



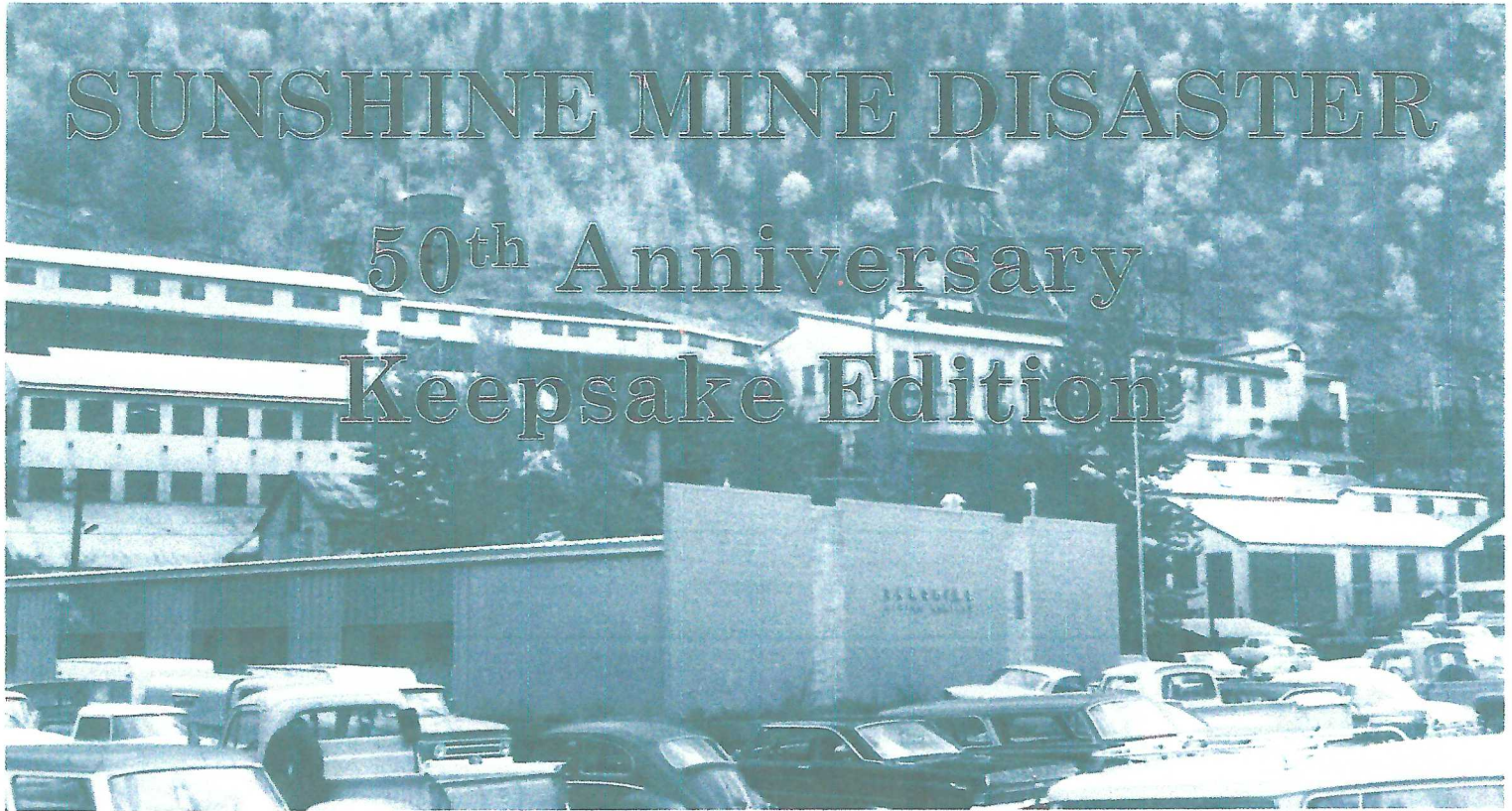
The Staff House Museum

P.O. Box 783 Located at 820 McKinley Ave. Kellogg, ID 83837
Web: <https://miningandsmeltingmuseum.com> PH: 208-784-1414

Volume 38

May 2022

Issue 1



SUNSHINE MINE DISASTER

50th Anniversary Keepsake Edition

NEW BUNKER HILL EXHIBIT

The Shoshone County Mining Museum is pleased to announce that there will be a new exhibit this spring focusing on the re-opening of the Bunker Hill Mine. The mine is under new leadership by former executives from Barrick, who are utilizing modern and environmentally sustainable technology to bring the Bunker Hill Mine back into production by the fall of 2023.

This exhibit will highlight the work that is currently being done to rehabilitate the old workings, treating the water, building a mill on site, and exploring future potential high-grade zinc and silver targets.

The Bunker Hill was one of the world's largest producers of lead and zinc, and also largest lead and zinc mine in the U.S. with more than 150 miles of underground workings.

