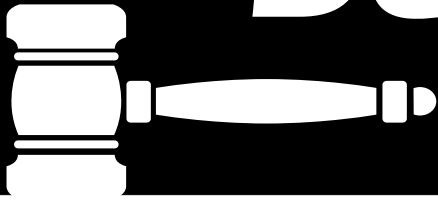


The Delegates' Voice



Newsletter for the House of Delegates of AAPG

September 2000

Chairman's Corner

by Lowell Lischer

Have you ever ridden a roller coaster? This is how I feel my experience as Chairman-Elect and now Chairman of the House of Delegates is shaping up. My sense of what it is like is that Chairman-Elect is like climbing that first hill. It is long and has a certain degree of anticipation. Then July 1 rolled around – WHAT A RUSH! The ride is certainly not uneventful, but with Ed, Sandi, Donna Riggs, other AAPG staff, Rick Fritz and a host of well qualified and dedicated committee chairmen and members as participants, it sure promises to be memorable. It is almost hard to believe I'm two months into my term as your Chairman at this writing.

The standing committees and three ad hoc committees for this year are now all up and running. A listing of all of the chairmen and members appears elsewhere in this issue. I have had personal contact, either by phone or e-mail, with every one of these people. What makes this job fun is the fact that of all that whole long list of committee members, I had only two turndowns from the original selections. Everyone is busy; everyone has more than enough to do, but still is willing to take on some additional respon-

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HISTORY OF "COCBAP"

by Ed Dolly and George Eynon, COCBAP Members

The AAPG Executive Committee created the **Ad Hoc Committee on Constitution and Bylaw Amendment Process (COCBAP)** on March 1, 1998. The twelve-member committee, including Chairman Lee T. Billingsley, was given the charge to analyze both the amendment process and the responsibilities of the Executive Committee with respect to determining "legality" of proposed amendments to the AAPG Bylaws. After exchanges of opinion and much discussion, the COCBAP met twice at the annual convention in Salt Lake City in May 1998.

The COCBAP members represented divergent views on the charge. They took their charge seriously, and debated vigorously, honestly, and professionally. They invited four guest speakers to offer insight on the subject and to answer questions of the Committee members. Those speakers were Frank Harrison, John Hogg, Clint Moore and Larry Woodfork.

COCBAP RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations of the COCBAP, made in June 1998, are listed below. For the sake of

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Contact Update Critical

The AAPG Headquarters has successfully integrated all membership information into one database, greatly facilitating updating contact information. Members can now update information for all AAPG activities and services with only one call or letter. And subsequently the House has immediate access to the most recent information on any Delegate, thus improving communications.

It is imperative that the Delegate (or any AAPG member) inform Headquarters of any change in contact information. It is very easy to forget to update the AAPG when changing an address, a phone or fax number, or most especially an e-mail address. ***This means Delegates cannot be reached or kept informed on important issues because the contact information is not current.***

Please verify all your current contact information, including mailing address, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail address, by checking it on the AAPG website (www.aapg.org) under "Member Directory". If you are in doubt, forward your information to Donna Riggs through her e-mail address (driggs@aapg.org) or through AAPG, P.O. Box 979,

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House of Delegates

2000-2001 Officers and Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees

<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Lowell Lischer</i>	<i>(210) 479-6856</i>	<i>LKLischer@worldnet.att.net</i>
<i>Chairman-Elect</i>	<i>Ed Dolly</i>	<i>(303) 299-1517</i>	<i>eddolly@tac-denver.com</i>
<i>Secretary/Editor</i>	<i>Sandi Barber</i>	<i>(713) 723-1480</i>	<i>sbarber@pdq.net</i>

Constitution and Bylaws

<i>George Eynon, Chairman (Calgary, Canada)</i>	<i>(403) 531-4375</i>	<i>geynon@cera.com</i>
<i>Jeff Greenawalt (Pittsburgh, PA)</i>	<i>Jim Ragsdale (Houston, TX)</i>	
<i>Clint Moore (Houston, TX)</i>		

Credentials

<i>Stewart Chuber, Chairman (Schulenberg, TX)</i>	<i>(979) 561-8700</i>	<i>fayexplo@cvtv.net</i>
<i>Don Clarke (Long Beach, CA)</i>	<i>Terry Hollrah (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)</i>	
<i>Marty Hewitt (Calgary, Canada)</i>	<i>Brian Keith (Bloomington, IN)</i>	

Future of Earth Scientists

<i>Don Lewis, Chairman (Lafayette, CA)</i>	<i>(925) 284-5480</i>	<i>donlew@worldnet.att.net</i>
<i>Michael Clegg (Calgary, Canada)</i>	<i>George Bole (ex-officio, Comm. On Committees)</i>	
<i>Rick Ericksen (Jackson, MS)</i>	<i>Ron Grubbs (ex-officio, EMD President)</i>	
<i>Brian Keith (Bloomington, IN)</i>	<i>Skip Hobbs (ex-officio, DPA President)</i>	
<i>John Kaldi (Adelaide, Australia)</i>	<i>Michael "Doc" Weathers (ex-officio, DEG President)</i>	
<i>Steve Sonnenberg (Denver, CO)</i>		

