

## **Favorite Comments from the 2009 RMCMI Convention**

*Compiled by Brad Lewis – RMCMI Board of Directors*

I am proud that the Institute wanted to award you, Al Inzano, the 2009 Honorary Member Award for being a great supporter, a hard worker and a friend to all who know you. You have been my best friend and partner for 46 years. You have helped wherever needed since I took this job; usually taking care of non-glamorous but essential tasks – and almost always with a smile. In addition to giving you this golf club memento – you have earned jewels in your crown for all of your hard work and are receiving this crown embedded with some of the finest pieces of coal.

**Karen Inzano** – Executive Director – RMCMI

The Apollo 13 astronauts returned home safely (in spite of numerous problems) because failure was NOT an option and there was ABSOLUTE trust between the ground crew and the astronauts. Leaders must be team builders and getting the right chemistry within a team is a force amplifier.

**Gene Kranz** -- NASA Flight Control Director

Gene Kranz's presentation put the American Dream back in clear focus.

**Jim Bausell** - COO - Touchstone Energy Cooperatives

ZERO is possible – we believe it and we have achieved it - five years without a lost time accident.

**Wade Burr** – Safety Manger - Buckskin Mine  
*2009 RMCMI Safety Award Recipient*

Regarding continuous improvement – Create a “How Can We Get Better” culture. High achievements will take place in a framework of high expectations.

**Jeane Hull** – President – Peabody – Powder River Coal

Upon leaving high school, I wanted to make the world a better place but was not sure how to do it. I met a Mineral Process Engineer named Paul Giles and he opened up to me like a girl at summer camp. He explained how I could spend my career making a meaningful contribution to the world by mining and processing our minerals in a responsible way. That is why I have chosen a mining career.

**Andrew Monroy** – Undergraduate - 2009 RMCMI New Mexico Scholarship Award Winner

THANKS.

**Russell Hardy** – Project Engineer – CONSOL Energy, Inc.  
Recipient of the first ever Charles W. Margolf Education Award  
No additional words were necessary – the emotion in the room said it all.

Komatsu has made significant progress in the remote monitoring of our equipment. The next challenge is to improve the harnessing and assimilation of this information so that various users can make better real-time decisions.

**John Pfisterer** - President & CEO – Komatsu Equipment Co.

We started rolling out a Behavioral Based Safety culture a couple years ago. In 2008, the Black Thunder Mine (the largest coal mine in the world) produced the most coal, stripped the most overburden, shipped the most trains, generated the most profits and achieved the best safety record in the 30 year mine history. Production and safety are not mutually exclusive – they are complimentary.

**Ken Cochran** – President and General Manager – Thunder Basin Coal Company

The technology is now available to link coal analyzers in the plant with remotely controlled bulldozers such that coal stockpiles can be segregated.

**Gary Takenaka** – General Mgr- Applied Improvements – CONSOL Energy

Reactive maintenance does not happen, you allow it to happen.

**Dennis Belanger** – VP Business Development – Management Resources Group, Inc.

Train your people to challenge the inspectors on the boxes they are considering checking as they write a violation. Track your violations proactively and accurately in the context of MSHA's Pattern of Violation (POV) rules. You do not want to receive a POV notice from MSHA.

**Laura Beverage** - Managing Partner – Jackson Kelly

Gender is not an issue in the Powder River Basin mines.

**Dr. Jessica Smith**

Total US coal production will not return to 2008 levels until 2013 and the rebound will not be uniform across all the US coal fields.

**Bob Burnham** -Senior Analyst - Wood Mackenzie, Inc.

In implementing a behavior based safety culture, 50% of the overall positive change/ impact occurs with those who are trained as observers and volunteer to do the observations (i.e., they find themselves walking the talk).

**Dr. Grainne Matthews** - Senior Project Manager - Quality Safety Edge

Green Peace's statement that carbon capture and sequestration is unproven is wrong. There are 50 projects around the world that are injecting CO<sub>2</sub> on a commercial basis. Carbon sequestration has been ongoing for over two decades and some operations are injecting a million tons/year.

**Jim Thomson** - VP Hydrogeology - Norwest Corp.

Why me? Why has the RMCMI membership chosen me as their next president?

I have the same passion for the coal industry as the rest of our members and our former presidents.

**Randy Lehn** - Director of Southwest Project Evaluation - Peabody Energy  
Incoming RMCMI President

In choosing team members to climb a mountain, the most important criteria is trust and this is far more important than technical skills. I found myself buried alive in a crevasse - 80 feet below the surface without the gear I needed to get out. And then things went from bad to worse. However, I figured out a way to get out. The Forrest Ranger who investigated the accident commented to me – "You must be a pro to have been able to get out of that crevasse alive." I responded that I was not a pro. It was then I realized what had saved my life – I acted like a pro. Life's lessons in mountain climbing can be applied to any areas of your life.

**Jim Davidson** – Adventurer

## **Tallest Tales at the 2009 Convention**

The circumstantial evidence warrants me pleading the Fifth. However, I am exercising my option to be declarative. In spite of the mitigating circumstances regarding crowd noise – to the best of my knowledge, I do not recall hearing my name being called for the cow pie toss.

**Denise Dragoo** - Attorney – Snell & Wilmer

I swear it was not me who put my name on the LADIES closest to the pin card.

**Rick Ochs** – Director Operations - Liebherr Mining Equipment Co.

I would be much better at making this presentation if I had a teleprompter.

**Kent Salitros** – President - Western Energy Company/  
Westmoreland Mining LLC

## **Best Indicator of a New Friendship**

It is with great honor we declare the Texas Westmoreland Mine Rescue Team as members of the **Order of Vigile Del Fuoco** – an organization dating back to the days of the Romans whose legacy is protecting their city. To recognize your membership, we are providing each of you with a certificate and your team a gold-plated fire extinguisher.

**Scott** - Chief - Snowmass Fire Department

*Rumor has it that the Texas Westmoreland Mine Rescue Team inadvertently discharged a fire extinguisher as the elevator doors opened into the hotel lobby. This set off the fire alarm which resulted in a response by the Snowmass Fire Dept and the chance meeting of two fine groups dedicated to safety.*