

tion of members of the Energy Minerals Division who specialize in coal geology. The necessary AAPG and DPA bylaws changes, which utilize the most generic language possible in order to accommodate this and future groups seeking certification, were designed during the year with the assistance of AAPG attorney Craig Blackstock. The AAPG bylaws amendment was approved by the House of Delegates in June and it was anticipated that the DPA membership would do likewise by mid-July with its own bylaws changes. As soon as this final approval is accomplished, plans call for the existing certification board to be expanded by the addition of four coal geologists so that the long-awaited program can be implemented.

A major DPA education project, the book entitled *Guiding Your Career as a Professional Geologist*, was published in late May. Initial work on the publication, which was conceived and later very skillfully edited by Peter Rose, was commenced by the DPA Continuing Education Committee in 1990. This compact and very practical volume, which utilizes 20 essays spanning the career of a geologist from college to retirement, is a significant contribution to the geological profession. In order for the book to receive the widest possible distribution within the geological community, the DPA will furnish it without charge to all current and future DPA members; AAPG, which joined DPA in publishing the book, plans to send copies to all Junior members and college seniors majoring in geology.

The Governmental Affairs and State Registration committees continue to play an active role for the DPA. An Instant Response Subcommittee was formed earlier in the year by the Governmental Affairs group for the purpose of generating rapid written responses to key officials involved in proposed federal and state legislative and regulatory actions. The State Registration Committee monitored and reported to the members on the status of proposed registration bills in various states – especially Texas, where a bill to register geologists failed to get out of committee but is expected to be reintroduced during 1995. The DPA-supported model registration bill (Suggested Geologist Practice Act), which had already been endorsed by a number of professional organizations such as SIPES and AEG, also received the endorsement of the AAPG Executive Committee at its

February meeting, thus lending additional credence to the document.

The DPA sponsored several successful, well-attended events at the annual meeting in Denver. They included a short course entitled "Lease Acquisition For the Independent Geologist"; a luncheon featuring Robert Mosbacher, Sr., as the speaker; and a technical session covering the business aspects of international operations from the perspective of the major company, the small independent, and the foreign oil producing country. All were received enthusiastically by those present.

At its awards banquet, the DPA honored Harry A. Miller, Jr., with Life Membership and presented Distinguished Service plaques to Robert Cowdery, Frank Sonnenberg, and Wade Turnbull.

The DPA has begun to adapt to the changes that have altered many aspects of our professional lives. By facing these changes and meeting the challenges they present, the DPA will continue to fulfill the needs of the geologic profession now and in the coming years.

Peter G. Gray, President

Energy Minerals Division

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 timely as the coal industry 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 benefiting 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 have joined DEG.

EMD membership was 1862 as of 31 May 1994, down 61 members from the end of fiscal year 1993 and down 175 from our all-time peak of 2037 in May 1992. Thus membership continues to be healthy despite the economic setbacks in all the fuel industries. Our membership now comprises 7.9 % of AAPG membership compared to 5.8 % a year ago, and an average of 4.9 % for EMD history. Our international membership is fourth largest with members in 61 countries.

The EMD Fund balance as of the end of the third fiscal quarter was \$5842, a negative increase from \$4462 at the end of the first fiscal half. EMD is entering its sixth year of financial decline. Financial decline in a setting of only modestly fluctuating membership 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 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. Plan 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 Liaison. A corporate relations committee is being organized.

Advertising is now being accepted in our newsletter, *The Energy Minerals Geologist*, and the newsletter is being enlarged to include such features as short bibliographies, abstracts, and reviews.

Our most recently published volume, *Geology in Coal Resource Utilization*, edited by D.C. Peters, has sold well enough to return its investment and justify future 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 poses to society.

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

The EMD Connection, the computer bulletin board managed by "Scott" McCulloch 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 use decrease resulting from publicity surrounding the recent "Information Super Highway," Scott plans to supplement the bulletin board with EMD's presence on the internet. The access number for the board is 302-594-3574.

EMD played a prominent role at the Annual Meeting in Denver with two oral sessions, three poster sessions, field trips to the Kaiparowitz plateau in Utah and the Piceance basin in western Colorado, short courses on geostatistics and trace elements in coal, a luncheon, and a 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 interdivision cooperation and the importance of environmentalism to all disciplines. All of these events were well attended.

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 President's 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. Pruitt.

The award for the Best Paper at the New Orleans meeting was presented to D. Keith Murray and Tom G. Fails 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. 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 include EMD-related papers and posters, judging them for EMD awards, a formal or informal lunch and discussion, and a booth.

Officers elected for the 1994-1996 term were Gayle H. "Scott" McCulloch as Vice President/President-Elect, James C. Cobb as Eastern Section councillor, Brian J. Cardott as Mid-Continent Section councillor, Elizabeth B. Campen as Rocky Mountain Section councillor, and Douglas C. Bleakley as Pacific Section councillor. We welcome President "Chip" Groat to office.

John W. Gabelman, President

Division of Environmental Geosciences

The Division of Environmental Geosciences has completed its second year and as of June 30, 1994 we had 2997 members. We are still growing and a good program has been set forth for the coming year. The 1994-95 slate of officers are Lee Gerhard, President; Steven Veal, Vice-President; James Baer, Presi-

dent-Elect; James Waldon, Secretary-Treasurer; and Robert Menzie, Editor. The Executive Committee has many plans and great things are going to happen for the Division. Volume 1, No. 1 of the *Environmental Geosciences Journal* was published and distributed to DEG members, with additional copies being available at the DEG booth during the Denver meeting.

The Continuing Education Committee, under the chairmanship of Stan Grant, outlined their objectives for the coming year. Their main thrust is to be of service to the oil industry. It is imperative that geoscience professionals are prepared to meet environmental requirements in the petroleum and energy minerals industry. This can be accomplished with special short courses, manuals, and informative newsletters. The recommended course offerings by qualified and competent presenters could be made available to interested management. These course offerings will be providing employees who can bring a greater service to their companies. Additional exposure of this data will be outlined to our members in the *DEG Reporter*. DEG goals are being recognized and the Division is undertaking a dialog with other organizations.

The Education Committee, chaired by James Baer, discussed presenting educational opportunities for K through 12th-grade teachers during sectional and national meetings. It was recommended that a list of DEG members who will donate their service and/or give talks to schools be assembled.

The Environmental Issues Committee, with Rogie Marsh, Chairman, indicated it will address three main issues: groundwater contamination, cost versus benefit of environmental regulations, and interdependency between economics and nature. This committee intends to get sponsors and co-sponsors for groundwater conferences and take educational action to increase public awareness of the facts of industry's role in addressing contamination problems. Additional work on the cost versus environmental regulations, which will affect the offshore operations with the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, will be addressed. The Committee's goal is to produce material that can be used by DEG members as well as AAPG members to respond to the public, media, and government on environmental concerns.

Philip LaMoreaux's Hydrogeology Committee has identified many problems in groundwater and hazardous