Honors and Awards

<i>Brenda Cunningham, Chairman (Midland, TX)</i>	<i>(915) 688-5729</i>	<i>bcunnin@mail.arco.com</i>
<i>Lee Avary (Morgantown, WV)</i>	<i>Peter Gray (Lafayette, LA)</i>	
<i>Bob Cowdery (Wichita, KS)</i>	<i>John Kerns (Casper, WY)</i>	
<i>Marilyn Cisar (Houston, TX)</i>	<i>Sigrunn Johnsen (Oslo, Norway)</i>	
<i>Ian Collins (Bangkok, Thailand)</i>	<i>Robert Lindbolm (Menlo Park, CA)</i>	
<i>Paul English (Calgary, Canada)</i>		

Newsletter

<i>Sandi Barber, Chairman (Houston, TX)</i>	<i>(713) 723-1480</i>	<i>sbarber@pdq.net</i>
<i>Ed Dolly (Denver, CO)</i>	<i>Mark Longman (Denver, CO)</i>	
<i>Pat Gratton (Dallas, TX)</i>	<i>Debra Osborne (Midland, TX)</i>	

Nominations and Elections

<i>Deborah Sacrey, Chairman (Houston, TX)</i>	<i>(281) 493-5059</i>	<i>auburn@concentric.net</i>
<i>Joan Barminski (Ventura, CA)</i>	<i>Richard Norman (Tulsa, OK)</i>	
<i>Jack Bryant (New Orleans, LA)</i>	<i>Henry Pettingill (Madrid, Spain)</i>	
<i>Edward Coalson (Denver, CO)</i>	<i>Stan Pittman (Dallas, TX)</i>	
<i>Richard Lorentz (Singapore, Kuala Lumpur)</i>	<i>Ira Sasowsky (Akron, OH)</i>	
<i>Deborah Nishada (Calgary, Canada)</i>		

Resolutions

<i>Marty Hewitt, Chairman (Calgary, Canada)</i>	<i>(403) 290-2544</i>	<i>marty_hewitt@pcp.ca</i>
<i>Jean Lemmon (Tulsa, OK)</i>	<i>Deborah Sycamore (Denver, CO)</i>	
<i>Mike Party (Midland, TX)</i>		

Rules and Procedures

<i>Larry Jones, Chairman (Houston, TX)</i>	<i>(281) 493-1022</i>	<i>104252.527@compuserve.com</i>
<i>Jeanne Harris (Denver, CO)</i>	<i>Larry Wickstrom (Columbus, OH)</i>	
<i>Mark Rainer (Dallas, TX)</i>		

Ad Hoc House Operating Efficiency

<i>Tom Mairs, Chairman (Dallas)</i>	<i>(214) 265-9533</i>	<i>mairsgeol@aol.com</i>
<i>Ed Dolly (Denver, CO)</i>	<i>Martin Hewitt (Calgary, Canada)</i>	
<i>Brenda Cunningham (Midland, TX)</i>	<i>Larry Jones (Houston, TX)</i>	
<i>George Eynon (Calgary, Canada)</i>	<i>Deborah Sacrey (Houston, TX)</i>	
<i>Ed Heath (Durango, CO)</i>		

Ad Hoc Independent Audit

<i>Will Green, Chairman (Midland, TX)</i>	<i>(915) 685-0103</i>	<i>wgreen@midland.cc.tx.us</i>
<i>Terry Hollrah (Past AAPG Treasurer)</i>	<i>Dave Campbell (Candidate, AAPG Pres.-Elect)</i>	
<i>Ed Picou (AAPG Treasurer)</i>	<i>Dan Smith (Candidate, AAPG Pres.-Elect)</i>	

Ad Hoc Visions Committee

<i>Sandi Barber, Chairman (Houston, TX)</i>	<i>(713) 723-1480</i>	<i>sbarber@pdq.net</i>
<i>Bill Dupre' (Houston, TX)</i>	<i>John Chipperfield (Advisor, Calgary, Canada)</i>	
<i>Dave Hawk (Boise, ID)</i>	<i>Sneha Dholakia (Advisor, non-member, Houston, TX)</i>	
<i>Terry Hollrah (Oklahoma City, OK)</i>	<i>Bill Haskett (Advisor, Houston, TX)</i>	

Website News for the House The House on the Internet

by Sandi Barber

Delegates' Forum

The House of Delegates now has an Internet forum to facilitate discussion and information flow between Delegates and the House committees. You can access it from the AAPG website (under "Divisions, Section, Societies, House" section on the homepage). Any visitor is able to browse the forum but only Delegates and past House chairmen are able to post messages.

A user ID is requested in order to post a message on the forum. Each Delegate has been sent the user ID first by e-mail and then by post. At this time, all Delegates' registrations have been set to receive no e-mail notification of new postings. If you have any problems with posting messages or if you would like e-mail notification of all or of those new messages to threaded discussions to which you have posted, please notify Sandi Barber at housesec@aapg.org.

