

The Delegates' Voice

Newsletter for the House of Delegates of AAPG

JUNE 2007

Letter from the Chair

Larry Jones, Chair



A YEAR IN AREAR

After my election as the 2006-2007 Chair-Elect of the House of Delegates, I experienced a medical problem that made my family and doctors think long and hard about my serving that obligation. We decided to do so, and I am really glad that I took that step. I feel that in spite of the stressful nature of the AAPG Executive Committee position, it helped me recover.

Norma Jean and I had the great pleasure of attending AAPG meetings in Lafayette, Buffalo, Perth, Tulsa, Long Beach, and Wichita Falls. It was my first time to visit the Eastern Section and second time for the Southwest Section, and everything about those meetings was great. Each of these seven meetings had their own distinct direction and message. They all effectively wove the ingredients that distinguish a good meeting for Geoscientists.

The activities of the House ran very smoothly. I can say that every report and deadline was met in a timely manner by committee chairs and their members. The quality of the Delegates Voice continues to make positive strides under the direction of Jeannie Mallick.

The Resolution Committee, chaired by Peter Lloyd, allowed us to welcome two new affiliate societies from Qatar and South Africa, and one associate society representing the Palynologists.

Nomination and Election Committee, chaired by Ed Dolly, provided us with a good slate of officers for Chair-Elect and Secretary/Editor, while Honors and Awards Committee, chaired by Mark Rainer, gave us very deserving Awardees and provided for a way to recognize long service in the House. HoD will recognize Delegates who have served a total of 9 and 15 years. Rules and Procedures under the

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Letter from the Chair-Elect

Marty Hewitt, Chair-Elect



Planning for 2007-2008 HoD business is underway and I look forward to working with incoming Chair-Elect George Bole, Secretary/Editor Robert Webster and each of you throughout the upcoming term.

Looking back, I would like to commend the House on passing important legislation in Long Beach regarding graduated dues, limitations on candidacy, honors and awards, just to name a few! This is the result of dedicated work from our Committee Chairs and their

committees and the leadership of our House officers. I know I speak for each of you in thanking Larry and Jeannie for their leadership and service to the House over the past year.

Looking forward, our first job as your HoD leadership is to populate the eight Committees that will carry out the business of the House. There are a number of you that have served in Vice-Chair roles in the past year that I will call upon to step-up into Chair roles. As I've stated in this column in the past, I will be looking for our international Delegates to continue to get more involved in committee work and

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Letter from the Secretary/Editor

By Jeannie Fisher Mallick



Promoting membership in AAPG is one of the duties of a delegate. Yet, how does one "sell" the benefits of belonging to an

organization as complex and diverse as AAPG? Modern sales pitches end with, "For more information, visit our web site..."

The AAPG web site has grown increasingly more sophisticated and useful thanks to the tireless efforts and considerable skill of Janet Brister and the members of the IT team. The result of their work is the face we show our members and the world. In the coming months, the web site will grow to offer increased functionality as more AAPG member services are adapted for online access.

The June issue of the AAPG EXPLORER contains an article by Janet, titled "Members Only-Packed With Benefits", describing how members can dig into a growing digital tool box. Here you can access the geographic map-based search of the Bulletin archives, the AAPG Directory, pay your dues, update your contact information, and more. When recruiting new members, emphasize how easy it is to apply for membership online. Show existing members about new features on the web site, as too many of them are unaware of the recent improvements. It is important that members and potential members alike are aware of these valuable features of membership.



In "Members Only" access map-based literature search

Web sites for SEG and SPE, (societies to which we are now so often compared) display a home page universally recog-

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leadership of new Chair-Elect, George Bole, brought our R&P into concert with the AAPG Constitution and Bylaws. Patrick Gooding has done his usual good job at the Annual Meeting of getting our Delegates properly accredited in a timely manner.

I particularly want to thank the members of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, chaired by David Hawk. This hard working committee dealt with many proposals and determinations. They again made the determination that no changes needed to be made in the Petition Candidate process, except that Petition Candidates now are subject to the same election rules as Nominated Candidates, and no retiring member of the AC or EC, who participated in the nomination process, can run as a Petition Candidate in the ensuing election year.

At the request of the AC and EC, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee made a motion to the Executive Committee of the House of Delegates to continue the AAPG's goal of being the premier International Association for Geoscientists by proposing a graduated dues structure for its members and applicants. The membership benefited from the AAPG website, which allowed multiple positions to be considered by those who utilized that venue, and the DV and Explorer allowed multiple ideas to be brought forward as well.

