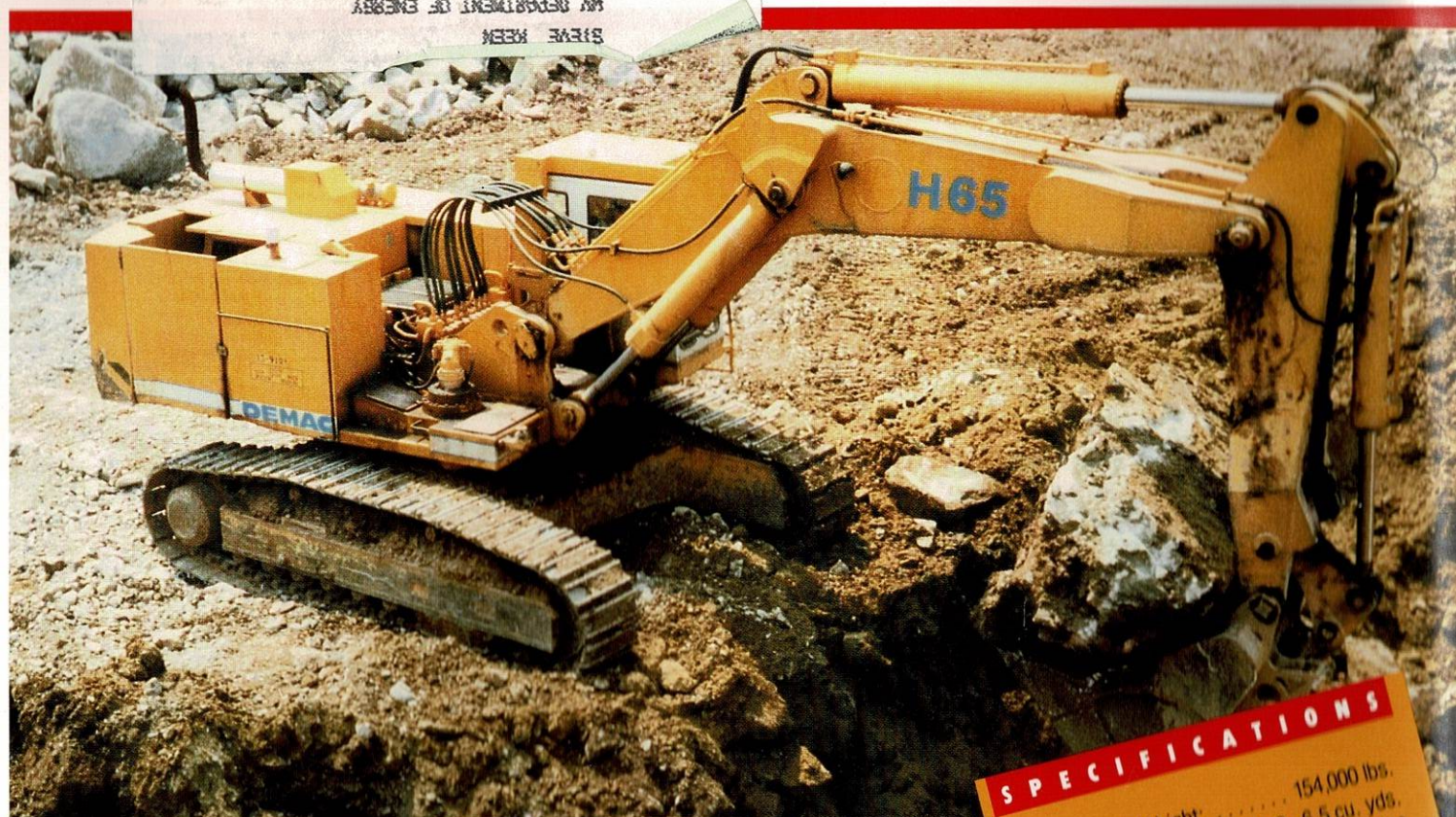


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Ravenswood, WV



SPECIFICATIONS	
Total Operating Weight:	154,000 lbs.
Bucket Capacity:	5.2 - 6.5 cu. yds. CAT 3406
Engine:	3
# of Hydraulic Pumps:	66,150 lbs.
Crowd Force:	71,660 lbs.
Breakout Force:	10.5 gallons per hour
Fuel Consumption:	

JOB REPORT #2 DEMAG H-65

When a large limestone quarry in central West Virginia needed a loading tool to perform several applications, Beckwith had the answer.

With the highly versatile DEMAG H-65 hydraulic excavator, operators were able to remove a large clay seam running diagonally through the pit. Once the clay was removed, and after blasting, the H-65 was able to gather the loose rock with ease and maneuverability.

The highly-reliable DEMAG H-65 has 10 factory-approved attachments, including a front shovel and a deep digging backhoe that will reach to a depth of 36' 9". For use in the quarry, the DEMAG H-65 was equipped with a 21' 4" boom, 9' 10" stick and a 5.2 cubic yard rock bucket, providing the capacity of

a larger machine without sacrificing the reach of a conventional backhoe. In addition to excavating, the DEMAG H-65 consistently demonstrated its high performance in the toughest applications by loading CAT 769C trucks in 2 minutes.

DEMAG hydraulic excavators are backed by DEMAG's efficient, reliable parts and service organization, with a 24-hour hotline, that gives you the parts, service and training you need, when and where you need it.

The DEMAG H-65 can help you write your own success story. It's available from Beckwith Machinery Company today. For additional information, call 412-327-1300 or write Beckwith Machinery Company, P.O. Box 8718, Pittsburgh, PA 15221.

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Machinery Company

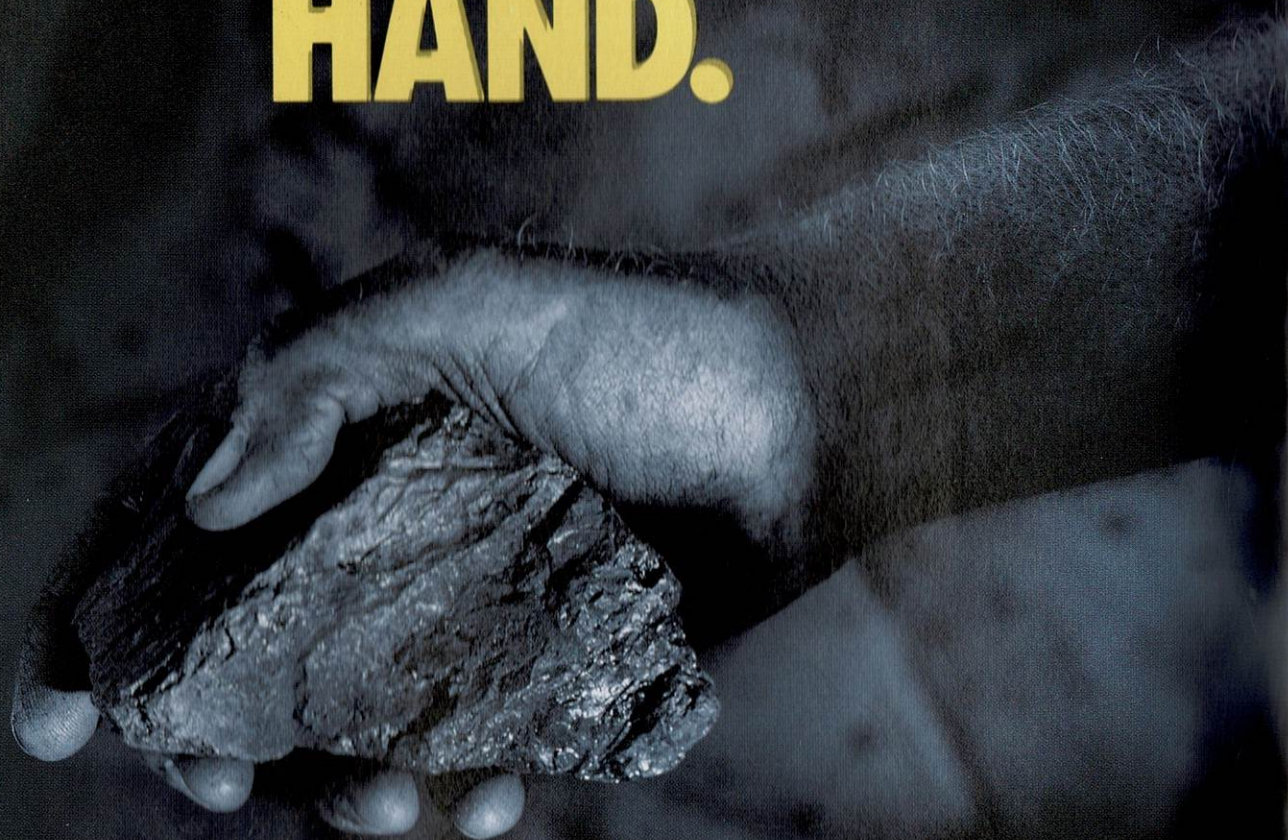


Green Lands

Summer 1991



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to members and friends of the

WEST VIRGINIA MINING & RECLAMATION ASSOCIATION

as we celebrate our
25th Anniversary

New Allegheny, Inc.

Lawrence Streets & John Kortas



**Cummins
Cumberland
Inc.**

Extends its
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and appreciation

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—still going strong after 25 years

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 Grafton Coal Company
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 Princess Susan Coal Company (Imperial-Pacific)
 Ranger Fuel Corporation (The Pittston Coal Group)
 Rish Equipment Company
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At Savage, we produce innovative solutions for all areas of coal transloading, terminaling and transportation.

Our specially designed vehicles assure timely product delivery. We design, build, own and operate rail loadout facilities, coal terminals and distribution facilities that maximize transportation efficiencies.

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For more information contact:

David G. Wolach
Executive Vice President
— Development

Savage Industries, Inc.
Corporate & Central Mktg Office
5250 S 300 W, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, Utah 84107
(801) 263-9400
FAX (801) 261-8766

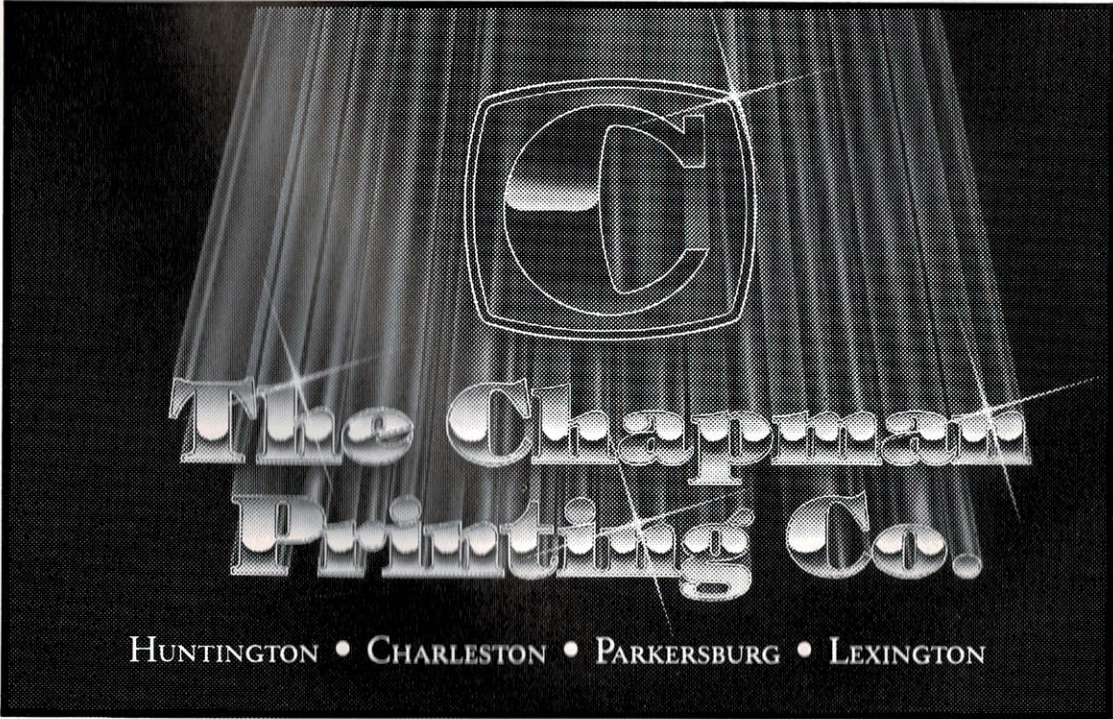
Gerald E. Vaninetti
Vice President
— Business Development

Savage Industries, Inc.
Eastern Mktg Office
121 Prosperous Place,
TownOffice Two
Lexington, Kentucky 40509
(606) 263-4010 • FAX (606) 263-1828

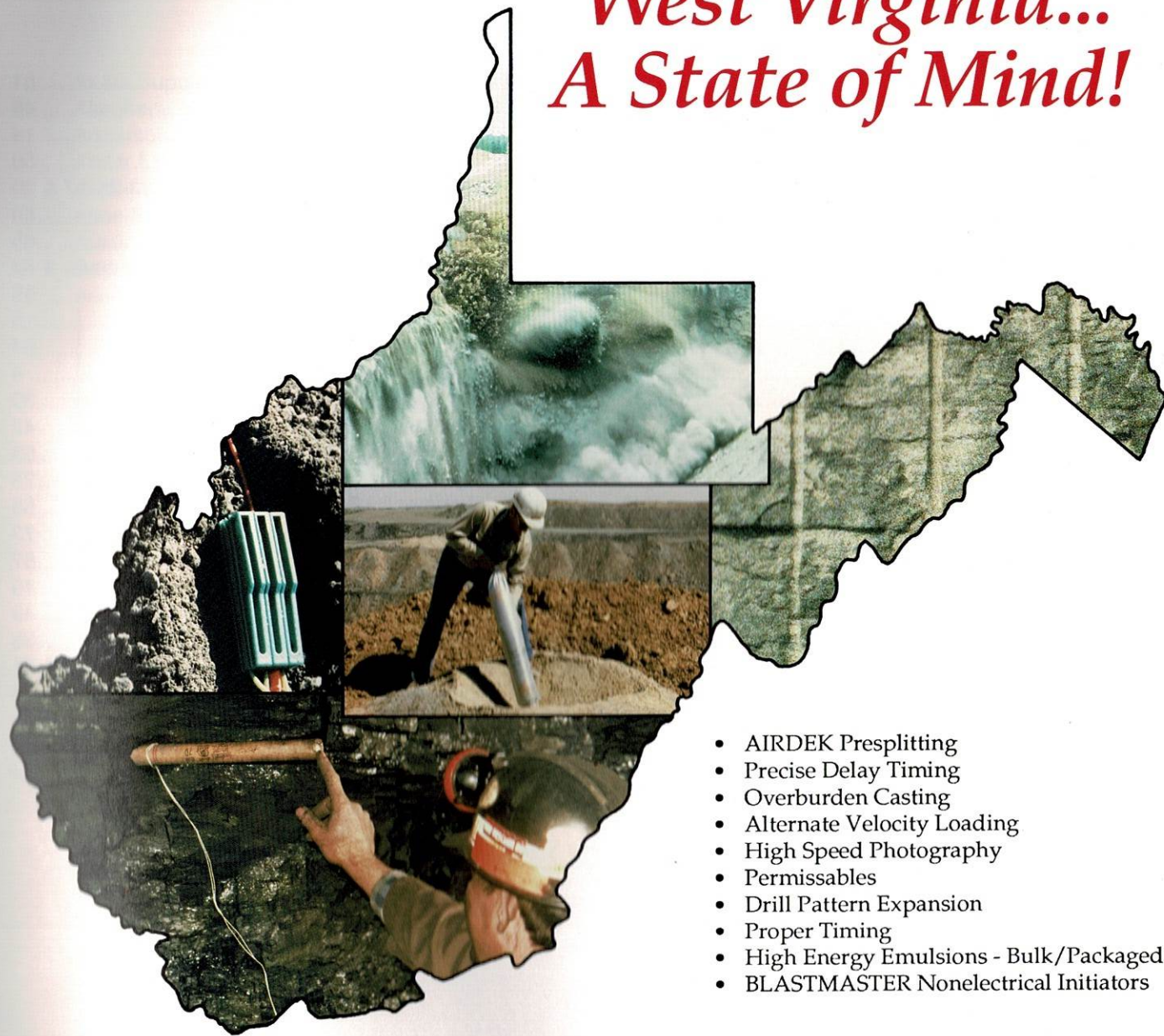


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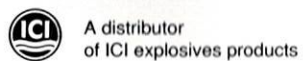
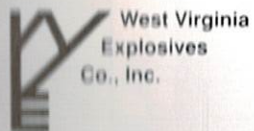
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We salute you with pride
and commend your
many accomplishments.



