



# The AAPG/EMD NEWSLETTER

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECEMBER MEETING

The EMD Executive Committee met at Norman, Okla., December 5, 1980. Secretary-Treasurer R. L. Fuchs, reported that the Division's accounts showed a cash balance of \$28,024 at the end of November.

President Jack Pederson, described progress on forthcoming conventions. The program scheduled for San Francisco in June 1981 was reviewed. A special feature this year will be a business meeting at the Tuesday noon EMD luncheon in order to vote on the new EMD by-laws. Henry Wennekers is working on the preliminary plans for the 1982 Meeting in Calgary, Alberta.

Also on technical meetings, Fuchs reported on progress for an EMD program at the Eastern Section Atlantic Margin Energy Conference in Atlantic City in October 1981. Vice President Sam Friedman, reported on his work with the Mid-Continent Section for the September 1981, meeting, and has made preliminary contact with the Gulf Coast group for the 1981 GCAGS Meeting in Corpus Christi. Pederson has written initial letters to the chairmen of future annual meetings. He also reported the next Circum-Pacific meeting is moving along well, with an EMD member having been selected as deputy program chairman.

Sam Friedman reported on future field seminars, including an Oklahoma Coal field trip in late May 1981, and a Tar Sands field trip in September 1981.

There was extensive discussion over awards for papers and posters at meetings. Sam Friedman was requested to reconvene the awards committee to resolve a number of questions such as how to handle a tie, how to recognize joint authors, and should EMD make separate awards in certain instances. Also, judges are needed for the San Francisco meeting, and additional personnel are required to serve on the awards committee.

Pederson reported on being in contact with a possible candidate to head the Membership/Outreach committee. The procedural plans for review and passage of the new bylaws, culminating with an effective date of July 1, 1981, were discussed and the Executive Committee also discussed several recommended changes in the AAPG bylaws.

The proposed officers' slate for the 1981-82 year was approved and interim procedures for conversion to the organization under the new EMD bylaws were considered. The nominating committee will be reconvened and asked to select a slate of provisional sectional councillors to serve during the 1981-82 year, prior to elections in the spring of 1982.

## SPECIAL URANIUM PANEL

Beginning at 1:30 P.M., June 1, EMD will host a panel session on "Survival Strategies of the U. S. Uranium Industry in the 1980's." In addition to four presentations there will be a discussion period. The panelists represent an independent uranium producer, a multi-mineral energy firm, an international bank, and a mineral economics consulting firm.

Do you have any comments on the directions of exploration, the availability of attractive properties, the risks you face today, your anticipations, and what you are doing about current circumstances, etc.? You are encouraged to join in the discussions. Also -- departing from the usual agenda for such meetings -- you are encouraged to prepare written comments on these issues. These should be sent to the panel session chairman, Jeremy Platt, EPRI, P.O. Box 10412, Palo Alto, Calif. 94303. If the response is sufficient, a separate publication of papers and comments will be recommended. Write soon!

The remainder of the afternoon will be devoted to scientific papers.

## EMD BRIDGES THE ENERGY GAP AT CONVENTION

EMD will sponsor four technical sessions, a poster session, and an awards luncheon and business meeting at the annual meeting in June.

A field trip to the Geysers geothermal field north of San Francisco will be especially interesting to EMD members. That trip will be held twice, on Sunday, May 31 and on Thursday June 4. Members are urged to register early! Sellouts are expected on everything at this biggest and best meeting ever.

The EMD program starts off Monday afternoon with a session on "Survival Strategies of the U.S. Uranium Industry in the 1980's," put together and chaired by Jeremy Platt. Tuesday morning features Bill Overbey and Pete Dana's program on oil shale, with papers on both eastern and western oil shales and on modern processing techniques.

Geothermal energy is the menu for Tuesday afternoon, with reports on the geology of new developments both in the U.S. and overseas. Glen Campbell will chair the session. The EMD poster sessions will be on display from Monday noon to Tuesday noon. Fourteen displays cover most of the energy minerals.

The Wednesday morning session is a potpourri of coal and "general" energy minerals topics. A special treat is R. Dana Russell's "Bridges to what future?" where he makes a strong case for solar energy, much as another veteran oil geologist, M. King Hubbert, has done recently. Chip Groat and Bill Hiss will chair this session.

Other EMD activities: Council meeting Monday at 5:00 p.m.; Awards luncheon and business meeting Tuesday noon; President's reception Tuesday 5:30 p.m.; Executive Committee meeting Wednesday at noon.

