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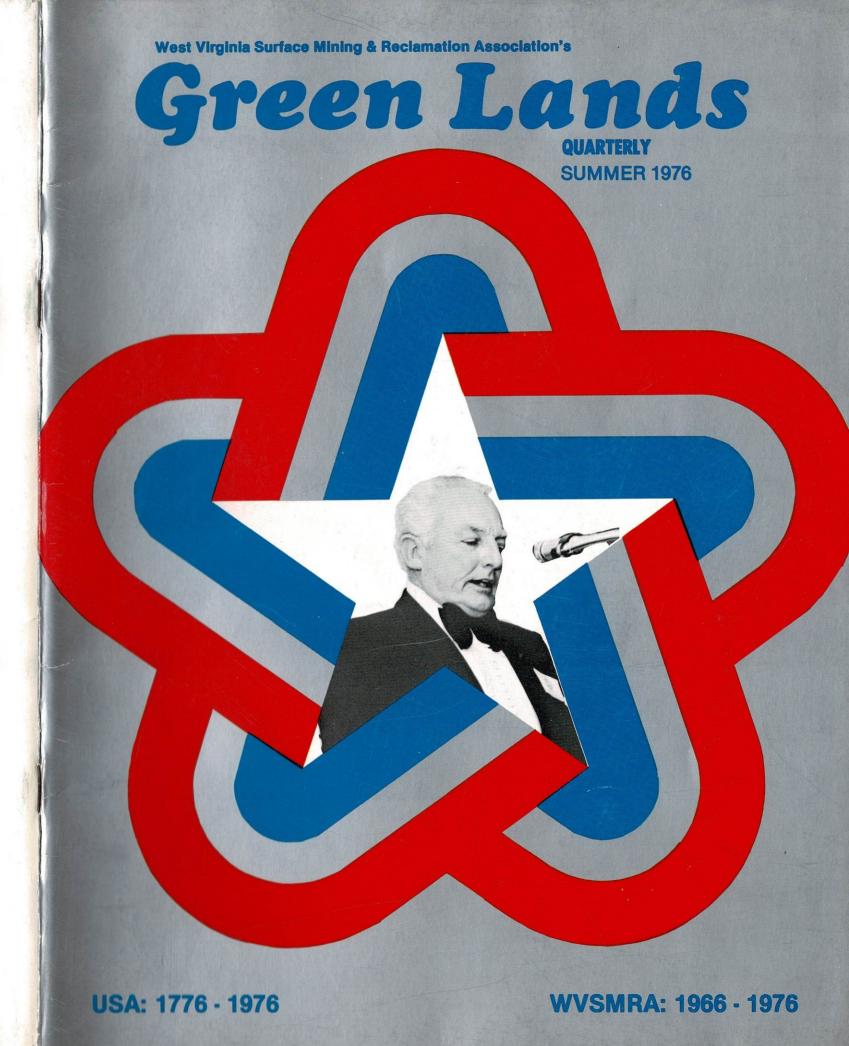
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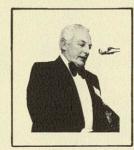
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### Green Lands

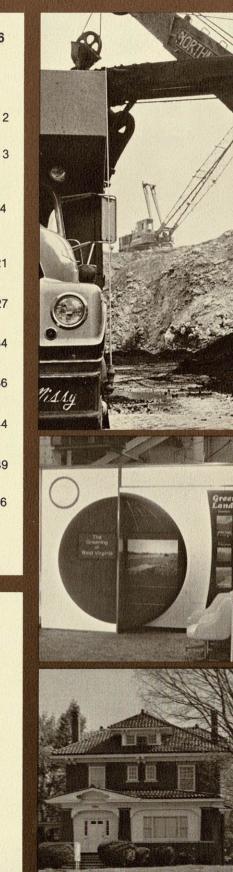
#### QUARTERLY

Summer 1976



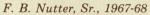
#### **ABOUT THE COVER**

During America's Bicentennial the West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association is celebrating its tenth anniversary under the leadership of Board Chairman H. L. Kennedy.



#### WVSMRA PAST PRESIDENTS







Arch F. Sandy, Jr., 1968-69



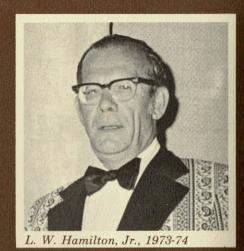
John C. Anderson, 1969-70



G. B. Frederick, 1970-72



James L. Wilkinson, 1972-73



#### FIRST WVSMRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1966-67



### WVSMRA . . . 1966 - 1976

On March 22, 1966, a newly formed organization known as the West Virginia Surface Mine Institute opened a small office in the Kanawha Valley Building in Charleston, West Virginia. Representing about 20 companies engaged in surface coal mining around the state, the group's initial goal was to help promote the welfare and interests of its industry by whatever means possible.

Prior to 1966, there were smaller surface mining groups in the northern and southern portions of the state. The establishment of the Institute culminated several years of efforts by far-sighted individuals who realized that strength and development during the trying times ahead would accompany unification. The Institute's first officers were Leo Vecellio, President; James L. Wilkinson, First Vice-President; F. B. Nutter, Sr., Second Vice President; Arch F. Sandy, Jr., Secretary; and G. B. Frederick, Treasurer. O. V. Vande Linde. Jr. was named Executive Director and Mrs. Patricia Bruce was hired as office secretary.

Following the initial organizational decisions, the officers prepared a charter and bylaws for consideration by the Board. All recommendations were approved and filed with the Secretary of State's office. At this time, the group's name was changed to the West Virginia Surface Mine Association.

A June 17th meeting at Bridgeport completed the formative stages of the new Association and work began on program development. After only four months, the membership had grown to 46 companies, representing over one-half, or nine million tons of the state's surface mine production. With this strong base to work from, the organization began soliciting associate members, or businesses that had a strong interest in the surface mining industry.

The first general membership meeting was held July 29-30, 1966, at the Daniel Boone Hotel in Charleston. Association President Leo Vecellio addressed the group reviewing the growth and progress of the group during the first four months. Topics of interest at the meeting included the membership drive, the coming political campaign, the current surface mine law and rumors that the surface mine law would be revised or rewritten during the 1967 session of the West Virginia Legislature.

The WVSMA was extremely active in revision of the law, which was the basis of what is still considered the most comprehensive state surface mining law in the country. Early in 1968, the Board voted to become involved in a research project that would help member companies comply with the stringent requirements of the law. The tripartite agreement between the U.S. Forest Service, the Department of Natural Resources and the Association is still in effect and helping surface miners achieve higher standards of reclamation through improved revegation techniques.



