

# Famous September Mining Incidents

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## September 1

September has produced **38 mine disasters** with 5 or more fatalities.

See more at <http://bit.ly/2uaLfU4> 🔍 👁

The **top 3 deadliest disasters** were:

Avondale (PA) - 110 dead

Sublet No. 5 (WY) - 39 dead

Osceola (MI) - 30 dead

## September Mine Disaster Calendar 📅

Be sure to visit our September calendar page. There you'll find scores of successful rescues and incidents of rescuer death that we've uncovered from news archives and accident reports. To date we've collected information on more than **1,350 rescues** and over **475 rescuer deaths** dating back to 1846. See more at

<http://bit.ly/39d5Yp8> 🔍 👁

## September 1

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 1, 1937 🍺

**Badger Mine Fall of Ground, Butte, Montana** — William E. Church was rescued by fellow-workmen after being trapped for — **15 hours** — by a fall of ground in the

Badger mine. Church, with three companions, had been working on a sill over a fill stope, when the ground gave way. Church dropped 18 feet. His companions could hear his cries for help but could not see him. They gave reassurance as they worked. Church was protected by the timbers from rock and earth pressure. He was not injured. See more at <https://bit.ly/3L8QYy7> 🔍 👁

## September 2

Honoring the memory of the 10 miners killed in this Logan, West Virginia mine explosion. See more at <http://bit.ly/3cuqeoO> 🔍 👁

### **Macbeth Mine Explosion Logan, Logan County, West Virginia**

September 2, 1936

No. Killed - 10

It took crews working in relays a full day after the blast to bore through 400 feet of tumbled slate, coal, timbers, and other debris to entry No. 14, two miles back, where the last four miners were found. They had been in the exact center of the blast and all their bodies were badly burned. The other men were discovered in entries 12 and 13, or even closer to the front of the mine.

**Six months later, 18 more miners would be killed in another explosion in this same mine.** See more at <http://bit.ly/2lqzNYO> 🔍 👁

## September 3

Anxious to get out of the mine early, these miners chose to violate company policy and common sense which resulted in one of the most horrible and gruesome disasters that you'll read about. See more at <http://bit.ly/2wzvK2B> 🔍 👁

### **Butte-Superior Mine Hoisting Disaster Butte, Silver Bow County, Montana**

September 3, 1911

No. Killed - 6

## September 3

### Superior Smokeless Coal Company Tahona No. 29 Mine Explosion Tahona, LeFlore County, Oklahoma

September 3, 1926

No. Killed - 16

See more at <http://bit.ly/2xkKdpX> 🔍 👁

### Successful Rescue 🍺

After about **3 hours**, George Adams saved himself and three workmen, including Sam Cox. Cox was burned and was bleeding about the body. Adams dragged him through the debris to the surface and then returned for the two other men. At another location, Lee Carter was almost overcome by gas fumes when a rescue party carried him to safety after an **undisclosed period**.

## September 4

Largely because of a routine practice to hoist the mules out of the mine in the second cage, these 14 miners would never leave the mine again. See more at <http://bit.ly/2vR5x5Q> 🔍 👁

### Union Coal Company Union No. 1 Mine Collapse Adamson, Pittsburg County, Oklahoma

September 4, 1914

No. Killed – 14

## September 5

### Successful Rescue on Sept. 5, 1927 🍺

**Brindle Mine Asphyxiation, Latrobe, Pennsylvania** — N. Mack Morley lay for — **6 hours** — in the Brindle mine before he was finally rescued. Fastened together with a rope so that if one of their number was overcome by the treacherous blackdamp the others could drag him, three members of a rescue crew, succeeded in getting through the pocket of gas which for hours had baffled their efforts to rescue Morley. Working as quickly as possible, the first man in the chain passed his arms under the prostrated man and he was dragged to safety. The successful rescue attempt had been preceded by a number of futile efforts to reach the miner.

