



WYOMING VALLEY HOTEL, WILKES BARRE

*Autumn Leaves Upon the Lehigh: Picturesque and Industrial Scenes  
along the Line of the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Frank H. Taylor 1878  
Used by permission The Athenaeum of Philadelphia*



THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION  
WITH  
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING, METALLURGICAL AND  
PETROLEUM ENGINEERS

AND  
THE SOCIETY FOR MINING, METALLURGY AND EXPLORATION

AND ITS PENNSYLVANIA ANTHRACITE SECTION  
WELCOME YOU TO TODAY'S DEDICATION OF AN OFFICIAL  
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL MARKER  
COMMEMORATING THE FOUNDING OF

**THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING ENGINEERS  
MAY 16, 1871**

HERE IN WILKES-BARRE AT THE  
WYOMING VALLEY HOTEL, 16 SOUTH RIVER STREET







## AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING ENGINEERS

Organization founded in 1871 by 22 mining professionals to promote safety, education, economics, and technology in mining.

One of the first national engineering societies in the US, the Institute and its 150,000+ members honor the group's legacy by providing education and upholding professional values. The founding meeting of AIME as well as that of the PA Anthracite Section of AIME were held here at the site of the former Wyoming Valley Hotel.

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION 2014



# pennsylvania

**TOM WOLF, GOVERNOR**



# pennsylvania

**HISTORICAL & MUSEUM  
COMMISSION**

**ANDREW E. MASICH, CHAIRMAN**


**JAMES M. VAUGHN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

<http://www.phmc.pa.gov>


**American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers  
145<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

11:30 AM May 16, 2016  
Westmoreland Club, Wilkes-Barre


**Music:**

-  Jay Smar, Folk Balladeer of Northeastern Pennsylvania



**Welcome and Introductions:**

-  Michael C. Korb, P.E., Past Chair, Penn Anthracite Section Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (PASME)





**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:**

-  Bishop Brian Traweck, P.E., Secretary-Treasurer, PASME


**Greetings:**

-  John Mack, P.E., Chair, PASME
-  Dr. Garry W. Warren, President, The American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers (AIME); Past President, The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society


**Remarks:**

-  Timothy D. Arnold, P.E., President, Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME)
-  James Robinson, Executive Director, The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society
-  L. Michele Lawrie-Munro, CAE, Executive Director AIME, for The Association for Iron & Steel Technology (AIST)
-  Robert Garland, Director Eastern North America Region, The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)


**Historic Overview:**

-  Dr. George W. Luxbacher, P.E., Past President, AIME, Past President, SME

**Champagne Toast:**

-  Dr. Nikhil Trivedi, P.E., President Elect, AIME; Past President, SME

**Closing:**

-  Michael C. Korb



## **"American Institute of Mining Engineers"**


Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission Marker

Dedication Ceremony


3:00 PM May 16, 2016

16 South River Street, Wilkes-Barre


### **Music:**

-  Jay Smar, Folk Balladeer of Northeastern Pennsylvania



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### **Remarks:**

-  Dr. William V. Lewis, Commissioner, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC)
-  Mark Davis, Communications Director for Senator John Yudichak


### **Historic Overview:**

-  Dr. Bode Morin, Site Administrator, Eckley Miners Village

### **Unveiling:**

-  Dr. Nikhil Trivedi, P.E., President Elect, AIME, Past President, Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration
-  John R. Ackerman, P.E., P.G., BCEE, F.NSPE, Chairman Elect PASME

### **Closing:**

-  Michael C. Korb



# SME

Society for  
Mining, Metallurgy  
& Exploration

[www.smenet.org](http://www.smenet.org)

**THE FIRST A.I.M.E. MEETING—Engineering & Mining Journal (E&MJ), May 30, 1871.**

"We present herewith a tolerably complete account of the proceedings at the first meeting of the new American Institute of Mining Engineers (AIME), held at Wilkesbarre, Pa., May 16, 17 and 18, 1871.

"Wilkesbarre is an anthracite mining district located relatively close to New York City. R.P. Rothwell, a mining engineer working the anthracite district, was unanimously elected temporary chairman and Raymond was elected as the secretary. A committee was appointed to approve rules for the institute. While waiting for the committee report, the meeting listened to a paper from Raymond on the Geographical Distribution of Mining Districts.