Leo Vecellio, Sr. First WVSMRA President

#### First Board of Directors - 1966-67

Leo Vecellio Vecellio & Grogan, Inc. James L. Wilkinson Kingwood Mining Company F. B. Nutter, Sr. Mynu Coals, Inc. Arch F. Sandy, Jr. Grafton Coal Company G. B. Frederick Capitol Fuels, Inc. Milford Jenkins Mary Ruth Corporation Sherwood E. Sparks Sparks Coal Company, Inc. Roy S. Long Hawks Nest Mining Company J. Wade Bell Lafayette Springs Coal Company Ike Lewis Sugar Creek Corporation Harry L. Phillips Princeton Coal Sales, Inc. John K. Turner Premco Corporation L. C. Basham H. R. Anderson Company Jack Baldini Wesgin Mining Company, Inc. James D. LaRosa LaRosa Fuel Company, Inc. Frank C. Boggess West Virginia Truck Sales, Inc. Orville R. Thomas Wright-Thomas Equipment Company Ed Wode Cecil I. Walker Machinery Company

# Twenty Companies Start New Association











Increasing importance was being placed on improving reclamation practices by 1969. The industry-funded Special Reclamation Program was in full swing, working to eliminate the scars of abandoned surface mines, and the WVSMA had initiated a closer relationship with the Soil Conservation Service. Also at this time, staff offices were moved to 1115 Virginia Street, in order to provide space for the growing organization and Mary Ann Steele was hired as Bookkeeper.

Mounting pressure faced the fledgling organization in 1970, as the environmental movement steadily gained momentum. Several groups espousing total abolition of surface mining had become extremely vocal, with a showdown vowed for the coming legislative session. The movement gained added stimulus in December of 1970, when gubernatorial candidate Jay Rockefeller announced that he also would support abolition. The 1971 Legislature proved to be a sixty-day struggle for the survival of the industry. An abolition bill actually went to the floor of the House of Delegates for a vote, where it was defeated by a narrow margin. However, legislative compromise led to a revision of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, as well as the rules and regulations, which would later have a devastating economic impact on the industry.

Ben E. Lusk was hired as Assistant Director in May, 1971, and immediately implemented an extensive program designed to improve the image of surface mining. Lusk's straightforward approach included establishing credibility with the news media and a community relations, publicity and an advertising program that went directly to the people of West Virginia. The program included the production of a film and slide presentations about mining and reclamation advancements. Other features included: press tours to reclamation areas; a speaker's bureau, which gave presentations to schools, civic and other organizations; publishing of brochures and booklets concerning the industry, as well as radio, television and newspaper advertising.

The movie "Greening of Augusta," which explored the reclamation efforts of surface mine operators, was produced and aired on every television station in West Virginia in both October and January. In addition, *Green Lands Quarterly*, the official publication of the WVSMA, was initiated to serve as an effective communications and technical tool for members of industry, Congress, the Legislature, press and other organizations nationwide.

It was also during this time that the Surface Miner's Auxiliary reached its peak of activity. Under the helpful direction of Ethel Strange, Vivian Dennison, Vivian Garland, Norma Craddock, Joyce Massie and others, the Auxiliary sponsored marches on the Capitol, membership drives, bake sales, built floats and displays for various parades and fairs and generally stood up for the industry throughout the state.

By mid 1971, Dan Gerkin had joined the staff as News and Information Director and the organization had changed its name to the West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association. The group represented nearly 200 companies at this time, with members producing approximately 70 percent of the state's surface mined coal. On July 15th, staff offices were relocated at 1033 Quarrier Street to accommodate the growing staff. An office was also opened in Bridgeport for use by technical personnel and the Ladies Auxiliary.

In early 1972, the impact of the tough new surface mining law began to take its toll, as production fell for the third







### WVSMRA Initiates Research Programs













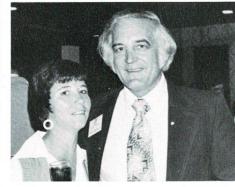


### ... New Technology Highlights Early 70's



### . . Conventions, meetings, etc.





















straight year and many smaller companies went out of business. However, bright spots included the continued increase in membership (235 companies) and the unquestioned establishment of West Virginia as the nation's leader in reclamation. Mountain State operators reclaimed over 27,000 acres in 1972, which was over 14,000 acres more than second place Kentucky. Ranking only sixth in surface mine production nationwide, West Virginia owed a growing portion of its progress to the Special Reclamation Fund, which restored over 3,400 acres that year. Realizing these and other advances by the industry, the Legislature refused to change the law or pass additional restrictive legislation. Of course, November of 1972 saw the reelection of Arch A. Moore, Jr. as Governor and a new positive era for surface mining in West Virginia.

At the semi-annual meeting in February, 1973, the Board accepted the resignation of O. V. Vande Linde and named Ben Lusk Executive Director.

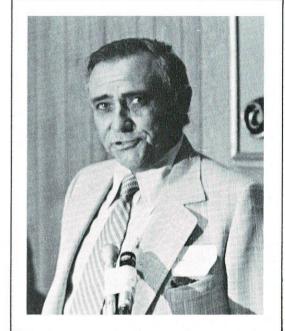
With political and radical environmental pressures in the background, the Association returned its emphasis to improving technology and promoting the welfare of its members. By 1973, reclamation research projects with the U.S. Forest Service, the Soil Conservation Service and West Virginia University had made revegetation of surface mined land a new science and these on-going programs were improving reclamation efforts each day. The WVSMRA established its own West Virginia Applied Research Institute for the coordination and establishment of even more research projects.

Also, during that year, coal operators began seeking improved methods of mining in order to better comply with tough new requirements of the Department of Natural Resources. As a result, the haulback, or lateral movement, method was developed and other new methods perfected including: mountaintop removal and valley fill, boxcut, modified block cut and highwall elimination.

Continuing its emphasis on improving mining and reclamation technology, the Association sought and received the first U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant ever presented to a private state coal organization in July, 1973. The \$2 million grant entitled, "New Mining Methods to Minimize Environmental Disturbance," was a 65-35 cost sharing project designed to study the feasibility of "Longwall Stripping." Basically, this concept is utilizing a modified longwall system to recover coal at shallow depths, with a minimum amount of land disturbance. Terry L. Iden joined the staff in October that year, taking over responsibility for advertising and membership services.

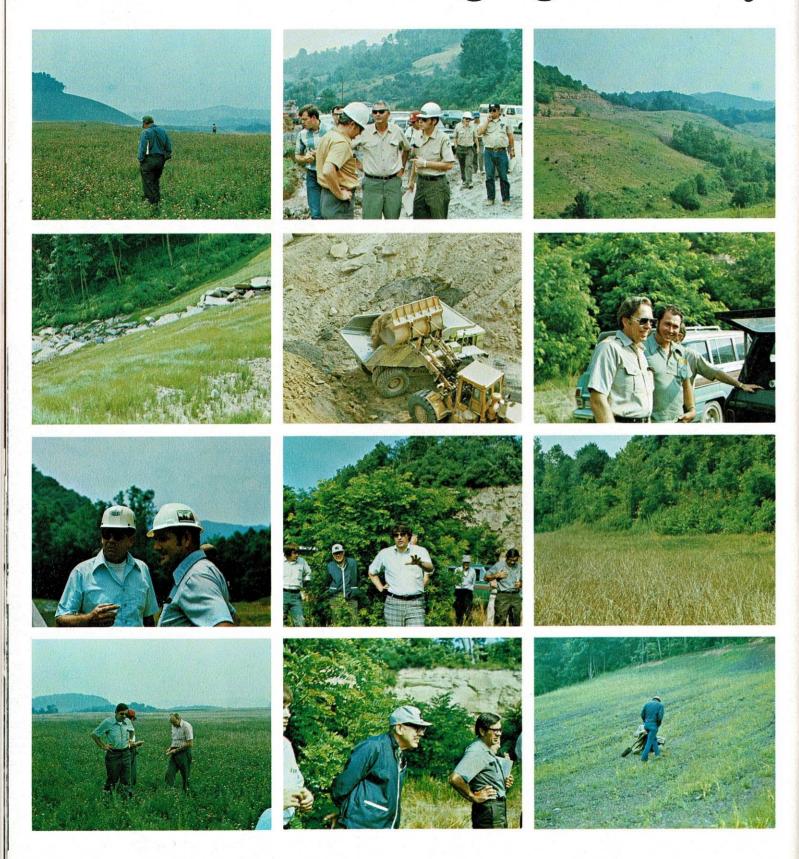
The WVSMRA conducted its first West Virginia Surface Mining Symposium in January, 1974, highlighting the recent development of new surface mining methods and June brought the implementation of a major structural reorganization. The Board elected Ben Lusk as permanent President of the Association, with a Chairman to be elected from the Board each year. The move was made to give Lusk more flexibility as the spokesman of the industry in dealing with the news media and other day-to-day business of the organization.