The intent of the forum is twofold. The primary purpose is to better enable the Delegates and the House committees to discuss issues and to conduct business throughout the year. The forum uses threaded discussions, allowing Delegates to see all comments posted to a particular subject within the past two months. House leadership and committee chairs will be actively posting developments on the forum, so frequent visits are recommended.

The second intent is to provide AAPG members a better understanding of what issues the House is working on. Most members have little understanding of what the House does or how it works. By providing a glimpse into our efforts, this site will educate our membership and hopefully recruit more active participation in all AAPG activities. It will update those members already interested in House activities.

Delegates, please visit the forum at your earliest convenience and often afterwards. This can rapidly develop into an important means of communicating quickly and efficiently with our globally distributed body. The House leadership will be using it to communicate important information, issues and developments.

The House on the AAPG Website

Anyone logging onto the AAPG website now can read about the AAPG House, its Officers, and the Delegates. The information is located under the "Divisions, Section, Societies, House" section on the homepage (www.aapg.org). Along with past issues of *The Delegates' Voice* and the listing of House Officers, a visitor can find the name(s) of Delegate(s) representing different affiliated societies. At this time, Delegates are listed alphabetically by the society they represent. So seeing an item of interest or concern on the forum, a member can now easily search for his/her representing Delegate(s) to contact. There is discussion of creating a search engine to allow visitors to find Delegates based upon zip code within the USA.

Contact Update - from page 1

Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74104-0979,
USA.

Encourage the members you represent to keep their contact information current with the AAPG. We lose members each year because dues renewals do not reach them at outdated addresses. Frequently when this occurs, none of the contact information is correct, and the member can no longer be reached. But you may

Survey Results

Alternative: Nomination Process Revision

by Lowell Lischer, Chair

The results are in for the survey included in the June edition of *The Delegates' Voice*. First of all, thanks to all of you who participated in this survey – it is a tremendous help to the House leadership.

The August 1st deadline was extended since many of the Delegates had not yet received their copy of the DV by the deadline. The results reflect all of the surveys received through August 31st in order to accommodate the distribution delay.

A total of 1024 surveys went out to Delegates, Alternates and "Other" members of the AAPG leadership. A total of 106 surveys of the 1024 mailed were returned for a response rate of 10.4%. Of those returned, 74 of 268 Delegates (27%), 12 of 151 Alternates (8%) and 20 of 605 (3%) Other responded. The response rate is sufficient to vali-

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sibility for the House and Association. Even those two who had to turn me down...well, if I were in their shoes, I'd have turned me down too, there is only so much any of us can take on.

This year promises to be a busy one leading right up to and most certainly including our meeting in Denver. New developments in communications efforts with the Delegates will be a big help in getting everyone up to speed on the issues and keeping you informed of any updates. By the time you receive this issue of the DV, members will be able to look up their Delegates on the AAPG website and there will be a fully operational Delegates' Forum online (more about that from Sandi) to provide further assistance to the already high quality newsletter in disseminating information. I will have already attended the Rocky Mountain and Eastern section meetings as you read this and anticipating the opportunity to meet and discuss House issues and concerns with more of you at the GCAGS meeting.

The Constitution & Bylaws Committee will have a busy year. First of all, there are the five resolutions passed in New Orleans: *Bylaws Amending Time Period Equivalency Amendment, Legality Requirement Elimination Amendment, Election Results Release Amendment, Eliminate "suitable" Amendment, and International Region Delegate Election Clarification Amendment*. So far, there are also three Bylaws Resolutions for consideration: A "super-majority" vote requirement by the Executive Committee in order to change the order of or reject any officer candidate nominee as pre-

resented by the Advisory Council; restriction of members from holding multiple AAPG positions or offices; and allowing alternates for selected Advisory Council members. There is also a resolution for a Constitutional Amendment known as COCBAP 3 (history included on page 1) for consideration as well. These are the known items for consideration to date.

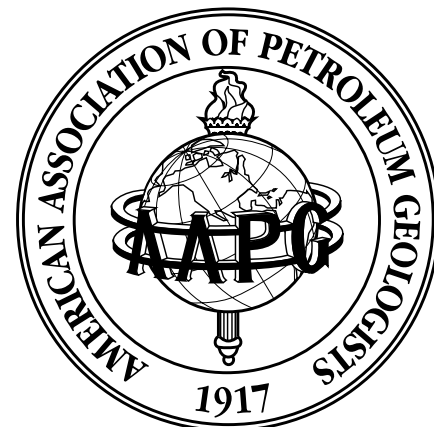
The Rules & Procedures Committee is no less busy. From New Orleans, they have the following to consider: *No HOD Honors and Awards Committee member shall receive a voted HOD award during the period of their service to that Committee, No individual shall be allowed to receive more than one House award in any one year, incorporation of a "disaffiliation" authority and process within the Rules and Procedures as a part of the Resolutions Committee responsibilities* and nine (9) separate recommendations for consideration from the Ad Hoc "Procedures" (aka Operations) Committee report. In addition, there will be consideration for incorporation of a resolution notification procedure already passed by the Executive Committee for the cooperative effort of the Executive Committee, Advisory Council and House of Delegates. There may be one additional item for consideration by this committee as well.

