



## From the President's Desk

Happy New Year to all NSCA members. As I start to write this letter, the cold weather has given us a nice break for the last couple of days. The cold weather and icy roads have made it very difficult to add very many new pieces of scrip or tokens to my collections. In winter I think most people turn to online auctions and online sites like eBay to search for new items to add to their collections.

The 2025 NSCA Fall Coal Scrip Show was held at the Comfort Inn Hotel and Conference Center on October 4th and 5th in Huntington, WV. We were missing a couple of regular dealers due to conflicting show schedules with other events. Attendance as usual was the highest on Friday versus Saturday. Although, I think buying and trading between dealers was very heavy on both days. All of the dealers reported good sales for the two days.

The 2026 Spring Coal Scrip Show will be held on April 17th and 18th at the First Church of God in Fayetteville, WV. This is a new location for our Spring Show. We had to move the location for several reasons but the main reasons were room rental cost more than tripled and the fact that they remodeled the meeting room area and installed a dance floor between the two meeting rooms and would not allow us to set up tables on the dance floor. This would mean we could not have two adjoining rooms for our show.

Various show related books will be available at the show including David Schenkman's new book titled "Coal Mine Company Obsolete Notes and Scrip", Charlie Thomas's book on Harlan County Kentucky Scrip, Edkins Volumes I and II Coal Scrip

books, and Billy Campbell's Edkins Volume II (West Virginia) Ongoing Fifth Edition Scrip Book. Also, the Lumber Book revision being done by Mike Williams has been proof read and is undergoing final changes, corrections, etc.

I also need to mention the recent passing of two NSCA members and friends Steve Cawood and Jim Hartman. Steve passed away in late October after a lengthy illness. He was a longtime member of NSCA and a past President. His obituary contained a lot of information that I did not know about Steve including his love of his area of Kentucky and the various Kentucky groups he was associated with. Jim passed away in February after a year dealing with serious medical issues. He often traveled to various shows and set up with Dennis Poland. He was a fixture at the IKO-TAMS shows, Rogers Flea Market in eastern Ohio, and coin shows in Ohio and Pennsylvania. NSCA will miss both of these men as members and friends.

Remember to report all new finds to the respective "New Finds" editor. I wish good health and happy collecting to each of you and hope to see you at the next show.

Lynn

### Inside This Issue:

- 1-2 Letters
3. Sales Bookshelf/Officers/Contact Information
4. Spring Scrip Show!
5. Brief History of Blasting in Underground Mines
8. Remarkable eBay Sales!
9. Member Spotlight: John Podgurski
- 11-12 Sad Farewells: Steve Cawood, Jim Hartman
12. Archive finds: Burns Coal Mines, Canada 1918
13. Kentucky Finds
14. Free Ads
15. Membership Application

From the Editor's Desk

Hello fellow scrip collectors and enthusiasts! Yes, this issue has been a long time coming. It seems like if it's not one thing, it's two things. I'll spare you all the details, but suffice it to say I think all the planets have lined up now and we are well on our way to getting this issue out and make final preparations for the Spring Scrip Show.

As Lynn mentioned in his letter, we have had to seek another venue for the show. Our usual venue in Beckley is under new management and with it, restricted room availability (we need two adjoining show rooms and we could only get one) and a drastic increase in pricing. I searched other locations in the Beckley area and the pricing was comparable everywhere (3 to 4 times what we had been paying). The fact that we are a non-profit organization made no difference. But, as luck would have it we have made arrangements at a very spacious facility in the heart of Fayetteville WV (for those of you who had the good fortune to have known Walter Caldwell, this is his hometown!). This area is right on the plateau of the New River Gorge and home of the famous New River Gorge Bridge.

Because we're not hosting the show at a hotel facility, no block of rooms have been set aside for those driving in and staying overnight. Rather, I have pointed out two places that are close to the show, one in the outskirts of Fayetteville and one closer to Oak Hill (10 mins away from Fayetteville).

Quality Inn New River Gorge  
103 Elliotts Way  
Fayetteville, WV 25840  
304-574-8256

Comfort Inn New River  
801 Mall Road  
Oak Hill, WV 25901  
304-202-6608

Points of interest: New River Gorge National River Visitor's Center (on the North side of the New River Gorge Bridge. Also the Fayette Station Road, accessible near the Visitor's Center, takes you down into the New River Gorge, across the river, and back up the other side to Fayetteville and offers unique perspectives of the bridge and the gorge's natural beauty!

There are numerous places to eat in Fayetteville: Pies and Pints Pizzeria, Cathedral Café, Secret Sandwich Society, Elliott's, Dairy Queen. On the way towards Oak Hill there are Wendy's, McDonald's, Arby's, Bob Evans, Long John Silvers, Taco Bell, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Rio Grande, and several others! Hope to see you at the show! Keep me posted!

