

# RMCMI Reporter

August 2011

1912-2011 Celebrating 99 Years

2011 Post Conference Newsletter

## President's Message



**Dave Smaldone**  
*Director Long Term Planning  
Bridger Coal Co. - PacifiCorp Energy*

The 2010-2011 Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Institute year officially ended with the Annual Meeting and Convention in Keystone, Colorado this past June. It was certainly a great year for the Institute and one of many transitions. We have a new executive director, Judy Colgan, and a new office in Lakewood, Colorado. Our website is much more professional looking and we are reaching out to our membership in many new ways. Our two regional meetings in Farmington, New Mexico and Price, Utah and Annual meeting included short courses on maintenance planning.

Once again, I want to thank all Board and committee members for their support. Without this broad group of dedicated individuals supporting RMCMI there would not have been the successful 2010-2011 year. Judy Colgan led a seamless transition, since joining RMCMI in November 2010 and many well deserved thanks go to her for her hard work and tireless efforts. Thanks go to all convention and

patron sponsors along with all speakers at our meetings this year. I also want to thank my company PacifiCorp/Bridger Coal Company for allowing me to serve in this capacity. I am proud of the Institute's commitment to the high professional standards of the coal mining industry and certainly its commitment to safety. At our Annual meeting it was evident that the coal industry is continuing to move forward in its commitment to safety, environment, cost and productivity improvements.

Best wishes to Denise Dragoo, 2011-2012 President, and Judy Colgan, Executive Director, as they lead the efforts for the 100 year Annual meeting in Vail, Colorado next year, July 1-3, 2012, with the theme, "Back to the Future: The Next 100 years". Once again, thanks for a great year.

## Notes From the Executive Director



**Judy Colgan**  
*Executive Director  
RMCMI*

What a great meeting in Keystone! I want to thank you all for such a warm welcome and being so supportive. The weather was perfect, and things went so smoothly thanks to all of you as well.

The silent auction and live auction was

something new, and I hope you will embrace it in the future. It's a great way to raise funds for our scholars without any investment. We will bring even more interesting things along the way and it gives you an avenue to support a great cause and get something fun in return.

Next year we have big plans for our 100th Anniversary. I encourage you all to forward items to me that have been a part of the RMCMI history. Pictures, articles, programs – anything that you find interesting will likely be of interest to others. If you would like to submit an article or paragraph for a commemorative book that we plan to compile, send that to me as well. The conference is **July 1-3, 2012 in Vail, Colorado**. Since this is a bit different timing, I encourage you to bring your families and make a vacation of it! We will include some special activities to choose from before and after the actual convention dates.

Again, thank you for making this a huge success, and I look forward to bigger and better things to come!





# Mine Rescue

*Sponsored by The North American Coal Corp.*

**David Evans**, Texas Westmoreland and **Cheryl Evans**, EMR Health & Safety, co-chaired the 20th Annual Mine Rescue Evaluation. Eleven teams participated. On Saturday, the teams participated in short course training, and enjoyed the Mine Rescue Rodeo Saturday afternoon. Scenarios continued on Sunday and Monday, with the awards breakfast held on Tuesday morning. **North American Coal Corp** has continued to sponsor the Mine Rescue Program, and **Westmoreland Coal Company** sponsored a Monday Family lunch. We would like to thank them for their efforts and support. A special thank you to **Donna Jones** and **Charles Pankonien** for helping the Evans with this important program. The amount of work required to plan and implement the Mine Rescue program is daunting, and our thanks and appreciation go to the participants, evaluators and victims.



David & Cheryl Evans

## 2011 Evaluators



*Teresa Betz, Texas Westmoreland, Terry Davis, Sabine Mine, Cheryl Evans, Emergency Medical Resources, Donna Jones, Texas Westmoreland, Marland King, Westmoreland Resources, David P. Medick, Safety Services Co, Todd Olmstead, PPL Montana, Charles Pankonien, Texas Westmoreland Coal, Robert Paslay, WIPP - Washington Tru, Anisia Peterman, Magid Glove & Safety, Willis Proctor, Solvay Chemicals, Glenn Ratliff, Texas Westmoreland Coal*

