

# News & Views

## SE District's Premier Safety and Health Newsletter

May 2008

Volume 1, Number 8

### Recent Promotions/Hires in Southeastern District:

**James Croft, New  
Franklin FO Supervisor**



James graduated from Western Kentucky University. He worked at various coal mining companies before starting to work for MSHA. Started with MSHA in March of 1998 in the Bartow, Florida field office. His wife's name is Cindy. They have one daughter and two grandchildren.

**Ruth Black, New District  
MSIS Clerk**



Ruth Black, Birmingham MSIS Clerk, began her MSHA career in November 2007. Ruth started her career with Social Security in 1978, transferred to the Internal Revenue Service for 18 years, then became a manicurist before returning to the Federal workforce. Ruth and her husband, Perry, have been married for 35 years, have 3 children and 1 grandson. She enjoys working in the yard and spending time at the beach. Ruth feels that she was put at MSHA at exactly the right time in her career and plans to work until she is 99.

### Be Prepared

## U.S 2008 Tornado Death Toll 60% Above Average

Spring is typically the start of tornado season, with 106 deaths already recorded this is the deadliest year since 1998, and is on pace to be the deadliest ever recorded! See page 9 for survival tips.

### Awards Presented at the 2007 Mine Conference



Michael A. Davis and Kevin G. Stricklin present Awards to Sandersville Mine and Three Rivers Quarry

### Holmes Safety Association Birmingham Chapter



The March meeting was followed up with a tour of the Certex production facility. This chapter is aggressively seeking new members. Go to [www.holmessafety.org](http://www.holmessafety.org).

**SE NEW  
INSPECTORS BY  
FIELD OFFICE**

**Franklin**

**Michael Blake, Brian Jones,  
Vernon Miller, Raymond  
Norwood**

**Macon**

**Freddie Trice, Dave Smith,  
John Mayer, David Sutton**

**Lexington**

**Sonya Conway**

**Knoxville**

**Timothy Riffe, Michael LaRue**

**Columbia**

**Samuel Collier, Robert Ashley,  
Juan Sanchez**

**Birmingham**



From the left: DeWayne Ogden,  
Robert White, Richard Tucker and  
Michael Evans.

## From The District Manager's Desk



Since the events of 2006 and the implementation of the Miner Act of 2007, we have seen significant changes occur in Mine Safety and Health that has challenged our mine operations as well as MSHA. Change is always difficult to administer. As federal employees, we have an obligation to ensure that our work is performed conscientiously, accurately, and professionally delivered.

Different today is that every element of a citation under gravity and negligence has a significant impact on the penalty amount. As inspectors, please dedicate yourself to a careful analysis of the facts and circumstances for each violation prior to issuance. Make Closeout Conferences at the mine site a significant forum for additional input from the mine operator and miners. As Field Office supervisors and District staff, oversight should be focused on a clear adherence to the policies and procedures of this agency to better ensure consistency.

As always, consider the importance of your individual contribution to this agency's mission. Credibility, starting with you as an individual, depends on the perception of the people we serve.

# SOUTHEAST SAFETY CORNER

## Top Ten Standards Cited Calendar Year 2008

- 1) 56/57.14107(a): Moving machine parts shall be guarded to protect persons from contacting moving parts that can cause injury.
- 2) 56/57.14100(b): Defects on any equipment, machinery, and tools that affect safety shall be corrected in a timely manner to prevent the creation of a hazard to a person.
- 3) 56/57.14132(a): Manually-operated horns or other audible warning devices provided on self-propelled equipment as a safety device shall be maintained in functional condition.
- 4) 56/57.12004: Electrical conductors shall be of a sufficient size and current-carrying capacity to ensure that a rise in temperature resulting from normal operations will not damage the insulating material. Electrical cables exposed to mechanical damage shall be protected.
- 5) 56/57.20003: Workplaces, passage ways, and service rooms shall be kept clean & orderly.
- 6) 56/57.11001: Safe means of access shall be provided and maintained to all working places.
- 7) 56/57.12032: Inspection of cover plates on electrical equipment and junction boxes shall be kept in place at all times except during testing and repairs.
- 8) 56/57.14112(b): Guards shall be securely in place while machinery is being operated.
- 9) 56/57.12008: Power wires and cables shall be insulated adequately where they pass into or out of electrical compartments.
- 10) 56/57.11002: Crossovers, elevated walkways, elevated ramps, and stair ways shall be of substantial construction, provided with handrails, and maintained in good condition. Where necessary, toeboards shall be provided,

Guarding is at the top of the list.