So if I haven't lost you having to read through all this rather dry legislative commentary, how are we going to get through all of this, this year? The House leadership is committed to keeping you, the Delegates and alternates, informed on the issues. The House committees will not only be encouraged, but expected, to assist in

apprising you of their activities and deliberations on the issues. This information will be disseminated through every means available whether that is by direct mailings, *The Delegates' Voice*, online through the AAPG website, Delegates' Forum, articles in the *Explorer*, and even through e-mail, as appropriate and if deemed necessary.

We will make every effort to keep you informed. But, it will be the obligation of you, the Delegates and alternates, to read this information. Through this cooperative effort, all of us can serve the best interests of the membership who have placed their trust in us as well as fulfilling our obligation to one another that the Denver meeting stays on the issues and on task so that our meeting isn't a marathon.

In closing, I want to encourage you to be in touch, not only with the issues, but also with your House leadership. Contact information for the various committee chairmen is provided in this issue of *The Delegates' Voice*. Sandi, Ed and I can all be contacted as well. I encourage you to contact me with your questions and comments either by e-mail at LKLischer@worldnet.att.net, by phone at 210/478-6856, or snail-mail at 15611 Cloud Top, San Antonio, TX 78248-1350, USA.



This Year's Three Ad Hoc Committees

by

Lowell Lischer (Chairman) and Sandi Barber (Secretary-Editor)

This year there are three Ad Hoc committees in addition to the Standing Committees of the House of Delegates. Each has a specific charge. By our identifying these committees and their responsibilities, the Delegates can better understand the committees' functions and offer appropriate input as they may choose.

The *Ad Hoc Operating Efficiency Committee* is a continuing ad hoc committee, headed by Pat Gratton last year. The committee is composed of select House Standing Committee Chairmen, a past House Chairman and the House Chairman-Elect. It is responsible for reviewing mechanisms and manner in which the House conducts business and to identify improvements in operating efficiency and cost effectiveness. These improvements may concern communications within the House and the greater AAPG as a whole, considerations by the House Constitution & Bylaws and Rules & Procedures Committees, or suggestions to the House leadership. Such improvements will be reported at the Denver meeting.

The *Ad Hoc Audit Committee* was called for in New Orleans to consider the need for an independent audit of AAPG's finances and personnel every five years. Chaired by a past Chairman of the House, the committee is composed of the current AAPG Treasurer, the immediate past AAPG Treasurer and both of the candidates for AAPG President-Elect. All five members of the committee are either Delegates or At-Large Delegates with a history of service to the House of

Delegates as well as a sound knowledge of the internal functioning of the AAPG.

The *Ad Hoc Visions Committee* is newly formed. Due to the structure and composition of the House of Delegates, it is a microcosm of the AAPG membership. It has the same difficulties in serving its membership, especially in reaching and including Delegates globe-wide. Therefore, the House is a good testing ground for new methodologies. The Visions Committee is charged with reporting on the items below (or a workable subset), while "thinking outside the box" and taking into consideration current technology, business practices and philosophy, and customer service models:

- What function should/could a geo-technical professional organization fill for the first two decades of the 21st Century?
- What products should/could it provide to membership and community?
- What structure is needed to accomplish the above?
- Practically what technology could facilitate services and participation, especially with globally distributed membership and limited time and money?

This committee will report at the June House meeting in Denver. That report will include at least its findings on current technology that can practically improve communications between Delegates and the House committees. Committee members were selected for considerations such as experience, background, and geographical distribution.

Legislation – the Business of the House

by George Eynon

Chairman, Constitution & Bylaws Committee

There is a full slate of legislation for the Constitution & Bylaws Committee to handle this year, with items coming from the House in New Orleans, directly from the Executive Committee, and from previous Association business. The main items are outlined below—in what I hope is plain English—so that we can all understand them. (*Throughout the abbreviations "EC and "AC" are used for Executive Committee and Advisory Council respectively; the editorial comments are mine alone.*)



The Delegates in New Orleans passed five (5) Resolutions that our committee must now turn into Amendments for the House to consider in Denver.

"BYLAWS AMENDING TIME PERIOD EQUIVALENCY AMENDMENT"...

