

**CEDAR of Southern West Virginia Celebrates Fourteenth Coal Fair** 



Chief Logan Lodge Hotel and Conference Center, Logan, WV



**CEDAR Coal Fair Judges Pause for a Photo** 

CEDAR (Coal Education Development and Resources) is celebrating its fourteenth Coal Fair in southern West Virginia. Over the fourteen-year period, CEDAR has provided well over 515 teachers with approximately \$156,905 in grant money to utilize in their classroom teaching about the many benefits coal has to offer. More than 17,900 students have been involved in these coal study units in Mingo, Logan, Boone, McDowell, Wyoming and Wayne counties.

At the fourteenth Regional Coal Fair, over 200 projects were on display from students in K-12 grades that demonstrated their understanding of how coal is formed, mined, and transported, as well as how the industry affects their daily lives. Some 4,712 projects have been created at the local school level. A total of \$45,539 in cash prizes has been awarded to students for performance and \$19,806 in cash prizes has been awarded to the school coal fair coordinators (teacher designated by school principal). Exhibits were entered in seven categories: Art, English/Literature, Math, Music, Science, Social Studies and Technology/Multi Media. Each category is split into three grade levels (K-4), (5-8), and (9-12). In addition to the cash prizes awarded, the students gained a hands-on education in coal and found pride in their strong coal heritage.

During the week of April 20-25, 1000 visitors are expected to tour the projects at the Chief Logan Lodge Hotel & Conference Center, located one mile off US 119 between Logan and Chapmanville WV. Bus tours were scheduled from the participating counties to tour the projects on display. Several winning CEDAR students will present their projects for Tug Valley Mining Institute attendees. Robert E. Murray, founder, Chairman, President & CEO, Murray Energy, is presenting the address to the Tug Valley Mining Institute meeting on Thursday night.

To date, CEDAR and Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College have awarded well over \$90,000 in scholarship monies to students from the participating counties.

CEDAR of Southern West Virginia, Inc. is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit corporation which began as a partnership between the Coal Industry, Business Community, and Educators, created with the purpose of improving the image of the coal industry. CEDAR's mission is to facilitate the increase of knowledge and understanding of the many benefits the Coal Industry provides in our daily lives by providing financial resources and coal education materials to implement its study in the school curriculum.

CEDAR of Southern West Virginia, Inc. board members include John B. Earles, Chris Sykes, Chris Hamilton, Steve Hopta, James Milam, Phillip G. Montague, James M. Mullins, Georgene Robertson, Wilma Zigmond, Bud Clapp, Troy Andes, Brian Varney, Mike Mitchem, JoAnne Tomblin, and Marty Petrunyak. Crystal Hensley is the Coal Study Unit Manager, and Debbie Mudd is the Coal Fair Manager.

CEDAR is working toward securing coal's future TODAY by educating our leaders of TOMORROW! For additional information about CEDAR of Southern West Virginia, Inc., call Georgene Robertson at 304/792-8433.

## Some Examples of the More Than 200 Entries