When the C&BL Committee made the motion at the HoD Midyear Meeting to bring the graduated dues proposal to the House at the Annual Meeting, there was a split decision in favor of moving it to the entire House.

David Hawk did a marvelous job of presenting this motion and his humor made the process a much more enjoyable experience. Everyone was able to make their points and the motion passed by over 85% of the voting Delegates. Now it is the responsibility of the Staff to effectively put the process in place, and if it does not work, the House can change it.

I have had the great opportunity to work with so many dedicated Delegates and I know that Marty Hewitt will have had that same experience when he finishes his Tour of Duty. I also have had the privilege of serving on the AAPG Executive Committee. Some have had experiences where certain Committees did not mesh well and could not come to common purpose. We did not have that problem. I have never served on a body that displayed so much mutual respect, harmony and good will for AAPG.

Well enough!! I want to thank all of you folks, you are great, and you have done wonderful work for "OUR" AAPG. ♦

Editor From page 1

nized as a "newspaper". This e-newspaper has links that lead the reader to in-depth information they desire and need. The reader can surf to a topic of interest from links that lead to greater detail. Not a bad idea for a home page that serves members everywhere in the world.

The majority of members in an organization the size of AAPG are really more like clients or customers. MBA's when studying marketing, learn that the cost of gaining new customers is 85% higher than retaining existing ones. We must recognize that it is not enough to sign up a new member, but that we must continue to offer that member value. It is far too easy not to send in that dues payment if a member's expectations have not been met.

The value to our members of online service cannot be understated. Our last member survey had a record response and 85% of respondents completed it online. Our last election involving 16,244 eligible voters had 6,115 returns or a 37.6%

active participation in the House. Technology allows us to work over great distances and multiple time zones so there is no excuse for lack of international participation. Please let me know now if you're interested in getting involved in committee work.

I will call upon incoming Chair-Elect George Bole to prepare a budget for our upcoming term to cover items such as Delegate Breakfasts and our Mid-Year meeting. Delegate Breakfasts for 2007 will be held in 2007, September 10th, at the Mid-Continent meeting in Wichita, KS; September 17th, at the Eastern Section meeting in Lexington, KY; October 8th, at the Rocky Mountain Section meeting in Snowbird, UT; October 22nd, at the GCAGS in Corpus Christi, TX; November 19th, at the European Region meeting in Athens, Greece and March 31st, 2008, at the Pacific Section meeting in Bakersfield, CA. I encourage you to mark these dates on your calendar now and to attend these meetings to get an update on House and AAPG business, but more importantly to let me know what's going on in the Region or Section and bring forward your ideas. In addition, the House Mid-Year meeting will be held in late November – early December (date and location to be determined) and our Annual meeting will be held on Sunday April 20, 2008 in San Antonio.

Goals for our 2007-2008 term will be formulated over the first couple of EC meetings - July 1st, in Tulsa and August 19th, at Leadership Days in Keystone, CO. I'll report on those goals in the first of four issues of *The Delegates' Voice*, that Robert Webster will coordinate for the 2007-2008 term which will be published in September.

Until then, have a great summer. If you have an idea or want to become more involved, contact me or any of the incoming House Leadership as soon as possible.

Marty Hewitt – 403-699-6092 – marty_hewitt@nexeninc.com
George Bole – 281-844-7895 – grbole@sbcglobal.net
Robert Webster – 214-978-8641 – rwebster@huntoil.com. ♦

response. We received 3,546 paper ballots and 2,569 ballots were completed online. We are approaching a time when all communication with AAPG members will be e-communication.



SEG home page address: www.seg.org

Effective marketing creates a need for a product then provokes an emotional reaction that triggers a "buy" response. Selling membership in AAPG should be no different. Delegates need a new angle to help promote membership in AAPG to geoscientists. The pyramid of values is great for showing the

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Report from the Nomination and Election Committee

By Edward D. Dolly, Chair



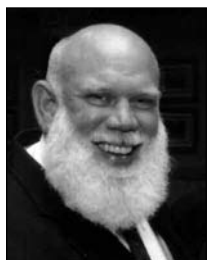
Officer elections were held at the annual AAPG House of Delegates meeting in Long Beach, California on Sunday, April 1st, 2007. George Bole, representing the Gulf Coast Section, was elected Chairman-Elect and Bob Webster, from the Southwest Section, was elected Secretary-Editor. George and Bob will join Marty Hewitt, Chairman, on July 1st, 2007 as the HoD officers for 2007-2008.

