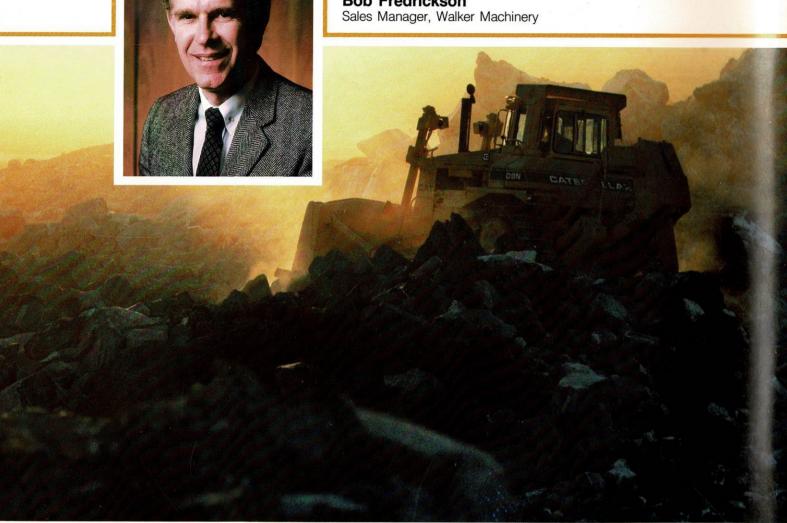
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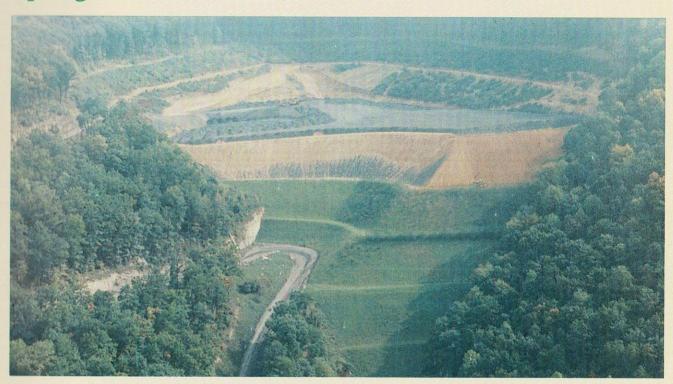
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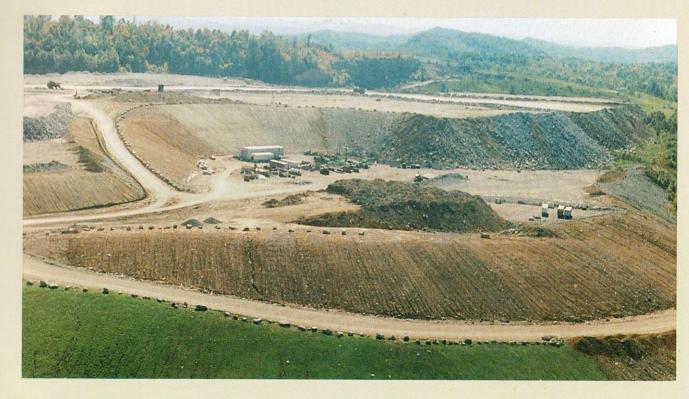
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- A Sunny Semi-Annual

Green Lands is a quarterly publication of the West Virginia Mining & Reclamation Association, with offices at 1624 Kanawha Boulevard, E. Charleston, West Virginia 25311 (304) 346-5318.



Cover - Top reclamation awards at this year's Symposium went to Oneida Coal Co. (top on cover) and to Island Creek Coal Co. - Gauley Division (shown under construction). Oneida won the "Callaghan," and Island Creek took the "Governor's Award." See page 18 for details on all of the winners.

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Ken Faerber Responds to Ongoing Attack

The following letter, by West Virginia Energy Commissioner Ken Faerber, was published in the Saturday, April 16 edition of the Charleston Gazette.

Editor the Gazette:

It's clear that the Moore administration and the Department of Energy are winning in their efforts to help turn around the West Virginia coal industry when it becomes necessary for the Charleston Gazette to twist and distort information in an attempt to propagandize and mislead its readership as it relates to the conditions in the state's coal mining industry. I can think of no better example than your latest jewel titled "Dump the DOE."

To touch on a few of the more outlandish assertions in your latest installment of the bash DOE series, you state that investigative reporter Paul Nyden had "unearthed" certain facts in the federal OSM oversight report. How ridiculous. Nyden has obtained a public document which is released at this time every year and is available to anyone, including an investigative reporter, who requests to be placed on OSM's mailing list.

The report of which you spoke both constructively criticized and correctly praised the DOE for the way in which it was conducting the program. However, your editorializing on only the negatives intentionally distorts the truth. The truth is that Mr. Haught and the editorial staff of the Gazette, including Paul Nyden, are opposed to mining, period. Jim Haught has told me himself, and Don Marsh is on the record, as supporting nuclear power and the abolishing of coal mining.

I ask whose interests the Gazette is representing? Certainly not those of the vast majority of West Virginians; perhaps those of out-of-state special interest groups such as the Environmental Policy Institute's Jim Lyon and Washington attorney Tom Galloway.

Now to some specifics: In your article you stated that federal inspectors found five times more violations at surface mines than did DOE's inspectors. I believe it is safe to say that the Gazette does not understand that, in any situation where a federal regulatory agency whose sole responsibility and justification for existence is oversight of a state-administered program, such occurrences are bound to be the norm and should be expected. So what?

In your editorial, you have again intentionally misstated that DOE assessed \$12.5 million in fines last year. This is wrong. This figure is a cumulative total

over the past seven years since the state first began assessing fines for reclamation violations. We have gone on record countless times telling you that most of this debt is in the hands of the bankruptcy courts or is owed by companies that are defunct and have been so for many years. These facts have been documented by collection agencies which we employ, so why can't you get it right?

Civil penalty collections for the four years preceding the creation of the DOE totaled \$327,384. In the two and a half years since the creation of DOE, civil penalty collections have amounted to \$781,015, or two and a half times that prior to its creation. The truth is that civil penalty collections are at their highest level in history and enforcement and collecting efforts are being more aggressively pursued now under DOE than at any time in the past.

Your paper keeps railing about the fact that DOE did not obtain any court injunctions against the coal operators. We have attempted on several occasions within the past few months to obtain enforcement or injunctive relief and have met with opposition in state court on the basis that mining jobs would be lost. We have, however, obtained two injunctions since July 1, 1987. Our normal policy, and the policy which has worked in the past, is that if an operator violates any order of the commissioner, a criminal warrant is obtained which results in either criminal fines or imprisonment. So, your statement that we do not file criminal charges against coal operators is simply wrong. We believe that criminal enforcement is faster and results in less difficulty than does the filing of civil injunction actions.

