

The Delegates' Voice

Newsletter for the House of Delegates of AAPG

JANUARY 2005

Chair's Corner

2004-2005 Business of the House

Valary Schulz

One of the largest and most important duties of the Chair is to populate our House committees with willing and eager volunteers (and sometimes even reluctant and acquiescent delegates). I'm pleased to report that this task is complete. My sincere appreciation goes to all of you for agreeing to help out in the House, and my understanding too, to those of you who were already hugely committed to other AAPG jobs, and unable to assist at this time. We have a great group of Committee chairs, and members – their contact information is listed here in the DV. Thank them when you see them, for their commitment.

The lion's share of the work of the Nomination & Elections Committee (chaired by Eastern Section's Brian Keith) has been completed with the presentation of the enclosed slate of candidates for House office. We are fortunate indeed that these individuals have the dedication to serve in the house. Take the opportunity over the next half year to get to know them, if you don't already, and to thank them for their willingness. Kudos to Brian and his committee for a great job.

Additionally, the Honors & Awards Committee (chaired by the Gulf Coast Section's Jeannie Mallick) has selected a stellar group of delegates who have made significant contributions to the House. Be sure to congratulate these hard-working colleagues. The committee has made a feverish effort to compile and select these awardees, which our Rules and Procedures dictate must be completed by the 30th of September. When we increased the size of this committee 2 years ago, we legislated representation from every section and region, which is most fair. Even with the considerable advantage of electronic communication however, it is

increasingly difficult to fill this committee roster in time for those members to make meaningful contributions by the deadline. Neither is there a compelling reason to do so. There are a number of good reasons though why this date ought to be pushed back to a later time. To avoid potential conflict with officer candidates (since they are ineligible to receive an award while running for office), and to provide the committee more time to make their deliberations, we are proposing to the Rules and Procedures committee that they re-evaluate the requisite deadline for submitting these candidates to the officers of the house.

Another item which has arisen to be considered by the Rules and Procedures committee is to have the Chair Elect prepare a budget for the House to be presented to the Executive Committee for consideration at their first meeting of each year in July. Currently, monies expended for House business are covered under administrative line items. Having the Chair Elect responsible for preparing his budget would allow him (or her) to crystallize his thoughts for the upcoming year and would allow for a more transparent process, and ultimately, more independence and fiscal responsibility for the house.

I am sincerely enjoying my 'tour' of duty which takes me to Section and Region meetings around the US and Mexico. The House breakfast meetings allow us to be acquainted face to face, rather than solely by digital means. It is a rare privilege to meet you and to view the workings of your regional governance, and I thank you for your hospitality. Now, let's get down to work, and find some grease.

Saludos ♦

A Delegates Job

Don Clarke, Chairman-Elect

The price of oil has topped \$50 per barrel. Storms have pounded the Gulf of Mexico and reduced the amount of oil available to refineries in the gulf. The California refineries are dealing with excess oil brought in from South America. There is a war going on in Iraq. Russia is on the verge of a Putin takeover. The carnage in the Sudan is unthinkable. So how does this impact the House of Delegates? Simply the world is in turmoil and events can be caused by nature or by man. But the people of the world can work together to mitigate these actions. The AAPG House of Delegates is a place where people can get together and work together. Delegates are activists. We all share similar goals of finding more energy and not harming the environment. Though organized to be a legislative body for the AAPG, the House of Delegates has provided us with a place to get to know each other and work together. The members of the House represent the world and as such the philosophies and ideals of each participant are shared. With that sharing comes understanding. With understanding we will be able to build a better world together.

Throughout this year and next I ask each delegate to bring your ideas and feelings forward so that we can work on them. AAPG is there to provide scientific and professional support. Politics will always exist but energy needs are truly international and our knowledge and experience is best placed when shared internationally. Some ideas may help in the way AAPG does business, others may help to improve communication, but the biggest value is in getting together and talking things out.