Wanted: Harrison and Marion County WV coal scrip for the following communities: Shinnston, Riverdale, Enterprise, Owings, Wyatt, Carolina, Idamay, Viropa, Bristol, Ehlen, Meadowbrook  
Contact Bob at:  
BABRPB@YAHOO.COM

SPRING SCRIP SHOW 2026  
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!  
-----  
The Spring Scrip Show is currently scheduled for April 17 & 18  
Fayetteville WV  
Check our website for updates!



## ***NSCA OFFICERS***

Lynn Ours, *President*  
39 Forest Heights  
Huntington, WV 25705  
304 633 9420  
ldours@aol.com

### **New Finds Editors**

Billy Campbell (WV)  
bwccam@gmail.com

*Vice Presidents:*  
Doug Tolley (W.Va.)  
John Podgurski (Pa.)  
Patsy Thacker (Va.)  
Dennis Poland (Tn.)

Garrett Salyers, *Secretary*  
& *New Finds Chairman*  
86 McKenzie Lane  
Olive Hill, Ky. 41164  
(606) 316-0485  
gsalyers@hotmail.com

Howard Fortune (KY)  
502 Holt Avenue  
Mt. Sterling KY 40353  
(859) 274-7961

*Free Ads Editor*  
Donald K. Clifford  
P.O. Box 65,  
St. Albans WV  
25177-0065  
Cliff635@aol.com

*Treasurer*  
Vacant position  
Interested parties please  
contact Lynn Ours

David Mullins (VA)  
dmullins@atsone.com

Burley Williams (TN)  
belknap1840@yahoo.com

*Scrip Talk Editor*  
Kevin Andersen  
PO Box 675  
Oak Hill, WV 25901  
newrivercanyon@suddenlink.net

*Webmaster*  
Charlie Thomas  
downtown6@mac.com

Ken Allen (KY)  
fregettat@verizon.net

Mike Williams (Lumber)  
123mwilliams@gmail.com

Send your order with payment to: **The National Scrip Collectors Assn. Bookshelf**

Wizard Coin Supply  
PO Box 221641  
Chantilly, VA 20153

Order online at:  
wizardcoinsupply.com

*If you collect Coal Scrip, Lumber Tokens or  
Exploder Tokens, then these books are a MUST!*

Edkins, Vol. I, 4th Ed., 2015 (all states except WV) \$40

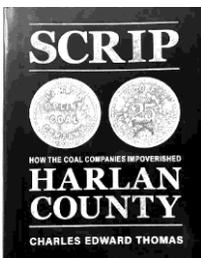
Vol. I, Loose Leaf .....\$40

Edkins, Volume II, 4th Ed., 2014 (WV).....\$40

Trantow's Lumber Catalogue ..... \$25

Schenkman's Exploder Catalogue..... \$20

Postage \$5 for the first book, each additional book add \$3



- A history of Harlan County, Kentucky during the coal wars, including the Battle of Evarts
  - Color photographs of over 800 different pieces of Harlan County coal scrip
  - Map of each coal camp, as well as several county maps
  - Lavishly illustrated with over 100 other drawings and photographs, some never before published
  - 286 pages, full color throughout, printed on coated stock
  - Case bound, library-quality hardback
- ORDER at [harlanscrip.com](http://harlanscrip.com) or  
44 Elizabeth St./Asheville, NC 28801
- \$29.95 plus \$7.00 S&H = \$36.95

Be sure to check out the NSCA website for up-to-date  
announcements and information! [www.scripcollectors.org](http://www.scripcollectors.org)

# 2026 Spring Show

Fayetteville First Church of God

114 Harvey St

Fayetteville, WV 25840

April 17 & 18, 2026



The NSCA Spring Show will be held in Fayetteville, West Virginia  
On Friday and Saturday, April 17 & 18, 2026

Fayetteville First Church of God

Show Times: Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; Saturday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
(show times may vary as dealers arrive)

FREE ADMISSION

Bring your coal scrip or other coal related items. Dealers will be set up to buy, sell and/or trade coal scrip, tokens, badges, coal related stickers, carbide lights, scrip/coal related reference books, collecting supplies, etc.

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF BLASTING IN UNDERGROUND COAL MINES AND ITS COLLECTABLES

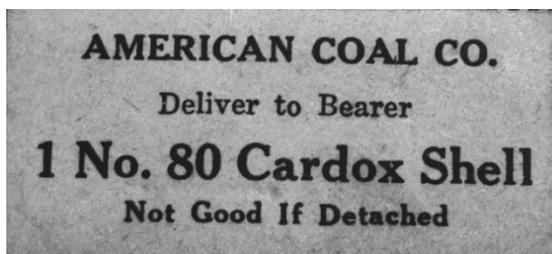
David Mullins

Blasting has long played a pivotal role in underground coal mining, shaping the way coal is extracted. From its early, rudimentary use in the 19th century to the more controlled and sophisticated methods of the 20th century, blasting has evolved in both technique and safety. Alongside the practical advancements, an entire culture of specialized tools and collectibles has emerged, preserving a unique heritage.

