

# SAN JUAN COURIER

Summer 2012

Silverton, San Juan County, Colorado

## Jail Museum Enters Final Phases of Restoration

by David Singer

Imagine riding the train into Silverton in 1903, following one of the roughest trails on which a narrow gauge track had ever been built. A burly miner, arriving from the metropolis of Denver to the remote high country of the San Juan would be a few blocks away from "Notorious" Blair Street, ready to join in the revelry. To the north you see an imposing three story brick and stone structure, one of the largest buildings in the heart of the Rockies, and you realize you better walk the line; it's the new state-of-the-art prison known as the San Juan County Jail. This was the scene for thousands of fortune seekers who came to Silverton. Today, this is the home of the San Juan County Historical Society!

This building was the third jail erected by the county. Earlier attempts had resulted in less than secure structures. Therefore, it was constructed as a state of the art statement of the presence of law and order. Assembled of finely crafted brick and cut sandstone masonry, this three-story frontier jailhouse boasted a high style Italianate design that one would have expected to find in a larger city like Denver. Today, almost all of the building's historic fabric remains intact including decorative belt courses and entablature, segmental arched window headers, an impressive ashlar foundation and porches with decorative balustrades, spindle work and gabled stoops. The original construction drawings for the building are held in the collections of the San Juan County Clerk's vault. The original tool-proof cells and related hardware were custom made in St. Louis, Missouri and remain intact. The first occupant was Andy Johnson, a 38-year old male, found guilty of burglary. The jailor's wife prepared his meals for five months and 26 days in her kitchen in the residential quarters on the first floor.

Before the society began using the building in 1965, the jail served the

people of San Juan County in several capacities. In the 1930s it served as a home to retired miners who were wards of the County. By the end of World War II, the building sat empty. In 1965, The Society entered into a 99-year lease with the county and the jail has served as our home and museum ever since. On a shoestring budget we've maintained the building as best we could over the past 46 years as a repository for some of the vast collection of San Juan County artifacts, mining tools, equipment and mineral specimens held by the Society.

Over the past three years, I have been honored to manage the restoration of the jail, ushering the building through a magnificent transformation. My company, Silverton Restoration Consulting, wrote several grants to get the project off the ground and completed a Historic Structures Assessment of the building with funding from the State Historical Fund. We have completed the first two phases of construction in partnership with the fund, San Juan County, and the Department of Local Affairs. John Richardson, the project foreman, working with a crew of local craftsmen including: Darren Richardson, John Girodo, Scott Craig, Nick Houston, Cody Bradford, Dee Jaramillo and Kenneth Wilson, have carefully restored the exterior masonry walls and foundation, all the windows and exterior doors, reconstructed the missing north porch and chimney mass and replaced the standing-seam roof. The building's foundation has been waterproofed and tuck-pointed and a new dehumidification system has been added in the basement to insure the long-term preservation of displays and artifacts.

We are now nearing completion for the final phase of the project, focusing on the interior. Preservation work in this last phase of the project included repairs and refinishing of all interior wood trim and flooring,

Continued on Page 2



*Another major historic preservation project has taken place over the past two years in Silverton at the historic 1912 Silverton School and WPA built gymnasium. As a part of the project, the historic original west entrance has been rebuilt replacing a 1970s shop addition.*

## Silverton School Celebrates Restoration

by Dan Salazar

In early August, Silverton Public School will hold its Grand Reopening and a Rededication Ceremony, with all alumni invited, was held during Memorial Day weekend.

In November 2008, the coal boiler that heated the school building and gymnasium ruptured beyond repair. As options were examined, inspections on existing buildings revealed major deficiencies in fire and health safety and handicapped accessibility. Major improvements would have to include making sure that all these issues be addressed. Just replacing the boiler was not an option this time and the town was facing a complete overhaul of the buildings or starting over with a new facility.

With the cold days of winter coming, no heat source, and armed with a front page Denver Post story, the School set about trying to gather the funding necessary. Luckily the State of Colorado had recently put together its BEST Program, administered by the Department of

Education. The BEST (Building Excellent Schools Today) program provides an annual amount of funding in the form of competitive grants. They came to the table with \$9.2 million. Colorado's State Historic Fund saw the need to maintain this historic structure in the heart of a National Historic Landmark and pitched in, along with the Governor's Energy Office and the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. But it still took a vote of the citizens of San Juan County to get the project rolling. And after going a complete year with no central heat, a bond issue was passed in November 2009 that allowed the School to begin its \$11 million restoration.

