# fentress county chapter

## D&H permit victory

SOCM members and other residents in and around Jamestown successfully stopped D&H Mining Company from getting another permit to strip mine near them. Citizens had earlier protested heavy blasting by the company and testified at a public hearing against giving another permit to them. The state immediately denied the portion of the site located in the Jamestown city limits and later, when the company didn't supply additional required information, the portion outside the town was also denied.

## strip mining in city limits of jamestown

In the course of the D&H fight, members succeeded in getting a clear interpretation by the Planning Commission that the Jamestown zoning ordinance did not allow strip mining in the city limits under any zoning classification. Members are now fighting an attempt by operators and some politicians in the area to change the zoning ordinance to allow mining under some conditions.

## severance tax

SOCM members met with officials of the Department of Revenue to see how citizens could help monitor severance tax payments in the county. They ran up against the stone wall of the confidentiality requirement of all payments to the Department of Revenue - that information on particular companies' payments would not be given out.

## universal coal permit fight

In an area west of Jamestown residents protested a permit application of Universal Coal Company. The proposed site lies within a half mile of the Fentress County Hospital and over 100 homes and the operation calls for blasting. A decision is still pending in this case.

## york permit fight

In the Allardt Community residents protested issuing a permit to York Coal Company for a site that is very close to homes, calls for blasting, and is in the watershed of the Jamestown city water supply. Comments at the public hearing brought about a request by the state for more information from the company. A decision is still pending in the case.

## clarkrange oil and gas project

In the Clarkrange Community many residents are worried about the effect of extensive oil and gas leasing and development in their area. They sponsered a meeting with State Division of Geology personnel to learn more about the laws regulating oil and gas production and are continuing to meet to work together on problems they agree are of concern to a lot of people .