...to bring the Bylaws Amendment procedures into equivalency between the EC and the House. At this time, the EC can submit a resolution to the House up to 60 days before the House meeting, whereas the House can do so only at its annual meeting. This amendment will permit the House to move its own legislation through in the same time frame as the EC. (*A "no-brainer"!*)

"LEGALITY REQUIREMENT ELIMINATION AMENDMENT"

The process of asking the EC to affirm legality is not necessary to

Continued on Page 6

assure compliance or comply with any law. The language (in Article XIV, Sections 2 & 3) regarding “affirmation of legality” and “determine legality” will be removed, so as to avoid any future potential misunderstandings. *(Again, a “no-brainer”!)*

“ELECTION RESULTS RELEASE AMENDMENT”

The handling and release of all numerical AAPG Election Results needs to be stated in the Bylaws, providing candidates with more information after the election to help them assess their efforts, providing both candidates agree in writing. *(Once again, a “no-brainer”!)*

“ELIMINATE “SUITABLE” AMENDMENT”

The word “suitable” —with reference to officer candidate selection—is redundant and should be eliminated since its meaning is not defined anywhere in the Bylaws, and its historic practice has been inconsistent. *(Should be just a “housekeeping” item.)*

“INTERNATIONAL REGION DELEGATE ELECTION CLARIFICATION AMENDMENT”

Clarification of the Bylaws that all Delegates to the House from International Regions must be elected from ballots mailed to all Region members. *(Another “housekeeping” item.)*



Several Resolutions have been brought forward from various sources for voting in Denver.

“SUPERMAJORITY” OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEEDED TO CHANGE THE OFFICER CANDIDATE

SLATE FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE (THE ADVISORY COUNCIL)

This resolution was passed in New Orleans. The June Delegates’ Voice survey asked what would constitute a “supermajority” and whether the EC should be required to notify the Advisory Council of any changes they make to the slate of candidates. *(The survey results, discussed in another article, will guide development of a resolution.)*

“COCBAP 3 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT” RESOLUTION

This resolution, from the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws Amendment Procedure (COCBAP) of several years ago, was submitted by the EC. It would prevent any one body (AC, EC, or HOD) from proposing amendments which would “alter the composition, manner of selection, the terms of office, the specific duties, responsibilities, and other matters relevant to such bodies and officers” without the consent of the affected body. This resolution for amendment will be submitted to the Delegates in Denver and, if passed by a simple majority, would be submitted to the entire membership for a vote. The history of this resolution is discussed in another article. *(Opinions have been solicited from all three bodies — the EC, AC and HOD leadership — and will be published in the January issue of The Delegates’ Voice.)*

BYLAW CHANGE ON MEMBERS HOLDING MULTIPLE POSITIONS OR OFFICES

This one comes directly from the EC and proposes some relatively simple changes that would prohibit individuals from holding certain positions simultaneously. *(Sounds like a good idea.)*

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW ALTERNATES FOR SELECTED ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

This one is also from the EC and asks us to address an inequality of the AC. Some members are permitted to send alternates while others are not. We need to devise an equitable solution. The EC Resolution would allow AC members the same privilege as the Division Presidents to have an alternate represent them at meetings. We are already getting lots of useful input on this one.

CALL FOR AN INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF AAPG FINANCES AND STAFF EVERY FIVE (5) YEARS

This was passed by the House in New Orleans, and has gone to an ad hoc committee of the House—Will Green, Ed Picou, Terry Hollrah, Dave Campbell and Dan Smith—for clarification. We will not need a resolution for this year; we await the report of the ad hoc committee and the reaction of the Delegates.



I trust that this quick run down of our Committee’s ongoing deliberations provides Delegates with a better understanding of what you will be considering in Denver. We want to keep you informed of our activity as we go through the year, rather than you getting an unintelligible stack of paper immediately before the Denver meeting itself. Your comments and feedback are welcome.

George Eynon - geynon@cera.com
Jeff Greenawalt - jgreenawalt@power-gas.com
Clint Moore - clint_moore@anadarko.com
Jim Ragsdale - jar1642@aol.com

Secretary-Editor's Corner

by Sandi Barber

As you can see, this will be another busy year. The House committees are formed (see article *House of Delegates 2000-2001*), and they are already at work. As editor of *The Delegates' Voice (DV)*, I get a glimpse of all House activities and have the pleasure of making sure you hear of them in this publication. I am also pleased to summarize the current efforts concerning House communications:

The Delegates' Voice: This year will have 3 issues, including this one. The January issue will include more about the COCBAP resolution and the biographies of the House officer candidates. The deadline for submissions will be November 8.

The April issue will contain the committee reports and other pertinent information for the June House meeting in Denver. We intend to increase the time that Delegates have to study and to discuss issues prior to the meeting. Therefore the deadline for this issue will be in March. The House meeting will be followed shortly by an August 2001 *DV* issue.

Issues of the *DV* are posted on the AAPG website in pdf format (*Website News*). Delegates outside the USA and Canada who provide valid e-mail addresses will also receive issues in digital format, thus assuring prompt receipt of important information.

Electronic Communications: As promised in the June issue, a forum has been created to facili-

tate communications between the Delegates (see the *Website News*) for the details. Through the forum, Delegates can discuss issues and receive speedy notifications from the House leadership and committees. This may become an important means of House communications.

Please note that access to the forum is limited to the Delegates only. The forum needs to develop and to stabilize before viewing by non-Delegates. Later it may be opened to browsing only by non-Delegates. However participation in discussions is limited to Delegates only.

If you have not recently visited the AAPG website (www.aapg.org), you might be interested in the increased information available on the House of Delegates (*Website News*). The list of Delegates by affiliated society and of House officers, together with e-mail addresses, are available to the membership and general public.