The chain of men which finally succeeded in making the rescue was composed of: Kermit Topper, Andy Hefflefinger, and Floyd Hefflefinger, with the latter in the lead. Morley was unconscious when rescued. He was placed in Gosnell's ambulance and rushed to the Latrobe hospital. See more at <https://bit.ly/33ISfZT> 🔍👁

## September 6

On September 6<sup>th</sup> we commemorate the **155<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the **24<sup>th</sup> deadliest coal mine disaster** in the nation. ✚

### Avondale Colliery

### Steuben Shaft Mine Fire

### Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

September 6, 1869

No. Killed - 110

See more at <http://bit.ly/2uTNOHi> 🔍👁

### Rescuer Deaths 🚒

**Thomas W. Williams** of Plymouth and **David Jones** of Grand Tunnel entered what subsequently proved to them the pit of death.

After reaching the bottom of the shaft they made signals for pick and shovel to be sent to them. Accordingly, the bucket was hoisted, and the tools were put in and sent to them. After waiting some time, and hearing nothing from the men, the bucket was again raised, and two fresh men went down to search for them.

Both Williams and Jones were lying insensible. The body of Williams was immediately sent up with the men who went down, only Jones remaining. After long continued efforts to resuscitate Williams, the melancholy truth had to be accepted that his life had been given in sacrifice for the dead, and that another victim was added to the fearful disaster.

## September 6

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 6, 1940 📄

**Bootleg Anthracite Mine Cave-in, Branchdale, Pennsylvania** — Two Pine Grove miners were rescued alive after being trapped — **15 hours** — in a bootleg mine operation near Branchdale. James Kimmerling, 50, and Rep Batz, 32, were found uninjured but suffering greatly from cold and shock after they had been

trapped in cramped quarters following the fall of many tons of coal. The two miners were working in a gangway 20 feet in from the bottom of a shaft when the bottom fell out of their working place when it was driven into old workings. As the bottom dropped, the mine collapsed. Kimmerling and Batz stepped to a narrow ledge and clung there while rescuers worked 15 long hours to remove debris, place timber and reopen the workings to reach the trapped who aided by directing activities of the rescuers. Miners who assisted in timbering the old workings and driving a new tunnel to reach the men marveled they escaped with their lives. See more at <https://bit.ly/3hbzzGw> 🔍 👁

## September 7

Commemorating the anniversary of the **11<sup>th</sup> deadliest metal and nonmetal mine disaster** in the United States. ✚

### Osceola Consolidated Mining Company Osceola Copper Mine Fire Calumet, Houghton County, Michigan

September 7, 1895

No. Killed – 30

See more at <http://bit.ly/2LArOej> 🔍 👁

## September 8

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 8, 1905 📅 us

**North End Coal Company Mine Cave-in, Scranton, Pennsylvania** — Joe Oinesky was trapped under a fall of coal for — **14 hours** — in the North End Coal Company's mine near Scranton, Pennsylvania. He was finally released after forty carloads of coal and rock were dug from around him. Remarkably he was saved from injury by the fact that two big slabs of rock formed a sort of tent over him. See more at <https://bit.ly/33RsbvF> 🔍 👁

## September 8

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 8, 1915 📅

**Archbald Colliery Roof Fall, Archbald, Pennsylvania** — **Twenty-seven hours** of imprisonment behind hundreds of tons of rock ended for four miners in the Archbald Coal Company's colliery who had been trapped by an extensive fall of roof. One-half slice of bread was all the food the four men had in more than thirty hours. They divided that before their matches gave out. A little cold coffee in their dinner

buckets was all they had to drink, and that, too, they divided. But they are hardy men and strong and used to exposure. And when they were hauled to the surface over a 3,000-foot slope that tops the vein they were penned in, they leaped from the mine cars and half ran to the company's office. See more at <https://bit.ly/3FUifW8> 🔍 👁