As to the matter of DOE allowing strip mines to become inactive so that they will not have to begin reclamation, you obviously have no understanding of the state mining regulations. Before an operation can be considered for inactive status, the reclamation must be current; water treatment must be maintained throughout the inactive status period; and complete DOE quarterly inspections are continued. Also during this period, the reclamation bond remains in effect and in the possession of the department. This criteria is the same now as it was in 1978 when the previous administration provided for such a provision in the mining regulations. Again, the facts do not back up your sensational editorializing.

Your allegation concerning what you believe is a DOE contract with OSM requiring us to have 88 surface mine inspec-

tors is also wrong. The figure of 88 inspectors only appeared once back in 1981 when the state first obtained primacy at a time when the number of operating coal mines far exceeded today's level. It was never a requirement that the state employ 88 or any specific number of inspectors. Your remarks and statistics are out-of-date and misleading and certainly are not in the realm of possibility for an agency operating under a 36 percent budget cut.

Your paper's reporting and editorials are simply a last-ditch effort of shoddy journalism to discredit myself and the DOE. The material you choose to print is neither factually accurate nor beneficial to the citizens of West Virginia.

The simple truth is, the Department of Energy has been successful. The results of our energy program have received favorable nationwide attention, and we need not use outdated and misleading figures to demonstrate the true facts. The true facts-are:

In 1987, West Virginia coal production totaled over 137 million tons, which represents a 7 million ton increase over the previous year and the highest production level in 17 years; in 1987, the state had the lowest number of fatal mining injuries in history; federal funding for West Virginia Abandoned Mine Lands program leads the nation for the first time ever and totals over \$28 million for the current fiscal year; civil penalty collections are at an all time high; and the Department of Energy reclamation inspectors conducted a total of 31,276 inspections during the most recent oversight period, an increase of 7 percent or 4,000 inspections over the previous

These are the true and relevant facts which should be made available to the citizens of this state in order that they may formulate their own opinion regarding the performance of DOE, not the one-sided chop job for which the Gazette has become infamous. It is this type of reckless reporting and slanted editorializing that has made it difficult for the Department of Energy to obtain adequate funding from the Legislature.

I will continue to stand my ground and support the energy producing industry's contribution to the prosperity of our state. Mr. Haught, in your own words, "It takes balls." I take that as a compliment.

I apologize for the length of this letter; however, it always takes longer to correct a lie than to tell one.

Kenneth R. Faerber Commissioner, DOE

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Tracy Hylton -

Working for West Virginia

Editor's Note: WVMRA member and State Senator Tracy Hylton was chiefly responsible for the most innovative and sensible piece of legislation passed by the 1988 session of the West Virginia Legislature.

In a session described as ineffective by nearly all media commentators, Tracy Hylton's plan to utilize excess black lung funds to alleviate the crises in medicaid funding stood out like a candle in the darkness. Backed by the industry, Senator Hylton proposed that \$30 million in surplus funds from the

State Black Lung program be loaned to the medicaid program, enabling the State to secure \$90 million in federal matching funds.

Initially passed by the Senate, the proposal was tied to a controversial 1¢ state sales tax increase in the House of Delegates. The combined measure then failed in the Senate. During the Legislature's extended session, the bill passed both houses in its original form. It was signed into law by Governor Arch Moore late last month.

Tracy Hylton stands out in the Leg-

islature in another way. Legislators are contantly beset by accusations that self-interest claims their highest priority in legislative matters.

Yet here is a man who supported an increase in DoE permitting fees, and introduced, for the second time, a bill to increase fuel taxes. Both of these measures would have cost him considerable funds in his private enterprises. Tracy Hylton has put the good of West Virginia ahead of personal interest The Legislature would benefit greatly from a further influx of such individuals.

The following article was written by Teresa Swartz Roberts of the Beckley Register-Herald, and is reprinted here as it appeared in the West Virginia Hillbilly.

Party-hopping (Democrat/Republican-Ed.), aggressive, outspoken businessman and lawmaker Tracy Hylton has strong ideas about the way the state should be run.

"If we don't run a business in the State of West Virginia, there's never going to be enough money.

"In order to survive in today's economy, you can't carry excess baggage.

"I'm not against education, but I'm against stupid people being employed in education.

"Is it better to have an insurance policy or the State go broke? We've got a monster we can't control.

"Your tax base is people There's opportunity still here It's not going to happen overnight."

Hylton seems to gain either enthusiastic acceptance or violent rejection by those he has contact with politically.

He weathered charges that he bought his senate seat, spending nearly \$100,000 more than local attorney Bill Wooton. Hylton says now that money spent on his campaign was for an "educational purpose," and that he is still paying for that purpose from his own pocket.

Hylton, called a poor winner by Wooton after the votes were counted. responds by saying, "No, I'm a proud winner."

Wooton refused to comment on Sen. Hylton.

Warren McGraw, who defeated Hylton in the 1972 race for the senate. is historically at odds with Hylton. He had nothing to say about the senator, except, "His record speaks for itself."

Art Sanda, former public relations man for Eastern Associated Coal Corp., characterized Hylton as someone who's not afraid to get dirty.

"I think he attracts strong friends and strong enemies," said Sanda. "Success does that."

But Gov. Arch A. Moore, Jr. said Hylton's experience puts him light years ahead of many of his fellow lawmakers.

"His individual success as a West Virginia businessman provides him with a perspective sorely needed in the Legislature," said the Governor.

But the junior senator from Raleigh County also says nothing will get done in the state until lawmakers start pulling in the same direction.

"There was no leadership in the past session."

Bruce Williams, senior senator from the 9th District, said Hylton isn't alone in that assessment.

Hylton's first project as a senator in 1986 was to introduce a gasoline tax bill, defeated before it had a chance. Hylton said one highly respected lawmaker said he would not pass a gas tax while he was running for re-elec-

This session Hylton will try again, with legislation to implement both gas and food taxes.

Hylton is in his second year as a Republican state senator. He broke

'Hylton's experience puts him light years ahead of many of his fellow lawmakers'

into the Legislature as a Democrat in 1964, serving two terms. He switched to the GOP in 1972, and back again after he lost his senate seat.

But he won the office as a Republican in 1986 in what he calls an impossible situation. His name was removed from the Democratic ballot after a postmarking error caused his filing papers to be declared late.

The senator/coal operator is no stranger to impossible situations. He began by pulling the coal out of the ground himself. His oldest son, Warren, remembers being five years old and spraying down the walls in one of his father's first mines.