While working underground in the early to mid-1980s, I shot coal as one of my jobs. We used a cutting machine to undercut an area about 20 feet wide and 11 or 12 feet deep. The drill would then come in and bore four holes. Then it was my turn. I would take a stick of powder (usually water gel at the time) and insert an electric blasting cap. This was then placed in the hole. Sometimes a second stick of powder was placed in behind it. The explosive was pushed to the back of the hole with a tamping rod, which in my case was made of wood. Behind that, clay dummies were used to seal the hole so the explosive would not shoot out like a shotgun. The wires from the four holes were connected in series and eventually back to a detonator box. Everyone has seen the movies or cartoons where the actor pushes a handle down into the box that creates an electrical charge and sets off the dynamite. That would have been cool, but ours had a battery and once connected, you pushed a button to fire the explosive.

## THE EVOLUTION OF BLASTING IN COAL MINES

In the earliest days of underground mining, coal seams were typically accessed by manual digging or rudimentary black powder charges. These early blasts were unpredictable and dangerous, with frequent accidents and limited efficiency. By the late 1800s, the introduction of dynamite, invented by Alfred Nobel in 1867, revolutionized underground blasting. More stable and powerful than black powder, dynamite allowed miners to break through harder rock and coal seams more effectively. As technology advanced, so did detonation methods. Electric caps replaced fuses, enabling more precise and safer firing.



An interesting footnote in coal mining history is the Cardox system, developed in the early 20th century. Instead of using an explosive, Cardox tubes contained liquid carbon dioxide. When heated electrically, the CO<sub>2</sub> expanded rapidly, creating a controlled and non-explosive blast that was ideal for sensitive environments such as gassy coal seams.

## BLASTING MATERIALS AND DEVICES

Several key materials and components were used in underground coal mine blasting:

- **Dynamite:** A powerful, nitroglycerin-based explosive, often stored in wooden powder boxes for transport underground.
- **Fuse:** A cord that burned at a specified rate per foot that was used to trigger the detonators such as blasting caps.
- **Caps:** Also known as blasting caps, these were small devices used to initiate the explosive charge. Early versions were lit with a fuse, while later ones used electric current.
- **Squibs:** Small charges or igniters, squibs were commonly used to trigger the caps or provide a delay in the blast sequence.

- **Cardox:** A non-detonating blasting tool using compressed carbon dioxide; safe for use in gassy mines.
- **Monobel:** A low velocity, permissible explosive.

Each of these materials required specific handling tools and safety protocols. For instance, **tamping rods** were used to pack the explosive into boreholes without igniting it, a delicate task that required non-sparking materials like brass, copper or wood.



### BLASTING COLLECTIBLES AND TOOLS

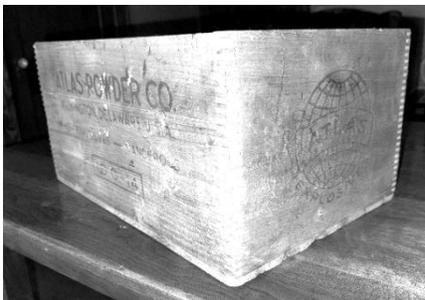
Collectors and mining historians often seek out original blasting tools and containers, many of which are now considered rare and valuable due to their craftsmanship and historical significance. Many of these items can be found at the semi-annual meetings of the National Scrap Collectors Association. The members that attend these shows are a wealth of information for these collectible items.



- **Cap tins:** Small metal containers that once held blasting caps. These often bear the logos of manufacturers like DuPont or Hercules and are prized for their graphic design and period branding.



- **Squib boxes:** Typically, small wooden or cardboard containers used to store squibs safely. These are less common but offer fascinating insight into early blasting logistics.



- **Wooden powder boxes:** These rugged containers transported dynamite sticks to the blast site. Often labeled with manufacturer marks, they serve as iconic relics of the mining era.

- **Chest augers:** Long-handled augers used to drill holes into the coal face for explosive placement. Their size and build often reflected regional engineering preferences.