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Morgantown, West Virginia

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Green Lands

Volume 21 Number 3

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



Our Cover
Our cover, and this entire issue of
Green Lands, is devoted to a celebration of the Silver
Anniversary of WVMRA, an accomplishment
in which all members, past and present,
can take great pride.

WVMRA Staff & Board of Directors

President
Benjamin C. Greene

Vice President
William B. Raney

Assistant to the President
Patty Bruce

Business Manager
Mary Ann Steele

Editor
Daniel Miller

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D. E. Huffman - Bridgeport
J. E. Hull - Charleston
P. F. Hutchins - Columbus, OH
T. W. Hylton - Beckley
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R. G. Lockard - Weston
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1966-67 Leo A. Vecellio, Sr. - First President (Chairman)



1990-91 Kenneth G. Woodring - Current Chairman

Gallery of Chairmen

The men pictured on these pages are those who have been willing and able to provide the leadership necessary to marshal the considerable force and talent within the Association to furthering the development of the coal mining and reclamation industries.

These are the gentlemen who have taken time from the normal duties as industry leaders to devote their talent and resources for the betterment of the West Virginia Mining & Reclamation Association. These 24 have each "held the helm" for a year or more during our first quarter century.

The Association and the entire industry owes them a tremendous debt of gratitude.



1967-68 F. B. Nutter, Sr.



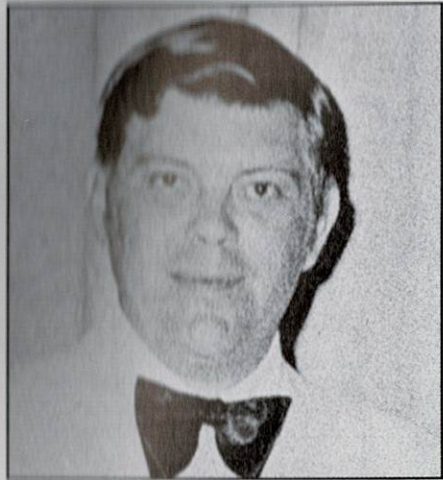
1968-69 Arch F. Sandy, Jr.



1970 John C. "Jack" Anderson



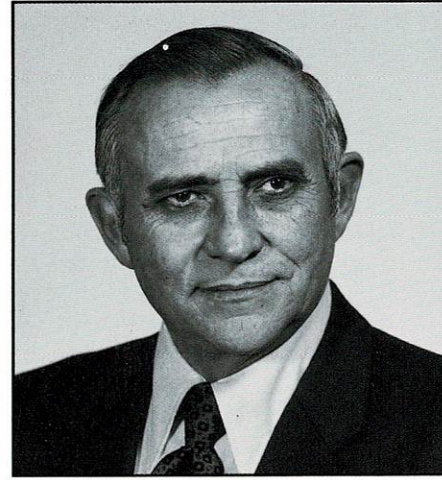
1971-72 G. B. Frederick



1972-73 James L. Wilkinson



1973-74 Lawson W. Hamilton, Jr.



1974-75 James C. Justice



1975-76 H. L. "Mike" Kennedy



1976-77 Frank D. Jennings



1977-78 James S. "Buck" Harless



1978-79 John J. Fallis



1979-80 Charles T. Jones



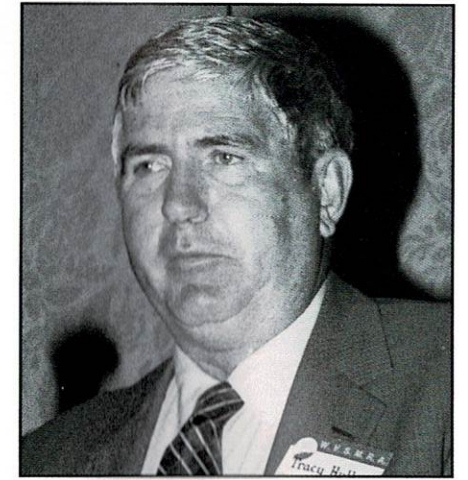
1980-81 Lawrence A. Streets



1981-82 William C. M. Butler, III



1982-83 Donald R. Donell



1983-84 Tracy W. Hylton



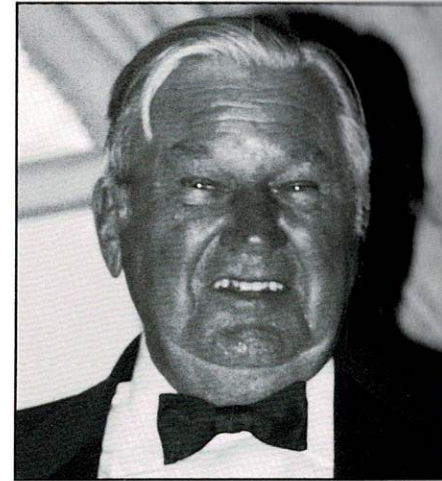
1984-85 Carl DelSignore



1985-86 Dwight M. Keating



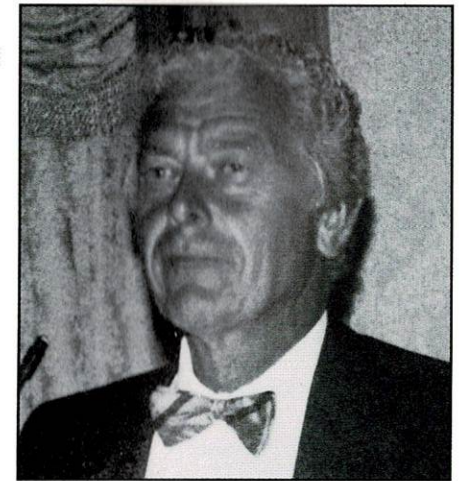
1986-87 Theodore J. Brisky



1987-88 James W. Anderson



1988-89 Roy G. Lockard



1989-90 Paul F. Hutchins

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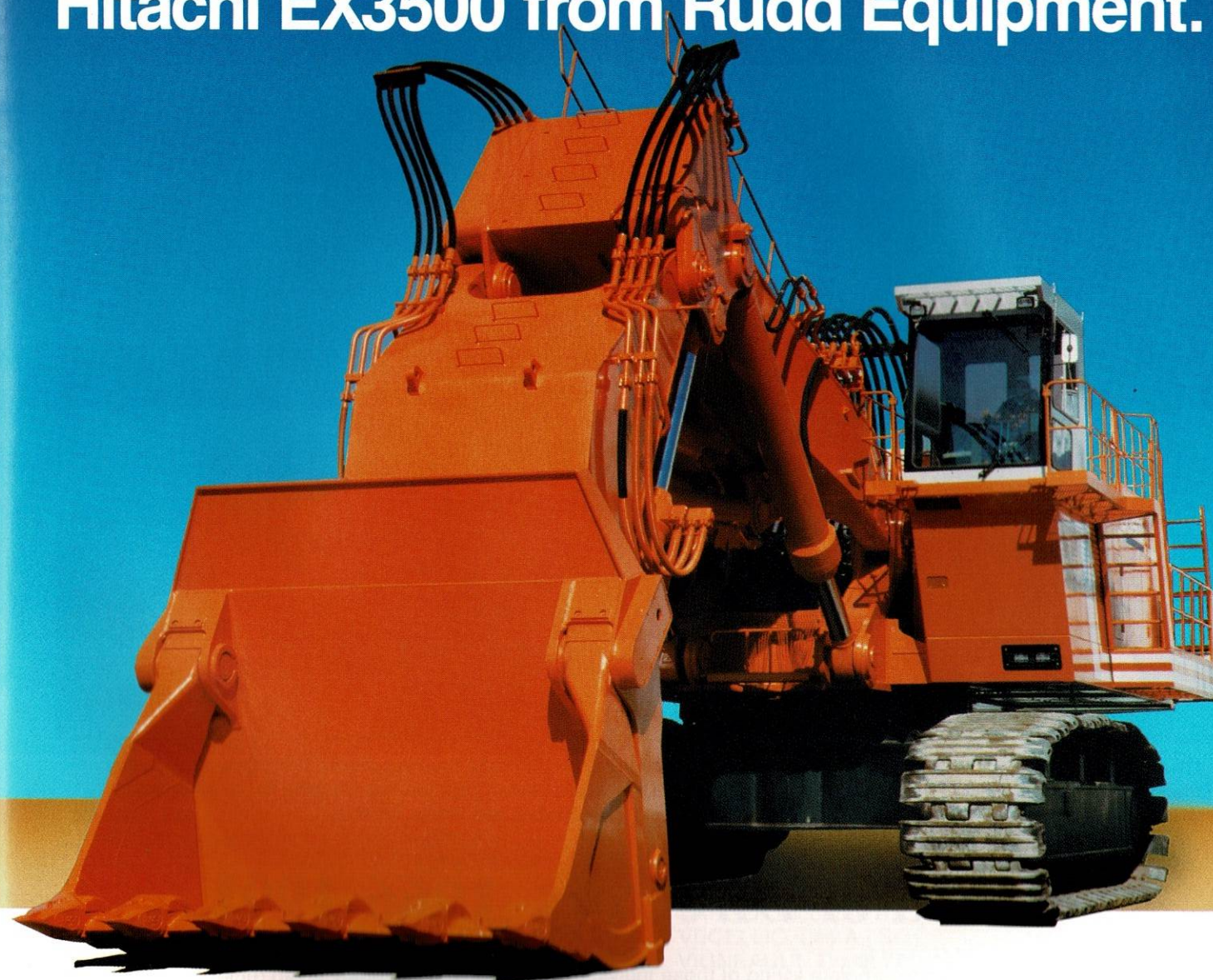
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This chart shows you why:

Weight	Horsepower	Bucket PCSA heaped	
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723,000 lbs.	1,684 PS	23.5-32.7 cu. yd.	22.2-32.7 cu. yd.

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The first Board of Directors, shown in 1966. Clockwise from the left are Ed Wode, James LaRosa, Milford Jenkins, Jack Turner, Gil Frederick, Fil Nutter, Association Executive Director Dick Vande Linde, President Leo Vecellio, Sr., Arch Sandy, J. Wade Bell, Jim Wilkinson, Frank Boggess, Fred Shaulis (guest), Jack Baldini, and Orville Thomas.

Board of Directors 1966-1991

Following is a complete listing of those individuals who have generously given their time and talents to serve on the Association Board of Directors over the past quarter century. Bold face dates indicate current members of the Board.

ADKINS, Donald E.	1979-82	CANFIELD, Floyd B.	1984-87
ANDERSON, James W.	1978-81, 1984-91	CAPPELLARI, A.S.	1967-72
ANDERSON, John C.	1967-74	CARTWRIGHT, Dan P.	1990-91
BALDINI, Jack A.	1966-68, 1970-72	CLINE, Winston E.	1979-82
BASHAM, E.B.	1974-80	COMPTON, C.E.	1972-87, 1990-91
BASHAM, L.C.	1966-67	COMPTON, James M.	1987-91
BELL, J. Wade, Jr.	1966-67	COOPER, D.K.	1987-91
BILLITER, John B.	1991	CUSSINS, R. Donald	1985-91
BLISS, Robert L.	1984-87	DAUD, Ben H.	1989-91
BOGGESE, Frank C.	1966-69	DEARTH, Bernie E., Jr.	1987-91
BRISKY, Theodore J.	1983-90	DELATORE, Richard	1984-89
BROWN, Charles T.	1974-76	DELSIGNORE, Carl	1976-79, 1980-85
BRYAN, John R.	1985-91	DONELL, Donald R.	1978-91
BUTLER, William C.M., III	1976-87	DOTSON, Terry L.	1979-82, 1986-89

ELLISON, Lonnie D.	1973-76
ESSEKS, Robert D.	1972-73
FAIRCHILD, Jack R.	1968-75, 1980-86
FALTIS, John J.	1976-80, 1981-91
FOLIO, Bernard J.	1971-79
FORBES, William J.	1981-84
FREDERICK, G. B.	1966-1979

GASKILL, Paul F.	1968-72
GRANEY, Patrick C., III	1989-91
GREEN, V. N.	1974-76

HAMILTON, Lawson W., Jr.	1968-89, 1989-91
HARLESS, James H.	1974-91
HARTLEY, Gerald	1980-84
HARVEY, Bill W.	1979-84
HILL, John C.	1988-90
HORN, Tom L., Jr.	1971-74, 1977-80
HUDAK, Mike	1983-85
HUFFMAN, David E.	1988-91
HULL, John E.	1988-91
HUTCHINS, Paul F.	1985-91
HYLTON, Tracy W.	1978-91

JENKINS, Milford C.	1966-68, 1982-85
JENNINGS, Frank D.	1971-81
JERAN, Robert H.	1979-83
JOHNSTON, C. I.	1971-79
JONES, Charles T.	1975-91
JONES, H.E., Jr.	1974-75
JORDAN, C. Lee	1984-87
JUSTICE, James C.	1970-91

KEATING, Dwight M.	1979-88
KEBBLISH, John	1971-73
KENNEDY, H. L.	1973-79
KOSNOSKI, Robert L.	1980-83
LAROSA, James D.	1966-70
LAROSA, James J.	1985-91
LASKODY, Paul A., Jr.	1990-91
LASKODY, Paul A., Sr.	1987-90
LEWIS, Ike	1966-67
LOCKARD, Roy G.	1975-77, 1983-91
LONG, Robert C.	1973-79
LONG, Roy S.	1966-68

MCCURRY, J. G.	1967-70
MESSINGER, Max A.	1980-88
MILLER, Charles J.	1979-80
MISER, Robert C.	1980-82
MORRISON, David T.	1980-83
MULLEN, Jay W.	1990-91

NUTTER, F. B., Sr.	1967-77, 1978-91
--------------------	-------------------------

PAUL, John	1973-74
PHILLIPS, Harry L.	1966-67
POCHICK, Daniel T.	1987-90
POINDEXTER, James M.	1979-81
POLINO, James G.	1967-69
PORRECA, David M.	1981-83

RAMSBURG, Gerald R.	1988-91
RAINES, Robert L.	1989-91
RITCHIE, William S., Jr.	1977-85

SANDY, Arch F., Jr.	1966-73
SCAGGS, A.D.	1967-70
SCHOLL, Earl	1967-74
SNYDER, Duane C.	1971-72, 1975-77
SPARKS, Sherwood E.	1966-71
STEVENS, Rogers C., Jr.	1980-85
STIDHAM, Garnie A.	1973-79
STREETS, Lawrence A.	1972-73, 1977-91
STURM, John W.	1977-78, 1984-87
SURGEON, Edward F.	1976-79, 1986-89, 1990-91

SWANSON, G.R.	1977-80
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TATTERSALL, William J.	1974-79
TEETER, Andrew K.	1982-85
THOMAS, Orville R.	1966-68, 1976-79
TINSLEY, Rhein H.	1980-83
TURNER, John K.	1966-67, 1971-74

URDA, Richard B.	1987--90
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VARGO, Theodore R.	1983-86
VECELLIO, Leo A., Sr.	1966-69
VIGNEAULT, Frank W.	1972-80, 1981-84, 1985-87

WEBER, P. H.	1968-73
WELCH, Richard N.	1977-81, 1982-85, 1986-88

WHITE, James R.	1978-84, 1985-87
WHYTE, Thomas	1973-75
WILLIAMS, Edward M.	1983-86
WILLIAMS, J.R.	1982-83
WILLIAMSON, John C.	1987-91
WILKINSON, James L.	1966-73
WODE, Ed	1966-67
WOOD, E. J.	1976-77
WOODRING, Kenneth G.	1987-91
WOODWARD, Donald	1990

YANIK, John F., Jr.	1983-88
YOUNG, Sidney R., III	1989-91

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of Bayard, West Virginia

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offers heartfelt congratulations
to the entire membership as we celebrate our

Silver Anniversary

Many happy returns to us all!