## 2011 Participating Teams



BHP Navajo Team



BHP San Juan Team



Cortea Team



Dakota Westmoreland Team



Falkirk Mining Team



Mosaic Team



Solvay Chemicals Team



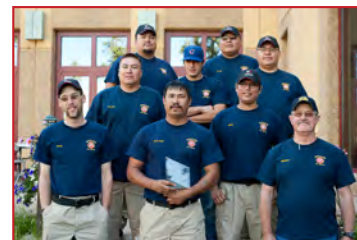
Texas Westmoreland Team



WIPP Team



Western Energy Team



Westmoreland Resources Team



Mine Rescue Drill



Mine Rescue Victim Recovery



## Short Course

*Sponsored by P&H MinePro Services and ConocoPhillips*

On Saturday, a short course on Maintenance Planning and Scheduling was presented by Richard “Doc” Palmer, Author of McGraw-Hill’s Maintenance Planning and Scheduling Handbook. Participants earned professional development hours for attending the class, and also for the technical session presentations. This workshop covered the theory, vision, nuts and bolts of how planning and scheduling work and then practical application of these skills.



## Sunday Activities

12 people spent a lovely afternoon at the Ski Tip Lodge for a wine tasting luncheon. The patio was a perfect setting, with lovely views and amazing flowers. The luncheon included wine pairings with incredible food. The Ski Tip Lodge, which is now Colorado’s oldest skiing lodge and the oldest operating ski lodge in North America, is now open as a Bed & Breakfast.



Clear Creek provided an exciting afternoon for 13 brave rafters. The waters of the Colorado Rivers are running high this year, and made for great fun. The water is still very cold, so the warm afternoon was welcomed by all.

## Sunday Golf at Keystone Ranch Golf Course

*Sponsored by LeTourneau Technologies America*

94 golfers enjoyed the Ranch course at Keystone. It was a chilly start to the day, but warmed to a beautiful afternoon.

### The winners were:

1st place gross: *Bruce Daskivich, George Edmiston, George Sidney and Jeff McGovern*

1st place net: *Bob Kulina, Jeff Minden, Matt Palmer and Pete Niemann*

2nd place gross: *Bruce Lindsay, Kim Robinson and Clark Moseley*

2nd place net: *Ben Hardman, Zach Hardman, Larry Lester and Jesse Noel*

3rd place gross: *Eric Draper, Tom Steimer, Leigh Freeman and Jill Nelson-Schamp*

3rd place net: *Wade Burr, Cheryl Burr, Brady West and Jana West*

Longest drive men: *Pete Niemann*

Longest drive women: *Sarah Wolach*

Closest to pin men: *Greg Shurbet*

Closest to pin women: *Christi Schmidt*

Longest Putt: *Jill Nelson-Schamp*

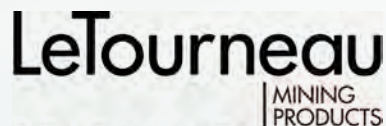
Many thanks to **Bruce Lindsay**, RMCMI Golf Chair, for an outstanding job. Over \$1300 in mulligans were sold for the benefit of the scholarship fund.





# Golf Tournament

## Sponsored by



LeTourneau Technologies  
America

### Golf Hole Sponsors

Arch Western Bituminous Group  
Behre Dolbear  
Buckskin Mining  
Brahma Group  
Cate Equipment Co.  
Colorado Mining Association  
Dakota Coal Company  
Downing Teal  
Dyno Nobel, Inc.  
Heintzmann Corp  
Lyntek, Inc.  
Mill Man Steel  
Millcreek Engineering Company  
P&H MinePro Services  
Phillips  
Richwood  
Swanson Industries, Inc.  
Wagner Equipment  
Warren Transport, Inc.

### Golf Prize Sponsors

ACZ Laboratories  
Behre Dolbear  
Brahma Group  
Connors Drilling  
Dakota Coal Co.  
Dyno Nobel, Inc.  
Gunther-Nash  
McLanahan Corporation  
Norwest Corp  
Roberts & Schaefer - KBR  
Rimpull Corporation  
Wagner Equip  
Warren Transport, Inc.



## Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception is the opening event of the annual conference. This year, the reception was held on the terrace of the Keystone Convention Center with beautiful weather and networking with old and new friends and colleagues. The seven scholars also participated in welcoming attendees. Music was provided by bluegrass duo, Slipstream, from Boulder, Colorado. It was a perfect evening and a perfect start to the convention!