"A committee report followed with a total of 22 rules or bylaws. The first stated the objective of the AIME "...to enable its members, comprising mining engineers and other person interested in mining and metallurgy, to meet together at fixed periods for the purpose of reading papers upon and discussion subjects which have for their aim the economical production of the useful minerals and metals, and the safety and welfare of those employed in these industries and to circulate among its members, by mean of publications, the information thus obtained."

"Annual subscription was \$10 (\$200 today) and any member making a donation of \$100 (\$2,000 today) or more would have a lifetime membership. At the time, they had 70 members who hailed mostly from New York and the anthracite mining region of eastern Pennsylvania; 22 men attended the first meeting. They formed rules regarding honorary membership and governance.

"On the second day, the group visited various points of interest around Wilkesbarre including the Lehigh Valley Co. They marveled at the arrangement of new coal breakers. In the evening, they held another session at the Wyoming Valley Hotel. After business concluded, papers were presented on Waste in Coal Mining and A New System for Mine Ventilation. A vigorous discussion ensued and it is well documented in this edition of E&MJ".

<http://www.e-mj.com/features/5945-the-formative-years-for-e-mj.html#.VvCBxcsUV1s>  
**Engineering & Mining Journal February 2016**

**E&MJ**  
ENGINEERING AND  
MINING JOURNAL  
Celebrating 100 Years



From *SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS OF PROGRESS IN THE ANTHRACITE INDUSTRY*, 1946, an article in "Seventy-Five Years of Progress in the Mineral Industry 1871-1946", edited by A.B. Parsons, pp. 162-98. New York: AIME, 1947

The American Institute of Mining Engineers was organized in the anthracite region of Pennsylvania by men who were primarily interested in anthracite.

Its first meeting, at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in the Northern Anthracite field, on May 16, 1871, resulted from a call sent out by three outstanding men of the anthracite industry: Eckley B. Coxe, R. P. Rothwell, and Martin Coryell.

The best known of these was Eckley B. Coxe, who was the manager of large holdings operated by him and his family, and who is remembered as the inventor of a special grate for burning very fine anthracite, known as the Coxe traveling grate, which is still very widely used. R. P. Rothwell was a well-known consulting engineer of the region, as was Martin Coryell, who was associated with another well-known anthracite family, the Pardees.

There is no record of the discussions that resulted in this initial meeting, but it is safe to assume that the formation of the Institute was largely influenced, through appreciation by the founders, of the necessity for a free exchange of information covering the whole of the mining industry.

One of the rules adopted at the first meeting was:

**The objects . . . are to enable its members . . . to meet together at fixed periods for the purpose of reading papers upon and discussing subjects which have for their aim the economical production-of the useful minerals and metals, and the safety and welfare of those employed in these industries, and to circulate among its members, by means of its publications, the information thus obtained.**

It is probable that this movement, which included the promotion of the "safety and welfare of those employed in these industries," was influenced by the increased complexity of the industry, and the influence that this complexity had upon the injury and death rate. As the mines had been gradually extended to greater depth, and to territories where explosive gases were given off freely, the danger increased and the necessity for adequate means of preventing disaster became more and more apparent. Before the formation of the Institute there had been a number of such incidents, and the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania had only a short time previously (on March 3, 1870) passed an Act known as "Anthracite Mining Laws." The stated purpose of the Laws was:

**To provide for the health and safety of persons employed in and about the anthracite coal mines of Pennsylvania and for the protection and preservation of property connected therewith.**

A few years earlier, an Act having to do with only a part of the anthracite region had been passed, but this Act of 1870 covered the whole of the region, and it is possibly the first instance in the United States of a State having set up a compulsory safety code applying to mining operations. Before its enactment several of the large mining companies had been operating under their own printed safety rules, but the rules differed as between companies, and the action of the State, indicating the necessity for uniformity, undoubtedly influenced the minds of those who formed our Institute.



Looking into the reasons behind the formation of the Institute, we must remember the development of like institutions in other lands, particularly in Great Britain, where the South Wales Institute of Engineers, in part composed of anthracite miners, had been established in 1857. Its activities were undoubtedly known to our founders.

They were influenced, too, no doubt, by the spread of technical education in this country. The first engineering school, the U. S. Military Academy, had its beginning at West Point in 1802. It was followed by several specialized institutions, and by scientific departments in the older universities. The spread of specialized technical education began, however, only a few years prior to the formation of our Institute, when, in the period 1860 to 1872, nine institutions that specialized in technical education were founded: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1861; School of Mines, Columbia University, 1864; Lehigh University, 1865; Cornell University, 1865; University of Illinois, 1867; Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1868; Stevens Institute of Technology, 1870; Alabama Polytechnic Institute, 1872 Virginia Polytechnic Institute, 1872.

