Expectations at the Bluefield Coal Show were met with great success. The Bluefield Chamber of Commerce and volunteers worked in perfect harmony from start to finish to ensure that everything would run smoothly. Exhibitor and attendee numbers reached an all-time high since the show's inception.

According to Marc Meachum, president and CEO of the Chamber, more than 230 exhibitors commented that top executives from numerous companies attended. Bluefield State College has handled the registration for many years and reported steady streams of attendees each day. Attendees included large delegations from Consol, Peabody, Eastern and Mingo-Logan just to name a few. The Chamber estimates a record number of attendees in the range of 6,500-7,000.

Due to the increased exhibitors and attendees, and the delay in making reservations, many stayed more than a half an hour drive from the show. That was almost the case with the CPM staff. However, Debbie Maynard from the Chamber recommended a few places in Bramwell.

Debbie Maynard, executive vice president
Beth Nelson, receptionist and secretary
Marc Meachum, president and CEO

This historic coal town is just six miles from the show on Route 52 and one of the areas best kept secrets. To our surprise, the Coal People staff were the only people from the show to stay in Bramwell. Many we spoke with during the show were not familiar with the town of Bramwell. You won’t be disappointed if you choose to stay here in 2009. During the show week we resided at the Main Street Suites. It accommodated our group comfortably. The apartments were beautifully decorated Victorian style.

Bill and Elizabeth Allemeier
We were greeted with the scent of a warm home made apple pie baked by Elizabeth Allemeier of Blue Moon Cafe.

Karen DeHaan, membership director
Al and Ernie were personally greeted by the mayor of Bramwell, Lou Stoker. Lou also writes historical articles and stories that we hope to share with readers in future issues of CPM.

The town of Bramwell was incorporated in 1888 and named by Joseph H. Bramwell, a civil engineer from New York who gave it a legal label. In 1873 the extensive West Virginia coalfields started and extended over forty miles. Bramwell’s wealth was supported by the Pocahontas coalfields, which employed 100,000 miners. Bramwell is best known for having the largest number of millionaires per capita of any town in America in the late 1800s. The magnificent homes that remain there testify to this wealth. Annual May and December tours feature the interior of some of the ornate homes and other town buildings that seem suspended in time. Visitors may also use a walking or driving brochure to view exteriors of twenty-one houses and buildings in the historic district.

Pam Durbin recently returned to Bramwell where she has renovated a huge home into Pamela’s Bed & Breakfast. Her home also has an additional kitchen where she specializes in wedding cakes. Her current project is renovating an area on the main floor to include a quaint dining restaurant with limited seating and offering a distinct menu cooked to order. We’re looking forward to dining there during the next show.
There were many new faces at the show and what a great way to introduce new hires such as John Farinoso with Bender. John is 23 years old and a recent graduate from Penn State with a degree in Electrical Engineering. Recently he was hired by Bender Inc. as a sales application engineer for its electrical ground fault detection and interruption systems. The Bluefield Coal Show was his first attended trade show. Due to the importance of ground fault protection in mining areas, John is looking forward to working with the mining industry.

Many of you know Alan Terranova from his days with Coal People and were eager to visit him. Alan is developing property at The Meadows at Stonecoal Lake in Weston, WV. It is one of West Virginia’s prime pieces of waterfront real estate conveniently located, making it an attractive place for a permanent residence, retirement home, or vacation home. Stop by for a visit if you’re in the area. It is located off I-79, exit 99, three miles East on Route 33 in Weston. His Web site can provide additional details, www.stonecoallake.com.

David Genter with Duquesne Mine Supply stopped by our booth for a visit. David made the most of his travels to Bluefield and filled his week with customer appointments. Duquesne has been serving trolley mining since 1919.
It was good to see Dalph McNeil at the Brookville Equipment booth. Dalph has overcome some recent health obstacles and is looking great after the battle. He was sharing a story about a contest he had entered years ago with Al Skinner as one of the judges. It was a yo-yo contest as the winner, Dalph received a trophy. When he returned home to show his trophy proudly to his wife, she said, “What were you doing entering a go-go contest?”

Though we’ve known O.J. Gardner (left in photo) with Gardner Paint Services for many years, it’s always special when these advertising friends are our neighbors at the show. O.J. is a very pleasant man to be around and it is contagious. He devotes what little personal time he has to volunteering and helping in his community.

