

SAVE BURIED REGION MINER

Michael Podovinski, 42, Shamokin, one of the owners of the Mutual Coal Company, a cooperative mine near Excelsior, was buried one hour under a rush of coal on Monday before rescued alive but injured.

He is a patient at Shamokin State Hospital suffering from a fractured right leg, internal and chest injuries and lacerations of the head and face.

His step-son, Edward Leszheskie, with whom he was working, left to get carbide for lighting purposes and Podovinski stepped into his working place. A moment later Leszheskie said he heard a rush and found his step-father covered with the exception of his left leg. They were the only two at work in the area and Leszheskie in rushing to summon aid fell several times and injured himself, but continued onward.

He returned with Anthony Kozinski, brother-in-law of Podovinski, and the four co-partners in the mining enterprise, Edward and Ray Stank, Thomas Gallagher, and Stanley Yablinski. They first drilled an opening so the victim could get air and an hour later had him liberated, alive and conscious.

The mine is one of the largest cooperatively owned operations between Excelsior and Brady.

1944 Michael Podovinski rescued from coal rush at Mutual Coal



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