As a result of the call for the meeting on May 16, 1871, a sizable group of men, largely from Wilkes-Barre, met in the clubroom of the Wyoming Valley Hotel at Wilkes-Barre with R. P. Rothwell, of Wilkes-Barre, as Provisional Chairman, and R. W. Raymond, of New York, as Secretary. They appointed committees to attend to the formalities of - the formation of the proposed Institute. At this meeting R. W. Raymond read an interesting paper on *The Geological Distribution of the Mining Districts of the United States*. On the following day, May 17, 1871, the formal organization was perfected, with David Thomas, an ironmaster of Catasauqua, Pa., as President, six Vice Presidents and eight Managers (four of whom were from the anthracite region), and with Martin Coryell, of Wilkes-Barre, as Secretary, and J. Pryor Williamson, of Wilkes-Barre, as Treasurer.

*From SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS OF PROGRESS IN THE ANTHRACITE INDUSTRY, 1946, an article in "Seventy-Five Years of Progress in the Mineral Industry 1871-1946", edited by A.B. Parsons, pp. 162-98. New York: AIME, 1947*

A compilation of data gathered by a committee of the Anthracite Section of the A.I.M.E., consisting of Cadwallader Evans, Jr., Chairman .President, The Hudson Coal Co., Scranton, Pa.; John T. Griffith, Assistant Division Engineer, The Hudson Coal Co., Scranton, Pa.; H. H. Otto, Assistant General Manager-Engineering, The Hudson Coal Co., Scranton, Pa.; H. S. Gilbertson, Lehigh Navigation Coal Co., Lansford, Pa. Wm. C. Muehlhoff, Chief Engineer, Philadelphia and- Reading Coal and Iron Co., Pottsville, Pa.

This committee acknowledged, with thanks, help given by Samuel Baker, Dean, International Correspondence Schools, Scranton, Pa.; Barrett-Haentjens Co., Hazleton, Pa.; W. L. Dennen, Engineer, The Hudson Coal Co., Scranton, Pa.; A. E. Dick, President, A. E. Dick Construction Co., Hazleton, Pa.; Edward Griffith, President, Glen Aiden Coal Co., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; W. J. D. Geary, Pennsylvania Power and Light Co., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; D. Harrington, Chief Health and Safety Branch, Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C.; Wilmot Jones, General Superintendent, Jeddo Highland Coal Co., Jeddo, Pa.; John Lloyd, Engineer (retired), Wilkes-Barre, Pa. ; J. T. Ryan, Jr., General Manager, Mine Safety Appliances, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Vulcan Iron Works, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; R. Y. Williams, Consulting Engineer, Pottsville, Pa.; G. L. Wilmot, President, Wilmot Engineering Co., Hazleton, Pa.



WILKES-BARRE, PA., April, 1871

The great development of the mines and metallurgical works of this country during the last few years, accompanied as it has been by the investment of enormous sums of money in purchasing lands, and in the erection of improvements, requires that advantage should be taken of the accumulated knowledge of engineers, superintendents, and others, in mastering the problems which are constantly presenting themselves for our action. Among those may be mentioned the consideration of more economical systems of mining in our coal and metalliferous mines, improved methods of transportation above and below ground, unwatering and ventilating mines, the mechanical preparation of coal and other minerals, the various metallurgical processes, and, in fact, every question tending to the attainment of two great objects:

- 1st. The more economical production of the useful minerals and metals.
- 2d. The greater safety and welfare of those employed in these industries.

In European countries, where the arts of mining and metallurgy have long been the subject of the most careful study, no means have been found so effectual in attaining the end above proposed as the free interchange of experience among those actually engaged in these industries, and this object has been accomplished, mainly, through the medium of institutes, associations or societies, composed of those engaged in these occupations, and by the periodical publication of essays or papers, communicated to such societies by their members. It must be evident to all practical men that the interchange of the varied experience of those engaged in such occupations in this country could not fail to advance very materially the desired objects; it is, therefore, proposed to establish an *American Institute of Mining Engineers*, which will hold its meetings periodically in the great mining and metallurgical centres, where works of interest, such as mines, machine shops, furnaces, and other metallurgical works, can be inspected, and the members exchange their views, and consult for mutual advantage upon the difficulties encountered by each; these transactions or proceedings, when published, would form a most valuable and greatly-needed addition to our professional literature. It is proposed that a meeting of those sympathizing with the object above mentioned shall be called for the purpose of organizing such an association, the place and time of meeting being Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and the month of April or May.