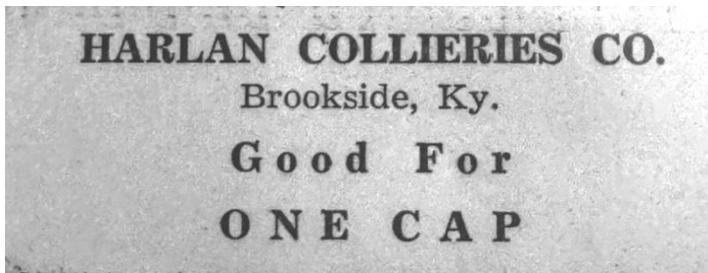


- **Tamping rods:** Essential for compacting explosive charges into drilled holes, these rods were typically made from non-ferrous metals or wood to prevent sparks.
- **Detonator Boxes:** Early electric detonation relied on portable battery boxes to send current through wires and fire the caps. These wooden or metal boxes often had a plunger or crank and are among the most visually interesting collectibles from the era.
- **Crimpers:** These instruments looked like pliers and were used to crimp the cap onto the fuse. Usually made of brass

### EXPLOSIVE TOKENS

Explosive tokens were acquired from the Company by the men that needed the supplies to blast underground. They are not scrip. The vast majority of explosive tokens have no dollar value associated with them but rather a set amount of explosive (e.g. 1 Stick of Powder). The National Scrip Collectors Association published a book in 1989 that covered explosive tokens. The book, *Explosive Control Tokens*, by David Schenkman, is the definitive reference for the following tokens.

- **Powder tokens:** Issued to miners when they received explosive charges.



- **Detonator tokens:** Specific to detonators or blasting caps, these tokens tracked their issuance.

- **Squib or Fuse tokens:** Used similarly to powder tokens, ensuring each squib or fuse was issued to a known individual.



These tokens were often made of brass, copper, aluminum, nickel, zinc or pressed fiberboard and some were made of paper in the form of coupons.



## CONCLUSION

Blasting in underground coal mining represents a fascinating intersection of engineering, danger, and innovation. The tools and materials that once drove the coal industry have now become collectibles and historical artifacts, telling the story of the men and methods that powered the industrial age. Whether through a weathered tamping rod, a battered cap tin, or a carefully preserved token, the legacy of blasting lives on.



### *Remarkable eBay Sales Reported by Neal Burton*



Sold Feb 15, 2026  
Evarts, KY Kentucky Coal Scrip  
Token - Superior Harlan Coal Co.  
- 50 Cents - R8

**\$255.00**

9 bids  
+\$4.95 delivery  
Located in United States



Sold Mar 1, 2026  
Evarts, KY Kentucky Coal Scrip  
Token - Turner Fuel Co. - \$1.00 -  
R10 - Rare

**\$255.00**

5 bids  
+\$4.95 delivery  
Located in United States



Sold Feb 17, 2026  
HOLLSOPPLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
COAL MINE CO. GOOD FOR  
TOKEN; PA SCRIP

**\$246.50**

4 bids  
+\$5.75 delivery in 2-4 days  
Located in United States



Sold Mar 1, 2026  
DOANVILLE, OHIO COAL MINE  
CO. GOOD FOR TOKEN; OH  
SCRIP

**\$287.31**

5 bids  
+\$8.50 delivery in 2-4 days  
Located in United States



Sold Feb 15, 2026  
DEVILS FORK, WEST VIRGINIA  
COAL MINE CO. GOOD FOR  
TOKEN; WV SCRIP

**\$1,500.00**

1 bid  
+\$12.50 delivery  
Located in United States

Sell one like this



Sold Jan 27, 2026  
1952 Clifftop West Virginia R9  
Coal Scrip Good For Token  
Babcock Coal & Coke

**\$224.72**

16 bids  
+\$4.25 delivery  
Located in United States



Sold Feb 15, 2026  
Summerlee WV West Virginia \*  
Stuart Colliery Co\* Coal scrip  
Token Fayette B1 R8

**\$237.06**

4 bids  
+\$5.78 delivery in 2-4 days  
Located in United States



Sold Feb 5, 2026  
2 Coal Scrip: Dehue WV 763-C1 +  
E1b, The Sheet & Tube Employees  
Stores Co. + The

