

The Delegates' Voice

Newsletter for the House of Delegates of AAPG

SEPTEMBER 2007

Letter from the Chair

Marty Hewitt, Chair



Dear Delegates:

Welcome to the 2007-2008 term for AAPG's House of Delegates! Along with my HoD leadership colleagues, Chair-Elect George Bole and Secretary/Editor Bob Webster, I look forward to working with each of you over the coming year.

Activities are well underway for the 2007-2008 term and all committees are up and running. You will find reports from many of the committees in this newsletter.

Constitution & Bylaws, led by Paul Hoffman from the Gulf Coast Section, is reviewing several items including addition of a graduated dues category for academics, a proposal on AAPG governance, C&BL deadlines, standardization of grievance procedures, appointments of co-chairs for AAPG committees, moving up the declaration date for petition candidates to coincide with August Leadership Days and modification of membership categories. Rules & Procedures, led by Steve Sonnenberg of Rocky Mountain Section is looking at fine-tuning several areas of our R&P to ensure consistency with our C&BL. Ed Dolly of Rocky Mountain Section and his Nomination & Election Committee have already finished their work (until our annual meeting in San Antonio next April!) by selecting two candidates for Chair-Elect and Secretary/Editor for the 2008-2009 term. Jim McGray of Mid-Continent Section and his committee are working diligently to have our HoD awardees selected by October 31. Paul Britt from Gulf Coast Section is leading the Resolutions Committee this year and is contacting 12 affiliated societies that have not had representation at the past two HoD annual meetings. Patrick Gooding from Eastern Section will lead the Credentials Committee at our annual meeting in San Antonio. Last but not least, Bob Webster in his role as

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Letter from the Chair-Elect

by George Bole



Settling into my seat, at 38,000 feet, on the return flight from the August 2007 Leadership Conference at Keystone, CO, I started to reflect on HoD obligations incumbent upon me, as your Vice-Chair. Several epiphanies came to mind:

1. A desire to attend certain section meeting HoD breakfasts with Marty in order to support him and his assigned responsibilities from the Executive Committee;
2. The need to introduce myself, at these breakfasts to those delegates who've not met me, as their HoD Vice-Chair;
3. To encourage members (AAPG) to ask questions and share ideas: questions about Association activities; and ideas that will help move AAPG forward in its strategic plan direction; and
4. An obligation to facilitate a meaningful stream of information among the House, Executive Committee, Advisory Council and Association members.

These things I intend to do.

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Letter from the Secretary/Editor

By Robert Webster



I recently attended the annual AAPG Leadership Conference at Keystone, Colorado, from Aug. 17-19, 2007. This was a great location to hold the conference, offering an escape from the summer heat in Dal-

las and a chance to spend a few extra vacation days biking in the cool mountain air, getting in some altitude training in preparation for the Hotter'n Hell Hundred Bicycle Rally in Wichita Falls, Texas, the following weekend. But I digress; more on the Hotter'n Hell later...

This was my second time to attend this annual affair, AAPG's answer to leadership training for the large volunteer contingent of elected officers and appointed committee chairs throughout the organization. I went in my role as the elected Secretary/Editor of the House of Delegates and as a delegate from the Dallas Geological Society. About 200 people attended, so one of the highlights for me was simply the chance to network and make acquaintances with many leaders from around the country and internationally. I was impressed throughout that both officers and staff are truly dedicated to making AAPG an important and essential part of our professional lives as petroleum geologists.

A large number of work sessions and focus groups were held on Saturday and Sunday morning. I attended a lively session on applying the leadership principles of the book *Good to Great*, by Jim Collins, lead by Gary Richetto. Another interesting session, led by Richard Nehring, was on "Petroleum Resources- Peaked or Not Peaked?" Nehring presented findings of the 2006 Hedburg research conference on "Understanding World Oil Resources", with the general consensus that the actual peak in world oil production will not occur for several years, and then it will be more of a plateau that will extend for many years, rather than a peak.

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Secretary/Editor will be responsible for publishing four issues of *The Delegates' Voice* with his Newsletter Committee in the 2007-2008 term. Bob will also be responsible for the Minutes Approval Committee. I would like to thank the HoD Committee Chairs, their Vice-Chairs and committee members for their dedication to the House and service to AAPG.

Membership will be a key focus for the HoD in 2007-2008 where one Delegate from each local affiliated society will be a membership ambassador responsible for promoting membership and services at local society functions. The ambassador will be a facilitator in promoting, recruiting and streamlining the membership process. Please see a related article elsewhere in this issue.

I encourage each of you to attend Delegates' Breakfasts at your local Region/Section meeting over the coming year. These are important communication and networking sessions for Delegates with HoD Leadership, EC and headquarters staff. I look forward to seeing you at the following events:

- Monday September 10 – Mid-Continent Section Meeting – Wichita, KS
- Monday September 17 – Eastern Section Meeting - Lexington, KY
- Monday October 8 – Rocky Mountain Section Meeting – Snowbird, UT
- Monday October 22 – GCAGS Meeting – Corpus Christi, TX
- Monday November 19 - European Region Meeting – Athens, Greece
- Monday February 24, 2008 – SW Section Meeting – Abilene, TX
- Monday March 31, 2008 – Pacific Section Meeting – Bakersfield, CA
- Sunday April 20, 2008: HoD Annual Meeting – AAPG Annual Meeting – San Antonio, TX

Thanks again to each of you for serving the House and AAPG. Please feel free to contact me at any time with any ideas, questions and concerns. ♦

Chair-Elect From page 1

Several new initiatives involving House activities may arise this coming fiscal year:

1. The need to re-define membership categories which will involve changes to the Association By-laws; and
2. The establishment of a graduated dues category for Academia.

