

# THE ENERGY MINERALS GEOLOGIST

Newsletter of the Energy Minerals Division  
of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



EMD enters the last half of the last decade of the 20th century preparing for a 21st century that realistically will open with oil remaining as a dominant fuel that will not, as some had predicted, be in the process of being

replaced by the fuels that EMD centers its activities around. What does this portend for EMD? Are we representatives of a prediction that didn't come true and therefore of questionable usefulness? Or are we a group that must tread water until the day comes when coal, oil shale, tar sand, coalbed methane, and geothermal increase their roles?

The answer is "Neither of these." Coal is the dominant industrial and electricity generating fuel in the United States and many parts of the world. The other energy resources in the EMD collection have or will have roles that merit the continuing attention of professionals, especially as the economic and environmental climate their development occurs in becomes more demanding and complex. We also must realize, as AAPG has done, that there are challenges for energy resource professionals all around the world and we should not limit our horizons to the domestic scene. In fact, the greatest growth potential for EMD lies in the development of an international base by demonstrating that we offer services and expertise that can benefit energy mineral professionals from throughout the world. So, we are not an ill-fated prophecy or in a cosmic holding pattern, but we do need to increase the adrenaline level and make our future one of growth and expanded scope.

EMD enters 1994-95 with plans to increase our profile, and hopefully the activity level, in the Gulf Coast Section where most of our members reside, but where interest in EMD is considerably less than satisfactory. For the Houston AAPG Annual Meeting in March 1995, we will be attempting to increase the visibility of EMD program elements that should be of interest to all AAPG members, notably economic, policy, and environmental considerations.

Based on the high degree of interest in the Future of Energy session in Denver and the general interest among most geologists in energy trends and economics as they affect

our fuel mix, we are planning a new quarterly publication. We have concluded that a contemporary product that provides an outlet for commodity news and trends, economics, environment, brief technical reports, and EMD news would be of interest to present members and to recruits for membership. It also should have appeal beyond EMD in corporate and agency offices, providing an increased potential for subscription and advertising revenues. One option would combine a remodeling of our newsletter with the creation of a quarterly issues publication featuring articles on commodity trends, policies, and regulations (both economic and environmental) that affect alternate energy resources and articles on new developments in energy minerals exploration and utilization. This would be cast in an easy-to-read format resembling the *Explorer* and will be distributed to all EMD members. With a strong interest in increasing the benefits that accrue from being an EMD member, especially at a time when there is no fever pitch of activity in the development of alternate sources of energy, this publication could provide information of interest to a variety of energy professionals and create an incentive to join EMD.

**... [let's] make  
our future one  
of growth...**

Membership expansion is a major goal for EMD and a realistic appraisal suggests that the greatest opportunities are abroad. We will be seeking ways to become involved in AAPG international meetings and membership recruitment efforts. With our existing technical publications and a new quarterly featuring issues that transcend political boundaries, we hope to attract new members from the international community of geoscientists working in energy fields.

Within AAPG we will continue to work jointly with the Division of Environmental Geosciences and the Division of Professional Affairs in areas of mutual interest. The recently approved coal geologist certification program is a good example of how DPA and EMD have collaborated to provide coal professionals with a standing that will enhance their stature in the coal industry and in a world of pushy engineers.

EMD is alive, can make itself as well as it has the desire and energy to be, and has an agenda with an exciting future.

Chip Groat  
President, 1994-95

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1994

The Energy Minerals Division continues to encompass the mineral fuels and remote sensing. Over the last several years EMD has expanded its activities in coal and coalbed methane, and extended its scope to the economic balance of all fuels, coal geologist certification, and environmental aspects.

Coal now dominates the Division in interest, percentage of members, conference emphasis (papers and field trips), and publications, matching the growth of coal to dominate national fuel production and consumption. Coalbed methane follows closely. Certification of coal geologists is time-

ly as the coal industry cont'd. on next page

# GOOD DEAL!

Our Division has developed a tremendous opportunity for the membership!

Yes, EMD has formed an alliance with an AAPG associated society, the International Association for Mathematical Geology (IAMG), to cooperate on the refereed journal, *Nonrenewable Resources*. This journal will be made available to all EMD members at a reduced rate of \$25.00 for the year 1995 - this includes full rights and privileges of an IAMG member and four issues.

Articles on uranium, coal, etc. appear in *Nonrenewable Resources*, which is published by Oxford University Press four times per year. Our members are encouraged to submit manuscripts (3 are on their way even now), and all the published articles will be identified as EMD submittals. Our arrangement is one of cooperation, and the journal will reflect EMD's support. After the first year, the cost of the journal will return to its normal cost of \$45.00, so hurry and try it out now.

To take advantage of this terrific offer a form has been enclosed for your convenience. Jump on board with the journal that supports the interests of EMD!