**\$438.00**

27 bids  
+\$1.00 delivery  
Located in United States

*More Remarkable eBay Sales on Page 10!*

# Member Spotlight

By David Mullins

## John Podgurski

John Podgurski's life in coal began with the family's coal business in the anthracite region of Pennsylvania. When he was around age 8 and too young to work at the mine, his family duty was to crack the run of mine coal, equipped with a one pound hammer and an old pair of welding/cutting glasses to protect his eyes. Only hand fired coal stoves and Heatrola's existed back then, so the lump coal had to be cracked so as to maximize the resulting coal sizes from Pea thru Stove Coal sizes. He had to screen the cracked coal to reject anything smaller than the Pea Coal size. Too much cracked coal smaller than Pea was not a welcome result. He continued working with the family coal business throughout his school years. John worked the mine as well as drove the delivery truck. The family eventually left the mining business but maintained the trucking business. John studied mechanical engineering in college and after graduation took a job with the US Bureau of Mines at Mt. Hope, West Virginia in 1971 in the ventilation group. When he was hired by the Bureau of Mines, he was immediately called a COAL CRACKER, apparently due to the accent common to the Anthracite Coal Fields. Following multiple changes in Management, he was reassigned to the Coal Mine Inspection Group, conducting regular Safety and Health Inspections until he accepted a Supervisory Position at the National Mine Academy in 1976 during its early staffing and development. While working at MSHA, John also studied for and received his Master's Degree in Mine Health and Safety from Marshall University. At the Academy, he was a Supervisor as Chief of the Mine Technology Branch over 8 Instructors. He also taught several of the mining related courses to Mine Inspector Trainees in both Coal and Non-Coal Mining. While working at the Mine Academy, John volunteered to provide mining artifact displays throughout the common areas of the Academy. He donated a majority of the artifacts to the Exhibits, including 40 complete sets of coal scrip. He worked with the Smithsonian Institute to fabricate the initial artifacts. John was requested to conduct an appraisal of the Flame Safety Lamp Collection being stored in unsecured storage areas. This was required as part of an agreement between the Mine Academy and West Virginia University to allow for the Mine Academy to display a portion of the collection on loan while providing insurance. It also demonstrated to WVU that these historical donations such as lamps have exceptional value and require secured storage. In order to get closer to home, John took a MSHA inspector's position in Pennsylvania in 1987, though he would return to the Academy numerous times to teach classes. John retired from MSHA in 2001.

John joined the National Scrip Collectors Association in 1975 as member #309. He has worked in some capacity of the club since 1978. Early on, he was instrumental in coordinating the shows. John spearheaded the production of a "Coal Mining Memorabilia" video in the 1990s. This hour-long presentation introduces the viewer to the wide assortment of collecting possibilities in the mining field. The video not only covers scrip, exploder tokens and scatter tags, but also stock certificates, ink blotters, lamps and more. If you find a copy, it is well worth the hour to watch. John has been a long time Vice President of the association from Pennsylvania and served as President from 1993-1995. When the long time Secretary/Treasurer resigned, John took over the duties of the auctions by putting

some of his own collection up for bid in each Scrip Talk issue. As President, he took part in the finalization of the incorporation of the club as well as the updated club by-laws. John is also a past board member of the Anthracite Chapter of the Society of Mining Engineers and a recorder for the Knights of Columbus.

John collected coins early which then transferred into scrip collecting. He also collects exploder tokens, having assembled one of the premier collections in the field. John's collection featured many previously unlisted and unknown pieces. John also accumulated one of the most complete New River collections known. He sold this collection when he relocated back to Pennsylvania.

In 1972, a coal waste impoundment on Buffalo Creek in Logan County West Virginia failed. The resulting flood killed many people and washed away hundreds of homes. After the Buffalo Creek disaster, John was sent by the Bureau of Mines for training in impoundment design and safety. Once the training was complete, John and others were sent all over the United States to look at abandoned impoundments. Sometimes, those old sites had abandoned buildings such as lamp houses. He would collect rusty pieces and parts to lamps and spend his spare time repairing and making complete lamps. This was the start of his love of lamps. John is well known as a lamp man. His mining lamp collection exceeds 2500 pieces. His expertise in this field is known far and wide. Whenever I have a lamp question, John is my go-to source.

I met John at the Beckley show several years ago. I have purchased scrip, exploders and scatter tags from him over the years. He has definitely helped me upgrade my collection. I have also purchased other items from him that sit on the shelves in my office. You can catch John at most of the scrip shows. He still sets up a table and has plenty of stock. John emphasized that since joining the Scrip Club, he has met a lot of collectors, many of whom have become lifelong friends. Although several have passed, he continues to cherish the fond memories. He looks forward to comradery and friendship of the fellow members that share the same passion for historical preservation.



Sold Jan 13, 2026  
10¢ W.S. Tennant, Cassville, WV  
Monongalia Co WV Coal Scrip  
Extremely Rare

**\$349.99**

1 bid  
+\$4.58 delivery  
Located in United States



Sold Jan 17, 2026  
1928 CHAPMAN COAL CO  
JACKSON OHIO "RARE" CAR  
COAL ID TAG CHECK # 85 STA...