Members of the Nomination and Election Committee spoke with numerous delegates this past year about standing for office. Since only two officers are elected each year, there are many well-qualified candidates representing the local societies, sections and regions who have not yet served as a House of Delegates officer. Working as an officer not only serves the organization, but is also a very rewarding personal experience. We encourage any delegate interested becoming an officer to submit his or her name to the 2007-2008 Nomination and Election Committee.

This completes the duties of the current Nomination and Election Committee. I want to thank my committee members for their recruiting efforts. ♦

A Report from the Credentials Committee

By Patrick J. Gooding, Chair



The Credentials Committee was chaired by Patrick J. Gooding, Kentucky Society of Professional Geologist, at the 2007 annual meeting. Other members of the committee included George R. Bole and Sandi Barber, candidates for chairman-elect, and David Farmer and Robert E. Webster, candidates for secretary/editor.

Initially, 163 delegates were cleared by the Credentials Committee. In addition, there were fourteen (14) persons who did not get their documentation in on time and requested to be seated in the House. The names and organizations that they represented were read aloud by the Chair of the Credentials Committee. The Chair of the House, Larry Jones, made a motion to the members to seat the fourteen individuals in the House. The motion was accepted. The Credentials Committee Chairman then reported that 177 delegates were seated in the House and there was a quorum. The total number of elected delegates to the House is 227. Total needed for a quorum was 114.

After the report was made, four (4) additional delegates were cleared by the Credentials Committee. One person voted to be seated by the House was asked to leave the voting area when the committee discovered that this individual was not an active member but an associate member. Five (5) appointed delegates arrived late, after the House had voted, and were not permitted to enter the voting area.

The total number of delegates present at the 2007 Annual meeting of the House of Delegates, was 180. This represented 79.3 % of the total eligible delegates, a decrease of 5.3% from the previous year which had one of the largest numbers,

(85%), of delegates attending the Annual Meeting in six (6) years.

Every Section and Region was represented except Latin America. There were again, for the second year, 18 U.S. Affiliated Societies who had no representation. Every effort should be made in the future to encourage these Affiliated Societies to have representation at the House of Delegates Meeting. ♦



2007 Credentials Committee David Farmer, Robert Webster, George Bole, Sandi Barber, and Patrick Gooding.

Report from the Resolutions Committee

Peter Lloyd, Chair



The Resolutions Committee consists of seven (7) members including a Chairman, who shall serve staggered two (2) year terms. The membership is as follows:

- Peter Lloyd (Europe), Chair
- Paul Britt (Gulf Coast), Vice Chair, domestic delegates
- John Kaldi (Asia-Pacific), Vice Chair, regional delegates
- Lee Avary (Eastern)
- Kay Pitts (Pacific)
- Jeff Jones (South West)
- John Minch (Pacific)
- John Dolson, non voting, EC liaison
- Donna Riggs, AAPG HQ staff

The Committee's role is to review and recommend on all advance petitions, resolutions, or motions for the HoD annual meeting (excepting those on proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and Rules and Procedures). The Resolutions Committee is also responsible for managing new society affiliations, and assuring good attendance by both domestic affiliate societies and the regions.

The committee worked with the EC and HoD leadership to welcome the Doha Integrated Geological Society (Bahrain), the Geological Society of South Africa and the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists as affiliates in 2007, and we are now targeting the Swiss Society of Petroleum Geologists for a 2008 affiliation.

We followed up with 11 domestic affiliates with a poor attendance record over the last three years. The Abilene, El Paso, Fort Smith, Graham, North Dakota, Northern Ohio and San Angelo have now elected (or are electing) new House delegates. Iowa were contacted and will probably elect a new delegate. However, Miami is 'mothballed' and will probably disaffiliate, and Missouri is disaffiliating (no reason given). We have failed to be able to contact the Southeastern Geological Society, and assume they too are non active. Otherwise

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domestic representation is very strong at 80% participation at the annual conventions.

We also worked to improve the turnout from the overseas international regions. Regional delegate attendance at Long Beach continued the recent upward trend. Almost 2/3 of regional seats are now being filled, compared with 40% attendance prior to regionalization in 1999. Over the last three years, attendance has been highest from Asia-Pacific (averaging 62%), followed by Canada, Europe and Africa averaging 60%, 59% and 58% respectively. The Middle East has managed only 45% in that timeframe, but all their delegates attended in 2007, and this bodes well for the future. Disappointingly, Latin America has achieved less than 5% attendance over the last three years. We have asked their leadership for an action plan to assure that our regional members are represented at the 60%-plus level which their region achieved in the three years between 2001 and 2003. ♦

One Delegate's Voice

The purpose of the column, "One Delegate's Voice", is to promote understanding of what it is like to be an AAPG delegate in different sections and regions.