# ANNUAL REPORT OF FISCAL YEAR 1994 . . . cont'd

absorbs geologists and technicians from depressed commodities. Certification adds a dimension to EMD and the Division of Professional Affairs. The AAPG House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting in Denver approved changes in the wording of AAPG Bylaws to enable DPA to undertake this function with the cooperation of EMD. Hopefully, the expansion to coal certification will facilitate certification for other specialties such as remote sensing.

Enforced regulation of all activities affecting the natural environment has become so extensive and detailed that all phases of the resource industries are unavoidably involved. All AAPG divisions and activities are affected. EMD has responded by maintaining close liaison with the Division of Environmental Geosciences. We are benefitting from joint technical sessions and luncheons, and plan joint publications. Reciprocally, we expect to contribute significantly to the health and progress of DEG. Many of our members also have joined DEG.

EMD membership was 1,862 as of 31 May 1994, down 61 members from the end of Fiscal 1993, and down 173 from our all-time peak of 2,037 in May 1992. Thus membership continues healthy despite the economic setbacks in all the fuel industries. Our membership now comprises 7.9% of AAPG membership compared to 5.87% a year ago, and an average of 4.9% for EMD history. Our International membership is fourth largest category in EMD, with members in 61 countries.

The EMD Fund balance as of the end of the third fiscal quarter was (\$5,842), a negative increase from (\$4,462) at the end of the first fiscal half. EMD is entering its sixth year of financial decline. Financial decline can be attributed to the combination of relatively static membership, static dues, inflating costs, minimal earning products, and increasing ambitions for division activity. To alleviate this situation we have begun a recovery program. Our operating philosophy is changing to one of "cost-plus reserve."

EMD dues have been increased 50% from \$10 to \$15 effective July 1994. Junior dues were increased from \$5 to \$8 and students from \$2 to \$5. Dues still are very modest compared to other societies.

Most important is our effort at more, better, and profitable activities. We have enhanced and formalized our Long Range Development Plan. Planned projects will be presented to the AAPG Advisory Council and Executive Committee for potential financial support, with the expectation of recovering investment. We have expanded our committee framework to include committees for International Affairs, Coal Certification, Commodity Economics, Development, Finance, and AAPG Liaison. A Corporate Relation committee is being organized.

Our most recently published book, *Geology in Coal Resource Utilization*, edited by D.C. Peters, has sold well enough to return our investment and justify continued sales at a discount.

EMD plans publication of a quarterly entitled *Energy Issues*, to address the economic status and policy matters affecting all energy resources. It will include economic analyses, evaluations, editorials, and technical papers. The first issue is scheduled for publication in 1995.

Also in planning is joint editorship with the Division of Environmental Geosciences of a volume describing the occurrence, nature, migration, and health effects of natural radon gas. The volume will include realistic evaluation of the threat radon imposes on society.

Another project being considered is a joint publication with The Society for Organic Petrology of a CD-ROM photo atlas of coal geology, using worldwide data.

The EMD Connection, the computer bulletin board managed by "Scott" McColloch at the West Virginia Geological Survey, has proved to be an excellent means of quick, convenient, and painless information exchange. It

continues to operate well thanks to Scott's electronic expertise. To compensate for decrease in usage of the bulletin board, Scott plans to supplement the bulletin board with EMD's presence on the Internet. The phone access number for the board is 302-594-3547.

EMD played a prominent role at the Annual Meeting in Denver with two oral sessions, three poster sessions, field trips to the Kaiparowits Plateau in Utah and the Piceance Basin in western Colorado, short courses on geostatistics and trace elements in coal, a luncheon, and booth. The symposium on the Future of Energy, featuring top authorities, was especially successful; the collection of papers will be submitted for publication. The luncheon and an oral session were joint with DEG, and emphasized the benefits of inter-division cooperation and the importance of environmentalism to all disciplines. All of these events were well attended.

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**ANNUAL REPORT . . . cont'd**

At the Annual Meeting, the EMD Distinguished Service Award was presented to Gretchen K. Hoffman for many years of organizing short courses and field trips. Samuel A. Friedman received the Distinguished Founders Award for being so long a key vertebra in EMD's spinal column. Carl J. Smith received the Past Presidents Award as well as an AAPG Distinguished Service Award. Recipient of our first Distinguished Contributor Award was Fred A. Dix Jr., the heart of AAPG Headquarters for so long. Certificates of Merit were presented to Melvin C. Erskine Jr., Michael N. Fein, Keith D. Murray, and Frank D. Pruett.

The Award for the Best Paper at the New Orleans meeting was presented to D. Keith Murray and Tom G. Falls for their paper entitled "Coalbed Methane in the United Kingdom". The Best Poster Award for that meeting went to J. C. Pashin and R. E. Carroll for their poster: Depositional Environments of Coalbed Methane Reservoirs in the Pottsville Formation (Lower Pennsylvanian), Cahaba Synclinorium, Alabama: Comparison with the Black Warrior Basin.