The mine shut down operations in 1981 due to the recession and falling metal prices, causing a loss of 2,100 jobs. The mine reopened in the late 1980s but closed again in 1991. In 1996, the smelter and zinc plant were razed as part of the Superfund project.

We invite you to the museum this summer to visit our exciting new exhibit. A special thanks to Karen Ryan, surveyor and geo-technician at the Bunker Hill Mine, and newly elected president of the museum for her work on the exhibit.

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BECOME A MEMBER OF THE MUSEUM!

MUSEUM MEMBERSHIPS

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Ellie Arguimbau	Art & Sherry Krulitz
John & Teresa Baillie	Janet Lake
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Yokes Fresh Market	Zinc

Our heartfelt THANK YOU to all of our members, local sponsors, and generous donors. It's your continued support that makes it possible to keep the rich history of the Silver Valley alive.

MUSEUM DONORS

Platinum(Pt) \$500+

Bill & Cheryl Papesh
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Ernie & Christine Baumeister
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Gold (Au) \$200+

Gerald & Teresa Duhamel
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(In memory of Roger H McConnel, Chief Geologist & designer of the Mine Models)

Zinc (Zn) \$50+

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Claudia Thomas
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LEAD (Pb) \$25+

Richard & Antje Cripe
Ron Cruzsic
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Ross Stout

The Museum will have special opening hours on
May 2, 2022 from 12:00 – 4:00 pm
in Memory of the SUNSHINE MINE DISASTER
Visit our Sunshine Mine Disaster Memorial Wing at the Museum

*Included in this issue of the Newsletter is a
Keepsake Edition of the "Sunshine Mine Disaster"
"Ten Days of Devastating Loss in a Mining Community"*

Museum Seasonal Schedule and Hours

Open Memorial Day – May 30, 2022

Tuesday - Saturday, 11:00a to 4:00p

FREE ADMISSION during the Summer Season of 2022

Spread the word and invite your friends to a Museum Day!



Your membership supports the operation & maintenance, special events, lectures & presentations, preservation of historic documents & photos, and exciting new exhibits.



The Cost of Living in 1904



Wardner 1896

Recently Michael Pearce gave the Museum some early day journals from his Twin City Furniture store. Those dated back to 1904 when the store was located in Wardner and known as Worstell-Thornhill Co. It moved to its current location in 1910. The name was changed to Twin City Furniture in 1961.

The 1904 journals recorded sales of household furnishings as well as a few funeral services. Here it should be noted that many early day furniture stores also sold caskets and provided funeral services, as did Worstell-Thornhill Co.

Looking to furnish your 1904 home? Well, one person made the following purchases: Iron bed \$9.00, mattress \$4.00, dresser \$8.00, stove \$15.00, 6 ft. extension table \$11.00, 4 chairs \$6.00, couch \$16.00, carpet \$0.85 per yard, wallpaper \$0.05 per yard, a wash board \$0.25, coffee pot \$0.75 and a lunch pail \$1.25. This totaled \$106.52

How to pay for all this? That depends on the job you had. In March of 1904 the Bunker Hill Time Books tell us the daily pay for various trades as follows:

Shift boss \$5.00, Miner \$3.50, Nipper \$2.50, Laborer \$3.00, Motorman \$3.50, Oiler \$3.00, Outside foreman \$5.00, Electrician \$5.00, Electrical helper \$3.50 and Sawyer \$4.00,

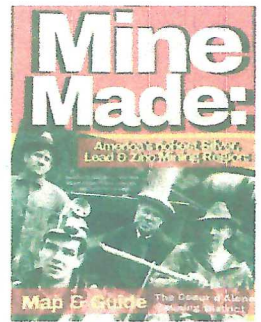
Having provided funeral services as well as home furnishings we find this accounting for a funeral in 1904.

Casket \$75.00, Burial Robe \$5.00, Digging Grave \$5.00, Ground \$5.00, Hearse \$10.00 and Personal Service (assumed to be embalming) \$15.00. The total cost being \$115.00. Thus it was more expensive to die than furnish a new home.

Mine Made: Map & Guide

America's Richest Silver, Lead & Zinc Mining Region

The Museum Board would like to send a copy of "Mine Made: Map & Guide" to our members and donors who make a \$25 or more donation over and above their membership as a THANK YOU for your continued support.



This glossy, 16 page magazine is produced with support from the Idaho Humanities Council and the Frank A. Morbeck Foundation. Inside the guide you will find a map of the current and historic mine and mill sites, highlighting 44 different sites from Pine Creek to the west, Mullan to the east, and Eagle City to the north.

In addition, you will read about the current mining still going on in the Silver Valley, a historical look at the "Silver Capital of the World", "The Mining Process: From Raw to Ore to Silver", "Mining and the Environment", and much more.

It's a comprehensive guide for those interested in learning more about the mining history and the current state of the mining industry in the Silver Valley. The guide will also be available for purchase at the museum.