**\$234.13**

33 bids  
+\$2.79 delivery  
Located in United States



Sold Feb 7, 2026  
Hellier, Kentucky KY Elkhorn  
Consolidated Coal & Coke Co. 1¢  
Scrip Token

**\$1,000.00**

Best offer accepted  
+\$9.87 delivery  
Located in United States



Sold Jan 25, 2026  
Evarts, KY Kentucky Coal Scrip  
Token - Harlan Liberty - 10 Cents -  
Rare-Unlisted

**\$178.28**

11 bids  
+\$4.95 delivery  
Located in United States



Sold Jan 25, 2026  
Evarts, KY Kentucky Coal Scrip  
Token - Harlan-Kellioka - \$1.00 -  
R10 - Rare

**\$152.50**

10 bids  
+\$4.95 delivery  
Located in United States



Sold Jan 25, 2026  
Evarts, KY Kentucky Coal Scrip  
Token - Evarts Coal Co - 25 Cents -  
Rare-Unlisted

**\$202.50**

17 bids  
+\$4.95 delivery  
Located in United States

Remarkable eBay Sales,  
continued from page 8

## *Sad Farewells*



**Stephen Carl Cawood October 14, 1943 — October 17, 2025, Lexington Kentucky**

Stephen Carl Cawood, prominent Eastern Kentucky attorney from Pineville, passed away in Lexington, Ky., on October 17, 2025, after a valiant battle against cancer.

Steve was born on October 14, 1943, and attended Pineville Independent Schools, graduating in 1961. During his teenage years he was the editor of the yearbook and earned the Eagle Scout Award. Steve was inducted into the Order of the Arrow, later serving as lodge chief of Mischa Mokwa. In addition, he was a Vigil Honor recipient of the Order of the Arrow.

Steve was a lifelong Presbyterian following in the tradition of his grandparents. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Pineville where he was honored to serve as both a Deacon and Elder.

In 1973, Steve opened his Courthouse Square law office, following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Judge James Gilbert. Over his long legal career, no client was too big or too small. Whether a large corporation with national recognition or a local miner who had developed black lung from the mines, Steve was willing to fight for his clients. His interest in bettering conditions for his neighbors led him to enter the legislative race in 1979 for the House of Representatives. During the 1980 legislative session, he was voted “Outstanding Freshman Representative” by the Capital Press Corps. Steve distinguished himself as the first freshman legislator to chair a committee, resulting in the passage of Kentucky’s Surface Mining Act.

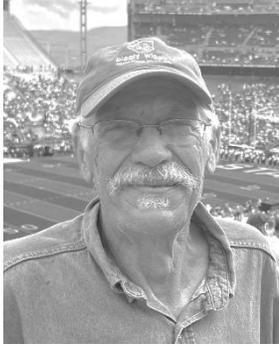
Steve’s lifetime hobbies of collecting coal mine scrip and model railroading are well known among his friends and fellow hobbyists. He was a longtime member of the National Scrip Collectors Association and served several terms as president. He wrote many articles for the L&N Railroad Historical Society publication and served as a member of the Chattanooga-based L&N Historical Society as well as Counsel to the Board. Steve was instrumental in recently moving the L&N archives to Chattanooga, where they will be permanently housed.

Steve’s vast knowledge of Appalachian issues earned his placement on the Bell County Historical Society Board of Directors, a position he relished and actively participated. His concern for the environment generated his interest in assisting the Kentucky Natural Lands Trust to acquire land in Bell and Harlan counties as part of the Blanton Forest Reserve. Those who knew him in his home surroundings knew of his voracious reading of history and biography, his love of birds and the joy his kitchen garden brought him. He and Sissy loved to travel as often as they could. A highlight was a visit to Cawood, Yorkshire, England and riding the British rails. Bluegrass music was a lifelong love of his, particularly Dale Ann Bradley, a “local girl” as he called her.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents, Sophia Elizabeth (Gilbert) and Murrell Cawood; his brother, Thomas Cawood; and his sister, Amanda Jane Brooking.

Steve is survived by his wife, Sissy; their two daughters; Beth (Bill) Overman and Mandy (JD) Hickey; and their five grandchildren, Charles William Overman, Jr., and Caroline Cawood Overman of Lexington, and Henry Christopher Hickey, James Cawood Hickey, and Andrew McCauley Hickey of Lookout Mountain, TN.

Arnett & Steele Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Pineville is honored to serve the Cawood Family. Editor’s note; to read this obituary in its entirety, please see: <https://www.arnettsteele.com/obituaries/stephen-cawood>



**Matthew J. Hartman March 9, 1955 — February 7, 2026 Beaver PA**

Matthew James “Jim” Hartman, 70, of Beaver, passed away on February 7, 2026, following a yearlong battle with cancer.

Born on a U.S. Army base in Stuttgart, Germany on March 9, 1955, he was the eldest son of the late Matthew James and Geraldine Hartman. After graduating from Beaver Area High School as a proud member of the Class of 1973, he earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Penn State University. He spent much of his career as a chemist at the Beaver Valley Power Station, then operated by Duquesne Light, before working at TestAmerica (now Eurofins) until his retirement.