EMD always has been well represented at the Eastern and Rocky Mountain section meetings. This year we devoted special effort to increasing participation in the meetings of other sections. Although EMD hosted technical sessions only at the above two meetings, EMD-related papers were given at the Gulf Coast and Mid-Continent sections. Those at Shreveport were judged and an EMD Best Poster Award accorded to Donald W. Harrison for his poster: Correlation of Lignites in the Midway and Wilcox Groups of southern Alabama and eastern Mississippi. A desired level of participation in section meetings will be EMD-related papers and posters, judging them for EMD awards, a formal or informal lunch and discussion, and a booth.

Officers elected for the 1994-96 term were Gayle H. "Scott" McColloch as Vice President/President-Elect, James C. Cobb as Eastern Section Councillor, Brian J. Cardott as MidContinent Section Councillor, Elizabeth B. Campen as Rocky Mountain Section Councillor, and Douglas C. Bleakley as Pacific Section Councillor. We also welcome "Chip" Groat to office as President.

*John W. Gabelman  
President 1993-94*

**JOHN W. GABELMAN, DSc**

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**1994 ANNUAL MEETING —  
A GREAT SUCCESS!****CONVENTION ATTENDANCE**

Total attendance for the convention was 6,560, the largest number attending in the past few years. A record was set for the largest number of exhibits in AAPG history. No doubt this was in part due to the special efforts of the general planning committee members who were in charge of the International Pavilion and Prospect Gallery, both of which were considered to be welcome additions by those who went through the exhibits. The percentage of foreign attendees (15%) also was one of the highest ever, which shows that the general planning committee succeeded in making the conference an international show both in the exhibits and the technical sessions.

Among the 6,560 people attending the convention, 240 (4%) were EMD members (not including exhibitors, who are not broken out by society/division affiliation). This percentage is down slightly from the usual 5% of the overall attendance at the past few annual conventions. No specific cause for the slight decrease is evident.

**TECHNICAL SESSIONS**

Two oral and three poster sessions were held during the convention. The first oral session, "Future of Energy — An Energy Minerals Perspective," was exceptionally well attended, with the room even being near capacity a few times. The varied presentations and predictions being made were the primary draw, especially in these uncertain economic times when members of the energy industry must keep their future options open.

The second oral session, "Environmental Impact of Energy Minerals Production and

Use," was a joint session with the Division of Environmental Geosciences and had the misfortune of being held on Wednesday afternoon, the lowest-attendance period for any AAPG annual meeting. Nonetheless, there was a reasonable turnout of about 60 people for the majority of the session.

Three EMD poster sessions were held over Tuesday and Wednesday. Because the posters were part of the larger poster area, it was difficult to judge attendance at specific sessions. The remote sensing and surface methods papers perhaps drew the most people among the three sessions, as would be expected by the general distribution of interest in EMD topics among AAPG members. All participants spoken with felt that the poster sessions were the best yet among annual meetings. Quite a number indicated that they were spending most of their time among the posters rather than going to the oral papers, which potentially could be a problem for future oral presenters if a trend develops in this direction.

**SHORT COURSES**

Both EMD short courses were held on Sunday as originally planned. Although registration for the courses was very slow for most of the pre-registration period, both courses ultimately gathered enough attendees to run in the black. The geostatistics course had 35 students, and the trace elements course had 18 students. The trace elements course appears to be somewhat "ahead of its time" with respect to immediate concerns of the energy industries, thereby getting lower-than-hoped-for interest from convention attendees. The geostatistics course was broad enough to appeal to the varied interests of AAPG

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**SPECIAL EMD FORUM HELD AT  
EASTERN SECTION MEETING**

The AAPG Eastern Section Meeting held in East Lansing, Michigan, was the site of an informal forum during the afternoon of September 20. Topic of this addition to the program was "The Future of Coal". Talks were given by Samuel A. Friedman of the

Oklahoma Geological Survey, James C. Cobb of the Kentucky Geological Survey, and Gayle McColloch of the West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey.

Each of the speakers was invited to talk

about developments in the coal industry within their states, and their ideas about future trends in coal production and usage. Charles Groat of Louisiana State University also agreed to participate, but was unable to attend because of delays in his return from the Middle East. Speakers were selected on the basis of their experience and recognized expertise in the field of coal geology. The forum was organized by Michael Hohn and Carl J. Smith of the West Virginia Survey, and chaired by Dr. Hohn.

This special forum was not originally scheduled when the program for the section meeting was sent out, but was accepted by the organizing committee when proposed. An appropriate time was suggested by William Harrison of Western Michigan University, who served on the organizing committee. Personnel with AAPG Headquarters provided the room assignment, and logistical support.

# UPDATE ON 1995 ANNUAL MEETING

Because this will be the last newsletter before the 1995 Annual Convention, I want to take this opportunity to encourage all our members to come to Houston for the meeting and to register for EMD events. I encourage you to register before the preregistration deadline of January 23 because the decisions for room sizes and for whether or not all field trips and short courses will indeed be held or not will be based on the number registered for each event as of that date. I especially request that you attend the Annual Luncheon on Wednesday, March 8 to hear Skip Hobbs' viewpoints on economic and busi-

## SPECIAL NOTICE:

*You can register for field trips, short courses, and luncheons without registering for the entire convention! Also, participants can join/depart field trips along their route, if that is most convenient given their location, while registering at a discount (depending on how much of the trip you participate in). Contact AAPG Convention Dept. for more details.*

ness forecasts for energy minerals over the remainder of the decade and the beginning of the next century. Note that short courses and/or field trips that are not at least at breakeven registration by the preregistration deadline will be cancelled!