Karen Ryan

2022 Museum Officers

President	Karen Ryan
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Jackie Fields	Mary Lou Pleas
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New President & Board Member

Karen Ryan is proud to be carrying on a legacy as the fourth generation of mining history on her father's side of the family. She has worked in the mining industry for six years now, and has been at the Bunker Hill Mine for over two years as a surveyor and geo-technician. Her hobbies include camping in Idaho's beautiful outdoors, foraging, and rock-hounding. This is her second year as a member of the board at the Shoshone Mining and Smelting Museum and she is honored to be serving as president for this year.

The museum is governed by an unpaid board of directors elected from the current membership. Members-in-good-standing who are interested in becoming a board member or officer should contact any of our officers or board members. Board officers serve for one year and board directors serve three years. Elections are held each April at the Annual Meeting. The museum board and members meet the 2nd Thursday of each month at 5:30p at the museum. WE WELCOME ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED TO ATTEND AND NEED VOLUNTEERS! ~ The Museum Officers & Board

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 1972

1:05 pm – Safety officer, Bob Launhardt, Don Beehner, Larry Hawkins, and Jim Zingler formed the four person team on an exploration attempt to the No. 10 shaft. The team strapped on McCaa breathing devices and took a train in. Once they entered the smoke, Launhardt prepared the Draeger to test the air. As he began to push the sample through the device, the carbon monoxide levels jumped past the manufacturer's calibrations of 3,000 parts per million (ppm), turning the chamber completely black. The men were dying of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, not the typical lack of oxygen a shaft fire would create. That explained the symptoms of dizziness, weakness, and confusion the men experienced and how rapidly they died once exposed.

While they were standing there, a distraught Roger Findley emerged from the smoky tunnel. Even though he was wearing his BM-1447 rescuer, he was in severe distress. Zigler took Findley back, leaving a rescue crew of three. A few minutes later, Byron Schulz emerged, gasping for air through a self-rescuer and in a state of near collapse. In the next few seconds, Don Beehner shared his breathing device with Schultz saving his life and Don Beehner dies.

By this time, Larry Hawkins was having trouble with his McCaa. In a panic, he started walking back to the station. Launhardt, the lone member of the exploration team, tried and failed to load Don on the muck car. Byron, able to breath enough to talk now that a reliable breathing apparatus was in place, kept repeating, "They're all dead back there!" Launhardt headed back to the station knowing that it was hopeless to move forward with CO levels so high. On the way back he picked up a relieved Larry Hawkins, who feared he, too, would have died had the car not come by to rescue him.

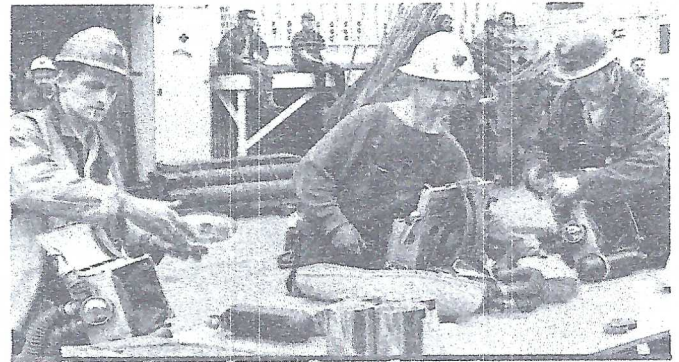
1:10 pm – At the Jewell station on 3700, foreman Harvey Dionne, shift boss Paul Johnson, motorman Roberto Diaz, Richard Nickleby, and Ron Stansbury prepared to make another rescue attempt, still unaware of the toxic carbon monoxide levels. They loaded into a motor and rode the drift into a wall of smoke. Just past the No. 5 they hit something on the tracks, derailing the motor. It was the body of Wayne Blalack. Bob Bush and Pat Hobson lay dead a few feet away. The group tried to get the train back on the track to no avail and started walking back to the station. Paul Johnson and Roberto Diaz did not make it out.

1:30 pm – On the 4800 level, miners waited for a cage that would never arrive. Tom Wilkinson had passed out and his partner Ron Flory and two other miners, Richard Allison and Ron Wilson, loaded Tom on a car and took him several hundred feet into the 4800 tunnel where they found an air

pocket, thanks to the cover that had been removed from the No. 12 shaft earlier in the day by Harvey Dionne. Allison and Wilson returned to the No. 10 station, hoping to bring the remaining men to the fresh air pocket. A long twenty minutes passed before Flory decided to return to the station. He walked through a wall of smoke held off only by the fresh air coming down the No. 12. About half way back to the station, he found the two miners slumped over in the car, dead. The scene that Flory witnessed back at the No. 10 station was disturbing. The bodies of the dead miners depicted a group of unconcerned men sitting down for lunch, some still holding a sandwich, a thermos of coffee propped on their laps.