Voice of One Delegate

By James K. Agbenorto, African Region (International)

E-mail: jagbenorto@hotmail.com



Above: James Agbenorto giving presentation on Volta Basin for geoscience workshop in Tamale, Ghana.

Hello,

I am a Delegate of the Africa International Region of AAPG. I live and work in the port and industrial city of Tema, near Accra in Ghana, as Lead Geologist of the State Oil Company, Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC).

Working as a delegate of AAPG has been very challenging, especially where it involves combining two sets of aspirations: advancing the science of geology from an international (AAPG) perspective and fulfilling the corporate mission of a state-owned employer company in Africa (GNPC). For me, the position has been one of honor and responsibility, having provided me an opportunity to represent AAPG members in my local region and to help make our Association alive and dynamic. I have loved the experience of getting exposed to the legislative work of our organization. With the benefit of

hindsight, I wish I had contributed more to the success of AAPG. Indeed, many initiatives I had planned to undertake have not materialized, largely due to constraints from my work environment. But these constraints are not insurmountable! I am certain that in years ahead – once I have an opportunity to serve - I will be wiser in clearing the bottlenecks that have hampered my humble contributions towards the forward march of our great organization.

My duties and obligations as Member of the HoD include:

- The study and review of AAPG Constitution and Bylaws and of the Association's policies, programs, customs and traditions;
- Representing the Africa Region and its AAPG members in the HoD;
- Assisting in seeking new AAPG members in my Region and beyond, where possible. In this regard, I solicit applications from eligible geoscientists for AAPG membership.
- Assisting in processing requests from the Executive/Membership Committee concerning eligibility of candidates from my Region for AAPG membership – vetting or verifying new member applications.
- Exercising my voting rights during the selection of executives, officers and committee members at both Organization and Section/Region levels.

From the beginning of my term, I needed some time to let the ice thaw. But once I got started meeting some obligations, the rest became routine. Challenging aspects had to do with my inability to present myself physically with other Delegates of the House to deliberate on critical matters and decisions. Other challenges had to do with vetting procedures on new member applicants.

Since 2004, I have processed a minimum of one (1), and maximum four (4) membership applications annually. Applications usually get sent to me via Executive/Membership Committee requests. Beside that, I am personally able to recruit new AAPG members locally through peer group meetings and discussions, interactions with colleagues at work and during inter-organizational professional group meetings (even though, these do not occur too often).

I share the view of many in the House that not all the ~ 30,000 existing worldwide members of AAPG may be behaving themselves ethically as would have been expected. So, we need to apply stop-gaps to manage or minimize the leeway for bad nuts, especially at the level of new applicants during their vetting and screening process.

In the area of due diligence for an AAPG applicant's qualifications, my investigations and related contacts are conducted mainly by e-mail, from the www (world wide web) and at times by regular mail through the post. Due to constraints of mobility and access, I do not normally meet with other AAPG Delegates to consider applicants and discuss their eligibility. However, I make personal contacts locally with colleagues in the geosciences community, who I believe to be knowledgeable about the applicants. In other cases, I consult through e-mail to help me make informed decisions on candidates I am not too sure about.

I usually receive applications from candidates, who live and work within the Africa Region – especially from southern African countries. Most of the candidates have, however, had work experiences in various other regions of the world. On one rare occasion, an application came from a geoscientist living and working in India at the time of application. Typical

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challenges I encounter when processing such applications have been related fundamentally to validating applicant credentials as to whether his or her work involved the application of petroleum geology (or geology) in a reasonable measure to meet the requirements and standards for Active AAPG membership, and whether the candidate lived and worked by the ethical and professional standards required by AAPG.

On a few occasions, I had responses in unfriendly tones from sponsors, who might have previously made supporting statements about their candidates (they did not expect to be requested again from other sources to confirm their assertions!). One specified sponsor disassociated himself from the candidate purporting to be referred by him. Still, others who had been contacted simply declined to respond. Such challenges led to further due diligence through other (longer) channels.

As a delegate, I recognize one clear responsibility – that of helping members and potential members become aware of services provided by AAPG, especially in areas of career development and continuing education to individuals and companies. Personal experience has shown me, that companies should encourage their staff to become active members of AAPG and of their local societies, and to reward those employees who are active in their profession. To bolster this idea, last year, I prepared a 47-slide PowerPoint recruitment drive presentation titled, "Why Join the AAPG?" I have so far shared a few thoughts on it with some of my colleagues and with the current Africa Region President. However, I have not yet been able to hold large, full-scale presentations as originally intended with professional meetings and student groupings, even though I have already shared these thoughts with some of the leaders. This presentation can be made available on request, to fellow Delegates through my e-mail contact (see above).

