

Montana Mining Association

2024 ANNUAL MEETING AUCTION ITEMS



1. ONE-OF-A-KIND, HAND-CRAFTED “INFINITY MINE SHAFT TABLE,” imagined and constructed by renowned artist, Mike Hamblin

(see feature story in this issue of Montana Mining magazine and <https://www.facebook.com/hamblinart/>).

This truly original creation can be described but must be experienced to fully appreciate its ingenuity and craftsmanship. Standing at approximately 42 inches high with a top that measures 31½-inches square, this table would be a perfect and memorable centerpiece for a private home, bar or corporate office.

Utilizing the art of illusion, it will appear as if you’re looking down into a mine shaft of unknown depth. The

echoing sounds of dripping water add to the experience. (Note: when not playing the water sounds, the table can play your favorite music or podcast and has charging ports for your portable electronics.)

Own this uniquely conceived and constructed work of functional art by The Mining City’s living artistic legend. This is only the fourth one of these table types ever built by Hamblin, and the last one donated at a Montana Tech function sold to the highest bidder for over \$10,000!

Commissioned by the Montana Mining Association.

2. TWO-DAY PRIVATE BIRD HUNT AND LODGE STAY for four individuals at the Snowy Mountain Pheasant Company ranch, Judith River Basin.

Snowy Mountain Pheasant Company is located in the heart of Montana’s Judith Basin. It is aptly named for the majestic mountain range found just to the south which provides the headwaters to the Ross Fork River where the ranch property is situated. Snowy Mountain is the perfect recreational getaway with plenty of action for upland bird hunting enthusiasts seeking the classic Montana outdoor experience.

Further details:

- 2 days, 2 nights during a workweek coordinated with ranch owners.
- Up to four self-guided hunters.
- Dog handlers available if participants do not have own.
- Depending on time of year, waterfowl hunting available (migratory bird license and stamp required).
- Good food/beverage options located in Lewistown, located ~15 miles east of the ranch.
- Lodging: use of new 4-suite lodge on the ranch.

Value: \$10,000. Graciously donated by Mark Taylor, Taylor Luther Group and Hecla Mining. Proceeds for this auction item go to the MMA Mining Scholarship Fund.

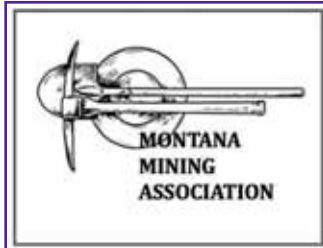




3. ONE DAY OF GOPHER HUNTING AND A BBQ STEAK DINNER for up to six guests on The Higgins Brothers Ranch, Ringling, Montana.

Enjoy a day of gopher hunting followed by a steak dinner for up to six guests at the sprawling Higgins Brothers Ranch near Ringling. An authentic Montana experience; bring lots of ammunition, as this is some of the most prime varmint-hunting habitat under the Big Sky!

Access and dinner graciously donated by MMA Board member Nancy Schlepp, Sandfire Resources America, Black Butte Copper and family.



4. HAND-CRAFTED CUSTOM-MADE MMA LOGO HUNTING KNIFE with leather sheath by Brad Watkins Knives.

A Montana Tech engineering alumni, fifth-generation Montanan and currently a manager at Barretts Minerals, Brad started making knives in 2010 and has mentored under accomplished bladesmiths.

The design and construction of each knife combines his years of experience in the outdoors with his background in mechanical engineering. His knives have been developed through extensive field testing, blending the hardcore outdoorsman's requirements with heirloom-quality craftsmanship. He takes pride in building each knife by hand with all materials procured from fellow small businesses.

Knife details: 8-3/4" length x 0.125" thickness MagnaCut stainless steel at 63 HRC. Flat ground blade with tapered tang, 416 stainless bolsters and pins. Double dyed and stabilized box elder handle, green handle liners with stainless accent spacers; hand-carved leather sheath.