Additionally, the *ad hoc* Visions Committee (see *This Year's Ad Hoc Committees on page 5*) will be investigating other means of communications. Among its charges is to look for, and report on, cost-effective methods that would increase discussions among geographically distributed Delegates. Please forward any suggestions you have to me at sbarber@pdq.net.

Updating Delegate Contact Information: While contacting Delegates over the past two months, we have found that the information in the AAPG Headquarters database is not always current. We need your current mailing address, phone

number, and most especially your e-mail address. This information can be forwarded to Donna Riggs at driggs@aapg.org or at AAPG, P.O. Box 979, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74101-0979, USA.

If you are located outside of the USA and Canada, inform me whether you can receive attachments to your e-mail, particularly pdf files. We are sending the DV electronically to those who might have difficulty receiving it promptly by mail. Therefore, it would ease our (read "my") work if we can attach the issue as a pdf file. Otherwise, my work is increased by cutting and pasting all articles into an e-mail, versus just attaching the file.

In conclusion, the House is working to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of communications within the House and out to the members. We appreciate your suggestions and participation.

Earth Science Week 2000 ***October 8-14, 2000***

About the time you receive this issue, celebration of the 3rd annual Earth Science Week will occur in over 20 countries, including the U.S., Australia, and Canada. It is an international event designed to foster public awareness of the earth sciences and to increase public access to information about local geology. Activities include field trips, science demonstrations, lecture and film series, exhibits, school visits, and open houses. The American Geological Institute (AGI) initiated Earth Science Week on behalf of the geoscience community to provide an annual focus for public education about the earth and earth processes.

brevity the Executive Committee will be referred to as the EC, the Advisory Council as the AC, and the House of Delegates as the HOD.

1) **Interpretation of Legality** – “Legality” as set out in Section 2, Article XIV of the Bylaws should be interpreted literally. The EC’s determination of legality for proposed Bylaw amendments should be “limited to the mechanical process as outlined in the Bylaws.” It should not include “a broader responsibility which includes a consideration of the intent, purposes and spirit of the Association and all of its governing documents.” (Quote from the COCBAP charge.)

2) **Procedural Charges** – The following recommendations are designed to a) improve communication about proposed Constitution and Bylaw amendments (“amendments”) and b) allow amendments to be in more of a consensus form before they are debated and voted upon in the HOD.

A) **Require opinions from the AC, EC and HOD on resolutions for amendments.** Opinions must be submitted by September 30 of each year to the Constitution and Bylaw Committee of the HOD in order to be considered in the HOD at the Annual Meeting. An opinion is not necessary from the body which originated the resolution for amendment, but submission of the rationale leading to the resolu-

tion would be in order and helpful. (Example: If a resolution for amendment came from the EC, the EC would not submit an opinion, but the AC and the HOD could each submit an opinion.) Envisioned choices for opinion include 1) no opinion, 2) recommend passage, 3) recommend passage with specified changes, and 4) recommend defeat.

B) **The HOD should publish all resolutions for amendments, which have passed the HOD, within 30 days of conclusion of the HOD meeting.** Suggested means of publication include Delegate newsletter, notification to the EC and the AC, notice to the International Liaison Committee, and notification to any other group identified as affected by the proposed amendment.

C) **The Constitution and Bylaw Committee of the HOD shall consult with other interested groups during preparation of wording of proposed amendments.** Interested groups must submit views by October 30. If alternate views are identified, the Constitution and Bylaw Committee shall publish such views with the proposed amendment.

3) **Constitutional Amendment** – The EC should pass a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment. The proposed amendment would prevent any one body (AC, EC, or HOD) from proposing

amendments which would “alter the composition, manner of selection, the terms of office, the specific duties, responsibilities, and other matters relevant to such bodies and officers” without the consent of the affected body. This resolution for amendment should be submitted to the HOD, and if passed by a majority vote, will be submitted to the entire membership for vote.

The COCBAP recommendations received unanimous endorsement when taken as a whole, but there would not be a consensus if any of the three main sections of recommendations were deleted. COCBAP is divided on support of the amendment itself (item 3 above). But COCBAP is unanimous in support for the concept that such an amendment should be brought forward for consideration.

The 1998 Executive Committee moved to receive the recommendations of the COCBAP, but deferred approval of the report itself.

ACTION TO DATE

The Executive Committee thus far has put into practice two of the three recommendations (specifically items 1 and 2 of the COCBAP report). As the recommendations applied to specific Bylaw amendments within the International Representation Committee Report, the EC deemed all were “legal” in the literal sense of the word, as per the COCBAP recommendation. The ad hoc IRC Amendment Resolution Committee was formed to propose amendments to the original IRC Report. As requested by

Continued on Page 9

COCBAP, representatives of the AC provided their input and consent to proposed amendment changes.

With respect to the third recommendation, no new constitutional amendment was proposed by the EC in 1998. However, in March 1999, a Special Ad Hoc Committee (SAHC) to the EC was formed to evaluate the advisability of the proposed amendment to restrict the ability of one body of the Association to alter another without its consent (item 3 of the COCBAP report).