Finally had a chance to meet Bob Saxton at American Mine Research. We’ve been talking over the past six years but had never met at the shows. Nice to finally meet you Bob! As the need for a higher level of safety sweeps in the mining industry, AMR was proud to introduce its Tagging and Tracking Systems as well as a Two-Way Communication System.

Bobby Gillespie with SETCO Tire’s grill concoction. Once again, nobody was disappointed. He brought along the grill from the last show and included another huge grill to accommodate the growing crowds. It was large enough to feed all the hungry visitors with no waiting lines! CPM’s Show Supplement cover featured Bobby and Steve Mercer with RM Wilson. We had no idea the impact it would make. These two humble men took the attention with great stride as visitors were literally asking them to sign their copy of Coal People. With all the buzz, Bobby’s family attended one day to visit the show. That is one proud family.

DJ Johnson is a new face with Koehler Lighting Products. DJ has 35 years of mining experience. In addition to having been an underground miner, he has taught mine health and safety for 28 years. He holds the title of, Professor Emeritus, from Rend Lake College in Illinois. Since “retiring” DJ has joined Koehler Lighting Products as sales manager. He has degrees from Rend Lake College and Southern Illinois University. He is a past president of The United States Mine Rescue Association. He has served, or is currently serving on several local, state, and national boards. DJ is married to Dr. Elaine Johnson. They have three grown children and one granddaughter. Elaine and DJ live at the Lake of Egypt, in Southern Illinois.

The Coal People Magazine staff was very pleased with the outcome of the show. We introduced two new sales representatives at the show and everyone was very receptive and welcoming. The Bluefield Chamber is always good to us and we thank them for all their hard work and dedication. If you missed the show this year, make sure to put it on your schedule for September 2009. The theme isn’t industry specific as it covers all facets of the coal mining industry. It’s a great mix of exhibitors and you won’t be disappointed! Schedule now, booth space fills up way in advance and so do the hotels.

Steve Lipe with Koehler Lighting Products shared an interesting e-mail: Aloha, ...I found this lantern while hiking in the mountains above Honolulu. It is in good condition considering the elements it was in. It is usually rainy and muddy in that area. I wasn’t even sure what I was looking at due to it being up against a log. This was in 1973. I have had it visible for house guests to see and there are always questions. The questions made me look at it closer to see “Koehler Mfg. Co. – Marlboro, Mass, USA on the top. I do believe it is brass or partially brass due to the dull yellow color that is showing in some places. Your information makes me more excited about it now that I may have something to go on. It would be great if you can find a key. If I thought a museum, mining or military, would purchase it from me that would be a consideration. I thought maybe it was military due to the concentration we have here but then I also saw a documentary on National Geographic about mining and I saw a very old picture of miners carrying a very similar lantern. We do not have underground mines here so it would make sense that it might be military. We do have a large network of underground fuel containers.... Mahalo, Janine Fox

Steve’s reply: The lamp could have been manufactured in the 1920s and was sold to the US Navy to detect oxygen deficiency and methane gas in fuel containers. Thousands were used during the War on US Navy ships and ship yards. The underground mining business also used them for the same use. There is a manufacture number and magnet lock on the inside. I might be able to find the key for you to open, they are worth about $1,000.00 in good condition and made of brass. Thanks Steve
Fenner Dunlop Draws a Crowd at the Bluefield Coal Show

The driving force behind Fenner Dunlop Americas success at this year’s Bluefield Coal Show was the people who gathered in its booth everyday to take in all they could about Fenner Dunlop’s Mining conveyor belting products, its Mining Support Team services, and – the biggest attraction – to drive race car simulators for a chance to win NASCAR tickets.

The attendance was one of the best in the show’s history. Fenner Dunlop was exhibiting with other mining industry leaders, showcasing premium conveyor belt product lines MineFlex®, MineHaul® and Dynaflight® steel cord belting. The Mining Support Team was on hand to demonstrate two solutions-oriented programs, the EyeQ™ belting monitoring program and the Belt Wizard™ belt calculation program.