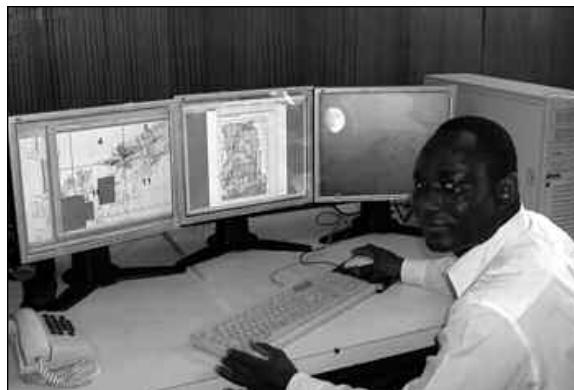
How did I come to be an AAPG Delegate? I was nominated in 2004 to join the HoD for the period July, 2004 – June, 2007 by the then serving executives (notably Mr. Kunle Adesida – ex-President, Dr. Kingsley Ojoh, Prof. Deborah Ajakaiye, and others) and with the support of other Active Members from the Africa Region. In those years (pre-2004), there were very few Active Members in my home country, Ghana. Thus, many of those who put my name forward or backed my nomination came from neighboring Nigeria, where the upstream petroleum industry is better developed and much more dynamic. Following a couple of contacts, my nomination was affirmed and I was welcomed to the fold by a letter (accompanied by the blue lapel pin!) from the then HoD Chair, Valary Schulz.

I have participated in the AAPG Annual Meeting of April 2003 in Salt Lake City, Utah. It was quite exciting and fun for me, as I had opportunity to meet and interact with fellow geoscientists from around the world and also to man the GNPC booth during the event.

Much as I would have liked to participate in all other AAPG events and meetings, such opportunities have been very rare - fundamentally due to the fact that the choice of AAPG events to be attended, as well as of GNPC nominees to participate in them has been purely by management decision, in which I am not involved. I usually forward incoming invitations (through e-mail) to my superiors for consideration but have not been really lucky yet. I hope to have better luck in future events.

I obtain most information regarding the AAPG House of Delegates from *The Delegates' Voice* newsletter, from the AAPG website and from other AAPG notifications that get to me through the snail mail system. General information concerning AAPG governance and professional matters also come from the AAPG Explorer.

I have enjoyed being a Member of the HoD and I hope to build on my current strengths and experiences to reach higher ground in both my personal career goals and in contributing to the success of our great Association, the AAPG. ♦



James Agbenorto interpreting at his workstation.

Voice of One Delegate

By John R. Griffin, Nebraska Geological Society,
Mid-Continent Section



John R. Griffin

The Nebraska Geological Society is an affiliate of the Mid-Continent Section with one delegate. As that delegate, I am serving my second 3-year term to the HoD For the Nebraska Geological Society (NGS) and AAPG members residing in Nebraska. Before I was elected delegate, previous NGS presidents appointed me twice as an alternate delegate when I was attending a meeting that the society's delegate could not attend.

The Nebraska Geological Society meets four times a year, twice in Lincoln, and twice in Omaha Nebraska. The present NGS membership consists of oil and gas consulting geologists, independent and industry environmental geologists primarily involved in groundwater problems, state and federal geology employees, geology professors, and students.

The NGS HoD delegate is elected by the AAPG members at a society meeting.

As a delegate, I inform the NGS AAPG members at the society's meeting of the issues that will come up in the HoD and ask for their opinions, for example, last year's vote to initiate the position of Vice President of Regions and this year's proposed graduated dues plan. As the single delegate for NGS and the state, I receive applications of new members and members requesting reinstatement. I read through the applicant's information and references. If I know any of the applicant's references I will contact them to find more information. If I personally do not know the applicant and his or her refer-

ences, I will contact a listed reference and ask him about the applicant. Another duty that AAPG headquarters has asked me to do is to find and talk to members and student members who have let their membership drop in order to get them to continue as an active member or find out why they dropped their membership and report the reason to AAPG..

I and previous NGS HoD delegates have talked to NGS members in the environmental geology field about joining the AAPG Division of Environmental Geosciences and have asked them to give talks at the Mid-Continent Section meeting, so far with limited success. However, we have been successful in getting student AAPG members by suggesting that students who have received grants from the NGS, join AAPG. Recently the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, has started a student AAPG chapter and the students have been attending NGS meetings. Many of these students are interested in the petroleum industry and with the increase in employment opportunities in the profession, we should have fewer of these students dropping their membership after they graduate.