The big AAPG social event is Tuesday evening "An Academy Affair" at the Academy of Science in Golden Gate Park.

## COMMODITY INTEREST DESIGNATION

By now, you will have received a postcard from AAPG headquarters requesting that you designate commodities of interest to you. Please make your selection and return the card promptly, as this information will be helpful in planning future EMD technical programs and other member services.

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE NOW IN PROGRESS

An ad hoc committee is being formed in Denver to coordinate an Energy Minerals Division membership drive for 1981. Chairman, Pat Scher, is seeking volunteers for committee work and suggestions on how to reach prospective members and inform them of the advantages of being a part of EMD. Committee members include Claudia True of Mobil and Dave Oldham of CSMRI. Pat needs more representation from nuclear, oil shale, tar sands, and geothermal.

A personalized mailing program is planned to try to contact a wide spectrum of the scientific community. This program will try to reach all earth scientists in the coal and nuclear industries, as well as those who are developing oil shale, tar sands and geothermal deposits.

Personal contacts are needed within the various sectors and groups of industry, consulting, universities, research, etc., in order to attain a wide distribution for our mailings. Any present member of EMD who wishes to help, please contact Patrick L. Scher, c/o Mobil Oil Corporation, Mining & Coal Division, P.O. Box 5444, Denver, Colo. 80217. (303) 572-2543.

## MID-CONTINENT MEET SETS EMD SESSION

Vice President Sam Friedman, reports an Energy Minerals session will be included in the technical program on September 21, 1981, at the Mid-Continent section meeting in Oklahoma City. Papers to be presented will include "Gulf Coast Lignite," "Oklahoma Bituminous Coal," and other energy mineral topics.

## EMD IN ALBUQUERQUE

The Rocky Mountain Section of the AAPG will meet April 12-15 in Albuquerque. A large program of energy mineral topics is planned under the leadership of Frank Kottowski. Three sessions on uranium with a total of 24 papers are on the program, along with a coal and geothermal session, providing an additional eight technical papers. Session chairmen include Gene Saucier, Richard Chamberlain, David Combs, Robert Zielinski, Harold Granger, Ed Beaumont, and William Stone.

## OKLAHOMA COAL FIELD TRIP

EMD Vice President Sam Friedman, of the Oklahoma Geological Survey, will lead a special coal field trip on May 27-28, 1981. Participants will be able to observe surface coal mining and coal utilization in Oklahoma. The trip, which is sponsored by the Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education, will depart from and return to Tulsa. Contact John A. Boardman (405) 325-1931, for information and reservations.

## CALIFORNIA URANIUM SPECIAL FIELD TRIP

Nuclear councillor John Gabelman, is organizing a special uranium field trip to the Juniper deposit on Sonora Pass, to be held on June 4, right after the San Francisco AAPG meeting. Accessibility of this deposit is especially difficult and attendance will be limited only to the hardy, capable of withstanding and enjoying a 450 mile round trip in a back-wrenching 4-wheel drive vehicle. Cost will be \$70 per person, including lunch (no discount for persons selected to drive). Snow and mud conditions will be assessed in advance, and the go/no go decision will be made by May 29. Interested and healthy souls should contact Dr. John Gabelman, 23 Portland Court, Danville, Calif., 94526.

## OIL SHALE SYMPOSIA

Two oil shale meetings will take place in the Denver area this spring. On April 22-24, the Colorado School of Mines Division of Continuing Education will present a symposium updating information with respect to development of an oil shale program in the U.S. Requests for information should be sent to Dr. Harry W. Emrick, Director of Continuing Education, CSM, Golden, Colo., 80401.

On March 24-26 the Laramie Energy Technology Center will present the Fourth Annual Oil Shale Conversion Symposium. This will be a forum for the discussion of R & D presently being supported by DOE. For details write Dr. J. H. Weber, Laramie Energy Technology Center, P.O. Box 3395, University Station, Laramie, Wyo., 82071.

## EASTERN MINERAL LAW FOUNDATION

Geologists interested in broadening their appreciation of legal aspects of the extractive industries may wish to get on the mailing list of the Eastern Mineral Law Foundation. The group held its first seminar in March, 1980, and publishes a Newsletter for its members. While primarily geared to lawyers, many geologists may be interested in topics discussed.

President of the foundation and the contact person for inquiries is Samuel L. Douglass, 900 Oliver Building, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15222. (412) 434-8658.