In the fall of 1974, the Association initiated a Technical Services Division to assist member companies with surface mining permits required by the Department of Natural Resources. John W. Sturm, hired as Technical Services Director, authored and published the booklet, "Procedure for

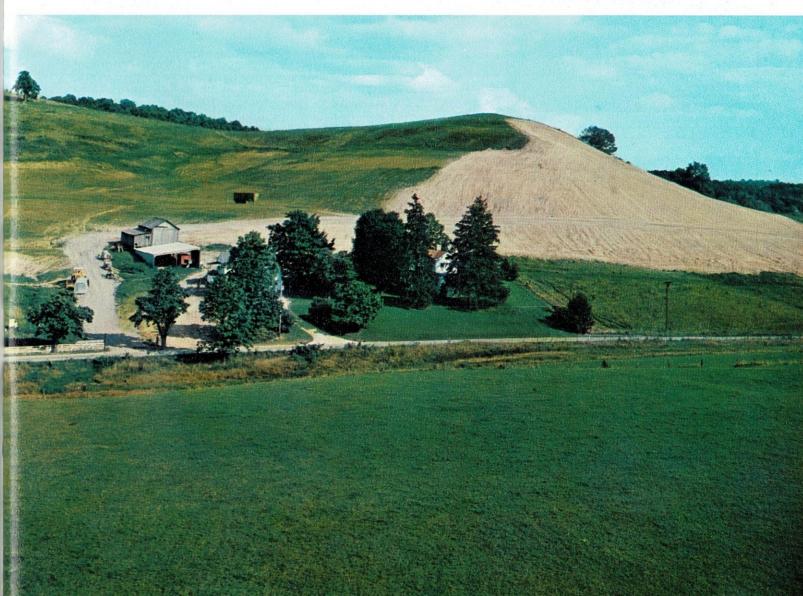


James C. Justice was named first WVSMRA Chairman of the Board in 1974 after a structural reorganization.

### . . . The Changing Industry







Obtaining a Surface Mining Permit in West Virginia." In addition, an Environmental Quality Control Laboratory was setup in Beckley to run water analysis required by both state and federal agencies. Also, in October, William L. Piper was selected as Project Engineer for the "Longwall Stripping" project, and in ceremonies at the Capitol, Governor Moore publicly announced that the project would be located at Julian, in Boone County, on property owned by the American Electric Power Company.

Due to its great expansion, the Association found it necessary to establish permanent headquarters. In December.

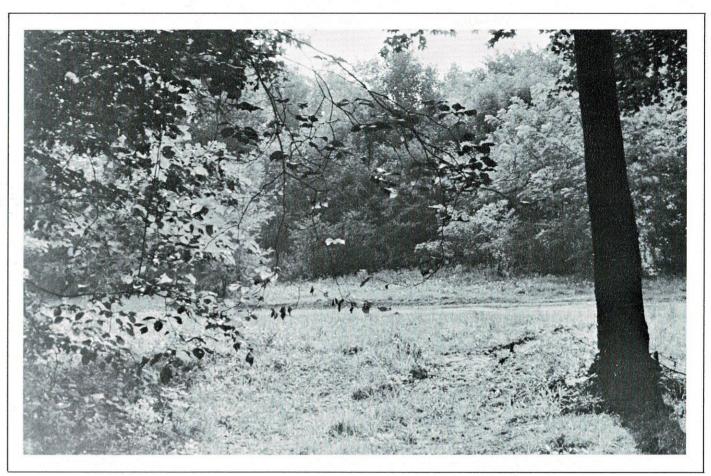
Due to its great expansion, the Association found it necessary to establish permanent headquarters. In December, 1974, the offices were moved to 1624 Kanawha Boulevard, East, giving the staff and members easy access to the State Capitol and Department of Natural Resources. The headquarters presently house the administrative, public relations and technical services, as well as the Environmental Quality Control Lab.

In April 1975, the first International Mining and Reclamation Conference to Dusseldorf, West Germany, was held. The Conference proved extremely successful and gave the 200 participants, including both members and other coal industry representatives, the opportunity to explore and compare mining and reclamation technology in other parts of the world.

Cindy Jennings joined the staff as News and Information Director in June, just as the WVSMRA received its second EPA grant. Entitled "The Environmental Impact of Steep Slope Mining," the grant is designed to monitor the environmental impact of a relatively new surface mining technique now being utilized on steep slope operations in West Virginia. In the fall, the Association joined with the Department of Natural Resources and the Ruffed Grouse Society of North America to form a tripartite agreement for reclamation and conservation research. Named the "Jim Wilkinson Memorial Tripartite Research Development Project," this program is researching effective woodland and wildlife reclamation procedures.



1974 Executive Committee inspects a model of the EPA Longwall Project following the Governor's announcement of its location at Julian, Boone County.