Part of your job as a delegate is to share our profession with the public. As I said earlier being a delegate makes you an activist, but I hope that it also makes you a proponent of the energy industry. It is

Continued on page 2

what we do. The oil industry has taken some bad hits because they did not always act responsibly. You will always hear that the companies..."are working for the stockholders." That is not an excuse for not operating in a safe and environmentally conscious manner. I ask each of you to share your knowledge of our industry with your neighbors, your schoolteachers and your local leaders. Please be accurate and truthful. You will lose credibility if caught pushing oil industry propaganda. Try to put your comments into a greater perspective. This is the most difficult part. We have a great industry that has provided tremendous value to the world. The public does have trouble dealing with the big numbers used in our industry. Answer questions directly. If you can't answer the questions, tell the questioner that you will get back to them. Then come to AAPG for help. Lee Gerhard chairs the Outreach Committee. He can be reached at leeg@sunflower.com. Executive Director Rick Fritz can also be contacted at rfritz@aapg.org. The AAPG Communications Director is Larry Nation. He can be reached at lnation@aapg.org. AAPG has numerous slides available to download that can be used in presentations. The Web site is www.aapg.org/slide_bank/index.cfm. We have an outstanding story, be proud of it and go tell it. ♦

Report of the AAPG House of Delegates Honors & Awards Committee:

Jeannie Fisher Mallick, Chair

It is my pleasure to announce the results of the vote for the House of Delegates awardees. Our 11-member committee, made up of delegates from 10 regions, has chosen to honor the following delegates in 2005:

Honorary Member of the House:

Daniel L. "Dan" Smith Gulf Coast

Distinguished Member of the House:

Sigrunn Johnsen European

Brian D. Keith Eastern

House Long Service:

William B. "Bill" Harrison Eastern

Edmund Stuart "Stu" Hastings Gulf Coast

Marvin L. "Marv" Smith Gulf Coast

The recommendation of these honorees completes the primary function of the Honors & Awards committee. The Honors & Awards team pulled together to finish this task in a short period of time to successfully select these deserving delegates. A slate of candidates was established by nomination from several regions, the eligibility of each candidate was discussed in a lively exchange of email, and finally a vote was cast to select the final honorees. The choice was a difficult one to make, as all those nominated were highly qualified to receive awards. I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to all members of my committee who made this possible.

The Honors & Awards Committee has the gracious task of acting to recognize those that have given much to make the House of Delegates function well.

"He who receives a benefit with gratitude repays the first installment on his debt."

– Lucius Annaeus Seneca

The Honors & Awards Committee invites delegates from all regions to suggest names of other delegates who have made contributions to the House of Delegates, who should be considered for awards in the future. Please contact any member of the H & A Committee to put forward a name or for more information. ♦

Editor & Newsletter Committee

Ronald L. Grubbs

The Delegates' Voice (DV) is the HOD's instrument for formal announcements, recognitions, and discussions of issues-in-play. Unfortunately, in this time of thin staffing and extra duties, most of us find less and less time to devote to such endeavors. The delays due to this tendency must not be allowed to conceal our appreciation for the efforts still made by so many. We do appreciate your efforts. Thanks for everyone's help with the DV, but could we please try a little harder to honor the scheduled publication deadlines?

We plan to publish three more DVs during the term of this House administration.

One will come out shortly after the mid-year meeting in Dallas, January 22,

2005. One will be published in late Spring, before the annual convention. The last will follow the convention and tidy up the House's business as the new administration arrives.

We would appreciate that all committee chairs and other contributor's to the DV please take account of the following deadlines:

March Issue: Final articles to the editor by January 31, 2005

May Issue: Final articles to the editor by March 15, 2005

June Issue: Final articles to the editor by June 30, 2005

Please note, the May issue of the *DV* will be a strictly E-published version, there will be no paper edition. If it is successful, future administrations will have this alternative venue at their disposal.