## September 9

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 9, 1919 🍺

**Abandoned Rudisill Mine Shaft Fall of Person, Charlotte, North Carolina** —

After his fall to the bottom and being trapped **all night and half a day**, Miles Pegram was pulled from the 36-foot Rudisill gold mine shaft. Nearby residents who heard his calls went to his rescue and sent ropes down and hauled him to the top. He was not injured. Mr. Pegram was in the vicinity of the old mine, when he stepped into some honeysuckle vines and fell. Before he could recover, he had plunged into the hole and went to the bottom. At police headquarters it was said the entrance to the shaft was so hidden by the growth of vines that it was not surprising than an accident had come. See more at <https://bit.ly/3GRj50v> 🔍 👁

## September 10

**McDowell County, West Virginia**

**22 mine disasters of 5 or more fatalities** have occurred in McDowell County, West Virginia. This is the **3<sup>rd</sup> highest** for any county in the United States. McDowell County is tied with Jefferson County, Alabama. See more at <https://bit.ly/47w7vFO> 🔍 👁

## September 11

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 11, 1940 🍺 us

**Silver King's Alliance Mine Cave-in, Park City, Utah** — Nine miners from Park City were rescued unhurt from a cave-in in the Silver King's Alliance shaft.

Everybody that was trapped was rescued alive, and all were unhurt. Apparently, they suffered little discomfort, except the mental anguish of being trapped underground. Sandwiches and coffee were lowered to them during the day through a narrow cut by rescuers. The men were — **21 hours** — underground. The cave-in occurred when a waste chute collapsed between the 800 and 900-foot levels. See more at <https://bit.ly/2SLgeTd> 🔍 👁

## September 12

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 12, 1914 🍺

**Alderson Mine Cave-in, Placerville, California** — William Williams, a miner, who was buried alive by a cave-in at the Alderson Mine, was dug out safe and sound after having been imprisoned for **12 hours**. He had plenty of air to breathe at all times and was not cramped for space in which to stretch his limbs. A hole large enough for a man to crawl through was dug through fifteen feet of gravel and Williams crawled to liberty by means of it. See more at <https://bit.ly/3nKpwuM>



## September 13

Remembering the Pyro Mine Explosion in Kentucky where 10 miners lost their lives.

**Pyro Mining Company**

**William Station No. 9 Mine Explosion**

**Sullivan, Union County, Kentucky**

September 13, 1989

No. Killed - 10

See more at <http://bit.ly/2LKHDzf> 🔍 👁

This disaster occurred at the same time they were conducting the 1989 National Coal Mine Rescue Contest in Louisville, Kentucky.

At about 9:13 a.m., September 13, 1989, an explosion occurred on Longwall Panel "O" between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> West entries off the first Main North entry, of Pyro Mining Company's Pyro No. 9 Slope, William Station Mine, located at Sullivan, Kentucky.

Fourteen miners were present in the longwall recovery area at the time of the explosion. Ten died because of the explosion; four escaped, despite being exposed to high concentrations of carbon monoxide and smoke. It occurred on the 13<sup>th</sup> of the month, but it wasn't a Friday. 🐱

## September 14

Here's one the Carnegie Hero Fund missed. This employer missed an opportunity to honor the family of this hero. 🇺🇸

### **Morgan Coal Mining Corporation**

#### **Red Tail No. 2 Mine Fire**

#### **Bethesda, Belmont County, Ohio**

September 14, 1966

No. Killed - 3

See more at <http://bit.ly/2OX3S5M> 🔍 👁

### **Rescuer Death** 🚒

**William Adams**, 33, of Barnesville, Ohio, was outside when a fire broke out deep inside the Morgan Mine near Bethesda, Ohio. He ran into the mine and sounded the alarm. Counting only 12 men running out, he then went inside again in search of Keith Spicer, 22, of Dillonvale, Ohio, a miner for only two months, and Tony Territti, 43, of Wheeling. None of the three men surfaced from the mine.