Communications indicating the opinion and wishes of all, both as to these points, and also as to the organization and objects of the Institute, will be gladly received by any of the undersigned, and a notice of the date of meeting, which will be arranged to suit the greater number, will be duly communicated. Anyone who may have devoted himself to a particular subject connected either with mining or metallurgy, and who may be possessed of new facts in reference to it, would greatly aid in furthering the objects of the proposed association by preparing a paper giving the result of his experience, to be communicated at the first meeting. It is expected that the desire for the advancement of professional knowledge, combined with the attractions of a visit to the most beautiful of our coal fields, the Wyoming Valley, will insure a large attendance from all parts of the country.

Signed, ECKLEY B. COXE, Drifton, Pa.  
R. P. ROTHWELL Wilkes-Barre, Pa.  
MARTIN CORYELL, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



WILKES-BARRE, PA., May, 1871

The foregoing circular having been extensively circulated by mail, and also by publication in the leading engineering papers, the following named gentlemen assembled in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., May 16th. 1871. and organized the

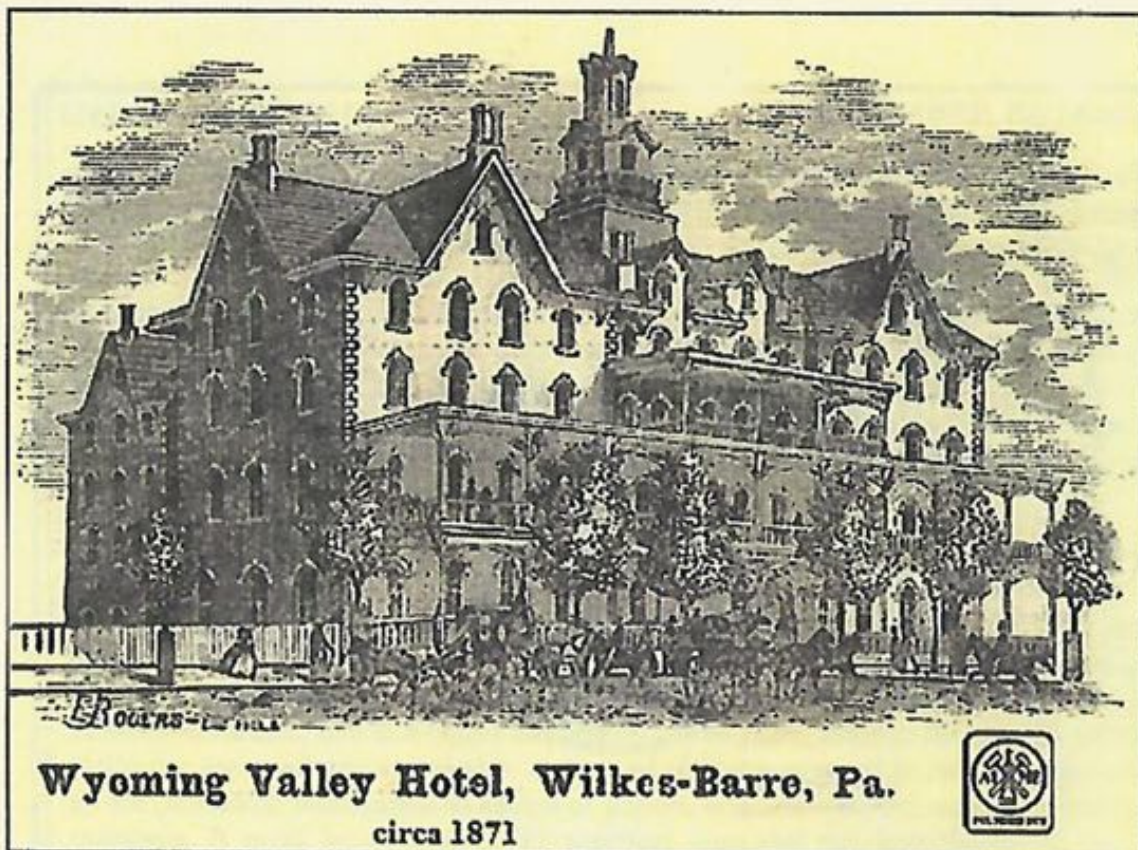
# AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING ENGINEERS.



