

American Association of Petroleum Geologists
An International Geological Organization



June 30, 1999

Dear EMD Member:

The Energy Minerals Division continues to be a very active division within AAPG, and we expect to be more active. At this point it appears that we have some of the earlier financial problems under control with support from the AAPG Executive Committee, and we expect to provide more member services in the near future. EMD was very active this year and a summary sheet of important EMD activities during this year is enclosed with this letter, officer candidate discussions, and the EMD ballot.

With new electronic developments and growing use of these by geoscientists, EMD now is trying to utilize the Internet as much as possible to provide information to its members. If you have not received recent e-mail mailings from EMD, and you have an e-mail address, it is probable that EMD and AAPG do not have your address, or we may have an old or incorrect address. If you received some mailings this year, but have not received any new ones for the past couple months, it is because your address changed and we do not know the new one. For each of you who have not received recent messages by e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Scott McColloch at

mccolloch@geosrv.wvnet.edu

In addition to EMD information coming to your e-mail address, you also should be aware of the EMD website at <http://www.emdaapg.org/>. EMD uses the site to post information and announcements concerning EMD activities and related material of interest to those active or interested in EMD topics. In the near future, a new "members only" area will be developed at the EMD website to provide information specifically as a service to EMD members.

Enclosed with this letter is a ballot for EMD officers for the next fiscal year. Please take this opportunity to vote.

Sincerely,

Lawrence L. Brady
EMD President, 1998-99

Enc.

ENERGY MINERALS DIVISION

Report to Members—June 30, 1999

After a successful year during 1997-98, the Energy Minerals Division of AAPG has built on that success during the 1998-99 fiscal year. Important EMD developments and planned projects include—

- Completion was met in November of the Atlas of Coal Geology (AAPG Studies in Geology #45) published in CD-ROM format. This is an important effort by EMD that provides us with considerable pride. The “Coal Atlas” is the first all-digital, interactive major publication to be produced by AAPG. A joint effort by the Energy Minerals Division and The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP), an International Associated Society of AAPG, the atlas is in two volumes on one CD-ROM. The Atlas, edited by members A.R. Papp, J.C. Hower, and D.C. Peters, includes nearly 400 images on large- to mid-scale coal geology, whereas the coal petrology volume has 275 images, and supporting text for the volumes is equivalent to 200 printed pages. This is an important reference for all levels of experience from student to professional. The images are downloadable for reference, presentation, or teaching purposes. The atlas is available to AAPG members for \$39.00, plus shipping and handling (\$3.50 in North America, and \$6.50 overseas), from AAPG Data Systems, 1743 East 71 Street, Tulsa, OK 74136 (Fax: 918-496-3756).
- Continued construction and updating of the EMD website at <http://www.emdaapg.org/>. EMD is building this website on a server of the host society--Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO). . Continued development of the website can be attributed mainly to Andrew R. Scott, Margaret Anne Rogers, Dallas Dunlap, and webmaster Harold H. Rogers III. Remember <http://www.emdaapg.org/>.
- New comprehensive Bylaws for the Division were passed during the spring of 1998 that emphasize reorganization and addition of several committees, and changes in the duties and organization of EMD leadership. These changes are being implemented this year, and will continue into the next fiscal year. Perhaps most important among those changes is the EMD Business Plan that is prepared by the EMD president-elect as a plan for his/her year of leading our organization. The business plan was completed primarily by President-Elect Tom Ewing and was presented to the AAPG Executive Committee in February, and approved at the EMD annual meeting in San Antonio. The new EMD bylaws are listed on the EMD website.
- Completion of an “EMD Procedures Manual” for EMD officers, councillors, and committee chairs. The purpose of the manual is to review the duties, responsibilities, and advice for each of the elected and appointed positions. Brian Cardott (EMD Secretary) compiled and edited the “EMD Procedures Manual” with input from other EMD officers and past officers. The manual is expected to be an evolving document.

- EMD was very active at the recent AAPG meeting in San Antonio with presentations of short courses and symposia. A short course was presented on gas hydrates, and a second short course was presented on--basement structures, detection and relation to hydrocarbon plays. EMD ran two field trips--the longer field trip emphasizing Tertiary coals in South Texas with a second field trip on general geology and remote sensing in the San Antonio area. Sessions in the technical program offered by EMD, or cooperatively with AAPG and other AAPG divisions, included gas hydrates, unconventional resources, remote sensing and GIS, energy economics, and environmental topics.
- Plans are underway for future technical projects planned or supported by EMD. These projects include:
 - EMD is planning to present short courses, technical sessions, and field trips at the AAPG convention in New Orleans, April 16-19, 2000. A short course is in the planning on gas hydrates, and a second offering is a remote sensing workshop. A major field trip is planned emphasizing sequence stratigraphy of Pennsylvanian strata in the Warrior and Cahaba coalfields in Alabama, an important area for coal and coalbed methane. A possible second field trip is being discussed with AAPG that would view oil and gas operations in the coastal wetlands.
 - A new book on coalbed methane is in the preparation stages. Andrew Scott, Walter Ayers, Jr., Roger Tyler, and possibly other EMD members are preparing this book in cooperation with AAPG Publications.
 - Planning is underway for an international conference in the Denver area. This conference will emphasize sessions that provide complete review of several energy mineral projects from exploration to reclamation—a “full-cycle” of what takes place in the development of an energy mineral project. Co-chairman for the meeting are Keith Murray and Doug Peter.
 - Discussions are nearly complete with the International Association for Mathematical Geologists (IAMG), an Associated Society of AAPG, for EMD to co-sponsor the scientific quarterly journal “Natural Resources Research.” This journal presently sponsored by IAMG and published by Kluwer/Plenum Press, is concerned with all aspects of mineral resources. Starting in 1999, the journal was renamed from its earlier title of “Nonrenewable Resources”, with Daniel F. Merriam as the new Editor-in-Chief. Doug Peters will represent EMD as Deputy Editor. Within the next couple of months, an issue of the journal should be sent to all EMD members for review. Subscriptions to the journal will be optional for EMD members.

Lawrence L. Brady
EMD President, 1998-99