While the Historical Society was not directly involved in the project, its leadership in historical preservation over the past several decades certainly provided an example and inspiration for this great Silverton project.

Alumni returning for the celebration are encouraged to visit the museum while in town.



# Chairman's Report

Dear Members,

As I write today there is a bright blue sky overhead and the aspen are popping with green. We are having a very early spring this year after a very light winter. Pansies and Johnny-Jump-Ups are already blooming in local yards and it isn't even June! And we open the museum in a couple of weeks! This year has been eventful—phase three of the jail restoration was funded last year. We have all new plaster, newly refinished woodwork and floors, and an indoor paint scheme that will knock your socks off—I guarantee! But to that end, dear members, we had to move everything out of the jail—*everything*—except the kitchen stove, and now we have to move things back. Phase three has been quite the job, handled ably by our great crew. Can you imagine tearing out all of that old plaster and re-plastering the upstairs of the jail? The ceilings in those rooms have to be at least 30 feet high! Later today we are meeting with two people from the State Historical Fund who are here to do an inspection. I know they will be pleased. In the Mining Heritage Center, Zeke, Jerry, Scott, Mike, and Steve have been busy this winter building quite the exhibit: a three story stope inside of a mine. Just wait until you see it! It looks incredibly real. This year we will have a new addition to our staff at the museum—Lynn Hutson and Judy Zimmerman are each going to work three days a week and Casey Carroll will work the seventh. Thank you, ladies. We are lucky to have you.

In archive news, we will be open to the public on Wednesdays for the summer, thanks to volunteer Casey Carroll. She has been having a lot of fun fielding inquiries by e-mail and telephone; they are so varied. Here are a few of the things she worked on this winter: she worked with a lady from Ireland to find information and photos of her family, the Lonergans; scanned images for Mark and Karen Vendl and Duane Smith for a book they are writing about boarding houses; found images for signs on the Animas River Trail for the Mountain Studies Institute; and found information for the great niece of Marshal Clate Ogsbury, who was murdered most foully in 1881 by members of the Ike Stockton gang. And—she did research for a group filming a documentary about the paranormal—ghosts in Silverton!

Cemetery Workday is on June 16th this year. Bring yourself, a set of clippers and a bag lunch and join us at the cemetery at 10:00 where we work until noon and then retire to Paul and Mary Beaver's yard (behind the Wyman Hotel) to have a picnic and hear stories about the people buried in the graves that we will mark this year. We will be joined again by the Silverton Youth Center children who are adopting another grave of a child this year.

We had to get an extension on our caboose project. As you know, our contractor, Klinke & Lew, were dragged into an emergency situation—they were tapped to put roofs on the burned Cole and Hoffman buildings and get them dried in for the winter. Thank goodness we (as a town) have Loren here to take on such a project. The buildings are safely roofed and progress is being made on repairs, so now Loren can get back to the caboose. John Braun has been hired to construct the "under carriage" that includes the wheels, brake rigging, and couplers. This is a 2-axle car and everything below the wood frame of the car was removed when the caboose was taken out of service. The Silverton Northern had this caboose out of service as early as 1910 because they never did the federally mandated safety upgrades required in about 1906. The work on the caboose is being done in the Silverton Northern Engine House, helping us to fulfill a dream of using that building for restoring rolling stock. David Singer has been retained to do a Historic Structure Assessment of the building, in hopes of raising funds to restore it down the road.

The Mill hydroelectric plant has hit a snag in the permitting process. We have to go through the same permitting process with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that a major dam has to!! The process is slow and costly. Our costs are being covered pro bono by Telluride Energy, LLC., otherwise we could not afford to pursue it. We are now the poster child for a bipartisan bill sponsored by Reps. Cathy Rodgers (R-WA) and Diana DeGette (D-CO) which promotes the development of small hydropower projects and—in reference to our project—remove conduit projects under 5 MW from FERC jurisdiction and increase the conduit exemption to 40 MW for all projects. On May 9th Kurt Johnson of the Colorado Small Hydro Association testified before congress at a hearing in Washington, DC on the "Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2012," using our project as an example. There was unanimous and bipartisan support for the bill, with testimony in support of the bill from the National Hydropower Association, Colorado Small Hydro Association and American Rivers. Among other provisions, the bill provides an off ramp from FERC requirements for noncontroversial small hydro projects on existing conduits after a 45 day public noticing period. We have

also been talking with Senator Udall's office to see if he would be the senate sponsor. If you know a member of congress or a senator in your state, dear members, tell them small hydro is the energy of the future!

