

for a net loss of 75 members. Although 50 members were added, 23 were claimed by death, 50 lost by resignation, and 52 dropped for non-payment of AAPG and DPA dues. Most resignations were connected to retirements.

The dedicated support of the 1996–1997 Executive Committee was instrumental in bringing about constructive change and progress. Those members were Tom Davis, vice president (Oklahoma City); Bob Sellars, president-elect (Denver); Jack West, secretary (Bakersfield); Rick Fritz, treasurer (Tulsa); and Terry Hollrah, past president (Oklahoma City). They served the DPA well.

**Peter R. Rose, President**

## Energy Minerals Division

This past year has been a year of change for the Energy Minerals Division. A great deal of effort was put into looking at current and future projects and activities.

A questionnaire, "The Direction of the Energy Minerals Division," was mailed to all members in December 1996. The Division had a very good response, and some very thoughtful answers, to the five-page questionnaire. The Councilor's meeting on January 31 was largely devoted to discussion of the questionnaire results, which were the basis for the following EMD leadership initiatives:

1. Raising dues from \$15 to \$20 for

- Active and Associate Members
2. Enhancing the promotion of the new Certification of Coal Professionals, a prestigious coal credential
3. Rewriting the Bylaws to streamline leadership responsibilities for more effective Division operation and promotion of Division interests
4. Developing a mentoring program

Other initiatives begun this year were the

1. Development of an Energy Minerals Division web site, which (along with publishing opportunities in the *Explorer* and *Bulletin*) will replace the newsletter
2. Design of a new Energy Minerals brochure

**Margaret Anne Rogers, Vice President**

## Reports of the Sections

### Eastern Section

The 25th anniversary meeting of the Eastern Section was held October 2–16, 1996, in Charleston, West Virginia. The theme for the meeting, "Silver Ideas, Golden Prospects," was chosen to cause registrants to reflect on ideas and concepts presented during our first 24 meetings, and apply them in our second 25 years. The meeting was hosted by the Appalachian Geological Society and the West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey. The meeting featured a strong technical component, highlighted by 38 talks, 20 posters, three pre-meeting field trips, two workshops, and a video theater. The heart of the meeting was the exhibit area, featuring 19 commercial and nonprofit exhibitors in 23 booths. In addition to the annual meeting this year was a Deal Market, where seven prospect generators showed available prospects. We plan to continue the successful Deal Market at future meetings. Registration included 221 professionals, 14 students, 24 exhibitors, 6 prospect exhibitors, and 26 spouses and guests. Financial sponsorship was provided from 23 companies, and was a major factor in the economic success of the meeting. The meeting was both technical and financial success, yielding a substantial profit for the

Eastern Section and Appalachian Geological Society.

Honors and awards conferred at the 1996 Eastern Section annual meeting included the following:

- John T. Galey Memorial Award: Larry D. Woodfork
- Honorary Membership: George C. "Red" Grow, Gayle H. "Scott" McColloch, Jr.
- Distinguished Service: Thomas Jake, Donald F. Oltz
- George V. Cohee Public Service Award: Samuel T. Pees
- Outstanding Educator Award: David Leveson, Benjamin Richard
- Gordon H. Wood, Jr., Memorial Award (Eastern Section EMD): James C. Hower
- Division of Environmental Geology (Eastern Section) Meritorious Contributions Award: Nicholas K. Coch
- Levorsen Memorial Award (best paper): Nicholas B. Harris
- Margaret Hawn Mirabile Memorial Award (best student paper): Nadeem Ahmad
- Vincent E. Nelson Memorial Award (best poster): Jovita B. Dominic
- Division of Environmental Geosciences Best Paper Award: Lawrence F. Roach
- Division of Environmental Geosciences Best Poster Award: Garry N. Nottis

Larry D. Woodfork presented the 1996 John T. Galey Address, entitled "OK, But What Have You Done For Me Lately? An Incomplete Chronicle of Some State Geological Survey Contributions to Petroleum Exploration—Then and Now."

At the annual meeting in Charleston, a new procedure for electing Eastern Section officers was implemented. All Eastern Section members attending the meeting were allowed to vote for a slate of officers. Officers elected by meeting attendees for fiscal year 1996–1997 were Kenneth G. Johnson, president; David C. Harris, vice president; Lawrence H. Wickstrom, secretary; Katharine L. Avary, treasurer; David L. Cox, newsletter editor; and Carl J. Smith, Archivist. Also, the Eastern Section Council decided to expand its outreach efforts, and formed an Outreach Committee. This committee will evaluate requests for financial contributions to educational activities and scholarships. The committee will also consider other ways for the Eastern Section to contribute to educational efforts.

Several Eastern Section members received awards at the AAPG Annual Meeting this year in Dallas. Samuel T. Pees received the Public Service Award, Paul G. Benedum, Jr., received the Special Award, and G. H. Scott McColloch, Jr., received the EMD Past