In those days, Tracy was working for Itmann Coal Co., and had begun his own coal operation. He had lost his shirt twice in coal ventures, so he kept working for Itmann. He spent free hours doing painting, roofing, and carpentry work.

Today, he is principal owner of Perry & Hylton Coal, Nell Jean Enterprises, the Ramada Hotel, Pic & Go, the property on which Heck's and Beckley Pancake House are built, and he, together with his sons, have a dozen other businesses.

In his personal life, Hylton is not as proud of his record. He regrets having spent so much time away from his wife and three sons. And he worked so hard in the early years that he wasn't much company.

"At one time, they probably hated to see me come home."

Warren is not as hard on his father. "His bark is much worse than his bite."

Warren has worked with his father in nearly all the businesses, and was his campaign manager in the last election. He calls his dad Mr. Hylton.

The eldest son remembers living in an apartment above his grandmother's garage. Warren says things were not

always as easy as they are now.

to the community in terms of dollars area, but doesn't discuss it. and hours of work.

"There are very few people who can we talk about," he said. say they put it back."

He says his father has given away literally millions to charities and civic projects, but that Tracy has never he deserves it." taken credit for it.

"He would rather be thought of as a person, not for what he gives away."

Schools, churches, fire departments, needy college students, those who had no one to turn to, all have Tracy Hylton to thank for making things better.

But Warren says thanks are few and far between. "It leaves an emptiness in you that shouldn't be there."

Mack, Tracy's youngest son, knows He is proud of what Tracy has given about all his father has given to the

"I know from experience it's nothing

"He's a hardworking person that puts his heart and soul into his life. Everything he has he's worked for and

"He's like black or white," said Mack. "It's either right or wrong."

Hylton's middle son, Bob, brain-damaged by a childhood disease, lives at the Ramada and serves as hotel host.

Bob is the chief reason Hylton keeps running the Ramada. He says it hasn't made a nickle in five years.

Hylton is not one to take losses when they will not eventually be worth it.

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15TH SYMPOSIUM

The 15th Annual West Virginia Mining Symposium was a success as expected, with over 500 individuals taking part in some phase of the 48 hours at the Holiday Inn Charleston House, which included six technical sessions, two awards luncheons and the customary legislative reception.

A special half day seminar dealing with NPDES, and its implementation



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on the State level, got things underway on Wednesday, January 13.

The main program kicked off Thursday morning with a welcome from Association Chairman Bill Anderson, followed by presentations on reserve evaluation and site-specific mining methods.

At noon, the group moved to the ballroom for the Mountaineer Guardian award luncheon, which recognized 26 companies for more than 60 million tons of fatal free coal production. The afternoon session branched off, with the main group hearing presentations on equipment utilization, and a second session dealing with taxes, and workers' compensation.

The afternoon concluded with a combined session which heard from WVMRA member/State Senators Tracy Hylton and J.D. Brackenrich, who analyzed the current legislative session and the upcoming election.

That evening, the Association hosted its annual Legislative Reception, which was well attended.

Friday morning saw another split session, dealing with taxes and un-

employment compensation in one room, and environmental matters in the other. The environmental session was culminated by an update from DoE Commissioner Ken Faerber and two of his top assistants.

The 15th Symposium concluded with the Reclamation Awards Luncheon, at which WVMRA members garnered eleven of the fifteen awards.



Rick Corder De'Lyn, Ltd.



The Association again extends its thanks to the excellent panel of speakers which kept the 15th West Virginia Mining Symposium on the same high level as preceding years. The 29 men pictured here all gave of their time and talents for the benefit of our industry. All members of WVMRA, including those who weren't able to attend, owe them a debt of gratitude.



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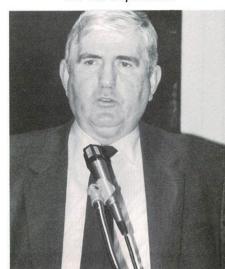
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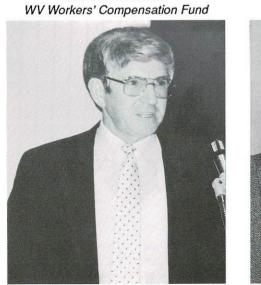
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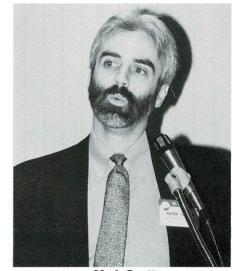
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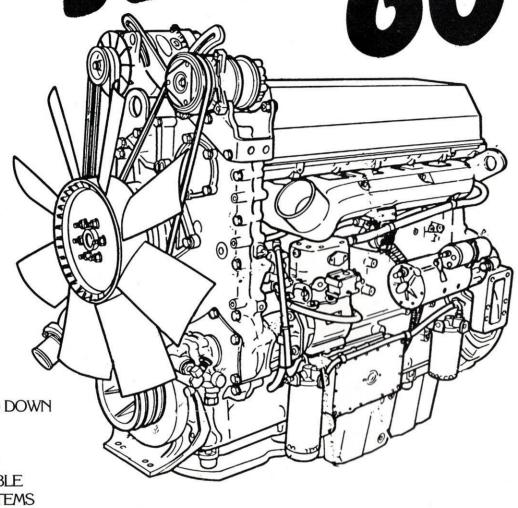
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1987 Reclamation Awards

Oneida Coal Wins the 'Callaghan'

Oneida Coal Co., Inc. was the top winner, as fifteen West Virginia companies claimed 1987 Reclamation Awards at the closing luncheon of the Annual West Virginia Mining Symposium. Oneida was recognized for "overall excellence in a multiple permit complex," at its Braxton County operations.

Oneida received the "David C. Callaghan Award," which annually goes to the outstanding overall operation. The award is named for former WV-DNR Director David Callaghan.

The Reclamation Awards are sponsored by WVMRA, in conjunction with the West Virginia Department of Energy. Association President Ben Greene characterized the awards as symbolic of the pride which its member companies take in the mining and reclamation process.

"We have always found that there is a tremendous amount of pride attached to being a Reclamation Award winner. I don't think most people realize how many companies go far beyond legal requirements in completing reclamation. That kind of work

is reflected by the companies who won these awards this year."

Presentations were made by WV-DoE Commissioner Ken Faerber.

The award winners were selected from among some three dozen companies nominated for the honor by local DoE field inspection personnel.

The occasion was also marked by the presentation of The "Governor's Award," which goes to the State nominee for national reclamation honors.

This year's winner was Island Creek Coal Corp.'s Gauley Division.

Oneida Coal Co., Inc.