“The regional tradeshows always work well for Fenner Dunlop because we can reach a more concentrated audience of decision makers in just a few days,” stated Chuck Felix, Vice President of Fenner Dunlop’s Mining Sales. “The Bluefield Coal Show was the perfect venue for us to reintroduce our premium belts for mining and launch a belt that targets the above ground conveying systems.” Long known throughout the mining industry for its Scandura and Georgia Duck conveyor belt brands, Fenner Dunlop Americas has combined the best of both to produce a range of mining conveyor belts that consistently out-perform the competition. LongHaul™ was designed and introduced for moderate to severe surface conveying applications and is an ideal addition to the existing offering.

Crowds gathered each day to try a turn at driving race car simulators, complete with mini race cars. The virtual game brought the competition out in all who tried. Some attendees returned each day to try to improve their previous score. The first place winner each day received four tickets to an upcoming NASCAR race and the second place winners were given lap time to be used at any Richard Petty Driving Experience location.

For more information regarding Fenner Dunlop products and cost-reducing solutions, visit www.fennerdunlopamericas.com.
Front Row: Dennis Miller, Nick Sticklen, Brian McCoy, Jenny Dial, Back Row: Ronnie Roberts, Harold Sanders, Robert Mullins, Mike Smith with Appalachian Tire

Mark Samuel, Justin Brown, Chris Hatfield, Michael Baisden with Classic Conveyor Components

Jim Riggs, Tony Arbaney, Ron Eberhart, Terry McDonald with Dry Systems Technologies

Kelly Bird and Robert Cameron with Priority Wire & Cable

Dave Jones, Wayne Shreve, Joshua Helbig, and Don Butcher with Pioneer Conveyor LLC

Stephen French and Louie Adams with Industrial Sales & Electric

Tom Hughes and Megan Galbraith with Hughes Supply Company

Danny Cline with Rye Valley Gear
1. Once the tent is fully inflated, open the front access zipper door and enter the Air Lock chamber
2. Close the front zipper door
3. Use a gas monitor to measure the gas quality
   a. If safe for breathing, proceed into the main compartment
   b. If unsafe, open the inlet air valve in the Air Lock to add clean air and dilute any contamination to safe levels
   c. Measure the air quality until safe for breathing
   d. Shut off the air valve, leave gas monitor in the Air Lock and enter main compartment
4. If more men need to enter, close inner zipper door securely. If no men remain, leave inner zipper door open.
5. Locate the CO2 scrubber in the skid and move into the center of the chamber
6. Follow the instructions printed on the top of the scrubber

Mike Stump with Koehler Lighting shows Blaine Fazio the communications tag holder which is new for the WHEAT LI-16. Just place your chosen tag and holder on top of the LI-16 battery and you’re ready to go. The WHEAT LLI-16 ensures compliance for today and tomorrow. Koehler has provided lighting for the mining industry since 1912, and they are the first to offer an approved lithium ion cap lamp.

Dan Baldwin with EVAPAR

EVAPAR INC. found the Bluefield coal show to be a great place to introduce two new products, Iveco/FPT MSHA certified diesel engines and a portable underground nitrogen generator package.
David Hampton, Nathan Hickman, Randy Morris with Cincinnati Mine Machinery

Paul Campbell, Shelley Campbell, and Mike Yates with Longwall Assoc.

Earl Kinsler, Keith Andrews, Dan Johnson, Bill Smith, and Larry Robinette with Kennametal Inc.

Mike Dickerson and Paul Burchett with ICG Addcar

David Bandy, John Simmons, John Absher, and Matthew Simmons with Simmons Equipment Co.

April Rose, Rebecca Salisbury, Vince Belletto, Kenny Russell, Lowell McClung, Harley McClung with Metalcraft Mining Equipment Rebuilders


Peter Mazzoni and Krister Meister with Lovejoy, Inc.
“Rulmeca’s Mike Gawinski and Jay Graham and Precismeca’s Cal Winton (l to r) were delighted to debut the ‘dual drive demo’ at the Bluefield Show. The company’s new trailer was also very helpful in displaying Rulmeca Motorized Pulleys, especially when the rains came.”
Joe Adkins and Cliff McCartney with Strata Products (USA)

