

- Larry Nation and Brenda Merideth of the AAPG staff took on the assignment to help *EG* generate advertising revenue. On March 16, AAPG staff sent e-mail to all DEG members soliciting business card advertising. AAPG staff commenced an energetic and aggressive pursuit of corporate advertising from which we hope to gain good support. Advertising materials were available at the Dallas AAPG/DEG booth.
- To get more visibility, the AAPG/DEG Web site has been updated, and *EG* has applied for an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN).

Fiscal Summary

Expected year—end results

Assuming no more nonmember subscriptions, our yearly operating income will be about \$77,330. This assumes just member income, which for the month of June will be \$5667. We are looking at a year-end balance of around (–\$5500). In addition, we continue to carry the (–\$16,214) from last year. Our negative year-end balance is because this year's budget paid for 1.5 years of journals (six journals). Our losses were greatly minimized by regaining the nonmember subscriptions.

Collected dues—operating income

We continue to benefit from the nonmember income dues. This amount, \$8295, allowed us to break even at the end of May.

Operating expenses

The significant new operating costs for May were the professional fee costs for the June *EG*. For June expenses, we should expect to see journal printing and postage costs. Based on past costs, this may be in the range of \$6500.

Rima Petrossian, President

Division of Professional Affairs

One of my goals at the beginning of the year was to raise the prestige of the division. Toward that end, I have promoted the division as the "A Team" of the Association at all of the section meetings as well as the House of Delegates meeting in Dallas. With that promotion, I have challenged all AAPG members to ask, "Why am I not a member of DPA?" as opposed to the more traditional question "Why should I join the DPA?"

The division had a very positive year and enacted a number of key initiatives that will help us continue to raise the

prestige of the division, and to make membership in the division more attractive. The division, under the direction of George Bole's Long-Range Planning Committee set forth the goal of becoming "THE certification body of the world." To achieve that goal, the division will need to establish reciprocity with all states requiring licensure, and with countries around the world. Toward that end, the division has renewed its reciprocity agreement with the Geological Society of London, established an agreement with the Alberta Securities Exchange for DPA members to be eligible to be qualified evaluators, and approved in principle the Board Certified membership level, which will facilitate obtaining reciprocity with those states with licensure. The final proposal for establishing the requirements and bylaws changes will be presented to the Advisory Board this coming November.

This November we will also present a proposal toward developing a certification for reserve evaluators. We are working closely with both the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE) on this certification, and a steering committee consisting of SPE and DPA members is in place, with Pete Rose and Dan Tearpock being the DPA representatives. At this time, SPE seems unwilling to consider establishing certification, which is unfortunate. However, I believe strongly that the DPA should establish a certification for reserve evaluators. Should it some day be required, we will be in the lead. Should it not be required, it would still be valuable certification for geologists, as many in our profession are not calculating reserves correctly. A certification program, coupled with a strong public relations campaign could provide a market niche for those of our members who elect to become certified reserve evaluators.

Another key initiative this year was to change the focus on ethics from a position of ethics enforcement, which was rarely done, to ethics awareness. Several articles regarding ethics were published in the last two issues of *The Correlator*, and we sponsored Halliburton CEO John Gibson's Distinguished Lecture tour. We will continue to work to raise ethics awareness through *The Correlator* and through the development of several short courses.

The Governmental Affairs Committee was reorganized this year to add a permanent subcommittee. This committee's function is to provide scientific-based information on energy and the environment to state legislators.

Under the leadership of James Drahovzal, the committee has attended several meetings of state legislators.

I thank all of the members of the DPA Council and the members of the Executive Committee, past president Tom Mairs, vice president Rick Ericksen, treasurer Dan Tearpock, secretary Casey Clawson, and current president Mike Party for their outstanding commitment to the division. Finally, there would be no division if it were not for the tireless efforts of our division manager, Norma Newby.

Bob Shoup, President

Energy Minerals Division

The highlights of the Energy Minerals Division (EMD) activities for the year are as follows:

- The EMD Web site is now hosted by AAPG and it has been updated and revised. Brian Cardott, our Web site committee chair and president-elect has worked with AAPG staff member Janet Brister to bring you the revised EMD Web site (<http://emd.aapg.org>), which now has both public and members only sections. The Web site is the primary way for members and others to learn about EMD and its progress and activities.
- The EMD technical program for the Dallas 2004 AAPG Annual Meeting consisted of five oral sessions and eight poster sessions and included a cooperative technical session with AAPG, the Division of Professional Affairs (DPA), and the Division of Environmental Geosciences (DEG). The EMD annual luncheon and awards meeting was held on Wednesday, April 21, 2004, and was very well attended. Patrick Leahy, associate director of geology, U.S. Geological Survey, was the luncheon speaker. Sponsors who contributed to this event were Optimistic Oil Company, ChevronTexaco, and the National Mining Association. The pre-convention short course on coalbed methane and the post convention field trip that provided an overview of coal and coalbed methane in the Arkoma basin, eastern Oklahoma, were both successful and well attended. Andrew Scott coordinated the short course, and the field trip leaders were Brian Cardott and Jeffrey Levine.
- Preliminary planning of the EMD program for the 2005 convention in Calgary is underway. Richard Richardson is the EMD vice chair for the Calgary

meeting. Andrea Reynolds is the EMD vice chair for the AAPG 2006 convention in Houston.