Eighty-seven years with **WVMRA**

Over the past quarter century, the Association has had the benefit of many able staff members. Starting in 1966, when Executive Director Dick Vande Linde doubled the staff by hiring Patty Bruce, some two dozen individuals have worked full-time at WVMRA offices.

Dick and Patty comprised the original work force, which eventually grew to 13. Like the rest of the coal industry, the staff contracted and streamlined itself during the late '70's and early '80's. The last change occurred in 1984.

The five most experienced of all these people comprise the present staff, a group which has worked together since 1977.

Patty Bruce must head any list of WVMRA employees. Patty helped open the Association doors at the Kanawha Valley Building in March of 1966. Since then, she has helped the organization through three location changes, while working with three executive officers, 24 board chairmen, and countless staff and board members. She started as secretary, was promoted to office manager in 1975, and became assistant to the president a year later.

Through it all, she has served as the good right arm for hundreds of Association members, past and present, overseeing preparations for all of the traditional annual functions, as well as dozens of special meetings, and seminars.

Second in seniority is **Mary Ann Steele** who represented the first staff expansion back in 1971. Mary Ann became the Association bookkeeper 20 years ago, and was elevated to office manager in 1976. In addition to her everyday duties, Mary Ann has teamed with Patty for two decades to give WVMRA an unsurpassed expertise on the planning and execution of meetings.

Ben Greene, the Association's third permanent president came to WVMRA August 1, 1977, just two days before President Jimmy Carter signed the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. That was a timely transition. Ben came from the Department of Natural Resources, at that time the state regulatory agency for the industry.



Bill Raney, Mary Ann Steele, Ben Greene, Patty Bruce, Dan Miller

He was in on the ground floor of DNR's reclamation program, and, at the time, was the first and only chief of reclamation for the State. His knowledge of surface mining and reclamation law and technology was to prove invaluable in the long and tedious transition period as West Virginia struggled to regain regulatory primacy and adapt to the complicated process of federal regulation.

Bill Raney followed Ben from DNR, taking over as Association vice president in December of 1977. Bill's reputation as an innovator and a man who gets things done was well earned as he has taken the Association in new directions through his involvement with safety programs, political action committees, training, tax seminars and many other projects.

Dan Miller, the editor of all Association publications, also came in 1977. He took over *Green Lands*, started the *West Virginia Coal Bell*, and also handles advertising, news releases, and special publishing projects.

In all, these five individuals have contributed some 87 years of service to WVMRA, giving the Association a wealth of experience unparalleled in the industry.

THE WEST VIRGINIA MINING & RECLAMATION ASSOCIATION

1966

General

Anderson & Anderson Contractors, Inc.
Buffalo Coal Co.
Bunch Construction, Inc.
Eagle Coal & Dock Co., Inc.
Ford Coal Co.
Grafton Coal Co.
Kingwood Coal Co.
LaRosa Fuel Co., Inc.
Mary Ruth Corp.
McCoy Brothers, Inc.
Mynu Coals, Inc.

(Ashland Coal, Inc.)

Princess Susan Coal Co.

(Imperial Pacific Investments, Inc.)

Ranger Fuel Corp.

(Pittston Coal Group)

Perry and Hylton, Inc.

Vecellio & Grogan, Inc.

Associate

B & M Oil Co.
Baker Equipment Engineering Co.
Geel I. Walker Machinery Co.
Gummins Cumberland, Inc.
Explosives, Inc.
Kanawha Steel & Equipment Co.
Rish Equipment Co.

1967

General

Hobet Mining, Inc.
Associate
Amherst Industries, Inc.
Appalachian Tire Products, Inc.
Austin Powder Co.
Beckwith Machinery Co.
Carter Machinery Co., Inc.
Fairchild International
Pocahontas Land Corp.
WV Soil/Water Conserv. Dist. Supv.

1968

Associate

Western Branch Diesel, Inc.

1969

General

BethEnergy Mines, Inc.
Island Creek Coal Co.
Rockville Mining Co.

Associate

Flat Top Insurance Agency
Ohio Seed Co.

1970

General

Coal Power Corp.
Peerless Enterprises, Inc.

Associate

Voto Manufacturers Sales Co.

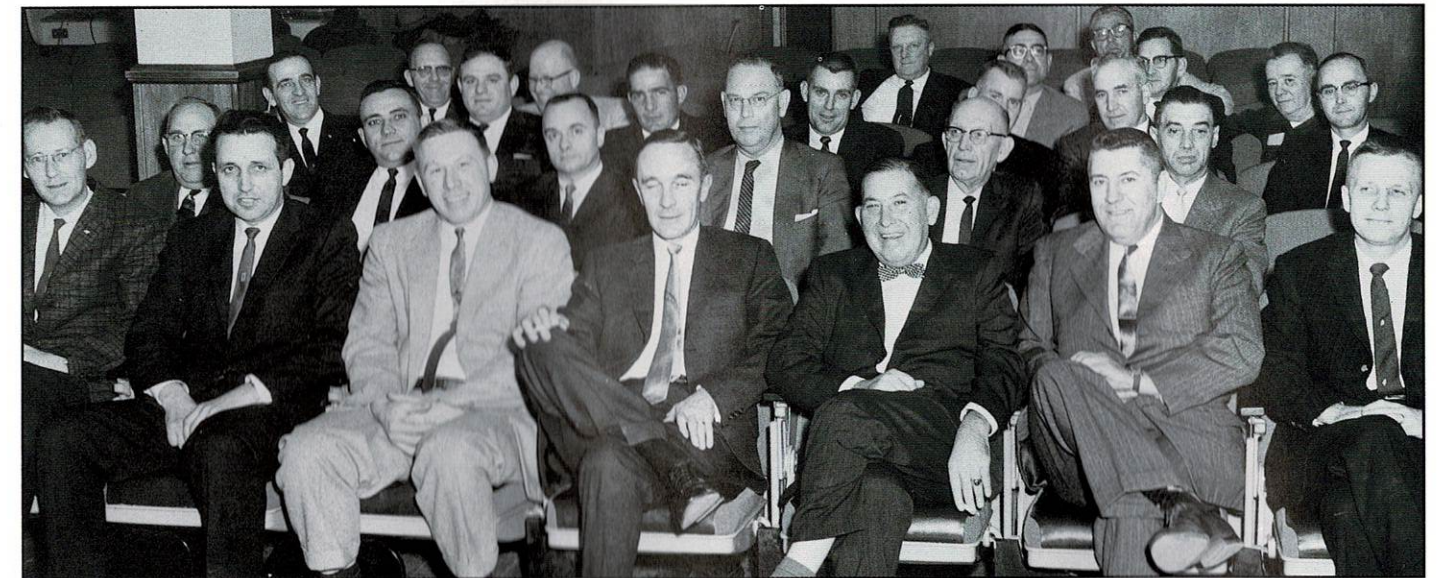
1966-1970

In 1966, nearly 15 million tons of surface and auger coal sold for just over \$4 a ton. While accounting for only 10% of the state's total production that year, surface mining was receiving 100% of the attention, most of it negative.

But a handful of far-sighted individuals realized that unity of purpose and the strength of numbers represented the industry's best hope for survival. They realized that strength and purpose would be best achieved through a statewide organization. And so, the West Virginia Mining & Reclamation Association was born.

WVMRA has its roots in two regional organizations, the Southern West Virginia Surface Mining Institute, and the North Central West Virginia Surface Mining Association. These two groups, with similar concerns and objectives, joined forces in the spring of 1966 to form the West Virginia Surface Mine Institute, with a small office in downtown Charleston.

O.V. "Dick" Vande Linde was named to serve as Executive Director, and he hired a staff of one, namely Patty Bruce.



WVMRA has its roots in regional organizations which started in the state in the early 1960's. Many of the men pictured in this group of southern operators were instrumental in the founding of the West Virginia Surface Mine Institute in 1966.

Leo Vecellio, Sr., of Beckley, was elected President. He was joined on the first Board of Directors by a lot of familiar coal names: Jim Wilkinson, Fil Nutter, Arch Sandy, Gil Frederick, Milford Jenkins, Sherwood Sparks, Jim LaRosa, Harry Phillips, L.C. Basham, Ike Lewis, Roy Long, J. Wade Bell, Jack Turner, and Jack Baldini. Associate members were there from the beginning, represented by Ed Wode, Frank Boggess, and Orville Thomas.

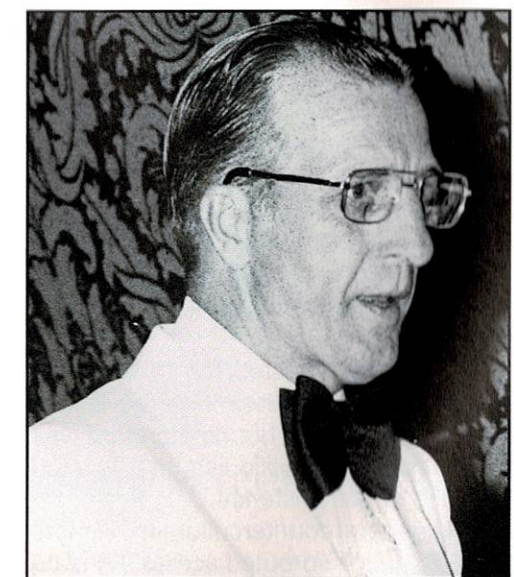
Following the initial organization, the group was chartered with the Secretary of State as the West Virginia Surface Mine Association. By the time of the first general meeting in July, membership had grown to 46 companies.

One trait common to the handful of companies that formed the Association was a sense of responsibility to the communities in which they lived and worked.

Therefore, a major initial task was to convey the benefits of such a policy to the rest of the surface mining industry, and to carry the message to an untrusting public. The very existence of the industry depended on it, and the celebration of our 25th Anniversary serves as ample testimony to the success of that mission.

Well aware of the intense struggle ahead, the new Association plunged directly into the legislative arena, taking an active role in the 1967 revision of the State's reclamation law, and entering into a tripartite reclamation research agreement with the U.S. Forest Service, and the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources.

In 1968, the Association, in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources, initiated the Reclamation Awards as a means of recognizing and rewarding the most outstanding reclamation success stories. This program was the first of its kind in the nation, and later served as a model for today's national awards programs.



O.V. "Dick" Vande Linde, Executive Director from 1966-1973.



The first winners of the Reclamation Awards are pictured at the Association's Annual Meeting in 1968 at the Daniel Boone Hotel in Charleston. Left to right are Jack Baldini, Bill Anderson, Jack Anderson, Paul Gaskill, A. S. Cappellari, DNR Director T. R. Samsell, Leo Vecellio, Bernard Folio, Tracy Hylton, and Fil Nutter.

In addition to the Board of Directors, many others had a hand in these early efforts, including coal operators Jack and Bill Anderson, Jim Compton, Lawson Hamilton, Lawrence Streets, Tracy Hylton, Jim Justice, Carl DeSignore, Winston Cline, Mac Smith, Herb and Charlie Jones, A. S. Cappellari, Paul Harrold, Buster Scaggs, Bob Bunch, Paul Gaskill, Claud Wilcher, Frank Jennings, Morgan Lyons, Jim Thompson, and Earl Scholl.

Early participants among the suppliers included Bernard Folio, Tom Horn, Jack Fairchild, Frank Vigneault, Cecil Walker, Kyle Bailey, Ed Surgeon, Jim Poindexter, Walter Dial, Jim Meadows, Chap Johnston, Alfred Carter, Duane Snyder, Everett Call, and Frank Dainese. They had their work cut out for them.

In 1939, West Virginia had enacted the first surface mining and reclamation law in the nation. It was revised in 1945, 1947, 1959, 1961, and 1963, but no standard was stringent enough to satisfy the abolitionists that wanted surface mining legislated out of existence.

As an offshoot of the general counterculture movement of the late 60's, "citizen" groups sprouted across the state in opposition to the industry. This 20th century version of "abolition" became fashionable. Young idealists came to

West Virginia from population centers of the northeast to "save West Virginians from themselves," and one of their chief objectives, together with resident preservationists, was the elimination of surface mining. Their protests and rallies gained widespread newspaper coverage, and consequently, the attention of the State Legislature.

When the Association was in its infancy, the battle was already being waged in the halls of West Virginia government. But the fledgling organization had a lot of resources to draw on. Though responsible for a relatively small percentage of total West Virginia coal production, surface miners were an important economic factor in two-thirds of the state. The early and strong support of the associate membership demonstrated clearly how many people, in a variety of businesses, regarded all segments of the coal industry as economically important.

Perhaps more importantly, these people had staying power. While the controversy raged, they continued to mine coal, and suppliers continued to do business. A quarter of a century later, these Association pioneers are celebrating their Silver Anniversary, while most of their opponents have faded from the state, as well as from the headlines.