I first attended a National AAPG meeting in the mid-60s while in graduate school and later attended Pacific Section meetings when I was working in the Sacramento Valley of California. I joined AAPG in 1980 when the company I was working for in Casper Wyoming, sent me to the national AAPG meetings and field trips. As an independent consultant, I continue to attend the annual meeting, go on field trips, attend Mid-Continent bi-annual meetings, and occasionally a Pacific Section meeting. ♦

Letters from Delegates

Steven Earle
Senior Explorationist, Carrizo Oil and Gas
Delegate, Houston Chapter

Congratulations to Lee Billingsley and all the graduated dues proponents who carried the day in Long Beach. Those of us who opposed it only did so out of our love for the organization and because we felt there were significant risks not being addressed. That said, I hope the new dues structure will demonstrate the promised benefits to AAPG and hereby pledge to do whatever I can to help make it work.

In the spirit of inclusiveness that the House vote demonstrated, I would call upon the global state-run oil and gas companies to step up their support for all qualified professional staff. This could be an important component to success of the initiative. Using AAPG membership as an incentive tool is a cheap trick more useful to unskilled managers than to the organizations they purport to serve.

Graduated dues were just one additional step towards making AAPG more relevant in today's world. Ongoing projects such as improved digital products for members and financial help for struggling geoscience research at our universities are just a couple more ways that AAPG is working towards shaping a new community. We need even more.

A critical issue will be to stem any backlash in our existing member base. I will point out to those folks upset with the new structure that doing nothing would have guaranteed dues increases above inflation as our member base continued to shrink. Graduated dues has the potential of reversing that slide and keeping the organization healthy. However, keeping our existing members is necessary. We've spent a lot of time recently reaching out to potential new international members. I believe it is imperative in the next year for AAPG leadership to show how much it values its core of U.S. (read Level 1) members.

I also feel that any abuse of the new graduated dues structure will need to be dealt with harshly. Unless those who openly flaunt the guidelines are publicly stripped of membership for their ethics violation, then Level 1 paying members will perceive themselves as patsies and rebel. I am sorry to say that some of us believe that a small number of the American membership will try to cheat the new system. Not anyone in the House of Delegates mind you (I would be shocked and dismayed if anyone in the House falls into that category). I can't speak relative to professionals in other countries, but suspect some countries will be better and some worse. I suggested to Randi Martinsen that AAPG might track average salaries compared to those claimed at dues time as an ongoing check for compliance.

In conclusion, we still have work to do towards making AAPG the healthy and vibrant society we all wish for and it falls to each of us to do our part towards achieving that goal. ♦

Letter from the Editor - from page 2

entirety of what we offer, but maybe we should hone our sales pitch to a single point for maximum impact.

Emphasizing the information available online and how much involvement in AAPG may one day be accomplished by e-communication methods will be attractive to members of all ages and all nationalities. The House of Delegates might consider online mid-year meetings via video conferencing to eliminate the need for officers and participants to travel. This might gain us additional volunteers for committee service from delegates living in other countries or those unable to afford the time and money to travel.

In closing, I would like to say how much I have enjoyed serving as Secretary/Editor of the HoD. Best wishes to my successor, Bob Webster. In the spirit of "marketing" this office to other delegates considering higher service, I offer this endorsement: "I encourage any delegate to tackle this job to gain a better understanding of the inner workings and issues before the House and AAPG, and , "I lost 30 lbs working as the Secretary/Editor!"

Have a great summer!♦

A Card of Thanks

Over the past several months I have heard from many of the members of the House of Delegates with retirement congratulations. I want you to know that each expression was cherished and each gift sincerely appreciated.



I always felt that I was fortunate to be the AAPG staffer who worked with the HoD members. You are a great group and I will miss you.