## The Opening Session



**Crystal Smaldone**, daughter of President, **Dave Smaldone** sang the National Anthem to open the meeting. David Smaldone, 2010-2011 RMCMI President, welcomed the audience to the opening session and introduced **Richard Soppe**, this year's Keynote Speaker. The opening session of the conference this year began with a presentation by Richard Soppe, Center Rock Drilling, who was one of the team members on the Chilean rescue that saved 33 miners trapped underground. He gave a moving and inspirational account of the efforts that were successful in rescuing the miners well before the expected time. 33 Chilean Miners were rescued after 33 days of drilling. The RMCMI Mine Rescue teams attended the session, reinforcing the importance of their training.

## The Technical Sessions

*These presentations will be available on the website.*



**Ray Gifford**, Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP presented an interesting talk on the Clean Air Clean Jobs Act that greatly affected utility regulation in Colorado this year. According to Gifford, the CACJA is a "template" for other states with no cost caps.



**Colin Marshall**, President and CEO of Cloud Peak Energy gave us an interesting perspective, "What's the Cost of Giving Up Coal?"



**Cindy Crane**, Vice President, Interwest Mining Company delivered a presentation on fueling the requirements for western coal fired electric generation.



**Bill Tate**, President, Bucyrus America addressed the group on "American Ingenuity Must Continue". Bucyrus has since been acquired by Caterpillar.



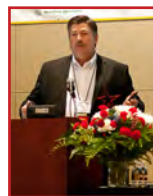
**Chris Murphy**, Executive Vice President, Kiewit presented "Shaping the Future of the Coal Industry"



**Jim Thompson**, Editor of Energy Publishing, Inc. gave us an update on the western market outlook.



**John Capehart**, Vice President Business Development, Mining, Seeing Machines gave an interesting presentation on Haul Truck Driver Fatigue and Distraction.



**Richard Oates**, Director of Sales, Wyoming Machinery presented "Generations of Innovation" on the development of Caterpillar equipment through the years.



**Marion Loomis**, Executive Director, Wyoming Mining Association gave an update of how coal in the "Powder River Basin Powers America".



**Greg Schaefer**, VP External Affairs Western Region, Arch Coal gave a presentation on how the Regulatory Challenges have affected Colorado, Utah and Montana



**Ken Miller**, Director of Process Improvement, Thunder Basin Coal, delivered a presentation on "Coal Mines and Their Electric Utility Suppliers – Plug Into the Synergies".

The following past RCMCI presidents were in attendance:

Bill Balaz, Rich Bate, Curt Belden, Tom Egan, Dean Jacot, Randy Lehn, Tom Lien, Jim Mattern, Ken Miller, Clark Moseley, Bob Murray, Pete Nielsen, and Dave Wolach.

Life members:

Bill Balaz, Rich Bate, Curt Belden, Dean Jacot, Jim Mattern, Clark Moseley, Dave Wolach

Long term members:

10 years – Jack Atwater, Richard Davis, Rodney Howery, Lyall Workman

20 years – Rich Bate, Ron Destafano, Reggie Fairlano, Bruce Lindsay, Kim Robinson, Randy Schwandt, Scott Williams, and Rick Ziegler

25 years – Michael McCarter

30+ years – Thomas DeWitt, Jane Thomas

## Safety Awards

Jim Luther, Manager of Health, Safety and Environment, BHP Billiton and RCMCI Safety Committee Chairman presented the 13th Annual Safety Awards. The Award winners were:



Small Operator Underground Mine: *Utah American Energy, Inc. – Lila Canyon Mine*



Large Operator Underground Mine: *Canyon Fuel Company - Sufco Mine*



Small Operator Surface Mine: *Dakota Westmoreland – Beulah Mine*



Small Operator Surface Mine: *Dakota Westmoreland – Beulah Mine*

And for the 1<sup>st</sup> time, a Contractor Safety Award was given to:



Operational Support Services – *REI Drilling, Inc.*





## ROCKY MOUNTAIN COAL MINING INSTITUTE

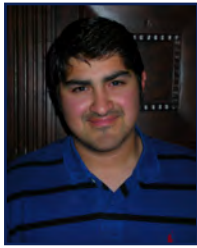
### 27th Annual Scholarship Awards

The Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Institute is proud to help students further their education as they continue to “promote western coal through education”. The RMCMI Patrons have made it possible to award nearly \$600,000 in scholarships since 1984. Students must be a resident of one of the eight RMCMI member states and looking for a career in the coal industry. The scholarships are \$2,500 per year and may be given for up to two years. We congratulate the 2011 Scholarship award winners and wish you the best of luck in your future careers in this important and vital industry. A special thank you to **Curt Belden** and **Bob Burnham** Co-Chairs of the Scholarship Committee for their tireless efforts in processing the applications and choosing the scholars each year.