Jim’s real passion was numismatics. As a lifelong collector of coins and tokens, he loved “setting up” at flea markets, browsing antique stores, and talking shop with fellow enthusiasts. He was a regular fixture at Rogers Flea Market and attended coin shows across the tri-state area, making friends wherever he went.

An avid sports fan, Jim particularly enjoyed watching football and cheering on the Steelers, Nittany Lions, and Beaver Bobcats. His many interests also included genealogy, playing pinochle, and going fishing. Above all, he treasured time with his daughter Rachael, with whom he shared his love of learning, music, and storytelling. His larger than life personality and sense of humor will be missed by all.

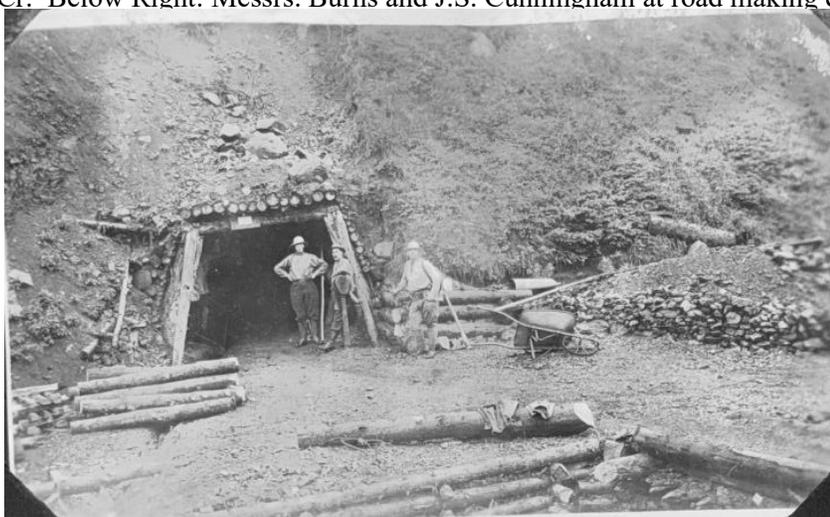
In addition to his daughter, Jim is survived by his wife and friend, Anne Hartman; brothers Dave (Cyndy) Hartman and John Hartman; sisters Melissa Hartman and Laura (Max) Hartman; nieces and nephews, Cory (Renee) Hartman, Troy (Leah) Hartman, Rebecca Hartman and Jack Hartman; along with five great-nieces and great-nephews.

Memorial contributions in Jim’s name can be made to the Beaver Area School District Education Foundation or to the American Red Cross.

<https://www.nollfuneral.com/obituaries/matthew-j-hartman>

---

Digging through my archives I ran across a fascinating small photo album that my dear friend Walter Caldwell gave me many years ago. It is a collection of photographs of the property of Patrick Burns Coal Mines, Ltd, Sheep Creek, Alberta Canada that accompanied a report by J.S. Cunningham, Charleston, WV, dated 1918. There are 79 photographs. Images reveal the ruggedness of terrain and logistics required to open a new coal field. Here is a sampling of the album contents. Below left: Hanging wall entrance to Burns opening, right side of Rickerts Cr. Below Right: Messrs. Burns and J.S. Cunningham at road making camp on Whiskey Lake. ~Editor



New & Fascinating Kentucky Finds reported  
by Howard Fortune!



Above: Straight Creek Coal Co scrip  
Left: Straight Creek Coal Co. car/pit check  
Below: arm bands/leg bands

*\*Editor's note: my father gave me some of these bands from National Mine Service Co. that I used to put around my pants at my ankles when working with my honeybees to keep them getting inside my pant legs!*



**N.S.C.A. FREE ADS FOR MEMBERS**

**Free Ads** are available to **N.S.C.A.** members at no charge. The only requirements being that they are limited to 4 lines, one ad per issue. You may send up to four different ads in one mailing. **Deadline for Free Ads is three weeks after the postmark of the current issue of SCRIP TALK.** All ads received after the deadline will be held for the following issue. No ad will rerun automatically, each issue will require a separate request. Paid ads should be sent to **SCRIP TALK** Editor and NOT the Free Ad Editor. **SEND ALL FREE ADS TO: Donald K. Clifford, N.S.C.A. Free Ad Editor, P.O. Box 65, St. Albans, WV 25177-0065 or E-mail: [clff635@aol.com](mailto:clff635@aol.com) (Note: + Please renew your free ads !!!) 3-25**

**WANTED: Greenbrier County, W.Va. Coal Scrip. Charmco WV527A25, Clearco WV565H5, Duo WV855A25, A50, A100, Fort Spring WV1053E5, Leslie WV1613C10, Marfrance WV1787A1, C1, Rainelle WV2339B-any. Send a list with your prices. Don Clifford, P.O. Box 65, ST. ALBANS, WV 25177, [clff635@aol.com](mailto:clff635@aol.com).**