2:00 pm – Up top, the mine yard started to fill up with wives and girlfriends as word about the fire spread. A few of the miners who were evacuated when the fire first broke out were congregating at the Big Creek Store, celebrating an afternoon off to drink beer, not realizing that over half of the men they went underground with that morning would not come out alive.

Mine rescue teams began arriving from all over Idaho and as far away as British Columbia and Montana. In addition, local volunteers were given a crash course in mine rescue by the Bureau of Mines.



Mine Rescue Teams preparing McCaa Oxygen Units

The surviving men coming out of the Jewell shaft were either bombarded with questions about what was going on underground or given first aid. Byron Schulz and Roger Findley were loaded into ambulances and taken to West Shoshone Hospital.

2:15 pm – The atmosphere was exceptionally quiet in the men's dry house as the last miners who escaped out of the Jewell shed their diggers, showered, and changed into their street clothes with visions of their dead coworkers etched in their minds forever.

3:00 pm – The rescue team on the 3100 level faced a horrific sight when they reached the No. 10 hoist, a killing field of miners, hoistmen, shift bosses, repairmen, and motormen. Unable to evacuate the numerous bodies, the team returned to the Jewell.

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 1972

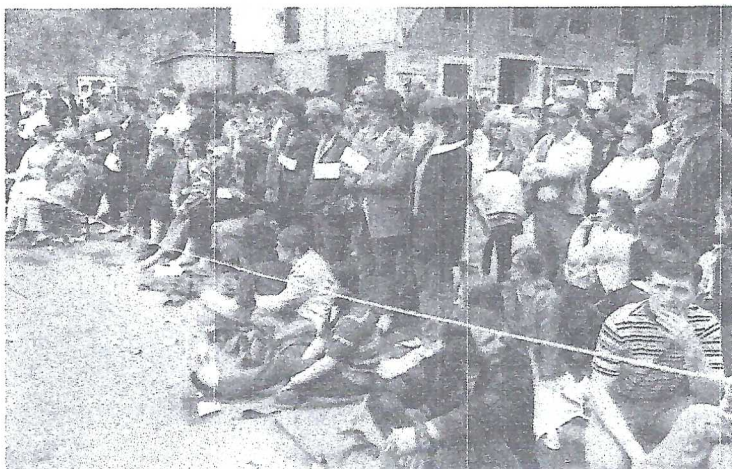
The rescue team on the 3700 level, now with McCaa oxygen units strapped on their backs, recovered the first bodies just past the No. 5 borehole, the five men who died a few hours earlier during the first two failed rescue attempts.

Evening – The Tuesday edition of the Kellogg Evening News started landing on the doorsteps of the valley residents. The headline is “NORTH VIET TROOPS LAUNCH FRESH ATTACKS”. A less urgent story was titled “A Serious Underground Fire Reported Burning in the Sunshine Mine”. The article read, “A serious underground fire was reported burning in the big Sunshine Mine this afternoon. Rescue crews were on hand from other mines and district hospitals are on an alert basis. The fire was reported burning on the 3700 level main station and some 80 miners were not accounted for immediately.”

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1972

6:30 am – A meeting between about a dozen Bureau of Mines men and local mine management degenerated to a near shouting match as each side pointed out the other’s negligence or incompetence. The unfortunate timing of the annual shareholders meeting at the Coeur d’Alene Resort when the fire broke out the day before meant that no one from management was at the mine to make decisions during the critical moments after the fire was reported.

12:00 n – The mine yard was filled with press vans, emergency, and private vehicles. The melee of reporters, grieving families, and onlookers blocked the rescue crews. It was apparent that some kind of crowd control was necessary. Mine manager, Marvin Chase summons army reservist, Lee Haynes of Company A, 321st Engineers Battalion to lead the volunteer efforts. A motley crew of 14 miners, loggers, and soldiers answered the call. The growing crowd in the mine yard cheered as the volunteers arrived in jeeps dressed in army fatigues, promising to bring order to the chaos.



Crowd waiting in the Sunshine Mine Yard

They set up a perimeter and mapped out the route they would use to transport any rescued or deceased miners, being mindful to keep this activity as far removed from the anxious family members as possible. They decided to close the bridge and main mine area to everyone but rescue men, equipment, and family members, relegating the press to the hill west of the parking lot.

They set up a mess tent to serve the volunteers and crowd. The small amount of food they brought was used up quickly and the Red Cross wasn’t expected to arrive until the next day and wouldn’t be able to meet the needs of the community. A call was made to the local radio station KWAL. The DJ announced the need over the airwaves. The response from the community was enormous and a generous supply of food and supplies began to arrive at the mine and continued throughout the rescue.

Afternoon – The rescue team brought the first bodies out from the 3100 level, where Kellogg doctor Keith Dahlberg had been enlisted to examine the bodies and pronounce them dead. He noted that the deceased miners’ skin was stained a dark red, a condition of severe CO poisoning. The official total of men taken out of the mine that day was reported as twenty-nine.