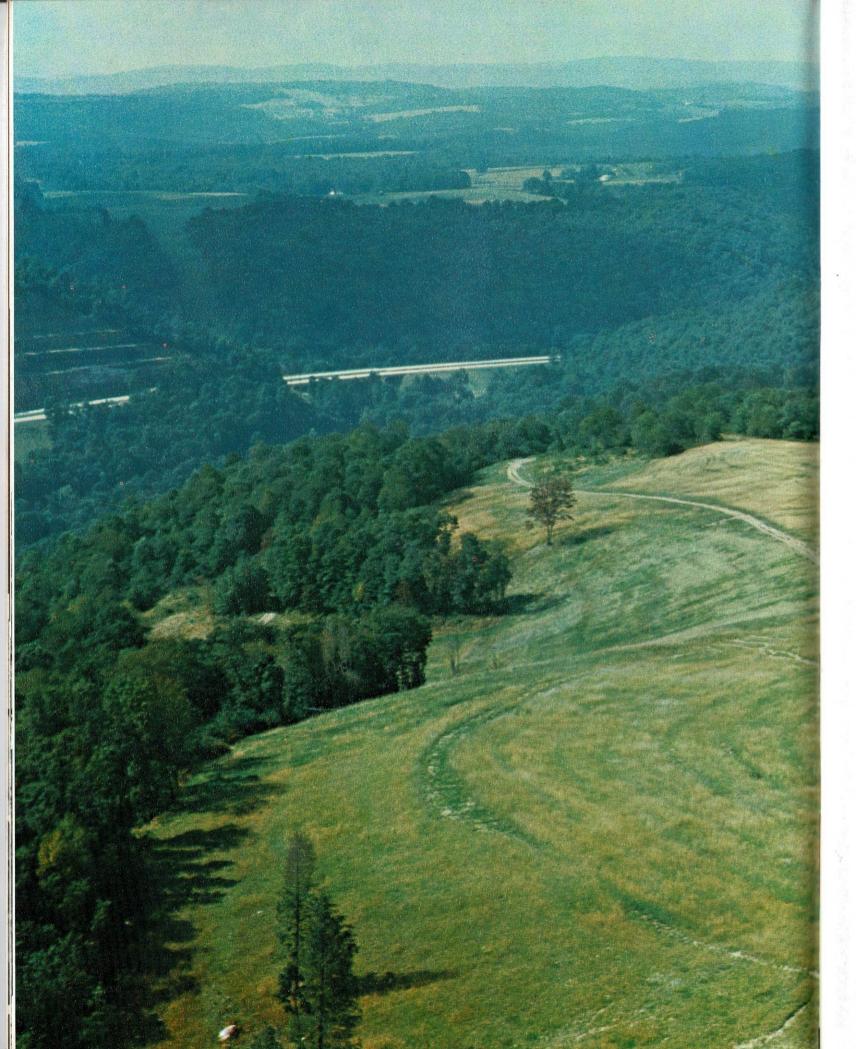


For 10 years the WVSMRA served its industry well and is prepared for the challenges of the next decade.

The first half of 1976 has also proven productive for the Association. For the fifth straight year, the Legislature did not change the surface mining law and the Technical Committee has worked diligently to avoid unnecessary changes in the Rules and Regulations. The second International Mining and Reclamation Conference, to Warsaw, Poland in April, proved every bit as successful as the first and the West Virginia Applied Research Institute is continuing its efforts to obtain a large research grant from the Bureau of Mines to study cross-ridge mining.

Future plans include a western coal symposium in August, a third international conference and increased technical services for the membership, which has now reached over 250 companies. The staff has grown from its original two persons to twenty-seven, which includes miners and research field personnel. The Association offers a full range of services, including: administrative, legislative, promotional, communications, publicity, advertising, community and press relations, technical services, research, as well as meetings, conventions and tours that make the WVSMRA the most well-rounded and effective state surface mining organization in the country.

During its ten years of service to the industry, the Association has made great progress in virtually every area of activity, and will continue to do so in the future. However, it should be noted that none of these successes would have been won without the tremendous support and sincere dedication of its member companies. Open-minded individuals, willing to change, with the ability to prosper in the good times and survive the bad times, have laid a strong foundation for this organization and guarantee its prosperity in the future.



### Kennedy Directs Progress During 10th Anniversary Year

In reviewing the Association's first decade of progress, the name of the present Chairman of the Board is not listed with the founding fathers, nor is he a charter member of the Board. However, H. L. "Mike" Kennedy may very well be responsible for one of the most important legal decisions in the history of surface mining in West Virginia.

Kennedy is a small independent operator, who became the central figure in the highly controversial "Laurel Run" case in the summer of 1971. The dispute began when several interest groups in the Morgantown area tried to stop Kennedy from mining a small 42-acre plot of farmland that bordered Cooper's Rock State Forest in Preston County. During that period, surface mining was already a hot issue on a statewide level, which quickly added fuel to the emotional fire of Laurel Run.

Following constant pressure from environmental groups, student marchers and the news media, the permit was finally revoked by the state for "aesthetic" reasons. Kennedy immediately filed suit and took his case before the Reclamation Board of Review on July 20, 1971. His case was built around the evidence that he had fulfilled all the requirements of the state surface mining law and therefore, the land would be properly reclaimed. The state argued that Mr. Kennedy could not maintain the requirements of the permit and that permanent damage from the operation was unavoidable. However, the important question was whether or not public pressure, based on aesthetic values, could shutdown a perfectly legal surface mining operation.

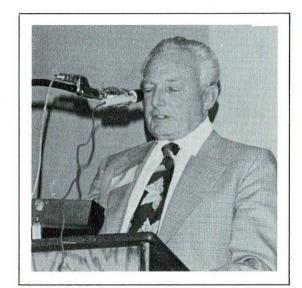
After three weeks of deliberation, the Board directed the Department of Natural Resources to reinstate the permit, and the rest is now history. By April, 1973, Kennedy had mined over 100,000 tons of coal and completed reclamation on the entire 42-acre tract.

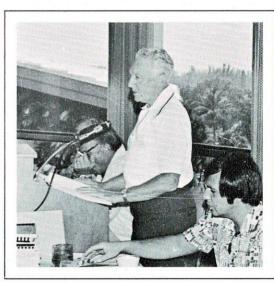
The Laurel Run controversy is over, but its lasting importance to the coal industry in West Virginia is obvious. We can only guess at the impact on the industry today, if the Board of Review had set the dangerous precedent of prohibiting surface mining for aesthetic reasons. The coal industry is truly fortunate that Mike Kennedy is a man of his convictions, who had the courage to stand up against the odds and fight for what he knew was right.

In the past four years, Kennedy has also made his mark on the West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association. He applied for membership following the Laurel Run decision in 1971, and only two years later became a member of the Board of Directors for a three-year term. He served on the Board for one year before being elevated to First Vice-Chairman, and then in June, 1975, he was elected WVSMRA Chairman of the Board. As a member, Mike and Hazel, his charming wife of 41 years, have been totally active and have participated in almost every function sponsored by the Association.

Under Kennedy's direction, the Board has been one of the most active in history, meeting almost monthly, which has helped to make the Association's tenth year a most progressive one. Highlights of 1975-76 include:

- initiation of the Jim Wilkinson Memorial Wildlife Project
- the Association's second one-day conference in Beckley
- participation in the U. S. Coal Festival in Beckley
- acquisition of an atomic absorption unit for the water lab
- construction of a display for the West Virginia Industrial and Mining Show in Charleston





H. L. Kennedy Chairman of the Board 1975 - 1976



- initiation of the first "Coal Man of the Year Award," which honored C. E. Compton in Morgantown
- development of a new ad campaign urging people to "back the energy team"
- the third annual West Virginia Surface Mining Symposium in Charleston
- no legislation with a great negative impact on surface mining passed the Legislature
- a new dues structure was approved by the membership to offset rising costs
- the Environmental Quality Control Lab was moved from Beckley to Charleston
- the second International Mining and Reclamation Conference traveled to Poland
- the initiation of a new Special Membership Division
- efforts by the Technical Services Division to develop reasonable rules and regulations for surface mining.