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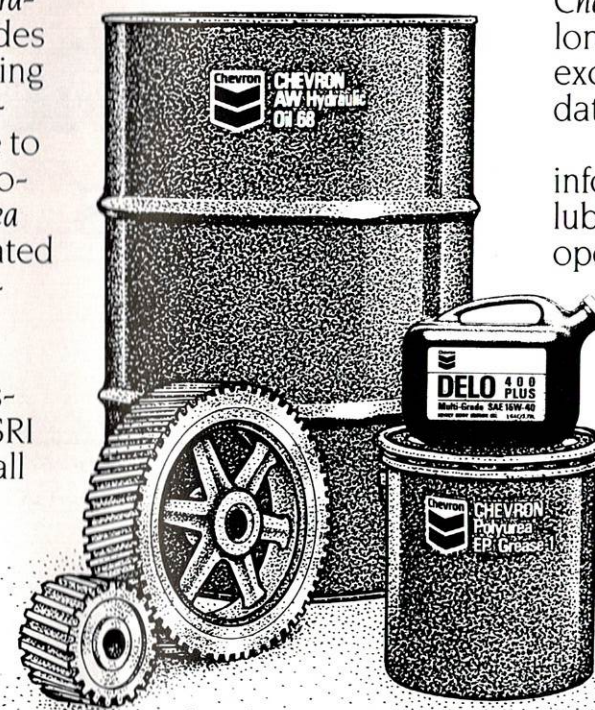
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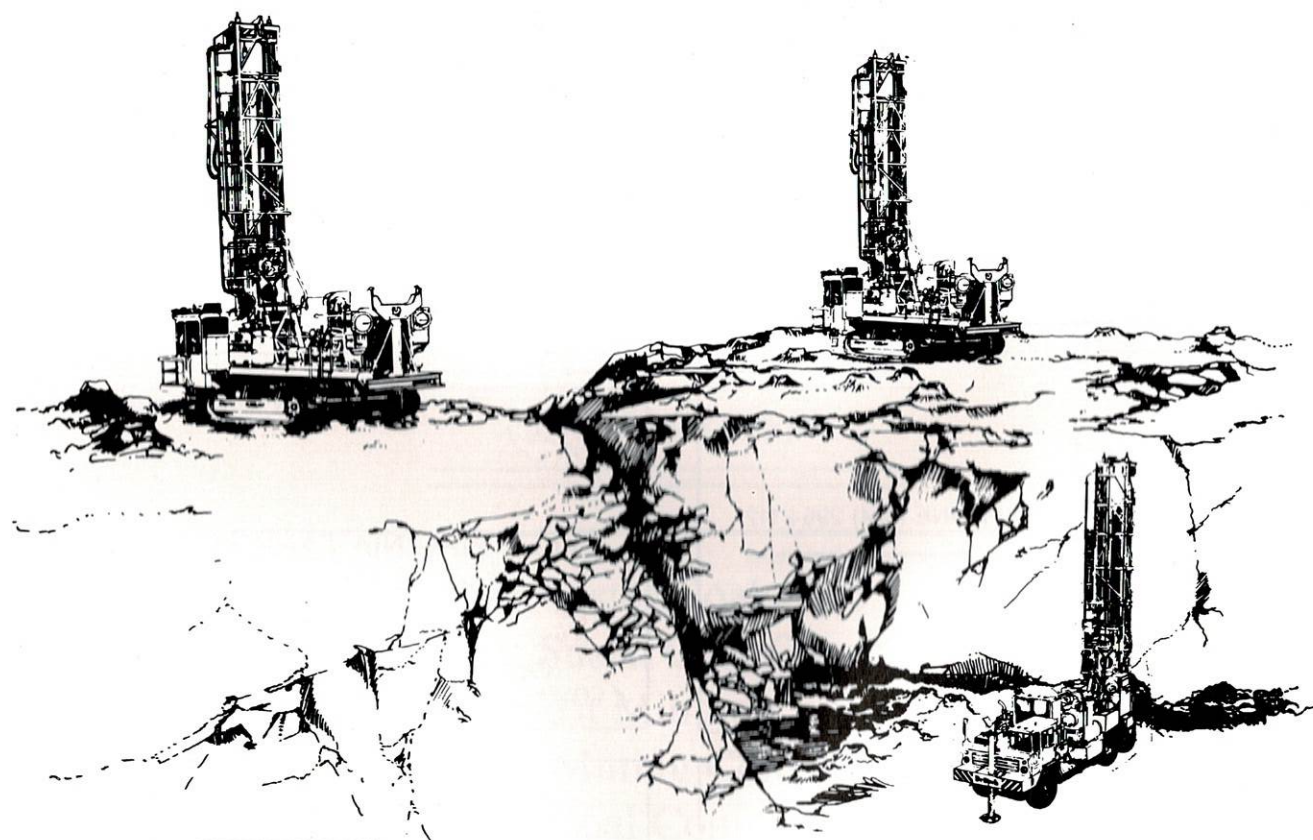
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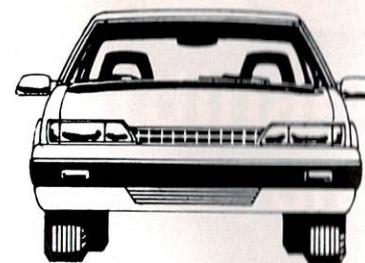
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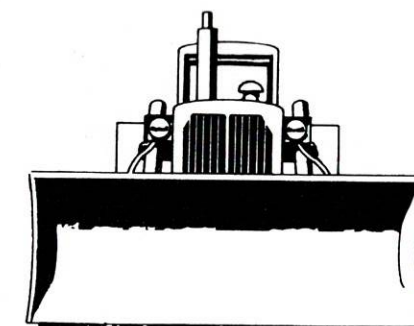
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on your Silver Anniversary

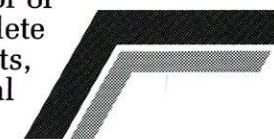
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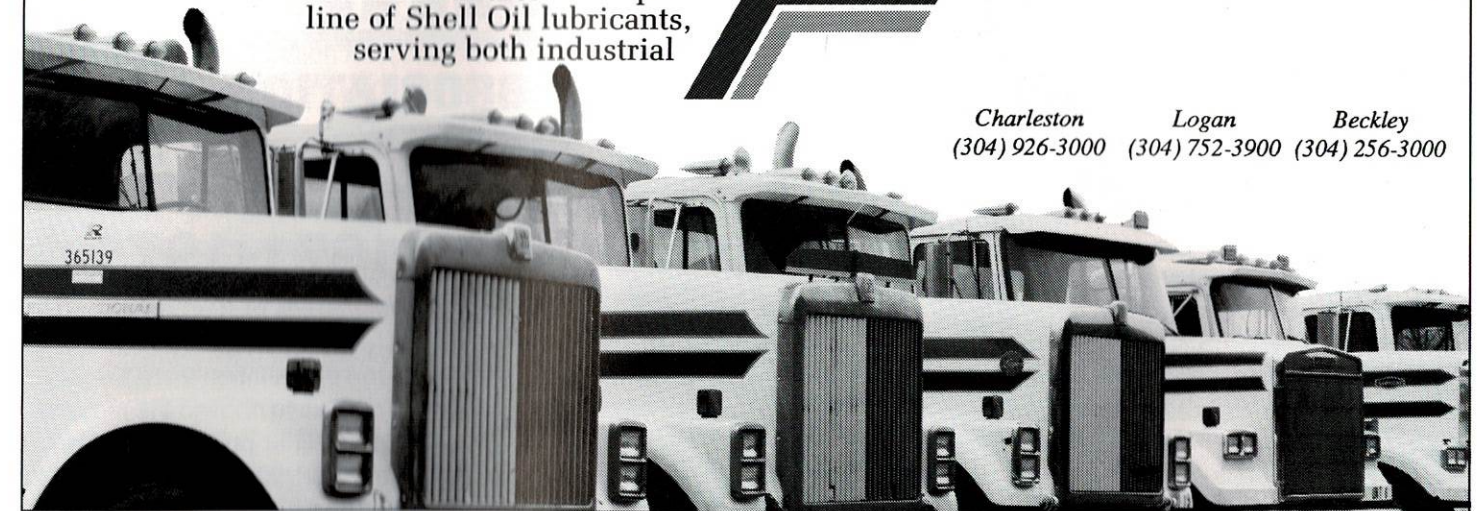
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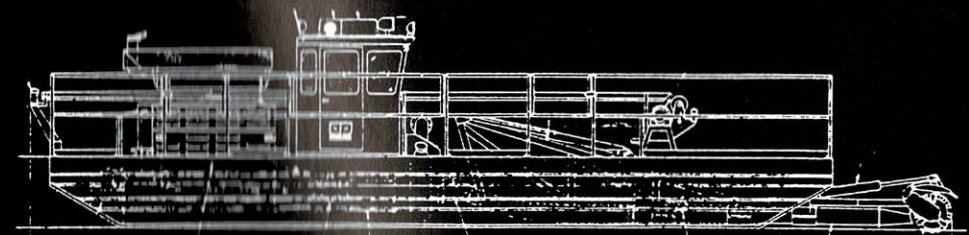


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THE WEST VIRGINIA MINING & RECLAMATION ASSOCIATION

1971

General

Bluestone Coal Corp.
Fresa Construction Co.
Lynn Land Co.
Phoenix Resources, Inc.

Associate

Ingersoll-Rand Co.

1972

General

Masteller Coal Co.

Associate

Cotiga Development Co.
Crown Hill Equipment, Inc.
Logan & Kanawha Coal Co., Inc.
McDonough Caperton Insurance Group

1973

General

Arch of West Virginia, Inc.

1974

General

Allegheny Mining Corp.
ED-E Development Co., Inc.
Leckie Smokeless Coal Co.
Rostosky Mining

Sharples Coal Corp.

Starvaggi Industries, Inc.

Associate

Bank of Raleigh

1975

General

Anker Energy Corp.

Bell Mining Co.

C & W Coal Co.

Freeman Branch Mining

Associate

Chamberlaine & Flowers, Inc.

Driltech, Inc.

Penn Line Service, Inc.

Petroleum Products, Inc.

Union National Bank of West Virginia

West Virginia Coals, Inc.

Worldwide Equipment, Inc.

1971-1975

The move to impede surface coal production peaked in 1971 with the introduction in the Legislature of a bill to abolish the industry outright. That proposal was narrowly voted down, but legislative compromise led to another severe revision of the surface mining and reclamation law.

As part of the compromise, the Legislature passed a two-year, 22 county moratorium on surface mining, prohibiting any surface mining activity where no mining currently existed, including the counties of Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler, Pleasants, Wood, Jackson, Mason, Lincoln, Roane, Wirt, Ritchie, Doddridge, Calhoun, Monroe, Pocahontas, Pendleton, Hardy, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley, and Jefferson.

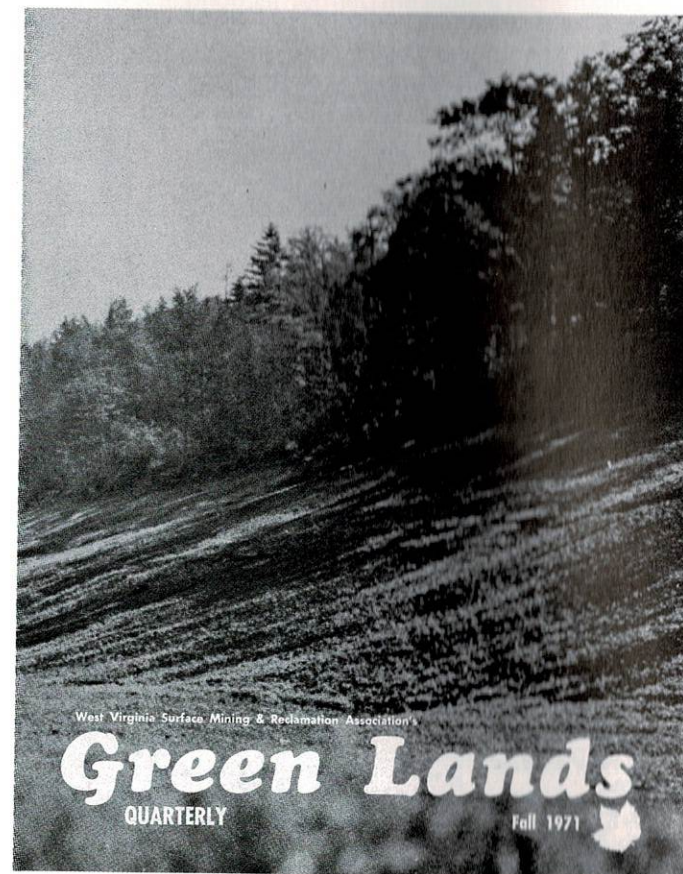
By now the scope and mission of the Association required an expanded staff and roomier headquarters. In 1971, with membership at more than 200 companies, the office was moved to a building on Quarrier St. In rapid succession, Mary Ann Steele was hired as Bookkeeper, Ben Lusk joined the staff in a public relations capacity, and Dan Gerkin became the News Director.

The name was changed to the West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association, reflecting a renewed and intensified emphasis on the reclamation phase of the mining process.

Though the first legislative effort at abolition had failed, the fight was far from over.

A popular young politician named Jay Rockefeller had made abolition a part of his platform as he prepared to run for governor in the 1972 election.

In response to the continuing threat to its members' livelihood, the Association launched an extensive public relations campaign, aimed at combating the one-sided anti-industry reporting that characterized coverage of the surface mining controversy.



Green Lands first appeared in the fall of 1971.

WVSMRA established a speakers' bureau, which sent key members into schools, civic organizations and other local outlets to bring to light the efforts of responsible coal operators to protect and reclaim mined land. This project was aided by *The Greening of Augusta*, an Association produced, documentary film on the importance of coal to West Virginia, and the success of reclamation efforts.

The Association sponsored press tours of active mine sites, a direct challenge to critics to find uncorrectable fault with surface mining technique. This process continues today, as industry opponents revel in litigation and paper fights, but are unable to challenge the visible successes of modern reclamation.

A ladies auxiliary was formed under the direction of Cindy Kunzelman and Julie Hartman, and became active in demonstrating local community support for the industry and its economic benefits. To underline its commitment to a new set of values, industry supported a doubling of the tax to finance the Special Reclamation Fund, a state established means of reclaiming orphaned mine lands.

Also in 1971, *Green Lands* magazine was started to serve as a permanent record of Association activities, and another means of reaching the public with the message of industry's accomplishments.

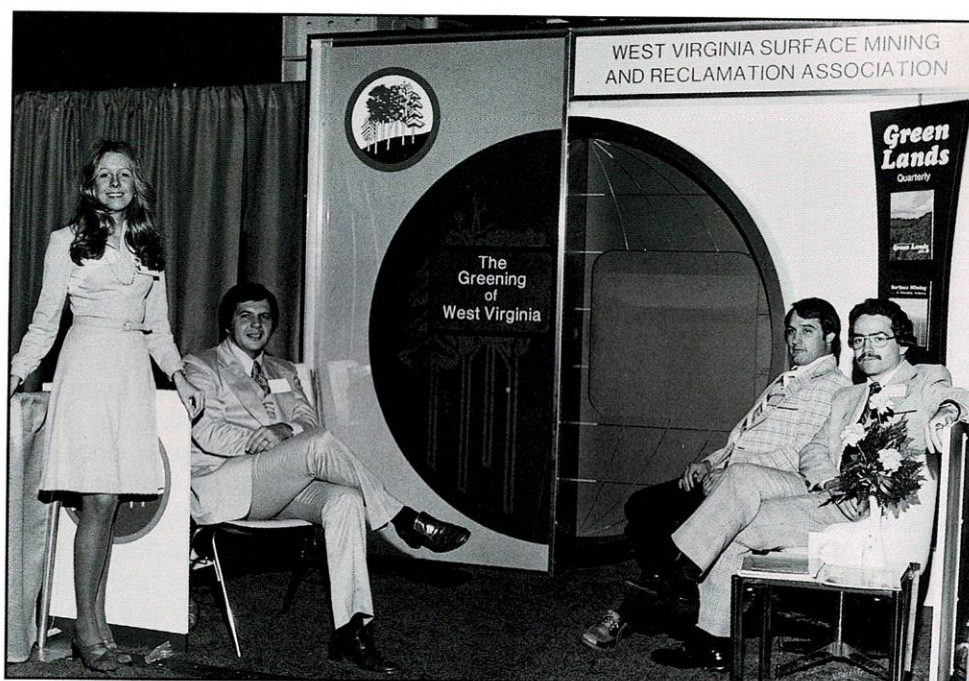
By 1972, the tide began to turn away from abolition of the industry. West Virginia led the nation in acres reclaimed, and Jay Rockefeller's abolition platform crashed under the weight of a lopsided loss in the governor's race. Association membership swelled to 235.