Evening – The Kellogg Evening News headline proclaimed, “SUNSHINE MINE FIRE DEATH TOLL KEEPS RISING” and “Worst Mining Disaster in History of Idaho”.

Time unknown – On the 4800 level, Ron Flory and Tom Wilkinson hunkered down. They had fresh water and the final rationed bites of food left from their dinner buckets. They made beds out of old pallets and burlap and took turns getting some sleep, hoping to be rescued soon.

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1972

Morning – Operations management and USMB personnel monitored the ventilation systems to insure that contaminated air was not being recirculated throughout the mine. Rubber inflatable bags made by Goodyear were flown in to Fairchild Airforce Base in Spokane and used to construct temporary seals and bulkheads along the airways. This allowed rescue crews fresh air as they progressed deeper into the mine to get to the No. 10 hoist operational, which was essential for the recovery of the lower levels.

Afternoon – The bodies of the recovered miners were delivered to funeral homes where mourning family members picked out caskets and decided what their loved ones would wear.

Some semblance of order had been achieved in the mine yard. The waiting wives, girlfriends, and families continued their vigil, hoping their man would come out alive.

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1972

Afternoon – In kitchens throughout the valley, volunteers assembled sandwiches to feed the crowd. KWAL played in the background with a mixture of news about the disaster, and country western music, with a few Christian and Top 50 songs sprinkled in. The only station in the valley was meeting the needs of a diverse community.

Evening – The headline reads, “SUNSHINE RESCUE CREWS AT DEEP SHAFT STATION” and that “Search of Lower Levels May be Made Tonight”. The highlights were that the rescue crews had made their way to the 10 shaft hoist room on 3100 level and were ready to start a large fan to introduce air.

Time unknown – In the air pocket on the 4800 level, Ron Flory and Tom Wilkerson were desperately hungry. The thought of what might remain in the dead men’s dinner buckets at the No. 10 station finally overcame their fear of the lethal air. Back at the station, they grabbed several dinner buckets and returned to their safe place.

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1972

Morning – President Nixon sent his condolences, “The tragic loss of life that resulted from the fire at Sunshine Mine profoundly touched the hearts of all Americans.” Idaho Governor Cecil Andrus asked Nixon for federal disaster aid and was immediately denied.

The 80 miners who made it to safety were being interviewed and began reporting about how the BM-1447 self-rescuers failed and how there was no evacuation plan. Lawyers from the USBM began to arrive in Kellogg and a blame game erupted between mine management, the New York owners and the Mine Bureau.

Afternoon – Hope that anyone was alive was diminishing. If anyone could survive, it would be on the 4800 level where the No. 12 borehole brought fresh air to that level and the lower levels. In a Hail Mary attempt, a two-man capsule with communication capabilities was requisitioned from the Atomic Energy Commission near Mercury, Nevada. The capsule was loaded on a truck and makes the trip to the Sunshine.



Two-man Capsule

Evening – The hope expressed by Thursday’s Kellogg Evening News was muted by Friday’s headline which read “SUNSHINE RESCUE WORK SLOWED BY SETBACKS’ and “Still Hope to Explore Lower Areas Tonight”.

Meanwhile, a crowd of family and friends and a press corps of over 50 kept vigil at the mine site.

Time unknown – The amount of food that Ron and Tom retrieved from the dead men’s dinner buckets back at the No. 10 station proved disappointing. The dead miners had mostly finished their lunches when the poison gas took their lives. Ron and Tom decide to ration the moldy remains and jokingly agreed to save a chocolate pudding cup until the very end.

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1972

Morning – Temperatures drop and a drizzly rain begins to fall out in the mine yard. A large tent is set up by the Army Reservists to offer some protection for the cold and weary crowd. Waiting family members wear tags with the name of their missing man written in block letters. Rather than calling out the name of an identified victim, the rescue workers discreetly escorted the family away, ending their vigil.

The Saturday morning edition of the Spokesman-Review reports, “3 MORE BODIES FOUND; MINE TOLL REACHES 35”. It goes on to say, “Rescue workers have not given up hope of finding the other men alive.”

Time unknown – The two men still alive on the 4800 level were beginning to doubt that they would be rescued before they starved to death. To take their minds off the depressing situation, they played checkers with a homemade checkerboard, square-braided yellow blasting wire, and talked about the fishing trips they’d take when they got out. In their really low moments, they pondered how their wives would spend the insurance money.

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1972

Morning – The Feds, lawyers, and investigators from all over the country flew into Spokane airport and arrived in Kellogg. Local hotels were soon filled to overflowing with men in three-piece suits, an oddity where flannel shirts, blue jeans, and work boots were the norm.

Afternoon – On the 3700 level, progress was being made to prepare the 2-man capsule for its descent into the No. 12 borehole. Sensitive cameras developed by Westinghouse for use in low-light, similar to those used by the Apollo space program were brought in.

