

# Missouri S&T students raise funds for charity

**M**ining engineering students at the Missouri University of Science & Technology (Missouri S&T) created a “Haunted Mine” for Halloween. Students first began transforming the university’s experimental mine into a haunted mine in 1997 to earn funds to send students to competitions and conferences.

The Haunted Mine, located at 12350 Private Drive 7002 off Bridge School Rd. in Rolla, MO, about 1.5 miles from campus, was open Oct. 19, 20, 26, 27 and 31. For a tamer encounter, groups with small children could walk through the mine with the lights on for just \$5 from 4:30-6 pm.

Tickets were \$15 for adults and \$13 for kids under 10, Missouri S&T students and military veterans with valid IDs. A discount of \$1 per canned good, up to \$3 per person, was offered to those who brought food donations for the Russel House, a shelter for women and children who are victims of

domestic violence.

Students from the SME Student Chapter, the Women in Mining chapter, the International Society of Explosives Engineers, the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association, the Mine Rescue Team, the Mine Design Team and the Mucking Teams are all involved in the fundraising event. ■



**Missouri S&T students prepare their Haunted Mine to raise funds for local charities.**

## The people behind the awards

*Over the next few months, SME will briefly profile the engineers and miners who are remembered by the AIME-founded awards presented to SME members.*



**EAVENSON**

The **Howard N. Eavenson Award**, first presented in 1969, is given for distinguished contributions to the advancement of coal mining.

Howard N. Eavenson (1874-1953) obtained a bachelors degree from Swarthmore College and a civil engineering degree a few years later. At 26, he became chief engineer for United States Coal & Coke, a subsidiary of US Steel. For the next 18 years, he opened up several coal deposits and built 15 large coal plants in West Virginia and Kentucky. In 1920, Eavenson established his own consulting firm in Pittsburgh, PA and, by the time he became president of AIME in 1934, he was a director of Pittsburgh Coal Co. and chairman of the board of Appalachian Coals — a joint selling agency through which 137 producers of bituminous coal marketed more than 45 Mt/yr (50 million stpy).

Like his colleague Erskine Ramsay, Eavenson belonged to a small group of dynamic engineers-industrialists who developed America’s great coal mines with equipment that they often invented themselves. He was the first chair and principal organizer of the Coal Division of AIME in 1930. In 1935, he wrote the book *Coal Through the Ages*, a compilation of three of his papers that were presented to AIME sections during his presidential visits. He also wrote many technical papers for AIME *Transactions*. He received the William Lawrence Saunders Gold Medal in 1950.



**RAMSAY**

The **Erskine Ramsay Medal** was established in 1948 to recognize distinguished achievement in coal mining, both bituminous coal and anthracite.

Erskine Ramsay (1864-1953) graduated from Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, PA in 1883. By age 20, he was the superintendent of H.C. Frick Coke Co.’s Monastery mines and coal works, which produced the third largest amount of coal in Pennsylvania. He then joined the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Co. at its Pratt Mines near Birmingham, AL and, in 1895, became the assistant general manager. An avid inventor, Ramsay was granted his first patent in 1897, for a coal and mineral washer. Subsequent inventions centered on improvement in the coal-mining process and in the safety of miners. Ramsay was involved in the design of a mine car with a safety cage and an automatic car stop.

Other inventions include the rotary car dump, the swivel coupling, the use of shaking screens and improved washers. The latter two inventions improved the process of removing coal from other minerals in a more efficient manner. Ramsay served as head of the Republican National Committee and, in 1911, was appointed by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as member of a commission to study coal-mining methods in Europe. During World War I, he served on the Committee on Coal Production. He received the William Lawrence Saunders Gold Medal in 1937.