I have listed the EMD program below for your convenience, but I recommend that you review the entire meeting brochure because there are many presentations and other events that are of cross-interest to EMD members. Once again, the Annual Meeting has much to offer to everyone's interests.

### FIELD TRIP (post-meeting)

March 9, Thursday - "Lignite Mines and Power Plants and Kaolinitic Sandstone Mining in East Texas," led by C.O. "CLAY" DURHAM (Durham Geological Associates, Houston) (Trip #14 in meeting brochure.) Cost = \$65.

### SHORT COURSES (both are pre-meeting courses)

- 1) March 4, Saturday - "Detection of Subtle Basement Structures and Related Hydrocarbon Plays," DR. ZEEV BERGER; Max. # Participants = 25 (Course #19 in meeting brochure.) Cost = \$120.
- 2) March 5, Sunday - EMD/GEOSAT Workshop: "Exploration Applications of Remote Sensing," DR. REBECCA L. DODGE and DR. H. ROBERT HOPKINS; Max. # Participants = 50 (Course #20 in meeting brochure.) Cost = \$20.

*(Editor's Note: Take both in sequence and you will get a substantial grounding in remote sensing techniques as applied to exploration in the petroleum industry from some of the best folks in the business!)*

### BUSINESS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

March 5, Sunday - EMD Annual Business Meeting, 1:00-3:30 pm, Hyatt Regency Hotel (check at the Hyatt for the room), ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!! (please call Bob Hopkins at 713-667-4671 by February 24 if you are coming so that we can plan for an appropriate room size).

### TECHNICAL PROGRAM AND ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

*(Please see the conference brochure for authors and moderators for sessions.)*

### MONDAY, MARCH 6, 1995, ALL DAY, EMD POSTER SESSION WORLDWIDE ENERGY MINERALS

- 1) Mechanic-electrical stimulation of degasation coal seams and enclosing rocks.
- 2) Estimates of coal as a source of oil and gas: Genetic potential and reaction kinetics from hydrous pyrolysis experiments.
- 3) The regional stratigraphic and depositional setting of the Paleocene-Eocene coal-bearing rocks of South Sindh, Pakistan.
- 4) Crustal oxidation state, subduction slab segmentation, and giant oil fields.
- 5) Twenty-first century U.S. energy mix.
- 6) Coalbed methane in China.
- 7) Coalbed methane resource potential, eastern Upper Silesian coal basin, Poland.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1995, AFTERNOON, EMD ORAL SESSION EXPLORATION RESULTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING FROM REMOTE SENSING

- 1:15 Introduction
- 1:20 Models for domestic and international environmental monitoring using satellite and aerial photographic remote sensing.
- 1:40 Geophysical measurements and the public environmental process
- 2:00 Texaco Energy and Environmental Multi-Spectral Imaging Spectrometer
- 2:20 Integrated, high-resolution geophysical investigation over a former waste lagoon.
- 2:40 Offshore basin screening from satellites.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1995, ALL DAY, EMD POSTER SESSION: SURFACE EXPLORATION AND REMOTE SENSING (co-sponsored with DEG)

- 1) Satellite images of shallow-water carbonate depositional settings - Examples of exploration- and development-scale geologic facies variation.
- 2) Hybrid modeling of gravity and geomagnetic anomalies: A tool for improved paleothermal reconstruction in areas adjacent to igneous activity.
- 3) The structural information potential of mapping magnetic responses created in the near-surface formations.
- 4) Comparison of microbial and sorbed soil gas surface geochemical techniques with seismic surveys from the southern Altiplano, Bolivia.
- 5) Geomicrobial prospecting for microseepage in the Ramu Basin, Papua-New Guinea.
- 6) Delineation of basement structures in the Piceance Basin, western Colorado, using multiple source data sets: Implications for fractured reservoir exploration.

### WEDNESDAY, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM EMD ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

Featured Speaker: G. WARFIELD "SKIP" HOBBS

The joint EMD Annual Awards Luncheon will begin with the presentation of EMD Best Paper and Best Poster awards won at the 1994 Annual Meeting in Denver. Awards also will be given for various service activities by EMD members.

The featured speaker at the luncheon will be G. Warfield "Skip" Hobbs, Secretary of AAPG and Managing



Partner of Ammonite Resources, an international firm of consulting geologists, engineers, and energy finance specialists which advises major financial institutions, utilities, industrial end-users, and petroleum companies on direct investments in oil, natural gas, and other energy resources. Mr. Hobbs also is an Executive Vice-President of International Neftegaz Consultants, Inc., a Russian-American engineering and petroleum advisory firm.