Donna Riggs

AAPG House of Delegates Officers and Committees - 2006-2007

OFFICERS

NAME	SECTION/REGION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Larry Jones - Chair	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.281.493.1022	ljones1239@houston.rr.com
Marty Hewitt, Chair-Elect	Canada - Calgary, AB	1.403.699.6092	marty_hewitt@nexeninc.com
Jeannie Mallick, Secretary/Editor	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.832.204.2765	jfmallick@sbcglobal.net

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE

NAME	SECTION/REGION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
David Hawk - Chair	Rocky Mountain - Boise, ID	1.208.389.7306	david.hawk@simplot.com
Paul Hoffman - Vice Chair	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.713.783.7880, x230	phoffman@coxperkins.com
Edith C. Allison	Eastern - Rockville, MD	1.202.586.1023	edith.allison@hq.doe.gov
John R.V. Brooks	Europe - Brookwood, UK	44.1483.473285	jvbrooks@supanet.com
Gary S. Grinsfelder	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.281.463.0569	ggrinsfelder@opex.cc
Marty Hewitt	Canada - Calgary, AB	1.403.699.6092	marty_hewitt@nexeninc.com
Carrroll Kinney	Mid-Continent - Edmond, OK	1.405.232.7770	mdavis495@aol.com
A.J. Tony Kolodziej	Mid-Continent - Amarillo, TX	1.806.341.5406	tnt19@cox.net

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

NAME	SECTION/REGION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Peter M. Lloyd - Chair	Europe - Falicon, France	33.4.9398.0194	lloyd@rivieramail.com
Paul W. Britt - Vice Chair, US	Gulf Coast - Sugar Land, TX	1.281.494.3155	pbritt@texplore.com
John Kaldi - Vice Chair, Intl	Asia/Pacific - Adelaide, SA, Australia	61.88.303.4291	jkaldi@asp.adelaide.edu.au
K. Lee Avary	Eastern - Morgantown, WV	1.304.594.2331	avary@geosrv.wvnet.edu
Jeffrey A. Jones	Southwest - Albany, TX	1.325.762.3353	jeffjones@wtconnect.com
John A. Minch	Pacific - Santa Barbara, CA	1.805.569.1800	jmainc@earthlink.net
Kay L. Pitts	Pacific - Bakersfield, CA	1.661.665.5506	klpitts@aeraenergy.com

RULES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

NAME	SECTION/REGION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
George R. Bole - Chair	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.281.870.8716	grbole@sbcglobal.net
Steve Sonnenberg- Vice Chair	Rocky Mountain - Golden, CO	1.720.264.2813	steve.sonnenberg@anadarko.com
Paul W. Britt	Gulf Coast - Sugar Land, TX	1.281.494.3155	pbritt@texplore.com
Royce Carr	Gulf Coast - Mount Pleasant, TX	1.903.572.3600	royce_carr@sbcglobal.net
Robert D. Cowdery	Mid-Continent, Wichita, KS	1.316.267.9030	sbc@southwind.net
Mary E. Dowse	Rocky Mountain - Silver City, NM	1.505.538.6352	dowsem@email.wnmu.edu
Bob Lindblom	Pacific - Menlo Park, CA	1.650.854.6954	rglgeo@aol.com

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

NAME	SECTION/REGION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Jeannie Mallick - Secretary/Editor	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.832.204.2765	jfmallick@sbcglobal.net
Paul W. Britt	Gulf Coast - Sugar Land, TX	1.281.494.3155	pbritt@texplore.com
Valary Schulz	Member-at-Large, Dallas, TX	1.972.371.5234	vschulz@matadorresources.com

HONORS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

NAME	SECTION/REGION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Mark Rainer - Chair	Southwest - Dallas, TX	1.972.668.8874	mrainer@comstockresources.com
Larry H. Wickstrom - Vice Chair	Eastern - Columbus, OH	1.614.265.6598	larry.wickstrom@dnr.state.oh.us
John Griffin	Mid-Continent - Lincoln, NB	1.402.472.4632	jgriffi@uninotes.uni.edu
Robert A. Phelps	Canada - Calgary, AB	1.403.699.2251	bphelps@peerlessenergy.com
William S. Houston	Rocky Mountain - Denver, CO	1.720.239.4367	bhouston@samson.com
Michael B. Hauck	Europe - Kassel, Germany	49.561.301.1908	jmichael.hauck@wintershall.com
Royce Carr	Gulf Coast - Mount Pleasant, TX	1.903.572.3600	royce_carr@sbcglobal.net
Deborah Sacrey	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.713.468.3260	dsacrey@auburnenergy.com
Bob Lindblom	Pacific - Menlo Park, CA	1.650.854.6954	rglgeo@aol.com
Sarfaraz Siddiqui	Asia-Pacific - Islamabad, Pakistan	92.51.229.9198	susiddiqui@petroconpak.com
Cesar A. Ardiles	Latin America - Lima, Peru	51.1.345.1045	cesar_ardiles@hotmail.com