SPECIAL Ad Hoc COMMITTEE

The members of this Committee were Brenda K. Cunningham, Committee Chairman and HOD representative; Carlos A. Dengo, AC representative; and Terry R. Hollrah, EC representative.

At the AAPG Annual Convention in San Antonio in April of 1999, the Special Ad Hoc Committee held a forum in which fourteen Association representatives spoke before the Committee and/or submitted written statements.

Statements presented to the Committee at the forum were of three exclusive types:

- 1) Those in favor of the proposed amendment,
- 2) Those opposed to an amendment, and
- 3) Those in favor of a proposal being brought forward before the HOD.

Sixteen percent of the fourteen representatives were in favor of an amendment in some form, 46% were against a proposed amendment in any form, and 38% wished to see the issue brought before the HOD regardless of their personal

position relative to the issue. The Committee members deliberately expressed no opinion to this forum. Multiple aspects of the issue were considered, specifically:

- 1) What was the general impression of what informed members of the Association desire?
- 2) What were the initial charges to, and the final recommendations of, the COCBAP?
- 3) What obligation, if any, does the EC have to act upon the recommendations of the COCBAP and other ad hoc committees?
- 4) What effects, both positive and negative, might result if this issue is not brought forward?
- 5) What effects, both positive and negative, might result if this issue is brought forward?
- 6) Is there a need for a different course of action not identified previously?

Based on all the data collected, the SAHC drew the following conclusions and made the following recommendations.

In the best interest of the Association, it is incumbent on the EC to make, and act upon, a decision independent of the SAHC. The issues surrounding the advisability of a proposed amendment restricting one body of the Association's ability to alter another without its consent are complex, emotionally charged and evenly divided in both support and opposition. The SAHC believes an independent decision derived and implemented by the EC will reiterate its leadership role within the organization.

An informed Delegate body is critical to the well being of

AAPG, and the SAHC strongly supports open, honest, and timely communication between both the Delegate body and Association leadership, and with Delegates and members.

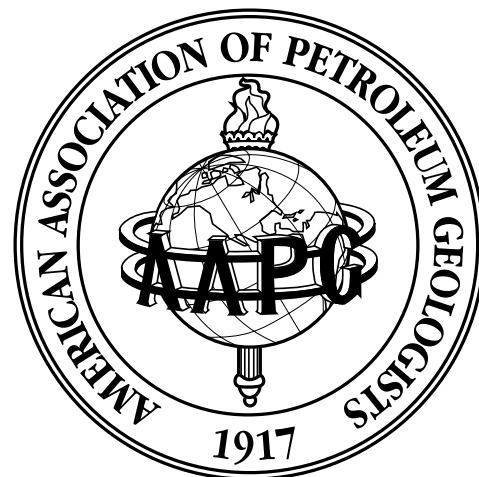
MOST RECENT ACTION

In April by a vote of five (5) for and two (2) against, the EC moved to forward the third recommendation of the COCBAP report as a resolution by the EC for action and decision by vote in the HOD. The EC has taken no position to date, for or against the measure, and defers to the judgment of the HOD and the membership as to this amendment to the Constitution.



This short summary on the history of COCBAP comes from more detailed reports on COCBAP prepared by Lee T. Billingsley, notes from HOD Past Chairman Dan Smith, EC minutes, and the SAHC report. It has been reviewed by House leadership and by the chairs of the EC and AC.

More on COCBAP will be published in future 2000-2001 issues of *The Delegates' Voice*.



House of Delegates Officer Candidates 2001-2002

The Nominations and Elections Committee presents the following slate of House officer candidates for the 2001-2002 term, listed in alphabetical order. Their biographies will be in the January issue of *The Delegates' Voice*. The election will occur at the June meeting of the House of Delegates in Denver.

Candidates for Chairman-Elect

Don Clarke, Long Beach, California

Terry Hollrah, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Candidates for Secretary-Editor

Marty Hewitt, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Brian Keith, Bloomington, Indiana

Survey Results - from page 3

date the survey – particularly from the Delegates response.

The first question sought the “majority” of the Executive Committee vote to “change the order of names or reject any name referred by the Advisory Council.” Of the options offered, the results were: simple (>50%) majority = 10, 2/3 majority = 47, 3/4 majority = 9, 4/5 majority = 7, unanimous vote = 12, and no change = 19. Two surveys were received that either failed to mark or chose not to mark any of these preferences.

The second question asked if the Executive Committee should be required to provide a written explanation to the Advisory Council if the order of the list of

Twenty-Eight Years Ago

On 16 April 1972, the House met in Denver to consider several issues. Probably one of the most significant New Business proposals was a resolution, presented by Hugh Frenzel on behalf of the West Texas Geological Society, to add the phrase “... and to advance professional well-being of its members” to Article II of the Constitution. The House adopted this resolution and passed the amendment the next year in Anaheim, California.

Accordingly, the Constitution of the Association was changed to recognize that issues such as those dealing with professional livelihood were part of the Purposes of AAPG.