Please welcome the newest member your Board of Directors, Bill Alsup. Bill's background is working with tram lines—mainly ski lifts around the world. He comes full circle in Silverton, the place where that technology was invented. Bill owns Lift Services and has been very generous to us in the past by donating the use of his crane.

Please join me in congratulating Julie Coleman and the Durango Railroad Historical Society for receiving honors for their work in the Archaeology and Historic Preservation from the Center of Southwest Studies on May 8th. An archaeologist for the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Julie has worked on projects such as the Animas Forks stabilization, the Hanging Flume and Chimney Rock. And, of course, the locomotive 315 would not be running except for the crew from the Durango Railroad Historical Society.

So, as you can see, we are a BUSY bunch. Come see us this summer!

*Bev*

## Jail Museum Restoration

Continued from Page 1

replacement of the delaminated interior wall plaster, repairs to interior doors, hardware and jail cells finish. Additional work includes a snow melt system for the north roof; a hardwired fire detection system; and emergency exit from the third floor.

Because of the importance of the revenue from the museum to the Society's overall goals, a vital scope of work included in the final phase of the project is a critical evaluation and modernization of the museum's interpretive exhibits, in order to provide the visiting public a state-of-the-art heritage education experience.

The budgeted cost for the final phase was estimated at \$175,620. In August of 2011 we received news that

our grant application to the State Historical Fund was accepted with a little over \$130,000 for the project. Another grant from the Gates Family Foundation helped us with the balance of the \$45,000 cash match. The completion of the work this summer will bring the grand total for the restoration of the building to \$676,000. For the Society, this is part of our ongoing mission to serve the community; many of these dollars went directly into the local economy in the form of paychecks, permits, material purchases, equipment rentals and lunch and lodging for workers.

Look forward to a new and exciting experience the next time you visit the museum—and do it soon!

## Now's the time to help the Society: Join Today!

San Juan County Historical Society • Post Office Box 154  
Silverton, Colorado 81433

I wish to enroll as a member of the San Juan County Historical Society in the class designated below for the calendar year 2012. I understand that this membership entitles me (and my spouse, if applicable) to a vote at the annual meeting in October, 2012.

1. **Member**—\$15 per year, entitling an individual to one vote in meetings of the general membership, discounts on books, and free museum admission.
2. **Family membership**—\$25 per year entitling each couple to one vote each in meetings of the general membership, discounts on books, and free museum admission.
3. **Society Patron**—\$60 per year, entitling an individual or couple to voting privileges, a museum pass for the season, discounts on books, and a listing in the Society's publications.
4. **Lifetime Society Patron**—\$500, entitling an individual or couple to all of the above privileges for life.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## SAN JUAN COURIER

George Chapman, Editor

Published annually by the San Juan County Historical Society, a non-profit Colorado corporation, for its members and all persons interested in the preservation of the history of San Juan County, Colorado.

San Juan County Historical Society  
Officers and Directors, 2012

Beverly Rich, Chairman; Brian Fullmer, Vice Chairman;  
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# Mill Project Continues with Assay Office Work



*The next focus of the Mayflower Mill rehabilitation will address the many problems of the old assay office building, shown here under construction in 1929.*

by David Singer

Structural stabilization work was completed at the Shenandoah-Dives (Mayflower) Mill in the initial phase of a major rehabilitation effort funded through a Congressional Appropriation and a grant from the State Historical Fund totaling \$375,000. Phase One of the project focused on the restoration of the tram terminal, ore conveyor and its trestle substructure and custom ore bins. Improvements were made to the drainage and grading around the site to direct runoff away from several buildings where tailings deposits had accumulated over the 60 plus years of the mill's operation. In addition to the planned work in phase one, the wood floor in the conveyor has been selectively repaired and replaced. With these floor repairs in place, tours of the conveyor will significantly add to the drama of our future visitor's experience at the mill.

Last September the Society was awarded \$154,000 from the State Historical Fund with a \$70,000 match coming from several other institutions including the National Trust for Historic Preservation, for the rehabilitation of the Assay Office building. The Shenandoah-Dives Mine Company's operation was based out of the historic Assay Office building. Located at the center of the mill complex, the building served as the central focus for the company's business, including exploration and processing of ore, and housed the office of Charles Chase, the highly regarded General Manager and founding officer of the Company.