NOMINATION AND ELECTION COMMITTEE

NAME	SECTION/REGION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Ed Dolly - Chair	Rocky Mountain - Denver, CO	1.303.825.3389	edolly@houstonexp.com
Mark Rainer	Southwest - Dallas, TX	1.972.668.8874	mrainer@comstockresources.com
Bob Lindblom	Pacific - Menlo Park, CA	1.650.854.6954	rglgeo@aol.com
John Kaldi	Asia/Pacific - Adelaide, SA, Australia	61.88.303.4291	jkaldi@asp.adelaide.edu.a
John Hogg	Canada - Calgary, AB	1.403.233.5598	john.r.hogg@conocophillips.com
Brian D. Keith	Eastern - Bloomington, IN	1.812.855.4213	keithb@indiana.edu
Peter M. Lloyd	Europe - Falicon, France	33.4.9398.0194	lloyd@rivieramail.com
Royce Carr	Gulf Coast - Mount Pleasant, TX	1.903.572.3600	royce_carr@sbcglobal.net
L.G. Joe Eubanks	Gulf Coast - The Woodlands, TX	1.281.367.8697	jeubanks@prestonexpl.com
James S. McGhay	Mid-Continent - Tulsa, OK	1.918.743.7575	jmcghay@aol.com

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

NAME	SECTION/REGION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Patrick Gooding - Chair	Eastern - Paint-Lick KY	1.859.389.8810	gooding@uky.edu
Sandi M. Barber, Cand. HoD Chair-Elect	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.713.304.2762	sandi@barber.net
George R. Bole, Cand. HoD Chair-Elect	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.281.870.8716	grbole@sbcglobal.net
J. David Farmer, Cand. HoD Sec/Editor	Southwest - Midland, TX	1.432.687.3809	david@farmerexpl.com
Robert E. Webster, Cand. HoD Sec/Editor	Southwest - Irving, TX	1.214.987.8641	bwebster@huntoil.com

MINUTES APPROVAL COMMITTEE

NAME	SECTION/REGION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Jeannie Mallick - Secretary/Editor	Gulf Coast - Houston, TX	1.832.204.2765	jfmallick@sbcglobal.net
J. David Farmer, Cand. HoD Sec/Editor	Southwest - Midland, TX	1.432.687.3809	david@farmerexpl.com
Robert E. Webster, Cand. HoD Sec/Editor	Southwest - Irving, TX	1.214.987.8641	bwebster@huntoil.com

The Delegates' Voice

A Newsletter for the
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

of
AAPG

P. O. Box 979 - Tulsa, OK
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Editor's note: The Delegates' Voice has an additional page for this, the June issue. Our Constitution and Bylaws Chair, David Hawk, provided an important report that was omitted from the DV layout. I extend my apologies to David, for my oversight.

Sincere thanks are due Linda Ramsey, for preparing a supplement page to the DV, so that David Hawk's report could be included.

Report from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee

By David Hawk, Chair



Fellow Delegates: It has been a distinct privilege to serve you and through you, the members of AAPG. The hallmark of the last three years' service on the Constitution and Bylaws Committee has been the honor of working with and for three great frontier personalities from yesteryear. Larry Jones (John Wayne), Don Clarke (Jimmy Stewart), and Valary Schultz (Maureen O'Hara) are all geologists

with impeccable leadership and scientific principles. They shoot straight and ride hard.

In our legislative rendition of "Who Shot Liberty Valance" over the past two years, it is exciting to note there was no Liberty Valance. There were only those who deeply cared about the future well being and scientific advancement of our Association. The House of Delegates' actions during the previous year established a Vice-President, Regions to go with that of Sections, insuring another avenue of representation and communication to the membership. This year the House of Delegates changed the dues structure reflecting the economic reality that many members face through staffing reductions and foreign salary disparities.

These actions were all taken to address our Association's desire to grow our qualified membership domestically and internationally. The scientific research from Russia and Egypt et. al., when presented in our *Bulletin* and at our gatherings may well help us find hydrocarbons in Oklahoma and British Columbia and vice versa. Not only is AAPG the preeminent repository and deliverer of geoscience ideas but it is also a motivator to all who would seek answers to the Earth's questions.

It was a reaffirming three years watching spirited, informed and respectful debate. The association's channels of communication for the aforementioned legislation were open and used as never before. I know that practice will now be common place. I have been privileged to work with outstanding HoD Committee chairs and officers such as Paul Britt, Marty Hewitt, George Bole, and Jeannie Mallick, to name only a few

Now after serving as chairperson of C&BL, I am privileged to ride off into the sunset as one of the "Pilgrims" in Larry Jones' frontier cavalry. To Larry, Don and Valary I would say, there is a line from the Eagles song: "Hotel California" that reminds me of your exemplary HoD work, "You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave." ♦