In Braxton County, for overall excellence in a multiple permit complex of underground mines, surface mines, preparation plants, refuse areas, and tipples. Oneida has consistently displayed the highest regard for the best traditions of mining and reclamation, going beyond the requirements of the law, in the planning, construction, maintenance and operation of sediment control structures, haulage roads, refuse disposal areas, and all other facets of the mining complex. By its standard of excellence, Oneida continues to reflect great pride on the coal industry, and upon the State of West Virginia.



Accepting the "Callaghan" from DoE Commissioner Ken Faerber (far left) and former DNR Director Dave Callaghan (far right) are DoE Inspector John Given (2nd from left) and Oneida representatives (I-r) Bob McGregor, Dwight Given and Tom Dooley.

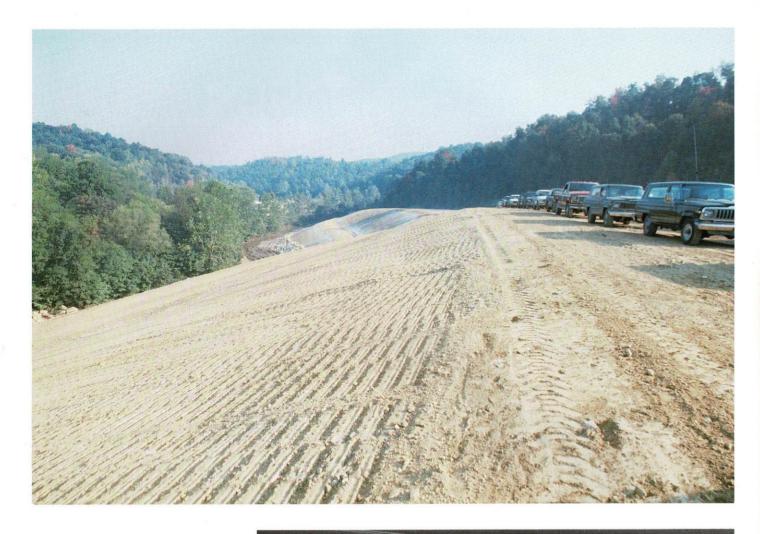


Governor's Award to

Island Creek



The Governor's Award, presented for the first time last year, honors the State's official nominee for entry into national competition for mining and reclamation excellence. This year's winner is Island Creek's Gauley Division. Shown at the presentation ceremony are (I-r) Inspector Virgil Groves, Energy Commissioner Ken Faerber, and Larry Marshall, Steve Keen and Lonnie Spencer, all of Island Creek.



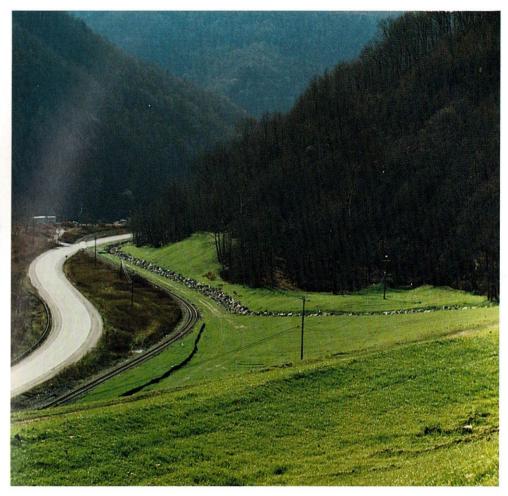
General Paving Co.

In Monongalia County, for the timely, efficient and successful restoration of 70 acres known collectively as the Goshen Road Refuse Area, under the Abandoned Mine Lands Program. The company's outstanding effort stabilized slopes, improved water quality, revegetated barren areas, stopped sedimentation, dramatically improved the aesthetics of the area, and created conditions favorable to wildlife. This completed operation is the outstanding Abandoned Mine Lands project for northern West Virginia in 1987.



Left to right - Inspector Claud Straight, Northern AML Supervisor Dave Brochard, the Commissioner, and Fenton Eddy of General Paving Co.

In
Recognition
of
West Virginia's
outstanding
AML
Program





Left to right - Southern AML Supervisor Jim Lagos, the Commissioner, Don Pike of Pioneer Construction Co., and Inspector Tracy Browning.

Pioneer Construction Co., Inc.

In Logan County, for the timely, efficient and successful restoration of the 30 acre *Toney Fork Refuse Pile*. The company's outstanding efforts included extinguishing burning areas, controlling surface water runoff, stabilizing slopes, and revegetation. This completed operation is the outstanding Abandoned Mine Lands project for southern West Virginia in 1987.

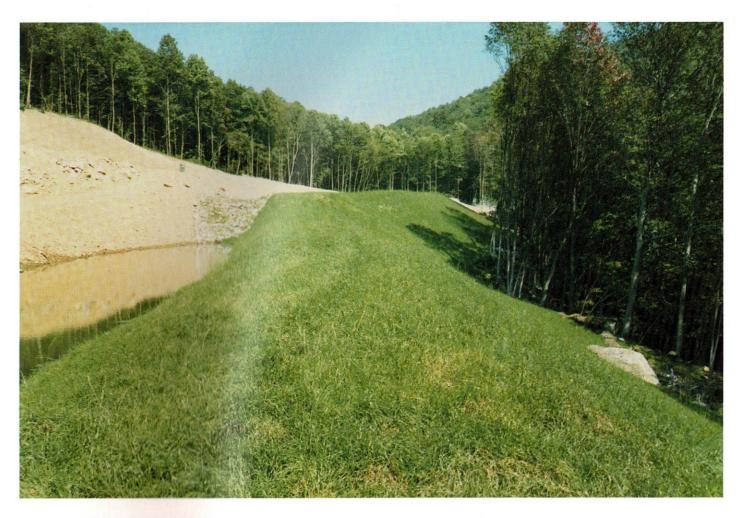


LaRosa Fuel Co., Inc.

In Upshur County, for outstanding performance in regrading and revegetation, which transformed the mine site into productive pasture land, indistinguishable from surrounding acreage.



Left to right - Inspector Frank Shreve, Commissioner Faerber, and George Duffer of LaRosa Fuel.





Joe Turley (r), accepts for Leckie Smokeless Coal Co., while inspector Larry Golden (I) looks on.

Leckie Smokeless Coal Co.

In Greenbrier County, for exceptional workmanship in haulroad construction, advanced drainage control measures, and outstanding revegetation in the development and operation of an underground mining complex which blends into the surrounding countryside.