I would like to thank the House for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. Moreover, I thank the members of the Newsletter Committee for each of their contributions to getting the articles in for editing. They are Paul Buehrle, Michelle Debus, Mark Wilson, and Mike Party. Lastly, thanks to our predecessors for their contributions to the *DV* and the House. ♦

Nominations and Elections Committee

Brian D. Keith, Chair

The Nominations and Elections Committee, as indicated by its name has two charges. The first is to come up with a slate of candidates for the HOD offices of Chair-Elect and Secretary/Editor as early as possible in the fall of each year. The second charge is not realized until the annual meeting of the house, where the committee conducts the actual election by presenting the candidates to the members of the House, and then by passing out the familiar paper ballots and counting the resulting votes.

I would like to say a little bit about how the N&E Committee goes about the procedure for building the slate of candidates, for that process may not be clear to all delegates. First, the committee chair (yours truly for this year) is appointed by the current Chair of the House in addition to committee members. The chair and members are selected to represent each of the 6 sections of AAPG, plus a representative from each of the international regions willing and able to serve on the committee. Each member of the committee is charged by the chair of the committee to find potential candidates among the current delegates within each of their section or region. This can be done by blanket solicitation or by nominations that come in from AAPG members in any section or region. This year we also contacted previous candidates to see if they were interested in running again. It is important to note that only current delegates (not alternates or past-delegates) are eligible to run for office in the House. The potential candidate has to indicate their willingness to run and to serve if elected before they can be put on a preliminary ballot. Once a potential candidate has been verified as a current delegate, and has agreed to run, their name is placed on a preliminary ballot for the committee members. Some biographic information and the candidates' AAPG service record is also part of the ballot. Once the N & E Committee has narrowed the candidates down to two for each office, the slate is presented to members of the House in the Delegate's Voice and at the next annual meeting for the election.

I would like to thank the Members of the committee to whom I am grateful for their hard work and time: Maurice Birdwell (Gulf Coast), Karen Blake (Pacific), Bob Cowdery (Mid-Continent), George Eynon (Canada), Pete Gray (Gulf Coast), Will Green (Southwest), Wolfgang Nachtmann (Europe), and Jewel Wellborn (Rockies). ♦

Candidates for HOD Offices:

Nominee for Chair-Elect: Alan DeGood



(Kansas Geological Society, Midcontinent Section)

President, American Energy Corp., Wichita, Kansas

HoD Alternate	1985-1991
HoD Delegate	1997-2006
HoD Honors & Awards Comm.	1998-2000
HoD Delegate Group Chair	1994-95, 1993-1996

Nominee for Chair-Elect: Larry Jones

(Houston Geological Society, Gulf Coast Section)



Owner and Manager, Spartan Petroleum Corporation, Houston, Texas

HoD Alternate	1997-1998
HoD Delegate	1998-2007
HoD HGS Delegate Foreman	1995-1997
HoD Chair Honors & Awards Comm.	1999-2000
HoD Chair Rules & Procedures Comm.	2000-2001
HoD Ad Hoc Comm. Operating Efficiency	2000-2001
HoD Chair Rules & Procedures Comm.	2000-2001
Secretary/Editor	

Nominee for Secretary/Editor: J. G. "Jay" Henthorne



(Ohio Geological Society, Eastern Section)

President and owner, Petro Evaluation Services, Wooster, Ohio

HoD Alternate	1995-1997
HoD Delegate	2002-2005
HoD Rules & Procedures Comm.	2003-2005
HoD Chair Rules & Procedures Comm.	2004-2005

Nominee for Secretary/Editor: Bob Shoup



(Houston Geological Society, Gulf Coast Section)

Consultant, Houston, currently working for Petronas in Miri, Malaysia

HoD Delegate	2001-2007
HoD Rules & Procedures Comm.	2003-2005

Minutes Approval Committee

The minutes of the Dallas HOD Meeting, April 18, 2004 were completed and posted to the HOD website (<http://www.aapg.org/business/hod/index.cfm>) this summer. Please visit the website to review them.

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A Newsletter for the
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

of
AAPG

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This Issue at a Glance

Chair's Corner	Page 1
Chair-Elect	Page 1
Honors & Awards	Page 2
Editor & Newsletter	Page 2
N&E	Page 3
Candidates	Page 3
Minutes	Page 3