

Heritage Keeper Members

Bisbee Daily Review, Patricia Wick • Charles Henry Bethea • Calumet & Arizona Guest House • Golder Associates
Justice Financial • Save Our Stairs, Inc. • James Stewart • The Warne Foundation • Lewis Williams & Justin Douglas

**Remember us in your will & estate planning.
A bequest can perpetuate your annual gift!**

Let's say your annual gift to the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum is \$500, the entry level into our Heritage Keeper membership status. A bequest to us of just \$10,000 can be endowed so that it distributed \$500 each year (5% of the principal) to support our work. Even a small bequest, when endowed, can have a significant impact on funding our important programs. Ask us about the many endowment opportunities available to you and how you can create a meaningful legacy through a well-planned charitable bequest. For further information, contact Carrie Gustavson, Director, at (520) 432-7071 or by email at carrie@bisbeemuseum.org for details and references.

We would like to thank the following for their wonderful support:

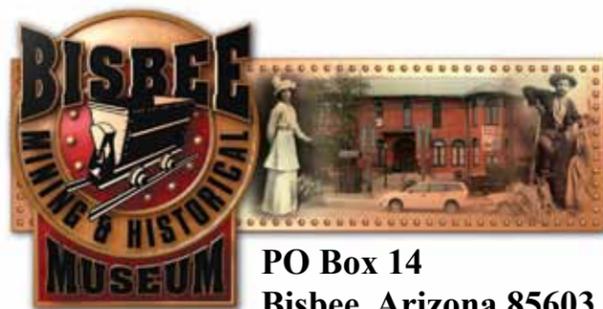
Alice Metz Bequest John & Sylvia Iriarte Riddle Bequest Joy & John Timbers Bequest

A Special Thank You to our Donors

As we continue to face an economy in poor health that is impacting our cultural institutions nationwide, we would like to thank the following individuals for their generous contributions that have assisted us in continuing to provide quality services to our members, visitors, and community.

Ace Hardware, Bisbee • Mel Albert • Rebecca Akins • Valerie Aronoff • Vicki Berger • Kevin Butler • George Cullinan • Bob Gaethje • Gym Club Suites, LLC. • Richard Graeme • Karen Justice • Deborah Klimek • Denise Lundin • Kevin McCoy • Arnold Menke • Save Our Stairs, Inc. • David Smith • Stan Stern • Pat Wick

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit N° 32
Bisbee, Arizona



**PO Box 14
Bisbee, Arizona 85603**



Bisbee, a town that copper built...
Photograph by Dave MacDougal



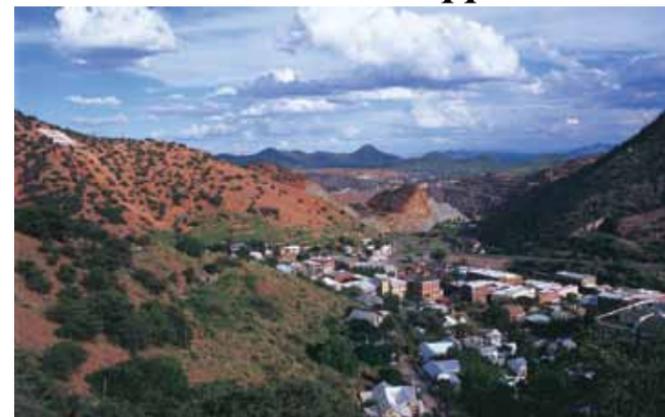
Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum, in association with the Smithsonian Institution

Issue #66, Spring/Summer 2012

Newsletter

What's New at the Museum?

Bisbee... a town that copper built.



As in Bisbee's beautifully preserved architectural landscape of its historic districts, Bisbee's copper-mining landscape is also well preserved. Although some elements of Bisbee's historic mining operations are now gone, what remains allows all of us not in the mining industry to gain a visual understanding the interconnectedness of the copper mining environment. Now undergoing transformation through environmental reclamation and remediation activities, the mining landscape still remains a witness to both underground and open-pit mining activities: headframes dot the hills around Bisbee and you simply can't miss the Lavender Pit!

Through Bisbee's 1950s Mule Pass Tunnel, driving down Hwy 80, the Historic District of Old Bisbee opens out in front of you

as you round one of the many curves. Passing Bisbee's Historic District around just one or two more curves, Hwy 80 leads you around the edge of the Lavender Pit - it's there, it's big, and you truly can't miss it! Next time you are driving either to Bisbee or around Bisbee, take a moment at stop at the Lavender Pit overlook. Small faded signs riveted to the chain link (like the one to the right) offered a little information for the unknowing among us... but this has changed! With assistance from the staff at Freeport-McMoRan Corporation, Copper Queen Branch, Gary Dillard, our mining historian, and once again working with the wonderful staff at the Smithsonian Institution's Office of Exhibits Central, we came up with a better way of offering information not only on what you are looking at (a really-really large hole in the ground), but we also offer an introduction to the reclamation work in the surrounding hills.