In 1973, as the Legislature extended the moratorium for another two years, Kentucky replaced West Virginia as the nation's leading coal producer.

Ben Lusk became Executive Director, and the Association turned its attention to technological advancement and further expansion. Terry Iden was hired as Membership Services Director.

During this period, Association members developed and perfected the most innovative mining techniques that the industry had yet seen. Steep slope haulback and mountaintop removal, both of which utilized the "controlled placement" theory of overburden handling, were major advances in the drive to maximize mineral recovery, and to facilitate effective reclamation.

Part of the Association's public relations effort in the early 70's was "manning the booth" at trade shows. Left to right are Cindy Jennings (Harrington), Ben Lusk, John Sturm, and Dan Gerkin.



Mountaintop removal was first conducted on a large scale in 1967 by Tracy Hylton, contracting for Cannelton Industries on Bullpush Mountain in eastern Kanawha County. The Perry & Hylton method might better be called "flat top mining," for it doesn't actually remove mountain tops, it smooths them out.

Excess overburden is transported to highly engineered valley fills. As the mountaintop is resculptured, all highwalls are eliminated, outcrops remain undisturbed, and drainage is relatively easy to control. Mineral recovery is virtually 100%, and the resulting, gently rolling plateau creates potential post mining land uses which would not otherwise be possible.

Jim Compton of Grafton Coal Co. developed the innovative "block cut" method of mining in northern West Virginia. Another form of this technique, the haulback, was adapted to the steep slopes of southern counties in 1973 by Fil Nutter and his Hobet Mining & Construction Co.

Both these techniques involve moving overburden laterally along the bench, and backfilling against the highwall behind the actual mining operation. Material from each new cut is placed in the pit which has just been mined. This practice eventually resulted in complete highwall elimination on all steep slope contour mines. After the area is compacted and seeded, a grassy slope extends from the haul road to the undisturbed tree line above the operation. This technique reduces disturbed acreage (and therefore the bond), facilitates water control, and allows for much quicker and more effective reclamation.

These and other innovations put West Virginia at the forefront of the nation's mining and reclamation industries, and WVSMRA soon found a way to share the wealth of information and expertise that it had developed.

In 1974, the Association initiated the West Virginia Mining Symposium, which continues today as the "most informative two days in the mining industry." Hundreds of mid-management miners gathered in Charleston to learn and exchange technology to improve and streamline every facet of the mining and reclamation processes.

That same year, a Technical Services Division was established, headed by new staff member John Sturm. Soon after, the Association received a federal grant for an experimental longwall mining project, and Bill Piper was hired as Project Engineer.

In a reorganizational move, Ben Lusk became President of the Association, and Dan Gerkin was named Vice President, with a chairman and other executive officers to be elected from the Board of Directors.

Headquarters were moved again, this time to the present location on Kanawha Boulevard, where the Association purchased and renovated an historic east end house, within easy walking distance of the state capitol complex. Cindy Jennings joined the staff as News and Information director.

As the year ended, President Gerald R. Ford vetoed the first congressional effort at a national mine reclamation law, and the Association opened a water testing facility in Beckley, under the direction of Gary Cooper.

Early in 1975, the federal "Project Independence" called for 1.2 to 1.8 billion tons of U.S. coal production by 1985, and President Ford, in his State of the Union message, encouraged the increased use of coal to combat the country's dependence on foreign oil.

Meanwhile, in West Virginia, the "Lincoln County Citizens to Abolish Strip Mining" were marching 30 strong in Charleston.

A coalition of environmental groups endorsed legislation, proposed by West Virginia Congressman Ken Hechler, to abolish surface mining nationally. Hechler was virtually ignored in Washington, but back home, State Senators Warren McGraw and Si Galperin introduced another bill to abolish the industry within West Virginia.

That bill failed once again, but the Legislature extended the 22 county moratorium for another two years. Typical of the frustration engendered by this action was that of Mrs. Truda Murray, 83, of South Charleston, who owned 61 acres of coal in moratorium bound Wetzel County, valued at \$10 million.

The Association published a booklet entitled "Procedure to Obtain a Surface Mining Permit in West Virginia," and a WVU economist termed the state's reclamation law, "the toughest in the nation."

In April, the benefits of responsible mining and reclamation were vividly demonstrated when Pocahontas Land Corp., Perry & Hylton, Inc., and Cannelton Industries turned over 53 reclaimed acres on Toms Mountain to the McDowell County school system for construction of a consolidated high school.

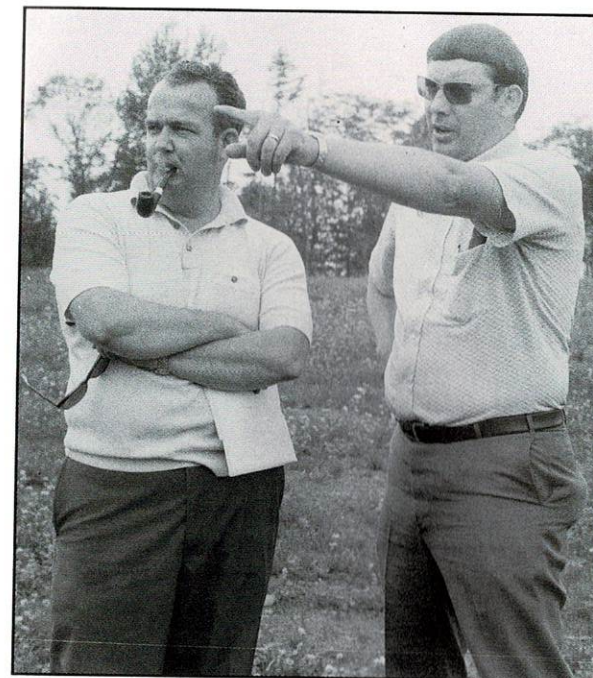
Also in April, Association President Ben Lusk led the 1st International Mining and Reclamation Conference to Dusseldorf, Germany, with over 200 participants.

Back home, in May, WVSMRA sponsored a Safety and Technical Conference in Morgantown, with over 100 in attendance.

President Ford again vetoed the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, as passed by Con-



Ben Lusk came to the Association in 1971, was named Executive Director in 1973, and President in 1974.



On the job with Pete Pitsenbarger (l) and Ben Greene, the two top officials with DNR's Division of Reclamation. Ben later became President of the Association, and Pete took over the Reclamation Chief's post.

gress. In June, as Congress failed to override the President's veto, WVSMRA went on record as favoring legislation which would "establish minimum guidelines for state enforcement in order to bring reclamation standards of surrounding states up to those of West Virginia."

In October of that year, WVSMRA sponsored a "Fall Seeding Symposium" in Beckley, and was awarded its second research grant, this time to "evaluate the effectiveness of the haulback mining method in minimizing the environmental impact to the area surrounding the mining operation."

In November, C. E. "Jim" Compton of Grafton Coal Co. was honored as West Virginia's "Coal Man of the Year." That same month, "The Jim Wilkinson Memorial Tripartite Research and Development Project" was launched to honor the late Association President. A cooperative effort of the Association, DNR and the Ruffed Grouse Society, the Project was established to concentrate on developing effective woodland and wildlife reclamation techniques.

WVSMRA closed the book on its first ten years with the satisfaction of having played a major role in the salvation of the industry, and firmly established itself as one of the leading state trade organizations in the nation.

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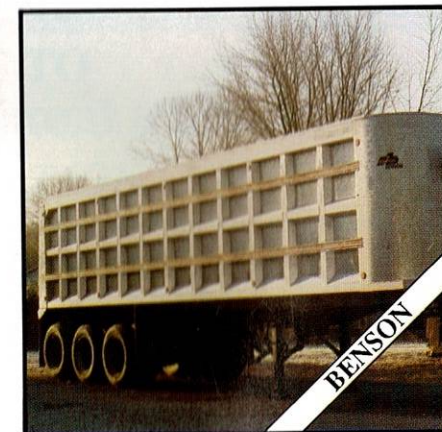
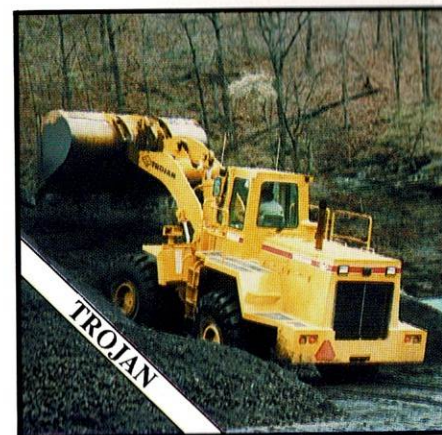
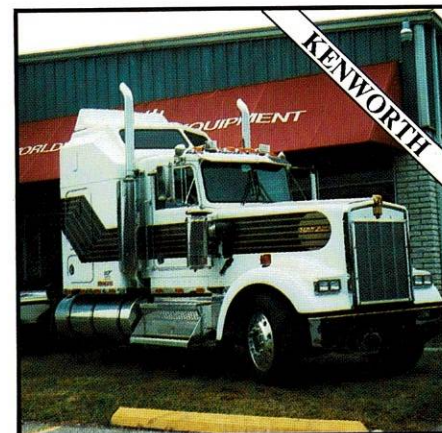
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Best wishes to all
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Summersville, West Virginia

THE WEST VIRGINIA MINING & RECLAMATION ASSOCIATION

1976

General

Land Use Corp.
Marrowbone Development Co.
Associate
Delta Co.
West Virginia Explosives Co., Inc.

1977

Associate

Brackenrich & Associates, Inc.
Nell Jean Enterprises, Inc.

1978

General

Brooks Run Coal Co.
Cannelton Industries, Inc.
Kelley Coal Co., Inc.
National Mines Corp.
Oneida Coal Co., Inc.
Rayle Coal Co.
West Virginia Energy, Inc.
Associate
Esmer & Associates, Inc.
Explosives Technologies International, Inc.
F. B. Nutter Leasing Co.
Industrial Electric Corp.
John T. Boyd Co.
Miller & Miller Auctioneers, Inc.
Skelly and Loy
Songer Insurance Agency, Inc.
Superior Corp., Inc.
Vibra-Tech Engineers, Inc.

1979

General

BA Coal Co.
Triple A Coals, Inc.
Willis Branch Coal Co.
Associate
Atlas Powder Co.
General Truck Sales Corp.
Sturm Environmental Services, Inc.
VME Americas Inc.

1980

General

Coaltrain Corp.
Patriot Mining Co., Inc.
Stanley Industries, Inc.
Associate
Bell Farms Reclamation Services
H. C. Nutting Co.
Ireco Inc.
Mt. State Bit Service, Inc.
Western Briquette Co.

1976-1980

In 1976, Senators McGraw and Galperin tried again to abolish the industry, but by this time the effort had lost its momentum.

Other good things were happening. Fil Nutter was named an honorary member of the Board of Directors, the first individual so honored.

The 2nd International Coal Conference convened in Poland. A year later the group traveled to Australia for its third and final conference.

By 1977, passage of a federal law to regulate mining reclamation became inevitable. West Virginians were already on record as favoring federal legislation in principle, on the basis that national standards as stringent as West Virginia's would help the state coal industry's position in the marketplace.

WVSMRA was the only coal organization to publicly support the bill. The contributions of the Association to the legislation were duly recognized when President Jimmy Carter signed the bill into law.



A visit to the nation's capitol and West Virginia's congressional delegation has been an Association tradition since 1980. Shown with former Senator Jennings Randolph are (l-r) Bill Raney, Bill Ritchie, Rogers Stevens, Bill Forbes, Dave Porreca, Don Donell, Frank Vigneault, Dwight Keating, Jim White, Lawrence Streets, Ben Greene, Jim Compton, Bill Butler, and Andy Teeter.

The signing took place in the White House Rose Garden and WVSMRA President Ben Lusk and Board member Jim Compton were the only state trade representatives invited to the ceremony.

The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 ushered in a new era for the industry, and for the Association. Dan Gerkin left to head the Contractors Association of West Virginia. Soon after, Ben Lusk resigned to devote his attention to establishing a national surface mining organization.

They were replaced by two familiar figures from state government. Ben Greene, the original Chief of Reclamation for the Department of Natural Resources, became WVSMRA's third President. Bill Raney, his long-time associate at DNR, was named Vice President. These were to become key appointments during the turbulent years of implementing federal legislation. That same year, Dan Miller joined the staff as Editor of Publications.

While positive in theory, implementation of the national law proved to be cumbersome. The bill created the Office of Surface Mining, under the Department of the Interior, as the federal regulatory agency. As it began the tedious process of developing regulations to implement the new law, OSM did not enjoy the confidence of either industry or state government. In states which lacked strict regulation, industry feared the new federal standards. In states like West Virginia, where a good program was already in place, there was serious concern as to what positive contribution federal authorities could offer. Interests of eastern and western mining were at odds, as were old mining with new, and surface with underground.

Walt Heine, first in a long line of OSM Directors, attempted to allay these suspicions. Heine wrote in an early edition of his agency's newsletter that the activities of his office would "always be carried out in a spirit of cooperation." Heine continued, "I believe that many coal operators will change their attitude after they have had experience with the regulations."

Unfortunately, the Director was overly optimistic. Within months of passage, the lawsuits began to fly. OSM's initial approach was to break each state down, and rebuild it according to the wisdom of federal authority. The Association won a major court battle in the spring of 1978, which struck down OSM's attempt to force preexisting structures to conform with the agency's design criteria, as well as its performance standards.

This began a long, litigious battle of "proposed regulations," "proposed interim regulations," "interim regulations," "proposed final regulations," etc., with industry groups and state governments fighting every step of the way to keep OSM from fixing what wasn't broken.

The bottom line was that West Virginia Department of Natural Resources was required to come up with a federally approved regulatory program before the State could resume regulatory primacy. West Virginia could rely only upon the courts for relief from this dictatorial process.

As an example, in late July of 1978, Association President Ben Greene received from OSM two sets of proposed regulations totaling 436 pages, and was asked to offer his comments at an August 8 hearing.

For the year, West Virginia coal production fell to 84.7 million tons, the lowest since 1922.



First year Governor Jay Rockefeller addresses the Association's Annual Meeting in 1979.