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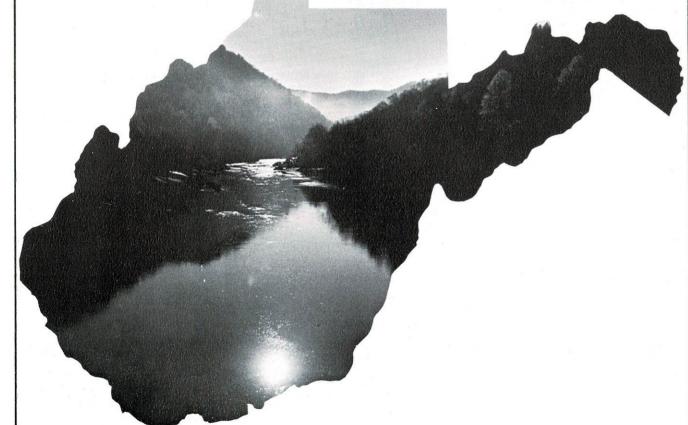
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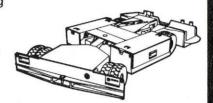


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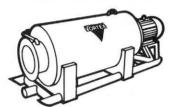


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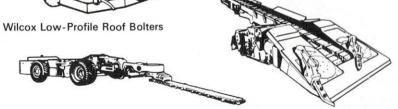
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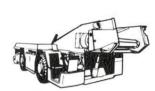


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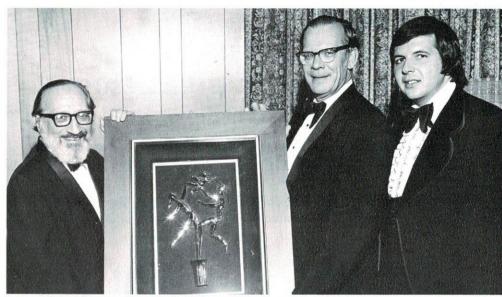
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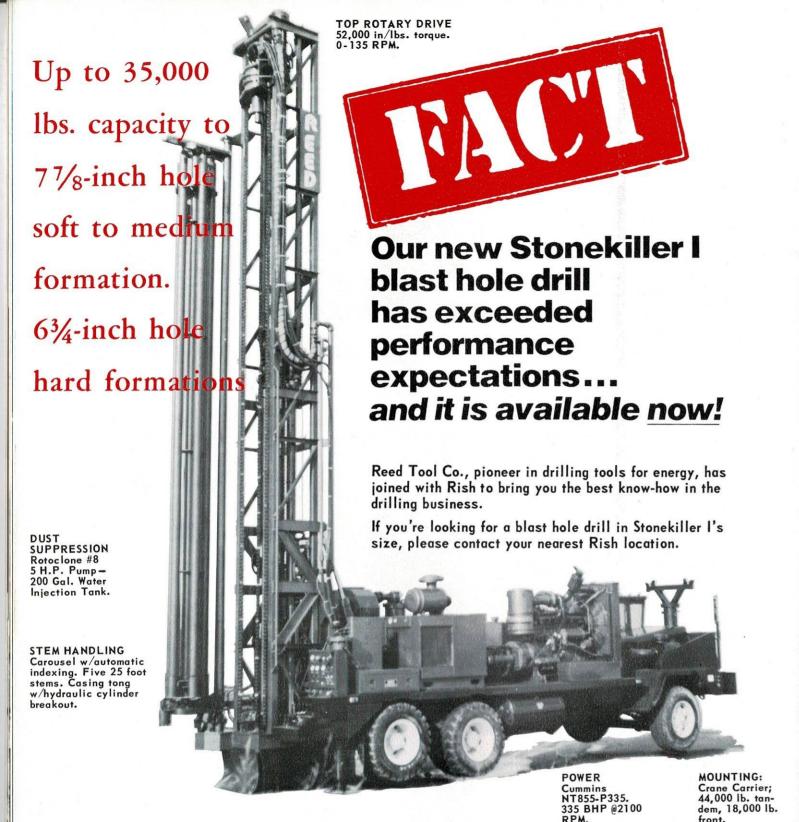














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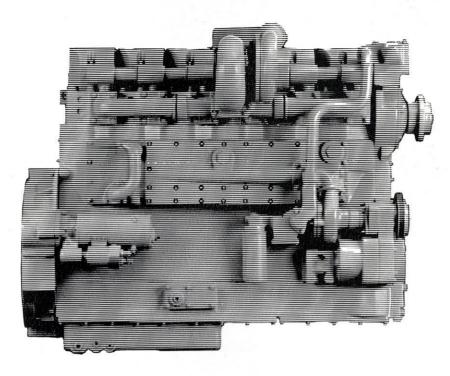


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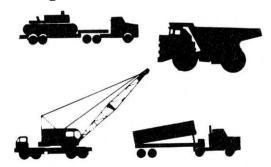
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### 10th Anniversary Program

A tenth anniversary celebration will highlight the West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association's annual meeting July 18-21, at the Greenbrier Hotel.

This year's meeting promises to be the largest gathering in the Association's ten-year history, with nearly 500 members and guests expected. A most interesting agenda including the election of new officers, the annual membership business meeting, in addition to technical presentations from the West Virginia Air Pollution Control Commission, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Department of Mines and the Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration.

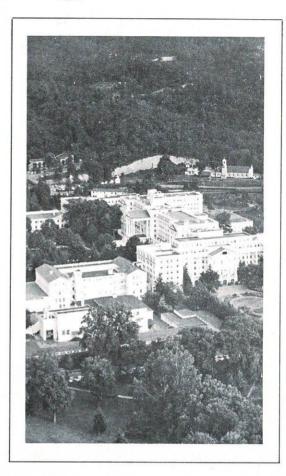
Registration will begin at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 18, in the main lobby, followed by various committee meetings and the Board of Directors' meeting at 5:00 p.m. Following the business sessions, the Associate Cocktail Party and Reception will begin at 7:00 p.m. on the Colonial Terrace. Dinner will be up to the individuals in the hotel's main dining room.

Carl Beard, Executive Director of the West Virginia Air Pollution Control Commission, will address a breakfast meeting of the General and Associate membership. Mr. Beard is expected to discuss the state's air pollution standards as they relate to high sulfur coal reserves and his Commission's plans for the future. Following Mr. Beard's presentation will be the election of new Board members for the coming year and the annual membership business meeting.

Social functions on Monday include the Women's and Men's golf tournaments at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m., respectively. with arrangements again being made by Fil Frasher of Rish Equipment Company, and a "West Virginia Party" at 7:00 p.m. at Kate's Mountain Lodge. The West Virginia Party is designed to recreate the era of the 1860's and the founding of the Moun-

A meeting of the new Board of Directors will convene at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, for the election of new officers, followed by a presentation of research in Appalachia by Ron Hill of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. At 10:00 a.m., the membership will hear a panel discussion on "Miner's Training," conducted by Hershel Potter, Chief of the Division of Safety, Mining Enforcement & Safety Administration; Ed Moss, Training Director, West Virginia Department of Mines: Ted Hillman, Safety Director, Princess Susan Coal Company; and Jack Feltner, Safety Director, Hobet Mining and Construction Company. The final portion of the technical session will be a discussion of "Proposed Rules and Regulations," by Ira S. Latimer, Jr., Director, and Benjamin C. Greene, Chief of Reclamation, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources.

In the afternoon, Don Adkins of Independent Explosives will handle arrangements for the Annual Tennis Tournament. and Mrs. A. S. Cappellari will host the Bridge Tournament, both beginning at 1:00 p.m.