## September 15

### **Successful Rescue** on Sept. 15, 1899 🍺

Michael Oroko was rescued from a mine breach near Shenandoah, Pennsylvania after an **undisclosed period**. The breach was sixty feet deep with perpendicular sides thwarting his ability to climb out. His plight was discovered by a miner returning home from work. Oroko was almost dead when taken out suffering from hunger, thirst, and exposure. He was forced to stand in knee-deep water the entire time he was confined. See more at <http://bit.ly/3kik4eX> 🔍 👁

## September 15

In memory of the 17 miners killed in this McDowell County mine explosion in West Virginia. ✚

### **Algoma Coal and Coke Company**

#### **Big Four Mine Explosion**

#### **Algoma, McDowell County, West Virginia**

September 15, 1902

No. Killed - 17



See more at <http://bit.ly/2Ltqk3Z> 🔍 👁

### **Successful Rescue** 🍺

H. F. Frankenfeld, a mine boss, and George Gaspie, a Hungarian miner, succeeded in crawling over fallen coal and slate after the explosion to the lights of the rescuing party and were taken out alive although burned and nearly suffocated by the gas and smoke inhaled.

## **September 16**

### **Successful Rescue** on Sept. 16, 1940 🍺

**Bootleg Anthracite Mine Cave-in, Brady, Pennsylvania** — After a terrifying experience of being buried alive for **four hours**, Charles Madden recuperated in the Shamokin State Hospital. Madden had been at work in a coal hole north of Brady when there was a slide of rock and he vanished from sight. He suffered a crushed left leg but was otherwise little the worse for his experience, there having been sufficient air space in his living tomb to prevent suffocation. See more at <https://bit.ly/3qQNmas> 🔍 👁

## **September 16**

### **Successful Rescue** on Sept. 16, 1921 🍺 us

**Coalbrook Mine Cave-in, Carbondale, Pennsylvania** — Peter Sufjack and Stanley Falosky, two of the four miners entombed for — **twenty-four hours** — in the Coalbrook mine of the Hudson Coal Company at Carbondale were rescued alive at noon on this day. William Morcum and Dominick Alving, the other two miners were rescued alive earlier in the day. See more at <https://bit.ly/33W93Nh> 🔍 👁

## **September 16**

### **Commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sublet No. 5 Mine Explosion in Wyoming**

#### **Kemmerer Coal Company**

#### **Sublet No. 5 Mine Explosion**

Sublet, Lincoln County, Wyoming

September 16, 1924

No. Killed - 39

See more at <https://bit.ly/3GAZRxz> 🔍 👁

*(From Bureau of Mines report, by E. H. Denny and K. L. Marshall)*

The explosion, about 11:45 a.m., gave little surface evidence; two distinct reports and a cloud of dust came from the mouth of the rock slope. Most of the 39 victims were quickly killed by flame and suffocation. Twelve men of the 7 south entry walked out of the rock slope some hours after the explosion. Rescue experts and crews with apparatus were gathered from neighboring mines and from a distance and labored until Oct. 14 to restore ventilation and recover the bodies, under the difficulties of rock falls, flooded workings, and general wreckage. The 12 north entry in which the explosion originated was caved for almost the entire length. Enough gas was regularly given off in the mine to entail immediate hazard if ventilation was even temporarily interrupted. Edison electric cap lamps were used; but regular tests for gas were neglected. Dust was sprinkled on entries and slope.

## September 17

**Rescuer Death** on Sept. 17, 1915 🧑‍🚒

**Thomas Hendrickson**, a foreman of the International Exploration Company, lost his life while wearing a Draeger helmet-type apparatus breathing apparatus during an exploration in the Alta-Quincy tunnel, near Salt Lake City, Utah, leased by the Albion Mining Company.

After traveling about 2,000 feet, Hendrickson experienced difficulty with his apparatus, and after retreating about 200 feet, assisted by another man, he collapsed. In falling, he pulled the mouthpiece and nose clip off the face of his companion, who then tried to break a compressed-air line to get air. Finding himself becoming exhausted he was compelled to leave Hendrickson and retreat toward fresh air. See more at <http://bit.ly/2MwFdmK> 🔍 👁👁

For more information regarding fatalities related to self-contained breathing apparatus, visit <https://bit.ly/3ERIWrg> 🔍 👁👁