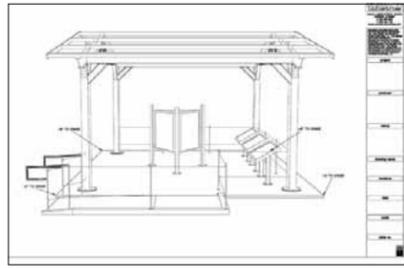
I remember the first time I saw the Lavender Pit; it was one of those honest "WOW" experiences! Then I visited the mining operations several hours drive northeast of Bisbee in Morenci... this was a jaw-dropping "WOW" experience written in 100-point typesetting! Not being a student of arithmetic and comparative cubic measurements, my guess is that you can fit a couple dozen Bisbees into Morenci open-pit operations with room to spare! This brings into the narrative one of the truly interesting aspects of Bisbee's mining landscape - its scale. Bisbee's ores were "high-grade," rich in copper, concentrating the Bisbee operations in a smaller area.

DID YOU KNOW... that when "rock" becomes "ore" it is a definition based on economics and technology? Ore is rock that contains metal that can be extracted *to make a profit.*



What happened to the old interpretive signage at the Lavender Pit overlook in Bisbee? Turn the page and see!





In planning & under construction



Lavender Pit Interpretive Center



If a rock contains too little metal, or if the process of extracting the metal costs too much, the mining industry classifies this rock as “waste rock.” But if metal prices rise, or if cheaper methods of extraction are invented, waste rock may become ore.

Although copper mining’s aesthetic appeal may not be viewed the same by everyone, its products are intricately and intimately intertwined with our lifestyles. Don’t think you use copper every day? Just think back the last time the power went out! How did your computer, your iPhone in need of recharging, your movie streamed to that giant flat-screen TV, or that night lamp for reading a good book work? For us experiencing our Arizona summer, think about your air-conditioning! Let’s learn more about an industry that plays such an important role in our everyday lives.

DID YOU KNOW... nearly a century of production in Bisbee yielded some eight-billion pounds of copper. Worldwide consumption of the copper is now about 34 billion pounds each year - the equivalent of mining a historic “Bisbee” every three months!

The new interpretive center at the Lavender Pit overlook offers an introduction into Bisbee’s open-pit mining.

DID YOU KNOW... the Lavender Pit is not named for the color of its rock. It was named after Harrison Lavender, a former Phelps Dodge general manager of Western Operations. Also, the lavender- or purple-colored rock contains no copper at all and is considered “waste rock.”

The new interpretive center also offers an introduction to Bisbee’s reclamation activities and environmental stewardship 101.

DID YOU KNOW... that any future mining in Bisbee must comply with the following regulatory acts:

National Environmental Policy Act - established a national policy promoting the enhancement of the environment, requiring the preparation and approval of Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements

Clean Water Act – regulates quality standards for surface waters

Clean Water Act §404 US Army Corps of Engineers regulates discharge of pollutants into US navigable waterways

Aquifer Protection Permit Legislation (Arizona) – ensures local water tables are not damaged

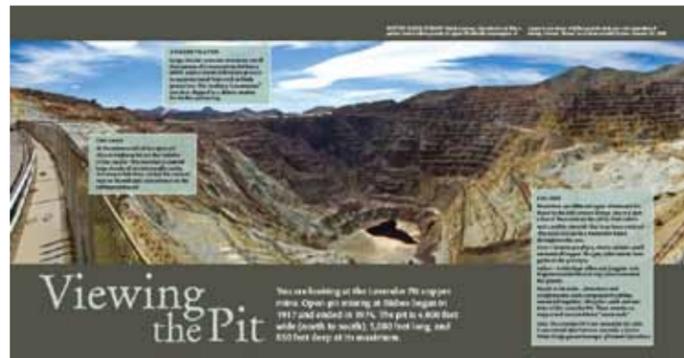
Clean Air Act – regulates particulate/dust emissions

Resource Conservation & Recovery Act – regulates hazardous waste sites, including mineral industry wastes