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1972

Afternoon – (cont.) The purpose of sending the camera down the shaft was to determine whether the narrow shaft could accommodate the capsule. If the shaft had irregularities, the capsule could become lodged and endanger the descending rescue crew.

MONDAY, MAY 8, 1972

Morning – Sunshine management and lawyers, Federal investigators, and USMB officials have a contentious meeting, each one pointing at the other for the failures that precipitated the disaster.

Afternoon – Power had still not been restored to the double-drum at the No. 10 shaft on 3700. Without power, there was no way to reach the lower levels of the mine.

Evening – The Evening News headline reads "RESCUE HOPES FOR MINERS APPEAR DIMMER" and "Increased Smoke Hits Work on 3700 Level". The news was indeed grim as it was reported that the fire appeared to have rekindled and high temperatures and smoke pushed rescuers back. Even worse news came as a review of records over the weekend added eleven names to the missing and a possible death toll of 93.

9:00 pm – The first two-man crew was lowered into the No. 12 borehole in the AEC capsule headed to the 4800 level. The borehole was irregular, barely 5" wider than the capsule, with jutting rocks that would need to be removed to allow the capsule to descend. The slow process would take 10 hours.

Time unknown – Flory and Wilkinson were near giving up. They made one last trip back to the station in hopes that the phone was reconnected. The phone line was dead and the smoke still thick. Flory thought about trying to climb the shaft, but realized it would be futile. He hadn't eaten anything in 3 days and the smoke would kill him anyway. They went back to their makeshift underground home and Ron promised that if he gets out, he'll go to church every Sunday.

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1972

Morning – After many setbacks, the first two-man crew reached the 4800 level in the capsule. The rescue crew searched the area around the bottom of the borehole, but had to return to the surface as their air was running low from the slow descent. Tom Flory and Mike Wilkinson were less than 1000 feet away.

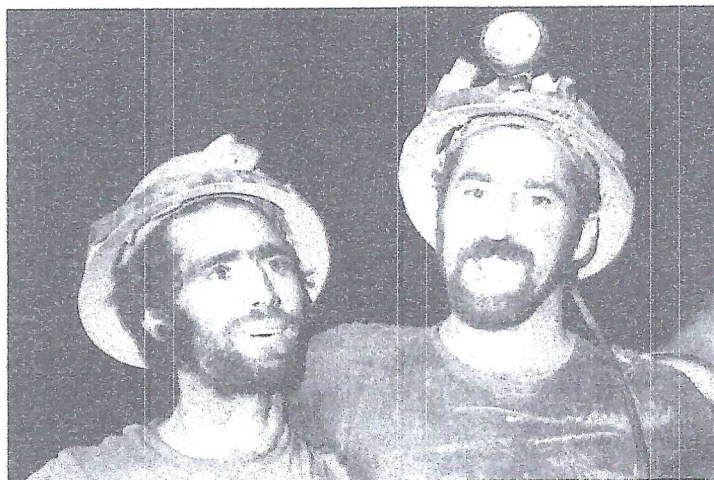
Afternoon – The bodies of the recovered miners were brought to the Bunker Hill Warehouse in Smelterville where

they would be identified. The dead men had been in a 92 degree, humidity filled environment for a week. When the crew assigned to identify the bodies opened the body bags, the stench was unbearable and the men unrecognizable. They used lamp numbers, tattoos, eye glasses, wedding rings, or a piece of recognizable clothing to identify them. The grieving widows would not be picking out a suit for their decomposed husbands to wear to the funeral. All of the funerals would be closed casket.

Evening – The grim headlines in the Kellogg Evening News read "SUNSHINE DEATH TOLL NOW RISES TO 40".

5:50 pm – The second rescue crew was lowered in the capsule to the 4800. The crew found that the air was good and made their way down the shaft. Ron Flory and Tom Wilkinson were having a dispute: Ron thought he saw a light. Tom thought he was seeing things. They squinted through the darkness, and yes, it was there...a light coming toward them! They started hammering out as much noise as they could, yelling, "We're alive back here!" Ron and Tom had dreamed of this for over a week.

7:45 pm – The public address system that had been set up to make announcements about food and logistics in the yard announces, "We have found two men alive and in good health on the 4800 level." The waiting crowd cheered, hope revived that more men would be alive.



Tom Wilkinson and Ron Flory

Evening – Work continued on activating the No. 10 hoist with rescue crews working in shifts. By the end of the day, 36 bodies had been recovered, 11 had been located but not recovered, 2 had been rescued, and 44 were left unaccounted for.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1972

Morning – A celebration was taking place in the room that Ron Flory and Tom Wilkinson shared at West Shoshone Hospital. The clean-shaven men were treated with New York

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1972

Morning – (cont.) strip steaks and cold beer. A throng of press, family members and their wives, Myrna Flory and Frances Wilkinson, surrounded them. They would be released from the hospital by the afternoon.