Strata Air Skid: The Barricade Air Skid is very much like the Fresh Air Bay Skid, but does not include the inflatable tent. It is a steel container that houses the Strata breathing air system which includes a CO2 scrubber, oxygen and compressed air cylinders and soda lime cartridges. This complete skid is then placed inside a barricaded area or pre-constructed safety room. Additional compressed air is provided to clean the air and dilute any contamination to safe levels. The oxygen and a CO2 scrubber maintain fresh breathable air for a duration of 96 hours.
Al Skinner and Emmit Adkins (Butch)

Jim Ball (r) with Bradford Stuart Industries

Jim Harris and Bob Stenger with Cincinnati Mine Machinery

Don Allen and Barry Key with Continental Conveyor & Equipment Co. explain the benefits of Continental's Constant Tension Vector Winch

Gary Mostyn of AmerCable and Nick Turner of KonNx discuss cables and couplers at the Bluefield Show. AmerCable is the leading manufacturer of mining cable in the US, while KonNx has a new line of high voltage cable couplers from 660V to 25kV that offer the latest in safety and technology. More than 90 percent of KonNx's installations have involved AmerCable’s Tiger® Brand mining cables.

Annette Sheilds and Lisa Wyant with Wooster Hydrostastics
Mike Strouth (l) product specialist with Sandvik Mining & Construction

Ron Paolello with Cincinnati Mine Machinery discusses the advantages of the Cincinnati Conveyor Chain with booth visitors.

Joey Blankenship (l) Jennmar Corp.

Tom Kolder with Carrier Vibrating Equipment and Tom Johnson with Stahura Conveyor Products, Inc.

Chris Myers (l) with Fairchild International.

Bill Grisanti with FLEXCO
Tom Cushman with Phillips Machine Co.
waves hello to Coal People

Roger Mullins (l) with Johnson Industries

John Hubbard, Carl Caldwell, Randall Hash, Matt Shoemaker, Stuart Cecil,
Steve Tomalewski, Ron Garshnick, Harold Cooke, Ken Begley, Henry Looney,
Mike Stumpp, Chet Mudd, B.J. Johnson (Koehler Lighting Products) with
United Central Supply Co.

Chris Rule, Eduardo Santillanez, and Bob Dieckman with
Michelin North America, Inc.

FKC-Lakeshore
Front Row--Michael White, Kim Kinder, Erin McKillip, Teresa Barringer
Back Row--Harry Reitz, Roy Riley, Steve Slate with J & R Manufacturing

Shane Lilly, David Bowers, Valerie Hager, Glenn McCall, Tom Hager,
Nick Hager, Jason Plymal, Rick Hubbard, and Mac Bane with
T & N Electric Motor Exchange, Inc

Arlie Riffe, David Doss, Brian Harris, Jim McDarmont,
Tom Kouski with Line Power

Bob Compton and Ron Weeks with JABO Supply Co.

C.J. Ferguson with Richwood Industries

Scott Meade with EnerSys

David Banyas, Ron Hunt, and Brian Dotson with Victaulic

Bill Kribbs, Jim Martin, Curtis Bartlett and Bob Stuart with Western Branch Diesel, Inc.

Sam Pugh, Jr. and Duane Maust with Wesco Distribution
Chris Adkins and David Johnson of American Mine Research speak with Ross Kegan (r) of Black Mountain Resources about AMR’s latest developments. As the need for a higher level of safety sweeps the mining industry, AMR was proud to introduce its Tagging and Tracking System as well as the Two-Way Communication System at the Bluefield Coal Show.
Phillips Machine Service

With the Last Name SERVICE

...Customers Are Sure to Win

No Johnny-come-lately, Phillips Machine will soon begin its 32nd year of operation. It has become one of the major companies dedicated to the supply of equipment and services to the world of underground mining.

The first piece of mining machinery that Phillips repaired in 1976 was a shuttle car. It is particularly fitting that leading Phillips’ new machine products is the Freedom Car, a highly productive variant of the classic shuttle car. Batteries powered the original high capacity Freedom Cars but soon thereafter cable power became an available alternative in response to customer demand. A 24 unit order for a very large coal company, 12 battery cars and 12 cable cars, backed up the correctness of the decision to make both types of Freedom Cars available to the industry. International installations of new equipment include a number of battery Freedom Cars in South Africa and some 16 shuttle cars in three different mines in China.

