

# Mining Cigarette Lighters

by Dave Johnson

*Virtually all miners were smokers. Even the Hansen trademark shown right depicts this in it's portrayal of a "classic miner". Tobacco related companies targeted the mining market with specialty advertising paraphernalia as in the lighters described in this article.*



Past issues of Eureka have featured articles on Bits on watch fobs, pocket mirrors, letter clips, paper weights, letter openers, scatter tags, and ashtrays. Joining the ever expanding list of mining-related advertising collectibles are cigarette lighters. Mining-related cigarette lighters can be broken into three categories.

First, there are lighters that were meant as souvenirs such as the lighter given to delegates at the 1956 UMWA Constitutional Convention. The lighters given to participants at the Northern West Virginia Coal Mining Institute Safety Day on August 30, 1952 and those given to participants at the Central West Virginia Coal Mining Institute, Inc. Safety Day on October 21, 1967 fall into this category.

The second category consists of lighters given as safety awards by mining companies to their employees. Examples of this type of lighter are those from the Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation Vesta-Shannopin Coal Division and those from the White Pine Copper Co.

The third, and by far largest, category are those lighters advertising a mining company or a company product, be it the product of the mining company such as coal or a product produced for the mining trade, such as explosives and equipment. Examples of these are the advertising piece for the Ace Bit Company, PBS Coals, Inc. Philpott Coal Corporation, Brian Hill Coal Co., Chaffin Coal Co., M.A. Hanna Co. and Consolidation Coal Co.

The largest producer of mining-related lighters is Zippo. Other manufacturers I have found are Scripto, Windmaster, Surefire, Windguard, Nationwide and Park Industries.

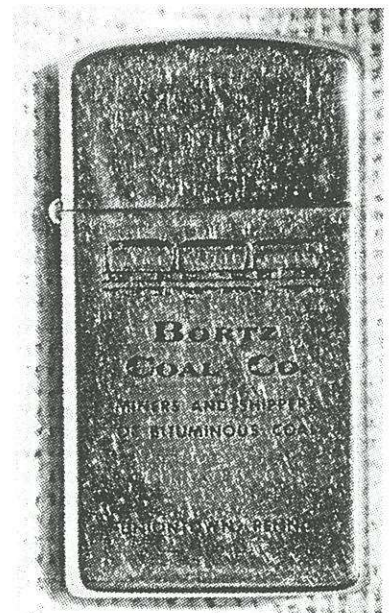
Next time you see cigarette lighters at a flea market check them out, they might be a mining lighter.



Jones & Laughlin lighter made by Zippo.



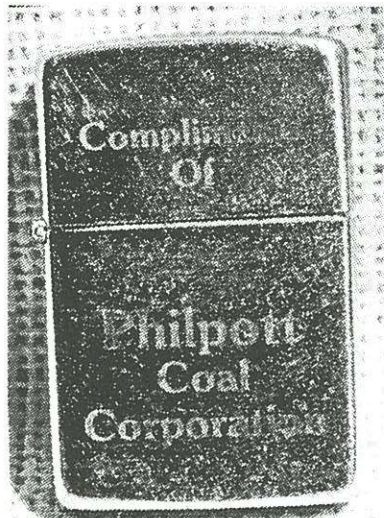
Guyan-Island Creek advertising lighter.



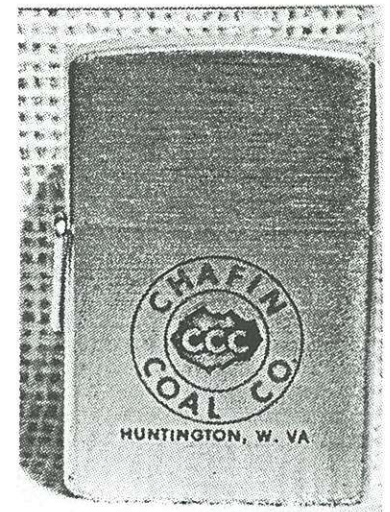
Marion Washed Coals advertising lighter.



Ozark-Mahoning 5 year safety award lighter.



Philpott Coal Corp. lighter made by Windguard.



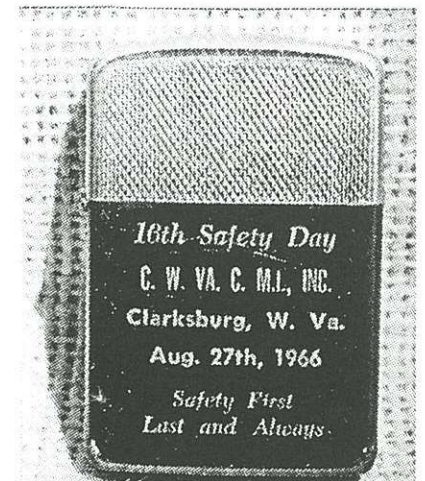
Chafin Coal Co. lighter made by Zippo.



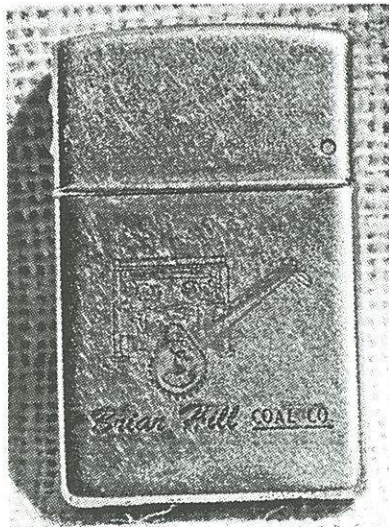
1956 UMWA Natl. Convention souvenir lighter.



Central W. Va. coal Mining Industries lighter made by Park Industries



Back of CWVa CMII Coal Mining safety award lighter.



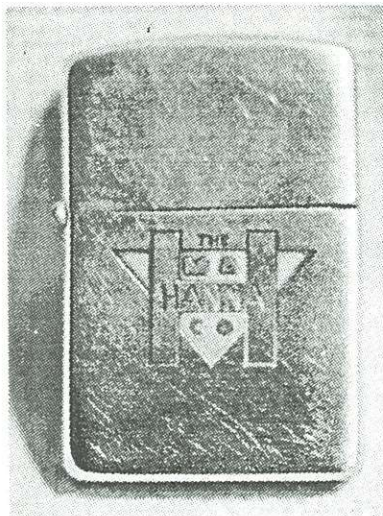
Brian Hill Coal Co. lighter made by Windmaster.



Ace Bit Co. lighter made by Nationwide.



Consolidation Coal Co. lighter made by Park Industries



M.A. Hanna Co. lighter made by Zippo



P.B.S. Coals, Inc. Scripto Brand lighter.



Northern West Virginia Coal Mining Institute lighter made by Zippo.



Christopher Coal Co. safety award lighter.



White Pine Copper Co. lighter made by Zippo.



Back of White Pine Copper Co. lighter.