Bruinwell, J. H.,	Fairchance, Fayette Co., Pa.
Daddow, S. Harries,	St. Clair, Pa.
Drinker, H. S.,	Philadelphia, Pa.
Drown, Thomas M.,	Philadelphia, Pa.
Ganjot, E.,	Pottsville, Pa.
Haight, Ogden,	New York
Hick, W. B.,	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Hoffman, Daniel,	Pottsville, Pa.
Jones, Lewis S.,	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
McNair, Thomas S.,	Hazleton, Pa.
Mercur, Fred.,	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Neal, R. C.,	Bloomsburg, Pa.
Petherick, Thomas,	Pottsville, Pa.
Raymond, R. W.,	New York.
Rothwell, R. P.,	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Silliman, Prof. J. M.,	Easton, Pa.
Sturdevant, W. H.,	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Symons, W. R.,	Pottsville, Pa.
Thomas, James,	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Timpson, James A.,	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Ward, Willard P.,	New York.
Williams, T. M.,	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Mr. R. P. Rothwell was elected temporary Chairman,  
and Mr. R. W. Raymond temporary Secretary.





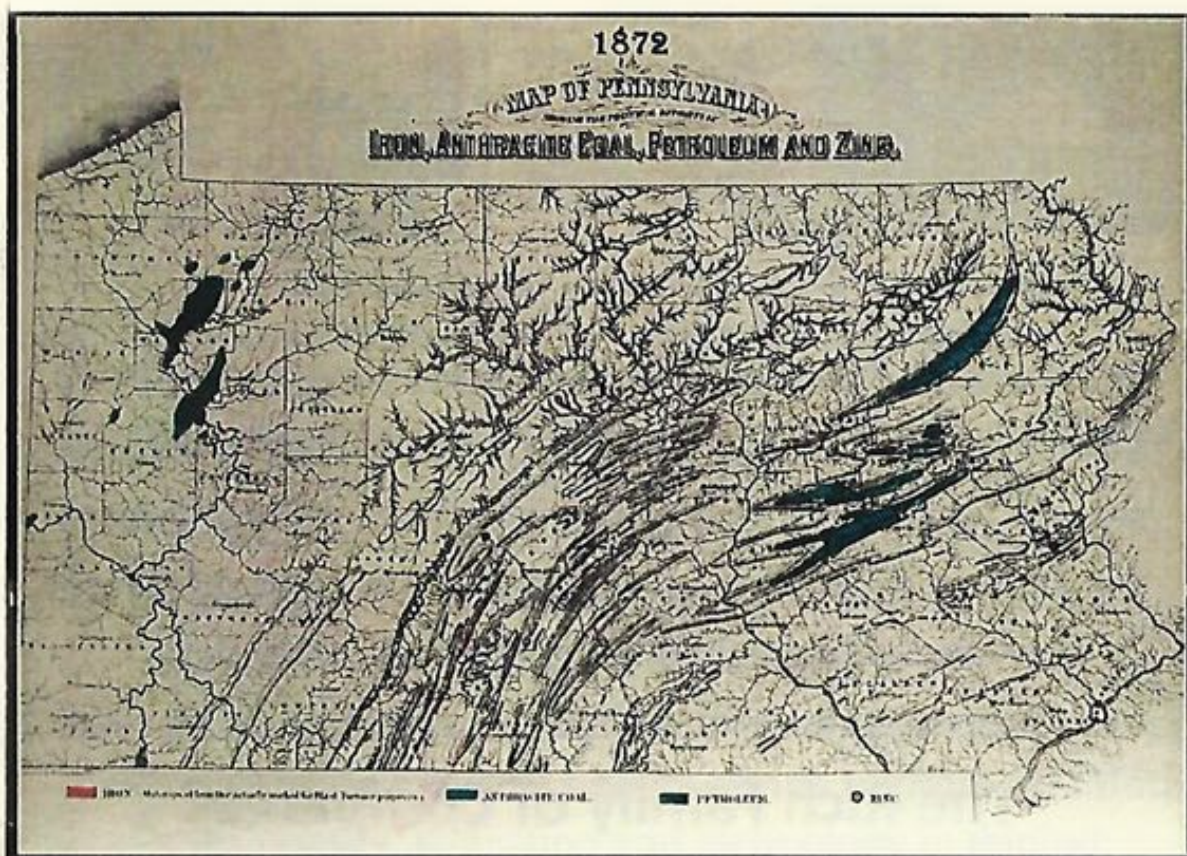
Wyoming Valley Hotel (1866-1909) 16 South River Street  
Site of the First Meeting of A.I.M.E.

engraving courtesy of the Athenaeum of Philadelphia



Located at 16 South River Street, this building has been the headquarters for Guard Insurance Group since the 1980's. It was originally built in 1909. It was first used for the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company's office.  
Site of First Meeting of Penn-Anthracite Section A.I.M.E./SME









READING ANTHRACITE COMPANY

[www.readinganthracite.com](http://www.readinganthracite.com)



LEHIGH ENGINEERING LLC

[www.lehighengineer.com](http://www.lehighengineer.com)

Our support for this dedication is in recognition of the efforts of the Reading Anthracite employees who have served as officers and board members of the Society for Mining Metallurgy and Exploration, and its other men and women who have faithfully served our Pennsylvania Anthracite Industry since 1871.

