

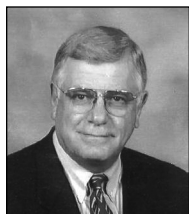
The Delegates' Voice

Newsletter for the House of Delegates of AAPG

SEPTEMBER 2006

Letter from the Chair

Larry Jones, Chair



Dear Delegates:

We are well into a new AAPG year, and first of all I want to thank the HoD committee chairs, vice chairs, and committee members, who have stepped forward

to fill this very important function for the well being of AAPG. You are **GREAT!** All of the committees are up and running, and while the AAPG Executive Committee had a vision of implementing the many changes that have taken place in the last two years, **we have more!**

It is vitally important to develop an intelligent and noninvasive approach to attracting international (region) membership into AAPG. If we do not facilitate this need, we will sink into an ineffective "sleepy" association. This is caused by an aging membership, and reduced domestic (section) applications for membership. Somehow, we must attract international (region) members to join, and most importantly, encourage them to be active.

The Constitution and Bylaws and Rules & Procedures committees have already dealt with issues that will be forwarded to the HoD Executive Committee, which consists of the president, president-elect, and secretary/editor.

In August, the AAPG Advisory Council recommended two additional initiatives to the AAPG Executive Committee for consideration and possible passing on to the House for action. One deals with graduated dues for the entire membership of AAPG; the other deals with changes to the petition candidate provisions. You will be advised if either or both of the proposals are moved from EC to HoD.

I am asking each of you to fill out the hardcopy of the survey inserted in the August EXPLORER or complete the survey at AAPG online by September 30th, and to commit to bringing two (2) new people into AAPG during this year.

Let's continue to make this Association the very best! ♦

Letter from the Editor

Jeannie Fisher Mallick, Editor



Riding the park-n-ride bus home from work, an opportunity to complete one of my job responsibilities as an AAPG Delegate to "report the reactions and views of members" was dropped in my lap. A fellow AAPG

member I used to work with was, just like me, saving gas and wear and tear on his vehicle and nervous system by patronizing mass transit.

I had recently e-mailed a personal request to my former colleague and several other folks, asking that they complete the AAPG survey issued to all members this past August. He had sent me back a reply that he had taken the survey.

"Hi! Thanks for completing the AAPG survey", I said.

He replied, "Well, I'm not too sure AAPG will be happy to read what I think of the organization when they receive it."

"Why is that? Really, I said, tell me what you're thinking."

He responded, "AAPG is too big to care about what one person thinks. The *Bulletin* is too conservative and won't print articles presenting new ideas, the cost of the Geocare Insurance is too high, and we only do lip service to caring about the ethics of our members. This past June, when I received my dues statement, I came within an inch of not renewing my membership".

My heart fell. This was a colleague I respected and knew to be a strong contributor to his science and profession, an AAPG member since the 1970's. What could I say to make a difference? I was thinking, what about Datapages, the digital literature archive, the Annual Conventions, and new initiatives, such as an online jobs page and consultant referral system that are in the works, to make the AAPG more relevant to the membership? I thought of Executive Director, Rick Fritz,

Letter from the Chair-Elect

Marty Hewitt, Chair-Elect



I would like to begin by thanking you for providing me with this opportunity to serve the House of Delegates and AAPG. I look forward to working together with you over the next two years as we represent our local societies, Sections and Regions in addressing the legislative challenges facing our Association.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to all of the new Delegates beginning their three year terms and welcome back and thank Delegates continuing their terms. Please make your plans now to attend our annual meeting scheduled for April 1, 2007 in beautiful Long Beach, California. I had the pleasure of visiting Long Beach last November for the House mid-year meeting. I know you and your family will have a wonderful time at the meeting. I look forward to seeing you there!

I encourage both new and returning Delegates to review the Delegate information packet that was mailed to you in August. The packet contains:

- Contact details on your fellow Delegates & Alternates in your local society

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who has done much to modernize the organization and his search to find a sponsor for student dues to encourage young people to join AAPG. I thought of all my fellow Delegates and AAPG Officers that care enough to volunteer their time and skills to improve and guide AAPG. I thought of the great support I have always received from dedicated people at headquarters in Tulsa. AAPG is unique among geoscience societies in that we have a legislative body of members with a voice in determining our direction. No society is perfect, but we can have perfect ideals to aim for.

There was no denying that my friend had in a few sentences summarized difficult issues that have been in the minds of many members for years. His disillusionment is not unusual. Perhaps this is why at the end of August, only 500 AAPG members had completed our annual opinion survey.

I felt that the existence of the survey and the interest I was showing in my friend's opinion addressed his first concern to some degree. Not wishing to state the obvious, I attempted to speak to his other comments.

"Yes, I said Geocare Insurance premiums are high, but the coverage is excellent." I mentioned another former colleague we had in common, that passed away after a long battle with cancer. He had told me before he died, that he had signed up for Geocare upon retirement. During his long period of treatment, he had never had a single problem with his insurance coverage. "It took care of everything". He had said.

