The Arthur Lakes Library is proud to recognize Stan Dempsey’s dedicated service to the Library’s Visiting Committee. Mr. Dempsey, Chairman of the Board of Royal Gold Inc., an international gold mining company, has served with distinction for over 11 years on the Visiting Committee. The Library will miss his keen eye and savvy observations in his recommendations to the Library’s Visiting Committee and to the President.

The Library Visiting Committee is an advisory board that assesses programmatic and operational developments within the Library then reports its findings to the President. Visiting Committee members are drawn from academic, industry and government circles. They use their professional expertise to evaluate the progress of the Library, identify national and international trends and opportunities within the discipline and create long-range forecasts for the Library’s growth and development.

Stan joined the Library Visiting Committee in 2003. He brought an entire catalog of professional and philanthropic experience to the Committee. After graduating from the University of Colorado with a B.S degree in Geology and a J.D. in Law, Stan’s mining and legal careers began at the Climax Molybdenum Company, a subsidiary of AMAX. Stan held many executive positions in AMAX, including Chairman of AMAX AUSTRALIA INC. Before joining Royal Gold, Stan was a partner at the Arnold & Porter law firm focusing on mining, environmental and corporate law. He is past Chairman of the Board for Mountain States Employers Council, former Chairman of the Colorado Mining Association, past President of the Rocky Mountain Mineral Foundation and former Chairman of the Lands Committee of the National Mining Association. Stan served as Chairman of the Colorado Historical Society and President of the Mining History Association. In 2006, Mines awarded Stan an Honorary Doctor of Engineering degree and his history of Colorado’s Ten Mile Mining District, “Mining the Summit” was published. He also maintains an interest in mountaineering, fly-fishing, history and railroads.

Stan’s career has taken him all over the world from Mongolia, Australia and European Georgia and more. He and his wife Judy, an elementary school teacher, lived and raised a family in rugged and remote mining camps but libraries have always been a part of their raison d’etre. Stan found his calling in the Mining Engineering sections of libraries and has never ceased to give back generously to the institution that forged his future.
Q: What sparked your initial interest in libraries?

As a child, both of my parents worked. After school, I’d take a bus to the YMCA, then walk to the Indianapolis Public Library. I was drawn to biographies of mining people like Herbert Hoover and discovered not only could I make a living as a mining engineer; I could lead an adventurous life. It was a calling.

Q: Please describe your research experiences at libraries, including the Arthur Lakes Library.

As a freshman at Colorado School of Mines, I used the library constantly and was impressed with the open stacks. While working for Climax Molybdenum, I decided to preserve the town records of Kokomo and write a history of the area. I even used microfiche machines. In my professional life and as a historian, I use the Mines Library as a resource and for Interlibrary Loans.

Q: What factors influenced you to become a member of the Library Visiting Committee?

My #1 motivation: Issues in libraries. I’m very familiar with the issues since I served on The Colorado Historical Society Board’s Collections Committee. I’m genuinely interested in the inner workings of libraries and the people who work there and I was looking to contribute to the Library in a more substantial capacity. I feel protective of the positive people who work there.

Q: How does your industry experience mesh with your advisory role?

Libraries are a big part of my professional life. I used corporate libraries extensively in my career. I created and supported the corporate library at Climax and hired the library staff and library school students who worked there. I’m also passionate about Law Libraries. I listen to the Law Librarians Conversations blog every morning. I’m interested in the conversations “in back of the stacks”.

Q: Please describe your most memorable experiences as a Visiting Committee member.

Developing positive working relationships with the other members. I was honored to join this wonderful group of library professionals. I wanted to observe how the Library staff works in an audit because the process was new to me in an academic setting. I enjoyed being part of the process and working with the Provost and President. In a governance point of contact, there are challenges and opportunities. It’s been a very positive experience.

Q: What led you to creating your most recent donation to the Library, “The Dempsey Professional Development Fund” in 2014?

These are really challenging times. It’s a gift as positive reinforcement for library people who need the money to travel to professional opportunities. It does not take big money to support these needs. I put no limitations on how it is to be used. I am completely confident in the Library leadership to administer the distribution of the funds. I felt it was an appropriate place for a private donation.

Q: Your generous donations have made an enormous impact on the Arthur Lakes Library and the research needs at Mines. What memories and rewards can you share with our readers about the donor experience?