Across the nation, “TWO FOUND ALIVE IN BURNING MINE” trumpeted the good news about the rescue.

Afternoon – Rescue crews were able to descend to the lower levels, one level at a time. At each level, the rescuers would find more horrors, the bodies unidentifiable.

Evening – The 4:00p edition of the Kellogg Evening News headline reads, “AT LEAST TWO MINERS SURVIVE SUNSHINE FIRE” and “No. 10 Hoist is Near Ready to Search Lower Levels”. “Tom Wilkinson and Ron Flory have been found alive near the 12 shaft borehole on 4800 on Tuesday evening. They told rescuers that there were seven bodies just past the air doors and that they had survived on the contents of dead miners’ dinner buckets.”

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1972

Morning – The newly built Shoshone Inn Nursing Home, still empty, became an overflow funeral facility. Caskets lined up in rows made the lobby look like a parking lot. Mourning families throughout the valley planned funerals, many of them filled with a mixture of anger and sorrow. Why had one man survived and another not? Why didn’t the mine have working self-rescuers and an evacuation plan? Why hadn’t the fire been reported immediately?

Afternoon – In the mine yard, a steady rain beat down on the handful of families still standing vigil. Occasionally a barrage of obscenities directed at mine management could be heard calling them murders and worse.

7:30 pm –The rescue crew reached the 5200 level, their last hope of finding anyone alive. It appeared they had survived longer than those on the upper levels. 21 bodies lay decomposing, KM-1447 rescuers scattered among them. 91 dead men had been accounted for. The hope for another miracle evaporated into thin air.

Evening – An angry outrage seeped into the corners of homes throughout the valley as widows, orphaned children, and grieving mothers cried themselves to sleep. Vestiges of that outrage would haunt the valley for years to come.

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1972

All Day – The hope of rescue gone, recovery operations began in earnest to remove the remaining bodies from the lower levels of the mine.

Evening – The front page of the Kellogg Evening News headline, “SUNSHINE MINE DISASTER ENDS WITH 91 DEATHS” and “Last Victims Are Found Thursday Night” signals the end of the horrific nightmare. Over the next several days a string of funerals, some of them double services with side-by-side caskets, would be performed throughout the heartbroken community.

In the early morning hours of May 13, the last body was taken to the surface. The cause of the fire has been disputed, although the toxic carbon monoxide poisoning was most likely from the burning polyurethane foam used to seal underground bulkheads.

EPILOGUE

The Sunshine was closed down for seven months after the fire and continued to produce silver on and off until 1991. In 1981 the Bunker Hill closed its doors, followed by several other mines. As jobs disappeared, an exodus took place leaving houses abandoned and store fronts empty in the once bustling mining community.

Fifty years later, and our community is recovering and maybe even thriving. Houses are sold as soon as they come on the market and store fronts are filling up. The mountains that were once bare from strip-logging and smoke that was so toxic new growth couldn’t live are now lush with evergreen trees. Young millennials, families, and retirees are discovering this gem called the Silver Valley, where they enjoy year-round recreation, high-speed internet allows them to work from home, and a new generation of miners is readying the Bunker Hill to open.

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		<i>Sunshine Mine Fire</i>
Cullen, Elaine; CDC	2006	<i>You Are My Sunshine, (YouTube Video)</i>
NPR	2012	<i>Idaho’s Silver Valley Marks 40 Years Since Sunshine Mine Disaster</i>
Richard Chapman	n.d.	<i>Sunshine Fire Plays out in the News</i>

Printed copies of this 50th anniversary keepsake edition of the “Sunshine Mine Disaster” will be available at the Shoshone County Mining and Smelting Museum or online at www.staffhousemuseum.com

Diane Trecker, Author

Diane is a 1972 graduate of Kellogg High School. The Sunshine Mine Fire played out as KHS Class of ‘72 prepared for graduation. Her dad, Bob Trecker, was a miner at the Bunker Hill until it closed in 1981. He and his wife, Gladys, raised a family of eleven on a farm outside Cataldo, ID.

Diane moved to Oregon shortly after graduation, raised two daughters and two sons, and retired from State Farm Insurance. She moved back to the Silver Valley in 2018 where she owns a vacation rental and is currently restoring a 100 year old home. She is an active member of the Staff House Museum and publishes the annual newsletter. dianetrecker@gmail.com