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### . . . Governor Moore and Dr. Burkitt Highlight Annual Meeting

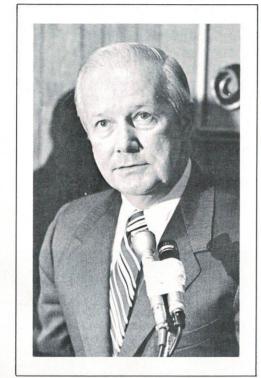
The evening festivities begin with a cocktail party and reception sponsored by the Dart Truck Company at 6:30 and banquet at 7:30 p.m. WVSMRA Secretary Frank Jennings will be Master of Ceremonies. The Honorable Arch A. Moore, Jr., Governor of West Virginia, will be on hand for a few comments and the introduction of guest speaker Dr. Denis P. Burkitt, Surgeon, Medical Research Council, External Scientific Staff, London, England. Dr. Burkitt has been nominated for the Nobel Prize in medicine and is expected to discuss his work in cancer research.

Following the banquet, Benny Benack and the Dodge Kids have prepared what promises to be a memorable "Bicentennial Review" to celebrate the 200th birthday of the nation and the 10th Anniversary of the West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association.

A special thanks should go to the Program Committee for their work in preparing this outstanding schedule. The Committee includes James C. Justice, Chairman; R. C. Long, Co-Chairman; F. F. Frasher, James M. Poindexter and Lawson W. Hamilton, Jr.

Officers serving during the past year are: H. L. Kennedy, Chairman of the Board; Roy G. Lockard, First Vice-Chairman; William J. Tattersall, Second Vice-Chairman; Frank D. Jennings, Secretary; G. B. Frederick, Treasurer; and Bernard J. Folio, Chairman, Associate Division.

Members of the Board whose three-year term expires include: Lonnie D. Ellison, V. N. Green, James C. Justice, H. L. Kennedy, Bernard J. Folio and Garnie Stidham.



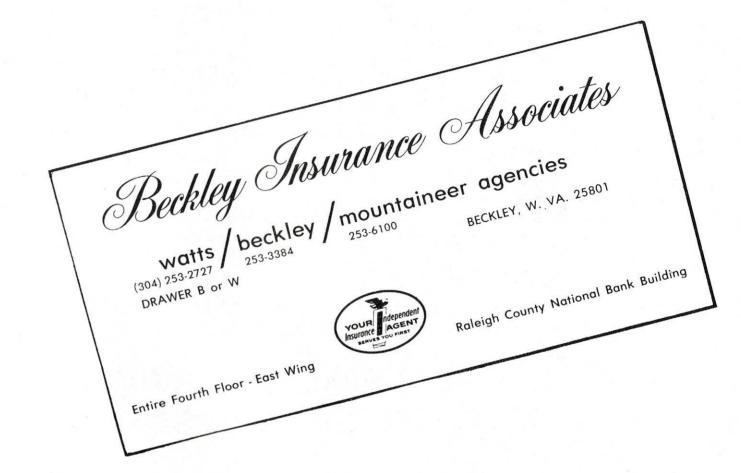
Gov. Arch A. Moore



Dr. Denis P. Burkitt

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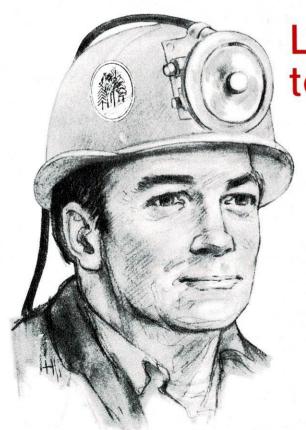
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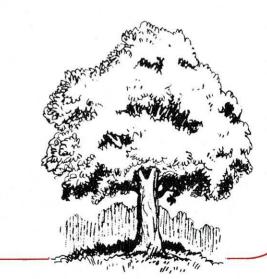
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10 Years of Service

### Thank You Patty Bruce!

Any review of the history of the West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association would not be complete without mention of one person who stands out for her sincere devotion and effort on behalf of the organization. As part of our anniversary celebration, we would like to take this opportunity to honor this very special staff member and friend — Mrs. Patricia Bruce.

Patty was one of the two original staff members hired in 1966, when the Association opened its offices at 801, Kanawha Valley Bldg. In the past 10 years, she has seen the initial 20-company membership expand to over 250, the two-member staff grow to include nearly 20 full-time employees, and office headquarters change three times to accommodate this growth. Originally hired as secretary for the Association, she now holds the position of office manager, with duties encompassing everything from the ordering of office supplies to convention registration for 500 members and their guests.

Through the years, Patty's hard work and concern have endeared her to members, as well as staff personnel, who know she'll put forth the extra effort in order to get the job done right.

In addition to her everyday office and secretarial duties, she has time and again, managed to reserve rooms after hotels have clearly stated "no vacancy"; typed the bottom line on testimonies within five minutes of the scheduled hearing; scrubbed floors and sinks when the janitor ad remained unanswered; helped host international conventions, smoothly handled nametags and registration for as many as 500 guests in a matter of hours, and chauffeured members and staff all over Charleston. Yet despite this hectic and often demanding schedule, she remains outwardly calm, ready to tackle major problems of the Association or offer personal advice to staff members.

According to President Ben Lusk, efficiency is her trademark.

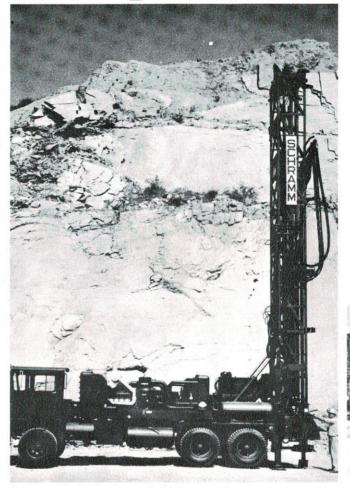
"Regardless of the circumstances, the work load or the assignment, Patty has demonstrated an unselfish ability to get the job done," he said. "She is easily the best secretary I have ever worked with and one of the most valuable members of any staff. She cares about her work and she cares about this organization."

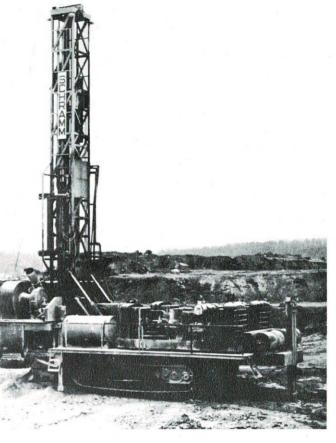
Reflecting on her 10 years with the Association, Patty recently said, "You cannot work for an organization, watching it develop and expand over the years without it gradually becoming a part of you. In working with the surface mine operators and their families, I have made some very close friends and met some wonderful people. To me, this is an exceptional group."



Patty Bruce, WVSMRA Office Manager since 1966, is shown above with her daughter Ginger.

