

Publication provides lode of mining stories

By DONNA KIMURA
Sentinel staff writer

APTOS - For decades, the world of mining has been chronicled from the coastlands of Santa Cruz County.

It's not a big mining area, acknowledges Kenneth L. Harn, publisher and editor of California Mining Journal.

But it's home to the Santa Cruz High School graduate and a publication that has built much of its 62-year history in the local soil.

"I like to look out the window and see the creek," Harn says from the second floor of the journal's Aptos office. "It's a nice atmosphere."

The 12,000-circulation magazine covers mining issues around the world. Besides offering feature stories about mining projects, it keeps readers in 33 countries up to date on changing environmental laws that affect mining.

The audience ranges from the lone prospector to multi-national corporations, Harn says.

The journal has been a regular part of the UC Santa Cruz library since 1968.

Its primary users are faculty members and students of the earth science department, according to Martha Ramirez, bibliographer in collection planning at the library.

"It is more broadly used by his-

torians and amateur miners," she says.

The journal opened a new office on Soquel Drive just outside Aptos Village about a year ago. Editing, subscriptions and advertising are handled at the site.

Harn has owned the business for about 14 years with his wife, Kathleen, who serves as the circulation assistant.

The couple took over from her father, Herbert L. Reid, who published the journal for a number of years.

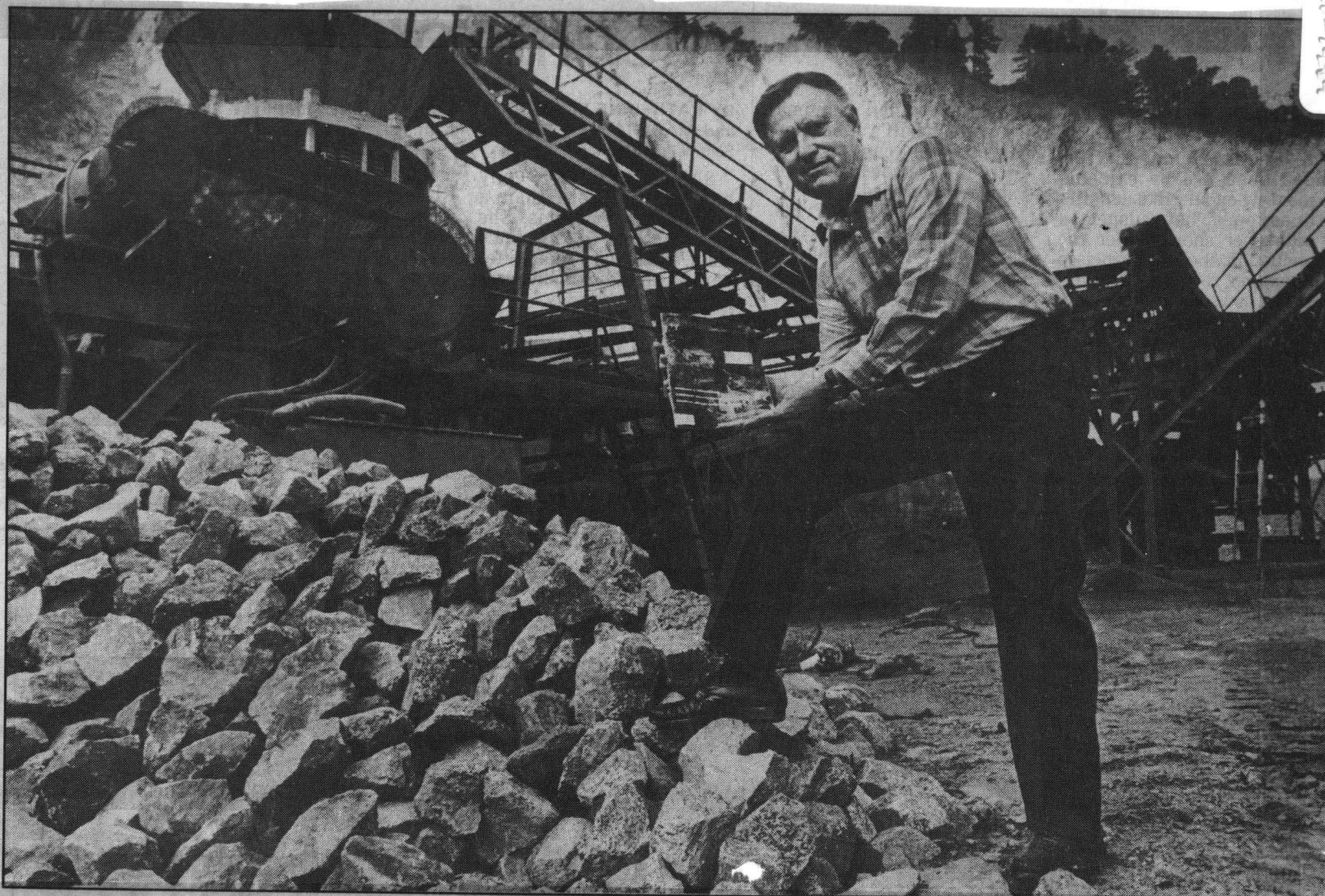
The publication began in Auburn in 1931, but was moved to the California shore when it was purchased by J.P. Hall of Santa Cruz. Hall published the journal for about 30 years, according to Sentinel news clips.

It was then turned over to Newell Leppert, who ran the business for a short time in the early 1960s before Reid took over.

Harn's father owned a copper mine in Arizona, and his brother, Gerald, is a partner in Olive Springs Quarry in Soquel.

It is gratifying to see the journal come out each month, says Harn, 56, a former police chief of Pleasant Hill in Contra Costa County.

Through the years, the journal has grown into an 80-page publication with color graphics and photographs.



Kenneth Harn, shown here at Olive Springs Quarry, is publisher and editor of California Mining Journal, based in Aptos.

Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel

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