#### Engineering & Geology Scholars



**Thomas John Allison**  
Wyoming  
*Casper College*



**Christopher J. Apodaca**  
Arizona  
*University of Arizona*



**Charles Emery Crump**  
Colorado  
*Colorado School of Mines*



**Seth Fredrick**  
Utah  
*University of Utah*



**Casey Lightle**  
Texas  
*Colorado School of Mines*



**Eben Joseph Nordahl**  
Montana  
*South Dakota School of Mines & Technology*



**Kyle Edwin Pettigrew**  
New Mexico  
*New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology*



**Dustin Matthew Rothe**  
North Dakota  
*South Dakota School of Mines & Technology*



#### Tech Scholars



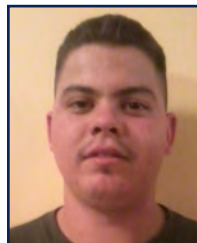
**Ethan Barthel**  
North Dakota  
*State College of Science*



**Andrew Jacob Buchmann**  
*Bismarck State College*



**Ross Hanson**  
North Dakota  
*State College of Science*



**Erick Marquez**  
*San Juan College*



**Camden Moran**  
*Bismarck State College*



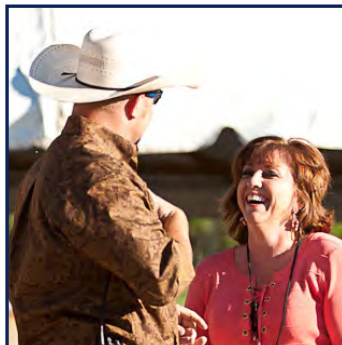
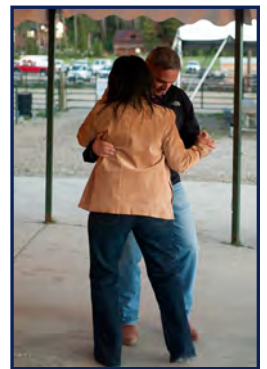
**Michael Prescott Schmitt**  
North Dakota  
*State College of Science*



# Monday Night BBQ & Barn Dance

*Sponsored by Fenner Dunlop Americas & Cummins Rocky Mountain*

Almost 500 members and their families participated in the Monday night BBQ and Barn Dance. There were several activities, including line dance instruction, roller roper horses, golf pitching, horseshoes, and s'mores around the campfire. Walker Williams provided music for our dancing and listening pleasure. It was a great venue to enjoy a western welcome to the Rocky Mountains.



## Silent Auction

For the first time, RMCMI held a silent auction to raise funds for the Scholarship Program. We want to thank the generous donors and buyers for a fun event that raised almost \$6,000! A special thank you to new member, **Scott Forke** with Cat Auctions, for conducting a fun live auction at the BBQ for the 42" TV donated by **Terry Sole**, from Roberts & Schaefer and the Bronco tickets donated by **Dave Wolach**.

Bring your checkbooks next year – we will have more items and more fun! Your contributions to this important program continue our mission to promote western coal through education, and encourage our youth to continue in the coal industry so important to all of us.

### Silent Auction Donors

Tom Bailey  
Bob Bartosh  
Ken Miller  
Keystone Resort  
LeTourneau Technologies  
Lyntek, Inc.  
Park Hyatt Beaver Creek  
Phillips Machine  
Roberts & Schaefer  
Root Sports  
Steamboat Sheraton  
Vail Resorts  
Westin Downtown Denver  
David Wolach

### Silent Auction Buyers

Dick Bailey  
Curt & Lona Belden  
Eric Draper  
Trent Colgan  
Cindy Crane  
Bryce Davis  
Tom Durham  
Steve Ford  
Bruce Lindsay  
Clark Moseley  
JL Scott  
Larry Goff  
Gordon Shinkle  
Wesley Sorensen, Jamie Torske,  
Brady West





## Closing Luncheon



*Welcoming New Board Members.*



*Passing the gavel.*



*Speaker, Mark Mayfield.*

**David Smaldone** chaired the Annual Meeting of the RMCMI. Elections were held for the 2011-2012 officers and Board Members. The results are in the minutes of the annual meeting, included in this newsletter.