How do we not do it? Libraries are filled with technically proficient staff combined with great character. Reference librarians are really important especially in specialized collections. They deserve proper funding.

Q: Part of the responsibilities of a Visiting Committee member is to identify opportunities and possible courses of action for the Library. What do you foresee in the future for academic libraries?

Can we identify the other attributes of libraries besides lending? How do we accommodate the issues on the Internet, copyright and patent law? What libraries are contributing to Open Source really turns my crank. We need archival and preservation services such as Rare Book Collections preserving historical records and papers. The Ropeway Collection is important and relevant to the mining industry. I want provenance on objects and I still want open browsing. I want all of it in a positive way and reasonable cost. As Oscar Wilde said, “I have the simplest tastes. I am always satisfied with the best.”
Mines Founder Bishop Randall’s Communion Cup

Californian Caroline Griffin, great-great granddaughter of Bishop George Maxwell Randall, the founder of the Colorado School of Mines, recently donated the Bishop’s Communion Cup and other memorabilia to the campus. Mrs. Griffin, a descendant of Miles Standish and British Admiral Richard Howe, is passionately involved in preserving the past for now and future generations. Members of her family donated a Randall family photograph and the original charcoal sketch of a highly circulated image of the Bishop to the Library’s Russell L. & Lyn Wood Mining History Archive in 2008.

Bishop Randall was an Episcopal clergyman, appointed as Missionary Bishop to the Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico territories in 1866. As Mrs. Griffin is proud to point out, Bishop Randall believed in education for young women. His first project was to fund-raise and build Wolfe Hall in Denver, a collegiate high school for girls. He then turned his efforts to build a collegiate school for boys focusing on science and the mining industry. In 1870, the Jarvis Hall Collegiate School opened with a laboratory, lecture hall and library. Geology, mineralogy, metallurgy and natural history were part of the curriculum. Bishop Randall passed away in 1873 and jurisdiction of the school passed from the Episcopal Church to Colorado Territory in 1874. The Colorado School of Mines became a state institution when Colorado entered the Union in 1876.

In a 1871 report to his superiors, Bishop Randall accurately forecast the future for the new school “This institution is destined to be a great blessing to this country, and I trust will grow with its growth, and have the capacity to meet the increasing educational wants of such a land. Its benefits are beginning to be felt, and it has already gained a reputation, of which both church and state may well be proud”. The communion cup will be on interim display in its glass case on the main floor of the Library. It will be permanently housed in the Russell L. & Lyn Wood Mining History Archive.

“Georgetown Loop” painting by Charles Henry Harmon

The Arthur Lakes Library is honored to present and preserve a glimpse of Colorado history in American landscape artist Charles Henry Harmon’s 1905 oil painting, “Georgetown Loop”. The painting was donated by Golden residents Mike and Carole Cruson to the Mines Geology Museum in 2014. Bruce Geller, Geology Museum Director and Joni-Lerud Heck, Library Director decided that the Library was the appropriate venue to house the painting.

Charles Henry Harmon is acknowledged as one of California’s leading landscape painters. In 1883, he started painting scenes from the Santa Clara Valley and the Sierras, then expanded to painting coastal scenes of the Monterey Peninsula. In 1905, Harmon established a studio in Denver to concentrate on the high-altitude landscapes of the Rocky Mountains. Several Western railroads contracted him to paint scenes along their railways. Today, his works are housed in the California Historical Society, California State Library, Denver Public Library, museums, art galleries and private collections.

The Georgetown Loop, connecting the silver mining towns of Georgetown and Silver Plume, was considered an engineering marvel in its day. Completed in 1884, the narrow gauge railroad ascends 640 feet through the steep Clear Creek Canyon along trestles and the grand loop. Today, it is a summer attraction, using its vintage narrow gauge steam locomotives to thrill passengers once more. Harmon’s painting depicts one train rounding the Loop and another chugging up the steep slope to Silver Plume, against the backdrop of snow-capped mountains. The painting is on display on the main floor of the Library.
Make an Impact!

Contributions to Arthur Lakes Library make us a world-class source for information in the study of engineering and applied science related to the earth, energy and the environment. Thank you for making this possible!

Giving to the Arthur Lakes Library has never been easier! Enclosed in this issue is a pre-addressed donor envelope with instructions and donor form included.

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