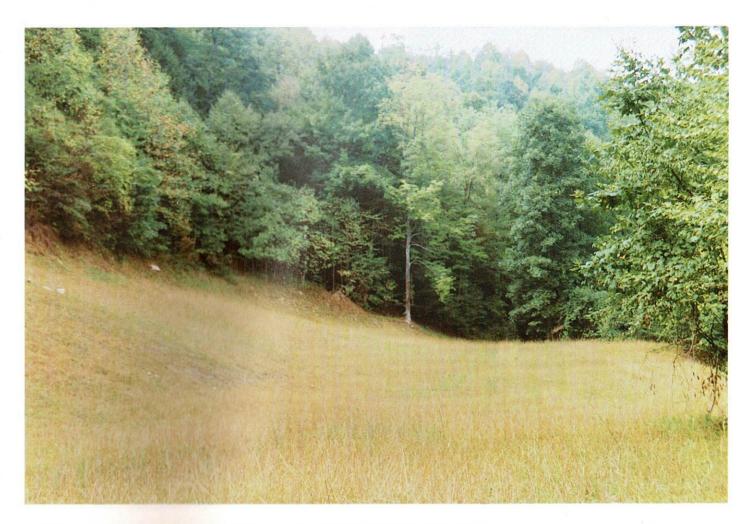


Peabody Coal Co.

In Boone County, for outstanding environmental control over 23 permit areas of a major underground mining operation, where the environmental maintenance crew has sustained consistently high standards of haulroad repair, dust control, and water quality.



Left to right - Inspector Joe Hager, Commissioner Faerber, Vernon Smith and Bruce Tilley, both of Peabody Coal Co.



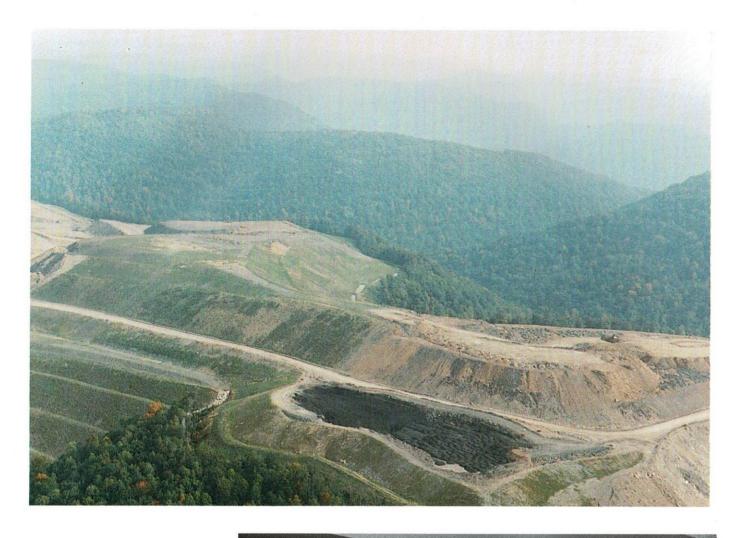


Inspector Russ Keaton (r) accepts on behalf of Big Fork Coal Co.

Big Fork Coal Co.

In Nicholas County, for the longterm, outstanding record of effective drainage control, and timely reclamation which transformed a pre-existing mine site into an environmentally stable wildlife refuge, aesthetically consistent with surrounding acreage.

24 Green Lands 25



Juliana Mining Co., Inc.

In Webster County, for the successful implementation of a well thought out mining and reclamation plan involving multiple seam mining and durable rockfill construction, with consistent achievement of high environmental performance standards.



Ed Roach of Juliana Mining Co. accepts the award from Ken Faerber.





Left to right - Inspector Charley Carico, Exil Light, Jesse Anderson, Commissioner Ken Faerber, Brownie Stuart and Don Groves.

King Knob Coal Co., Inc.

In Monongalia County, for the permanent improvement of its mine site through superior design and construction of drainage structures, for an overall consistent record of compliance with reclamation standards, and for a willingness to go beyond the requirements of the law in order to achieve excellence in reclamation.

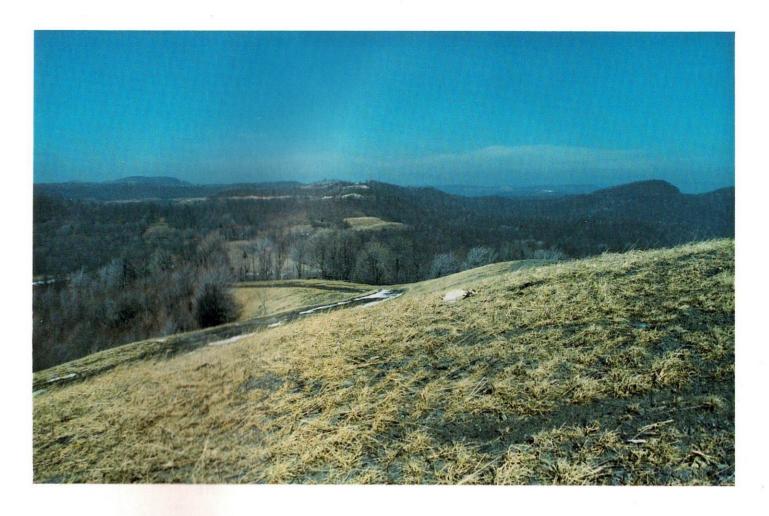


Rostosky Mining

In Mineral County, for an outstanding record of concurrent reclamation, and overall maintenance of the environmental integrity of the permit area, with a three person work force, and for providing an outstanding example of the compatibility of small mining operations with successful reclamation.



Left to right - Inspector Craig See, Commissioner Faerber, and Mike Rostosky of Rostosky Mining.





Left to right - Inspector Bill Critchley, the Commissioner, Lewis Crawford, Sr. and L.C. Crawford, Jr. of Rupert Feed and Supply.

Rupert Feed & Supply Co., Inc.

In Greenbrier County, for achieving consistently high environmental standards in difficult mining conditions, which resulted not only in the successful reclamation of the mine site, but also in the permanent improvement of a county road which crosses the operation.



Inspector Gary Meade (I), Commissioner Faerber, and Jerry Kittle of McCoy Brothers.

McCoy Brothers, Inc.

In Barbour County, for careful attention to the reclamation plan, including timely revegetation, which has made the permit area more productive, yet visually indistinguishable from surrounding undisturbed pasture lands.

B&B Coal Co., Inc.

In Upshur County, for extraordinary measures in regrading and revegetation which offset extremely poor climate conditions, and resulted in a completed reclamation effort which effectively blended the mining site with adjacent acreage.



George Duffer, (r) accepts for B & B Coal Co., as Inspector Brad Moore (I) looks on.



Inspector Jim Belcher (I) accepts for Lillybrook Coal Co.

Lillybrook Coal Co.

