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THIS ISSUE

This month, Coal Age *publishes the annual U.S. Longwall Census and it finds this group of underground coal operators ramping up capacity. On the cover, a longwall shearing machine cuts coal from the face.*

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Despite the times, old and new names acquire assets and begin to chart a new course

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THIS ISSUE

This month, Coal Age covers dragline restoration, featuring the story of Carmen, a dragline that North American Coal Co. recently moved from Wyoming to eastern Texas. Following its refurbishment, a revitalized dragline walked off the pad in January and began moving overburden at the Caddo Creek Resources' Cabot Marshall lignite mine. Cover photo courtesy of CCC Group.

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EARTH

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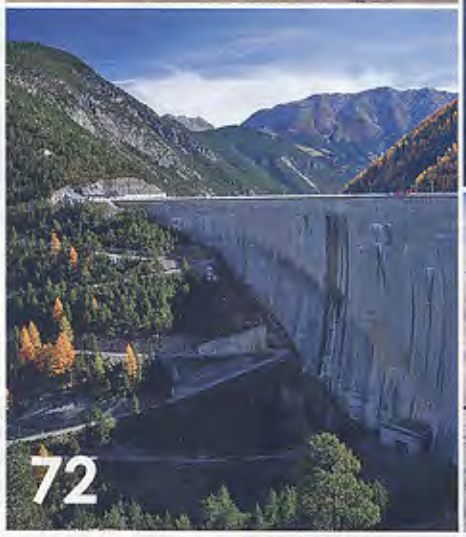
In 2010, collector Forrest Fenn filled a bronze chest with gold, jewelry and artifacts valued at $1 million to $2 million, which he then hid somewhere in the Rocky Mountains north of Santa Fe, N.M., leaving clues to its location in a mysterious poem. Thousands of treasure hunters — including the author, one of EARTH's roving correspondents — are on the trail, but no one has found it yet. | Mary Caperton Morton

54 | ASBESTOS FOUND IN NEVADA AND ARIZONA: Roadblock and Potential Health Hazard?

The discovery of a previously unknown type of asbestos-forming geologic environment means asbestos may be more widespread than thought. But is it a health hazard? | Sara E. Pratt

62 | TRAVELS IN GEOLOGY: Exploring Connecticut's Ancient Rift Valley

Fifty years ago, a bulldozer operator in Connecticut discovered one of the largest dinosaur tracksites in North America, now preserved at Dinosaur State Park. The formation of the tracksite, which lies in the remnant of a Triassic rift valley, is linked with the demise of the supercontinent Pangea. | Terri Cook



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Scientists and dam managers are studying how the very dams that disrupt river ecosystems can be used to restore them using controlled releases of water. | Terri Cook

80 | A JOURNEY TO PLUTO AND BEYOND WITH NEW HORIZONS

NASA's New Horizons spacecraft, the first mission to Pluto, will reach the former planet on July 14, 2015. After that, it will fly by the Kuiper Belt to explore the most distant bodies in the solar system. | Barry E. DiGregorio

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What is it like to descend into a volcanic caldera? The author — a geoscience education consultant and ski instructor — travels to South America to find out. | Karin Kirk

ON THE COVER: A map and a poem hold clues to Forrest Fenn's modern-day treasure hunt in the Rocky Mountains. Illustration Credit: Kathleen Cantner, AGI; Map Credit: Benchmark Maps

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14 OUR FLAWED PERCEPTIONS OF RISK
Growing up in Southern California, the author knew the damage earthquakes could do, but didn't worry about it as much as distant friends and family did. New research suggests this phenomenon may come down to how we perceive probabilities and risk.
| Katherine Fox-Glassman

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Why humans seem to fear nature so much — when we are the ones dominating it — is unclear. However, a glance at how nature and wildlife are portrayed in print and on screen reveals our long history (with some exceptions) of declawing it to make ourselves feel safer.
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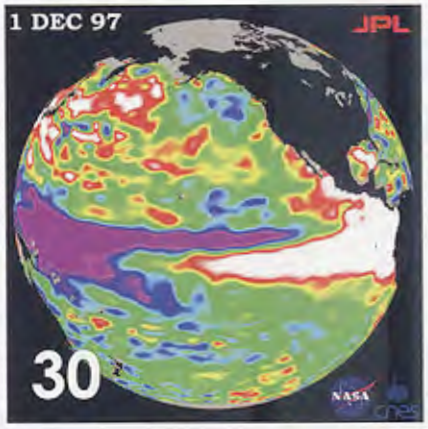