The Assay Office building is a unique hybrid flat roof construction, using a heavy timber frame with light stud frame infill. The structure has undergone many alterations during the course of its history and this project

will attempt to preserve many of the elements that tell the story of the buildings evolution. Spreading limited resources to preserve all ten industrial components on the Mill site is challenging, and the maintenance of the entire complex has hampered the Society's in maintaining the assay building without outside help. The whole project is a huge undertaking for our small underfinanced organization. The development of the assessment of all the buildings at the site and the award winning H.A.E.R. documentation with the National Park Service in 2009 started us toward success. We hope to complete Phase II during the summer of 2012, and expect to submit a grant for Phase III in April of 2013. It will focus on the interior finish of the assay office as well as significant deterioration in the coal tank trestle and historic water tank located in the upper level of the site.

The rehabilitation of the Assay Office building will provide important rental income for the Society and honor the historic contributions to the floatation milling industry that Charles Chase brought to the San Juans. Each structure within the National Landmark boundary of the Shenandoah Dives Mill complex will be rehabilitated in successive phases, and the preservation of the site will significantly complement the other heritage treasures along the Alpine Loop. Come by the Mill this summer for a tour of the Landmark status floatation technology that exemplifies the Shenandoah Dives operation and get a first hand look at a major preservation project in process.

*David Singer is the owner and Principle Investigator for Silverton Restoration Consulting. Mr. Singer donated his services preparing grant applications for this project as well as the grant application for the Jail rehabilitation currently underway. Singer's assessment and documentation of the Shenandoah-Dives Mill won the Stephen Hart award from the Colorado Historical Society in 2009.*

## Emma Sweeny returns to Southwest Colorado

An artifact that arguably contributed to the rise of the narrow-gauge railroad between Durango and Silverton as a tourist attraction, has been returned to southwest Colorado. The 1950 Hollywood film, *Ticket to Tomahawk* featured Walter Brennan playing the engineer Terence Sweeny with his locomotive the Emma Sweeny.

The locomotive was dressed up Rio Grande Southern 20. However the script called for the locomotive to make a cross-country trip off the rails. For that part, a full sized wood, iron, and fiberglass mock-up was constructed that closely resembled the actual locomotive and weighed in at close to ten tons.

For the film Silverton became Epitaph and much of the filming took place on Blair Street. Others in the picture were John Hodiak, Dan Dailey, Anne Baxter, and a relatively unknown Marilyn Monroe. Other

locations were on Molas Pass and the old airfield in Durango where Fort Lewis College is now located.

After the film, Emma had a facelift and appeared in the TV series *Petticoat Junction*. Its journeys afterwards took it to Oregon, to Placerville, California, to storage in Sacramento, and to a museum in Jackson, California, where it was repaired and repainted after many years of deterioration and loss of many small parts.

After learning that the museum had been closed for three years and that the model might be available, the Durango Railroad Historical Society acquired the model and moved it to its new home under a pavilion at Santa Rita Park where volunteer work on its restoration is taking place.

The Durango Railroad Historical Society, is a close partner in the railyard development in Silverton and restorers of the locomotive 315. For more details, see: [www.drhs315.org](http://www.drhs315.org)

## Track Project Completed last August

by Jerry Hoffer

In the fall of 2010 we had hopes of getting a new electrical service installed but, because of bad weather, it didn't happen. However we were able to get the foundation of the engine house cut for the 2 1/2 inch conduit to enter.

The spring of 2011 was quite cold and snowy. Silverton received about 20 percent of it's annual snowfall in April and early May and the ground at the engine house did not thaw until into June.

Pete Maisel of Silverton was again hired to coordinate getting members of the D&S track crew to tune up (level and align) the SN track south of the engine house. This work eliminated the obvious hump in the track near the loading dock. After showing us what to oil on the switches, the D&S track crew's work was completed. Volunteers (George Niederauer, Stefan Niederauer, Jerry Hoffer, Ron Nott, Ron Atkinson, Will Forman, Duane Danielson, and Louis Dahm) held several work sessions in July and August. They reinstalled the repaired harp switch stand along with a new red and white flag. The harp stand was not mounted with spikes. Instead it was mounted with bolts where the nuts and washers are imbedded in concrete below the head block ties. Steel straps were spiked across each end of the head block ties to keep the floating tie under the stub from creating a twisting stress on the legs of the harp stand.