## September 18

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 18, 1905 🍺 us

**Kirtley Mine Cave-in, Georgetown, Colorado** — After men worked continuously for **44 hours**, John O'Day was rescued from a perilous position in the Kirtley mine at Georgetown, Colorado, where he had been confined without light, food or water. O'Day seemed none the worse for his long confinement. He wanted to walk to town, but a carriage conveyed him to his hotel in Georgetown. This was the second

experience of entombment for O'Day. He was confined once before for 36 hours. See more at <https://bit.ly/3uNtcT6> 🔍 👁

## September 19

### Mathies Coal Company

#### Mathies Mine Fatal Hoisting Accident

#### Courtney, Washington County, Pennsylvania

September 19, 1979

See more at <http://bit.ly/2PmuwUF> 🔍 👁

In the process of testing a newly installed rescue capsule in the 335-foot shaft of Consolidation Coal Company's Mathies Mine in Peters Township, Washington County, PA, company safety inspector, **John Marn**, plunged 180 feet to his death after the capsule's coupling device broke. The Washington County Coroner, Farrell Jackson, ruled that Edward Nogal, federal mine inspector, was partially responsible for Marn's death.

## September 19

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 19, 1912 🍺

**Central Coal Mine No. 42 Cave-in, Wier, Kansas** — Antonio Mullain, a miner who was imprisoned in the Central Coal Company's mine No. 42 was rescued following an **undisclosed period** after the rescue party had dug through twenty feet of solid coal. Mullain's worst injury was a broken leg. See more at <https://bit.ly/3K1M2ux> 🔍 👁

## September 21

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 21, 1957 🍺

**International Salt Mine Hoist Accident, Detroit, Michigan** — A safety saving device was credited with saving the lives of six men who fell 200 feet down a mine shaft when a hoist cable snapped. The device was a set of clamps installed in the 1,200-foot shaft of the International Salt Company mine in the downriver area near the Ford Rouge plant. A cage carrying the men back to the surface plunged downward again when a cable snapped. The safety clamps stopped the fall at the 900-foot level, but it took — **five hours** — to complete the rescue. None of the workers were injured, despite their harrowing experience. See more at <https://bit.ly/3qMGcnw> 🔍 👁

## September 22

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 22, 2003 🍺

**Abandoned Mine Shaft Rescue, Santa Fe, New Mexico** — Rescuers hoisted a 27-year-old Santa Fe man out of an old mineshaft, more than — **20 hours** — after he fell while climbing into the shaft. The man apparently injured his ankle during the fall but otherwise suffered only minor cuts and bruises. He was taken to St. Vincent Hospital for a routine checkup. The man's family looked on throughout the three-hour rescue operation. Ten yards from the hole, an old cotton-braid rope was tied off to a small shrub. The rope apparently broke after the man climbed into the shaft. **Officials weren't sure how far he fell, but he was found at the bottom, about 115 feet down.** See more at <https://bit.ly/3Ao96Nt> 🔍 👁

## September 23

On September 23<sup>rd</sup> we honor the memory of the 13 miners killed in the 2001 Jim Walter No. 5 mine explosions. ✚

**Jim Walter Resources**

**No. 5 Mine Explosions**

**Brookwood, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama**

September 23, 2001

No. Killed - 13 Killed

See more at <http://bit.ly/2uOVdb6> 🔍 👁

**Rescuer Deaths** 🚒

After communicating with the section foreman about the events of the initial blast in 4 Section, 3 other miners entered the 4 Section to rescue the remaining injured miners. Additional miners from other sections were notified and traveled toward 4 Section to lend assistance. Five of these miners entered the Section and another 4 reached the mouth of the 4 Section. **The second explosion resulted in 12 fatalities** and widespread destruction.