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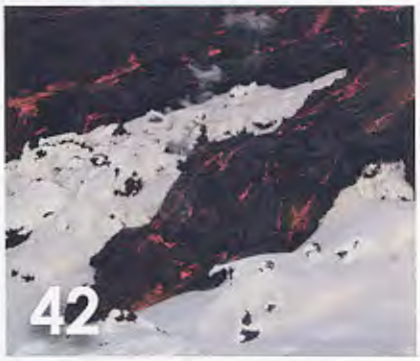

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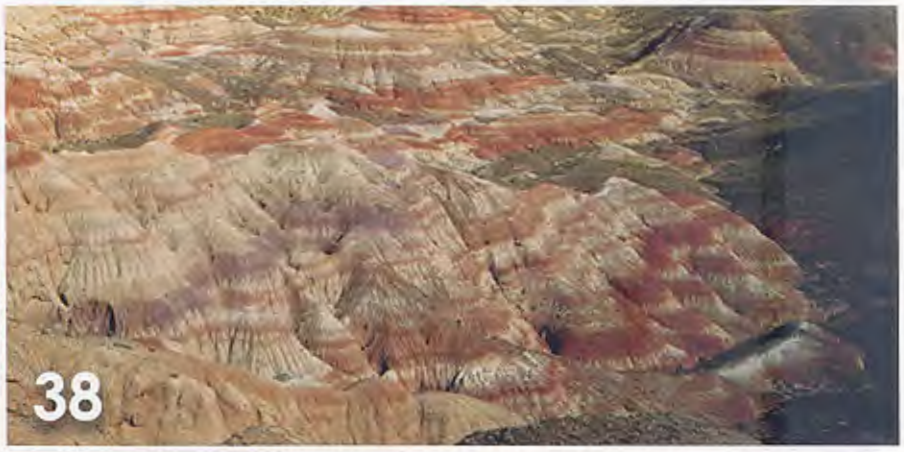

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Call for Papers

ISEE's Conference Program Committee has issued its Call for Papers for the 42nd Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Highlights of the 41st Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Drillers

Seven principles for drillers and blasters to follow to experience marked improvement in their drilling and blasting programs.

Comparing Raise Drilling Techniques

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22nd Annual Photo Contest Winners

On the Cover: Trethewey Creek Hydroelectric Project, British Columbia, Canada. Photo by Corry Goumans.

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The science and art of natural resource management for sustainability

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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Are you working on cutting edge research in soil and water conservation? Does your work involve new tools, technologies, or materials that others should be aware of? Have you observed or been a part of conservation practices that are worth sharing with the journal audience?

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, you are invited to submit your article ideas for the A Section of the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation.*

Your work could be published in one of the A Section topic areas: Conservation in Practice, Viewpoint, Ideas & Innovations, Conservation in Action, In the News, Feature, etc.

To submit your article ideas or for more information, contact editor Annie Binder at annie.binder@swcs.org

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Beautiful purple flower at spring in the meadow.
Photo by Nneirda.

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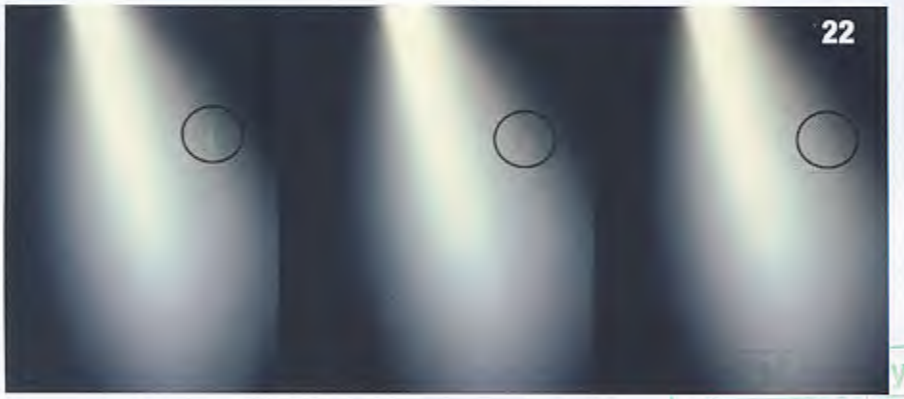

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