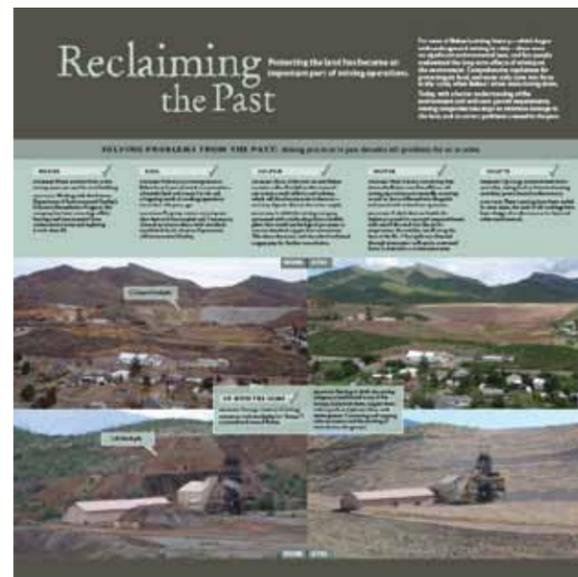
National Historic Preservation Act – governs preservation of cultural & historic resources

Endangered Species Act - provides for the conservation of species that are endangered or threatened, and the conservation of the ecosystems on which they depend

Comprehensive Resources Compensation & Liability Act – identifies and enforces environmental clean up



We would like to thank Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Foundation for project funding!



When you have a minute, or 20, stop by the new interpretive center... its free!



Text panels overlooking Lavender Pit



Interpretive text panels



Upcoming Events at the Museum



Tournament of the Century

...offers you a morning of golf with a twist of history at historic Turquoise Valley Golf Course in Naco, Arizona.

Saturday, August 11, 2012, team up with Museum supporters and golf enthusiasts in a four-person scramble with a shotgun start at 8:30 am. Lunch will be provided.

Early team registration through the Museum is \$60 per player, \$40 dollars per player for Turquoise Valley members, and \$35 for Turquoise Valley members with their own cart. Day-of registration will cost \$5 more.

There are also a variety of fun sponsorship opportunities; the BIG \$500 event sponsorships (event recognition & golf for four included); \$50 personal or business sponsorships (placards placed at one of the 18 holes of your choice); and \$20 “In Loving Memory of...” placards (displayed at a hole of your choice). All sponsorships are tax deductible!

Did you know... at the turn of the 20th century, Bank of Bisbee president Mike Cunningham was reported to hit the longest drive in history. His ball landed in an ore car and traveled either to Douglas or El Paso.



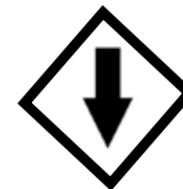
Paint your Palate Annual Fundraising Dinner



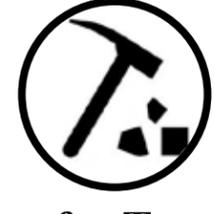
MARK YOUR CALENDARS as preparations are now under way for the Museum’s annual dinner, this year scheduled Saturday, September 29th. We are moving our venue and are totally stepping outside of our traditional themes. This year, we will be having our dinner at our historic St. Patrick’s Church and we will be celebrating Bisbee arts & artists. We are planning a mini Bisbee Arts Auction alongside our traditional silent auction. Bisbee artist Judy Perry & Co. will serenade us for the evening with the Green Tomatoz.

Plan to join us for a colorful and fun evening. With catering by High Desert Cafe, we can guarantee to “paint your palate” delicious!

Later this summer, look for you invitation in the mail!



For registration or information on all Museum events listed above, contact museum staff at [520] 432-7071 or carrie@bisbeemuseum.org



Hunt for Turquoise A Rockhound’s Adventure

...offers you a once-a-year opportunity to seek pieces of the famous Bisbee turquoise in a search through the historic No. 7 Mine Stockpile – those large, man-made hills built-up over Bisbee’s 100 years of mining history. Two tours are offered on Friday, October 11th and a morning tour is offered Saturday, October 12th.

The hunt offers individuals, friends or the entire family a unique opportunity to seek pieces of Bisbee’s famous turquoise. Whether rockhound, jewelry maker, lapidary buff, or enthusiast of our western heritage, pack up a rock pick, collection bag, and spray bottle and join us on our search for Bisbee’s famous Blue.

This unique rockhounding adventure is possible through the generosity of the staff of Freeport-McMoRan Corporation, Copper Queen Branch.

Reservations are required; the tours fill up fast, so get your reservation in soon! Cost for the trip is \$30 per person. Special for MEMBERS: the Friday morning tour is reserved for museum members only and members also receive the discounted price of \$20 per person.