Mr. Hobbs' presentation will be entitled "Energy Minerals: Outlook and Business Challenges of the 1990s and Beyond." His talk will focus on the economics and future of energy minerals and how a company and individual energy minerals professionals should position themselves to meet the challenges of the energy markets expected during the late 1990s and the next century. Cost is \$26. Please preregister if possible!

### WEDNESDAY, AFTERNOON, EMD ORAL SESSION: WORLD OF COAL AND COALBED METHANE

- 1:15 Introduction
- 1:20 Geological controls on the Nora coalbed methane field, southwest Virginia.
- 1:40 Coal resources and depositional setting of the Thar coal field, Sindh Province, Pakistan: South Asia's newest and largest coal discovery.
- 2:00 Microbially enhanced coalbed methane: Limitations and possible benefits.
- 2:20 Redox conditions in overburden at Gibbons Creek lignite mine, Texas.
- 2:40 Characterization of the light oil and heavy hydrocarbon content and composition of coal seam gas reservoirs.
- 3:00 Geologic and hydrologic controls on coalbed methane resources, Greater Green River Basin, southwestern Wyoming and northwestern Colorado.
- 3:20 Depressurization: A case study in faults and artesian/water-table interactions.
- 3:40 Coalbed methane potential of Germany's hard coal basins.
- 4:00 Marine influence on coal - An analytical challenge.
- 4:20 Analysis of the success of cavity completions in the Fairway Zone of the San Juan Basin.

Bob Hopkins  
EMD Vice-Chair  
1995 Annual Meeting

# 1993-94 EMD AWARDEES AND EMD/DEG ANNUAL LUNCHEON RECALLED

Luncheon Guest Speaker **WILLIAM PERRY PENDLEY**, President of the Mountain States Legal Foundation, gave an informative and rousing presentation on the impact of present and planned environmental laws on the natural resources industries (and fighting back).

Then-Vice-President **CHIP GROAT**, wrapped up the luncheon.

EMD Vice-Chair **DOUG PETERS** acted as general Master of Ceremonies for the luncheon. **STEVE VEAL**, DEG Vice-Chair, handled introductions for DEG. Awards were presented by DEG President **BRUNO HANSON** and by EMD President **JOHN GABELMAN** for their respective divisions.



**GRETCHEN HOFFMAN** (left) received the EMD Distinguished Service Award from John Gabelman at the luncheon, "For meritorious service as Chair of the EMD Education and Short Course committees and promotion of educational activities at national and regional scales as well as for individual EMD commodities."

John bestowed the EMD Best Paper Award upon **KEITH MURRAY** (right) and **TOM FAILS** (left) for their 1993 Annual Meeting paper "Coalbed Methane in the United Kingdom." Keith also received a Certificate of Merit for his "interest and wide-ranging activities in coalbed methane, chairing that committee, and presenting award-winning papers."



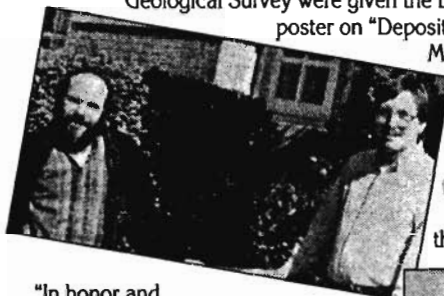
There was a tie for Best Paper at the 1993 meeting! A second Best Paper Award was given by John to **JEFFREY S. HANOR** (right) for his presentation on "Underground Injection of Hazardous Waste in Louisiana."



**JACK C. PASHIN** and **RICHARD E. CARROLL** (top right) of the Alabama

Geological Survey were given the EMD Best Poster Award for their poster on "Depositional Environments of Coalbed Methane Reservoirs in the Pottsville Formation (Lower Pennsylvanian), Cahaba Synclinorium, Alabama: Comparison with the Black Warrior Basin" at the 1993 Annual Meeting.

**CARL SMITH** (below) received the EMD Past President's Award



"In honor and recognition of outstanding leadership and dedicated service to the Energy Minerals Division as President, 1992-93." Carl also was responsible during his term for getting the ball rolling with DPA on certification of coal geologists.



**FRED A. DIX, JR.**, AAPG Executive Director, received the EMD Distinguished Contributor Award for "distinguished contributions to EMD that have been instrumental in EMD's development and welfare, beginning as a principal originator and supporter, then giving us administrative continuity, confidence, and guidance with operating programs and financial advice."

**SAMUEL A. FRIEDMAN** received the EMD Distinguished Founder Award for "significant and extended contributions leading to the founding of the AAPG Energy Minerals Division, and for constant continuing service to EMD."

**MICHAEL N. FEIN** was awarded a Certificate of Merit for "dedicated and highly effective efforts as Chairman of the EMD activities at the 1993 AAPG Convention in New Orleans."