In March of 1979, OSM finally released its "final regulations," a 561 page document which set off a new round of litigation. In Charleston, the West Virginia Legislature was attempting to keep pace with ever changing federal requirements, in an effort to regain primacy for the Department of Natural Resources. It was an era of great cooperation between industry and state government to minimize OSM's disruption of the finest regulatory program in the country.

A full circle was completed in August of 1979, when West Virginia Governor Jay Rockefeller spoke to the Association's Annual Meeting. Far removed from the 1972 candidate who was soundly beaten while running on a promise to abolish surface mining, the Governor came to The Greenbrier as Chairman of the President's Commission on Coal, and the author of "The Rockefeller Amendment."

(The Rockefeller Amendment, legitimizing the principle of allowing states to set design criteria to meet federal performance standards, was enacted more than a year later.)

At its fall meeting in 1979, the Board of Directors was able to burn the mortgage on its Charleston headquarters. Also that fall, *Green Pages*, an innovative membership services directory, was first published, after many months of laborious compilation of information by Brenda Garnett and Mary Ann Steele.

This annual book, based on the "yellow pages" principle, contains a complete listing, by category, of goods and services. This provides members with a convenient means of doing business with fellow members. *Green Pages* is now in its 13th year of publication.



The mortgage was burned on the Association's Charleston headquarters in 1979.

In 1980, the Task Force on Acid Mine Drainage, a joint effort of the Association and state government, published "Suggested Guidelines for Method of Operation in Surface Mining of Areas with Potentially Acid-Producing Materials." In the spring, the group conducted what would become an annual symposium, to exchange and disseminate information and technology for the ongoing battle against acid mine drainage.

In March, the Legislature passed a bill to empower the Department of Natural Resources to submit a regulatory package to OSM, in order to gain State regulatory primacy. By October, West Virginia gained "partial approval" from OSM, meaning that parts of the proposed regulatory package were accepted, and other parts needed revision. On January 21, 1981, OSM announced that West Virginia had been granted regulatory primacy, the first major coal producing state in the east to achieve that status.

Though the threat to survival was less distinct, the period of the late 1970's represented a repeat of the late 1960's, when the battle for reasonable regulation was at its hottest. Largely through the efforts of the Association and its members, West Virginia, both industry and government, was given its due recognition as leader and innovator, and the difficult transition from total state regulation, to state/federal dual regulation, and back to state primacy was successfully completed.

During the 1970's, 18 major pieces of federal legislation were enacted, always with a direct and major bearing on the coal industry. Though each took its toll on production and employment, the vitality and tenacity of West Virginia operators enabled the industry to survive this decade of tremendous regulatory upheaval.

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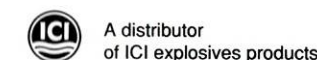
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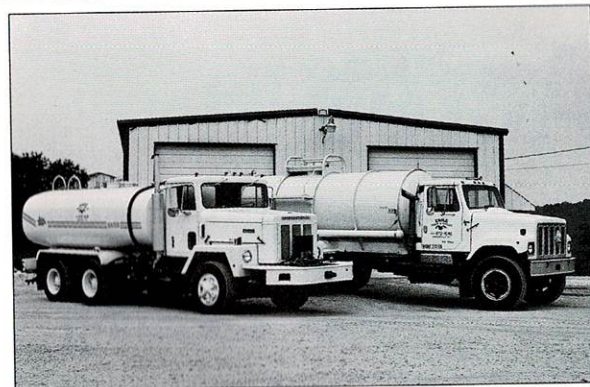
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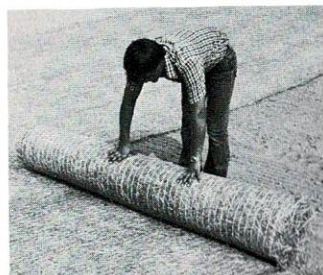


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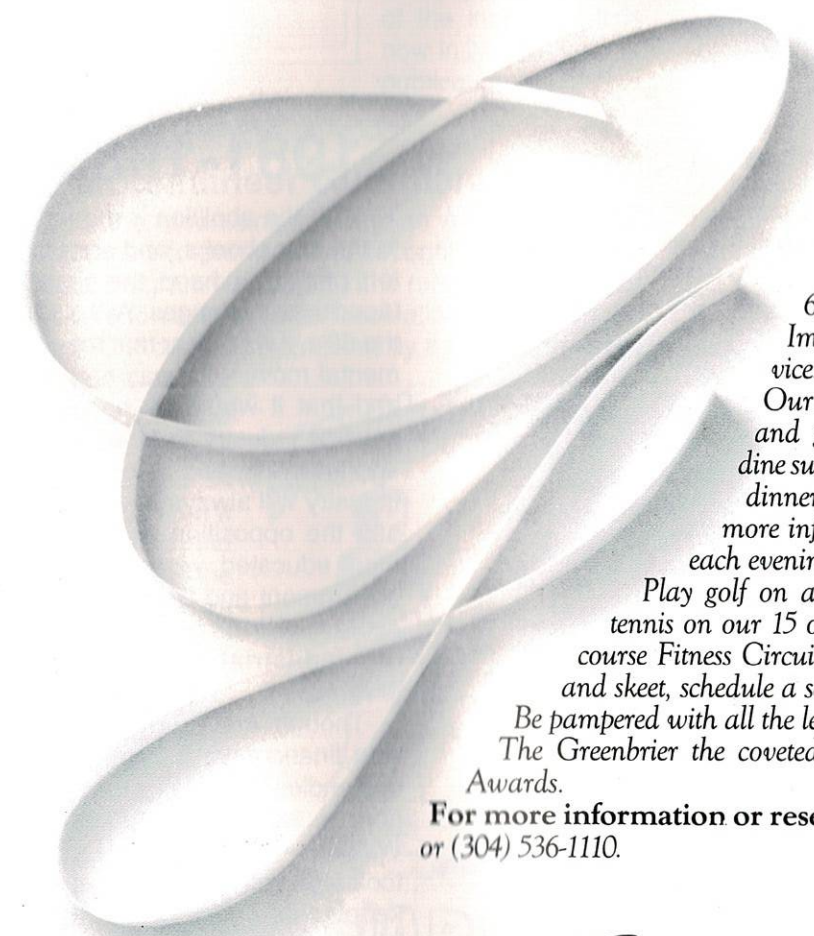
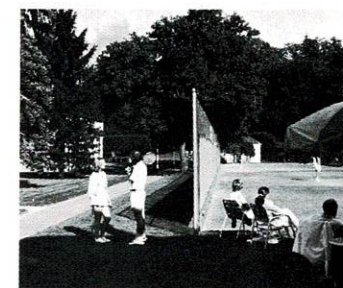
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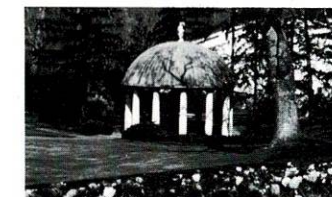
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Associate

Employers Service Corp.
Engineering Services, Inc.
GEO Consultants, Inc.

1982

General

Old Ben Coal Co. - Mine #20
PayBra Mining Co., Inc.
Wolf Creek Collieries Co.

Associate

Anderson of West Virginia
Jackson & Kelly
Sii Smith International
Terra Engineers, Inc.
Toothman Rice & Co.
Union Carbide Corporation

1983

General

Jeran Mining, Inc.
Maben Energy Corp.

Associate

Balsinger, Inc.
Berwind Land Co.
Bridgeport Trucking Co.
Columbia Coal Gasification Corp.
Dominion Bank
Flat Top National Bank of Bluefield
Laurel Mining Consultants, Inc.
Massie Reclamation, Inc.
Noone Associates, Inc.

1984

General

Carbon Fuel Co.
Island Creek Mining
Juliana Mining Co., Inc.
Peabody Coal Co.
Peerless Fuels, Inc.
Pickands Mather & Co.

Associate

Doug Ball Insurance Associates, Inc.
Gilbert Distributing Co.
Hatfield Terminals, Inc.
Robinson & McElwee
Virginia Welding Supply Co.

1985

General

High Power Energy

Associate

Coal Field Machinery, Inc.
Dingess-Rum Coal Co., Inc.
Green Acres Contracting Co., Inc.
Kimberly Industries, Inc.
Metec, Inc.
O&K Trojan
Tioga Lumber Co.

1981-1985

With the abolition issue relegated to the scrapbooks, and state regulatory primacy in hand, the Association faced new challenges. At the outset of the 80's, it was clear that the environmental movement was here to stay, and that it would be necessary for modern industry to keep innovating and adapting, and trying to improve. Industry will always have opposition, and the opposition of the 80's was more educated, wiser in the ways of government and litigation, and more aggressive in its pursuit of hamstringing industrial development and progress.

Though many battles had been won, financial ruin from overregulation and endless litigation remained on the horizon, so it became incumbent on WVSMRA to keep developing new tools for self improvement and for keeping its cause before the public eye.

The Association met the challenges of the 1980's head on. Each year since 1980, a delegation of key members has journeyed to Washington, D.C. to establish and maintain closer relationships with the State's congressional delegation, and to keep abreast of the regulatory climate in the nation's capitol.



1981 - First Edition of the West Virginia Coal Bell.

The Coal Bell

In 1981, another new publication was launched. The West Virginia Coal Bell was established as a monthly tabloid newspaper to address the nonmember segment of the industry. It is now in its 11th year of publication.

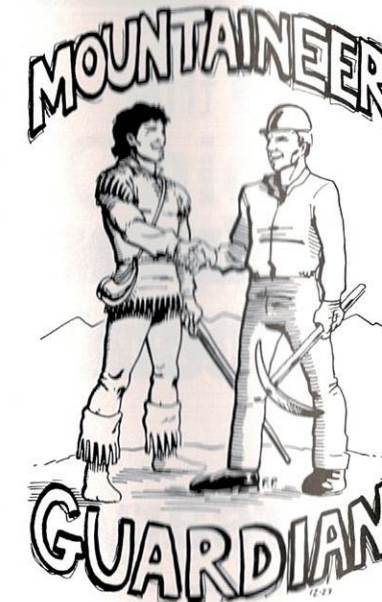
The Mountaineer Guardian

In 1983, the Mountaineer Guardian Awards program was established to promote and recognize mine safety. This unique program was begun, and remains, as another cooperative effort between the Association and the regulatory agency. Production is tracked by the Department of Mines (now Division of Energy). As each mine passed specific tonnage goals, based on employment, without a fatality, that mine and its workers received the Mountaineer Guardian Award.

In the short history of the program, hundreds of mines, representing thousands of miners and millions of tons of fatal free production have been recognized as proud winners of the Mountaineer Guardian.

The 'Callaghan'

At the 1984 Symposium, WVSMRA initiated the "David C. Callaghan Award." Named for the outgoing Director of the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, the "Callaghan" was designed to recognize the overall outstanding operation in the state. The first recipient was Elk Run Coal Co. of Boone County. In 1985, the "Callaghan" went to Marrowbone Development Co. of Mingo County.



'Company Pride'

The Association has been going to The Greenbrier for its Annual Meeting for a long time. One of the most popular features of this three day event is the Coal Miners' Party. Originally conceived by Lawrence Streets, the Coal Miners' Party is held on Friday evening at Kate's Mountain, an outdoor shelter on the hotel grounds.

In 1984, the "Company Pride" competition became a part of the Kate's Mountain tradition. "Company Pride," another Bill Raney brainchild, encourages members of the Association to express the "pride of employment," by utilizing t-shirts, ball caps, jackets, stickers and any other pertinent paraphernalia to let everybody know where their paychecks come from.

A traveling "miner's lunch bucket" trophy is awarded to the company with the biggest and most prolific group expression of "Company Pride."

The first winner was Grafton Coal Co., which turned out a group almost too large to photograph. In 1985, High Power Energy took the prize. Since that time a spirited competition has emerged.

WVMRA

In 1985, the Association altered its name once again, deleting the word "surface." The history of the Association's name changes has paralleled its evolving concerns.

Founded as the "West Virginia Surface Mine Institute," it became the "West Virginia Surface Mine Association," as more suppliers became involved.

Then the "West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association" emphasized the escalating importance of reclamation.

And finally the "West Virginia Mining & Reclamation Association" reflects the growing relationship and interdependence of surface and underground mining.

Division of Energy

Early in 1985, the Association sponsored a day long seminar to familiarize members of the West Virginia Legislature with coal industry problems. In that session, the Legislature created the West Virginia Department of Energy, (later redesignated Division of Energy), which consolidated the regulatory powers of the Department of Mines and parts of the Department of Natural Resources. In July, former Association member Ken Faerber was confirmed as the new agency's first Commissioner.



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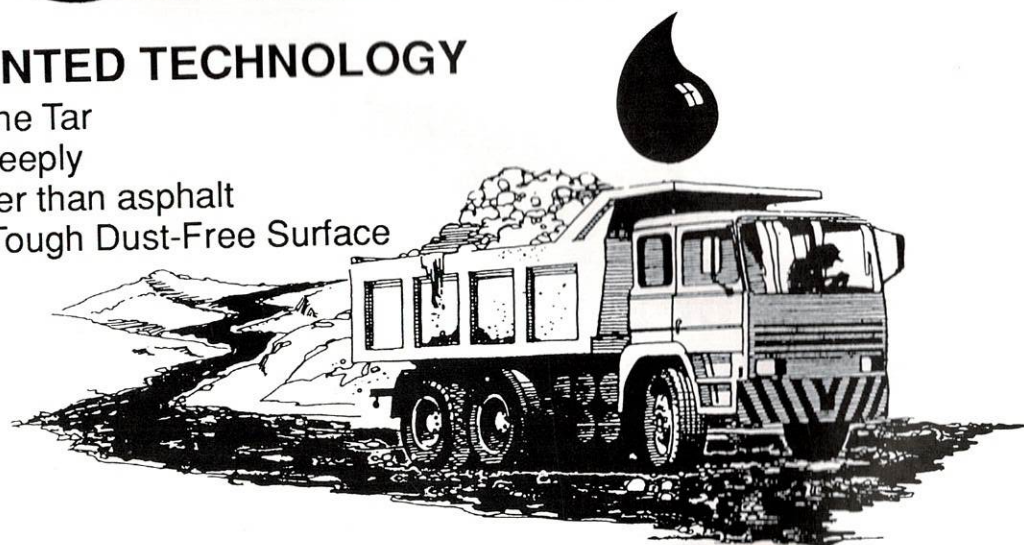
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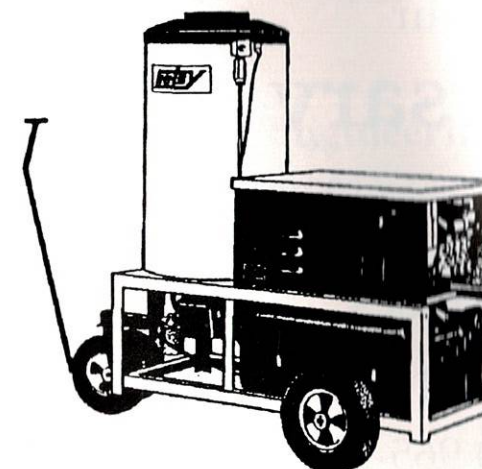
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- ☐ b. A crystal-ball reader?
- ☐ c. The computer technician?
- ☐ d. Your next door neighbor?
- ☒ e. Your CPA!