In Mercer County, for careful attention to concurrent reclamation, and the elimination of previously existing highwall, during the successful completion of a surface project in an aesthetically sensitive area visible from Pipestem State Park and the West Virginia Turnpike.

Award nominees

The following companies were also nominated for 1987 Reclamation Awards.

1907 Necialitation Awards.						
Company	County	Inspector				
Baker Coal Co.	Monongalia	James Maurin				
Coalmac, Inc.	Fayette	John Lambdin				
Consolidation Coal Co.	McDowell	James A. Rose				
Consolidation Coal Co.	McDowell	Jackie Taylor				
Consolidation Coal Co.	McDowell	Allen Vest				
Dal-Tex Coal	Logan	Brad Duffield				
Fresa Construction Co.	Harrison	Terry Fleming				
G & W Equipment	Nicholas	Virgil Groves				
Hobet Mining	Boone	Mike Mace				
Island Creek Coal Co.	Nicholas	Larry Golden				
Island Creek Coal Co.	Grant	David Idleman				
Island Creek Coal Co.	Nicholas	John Tuttle				
J & R Coal Co.	Monongalia	James Maurin				
K.I.M. Coal Corp.	Mingo	Jerry Bias				
Maple Meadow Mining	Raleigh	Grant Connard				
Marrowbone Development	Mingo	Darcy White				
North Page Coal Corp.	Fayette	John Vernon				
Pavex, Inc.	Raleigh	Grant Connard				
Pavex, Inc.	Raleigh	Grant Connard				
Ranger Fuel Corp.	Wyoming	Grant Connard				
Stanley Industries, Inc.	Barbour	Larry Guthrie				
Sterling Smokeless Coal	Raleigh	Michael Furey				
Tridell Realty Co.	Ohio	Ron Sturm				

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DoE Deputy Director Bart Lay, Jr., ((r) presents the Mountaineer Guardian Award to Stan Black of **BethEnergy Mines, Inc.** -#81 Mine - Nicholas County.

Eighteen Member

The West Virginia Mining Symposium also included the presentation of Mountaineer Guardian Awards, which represented over 60 million tons of coal mined in West Virginia without a fatality.

Bart Lay, Jr., deputy director of WV-DoE, made the presentations at a special luncheon during the Symposium. This year's award ceremony had an extra flair of celebration in that 1987 was concluded as the safest year in the state's coal industry.



East Gulf Fuel Corp. - East Gulf No. 4 Mine - Raleigh County - Don Wise accepting



Dal-Tex Corp./Sharples Coal Corp. - Bend Branch No. 3
Mine and Coalburg No. 1 Mine - both in Logan County - John
McDaniel accepting.



Davis Trucking Co. - Grant & Tucker Operation - Grant & Tucker Counties - (I-r) Melvin Judy, John Geroski, and Don Cussins accepting.

Companies Win Safety Awards

In 1987, the Mountaineer Guardian program recognized 45 separate mining operations, which had accumulated over 200 million fatal free tons.

Jointly sponsored by the Association and the West Virginia Department of Energy, the Mountaineer Guardian Awards program was started in 1983 to recognize those mining operations which achieve specified tonnage goals, based on the level of employment, without suffering a fatal accident.

Since its inception, the program has recognized some 275 operations, representing nearly half a billion fatal free tons.

Mining companies can become eligible for the program simply by enrolling with the Department of Energy. For further information, contact Bart Lay at WV-DoE (304) 348-3500, or Bill Raney at the Association office (304) 346-5318.

Pictured on these pages are the WVMRA members who were recognized at the Symposium luncheon.



Elk Run Coal Co. - Bishop Mine - Boone County - (I-r) Larry McKinney and Rick Stewart accepting.



Elk Run Coal Co. - Black Knight Mine - Boone County - (I-r) Jeff Johnson and Jim Adkins accepting.



Elk Run Coal Co. - Queen Mine - Boone County - (I-r) Jim Adkins and Ralph Miller accepting.



Elkay Mining Co./Pittston - No. 3 Mine - Logan County & Ranger Fuel Corp. - Beckley No. 1 Mine -Wyoming - John Bryan accepting.



Kanawha Coal Co. - Madison #2 Mine - Boone County - Terry Adkins accepting.



Patriot Mining Co., Inc. - Patriot Surface Mine - Preston & Monongalia Counties - John Reckart accepting.



Phoenix Resources/Craft Coal Co. - Stone Run No. 6 Mine - Randolph County - Kenneth Kreps accepting.



Rockville Mining Co., Inc. - Jobs #1,#2,#3 - Preston County - Joe Elliott accepting.



Hansford Coal Co. - No. 2 Surface Mine - Raleigh County & King Powellton Mining, Inc. - No. 8 Mine - Raleigh County - Terry Tolley accepting.



Hobet Mining, Inc. - No. 7 Surface Mine - Logan & Mingo Counties - Ruth Sullivan accepting.



Peabody Coal Co./Eastern Assoc. - Colony Bay Mine -Boone County - (I-r) Kirby Bragg, Steve Chapman and Wendell Wilson accepting.



Peerless Eagle Coal Co. - Freedom & Liberty Mine - Nicholas County - Richard Scaggs accepting.



Rush Run Coal Co. - No. 3 Mine - Boone County - Burge Speilman accepting.



Terry Eagle Coal Co. - Cross Lanes Eagle No. 1 Mine - Nicholas County - Monty Hieb accepting.

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Revegetation with tall fescue and clovers on a Dippel & Dippel Coal Co. contour mine in Monongalia County. This site has produced approximately 1.5 tons of forage per acre during the past five years with little management.

West Virginia University



Japanese millet (a summer annual) growing on a Davis Trucking Co. reclaimed surface mine in Tucker County.

Species for Revegetation: by Dr. Jeff Skousen Extension Specialist - Land Reclamation Grasses

Revegetating surface mined lands is important to control runoff, erosion, and sedimentation. Research has shown that streams in mined and revegetated watersheds have lower peak flows than streams in adjacent,

unmined, forested watersheds.
Aside from reducing surface runoff and erosion, revegetation also enhances the aesthetic quality of the landscape and encourages minesoil development through the addition of organic matter. Ultimately, revegetation promotes establishment of productive land uses such as hayland, pasture, and wildlife habitat on the disturbed area.

Grasses are the most commonly seeded plants in revegetation programs for several reasons. First,

numerous grass species are available for seeding. Second, seed of grass species adapted to disturbed areas is readily available at a reasonable cost. Third, the grass family (when taken as a whole) is tolerant of a wide variety of environmental and soil conditions, and several grasses are adapted to germinate, establish, and grow on harsh sites. There are certain grass species that have proven their suitability in providing cover and forage for specific postmining land uses. Many species are capable of producing large amounts of biomass in just a few weeks and respond quickly to fertilizer and management, while other species may be slower growing and persist on the site for long periods without management.