**MEL C. ERSKINE, JR.**, former Pacific Section Councillor, was awarded a Certificate of Merit for "continuing service to EMD, organizing the activities at the San Francisco convention and the Sacramento sectional convention, Chair of the Conventions Committee, leadership as Councillor, and your professional contacts on behalf of EMD."

A Certificate of Merit also was awarded to **FRANK D. PRUETT**, present EMD Secretary-Treasurer, for "your constant and continuing contributions to EMD, particularly in the demanding role as Secretary-Treasurer."

## MEMBER NEWS

**M**ember and new EMD Mid-Continent Councillor **Brian Cardott**, of the Oklahoma Geological Survey, recently was elected as President-Elect of The Society for Organic Petrology. Brian will become the President of TSOP in 1995. Congratulations, Brian!! We hope this will lead to even stronger cooperative efforts between EMD and TSOP over the next couple years.

### MUGS!!MUGS!!MUGS!!

A limited number of coffee mugs with the EMD logo on them are available! They are white with the logo in black. Cost is US\$7.00 (includes shipping; coffee not included).

Please send your check or money order to Carl J. Smith, West Virginia Geological Survey, P.O. Box 879, Morgantown, WV 26507-0879, Phone: 304-594-2331, Fax: 304-594-2575. As long as the supply lasts, new members also will receive a mug when they sign on. Get 'em while they last!

## CHANGE OF EDITORS FOR NEWSLETTER

**W**ith this issue, the Chief Editorship of *The Energy Minerals Geologist* passes on to **Carl Smith**. Please address most, if not all, comments, suggestions, news items, and diatribes to him in the coming year.

The past two years as Senior Editor have been rewarding for me because of the strong and positive response I have received from members regarding my efforts to maintain and improve the timeliness, attractiveness, and general usefulness of the newsletter for the members. However, demands on my time at work have increased over the past year, and it is time to let someone fresh and with new energy take over so that the newsletter does not suffer.

I look forward to my return to being a mere editorial assistant (as I was under Sam Friedman) and to supporting Carl by sending him material for this and future newsletters (and to harassing him the best an editorial assistant

can). I expect that you will continue to find the newsletter a valuable source of information.

My thanks go to Larry Nation, Janet Brister, and other AAPG Production Department members who have worked on the newsletter over the past few years. They have always been cooperative and done their best to get the newsletter out quickly and in an attractive format. The layout you see in each newsletter is done by them. The Editor simply provides them with text and guidance on where items should go in each issue.

Thanks also to the readers of the newsletter! Without the strong interest of the members of EMD, this job would not be nearly as rewarding. Please continue to support Carl by sending in material for the newsletter and by giving feedback on what you like (and don't like) about the newsletter.

*Doug Peters*  
Ex-Chair, Newsletter Operations

## 1995 ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION MEETING: CALL FOR PAPERS

The 1995 Annual Meeting of the AAPG Rocky Mountain Section will be held in Reno, Nevada on July 16-19. The meeting will be held at John Asquaga's Nugget Casino/Convention Center, thereby affording all you petroleum industry gamblers the opportunity for more immediate rewards, both technically and financially.

Abstracts are due to AAPG (on the special abstract camera-ready forms) by November 15, 1994! Abstract forms can be obtained from AAPG Headquarters (918-584-2555). Topics to be covered at the meeting in oral and poster sessions include Unconventional Exploration Case Histories, Geothermics and Hydrocarbons, 3D Seismic Techniques and Case Histories, Fractured Reservoir Characterization, Reservoir Characterization Using Horizontal Drilling and Other Techniques, Sequence Stratigraphy and Sedimentation, Structural Case Studies in the West, New Pays and Plays in the Rockies, and Non-Seismic Geophysics in Exploration and Production.

Three field trips will be run at the meeting: eastern Great Basin, the Lake Tahoe region, and the Comstock Lode of Virginia City, Nevada. A pre-meeting short course will focus on fractured reservoirs. For more information, contact General Chairman Larry Gar-side at 702-784-6691 or Technical Program Chairman Donna Herring at 702-786-5620.

## ANTOINETTE LIERMAN MEDLIN SCHOLARSHIP IN COAL GEOLOGY

The Coal Geology Division of the Geological Society of America announces the availability of the Antoinette Lierman Medlin Scholarship in Coal Geology for the 1995-96 academic year. The scholarships provide full-time students who are involved in research in coal geology (origin, occurrence, geologic characteristics, or economic implications of coal and associated rocks) with financial support for their project for one year.

Scholarship funding can be used for field or laboratory expenses, sample analyses, instrumentation, supplies, or other expenses essential to the successful completion of the research project. Approximately \$1,500 will be available for the 1995-96 scholarship award. In addition, the recipient of the scholarship may be provided with a stipend to present results of the research at the 1996 GSA Annual Meeting. For the academic year 1995-96, the Coal Division also is offering a field study award of \$500.

Proposals for the scholarship and field study awards will be evaluated by a panel of coal geoscientists. The awards will go to the students whose proposals are ranked highest by this panel. Applicants may apply for the scholarship award, the field study award, or both; however, only one award will be made to a successful applicant.