## 2008 Serious Accidents and Fatalities in the Southeast District

1/3/08

Kentucky Solite - KY

Customer truck driver had a fatal heart attack on mine property.

All deaths on mine property must be reported and investigated by MSHA. This district averages 8-10 fatal heart attacks on mine property per year.

3/3/2008

Broad River Quarries - GA

The previous owner of the quarry and his son were trying to start a retired International Wheel (front-end) loader. They were located on the top and behind the rear left tire spraying starter fluid into the intake manifold, jumping the starter and hand pumping a mixture of hydraulic fluid and fuel into the fuel line. The engine fired causing the loader to lunge in reverse running over the two victims. The loader was not blocked against motion, the gear was in reverse and the throttle pedal was fully compressed.

Maintenance accidents are one of the leading causes of accidents and fatalities in the mining industry. Equipment should be blocked against hazardous motions.

3/24/08

O-N Minerals – TN

A body was found underground Monday morning after the mine was idle over the weekend.

4/30/08

Hanson - SC

A body was in the mine pond.

Trespasser deaths on mine property must be reported and investigated. Mine openings should be secured to prevent trespasser access.

4/7/08

American Blue- GA

The machine operator was attempting to lift a large granite block from the quarry when the back of the machine rose up. The operator released the hoist brake allowing the block to free wheel. The block hit the quarry floor crushing a work platform and the machine boom was carried back over top of the machine bending it backwards. The operator was thrown to the quarry floor a distance of approximately 80 feet. The machine operator remains hospitalized in serious condition.

Extraction equipment such as cranes and draglines should have load indicators so operators are aware of the capacities of the machines. This accident has initiated a technical investigation on extraction equipment and extraction methods. MSHA's engineers will evaluate the District's extraction equipment in the dimension stone industry.

Hardee Phosphate Complex – FL

A contract employee was standing in the back of a flat bed trailer and loading bails of hay into field blower spreading hay over a recently seeded reclaim area. The contractor slipped and fell off of the trailer and was run over by the hay blowing machine. The contractor remains in the hospital in serious condition.

The contractor was not wearing fall protection and the trailer was not equipped with handrails. For all work performed on mine property, employees should be properly trained in MSHA rules and regulations.

# Health Corner

## New DPM Sampling Strategy

**MSHA's DPM sampling strategy is changing.**

- DPM limit of 160 micrograms per cubic meter total carbon effective May 20, 2008

<http://www.msha.gov/regs/complian/ppls/2008/PPL08-IV-1.asp>

(This PPL addresses MSHA policy concerning the enforcement of 30 CFR § 57.5060(b)(3), establishing the final DPM permissible exposure limit of 160 micrograms of total carbon (TC) per cubic meter of air ( $160_{TC} \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), effective May 20, 2008.

## New Asbestos Limit

**Asbestos may be in the mined material or in man made materials such as siding, roofing, insulation.**

(i) Full-shift limit. A miner's personal exposure to asbestos shall not exceed an 8-hour time-weighted average full-shift airborne concentration of 0.1 fiber per cubic centimeter of air (f/cc).

(ii) Excursion limit. No miner shall be exposed at any time to airborne concentrations of asbestos in excess of 1 fiber per cubic centimeter of air (f/cc) as averaged over a sampling period of 30 minutes.