## September 23

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 23, 1964 🍺

**Nuclear Test Site Entrapment, Mercury, Nevada** — The last of four men trapped in an 1,800-foot-deep test hole was hoisted to the surface. All were in good condition. They had been lowered fresh food and other supplies throughout their

— **3½ day** — ordeal at the Nevada nuclear test site. Last to come up was George R. Cooper, of Tucson. Arizona. The others rescued earlier were Floyd Shaw, Leland Roeder, and Art Luhnnow. They were stranded when a thick cable, being installed to link instruments in the underground nuclear blast chamber fell into a spaghetti-like tangle – jamming the shaft. Workmen, toiling around the clock finally cleared the cable, restored the elevator to operating condition, and began bringing up the quartet. See more at <https://bit.ly/3yep1Ms> 🔍 👁

## September 24

### **Moffett Schrader Mining Company Primrose Colliery Explosion Minersville, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania**

September 24, 1943

No. Killed - 14

See more at <http://bit.ly/2P2ck3H> 🔍 👁

### **Successful Rescue** 🍺

After an **undisclosed period** following the explosion, nine injured men were removed from the mine and taken to a hospital in nearby Pottsville. Most of them were suffering from burns, bruises, and shock. Only one of these, James Connelly, was believed to be in serious condition.

## September 25

### **Successful Rescue** on Sept. 25, 1934 🍺 us

**Independent Anthracite Mine Cave-in, Turkey Run, Pennsylvania** — John Birchess, 22, was rescued after being trapped for — **four hours** — in a coal hole near Turkey Run. He was covered almost to the neck, suffering injuries of the left chest, left hip, both knees and legs. He was removed to the Locust Mountain Hospital, where his condition was said to be serious. Birchess was working an "independent" mine hole with his partner when he was caught by a fall of dirt and rock. See more at <https://bit.ly/3lrLJWE> 🔍 👁

## September 26

### **Successful Rescue** on Sept. 26, 1989 🍺

**TM Coal Company Mine Roof Fall, Pikeville, Kentucky** — A Pike County coal miner, trapped for — **five hours** — by a roof fall, emerged unharmed after rescuers dug through a thick pile of rocks and coal with their hands. Herman Coleman, 41,

drove home after being rescued from the TM Coal Co. mine. It's kind of hard to explain," said Coleman, who had been working at the mine just two days. "It's just one of those things that will happen to miners as long as we work underground." He was operating a coal-cutting machine when a section of the roof fell. Coleman was examined by emergency medical technicians at the scene, given a clean bill of health and then allowed to drive home. See more at <https://bit.ly/33x9td7> 🔍👁

## September 27

Can't help but feel their pain when reading about miners trapped for long periods in dark, wet, stinking coal mines. Hard to imagine how "normal" ever returns for them.

### Rahn Colliery Explosion Coaldale, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania

September 27 – October 3, 1915

See more at <http://bit.ly/2SnLbtV>

### Successful Rescue 🍺

An explosion caused a rush of water and coal which cut off and entombed 11 men. Two of the men were rescued **12 hours** after the disaster. Another trapped miner walked unaided from the tunnel. But the other eight men were not reached until October 3, after an imprisonment of **6 days and 5 hours**. Three hundred men working 3 shifts per day drove the tunnel to reach the trapped miners. See more at <http://bit.ly/2IGsqMx> 🔍👁

## September 27

### Successful Rescue on Sept. 27, 1895 🍺

**Hillside Company Mine Lost Person, Avoca, Pennsylvania** — William Sanderson, aged 14 years, had been working three days in the Slope of the Hillside Company's mine at Avoca, when he was sent in the mine to notify the men that there would be no more work for the day. In trying to make his way to where the men were, he entered one of the former workings and lost his way. He traveled all night and was found the next morning by a searching party after an **undisclosed period**. His clothes were all torn in his attempt to climb out. The searching party was headed by superintendent Thomas H. Evans, who worked energetically all night and prevented work in the mine until the boy was found. See more at

<https://bit.ly/2UQVfyW> 🔍👁

## September 28

### Shakespeare Placer Gold Mine Rescue Dome Creek, Alaska

September 28, 1911

See more at <http://bit.ly/2uOXenl> 🔍 👁

Read how the USMRA helped NIOSH change this accident from a disaster to a success story at <http://bit.ly/2KZ5MxQ> 🔍 👁

### Successful Rescue 📄

The fourteen miners entombed in the Shakespeare Placer gold mine cave-in at Dome Creek, Alaska were freed after **84 hours**. The Keystone drill hole was enlarged by thawing until it was large enough to permit the body of a man to pass. Then the imprisoned miners were pulled up one after another 174 feet to the surface.