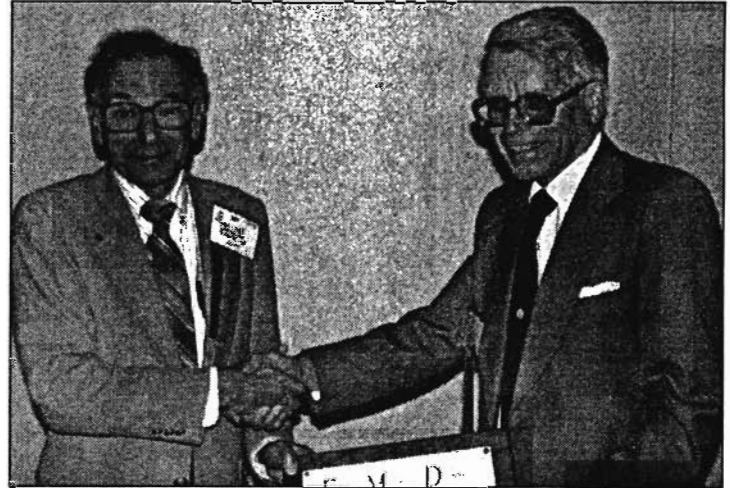
Interested students should submit five (5) copies of the following:

- 1) A cover letter indicating which award(s) is (are) sought.
- 2) A concise statement of objectives and methods, and a statement of how the award funds will be used to enhance the project. This proposal should be no more than five (5) double-spaced pages in length, including references.
- 3) A letter of recommendation from the student's immediate advisor which includes a statement of financial need and the amount and nature of other available funding for the research project.

Send the material to Sharon S. Crowley, Chair, A. Lierman Medlin Scholarship Committee, U.S. Geological Survey, 956 National Center, Reston, VA 22092, Phone: 703-648-6453.

The required materials must arrive no later than **February 15, 1995**. Applicants will be notified of the Scholarship Committee's decision by April 1, 1995.

## SAM FRIEDMAN RECIPIENT OF TWO AWARDS



FOUNDERS AWARD  
TO SAMUEL A. FRIEDMAN  
1994 ANNUAL EMD LUNCHEON



GORDON WOOD JR. MEMORIAL AWARD  
1994 AAPG EASTERN SECTION  
OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION IN COAL SCIENCE TO EMD IN THE EAST

\* Differential GPS \*  
Digital Mapping  
Point Location

\* Economic Geology \*  
Exploration  
Digital Data Base Creation

**Wayne R. Kemp**  
Consulting Geologist  
P.O. Box 3055  
Evergreen, Colorado 80439-3055

(303) 670-1328

Fax (303) 674-7022

## ADVERTISING NOW ACCEPTED

Advertising in the form of business cards and standard advertisements for services and materials/equipment now is being accepted for "The Energy Minerals Geologist." Business cards will be published in one-column size and will cost \$10 per newsletter issue (\$35 for four issues).

Advertisements must conform to the 3-column format of most of the newsletter, must be camera-ready copy, and can be full-page, half-page, one- or two-column (vertical), one-third page, one-fourth page, or one-sixth page in size.

Call for prices for non-business-card advertisements. There are discounts for full-year (four-issue) subscriptions. Please contact Doug Peters (303-236-0777 x772) for more information on price and deadlines for submissions.

**Deadline for our receipt  
of advertisements and  
cards for the next issue is  
February 1, 1994.**

## EMD CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

During the Convention in Houston, on Tuesday, March 7, EMD will host a free continental breakfast for its members. The event will be held from 7:00-8:15 a.m. in the George R. Brown Convention Center, Ballroom A. Shuttle buses are available early.

Chip Groat, EMD President, will give a brief information report on actions taken on Sunday at the EMD business meeting and on the improved services the division will be offering its members. He promises that this will be short and painless, so come and have a free breakfast on EMD.

The only requirement, and it is a strict one, is that you bring and present at the door, the coupon printed (at right). Without this coupon, the breakfast cost is \$5.00

## 1994 ANNUAL REPORTED SUCCESSFUL . . . cont'd.

members. Cost for the trace elements course also was higher, which probably impacted the number of people who signed up for it. No specific difficulties were experienced during the short courses.

### FIELD TRIPS

As with the short courses, preregistration for the EMD field trips was very slow. Nonetheless, both trips finally received enough participants (15 for the Kaiparowits Plateau trip and 20 for the Piceance Basin trip) to make them technical and financial successes (in aggregate).

The Kaiparowits Plateau trip ultimately lost money, apparently because of increases in costs such as motel and food expenses from the time the trip was first planned. Such price increases over the long lead times necessary for annual convention planning probably cannot be avoided or entirely anticipated when determining initial trip costs and charges to participants.