**TRADE: WV2415N1 (R-10) RIVESVILLE, WV (XF condition) for PENNSYLVANIA TOKEN that I need OR will consider cash offer MAIL: Larry Dziubek, P.O. Box 235, Connoquenessing, PA 16027 EMAIL: [LCDZIUBEK@ZOOMINTERNET.NET](mailto:LCDZIUBEK@ZOOMINTERNET.NET) +**

**WANTED: Chafins, Jones, & Heatherman Coal Co. company store (R. J. Blankenship, Peach Creek, WV) scrip, i.e: ISC w/"B" cutout or ORCO w/'SPITTOON' cutout. - Tom Mira, Email: [t.mira@comcast.net](mailto:t.mira@comcast.net) +**

**WANTED: Rachel Supply, Rachel, WV - WV2333A100 & Consolidation Coal Co., Gypsy, WV - WV1200A1, Send asking price & condition to Bill Fugera, 28732 Charreadas, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677 or email: [fugewilj@cox.net](mailto:fugewilj@cox.net). +**

**WANTED: Pioneer Coal Company, Kettle Island, KY (Bell County) scrip, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢, \$1.00 & \$5.00 pieces, also want Virginia Coal Company Scrip. Ron Dickenson, 21370 Sheffield Ct., Abington, VA 24210, Email: [ron.dickenson44@gmail.com](mailto:ron.dickenson44@gmail.com). +**

**TRADE LIST: Have more than 200 rare tokens, mostly R-10 & unlisted pieces. Would like to trade for rare exploder tokens, hard rubber coal tokens, rare paper coal scrip, rare Civil War tokens, and rare transportation tokens. Crazy cash offers also considered. Email for list. David Schenkman, (email: [dschenkman@verizon.net](mailto:dschenkman@verizon.net)).+**

**FALL COAL SCRIP SHOW: OCT. 3 & 4, 2025, (Friday 9am-3pm - Saturday 9am-1pm) AT COMFORT INN HOTEL, 3094 - 16<sup>th</sup> Street Rd.(off Hal Greer Blvd. Exit I64). Huntington, WV - FREE ADMISSION.**

**TRADE OR SALE: My coal and lumber tokens from WV, KY, & AL. Reasonably priced, write for a listing. Gene Miller, 3306 Startan Ct., Louisville, KY 40220. +**

**WANTED: BOWLING COAL MINING & BARDO COAL MINING scrip, Bardo, (Harlan County), Kentucky.(Great grandpa opened this mine & I'm in search of any remaining family history: [EhrenBowling@gmail.com](mailto:EhrenBowling@gmail.com) (phone 424-343-7577). +**

**WANTED: Fordson Scrip, Nuttallburg, WV2097 (Fayette Store) 2097A1, A5, A10, A25, A50, A100, ALSO: Banner Fork KY151B50 Harlan, KY; Darrell Rainbolt, 1455 Short St., Corydon, IN 47112, E-mail: [drainbolt@frontier.com](mailto:drainbolt@frontier.com). Cell Phone: 812-736-3202 or Land Line 812-738-2579. +**

**A REMINDER, "+" AFTER YOUR AD MEANS IT IS TIME TO RENEW**

**ABOUT THE  
NATIONAL SCRIP  
COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION**



Membership in the NSCA entitles a collector to a subscription to the club's newsletter, SCRIP TALK, featuring articles on the history of scrip, coal and lumber companies who issued scrip, unusual tokens and the die makers and manufacturers who produced it, free classified ads for members, and timely news on NSCA activities, plans and publications. NSCA meetings are held each Spring and Fall, generally somewhere in the Appalachian coalfields, and members meet to trade, buy, sell and swap scrip and coal mining paraphernalia of all sorts, conduct the club's business meetings, and enjoy the company of members from around the country.

The NSCA also revises, publishes, and sells the principal books which are the "tools of the trade" for scrip collectors, and one or more of these books are often made a part of a membership package for new members, the details of which may be obtained by contacting our NSCA Secretary.

**NATIONAL SCRIP COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Mail to:

Garrett Salyers, *Secretary*  
86 McKenzie Lane  
Olive Hill, Ky. 41164

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

One year dues \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Five years \$85.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Life \$400.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Age 58 years and up, Life Membership Only \$300.00 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* dues subject to change

Send your dues renewal to:  
Garrett Salyers, NSCA *Secretary*  
86 McKenzie Lane  
Olive Hill, KY. 41164

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Age 50 years and up, Life Membership ONLY \$300.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Scrip Talk Editor  
PO Box 675  
Oak Hill, WV 25901



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

WWW.SCRIPCOLLECTORS.ORG

Volume 54----- Issue 214

NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL SCRIP COLLECTORS

**SCRIP TALK**