A drawing was held for two “A” tickets to the 100th Anniversary Annual Conference to be held in Vail, Colorado. **Tom Bailey** was this year’s winner.

Dave passed the gavel to 2011-2012 President, **Denise Dragoo**. Denise encouraged everyone to participate in the 100th Anniversary celebrations and announced the theme would be “Back to the Future: The Next 100 Years of RMCMI”.

**Mark Mayfield**, a hilarious speaker who reminded us all to accept new changes and think “outside the box” entertained the crowd.

There were many thanks all around for an excellent conference that will carry us through until the big 100th Anniversary celebration next year.



*2011-2012 President,  
Denise Dragoo*



## Life Member Award Presentation

**David G. Wolach** was awarded a Life Membership at the Closing Luncheon of the RMCMI on June 28, 2011. A life member award is given to an individual who has devoted long and dedicated service to the Institute upon being elected to that status by the Board of Directors, and such an individual shall retain such status for life.

Mr. Wolach recently retired as Executive Vice-President of Commercial Development with Savage after 24 years. He is a past president of RMCMI. Dave Smaldone presented the award to Dave and his wife, Sarah, having been industry associates for the last 30 years.

A University of Colorado graduate, Dave and has been involved in marketing, transportation and material handling aspects of the coal industry his entire career. He is an avid Denver Broncos fan, and donated a set of his cherished season tickets to the silent auction to benefit the scholarship fund.

Dave and Sarah plan to spend time between Salt Lake City and Phoenix with their children and grandchildren as they continue serving in their church, traveling and playing a little golf. We congratulate Dave and Sarah, and thank them for their many years of dedicated service.



*Dave and Sarah Wolach*



# Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting, June 28, 2011

President David Smaldone called the meeting to order at the closing luncheon of the Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Institute's 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Conference held in Keystone, Colorado. The purpose of the annual meeting is to inform members of the status and activities of the Institute during the year. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the 2010 Post-Convention newsletter. Mr. Smaldone reviewed the accomplishments of the committees this past year:

Larry Goff and the Membership Committee helped to increase the membership by 50 new members. Jamie Torske will take over as chair of the Membership Committee for the year 2011-2012.

David and Cheryl Evans continue to do an outstanding job as co-chairs of the Mine Rescue Program. Eleven teams totaling 135 participants had an excellent evaluation program this year.

Becki Parker and Jill Nelson excelled with the Patron program, raising over \$40,000 in funds this year. Curt Belden and Bob Burnham review the scholarship applications and interview the potential scholars before choosing the eight engineering/geo scholarships and eight technical school scholarships to be awarded. Only six technical scholarships were requested this year. We thank them for their contributions to what RMCMI has been able to do to promote education. Kent Eden was introduced as a new chair of the Patron Program, replacing Becki as she joins the RMCMI board.

Phil Patton continues to chair the Professional Development committee and arranged the short course for the convention and two of the regional meetings, presented on Maintenance Planning & Scheduling by Richard "Doc" Palmer.

Jim Luther, chair of the Safety Committee was instrumental in adding a new Contractor Safety Award this year. This award will continue to be a regular part of the annual safety awards.

Summer Belden, chair of the Public Relations committee helped Judy Colgan with a major revamp of the RMCMI website. More improvements will be made during the upcoming year.

The public education committee, chaired by Rich Bate and Ken Miller, has requested an additional kiosk for the Wyoming region. Recommendations have also been made for RMCMI to participate in the various state mining association meetings. The committee is also reviewing additional advertising opportunities.

Brad Lewis did a great job in securing speakers this year, and has agreed to serve in this capacity again for 2012. We sincerely thank him for continuing to put together a great slate of speakers.

Golf Chair, Bruce Lindsay, continues to make the RMCMI golf tournament a highlight of the convention every year. This year 94 players participated in a great tournament.

Bob and Kathy Burnham did an outstanding job in securing wonderful volunteers and the scholars to greet everyone at each event and generally lend a helping hand. Thanks to all who participated in the Welcome Committee!

Succession Committee members Tom Durham, Bob Bartosh and Rich Bate spent many hours reviewing resumes and making recommendations for the final candidates to be interviewed for the Executive Director position. Thank you for your tireless efforts.

Dave then called the scholars, Stacey Demolar, Trent Colgan and Judy Colgan to the podium to thank them for their efforts and for the crowd to sing "Happy Birthday" to Trent.

Denise Dragoo presented the financial report to the membership.