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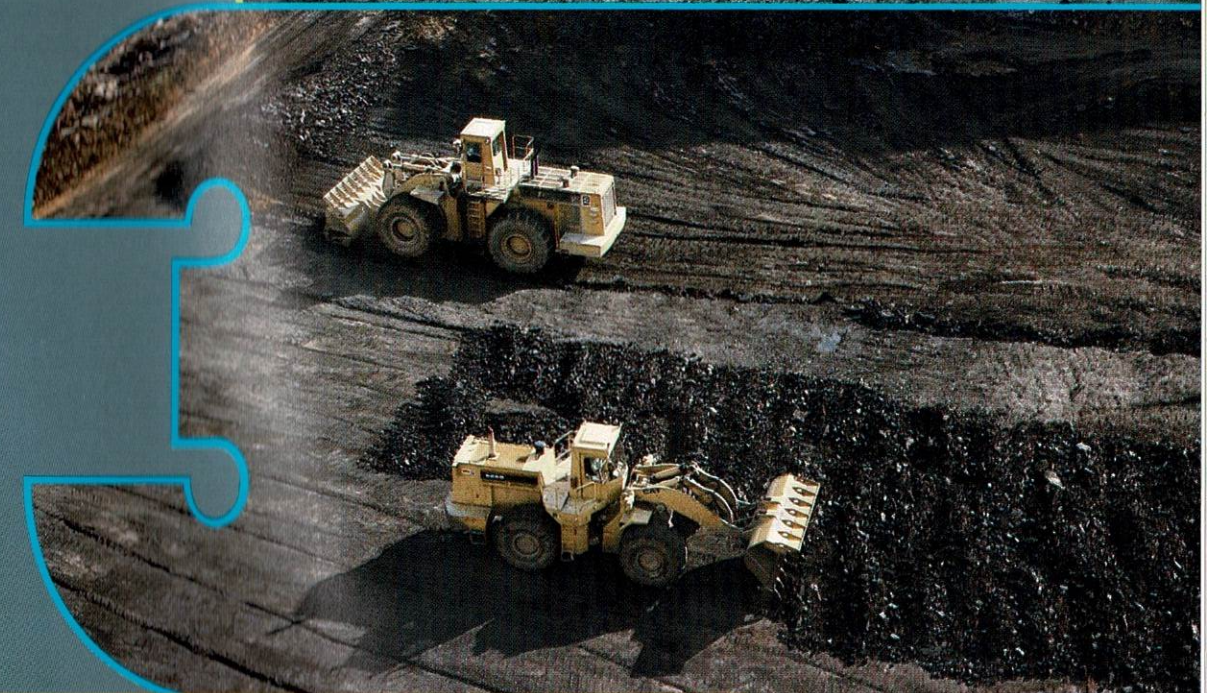
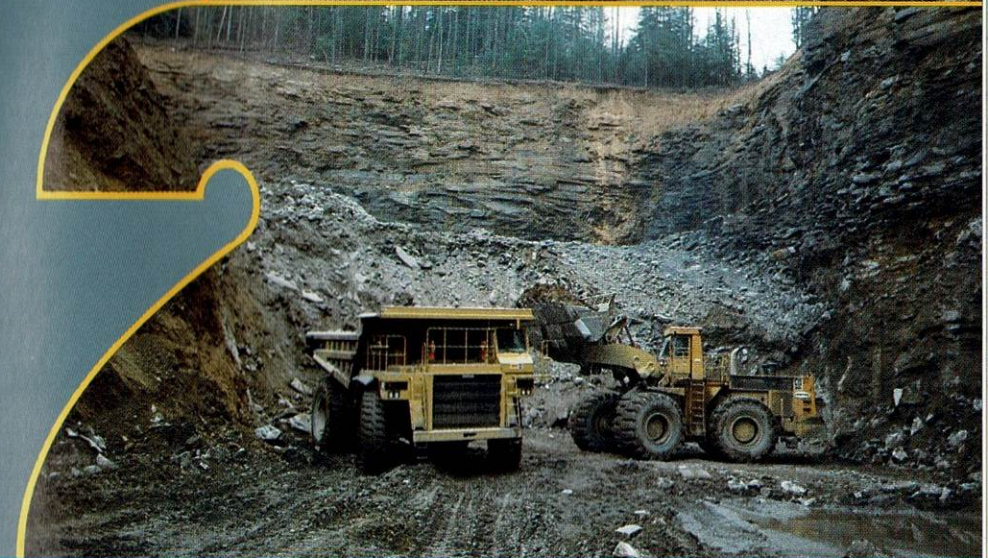


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1986

General

Eller Inc.
Fairfax Fuel, Inc.
Miami Coal Co., Inc.
Rawl Sales & Processing Co.
Roblee Coal Co.
Terry Eagle Coal Co.

Associate

A. DeProspero & Sons, Inc.
Baker Hughes Mining Tools, Inc.
Callaghan & Associates, Inc.
Central Hydraulic Service, Inc.
Del-Mar Hydraulic Service, Inc.
Edwards-Warren Tire Co.
Fitzpatrick Contractors
Glofelty Enterprises
Gress Equipment Co.
Guttman Oil Co.
H & I Auto Supply
Heavy Machines, Inc.
Howell & Paterno
KaJon Materials, Inc.
Lee Sartin Trucking Co., Inc.
Lilly Explosives Co.
Mountaineer Mine Safety & Training
Nanack Tire & Equipment Inc.
Orix Credit Alliance, Inc.
P. B. & S. Chemical Co.
Pardee Land Co.
Phillips Machine Service, Inc.
Rectron, Inc.
REICHdrill, Inc.
Rogers Petroleum Service, Inc.
Rudd Equipment Co.
Trojan Corp.
United National Bank
Vern Allen Tire Co., Inc.

1987

General

De'Lyn, Ltd.
Johnstown Coal Co.
Lexie Coal Corp.
Pen Coal Corp.
River Ridge Coal Co., Inc.
United Coals, Inc.
Viking Coal Co., Inc.

Associate

Beitzel Corp.
Cline Ford Sales, Inc.
Dryden Oil Co.
Elmer G. Brake, Inc.
Ensign Bickford Co.
Gary W. Turner & Co., P.A.
GeoSonics Inc.
Gould Energy
Green Mountain Co.
Jeff Lilly Insurance Co.
Keystone Services Industries, Inc.
Mack Trucks, Inc.
Matthews Brothers Wholesale, Inc.
Meyer, Darragh, Buckler, Bebenek, Eck & Hall
Morgan Mining & Environmental Consultants, Ltd.
Pioneer Construction
Pretzel Excavating
Smith, Heenan & Althen
Spilman, Thomas, Battle and Klostermeyer
Valley Steel Service, Inc.

1988

General

Amerikohl Mining, Inc.
Appalachian Mining Co., Inc.
Bentley Coal Co.
Bridgeport Mining Co.
Daniels Branch Coal Co., Inc.
Hampden Coal Co., Inc.
Kelso Coal Co., Inc.
Lo-Ming Coal Corp.
M & H Coal Co.

Mepco, Inc.
Mingo Logan Coal Co.
92 Coal Corp.

Old Hickory Coal Co.
Premium Energy, Inc.
Uphold Trucking
Vencill Corp.
White Flame Energy, Inc.

Associate

Akers Supply, Inc.
American Hydraulics
Big Sandy Terminal, Inc.
Bowles Rice McDavid Graff & Love
Brake Supply Co., Inc.
Brocoal, Inc.
Charleston Cash Register Co.
Christian Colliery Co.
D & S Machine & Hydraulics
Ferrell Excavating Co., Inc.
Forke Brothers
Hotsy Equipment Co.
Johnson Railway Service, Inc.
Justice Supply Co.
K. K. Mills & Sons, Inc.
Keen Transport, Inc./Hubert Jones, Inc.
Logan Auto Parts, Inc.
Marathon LeTourneau Co.
McNeer, Highland & McMunn
Mid-Valley Supply Co.
Motor Car Supply Co.
Mountaineer Park, Inc.
National Ammonia Co.
Pittsburgh National Bank
Rag Pickers, Inc.
Republic Industries dba Republic Diesel
Safety Caution Equipment Co.
Tramco
Transervice Industrial Supply, Inc.
Varel Manufacturing Co.
Wesco Corp.
Wesco Fuels, Inc.

1989

General

Big South Mining & Construction Co., Inc.
Drummond Co., Inc.
Heartland Resources, Inc.
Omar Mining Co.
PCMI, Inc.
Pine Creek Mining, II, Inc.

Associate

Analabs, Inc.
Benson Truck Bodies, Inc.
D & A Sales, Inc.
EIMCO Coal Machinery Inc.
GAI Consultants, Inc.
Harrah Associates
Herman & Cormany, CPA's, A.C.
Kenworth Truck Co.
Lubricant Consultants, Inc.
dba Lubricon
McCoy & McCoy Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Midwest Steel Division/
Midwest Corp.
Pinnacle Leasing, Inc.
RMI, Ltd.
Sammons Surveying
Scarlet Oaks Hydroseeding & Reclamation, Inc.
Stagg Engineering Services, Inc.
State Equipment, Inc.
Terradon Corp.
Thor Energy, Inc.
Trucks, Inc.

1990

General

Ashland Coal, Inc.
Big Otter Coal Corp.
C. C. Conley & Sons, Inc.
Catenary Coal Co.
Charclif Mining Corp.
Coal Valley Mining, Inc.
Cyprus Kanawha Corp.
Eaglehawk Carbon, Inc.
Fenton Mining Corp.
Greenbrier Coal Co.
Laurel Creek Co., Inc.
Lens Creek Limited Partnership
Lucas Jade Enterprises, Inc.
Nesco, Inc.
Smithers Coal & Dock, Inc.
Williams Construction Co.
Wind River Resources Corp.

Associate

Big D. Hydroseeding Co.
Blackburn Ford Sales, Inc.
Buckhanan Explosives, Inc.
Charles Ryan Associates, Inc.
Country Boy Seed, Inc.
Diann's Advertising, Inc.
Gunter Reclamation
Hitachi Construction Machinery Corp.
Lanham, O'Dell & Co.
Linville's Coal Preparation Plant, Inc.
Martin Financial Services
Mellon Bank, N.A.
North Central Engineering, Inc.
PM Enterprises, Inc.
Southern Building Systems
Trimble Engineers & Constructors, Inc.
Tygart Resources, Inc.

1991

General

MacJan, Inc.
Pehem Industries, Inc.
Pioneer Fuel Corp.

Associate

Clemmer Coal Co.
Marshall Miller & Associates, Inc.
Reliance Surety Co.
Shuman Annand & Poe
Summit Engineering, Inc.
TerraSod, Inc.
Triad Engineering, Inc.



1986-1991

1986

In 1986, WVMRA started its third decade with the 13th edition of the West Virginia Mining Symposium, where 400 members and guests came to hear how the new West Virginia Department of Energy would function.

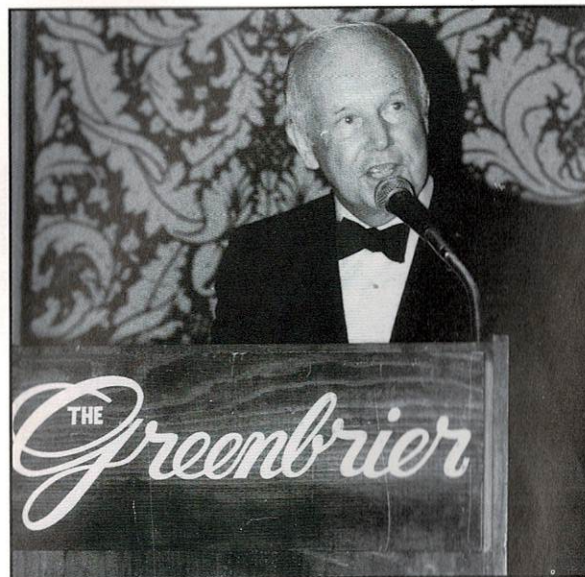
As is traditional, the Symposium closes with the Reclamation Awards Luncheon, where sister companies Buffalo Coal and Davis Trucking of Tucker County shared the top award as the third winners of the "David C. Callaghan Award."

In February, the twentieth anniversary celebration officially kicked off with 160 in attendance at the PGA Sheraton in Palm Beach Gardens, FL. Guests included O.V. "Dick" Vande Linde, the Association's first Executive Director and, as much as anyone, its founder.

The 20 year milestone is celebrated in earnest a few months later at the annual Greenbrier gathering. There, more than 500, including a record 42 new members, looked on as Governor Arch A. Moore, Jr. delivered a stirring keynote address, commending WVMRA's founders for their fighting spirit and pioneer thinking.

"Company Pride" was so rampant on Kate's Mountain that the competition was split into Associate and General Divisions. Colony Bay Coal Co. took home the lunch bucket as the General Division winner, while Nell Jean Enterprises captured Associate honors.

The fall of 1986 was highlighted by the election to the State Senate of Association members Tracy Hylton and J.D. Brackenrich.



West Virginia Governor Arch Moore addresses the 20th Anniversary Meeting.

1987

The new year began with another record crowd, this time at the 14th West Virginia Mining Symposium where 578 gathered for the "most informative two days in mining." Brooks Run Coal Co. won the "Callaghan" award as the outstanding mining operation of 1986. A new Abandoned Mine Lands award was added to the agenda, and was won by G.E. Ray Construction Co.

In May came another Association innovation. Faced with new requirements for certifying explosives handlers, WVMRA planned and carried out a Blaster Certification Workshop in Charleston, where 125 blasters were trained and duly certified in just two days.

Some 450 came to The Greenbrier for the 21st Annual Meeting, the "Company Pride" award to Ford Coal Co. in the General Division and Nell Jean Enterprises successfully defended its Associate lunch bucket. This meeting was also the occasion of the retirement of Associate Division Chairman Frank Vigneault, who stepped down after four terms, and a total of 13 years on the Board of Directors. Frank was the recipient of a touching farewell and a well deserved standing ovation at the Chairman's breakfast.

In October, President Ben Greene submitted a formal request to *Charleston Gazette* Editor Don Marsh for "all articles pertaining to strip mining, surface mining, auger mining, or coal mining" published by the *Gazette* since August 3, 1977. The request was not fulfilled, and it was never known whether the *Gazette* got the point.



Founding members Jim Compton (l) and Tracy Hylton at the 1987 Annual Meeting.

1988

Oneida Coal Co., Inc. won the "Callaghan" award as the state's top operation, and sharing the spotlight with Island Creek Coal Co., Gauley Division, the first winner "Governor's Award" for mining and reclamation excellence.

At The Greenbrier, "Company Pride" awards to defending champion Ford Coal and to Associate member Lilly Explosives.

In September, Island Creek Coal Co. was named the winner of the national 1st Annual "Kenes C. Bowling Award" for surface mining excellence, presented by the Interstate Mining Compact Commission, and named for its long-time Executive Director.

As expected, a coalition of "citizens groups," recruited by a Washington D.C. lawyer, filed suit against the State based on perceived imperfections in the regulatory program of the Department of Energy. With the election of a new Governor, and the expected departure from DoE of Commissioner Ken Faerber, the outcome of the lawsuit was anybody's guess.