The red and green flags on the upright switch stand for the D&S connecting track were straightened and painted. However it was discovered that the earlier D&RG paint scheme for switch stand flags was originally red and white so, the green flag was repainted white. Ron Nott brought his tractor up from Farmington, finished the distribution of ballast, and did some necessary grading along the drainage ditch

between the track and Cement Street.

New switch locks stamped "SN Ry" were purchased for the harp and upright switch stand and the large engine house doors. This generally completed the work on the track.

The volunteers spent a couple of work sessions cleaning the tie work area in the street behind the engine house. Tie cutoffs were stacked on pallets placed along the track. Culled ties were placed along the property line on the south side of 8th Street. This provided us with us with a great place for volunteer and visitor parking in an unused portion of 8th Street. This area is easily accessible via the alley west of the engine house or via Mineral Street from 7th Street.

We were surprised to discover that one stack of culled ties was missing. It seems that the crew building the nearby trail for Mountain Studies Institute (MSI) had hijacked 50 of our culled ties to line a portion of their trail. Luckily we had enough to finish our project without these. Our ties were easy to identify because they are either 8 feet or 6 feet 6 inches long while the D&S ties are only 6 ft. long. After verifying that their crew took the ties, MSI willingly paid the DRHS a nominal fee of \$6.00 per tie. We gave MSI any of the stacked cutoffs that they could use.

In July and August Dennis Kurtz, Silverton's local licensed electrician, managed to get the new electrical service installed. The service equipment is mounted on the yard pole near the alley with a 150-Amp underground feed into the engine house. The riser into the engine house is made with 2 1/2 inch rigid conduit to give maximum protection from heavy objects.

By August 28, 2011, all contracts had been completed, all invoices had been paid, and the final project report was submitted to the State Historical Fund. It was approved and the final grant payment was made.

Visit the Mill.  
See our progress.  
Open again this summer for tours.





*With an original harp switchstand standing tall, the Silverton Northern track project was complete last summer, ready for whatever projects may require the use of the facility. In addition to storage of the Durango Railroad Historical Society's 315, the building is currently being used as a staging area for restoration of the Society's D&RG Caboose #17. See story on page 3.*

## Society's Newspaper Hits Big-time Television

by Mark Esper

The San Juan County Historical Society acquired the Silverton Standard and the Miner in May 2009 as a donation from its previous owner, Randy Miller, who also operates the Telluride Daily Planet.

With the Historical Society's acquisition the newspaper returned to local control, which it has enjoyed for all but a few of its 137 years.

Circulation continues to grow, particularly the e-mail PDF version of the newspaper.

At the Colorado Press Association convention in Denver in February, the Standard received a total of 12 awards, including the Sweepstakes prize for photography and design.

In February, the cable TV Network HDNet, ran a 22-minute documentary about the Silverton Standard on its "World Report" show.

In March, a crew for the "American Story" segment of the

Today Show, with reporter Bob Dotson, arrived in town for four days.

The "Today Show" story debuted on NBC on Wednesday, May 16. It can be viewed at the msnbc.com web site. There are also links to both the HDNet "World Report" story and the "Today Show" story on the Standard's Web site, [www.silvertonstandard.com](http://www.silvertonstandard.com)

On Saturday, May 5, the Society hosted a dedication ceremony for the new historical marker for the Silverton Standard & the Miner, which was designated a Historic Site in Journalism by the Society of Professional Journalists, making us the only newspaper with such a designation in Colorado and one of only 93 nationwide.

SPJ President John Ensslin was on hand to unveil the marker and said: "When I think of what the pioneers did to start this paper and keep it going, it just does my heart good. The real reason we presented you with this award is the unbreakable bond

## Animas Forks to Receive Needed Preservation

by David Singer

Founded in 1875 at 11,160 feet in the heart of the San Juans, the mining camp of Animas Forks is a testimony to the determination and grit of Colorado's early hard rock miners. Famous as a destination point along the Alpine Loop Backcountry Byway, Animas Forks has become an icon of Colorado ghost towns and a critical link to the heritage tourism economy of Silverton.

Following on decades-long sporadic preservation efforts by volunteers and private owners, including funding from the Bureau of Land Management and the State Historical Fund, and donations of time and money from many San Juan County Historical Society members to protect the site, a significant stabilization and rehabilitation project is slated to begin this summer.