In Memory of the 91 Lost

NAME	AGE	HOMETOWN	OCCUPATION
Robert H Alexander	50	Mullan	Stope Miner
Billy W Allen	24	Big Creek	Raise Miner
Wayne L Allen	39	Osburn	Drift Miner
Richard M Allison	37	Wallace	Drift Miner
Arnold E Anderson	49	Kellogg	Electrician
Robert L Anderson	37	Osburn	Boss
Joe E Armijo	38	Wallace	Stope Miner
Benjamin S Barber	31	Kellogg	Repairman
Robert E Barker	42	Kellogg	Shaft Repair
Virgil F Bebb	53	Mont. Gulch	Shift Boss
Donald G Beehner	38	Wallace	Nipper
Richard D Bewley	40	Kellogg	Motorman
George W Birchett	40	Smeltonville	Stope Miner
Wayne Blalack	35	Cataldo	Electrician
Robert A Bush	47	Kellogg	Foreman
Floyd L Byington	35	Moon Gulch	Stope Miner
Clarence L Case	55	Mullan	Shift Boss
Charles L Casteel	30	Osburn	Shift Boss
Kevin A Croker	29	Wallace	Repairman
Duwain D Crow	39	Big Creek	Drift Miner
Roderick Davenport	35	Pinehurst	Stope Miner
John W Davis	28	Wallace	Diamond Driller
Richard L Delbridge	24	Wallace	Stope Miner
William R Delbridge	55	Wallace	Stope Miner
Roberto Diaz	55	Kellogg	Motorman
Gregory G Dionne	23	Harrison	Pipeman
Carter M Don Carlos	47	St. Maries	Repairman
Norman S Fee	27	Wallace	Motor Helper
Lyle M Findley	30	Kellogg	Repairman
Donald K Firkins	37	Pinehurst	Drift Miner
Howard L Fleshman	38	Pinehurst	Stope Miner
William L Follette	23	Harrison	Raise Miner
Richard Garcia	56	Wallace	Stope Miner
Richard G George	20	Kellogg	Motor Helper
Robert W Goff	35	Osburn	Stope Miner
Louis W Goos	51	Wallace	Stope Miner
John P Guertner	54	Kellogg	Repairman
William F Hanna	47	Kellogg	Pumpman
Howard Harrison	34	Kellogg	Drift Miner
Patrick M Hobson	57	Kellogg	Repairman
Melvin L House	41	Wallace	Repairman
Merle E Hudson	47	Kellogg	Stope Miner
Jack B Ivers	44	Kellogg	Stope Miner
Fred E Johnson	45	Big Creek	Foreman
Paul E Johnson	47	Kingston	Shift Boss
Wayne L Johnston	43	Post Falls	Repairman

NAME	AGE	HOMETOWN	OCCUPATION
James M Johnston	20	Post Falls	Motor Helper
Custer L Keough	59	Osburn	Repairman
Sherman C Kester	60	Big Creek	Trackman
Dewellyn E Kitchen	31	Coeur d'Alene	Stope Miner
Elmer E Kitchen	54	Coeur d'Alene	Shaft Miner
Kenneth C LaVoie	29	Burke	Repairman
Richard M Lynch	24	Osburn	Motorman
Donald J McLachlan	23	Kellogg	Motorman
Delbert J McNutt	48	Kingston	Motorman
James C Moore	29	Kellogg	Repairman
David J Mullin	34	Pinehurst	Stope Miner
Joe R Naccarato	40	Osburn	Raise Miner
Orlin W Nelson	32	Polaris	Stope Miner
Richard D Norris	24	Smeltonville	Raise Miner
Donald R Orr	50	Kellogg	Stope Miner
Hubert B Patrick	45	Kellogg	Drift Miner
Pena Casey	52	Mullan	Shaft Miner
John W Peterson	57	Wallace	Motorman
Francis W Phillips	42	Kellogg	Repairman
Irvan L Puckett	51	Spokane	Shaft Repair
Floyd A Rais	61	Kellogg	Pumpman
Leonard D Rathbun	29	Wallace	Stope Miner
John R Rawson	27	Osburn	Drift Miner
Jack L Reichert	45	Big Creek	Hoistman
Delbert C Rhoads	57	Big Creek	Lead Mechanic
Glen R Rossiter	37	Wallace	Motorman
Paul M Russell	30	Kellogg	Stope Miner
Gene F Salyer	54	Kellogg	Repairman
James P Salyer	51	Kellogg	Foreman
Allen L Sargent	38	Cataldo	Drift Miner
Robert B Scanlan	38	Wallace	Hoistman
John Serano	37	Smeltonville	Stope Miner
Nick D Sharette	48	Wallace	Shaft Miner
Frankie R Sisk	31	Kellogg	Stope Miner
Darrell E Stephens	20	Wallace	Motor Helper
Gustav G Thor	38	Pinehurst	Stope Miner
Grady D Truelock	40	Moon Gulch	Raise Miner
Robert E Waldvogel	50	Kellogg	Stope Miner
William R Walty	29	Pinehurst	Repairman
Gordon Watcott	37	Kellogg	Stope Miner
Douglas L Wiederrick	37	Mullan	Shaft Miner
Ronald L Wilson	41	Osburn	Drift Miner
William E Wilson	28	Coeur d'Alene	Hoistman
John D Wolff	49	Kingston	Stope Miner
Don B Wood	53	Kellogg	Hoistman