The following statements are from the press release about the bill and do not represent the mining viewpoint.)

Udall’s Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act would:

- Place hardrock mining on the same footing with other mining industries with a new royalty rate of 5% to 8% based on the gross income of production on federal land. This rate would not apply to mining operations already in commercial production or those with an approved plan of operations. The Act allows the Secretary of the Interior to grant royalty relief to mining operations based on economic factors.

- Finally provide for abandoned mine clean-up through the Hardrock Minerals Reclamation Fund, paid for by royalties and infused by an abandoned mine reclamation fee of 1% to 3%.

- End the public lands giveaway, by requiring an exploration permit and mining operations permit for non-casual mining operations on federal land, valid for 30 years and to continue as long as commercial production occurs.

- Encourage local autonomy over mining, and gives States, political subdivisions, and Indian tribes the authority to petition the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw certain lands from mining.

- Require a “look before you leap” approach, and directs Interior to conduct an expedited review of areas that may be inappropriate for mining and therefore eligible for withdrawal.

See more comments and links to the bill,


This link has a section by section summary of the proposed bill


The legislation is also supported by U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich and U.S. Representatives Ben Ray Luján and Deb Haaland.

**Critical and Strategic Minerals**

Critical minerals legislation has been introduced in both chambers. Rep. Mark Amodei reintroduced the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act (H.R. 2531) in the House and Chairwoman Murkowski reintroduced the American Mineral Security Act (S. 1317) in the Senate. This is a link to the Senate hearing:


**S. 1052, the Rare Earth Element Advanced Coal Technologies Act**

This bill requires the Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy to create a program for the development of advanced separation technology to extract and recover rare earth elements and minerals from coal and coal byproducts.

https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1052?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22%2SS.1052%22%7D&d&s=2&r=1