Commissioned by the Montana Mining Association.



➤ see Auction, page 30

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5. FULL-DAY HOSTED SIGHT-FISHING FOR CARP AND/OR NORTHERN PIKE ON THE MISSOURI RIVER.

Sight fishing for Montana’s hardest fighting and most difficult target on the fly! Mark Mariano, our own local carp nut, will pole you across the shallow flats of the Missouri River in a small skiff in search of hard fighting fish that can top 20 pounds! Get ready to see your backing when these smart, hard fighting fish take you for the ride of your life. This trip also allows for the opportunity to target pike on fly or gear.

Start practicing your salt-water casting now, because *this is as close to redfishing/bonefishing as you’ll get in fresh water!*

When: Any warm, sunny, low-wind day in July or early August 2024 that works for both host and donor. These specific conditions are extremely important for success, because we will need to see these bruisers from afar, before they see us!

Where: Missouri River above Toston Dam (no pike), Missouri River above

Canyon Ferry (no pike), Missouri River below Cascade (ample opportunity for both carp and pike).

Guided by host with lunch, NA drinks, and fishing gear supplied.

Donated by Rampart Solutions’ Mark Mariano, one of Montana’s premier carp fishing experts.



6. R.L. WINSTON AIR 2 9-FOOT, 4 PC 5-WEIGHT FLY ROD PLUS TWO NIGHTS STAY for up to five guests at The Stony Creek Cabin on Rock Creek near Philipsburg, Montana.

A top-quality fly rod by a world-renowned rod maker and two nights of high-class riverside accommodations at a top-rated Airbnb facility for five with a hot tub overlooking the banks of a blue-ribbon trout stream – this auction item is a combination you can’t beat!

The Air 2 is one of the best rated trout fishing rods on the market today, backed by R.L. Winston’s lifetime warrantee. The Stony Creek Cabin



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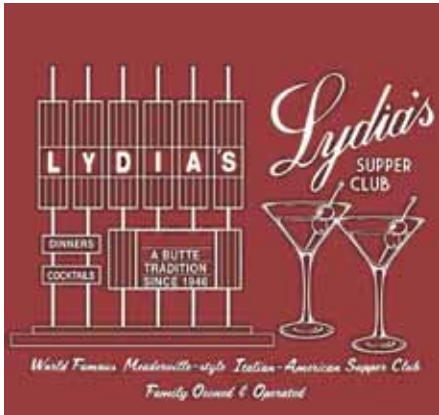
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is a beautiful log cabin facility overlooking world-famous trout stream Rock Creek, approximately 30 minutes from Philipsburg. There's no better way to break in your new rod than on one of Rock Creek's browns, rainbows or native westslope cutthroat trout.

Rod donated by MMA Past President, Mark Thompson, Montana Resources, and Lodging donated by Eric and Christi Jacobsen (cleaning fees covered by MMA).



7. DINNER AND DRINKS WITH THE MONTANA MINING ASSOCIATION'S EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS AND MANAGEMENT TEAM at Lydia's Supper Club in Butte, Montana for up to six guests.

Enjoy a Mining City-style dinner at Butte's famous Lydia's Supper Club with the Montana Mining Association's Executive Board members and Management Team as your hosts! Lydia's is a well-known Butte eating establishment specializing in its Italian, steaks and seafood for over 75 years.

Members of the MMA Executive Board (Ben Raffety, Barretts Minerals; Mark Thompson, Montana Resources; Paul Liner,

Graymont; Tina Nolevanko, Pacific Steel & Recycling; Chuck Buus, Barrick-Golden Sunlight Mine) and Management Team (Matt Vincent, Executive Director; and Jon Sonju, Chief Lobbyist) will be your group's (up to six) hosts, so look forward to a fun evening of industry-related conversation and getting to know our association up close and personal!

Hosted by the Montana Mining Association. **M**



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