Haulage capacities of the various models available from Phillips range all the way up to 30 metric tons. The Beckley, West Virginia facilities of Phillips total some 115,000 square feet. An exceptionally well appointed machine shop, featuring very large horizontal and vertical boring machines, in conjunction with several areas dedicated to the manufacture of shuttle car frames and other extensive fabrication work, provide the core capabilities for Phillips’ rebuild, remanufacture and manufacturing activities. The latest additions in Phillips’ never ceasing growth to better serve the mining industry are two large buildings, one dedicated to the assembly of new and remanufactured shuttle cars and one dedicated to the assembly of rebuilt and reconditioned continuous miners. The repair and rebuild of other products, including feeder breakers, roof bolters, continuous haulage, battery and diesel scoops, are carried out in other buildings on Phillips’ Beckley property.

The manufacture and repair of the all-important cutter drum of the continuous miner is part science and part art. A core capability of Phillips since the company’s inception, the optimization of attack angles, skew angles, angular and lateral spacing, type of bit and bit block, often require underground inspection trips and recommendations by experienced Phillips personnel prior to rebuild or manufacture. With Service as its last name, Phillips Machine Service, Inc. can provide extremely rapid turnaround of cutter drums to meet customer needs.

Phillips’ original mission statement: “To utilize the most skilled people in the industry in a safe working environment, to furnish the best possible components and machines at the most cost effective price and to get our customers back in production as soon as possible...”, still applies today.

For more information, contact Phillips at 800-733-1521 or visit www.phillipsmachine.com.
Fairmont Supply Company Holds Customer Appreciation Day during Bluefield Coal Show

Fairmont Supply Company held its “Customer Appreciation Days” event on Sept.12-13, during the Bluefield Coal Show.

The two day event hosted several top quality manufacturers with the latest products and services in the industry. Those manufacturers were: Aearo, AFL Telecommunications, ConocoPhillips, Cooper Tools, Krylon Products Group, Klein Tools, Lenox, LaCrosse, Milwaukee Electric, MSA, Parker Hannifin, Quikcrete, SKF, SPC Brady, Stanley Proto, Timken, United Adhesives SAIT, and Wearwell.

A few of the latest manufactured goods featured were hi-tech light vision, and readers safety glasses; fiber optic solutions; the latest available in lubricants and hose products; “what’s new” in tools and tool sets, latest technology in mine safety products; sorbent, adhesive, and concrete products; anti-fatigue matting; and the latest in bearing products.

The Customer Appreciation Event hosted a “Car-Cutting Show” by a skilled representative from the Lenox’s own “TEAM HACKMAN.”

During this main event, LENOX demonstrated the quality and premium value of its products live to prospective buyers and current users, while providing Fairmont Supply the chance to thrill and amaze customers with the excitement of a live car cutting.

Attendees at the main event had the opportunity to win a tool bag filled with $500 worth of LENOX products by guessing the correct car cutting time without going over.

The car cutting actually took 1 minute and 32 seconds to complete from door-to-door. The winning customer at the Fairmont Supply event had a guesstimate of 1.26! Congratulations to our lucky winner!

Along with all the excitement of viewing the latest products in the mining industry and the live car-cutting, attendees enjoyed “down-home” cooking served for breakfast and lunch under large party tents.

Fairmont Supply would like to thank all of the participating manufacturers and customers for attending!
Bluefield Gear & Machine has relocated to the former EIMCO plant in Brushfork, WV. After 47 years of business on Cherry Street in Bluefield, WV, Bluefield Gear required more space to expand its operation to include Heat Treat and Bevel gear manufacturing. Bluefield Gear’s core business of general/CNC machining has always included spur and helical gear manufacturing as well as shafts/parts for electric motors. The company was purchased by a group of investors in 2002. The focus was to manufacture replacement parts as good as the OEM. They have invested in many pieces of CNC equipment to speed the process without losing any of the quality. Having an in-house Heat Treat department will help maintain quality and turnaround time.

The new location in Brushfork has more than 150,000 sq. ft. of production space. It has one 25-ton crane, three 20-ton cranes, and many other smaller cranes. This location is perfect for heavy manufacturing such as welding and fabricating.

Bluefield Gear’s sister company Industrial Plating in Princeton, WV, utilizes the space as well. IPM’s core business is new manufacture and repair of hydraulic cylinders, pumps and valves. It has an in-house chroming facility and does complete equipment rebuilds. The companies employ more than 100 people.