## The Rich Family of Companies

<http://readinganthracite.com/rich-family-companies/>

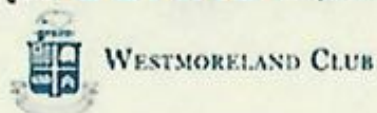


**MIKE KORB** LLC CONSULTING

570-233-2191 | [mikekorblc@gmail.com](mailto:mikekorblc@gmail.com)

Thanks to others that helped, including:

**JUDD AND SUSAN SHOVAL**



Anthony T.P. Brooks



**ISABELLA**  
RESTAURANT AND BAR



**RIYAD BARKAWI**

**Lightstreet Laser and Barrelworks**







Producers and Shippers of  
White Ash Anthracite  
P.O. Box 12  
ST. Nicholas Village,  
Mahanoy City, PA. 17948  
Phone: (570)773-2113  
Fax: (570)773-0569



## Blaschak Coal Corp.

a producer of quality anthracite coal since 1937, congratulates the Pennsylvania Anthracite Section of the Society for Mining Engineers on their successful effort to win approval of a Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission historical marker commemorating the founding of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

We extend our thanks to A.I.M.E. for its 145 years of service to the Anthracite industry, and its efforts to promote safety, economics, education and technology in mining.



The people that make up Jeddo Coal Company have a long history in the Pennsylvania anthracite industry.

In 1934, the company's founders purchased the flooded Sullivan Trail Mine and made it a commercial success, providing the necessary capital for the acquisition, development and mining of other coal properties, including Lehigh Valley Coal and Jeddo Highland Coal.

These have been strong supporters of the Penn-Anthracite SME, supplying many active members and officers.

The founders' heirs continue today with the same commitment to hard work, quality and reliable, dedicated customer service.

**Jeddo Coal Company**  
46 Public Square | Suite #600  
Wilkes Barre PA 18701  
(570) 825-0138



Society for  
Mining, Metallurgy  
& Exploration

Pennsylvania  
Anthracite  
Section

On February 17, 1914, the Pennsylvania Anthracite Section became the 10th local chapter of AIME. Its first meeting was held at offices of the Lehigh Wilkes Barre Coal Company, 16 South River Street, Wilkes Barre, which was built on the site the Wyoming Valley Hotel had occupied, the same building which is today's Guard Center.

The Section holds at least three meetings locally annually in Carbon, Columbia, Dauphin, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Schuylkill, Sullivan, or Wyoming County in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Meetings have a presentation or field trip, generally on a technical, economic, safety, environmental or heritage related aspect of mining and are open to interested industry persons or the general public.

For more information, contact Mike Korb, Past-Chair - call (570)233-2191 or email [mikekorb@epix.net](mailto:mikekorb@epix.net); or Brian Traweek, Secretary/Treasurer - call or text (570) 903-3237 or email [briantraweek@gmail.com](mailto:briantraweek@gmail.com).

The Penn-Anthracite Section of SME/AIME annually awards college scholarships for Pennsylvania students in mining-related engineering or science programs in Pennsylvania schools. These John Kaminski Memorial Scholarships are funded by the family of the Section's late Past-Chair and the Section's "Anthracite Engineers Give Back" program. Deadline for this year's applications is May 31.

For more details email John Ackerman, Scholarship Chair, at [jackerman@twinoaks.biz](mailto:jackerman@twinoaks.biz) or see the Section's website:

<http://community.smenet.org/anthracite>

Mining & Environmental Engineers,

Joseph Martarano, P.E.

(570) 450-5130

[joe@me-engrs.com](mailto:joe@me-engrs.com)





# ***American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, Inc.***



## **Member Societies:**

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME)

The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society (TMS)

The Association for Iron & Steel Technology (AIST)

The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)

**SME**

Society for  
Mining, Metallurgy  
& Exploration

**TMS**



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