But recent experience in the Commonwealth of Kentucky pointed to the distinct possibility of an out of court settlement with a huge cash outlay to the lawyer. WVMRA adopted a firm stance in opposition to any type of settlement.

On a more positive note, the Fall Board of Directors meeting at the Lakeview Resort & Conference Center in Morgantown had a little extra excitement in 1988. With business concluded, WVMRA went to Mountaineer Field as part of a sell out crowd and a national television audience, to watch the undefeated West Virginia University Mountaineers beat the stuffing out of Penn State by a score of 51-30!

1989

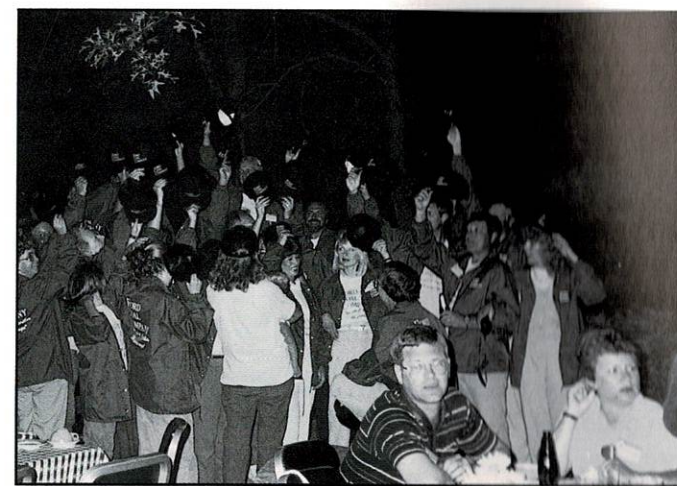
Another special event at the outset of 1989 saw more than 250 members and guests travel to the extreme west coast of the U.S. for the Semi-Annual Meeting on the island of Maui.

More than 500 others returned to Charleston in February for the 16th Symposium, where P&C "Bituminous Coals", Inc. won the "Callaghan," and Leckie Smokeless Coal Co. was named the winner of the second "Governor's Award."

In June, WVMRA was granted intervenor status in the Save Our Mountains et al suit against DoE. This proved to be little more than window dressing, however, as the feared out of court settlement was announced with no consultation, input, or direction from the "intervenors."

In July, several member companies, including Grafton Coal, C&W Coal, Stanley Industries, Black Diamond Energy, Island Creek Mining, Badger Coal, LaRosa Fuel, and United Coals, came to the rescue of the Tygart River, by joining with State agencies to save the stream from damaging acid flows brought on by a summer long drought.

In August, 500 members and guests returned to The Greenbrier. Ford Coal Co. "threepeated" as the "Company Pride" General Division winner, and Austin Powder Co. took Associate honors.



Ford Coal celebrates another "Company Pride" victory.



Former recipient Lawson Hamilton inducts C.E. "Jim" Compton as the Association's third honorary board member. Accepting for his father is James Michael Compton.

Also at the Annual Meeting, founding member Lawson W. Hamilton, Jr. officially retired from active participation in the Association. In his honor, his fellow members established the Lawson & Jeanne Hamilton Family Scholarship Fund, and Lawson became the second honorary member of the Board of Directors, joining fellow founder Fil Nutter in that select circle.

The year came to an end with the lowest total of mining fatalities (9) ever recorded in West Virginia.

1990

The 17th Symposium broke all attendance records with a crowd of over 700

Buffalo Coal Co. won the "Callaghan," thus becoming the first ever repeat winner of that prestigious award. Southern Ohio Coal Co. became the third recipient of the Governor's Award.

The Symposium was also marked by the announcement of a Memorandum of Understanding between WVMRA and Ducks Unlimited, to "promote the creation of wetland habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife species on mining operations in West Virginia."

In April, recovery from the chaos of a decade before seemed at hand as 1989 production figures were finalized at 153 million tons, the highest total since 1951.

Also that month, Association President Ben Greene was honored with the "William T. Plass Reclamation Award" by the American Society for Surface Mining & Reclamation.

In July, State officials broke ground in Fayette County for West Virginia's new maximum security prison, on land donated by Cannelton Industries, with site preparation



Mineral County elementary students celebrate Earth Day 1990 by planting 1,000 trees on land made available by Allegheny Mining.

donated by Cannelton, Pen Mining, and Addington Brothers. This ceremony is a further vindication of the formerly controversial mountaintop removal mining method, without which officials would have been breaking much steeper ground.

At the 24th Annual Meeting at The Greenbrier, C.E. "Jim" Compton became the third honorary member of the Board of Directors. Starvaggi Industries, Inc. won the General Division "Company Pride" award, and Lilly Explosives recaptured its 1988 Associate title.

Several outstanding examples of community service by responsible members were highly visible in 1990. Throughout the summer, C&W Coal, Stanley Industries, McCoy Brothers, Inc., Grafton Coal Co., and 92 Coal Corp. provided machinery and manpower for the site preparation of an addition to the Barbour County Vocational Tech Center, a savings to the facility of over \$100,000.

In September, Peabody Coal Co., BethEnergy Mines, and Island Creek Coal Co. donated men and machinery to deepen six miles of Pond Fork, creating a valuable trout stream in Boone County.

In October, through the determination, expertise, and financial sacrifices of Geupel Construction Co. over a long period, mining was wrapped up, reclamation was completed and an access road was constructed for the future site of the Logan County Airport.



In 1990, WVMRA signed an innovative Memorandum of Understanding with Ducks Unlimited. Shown left to right are Association President Ben Greene, Chairman Paul Hutchins, DU officials Larry Leese, and John Smolko.

1991

At the outset of the milestone year of 1991, the 18th West Virginia Mining Symposium convened in Charleston where the "Callaghan" went to Mingo Logan Coal Co., Buffalo Coal Co. received the first "Wetlands West Virginia Award," given by Ducks Unlimited, and Pioneer Construction swept both the north and south awards for its outstanding Abandoned Mine Land work.

As the Association closed in on its Silver Anniversary celebration, it was clear that its members and staff had much to be proud of. Hard work, talent, determination, and the grace of God has seen us through many crises. But as we celebrate, we must bear in mind the task ahead. For those who do not wish us well have not retired.

We have been blessed with a rich tradition of service and accomplishment, and we have the tools to preserve and nurture the resources of which we are stewards. As the founders retire, and the proud torch of WVMRA is passed to a new generation, we would do well to remember that in numbers, there has been strength; in effort, there has been achievement; and in service, there has been prosperity.

We may also remember the words of a legendary figure in West Virginia coal, who is credited with an unforgettable toast --

"Here's to those who wish us well, and those who don't can go to Hell." -- P.A. Denny



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as we celebrate our
25th Anniversary together.

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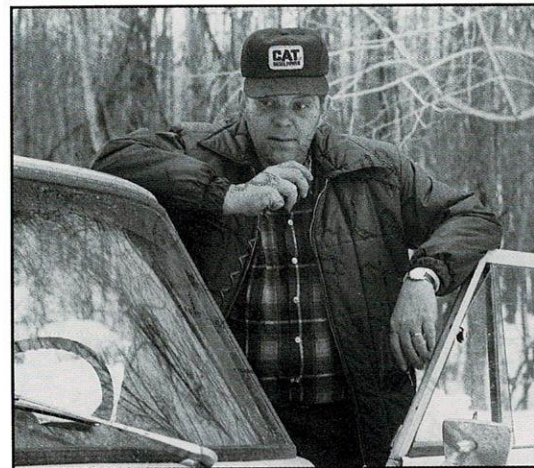
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WVMRA Scrapbook



1972 - Tracy Hylton takes the bandstand to speak up for surface mining at his famous Corinne open house.



1972 - Former Chairman Jim Wilkinson on the job in Preston County.



1979 - Jim White (r) explains his Pioneer Fuel operation to West Virginia Governor Jay Rockefeller.



Mary Ann Steele (l) and Patty Bruce, shown at a 1970's symposium, have registered thousands of guests for dozens of meetings and seminars in their 20 years together.



1977 - At the Annual Meeting, l-r are Sandy Latimer, Rod Clay, Bruce Higginbotham, Jim Compton, Lloyd Lang, and Ben Greene.



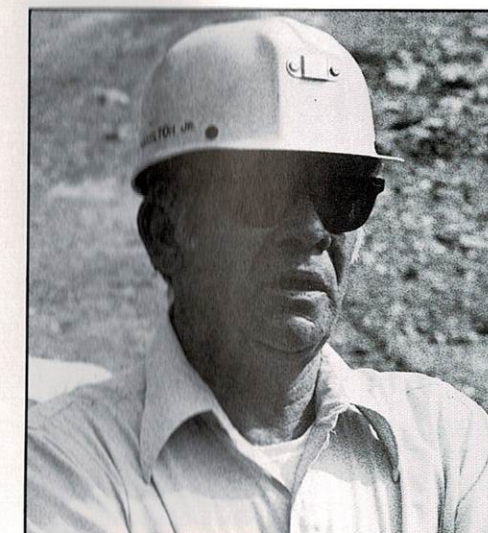
1975 - Chairman Carl DeSignore (r) presents Tracy Hylton with a hard hat, symbolic of his successful membership recruiting efforts.



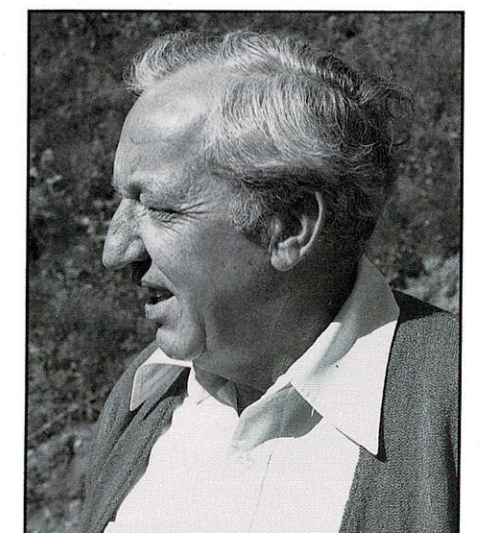
1976 - Fil Nutter becomes the first honorary member of the Board of Directors.



1988 tour hosts - Lawrence Streets



.....Lawson Hamilton.....



..... and Buck Harless.

Silver Anniversary Club

The 25th Anniversary Meeting marks the founding of the 'Silver Anniversary Club,' comprised of the original representatives of the founding companies, former chairmen, and those with long and distinguished service on the Board of Directors.

Charter members of the 'Silver Anniversary Club' are:

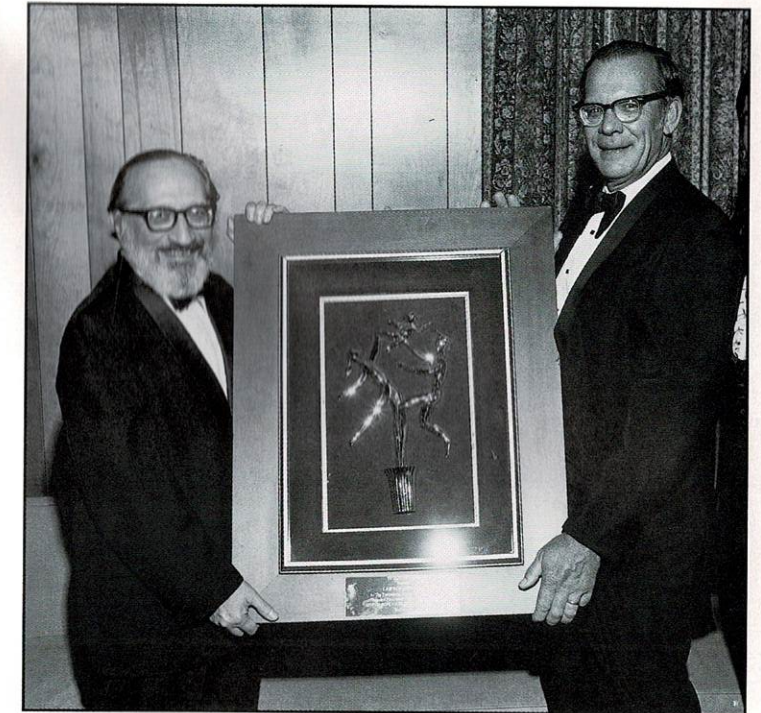
ANDERSON, Bill
ANDERSON, Jack
BAILEY, Kyle
BASHAM, Burke
BRISKY, Ted
BUNCH, Bob
BUTLER, Bill
CARTER, Alfred
COMPTON, Jim
COTTRELL, Finley
DEARTH, Bernie
DELSIGNORE, Carl
DONELL, Don
FAIRCHILD, Jack
FALTIS, John
FOLIO, Bernard
FREDERICK, Gil
HAMILTON, Lawson
HARLESS, Buck
HARVEY, Bill
HORN, Tom
HUTCHINS, Paul
HYLTON, Tracy

JENKINS, Milford
JENNINGS, Frank
JOHNSTON, Chap
JONES, Charlie
JUSTICE, Jim
KEATING, Dwight
KENNEDY, Mike
LAROSA, Jim
LOCKARD, Chick
LYONS, Morgan
NUTTER, Fil
SANDY, Arch
SCHOLL, Earl
STREETS, Lawrence
SURGEON, Ed
TEETER, Andy
VECELLIO, Leo
VIGNEAULT, Frank
WALKER, Cecil
WHITE, Jim
WILKINSON, Jim
WILLIAMS, Loyd
WOODRING, Ken

City of Hope 'Spirit of Life' Honorees

The City of Hope, a nonprofit research and treatment center for victims of catastrophic disease, has honored many Association members with its "Spirit of Life" Award, an apt tribute to the selfless involvement of Association members with worthy causes through the years.

1975 Lawson W. Hamilton, Jr.
1976 F. B. "Fil" Nutter, Sr.
1982 John J. Faltis
1983 Jack R. Fairchild
1984 James H. "Buck" Harless
1985 W. R. "Dewey" Miller
1986 James M. Poindexter
1987 Charles S. Morton
1988 Michael C. Paterno, Sr.



In 1975, Lawson Hamilton (r) became the Association's first "Spirit of Life" winner.



C.E. "Jim" Compton (r) was the first WVU "Coal Man of the Year."

WVU's 'COAL MEN OF THE YEAR'

The following men were recognized by West Virginia University as "Coal Men of the Year."

1975 C. E. "Jim" Compton
1976 James H. "Buck" Harless
1977 Leo A. Vecellio, Sr.
1978 A. J. "Tony" Frederick (surface)
Paul Morton (underground)
C. I. "Chap" Johnston (supplier)
1979 Lawson W. Hamilton, Jr. (surface)
Herbert E. Jones, Jr. (underground)
Orville R. Thomas (supplier)
1980 Tracy W. Hylton (surface)
Ray Holbrook (underground)
Bernard J. Folio (supplier)

WYMRA Scrapbook



1986 - Jeff Compton and family celebrate at the 20th Anniversary meeting.



1991 - Back on Maui, Associate Chairman Ed Burgeon tries his hand at lei making.



1989 - Chairman Paul Hutchins demonstrates the hula at the first "Meeting on Maui."



1986 - The "Coal Miners' Party" on Kate's Mountain has been a popular feature of the Annual Meeting since the early '80's.



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