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### Decade of Change





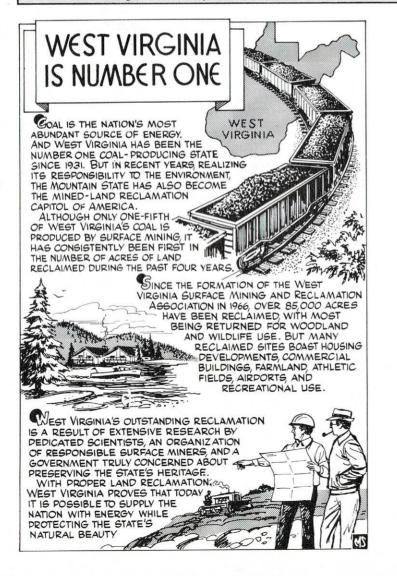
Leo Vecellio, 1966

H. L. Kennedy, 1976

Thanks to the foresight of the first Board of Directors under the direction of Leo Vecellio, Sr. in 1966, the WVSMRA was formed.

Succeeding Presidents and Board members dedicated to continuing a tradition of hard work and sacrifice, built the Association to its present status. It is appropriate that this issue be dedicated to those members who are responsible for the past "10 years of progress."





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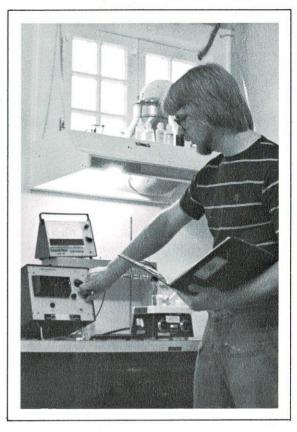
### Water Lab RelocatesTo Expand Services To Membership

The WVSMRA Environmental Quality Control Laboratory has undergone several changes this past year, in order to increase the speed, efficiency and effectiveness of our water testing capabilities.

This past February, the Lab, which was formerly located in the Cecil I. Walker Machinery facility, Beckley, West Virginia, established permanent residence at the WVSMRA headquarters in Charleston. The move was made to consolidate and centralize the Technical Services Division under one roof. thus allowing more efficient service to the membership. Also, a statewide pickup and delivery program for the water samples was implemented. Pick-up and delivery points were designated in both northern and southern West Virginia in order to offer blanket coverage of the Mountain State. The recently acquired Atomic Absorption Unit will enable the Lab to run all types of chemical

In addition to providing the water analysis for surface mine operators. required by both state and federal agencies, the Lab is presently working on the Association's EPA grants entitled "Longwall Stripping" and "Steep Slope

The facility is being operated by Lab Supervisor Preston Stacy. Environmental Technical Specialist Jack Kester is in charge of field data gathering and its analysis.



Lab Supervisor Preston Stacy calibrates the ph meter, which is only one of the many instruments utilized in the analysis of water quality.

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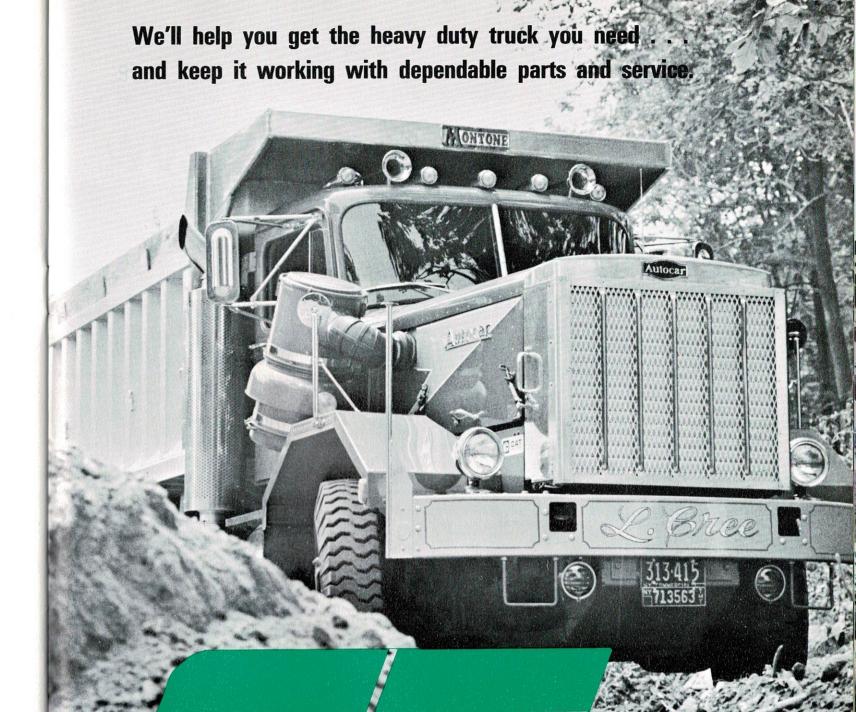


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### WVSMRA TODAY . . .



From the original staff of two in 1966, the WVSMRA staff has grown to 27 today. The staff is divided into five departments: Administration (8), Membership Services (2), Technical Services (3), Research (12) and Public Affairs (2). Pictured above are: Cindy Jennings (Public Affairs); Ben Lusk (President); John Sturm (Technical Services); and Dan Gerkin (Vice-President).

### Youth, Experience Typify Association Staff



Ben E. Lusk WVSMRA President

Ben E. Lusk is beginning his sixth year as head of the West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association (WVSMRA), which is now recognized as the largest state trade organization of its kind in the country. The Association, under Lusk's direction, has grown to where it now boasts a membership of nearly 300 companies involved directly in surface coal mining in West Virginia.

Lusk attended the National University of Argentina in Cordoba as an exchange student in international relations before entering Bethany (West Virginia) College as a Benedum Foundation Scholar. There he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications, in addition to receiving the E. E. Roberts Award as the outstanding journalism graduate in 1967. While working on his graduate studies at West Virginia University, he became involved with the Athletic Department and accepted the position as the Assistant to the Athletic Director in charge of public relations and promotion until June, 1971, when he joined the WVSMRA.

On joining the Association, he brought with him an honest, straight-forward approach towards solving complicated problems of surface mining, that has won the industry friends and respect worldwide. His initial responsibilities with the Association included public' relations, advertising and promotion, but after only one year, was named Executive Director in charge of all the organization's affairs. Since June, 1973, he has also held the position of Director of the West Virginia Applied Research Institute.

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During his five years with the WVSMRA, Lusk has become a well-known spokesman for the surface mining and reclamation industries. As founder and chairman of the International Mining & Reclamation Conference, he has made available to the coal industry an opportunity to exchange ideas and keep abreast of the rapidly changing technology through conferences held in both Germany and Poland.

Lusk is also on the West Virginia Board of Miner Training, Education and Certification, the state's Black Lung Advisory Committee, a member of both the West Virginia and Charleston Area Chamber of Commerces and has been a member of various committees for the National Coal Association and the American Mining Congress. In addition, he serves on the Executive Committee for the West Virginia Research Steering Committee and the Council for Surface Mining and Reclamation Research in Appalachia.

In ten years, the Association's staff has grown from two to 27 full-time employees. The group's average age is only 31, but it boasts numerous years of valuable work experience. Nearly all are handpicked, and Lusk believes his staff is the finest in the country with the ability to handle the various demands of a large trade organization.