## New Silica Publication

**This is an excellent resource and may be ordered through the website or by calling the Beckley Mining Academy @304-256-3257.**

<http://www.msha.gov/REGS/FEDREG/FINAL/2008finl/E8-3828.pdf>

## Dry Conditions in SE

**Be observant of the dry weather and use wet methods to control dust conditions at your mines. Refer to 30CFR56/57.9315.**

## Team Names

### CARMEUSE LIME AND STONE

Black River Bandits  
Butler, Kentucky

### CARMEUSE LIME AND STONE

Maysville Raiders  
Maysville, Kentucky

### EASTWOOD FIRE AND RESCUE

Fire Dogs  
Louisville, Kentucky

BARRICK  
GOLDSTRIKE MINES  
Barrick Goldstrick Team  
Elko, Nevada

LAFARGE CHICAGO  
Lafarge Chicago Team  
Chicago, Illinois

WASHINGTON TRU-  
SOLUTIONS  
WIPP (Blue or Silver ?)  
Carlsbad, New Mexico

NATIONAL GYPSUM  
COMPANY  
National Gypsum Team  
Shoals, Indiana

Social Function by KCSA  
(Kentucky Crushed Stone  
Association, Inc)

## Southeast Central Kentucky Mine Rescue Contest Event Schedule

Mason County School's Athletic Annex (Jockey International  
Building)  
25 E McDonald Pkwy, Maysville, KY 41056,

This is the first mine rescue contest in the Southeast District in over 20 years!

Carmeuse Lime & Stone is sponsoring the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Southeast Kentucky Mine Rescue Contest.

On June 4<sup>th</sup> through June 6 2008, the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Southeast Kentucky Mine Rescue Contest will be held the Mason County Schools Indoor Athletic Complex located in Maysville Ky.

A Mine Rescue Contest is an exiting event that gives the nation's mine rescue teams an opportunity to compete and exhibit their expert skills. Mine rescue is the specialized job of rescuing miners and others who have become trapped or injured in mines. Mine rescue teams must be fully prepared and trained to know the safest procedures to rescue miners trapped by various hazards, including fires, explosions, inundations of water, cave-ins, and toxic atmospheres. Mine rescue is dangerous work and rescue teams are made up of dedicated volunteers who are well trained and will risk their own lives to save their fellow miners. Mine rescue teams are highly trained in first aid so when they reach the trapped miners they are able to assist them immediately. Because they have to enter mines in distress situations where ventilation could be disrupted and smoke and explosive/toxic gasses may be encountered, they use self contained breathing apparatuses and other specialized equipment.

MSHA provides the mine rescue, first aid, gas testing and breathing apparatus problems along with the judges for the contest. MSHA judges come from around the country to assist in mine rescue contest competition.



Carmeuse Lime & Stone "Black River Bandits"



Carmeuse Lime and Stone Maysville "Raiders"

# Southeast Mine Safety & Health Conference: Birmingham – 2008

Tuesday, November 5

Schedule in work

Wednesday, November 6

Schedule in work

Thursday, November 7

Schedule in work

**Special One Day  
Discount rate for  
Contractors**

The 3rd Annual Southeastern US Mine Safety and Health Conference is coming to Birmingham Alabama. Mark your calendars: November 5th through November 7th, 2008 at the Wynfrey Hotel. One of Birmingham's finest! Check the website for registration details and up to date information. [www.southeastmineconf.org](http://www.southeastmineconf.org)

This year promises to be the best conference yet. We have incorporated ideas and suggestions taken from the previous conference attendees. There will truly be something for everyone. We hope to see you there. Topics include

- Rigging
- Healthfull living
- Contractor specific
- Top Violations
- Training
- Etc
- Etc
- Etc

As in the previous years we scheduled time for industry-specific discussion groups. These groups will be jointly facilitated by industry leaders & MSHA management to address issues specific to those industries. The groups will be:

- TBD
- TBD
- TBD
- TBD
- TBD
- TBD

Several Panel discussions will feature industry & government leaders addressing .....

Technical Sessions will have experts in Mine Electricity and Grounding, Rigging, Noise Control, Highwall Stability, and Accident Investigation.

Keynote speakers will include: Motivational speaker Dee Dee Lewis , Former Dallas Cowboy's football player.

