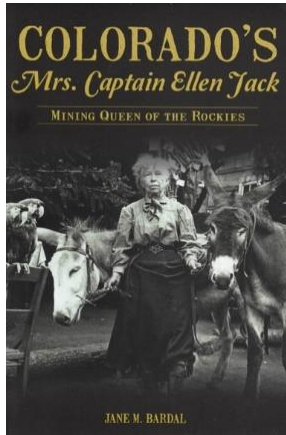


JULY 16

**“COLORADO’S MRS. CAPTAIN ELLEN JACK:
MINING QUEEN OF THE ROCKIES”**

By Jane Bardal



Jane Bardal conducts research on people involved in mining in Colorado and New Mexico. In May of 2023, she published *Colorado's Mrs. Captain Ellen Jack: Mining Queen of the Rockies*. Her previous publications include the book, *Southwestern New Mexico Mining Towns*, and the article, “Oral Histories from the Grants Uranium District” published in the “Mining History Journal.” She recently retired from teaching psychology at Central New Mexico Community College. She is a member of the Mining History Association and the New Mexico Historical Society

“Your get off this property.” Ellen Jack backed up her orders with a shotgun as she stood at the entrance to her Black Queen Mine. To profit from the mine, located near Aspen, Colorado, Ellen Jack battled miners who tried to steal her ore, as well as lawyers and capitalists who tried to wrest the mine from her.

Mrs. Captain Jack owned and leased mining claims in the Ouray area from 1889-1893. She was described by Ouray newspaperman David day as, “the best shrewdest and most successful all-around female mine and prospector in the business. Mrs. Jack takes life as it comes, and when occasion requires can paralyze the opposition with silk, satin and diamonds, or make a burro feel at home in her overalls and slicker.”