## September 28

Honoring the memory of the 28 miners killed following a massive cave-in and flooding at the Mansfield mine. 🛐

### Corrigan, Ives and Company of Cleveland Mansfield Mine Cave-in and Inundation Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan

September 28, 1893

No. Killed - 28

See more at <http://bit.ly/2YqDI3H> 🔍 👁

A heavy fall of ground occurred at the Mansfield mine, near Crystal Falls, entombing forty men with but little or no chance of escape. The water at this mine rose fast, the ore being soft, and the chances of rescuing any of the unfortunates alive were extremely poor. The situation was awful and the scene around the large cave-in was heartrending. The rescue party was doing everything possible to reach the poor fellows with little hope of reaching them in time.



## September 28

### **Franklin Coal and Coke Company Royalton North No. 1 Mine Fire and Explosion Royalton, Franklin County, Illinois**

September 28, 1918

No. Killed - 21

See more at <http://bit.ly/2sMzulJ> 🔍 👁

A fire caused by black-powder shots was discovered about midnight, Sept. 27, and a crew with several mine officials had nearly completed a seal on the intake when a man was sent to a telephone to order more materials.

The telephone was through a door and in the return from the fire. His open light ignited gas, and he was burned. Although rescued, he died the next day. Twenty-one men were killed by suffocation, and 13 others were slightly gassed.

## September 29

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 29, 1989 🍺

**Hidden Treasure Mine Rescue, Stockton, Utah — Joshua Dennis**, a 10-year-old gone missing from a Boy Scout exploring trip, was rescued after nearly — **one week** — from the abandoned Hidden Treasure Mine near Stockton, Utah. The boy was found by a Utah Power and Light Company mine rescue team, ranked among the best teams in the country. See more at <http://bit.ly/2DXe6fP> 🔍 👁

## September 30

**Rescuer Death** on Sept. 30, 1913 🚒

**Edward Evans**, an employee of the Bureau of Mines, lost his life while wearing a mouthpiece-type Draeger oxygen breathing apparatus. He was conducting mine rescue maneuvers with a complete crew at **a mine of the Union Pacific Coal Company, Rock Springs, Wyoming.**

At the time of this accident, the authorities were beginning to realize that there was much need for improving breathing apparatus. Tests conducted previously on the Draeger apparatus in England indicated that the regenerator of the apparatus could not absorb all of the carbon dioxide exhaled by the wearer while performing strenuous work. See more at <http://bit.ly/2ZtvKBR> 🔍 👁



For more information regarding fatalities related to self-contained breathing apparatus, visit <https://bit.ly/3ERIWrg> 🔍👁

## September 30

**Successful Rescue** on Sept. 30, 1894 🍺

**Northwest Colliery Cave-in, Carbondale, Pennsylvania** — The four miners who were entombed in the Northwest Colliery of Simpson & Watkins, near Carbondale, were rescued — **57 hours** — after having been buried alive. The rescued men were Thomas Mitchell, John J. Fanning, Andrew Clopposky and George Barney. Their experience was one of the most remarkable in the history of the coal regions. As the rescuer's pick made a hole through the wall the men inside cried, "Give us some water, for the love of God! We are dying!"

The rescuers had everything ready to aid the men and passed in a little weak tea and whisky, cautioning them to drink moderately, fearing ill effects after their long abstinence. After wetting their parched throats with the liquid, for they could not swallow at first, the men begged for food, but this was refused them, and the rescuers continued to break through until the hole had been sufficiently enlarged to enable one of them to crawl through and into the little chamber where the entombed men were lying. Considering that they had been without food or water and with impure air for nearly sixty hours, the men were in good condition and, after being fed and resting at the bottom of the shaft for some time, they regained considerate strength and were able to talk. See more at <https://bit.ly/3yf0esi>