I was stumped on what to say about the *Bulletin*. The *AAPG Bulletin* is how petroleum geologists document and share the results of their research and exploration efforts. Some day,

when I make that big discovery that opens up a new trend, I hope the *Bulletin* will be there to accept my contribution to the literature. I have no experience to speak from on the manner in which articles are screened and edited for the *Bulletin*. Should we as delegates consider investigating problems, real or perceived, with how articles are handled that are submitted for publication?

Ethics is the elephant in the room which we cannot ignore but would like to hope is at least tame. No one really believes that all 30,000 members are behaving themselves. We have standards for screening potential members that are designed to check into the quality of a person's past conduct, such as three sponsors who vouch for a candidate's record with written recommendations, but expulsion from the society for misconduct, short of a felony conviction, is something AAPG cannot do in a country held hostage by litigating attorneys.

By the time the bus arrived, I doubt I had changed friend's mind about what was "wrong" with AAPG. It isn't that his observations were wrong at all, some were spot on. The real issue is how he chose to act on them. I was reminded of a quote:

"One ship sails east,
Another west,
On the self-same winds that blow.
It isn't the gales;
It's the set of our sails,
That determines the way we go."

Thank you for your service as an AAPG Delegate, and congratulations, you are part of the solution.

I look forward to serving as your 2006-2007 Secretary/ Editor.



Please send this message to as many AAPG members in your address book as possible. A personal invitation can mean the difference to a member who might otherwise overlook completing our annual survey.

Hi,

AAPG wants your opinion! If you tell us what you consider important, the delegates and committees can do a better job of making AAPG the society you want it to be.

The August issue of the EXPLORER included a paper copy of the survey, or, you can complete it online. A few minutes of your time can have impact for years to come.

Please take this brief survey by September 30th.

Please go to <http://dhse.net/aapg>

Enter the password: **ux2yb**

- Contact details for the 2006-2007 House Officers & Committee Chairs
- Delegate Job Description
- Rules & Procedures of the House
- Constitution & By-Laws of the Association
- Active, Associate & Student Membership Applications
- Brochures from our Divisions & AAPG outlining member benefits
- AAPG Recruitment Reward & Recognition Program

Use this information to familiarize yourself with the responsibilities of your role and to help promote this wonderful Association of which we are members. Set a goal for yourself this term to try and recruit at least one new member to the Association.

I would also ask that you consider stepping up from your current Delegate role and join one of the House Committees. The work is interesting and rewarding and the friendships and contacts you make are invaluable. Please contact myself, Larry or Jeannie if you would be interested in serving on a committee. ◆

AAPG House of Delegates

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Cand. HoD Sec/Editor			

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A Newsletter for the
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

of
AAPG

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

Deadlines for 2006 - 2007 House of Delegates Business

Sep. 30, 2006	*Officer Candidates list to the HoD Chair.
Oct. 31, 2006	*Awardees list to the HoD Chair. **Comments from EC, AC, Delegates and any designees regarding Bylaws amendments by resolution of the HoD. (None from '06 meeting.) Bios and photos of candidates and awardees need to be at Headquarters.
Nov. 30, 2006	*Count paid/Active members by society/region for delegate entitlement.
Dec. 01, 2006	Proposed Constitution and/or Bylaws changes, if published in the Explorer, need to be submitted for the January issue.
Dec. 02, 2006	*Mid-Year meeting of officers, chairs and invitees, Houston, TX.
Dec. 20, 2006	Deadline to submit articles for January DV.
Jan. 01, 2007 (90 days)	**Proposed changes to the AAPG Bylaws must be with the HoD Chair. *If Explorer publication deadline was missed, an alternate means of publication must be made to the voting membership.
Jan. 31, 2007	*Proposed changes to the Rules & Procedures of the House must be in the hands of the Chair, HoD. *Proposed changes to the Rules & Procedures of the House must be mailed to the Delegates. (60 Days) **If previous publication and mailing deadlines were missed, proposed changes to the Constitution must be sent to the voting membership.
Feb. 19, 2007	Committee and Officer written reports need to be at Headquarters for printing.
Feb. 20, 2007	Deadline to submit articles for March DV.
Feb. 25, 2007	**Last day for mailing meeting agenda and pertinent enclosures to the Delegates. (35 days)
Mar. 02, 2007	**Last day for mailing comments re proposed amendments to Delegates. (30 days)
Mar. 17, 2007	* & **Names of appointed alternate delegates should be in Headquarters office. (15 days)
Mar. 31, 2007	Delegates Reception: Long Beach, California US
Apr. 01, 2007	Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates: Long Beach, California US
May 25, 2007	Deadline to submit articles for June DV.
May 31, 2007	*Minutes Approval Committee should have completed review and approval of 2007 minutes. (60 days) ***Last day to mail ballot to members re Constitution changes.

Note: Bylaws changes approved by the HoD are effective immediately and do not require a vote of the membership.

* HoD Rules & Procedures ** AAPG Bylaws *** AAPG Constitution (June 2006/dr)