- The EMD/AAPG publication titled *Coal-Bearing Strata: Sequence Stratigraphy, Paleoclimate and Tectonics*, edited by Jack Pashin and Robert Gastaldo, is available for sale.
- Planning has begun for a revised second edition of the *EMD Atlas of Coal Geology*, which will be edited by Alexander Papp.
- Work is in progress on a CD-ROM publication titled *Unconventional Energy Resources of North America*. Laura Wray is the editor for this publication.
- Plans are being made with DEG concerning a joint EMD/DEG publication on CO₂ sequestration. A joint EMD/DEG editorial committee has been organized to seek contributions from potential authors and present an outline to the AAPG geoscience director. Jack Pashin from EMD and Robert Menzie from DEG are co-chairs of the committee.
- EMD continues to co-sponsor the scientific quarterly journal *Natural Resources Research* with the International Association of Mathematical Geologists. This represents a great opportunity for EMD members to submit papers in the EMD areas of interest. Daniel F. Merriam is the editor in chief of this publication, and Douglas Peters serves on the editorial board as the EMD representative.
- Work is proceeding on the development of a CD-ROM publication titled *Geospatial Technology Applications for Exploration and Production of Energy Resources*. Rebecca Dodge is the editor. She will also be the EMD representative for the AAPG Distinguished Lecturer Committee.
- To increase EMD publication sales, the EMD publications were advertised in the September and October issues of the *Explorer* and the January issue of *Geotimes*.
- In pursuance of the EMD goal to enroll new members, work with other professional societies, publicize EMD, and have EMD booths at appropriate other professional society meetings, EMD for the first time had an exhibit booth at the joint northeast/southeast section meeting of the Geological Society of America (GSA) at Tysons Corner, Virginia, March 24–27, 2004. More than 200 membership applications were distributed. Lee Avary organized and manned the booth and was assisted by Chacko John and Peter Warwick. The booth was a tremendous success and will most probably result in increasing student members and some active members.
- EMD/AAPG and the National Mining Association (NMA) agreed to a no-cost exhibit booth exchange. AAPG provided an exhibit booth for the NMA at the Dallas convention and NMA will provide AAPG with booth space at the International Mining Expo in Las Vegas, September 27–30. This Expo is held every four years, and the last one in 2000 had an international audience of 32,000 (including about 12% geologists). This will be a brand new association to which both AAPG and EMD will be reaching out. Katherine Lee Avary is the EMD Exhibits and Outreach Committee chair.
- EMD continues to encourage its members to develop new EMD commodity short courses for presentation at regional and annual meetings and will do what is necessary to promote them. These include courses in remote sensing and GIS application for petroleum exploration, gas hydrates, coalbed methane, coal, energy economics, CO₂ sequestration, geothermal, tar sands, oil and gas shales, and uranium. EMD also encourages its membership to present joint courses, technical sessions, and field trips with DEG and DPA for appropriate subjects at different venues.
- EMD actively continues to seek and increase Active memberships in our division. Approaches to achieve this goal include (1) more active involvement in arranging technical sessions and courses on EMD commodities at national and regional section meetings; (2) EMD exhibits booths not only at AAPG meetings but at GSA, NMA, American Institute of Professional Geologists, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Society of Mining Engineers, and other professional associations to tap potential interest in EMD membership from members of these associations; (3) providing discounts for EMD members for its courses, field trips, and publications. The continuing success of EMD is wholly dependent not only on the Executive Committee, but also on the work of all the EMD Councilors, Commodity chairs, and other committees. All these volunteers together perform the operational roles of planning technical meetings, finances, publications, awards, outreach, commodity reports, and member recruitment. My thanks to all the individuals concerned for their respective work in various capacities. My thanks also to Norma Newby, AAPG Divisions Manager, for her assistance and co-operation in various EMD matters and Janet Brister, AAPG Web site editor, who worked with Brian Cardott, Web site chair and president-elect, to greatly revise and update the EMD Web site. The Energy Minerals Division looks forward to continuing to actively promote its interest and those of its members and to increased involvement, support, and volunteer activity from its membership. It has been an honor and privilege for me to serve as the EMD president and to work with you all.

Chacko J. John, President

Reports of the Sections

Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

The highlights of GCAGS activities for the year are as follows:

- The new Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies (GCAGS) headquarters office is located at the Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin, and

Kate Kipper was appointed as the Executive Secretary. The GCAGS continues to have the largest membership among AAPG affiliated sections. It currently comprises