For these reasons, a good revegetation program will always contain one or more grasses as a major component of the seed mix that will meet the postmining land use objective. Most West Virginia revegetation programs include two or three grasses and two legumes in the seed mix (see *Species* for *Revegetation: Legumes*, **Green Lands**, 17 (4): 35-39, Winter 1988).

Temporary Cover

After regrading and topsoiling, all disturbed areas must be revegetated as quickly as possible. Species that germinate, establish, and grow rapidly must be selected to stabilize the site. Annual grasses (such as foxtail millet, Japanese millet, pearl millet, oats, rye, annual ryegrass, or wheat)

Table 1. Grasses available for seeding in revegetation programs of the eastern U.S.

	700			Cool Season I - Introduced Warm Season N - Native		
Common Name (Scientific Name)	Principal Cultivars	Life Cycle	Growth Season	Origin	Seeding Rate Pounds PLS/ac	Ease of Establishment
Kentucky Bluegrass (Poa pratensis)	Numerous turf varieties	P	С	1	15-20	Fair
Smooth Brome (Bromus inermis	Saratoga Lincoln, others	Р	С	I	10-15	Fair
Deertongue (Panicum clandestinum)	Tioga	Р	W	N	10-15	Fair
Tall Fescue (Festuca arundinacea)	Kentucky 31, Johnstone, Alta Forager, Kenhy		С	Ĺ	10-20	Good
Weeping Lovegrass (Eragrostis curvula)	Morpa	Р	W	1	2-5	Good
Foxtail Millet (Setaria italica)	German	Α	W	I	20-30	Good
Japanese Millet (Echinochloa crusgalli)		A	W	1	20-30	Good
Pearl Millet (Pennisetum americanum)	Gahi - 1, Starr	Α	W	I	15-20	Good
Oats (Avena sativa)	Noble, Otee Ogle, others	A	С	1	30-50	Good
Orchardgrass (Dactylis glomerata)	Pennlate, Potomac, Hallmark, other	P	C	I	10-20	Good
Redtop (Agrostis gigantea)	Common	Р	С	Í	5-10	Fair
Winter Rye (Secale cereale)	Balbo, Abruzzi Arostook	Α	С	ı	30-50	Good
Annual Ryegrass (Lolium multiflorum)	Numerous cultivars	A	С	ı	5-10	Good
Perennial Ryegrass (Lolium perenne)	Numerous cultivars	Р	С	, I	10-15	Good
Sudangrass (Sorghum sudanense)	Piper, Commo	n A	W	1	20-30	Good
Switchgrass (Penicum virgatu	Cave-in-Rock Blackwell, Kan	P	W	N	2-5	Fair
Winter Wheat (Triticum aestivum)	Feland, Severr Tyler, Wheeler others		С	1	30-60	Good

	-		Tolerance			
Persistence	Drought	Cold	Acid	Salt	High Water	Lower pH limit
Fair Shallow roo	Poor ted sod-former.	Good Good palata	Fair bility.	Fair	Fair	5.5
Fair Forms dens	Good se sod. Good erd	Good osion control	Poor I.	Good	Fair	5.0
Good Acid tolerar	Good nt, drought resist	Poor tant.	Good	Fair	Fair	4.0
Good Most comm	Good nonly seed grass	Good on mined ar	Good reas. Drough	Good t resistant. E	Fair ndophyte free	4.5 seed.
Fair Tolerant of	Good acid minesoils a	Fair nd dry condi	Good tions. Short	Fair lived perenni	Fair al.	4.0
Poor Rapid estab	Fair lishing, tempora	Poor ary crop. See	Fair ed in summe	Fair r.	Good	4.5
Poor Quick, temp	Poor orary cover. Wi	Poor Idlife food.	Fair	Fair	Good	4.5
Poor Fast growin	Poor g, tall, annual. F	Poor ood for wildl	Good ife.	Fair	Good	4.0
Poor Quick, temp	Fair orary crop.	Fair	Fair	Fair	Poor	4.5
Good Develops ra	Good pidly and long li	Good ved. Used in	Fair n wildlife pla	Fair ntings.	Good	4.5
Good Sod former.	Good Adapted to a w	Good ide variety o	Good f soils. Shor	Good t lived if not r	Good managed.	4.0
Poor Suitable for	Fair cover crop. Pro	Fair vides quick	Fair temporary co	Fair over.	Poor	4.5
Poor Good winter	Poor r annual. Outcom	Good npetes perer	Poor nnial grasses	Fair	Fair	4.5
Fair Short lived	Poor perennial. Domi	Good nates stands	Poor for 2 years.	Fair	Fair	4.5
Poor Temporary ,	Good quick cover. Se	Poor ed during su	Fair mmer.	Fair	Poor	4.5
Good Rhizomatou	Good s, acid tolerant,	Good tall. Slower	Good establishing	Fair	Good	4.0
Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Poor	4.5

are often seeded to provide quick, temporary cover (Table 1). The millets and sudangrass are often selected when seeding disturbed areas during summer months (June-August), while cool season annuals are best seeded during early spring and late fall. Some perennial grasses are known to establish quickly on disturbed sites (i.e., redtop, perennial ryegrass, weeping lovegrass, and tall fescue)

Competition among species for moisture, light, nutrients, and space is an inherent problem when seeding more than three species in a mixture. Usually one or two of the species in the mixture (especially the annuals) will germinate and establish quicker than the other species. A common practice is to seed permanent species (perennial grasses and legumes) into the mulch created by the temporary annual species either in the fall or spring following senescence of the annual crop.

Time of Seeding

Regardless of the season or month in which a regraded area is prepared for seeding, grass species can be found that are adapted to the particular soil and environmental conditions of the site. Cool season grasses are best suited for seeding in March-April and September-October. Some cool season grasses, especially the winter annuals, can be seeded through November. December seedings have generally not been successful because the tiny seedlings are unable to withstand the January and February cold weather.

Many reclamationists feel that seeding in summer is a waste of time and material. However, experience and research provide examples of successful establishment of both temporary and permanent vegetation during the summer months. Warm season grasses (especially the summer annuals) can germinate and establish under drier and hotter condi-

tions than cool season grasses, but the summer grasses still require some moisture to be present in the soil. The rainfall amount and distribution during June, July, and August can be highly variable from year to year, and are the two primary limiting factors for successful summer vegetation establishment.