## SECRETARY SUPPORTS NUCLEAR POWER

The United States has a new Secretary of Energy whose views on nuclear power have surfaced well in advance of his arrival in Washington.

Here is a quote: "Nuclear energy is the only answer we have, and I don't think we can put this in terms of kilowatts of energy. I think we have to put it in terms of the quality of life of the working men and women of America. So we have no alternative insofar as I am concerned. The only answer we have is nuclear energy, and with nuclear energy comes waste, and there is no reason in the world with all the technological advances we have in the world today why we can't manage that waste."

## COAL OFFICES CATALOG AVAILABLE

The U.S. Geological Survey has recently issued a catalog listing the addresses and phone numbers of more than 400 national and local coal-related offices of the U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Surface Mining and Bureau of Land Management. Single copies of the new publication, titled "Catalog of Selected Offices of the Office of Surface Mining, Bureau of Land Management, and the Geological Survey Relating to Coal, 1981" and identified as USGS Circular 840, may be obtained free of charge from the USGS Branch of Distribution, 604 South Picket Street, Arlington, Va. 22304.

## SYNFUELS FOR THE 1980'S

Wall Street is looking at the synthetic fuels industry with ever-increasing interest. Many large firms believe that this industry will be one of the biggest investment opportunities of the decade.

The financial community's growing involvement originates with the new \$88 billion synthetic fuels program which Congress passed in June. This program is loaded with federal loan guarantees and other incentives intended to develop a synfuel producing capability of 500,000 barrels per day by 1987 and two million barrels per day by 1992. A number of the major Wall Street firms have set up special synfuels task forces to concentrate on the investment opportunities which are arising.

Areas of specific interest include coal gasification, oil shale, and coal liquefaction.

## EMD MEETING CALENDAR

March 24-27, '81, The Cerro Prieto geothermal field of Baja California, Mexico, symposium in San Francisco, and field trip (March 27) to the Geysers geothermal field near Santa Rosa, Calif. Contact: Werner Schwartz, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, Earth Sciences Division, University of California, Berkeley, Calif. 94720.

April 12-15, '81, Rocky Mountain Sections, American Association of Petroleum Geologists and Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Albuquerque. Contact: T. E. Kelly, Geohydrology Associates, Inc., 3225 Candelaria Rd., N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87107.

May 31-June 3, AAPG annual meeting. San Francisco, California, Civic

Auditorium/Brooks Hall, Convention Headquarters; San Francisco Hilton, Hotel Hdqrs.; Gen. Chairman, Donald L. Ziegler, Chevron, USA, 575 Market Street, San Francisco, Calif. 94119. (415) 894-3161.

September 20-22, MID-CONTINENT SECTION, AAPG. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Sheraton-Century Hotel, Convention Hdqrs.; Gen. Chairman, James W. Cammack, 1500 City National Bank Tower, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73102. (405) 232-3721.

October 4-6, EASTERN SECTION, AAPG. Atlantic City, New Jersey. Playboy Hotel, Convention Hdqrs.; Gen. Chairman, Robert L. Fuchs, Geosystems Corporation, P.O. Box 352, Westport, Conn. 06880. (203) 226-6836.

October 20-23, GULF COAST SECTION, AAPG. Corpus Christi, Texas. Gen. Chairman, Wilson Humphrey, Border Exploration Company, 310 Melido Park, Corpus Christi, Texas 78411. (512) 883-1470.

Oct. 25-29, '81, Geothermal Resources Council, ann. mtg. Houston. (Sheila Roberts, Geothermal Resources Council, Box 98, Davis, Calif. 95616. (916) 758-2360) [December '80]

Nov. 2-5, '81, Geological Society of America, & associated societies, ann. mtg. Cincinnati. (GSA headquarters, 3300 Penrose Place, Boulder, Colo., 80301).

June 26-July 1, 1982, AAPG annual meeting. Calgary, Canada. Calgary Convention Centre, Convention Headquarters, Calgary, Canada. Gen. Chairman, James MacDonald, Dome Petroleum, P.O. Box 200, Calgary, Canada. (403) 232-5051.

August 22-28, 1982, THIRD CIRCUM-PACIFIC ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES CONFERENCE. Honolulu, Hawaii. Hilton Hawaiian Village, Hdqrs.; Gen. Chairman, J. Erick Mack, Jr., Union Geothermal Division, Union Oil Co. of California, 461 S. Boylston St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90017. (213) 977-6336.