### AWARDS

Nearly all of the EMD session papers were judged to be at least of expected professional quality, with many being considered good to outstanding. Only two withdrawals of poster papers (after the program was printed) are known. The winners of the EMD Best Paper Award (oral presentation) and two honorable mentions are as follows, respectively:

J.L. Coleman, Jr., "The American Whale Oil Industry: A Look Back to the Future of the American Petroleum Industry?"

J. Platt, "Electric Utility Perspectives on Shifting Fuel Issues"

R.B. Weathers, and others, "Surface Reclamation of the Big Lake Oil Field"

In addition, Coleman's paper received 36% of the "outstanding" votes for oral papers and will be recommended to AAPG as a Distinguished Lecturer paper.

The Best Poster Award and two honorable mentions are as follows, respectively:

A.V. Oldham, and others, "Coal-sourced

Compactional Traps in Sandstone Reservoirs: Similarities Between Northern West Virginia and Wyoming"

P.K.H. Groth, "Pollen Field, Colorado: Evidence for Vertical Hydrocarbon Migration and Geochemistry Economic Utility"

A.R. Scott, and others, "Coal and In-place Gas Resources of the Grater Green River Basin, Wyoming and Colorado"

The papers judged for EMD and DEG awards should be considered for AAPG awards as well. It really makes no sense for the process to be exclusionary. Such joint judging needs to be codified and formalized for future meetings.

### EXHIBITS

The EMD booth received a normal amount of interest as part of the AAPG Service Center. The dinosaur footprint, on loan from ARCO Coal Company, and the slide show (slide projector also loaned by ARCO) on coal geology helped draw people in.

## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!!

In response to our offer of sponsorships for EMD events at the 1994 AAPG Annual Meeting in Denver last June, four members came forward to join in and help us out. Two of those sponsors wished to remain anonymous. The sponsors and the events they helped with are as follows:

- Robert L. Brown, EMD Annual Business Meeting
- Donald L. Towse, EMD Booth (in Exhibits area)
- Anonymous #1, Piceance Basin field trip
- Anonymous #2, EMD President's Reception

THANKS AGAIN for your generous help on these events, folks! If any member would like to sponsor events at the 1995 meeting, please let us know.

# IT'S FINALLY HERE!

**C**oal Geologist Certification is a Reality. After a seemingly endless period of anticipation the program is approved and the first applications have been mailed. Anyone interested in an application should contact AAPG Headquarters (918-584-2555) or myself.

One problem of note associated with the application process. While I personally have procrastinated and, as of this writing, not completed my application, the early birds suggest a 2-3 hour process for completion of the application. Well, anything worthwhile.....

In closing, food for thought and discussion. The Certification Committee is in search of a working definition for coal geology. Currently I am inclined to interpret the term somewhat narrowly, confining the specialty to traditional work in coal geology. The question being advanced is: How does EMD want to view related specialties such as coalbed methane, tar sands, oil shales, etc? What are the feelings of the Membership? As EMD is here to serve the membership, I would like to see a dialogue develop to address these questions. Happy Holidays and see you in Houston.

**MITCH BLAKE**, Chairman  
EMD Certification Committee  
West Virginia Geological Survey  
P.O. Box 879  
Morgantown, WV 26507-0879

## COAL UTILIZATION SHORT COURSES

The Energy & Environmental Research Center of the University of North Dakota will soon offer a short course on "Coal Ash Behavior and Deposition," both at facilities to be determined and on-site at industrial sponsors' locations. The goal of this course is to provide an overview of recent research that is increasing the understanding of mineral behavior in coal utilization and leading to the advancement of methods to predict ash behavior. This course is designed to meet the needs of engineers and others who deal with ash behavior in combustion systems.

Two other short courses also are being made available. They are "Waste Management and Utilization from Coal Combustion" and "Air Toxics from Coal Combustion." CEU credits will be available for these three courses as well.

For further information or to register, please contact Tom Erickson at EERC at 701-777-5513 (Fax: 701-777-5181).

## HOW TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR THE NEWSLETTER

**W**e encourage you, the EMD member and/or reader of the EMD newsletter, to submit short notices and articles (in suitable form) for publication in the newsletter. These can include commodity/industry news notes and press releases, product announcements in areas of EMD topics, book reviews, employment changes, member news, geological software reviews, and any other items which would be of general interest to EMD members. We prefer to receive such articles in WP51 format on IBM-compatible disk. Mailed and faxed material should be sent to **Carl J. Smith** at the West Virginia Geological & Economic Survey, P.O. Box 879, Morgantown, WV 26507-0879,

Fax: 304-594-2338. Carl also can receive messages and articles via INTERNET e-mail at [smith@gandalf.wvgs.wvnet.edu](mailto:smith@gandalf.wvgs.wvnet.edu) or anonymous FTP to [gandalf.wvgs.wvnet.edu](ftp:gandalf.wvgs.wvnet.edu). Call Carl at 304-594-2331 for more information on submitting material. General comments and suggestions can be addressed as well.

*Carl J. Smith*

### THE ENERGY MINERALS GEOLOGIST

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#### Energy Minerals Division

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