Revegetation is a key in a successful reclamation program, and great strides have been made during the past 20 years in reclamation techniques to produce fertile minesoils and selection of plant species for use on disturbed lands. While each revegetation specialist has his/her own favorite seeding technique and seed mix, it is important to select plant species which will quickly provide cover on a site and reduce the potential for erosion. Successful establishment of the right kind of vegetation for creation of a productive land use is our reclamation objective.

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A Sunny Semi-Annual

Plans already underway for a sunny 1989

Blue skies and sunshine greeted some 200 Association members and guests at the Registry Resort in Naples, FL, for the WVMRA Semi-Annual Meeting in February.

A three-day program mixing business and pleasure kept everybody busy, and able to forget the West Virginia winter for a while.

Plans are underway for more sunshine next winter, when the Association travels to Maui, Hawaii for the 1989 Semi-Annual Meeting.

One major change occurred on the Board of Directors, as long-time and valued member Dwight Keating resigned. The Board unanimously approved Gerald Ramsburg of C & W Coal Co., Clarksburg, to serve out the unexpired term.

New Members

Twenty-six new members were approved by the Board, as the membership drive continues successfully.

The Association extends a hearty welcome to the following companies:

General

Black Gold of West Virginia, Inc., Sandy Perry, Branchland; Old Hickory Coal Co., Meredith Kirk, Sharples; and Preston County Coal & Coke Corp., Duane Walls, Masontown.



Chairman Bill Anderson conducts the Semi-Annual Meeting.

Associate

Adams Machine & Electric Shop, Anthony Adams, Logan; American Hydraulics, Jim Winkler, Logan; Baker Equipment Engineering Co., Charlie Flowers, Charleston; Blount Construction and Engineering, Ted Hillman, Mongtomery, AL; Bowles, McDavid, Graff & Love, Ricklin Brown, Charleston; D & S Machine & Hydraulics, Daryl Loggins, Mount Gay;

Ferrell Excavating Co., Inc., Vernon Ferrell, Pecks Mill; Forke Brothers, Ronald McClain, Buckhannon; Holden Machine & Fabrication, Aaron Rice, Holden; Hydroplate & Machine Service, Inc., Walter Dunn, Princeton; Jim Hamm Splice & Repair Service, Inc., James Hamm, Bluefield;



The banquet speaker was Bobby Joe Smith, former WVU assistant basketball coach, now living in Florida.

Leslie Brothers Equipment Co., Inc., John Leslie, Cowen; McNeer, Highland & McMunn, James Varner, Clarksburg; Motor Car Supply Co., John Cornett, Gallipolis, OH; Mountaineer Park, Inc., Hayes Taylor, Chester; National Ammonia Co., James Hajec, Philadelphia, PA; Rag Pickers, Inc., James Lester, Richlands, VA;

Thomas Brothers Insurance Agency, Inc., Paul Thomas, Bruceton Mills; Tramco, Bob Sammons, Williamson; Wesco Corp., L. L. Tracy, Poca; Wescott Steel, Inc., Dixie Dugan, Newburgh, IN; West Virginia Pump, William Smythe, Huntington; Westinghouse Credit Corp., Ed Stack, Pittsburgh, PA.

Mini-Meetings - A major benefit to WVMRA's regular meeting schedule is the opportunity for key members to get together and exchange thoughts, ideas and solutions to problems. Here Second Vice Chairman Paul Hutchins (I) of Freeman Branch Mining confers with former Chairman Charlie Jones of Amherst Industries...

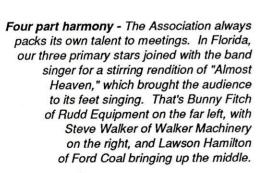


Former Chairman John Faltis (I) of Anker Energy, with Bob Jeran of Jeran Mining.





Former Chairmen Buck Harless (I) of Lynn Land and Don Donell of Starvaggi Industries.







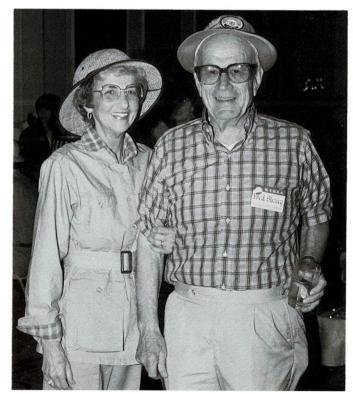
PaulEna and Bill Anderson, of Anderson & Anderson Contractors, relax together at the "Swamp Party."



Kelly Faltis of Anker Energy, with an unidentified friend at the "Swamp Party." The bird is reportedly now making his home in Morgantown, WV.



The "Swamp Party" included an invitation to "dress the part." Dr. Tom Dotson of Ford Coal, and Evelyn DelSignore of Buffalo Coal, took it seriously



. . . . and so did Chris and Fred Shewey of Lynn Land.

Men's Golf Winners - These men took home trophies from a windy, but otherwise successful golf outing. I-r are Steve George, Ford Coal; Jim McNeil, Robbins Manufacturing; Jim LaRosa, LaRosa Fuel; and John Rader, Union Carbide.





Tennis Winners - The man in the middle is Bob Kamm of Peerless Fuels. He is being recognized for a tennis achievement which kindness forbids us to reveal. Otherwise the tennis winners were (I-r) Tom Meehan, Anderson Equipment, and Carolyn Broverman, Kessler Coals, who teamed for second place. To the right of the bag man are Larry Roberts, Penn Line Service, and Teresa Kamm, Peerless Fuels, our reigning tennis champions.

Some other golfers - These gentlemen were not winners in the golf tournament. But they looked good doing it. Left to right Steve Walker, Walker Machinery; Marty Burke, Ford Coal; John Williamson, Walker Machinery; and Bob George, Ford Coal.





with Rish standing behind it," said Lawrence Streets, President, Allegheny Mining Co., Mt. Storm, West Virginia. Allegheny Mining operates a surface mining project which provides coal for VEPO's Mt. Storm Power Plant.

A Komatsu D475A-1 Crawler Dozer is used on the project for both the mining and reclamation, according to Streets. "Visibility from the cab is excellent which allows us to see both corners of the blade when pushing a load. . . and to the rear when ripping. Good visibility means increased production," Streets added.

Availability on the dozer has been over 95 percent since it was introduced to the surface mining project. "We have had above average availability on the D475A," Streets said. "We have purchased a lot of machines from

Rish and feel good about Komatsu with Rish having it. Rish is very attentive to their customers," Streets added. The D475A has a blade capacity of 42 cyd, 740 flywheel hp and weighs

approximately 205,000 lbs.

Rish and Komatsu are the choice for a growing number of coal surface mining contractors throughout the area. Join the switch to Komatsu. Contact a Rish sales representative near you for more details.

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