"One of our keys to success has been a young, energetic staff of people, who have grown with the organization. Their willingness to change and initiate new programs has given us a flexibility that few other organizations have. With continued cooperation from the Board, our potential is boundless," Lusk

- Number two man is Dan Gerkin, who joined the staff in June, 1971, as News and Information Director. Two years later he became Assistant Executive Director, then in June, 1974, he was named Vice-President. His main duties are administrative and legislative, was well as being assistant editor of Green Lands Quarterly. He is a 1974 graduate of West Virginia Univer-

- Terry Iden left the Charleston Newspapers in October, 1973, to become WVSMRA Advertising Director. In July, 1974, he reopened the northern office in Clarksburg and took on additional responsibilities in Membership Services. Iden is a

1972 graduate of West Virginia University.

-John Sturm brought outstanding background to the Association when named Technical Services Director in October, 1974. After working two years with Peabody Coal Company, Sturm's responsibilities include a permit review program, establishment of the water lab, environmental research and all other areas of technical services. Sturm is a 1971 graduate of the WVU School of Agriculture, with a Masters in Agriculture in 1973.

- Also in October, 1974, Bill Piper was selected as Project Engineer for the Environmental Protection Agency "Longwall Stripping" project. Before joining the Association, Piper served as Staff Engineer for the U.S. Bureau of Mines for nearly five years. He is a 1966 mining graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, with a Masters in Occupational Health from the University of Pittsburgh in 1971.

- Patty Bruce is the only remaining member of the original staff. Initially hired as staff secretary, she was named Office Manager in 1975. She is responsible for coordination of all clerical work in the Charleston headquarters. She also boasts 13 years experience with the West Virginia Legislature. She also attended West Virginia Institute of Technology.

- Mary Ann Steele is second only to Mrs. Bruce in time with the Association. She was hired in May, 1971, and is in charge of all bookkeeping responsibilities for an organization which now has over 250 member companies. She has a 1965 Secretarial Science Degree from Center College in Charleston.

-Cindy Jennings took over responsibilities for the weekly newsletter, when she became News and Information Director in June, 1975. In addition, she handles press relations, promotional activities and copy editing for Green Lands. She is a 1975 graduate of West Virginia University.

 Jeff Maggied was named Assistant News and Information Director in February, 1976. He is also a 1975 graduate of

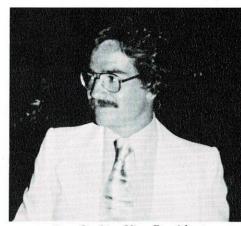
West Virginia University.

- Pam Shafer was hired as Office Secretary in August. 1975. A 1973 graduate of Center College, she handles typing, filing and other office duties.

- Preston Stacy became supervisor of the Association's Environmental Quality Control Lab when it was moved to Charleston in February, 1976. Formerly, he was an environmental quality specialist for the Appalachian Power Company. He attended both West Virginia University and Morris Harvey

- Darlen Adkins became bookkeeper for the Environmental Protection Agency "Longwall Stripping" project in January, 1976. She handles purchasing, typing and governmental reporting for the project and was formerly employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

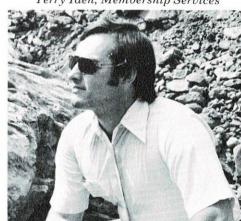
- The most recent addition to the staff was Jack Kester, who is responsible for field data collection and laboratory analysis for all WVSMRA research projects. Kester has a fish and wildlife management degree from Montana State.



Dan Gerkin, Vice-President



Terry Iden, Membership Services



John Sturm, Technical Services



Patty Bruce, Office Manager Mary Ann Steele, Bookkeeper



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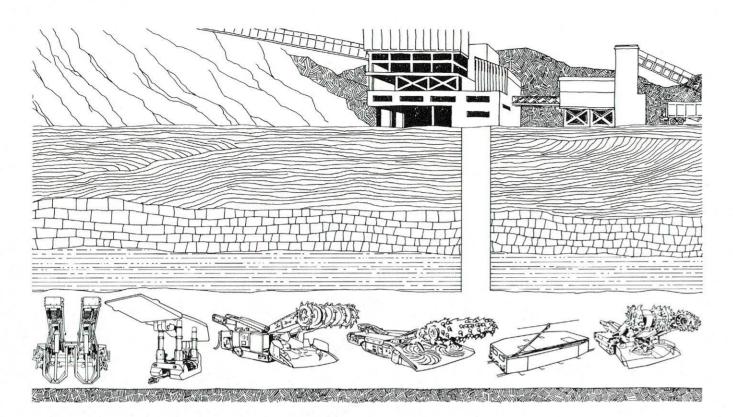
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### **WVSMRA HEADQUARTERS**



The WVSMRA now maintains offices in three separate locations: Charleston (Headquarters); Julian (Research Field Office), and, Clarksburg (Northern Office). The Charleston Headquarters (above) houses the Association's Water Lab, Technical Services Division, Public Relations and Administrative Offices.



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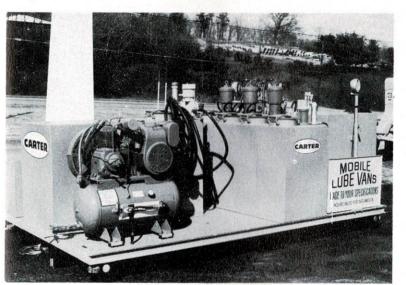
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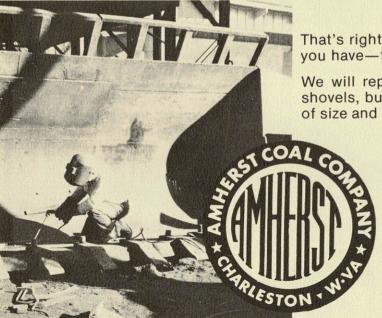
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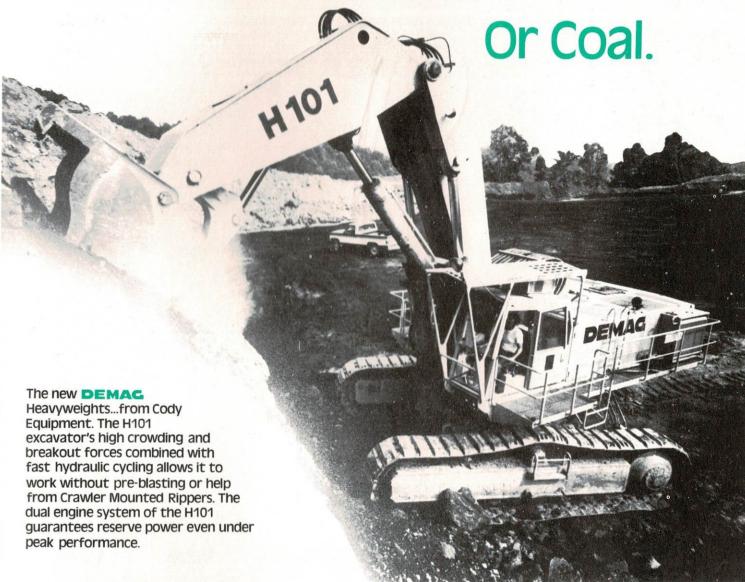
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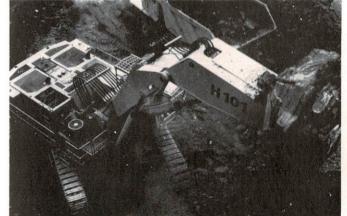
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