The following nominations to be voted on were:

Brad Lewis – President-Elect. Brad will change presidency years with Tom Durham due to the sale of ICG ADDCAR to Arch Coal.



Joe Micheletti – Three-year term on Board of Directors. Joe has been serving on the RMCMI board as a Regional Director.

Becki Parker – Two-year term as Regional Director

Ron Destefano – Two-year term as Regional Director

Wendy Hutchinson – One-year term as Regional Director

With no nominations from the floor and no opposition to the nominated candidates, the above positions were filled as presented to the membership. Dave Smaldone congratulated the new officers and thanked them for their willingness to serve.

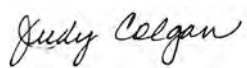
Tom Bailey won the drawing for two free “A” packages to next year’s 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference in Vail, Colorado.

Judy Colgan presented Dave Smaldone an engraved gavel in appreciation for his service as President. Awards were also given to Rich Bate and Dick Bailey, who are both leaving the Board, in appreciation for their many years of outstanding service.

Dave then asked Denise Dragoo to the podium to accept the transfer of the Presidency. She gave a brief overview of her vision for RMCMI for the upcoming year, and introduced her theme for next year’s conference “Back to the Future: The Next 100 Years of RMCMI.”

All of the new Board of Directors members were introduced, their information can be found on the website with their company affiliations.

Having no further business to come before the membership, the 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was adjourned.



Judy Colgan

Corporate Secretary

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming  
**Tri-State (Montana, NorthDakota, Wyoming)**  
Regional Meeting in Sheridan, Wyoming,  
**September 15-16, 2011.**

The meeting will include a short course,  
interesting speakers and a fun afternoon of golf.  
**Registration will open mid-August.**

## **"Only in America"**

Six Americans working in a desert with a group of Spanish speaking people to rescue 33 miners resulted in tensions sometimes getting high and even questioning if we had the staying power to go on. It was the little things that seemed to happen at just the right time that carried us through. Some of these little things included the raising of the American flag in the Chilean desert, riding through Camp Hope (the camp set up for the miner's families) on the way to get additional supplies and seeing the Check In – Check Out Board with 33 miner's tags still hanging on it. A Center Rock employee summed it up best – "For a small company, we have proved we can achieve big things."

**Richard Soppe**, *On Site Engineer, Chilean Mine Rescue - Center Rock, Inc.*

Baptists - Bootleggers - When the law was passed that bars would be closed on Sunday- these two groups whose ideals were the antithesis of each other actually agreed on the proposition because of the self serving potential for each of them. The Utility Regulations being shaped today are being significantly influenced by the Baptists (Environmental Extremists) and the Bootleggers (American Natural Gas Alliance) resulting in a geometrical increase in the competition against coal fired generation.

**Ray Gifford**, *Attorney - Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP*

This year the RMCMI is pleased to announce a new category for our safety awards – contractors. This decision was made because of the vital role contractors play in both the day to day operations of coal mines and in the overall safety record of a coal mining complex.

**Jim Luther**, *Manager Health, Safety and Environment - BHP Billiton*

America has an upwardly mobile, well educated work force along with tremendous natural resources and has enjoyed the largest and most prosperous economy in history. This is due in a large part to the historic availability of low cost energy. Americans take this for granted. How much pain do you inflict upon the American economy trying to give up coal?

**Collin Marshall**, *CEO - Cloud Peak Energy (born in England)*

You guys have created quite a legacy, there are big shoes to fill, we are up for the challenge and the Scholarships will certainly help us in our quest. Thank you.

**Seth Fredrick**, *Scholarship Winner - University of Utah*

PacifiCorp's strategy is to be an early mover relative to the upcoming utility regulations. This proactive approach will save us money on construction and commodity costs. The late movers (rushing to be compliant) will experience increased costs due to high demand for these goods and services.

**Cindy Crane**, *Vice President - Interwest Mining*

Our founding fathers have the track records of doing the seemingly impossible. They did this in part by establishing the metrics to take a good idea forward. The coal facts are completely in our favor and American ingenuity and determination must continue in order to overcome the challenges our industry is facing.

**Bill Tate**, *President - Bucyrus America*

Kiewit is a \$10 billion per year– employee owned company that is involved with several other industries in addition to coal. This breadth of exposure gives Kiewit a less biased view on the coal industry. At present, the coal industry has a black eye. However, this stigma could likely be changed if the coal industry were to do a few things better such as:

Safety • Compliance • Sustainability

Any problem can be solved with people. The advantage people have over technology and machinery is their creativity and innovativeness.