The Mountain Studies Institute has recently joined the effort to preserve this site, building on these regional partnerships through a recently funded grant from the State Historical Fund, with matching funds from the BLM. MSI will administer the grant and contract with local businesses to complete the work. The Institute is a nonprofit research and education organization and high-altitude field station based in Silverton. Mountain Studies Institute's mission is to enhance understanding and sustainable use of the San Juan Mountains through research and education.

The Animas Forks townsite was strategically situated at the confluence of the East and West Forks of the Animas River, in the center of a region that was extensively prospected and developed for hard-rock silver and gold mining. After the initial boom the town gradually declined in prosperity. Animas Forks suffered a significant fire in 1891 that resulted in it becoming a ghost town very early on. The establishment of the Gold Prince Mill resulted in a resurgence in the town from 1905 to 1910. However, with the closure of the mill in 1910, another fire in 1913, and the closing of the Bagley Tunnel in 1914, Animas Forks again fell into obscurity, with only sporadic use after that date. Today, nine standing buildings have survived in various states of disrepair.

Preservation planning for the upcoming project began four years ago when Julie Coleman, of the San Juan Public Lands Center, wrote a grant and partnered with the San Juan Mountains Association, to have Animas Forks listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Following the listing, San Juan County then applied for and received grant funding to have an Historic Structures Assessment of the remaining buildings developed by Silverton Restoration Consulting in partnership with Reynolds and Associates of Durango. The assessment examined all building components from the foundation to the roof, and has provided treatment strategies and estimates for each scope of work.

Given that most of these buildings were abandoned about a century ago, the extreme climate, and the heavy visitation they receive, it is remarkable that they are still standing. Over 400,000 yearly visitors to Animas Forks, wander through its buildings, learning about this important era in Colorado history. This summer's stabilization project will preserve the buildings through improvements to foundations, building envelopes, and roof structures. The Duncan House, because of its high-style design and intact architectural details, will actually have several of its missing components restored, whereas the other buildings will be simply preserved and made safe for visitors.

between the community and this newspaper."

Beverly Rich, chairman of the San Juan County Historical Society, said the Society remains proud to have taken on the project to save the historic newspaper, which was facing possible closure. "I can't think of anything the historical society has done that's more important," Rich said. "How thankful we are to have a newspaper."

Silverton Mayor Chris Tookey also spoke at the dedication ceremony. "We're just so excited that everybody got together and somehow kept our newspaper alive," Tookey said.

Persons interested in supporting the paper may make tax deductible donations to the Society, specifying the newspaper as recipient—or subscribe.

Go to [www.silvertonstandard.com](http://www.silvertonstandard.com) for rates and details.

## The Winter "Rocks" in the Mining Heritage Center

by Jerry Hoffer

The big effort this past winter was the completion of the scam and stope mining displays. For both displays, much work involved the fabrication of large quantities of simulated rock. This time mortar was used.

We started by building randomly spaced framework covered with metal lath. The scam framework covered one rib (side) and the back (top) with a walkway where the other rib would be. This created a "cut away" view looking into the scam. The stope framework covered the hanging wall, foot wall (sides) and the back with a walkway through the stope. This was because the slope of the building roof restricted the width of the stope display.

After many discussions on how to apply the mortar to the framework an internet search provided the answer. The stope would be sprayed first. After several false starts with various mixes,

we finally settled on a mix of mortar with vermiculite and shredded paper. The San Juan County court house was able to provide an unending supply of shredded paper, and after further trial and error, an acceptable result was obtained.

The first coat on the stope framework was very uneven and covered with blobs. To even the surface, a second coat was sprayed. It too was covered with blobs. It was now realized that each coat should be troweled to level the blobs.

By the time the stope was done over 6000 pounds of mortar had been applied to the stope framework.

Having learned our lessons on the stope, the scam was then done. In spite of the fact that the mortar application technique had been refined, it was still very hard manual labor with many sore muscles at the end of each day.

Next we had to decide what to do

for the mined rock in the stope and the rock coming down fingers to the scam that would be moved into the chute by the slusher. The designed floor loading of 100 pound per square foot in these areas would not support the weight of real rock so a solution was to make broken rock from Styrofoam. This again turned out to be a very labor intensive effort. Sheets of foam 6 inches thick were obtained from the leftovers of the Silverton School rehabilitation project. These were broken and carved by hand. Some small real ore was also sprinkled in for effect. By the time the displays were complete, each of the "rocks" had been handled at least five times.

Most of the labor for the simulated rock was performed by Mike Andreatta, Scott Fetchenhier, Steve Rich, and Zeke Zanoni. Thanks guys for being real "rock" stars.