Derived from “History of the House of Delegates 1970-1995” compiled by George R. Gibson and Herbert G. Davis.

Chairman-Elect's Corner

by Ed Dolly

DELEGATE VOTING HABITS

It is not my intention to offend any of my fellow Delegates, but we took a survey recently (“The Super Majority Issue” found in your last Delegates' Voice) and the voting response of Delegates was 75 of 268, or only 28%. Although this was a valid survey and the other officers of the House of Delegates said it was about what they expected based on historical voting habits, I thought this voting percentage was rather low.

We as Delegates represent the AAPG members from our districts around the world. To that end, I feel that they should be better represented by our votes, whether at the House of Delegates meeting at the annual convention each year or on a survey issue that could ultimately affect all of AAPG.

Food for thought ... isn't it really our responsibility to vote?

candidates is changed by the Executive Committee. For this, the response was Yes = 68 and No = 37 with one survey left unmarked.

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee will now utilize these results in their consideration of the resolution approved in New Orleans: “Resolve that the

Constitution & Bylaws Committee investigate the usefulness of requiring more than a simple majority by the Executive Committee in order to change the order of names or reject any name brought forward by the Advisory Council for potential officer candidates.”

Affiliated Societies' Websites

Society

Alabama Geological Society
Alaska Geological Society
Albuquerque Geological Society
Appalachian Geological Society
Austin Geological Society
Baton Rouge Geological Society
Canada Society of Petroleum Geologists
Coast Geological Society
Dallas Geological Society
East Texas Geological Society
El Paso Geological Society
Everglades Geological Society
Fort Worth Geological Society
Four Corners Geological Society
Georgia Geological Society
Houston Geological Society
Illinois Geological Society
Kansas Geological Society
Kentucky Society of Professional Geologists
Lafayette Geological Society
Michigan Basin Geological Society
Montana Geological Society
Nevada Petroleum Society
New Mexico Geological Society
New Orleans Geological Society
New York State Geological Association
Ohio Geological Society
Ontario Petroleum Institute, Inc.
Pittsburgh Geological Society
Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists
San Joaquin Geological Society
South Texas Geological Society
Trinidad and Tobago, Geological Society of
Tulsa Geological Society
Utah Geological Association
West Texas Geological Society
Wyoming Geological Association

Website

www.westga.edu/geology/algs_web/ala_gs.html
seclabs.com/users/ags
geoinfo.nmt.edu/rmsaapg/ags_news.htm
www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/6948
www.realtime.net/%7Ecraigc/ags/
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www.sjgs.com/
www.stgs.org
www.gstt.org
tulsageology.org
www.utahgeology.org
www.wtgs.org
www.wyogeo.org/wga01.htm

House Delegates among AAPG 2001-2002 Officer Candidates

For your information, the AAPG officer candidates for the 2001-2002 term are listed below in alphabetic order per office. Five of these candidates have served or are currently serving in the House of Delegates.

President-Elect (2001-2002) [President 2002-2003] David G. Campbell, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Daniel L. Smith, Houston, Texas

Vice President (2001-2002) Thomas S. Ahlbrandt, Denver, Colorado
Donald W. Lewis, Lafayette, California

Secretary (2001-2003) Timothy R. Carr, Lawrence, Kansas
Charles J. Mankin, Norman, Oklahoma

Editor (2001-2004) John C. Lorenz, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Laird Thompson, Dallas, Texas

The Delegates' Voice

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HOUSE OF DELEGATES
of
AAPG

P. O. Box 979 - Tulsa, OK
74101-0979

News from Affiliated Societies

Houston Geological Society Establishes NeoGeos

Recognizing that early-career geoscientists seek specific information for establishing and developing their careers and also need to network among themselves, a new special interest group has evolved in the Houston Geological Society (HGS) – the NeoGeos. Originally an informal group of newly hired geoscientists within one company, a chance discussion between a NeoGeo leader Kelly Latter and HGS VP Denise Stone (a Houston Delegate) led to incorporating the NeoGeos as an HGS committee. The membership is targeted at, but not restricted to, geoscientists with up to 7 years of career experience.

As of the end of summer, there are 120 members on the mailing list, consisting of people who attended a NeoGeo event or expressed interest in the group. Some interesting statistics on these members:

- 58% are male, 42% female;
- 90% work in the petroleum industry, representing 25 companies;
- 10% are graduate students, those seeking employment, and one environmental geoscientist;
- members represent graduates from at least 27 different schools in five countries;
- approximately two-thirds were already HGS members, although their activity level ranged greatly.

NeoGeo dinner meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday of alternating months, beginning in September with a presentation by former AAPG President Michel T. Halbouty. Other activities include participation in Earth Science week and the Houston Museum of Natural Science, field trips, and social events such as happy hours and picnics. Currently there is discussion about assisting young professionals in other disciplines, encouraging them either to join the NeoGeos or else to form similar groups.

Further information can be found on the HGS website, www.hgs.org, or by e-mailing NeoGeos@ev1.net.