**Chris Murphy**, *Executive Vice President - Kiewit*

Most Americans do not know how good they have it. Once the Americans start to realize how badly other countries want what we have (low cost - coal fired energy) we may see some appreciation for our domestic coal industry. Overall, I remain bullish on coal.

**Jim Thompson**, *Editor - Energy Publishing, Inc.*

Would everyone in this room who has ever operated a piece of mining machinery please raise your hand? (A majority of the audience raised their hand). For those of you with your hands raised, please lower your hand if you have NEVER



dozed off while operating a piece of mining machinery. (Very few hands were lowered). Ah Ha – it is time for all of us to buy some of the recently FDA approved Viagra eye drops and take a good hard look at what we are doing. More remote reserves, people shortages, aging work force are contributing to longer shifts, more workdays and the result is fatigued operators. Fatigue impairs judgment which impairs safety. There are technologies coming to the market to measure eye movements and alert an operator and/or dispatcher of fatigue before it causes an accident. Complimenting this technology is fatigue awareness and prevention training.

## MANAGEMENT 101

Make expectations known • Measure performance • Give feedback

If you do this, people will self-manage.

**John Capehart**, *Vice President - Seeing Machines*

Keep your day jobs !

**Cowboy Mike**, *Line Dance Instructor - RMCMI Barbeque*

Coal mining is the safest industry in the state of Wyoming. In addition, coal industry taxes contribute \$1.18 billion dollars per year to the State budget.

Eighty eight (88%) of the electricity in Wyoming comes from coal fired power plants and the cost of electricity is approximately 6.2 cents per KWH (among the lowest cost electricity in the United States). The Wyoming coal industry purchases \$2.3 billion dollars of goods and services from 47 states to sustain their operations.

**Marion Loomis**, *Executive Director - Wyoming Mining Association*

We all need to get organized and get involved. We were bushwhacked by the Colorado Clean Air/Clean Jobs Act which will be closing 1645 mw of coal fired generation and replacing it with natural gas.

**Greg Schaefer**, *VP External Affairs, Western Region - Arch Coal*

Cat has over 8,000 engineers and spends \$7 million a day on research and development. The criteria for developing new products are: Value to our Customers • Leverage of the Enterprise • Sustainability

By 2013, a fully autonomous mining operation will be a reality and it will be powered by Cat equipment and technology.

**Richard Oates**, *Director of Sales - Wyoming Caterpillar*

Rural Electric Co-Ops are still motivated to be the lowest cost electricity suppliers because their customers are the owners. Often a coal mine is one of the larger customers and should leverage this position. The “Public” is the Public who speaks up.

**Ken Miller**, *Director of Process Improvement – Thunder Basin Coal*

I love Robert’s Rules of Order

**Dave Smaldone** -

*2011 RMCMI President*

Change is inevitable because time and information will always be marching on. We have three choices in dealing with change:

- Ignore it
- React to it – the best this can do for you is 2<sup>nd</sup> place – usually you are just hanging on
- Create change and be out in front of it. Laughter and creativity enhance and embellish one another and make it easier to create change
- Look for the third perspective (the creative one). Is the glass half empty, half full or just too big?

The takeaway tip for the 2011 RMCMI Convention is – Never have a heart attack when playing Charades. Love you babe!

**Mark Mayfield**, *Comedian and Motivational Speaker*

Yahoo – I still have a job !

**Judy Colgan**, *New RMCMI Executive Director*

# *Sponsors of the Institute*



## Headline Sponsors

Dakota Coal Company

Caterpillar Dealers

Empire Machinery  
Wheeler Machinery

Wagner Equipment  
Wyoming Machinery

### Mine Rescue Sponsor

The North American Coal Corp.

### AV Sponsor

Phillips

### Mine Rescue Luncheon

Westmoreland Coal Company

### Scholarship Luncheon

Alpha Natural Resources

Bucyrus International

Peabody Energy Co.

Trapper Mining Inc.

### Short Course

P&H MinePro Services

ConocoPhillips

### Registration

Alpha Natural Resources

CONSOL Energy, Inc.

J. H. Fletcher & Company

### Monday Night BBQ

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### Golf

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### Closing Lunch & Annual Meeting

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**Title of paper**

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**Notification of acceptance:**

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**Presentation due date:**

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*Please forward to those who may have interest  
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