The Executive Committee has made a commitment to membership growth and stability for the coming year. To that end, the House will put forth a "grass roots" effort on the part of all members to sustain/support/manage membership growth.

Marty has been charged with a "bodacious" responsibility for this "grass roots" effort; I will be "joined at the hip" with Marty in order to help effect a successful outcome.

Please feel free to pass your ideas/suggestions to megrbole@sbcglobal.net. However, note something like "HOD Stuff" on the subject line. I don't open e-mail from addressees I don't recognize.

Here's to a successful year! ♦

As a Delegate, the most significant work session was on "Membership- How to Reach Non-Members", led by past-president Dan Smith and Marty Hewitt, current HoD Chair. The AAPG Executive Committee is pushing a strong membership drive this year, as detailed in the accompanying article by Marty, and it is part of our charge as delegates to recruit and screen new members. Andrea Reynolds of Houston Geological Society presented results of an interesting pilot survey done a couple of years ago comparing HGS and AAPG membership. From a large database of members from both E&P and vendor companies, about 51% belonged to HGS only, 23% belonged to AAPG only, and 26% belonged to both. A similar, although less well documented, situation exists at my home society in Dallas. Ideally, geologists should seek to belong to both their local and national societies, because each offers unique networking, training, and other benefits. How to cross-fertilize, or to increase the percentage of geologists joining both the local and national societies, was a topic of some discussion, but it is obvious that there is a large pool of potential new AAPG members that could be recruited from the local societies.

To me personally, this not-joining issue is somewhat puzzling. As a young geologist, struggling to establish myself as a professional, it seemed imperative to join both the AAPG and my local society. It was an anxious period as I waited to find out if my application for active membership was accepted, because I viewed membership as giving legitimacy to my claim of being a petroleum geologist. It seems that this should go without saying, but apparently some individuals do not make this connection.

In my experience, the best way of recruiting and retaining members is through a local, grassroots effort of personal contact. To second Marty's comments, I agree that a very effective program can be set up through a local Ambassador initiative. To take the concept one step further, the designated local point Delegate, or Ambassador, should multiply his or her efforts by setting up a local "recruiting agent" network with one or more active local/AAPG members in each company designated to act as internal recruiters or ambassadors for the societies. These key people, presumably respected geoscientists in their own organizations, would track down non-members and, with a personal presentation of membership applications, encourage them to join up. Some effort by the local society Membership Committee Chair or appropriate officer to locate and motivate these key ambassadors would surely pay dividends in increased society membership at both the local and national levels.

Meanwhile, after my return from the brisk mountain air of Keystone to the steamy August heat in Dallas, the Hotter'n Hell Hundred weekend was looming large. This four-day event in Wichita Falls is the premier bicycle event in Texas, with the highlight being the hundred mile rally on Saturday. As captain of my company's cycling team, I was there with our group as part of some 11,000 other riders gathered for the 7:00 AM start. With an F-16 flyover and the blast of the starting howitzer, we took off in the early morning light. Some 6½ hours later, with temperatures a relatively cool (for Wichita Falls in August) 96°F, I rolled over the finish line in an exhausted triumph of determination and persistence over common sense. In retrospect, the tremendous expenditure of energy required to pedal 100 miles in the heat and wind seems like a little thing. Think how much less energy it takes, and how easy and satisfying it can be, to invite a colleague to join you as a member of AAPG. ♦

Report from the Nomination and Election Committee

By Edward D. Dolly, Chair



The House of Delegates Nominations and Election Committee is pleased to announce the following slate of candidates for the 2008 election:

Chairman-Elect

Deborah Sacrey, Gulf Coast Section
Steve Sonnenberg, Rocky Mountain Section

Secretary/Editor

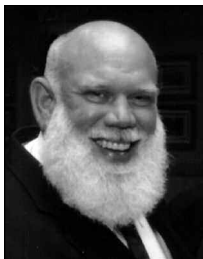
Sigrunn Johnsen, Europe Region
Erik Mason, Gulf Coast Section

Photos and biographic data of the candidates will be published in the December issue of *The Delegates' Voice*.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Committee for their thoughtful recruiting efforts. Those participating on the Nominations and Election Committee are: Royce Carr, Gulf Coast Section
John Hogg, Canada Region
John Kaldi, Asia Pacific Region
Bob Lindblom, Pacific Section
Peter Lloyd, Europe Region
Jeff Lund, Gulf Coast Section
Jim McGhay, Mid Continent Section
Mark Rainer, Vice Chair, Southwest Section
Larry Wickstrom, Eastern Section ♦

A Report from the Credentials Committee

By Patrick J. Gooding, Chair



Delegates Start Getting Ready for the 2008 Annual Meeting

The Credentials Committee would like to work to encourage 100% delegate participation in San Antonio. This coming year the committee would like to report a smooth and seamless delegate registration for the House Annual Meeting. Common problematic areas in the past include:

- House members not in good standing with the Association. In other words, they did not pay their dues and cannot vote.
- Affiliated societies and international regions did not submit appropriate documentation to AAPG Headquarters. The House of Delegates of the AAPG is made up of delegates from affiliated societies and international regions throughout the world. They are selected by popular vote from within their respective areas and serve a three year term. Alternates are often selected in the event that an elected delegate is unable to perform the duties to which they have been elected.
- Too few delegates attend, or none at all, to represent their society or region. Society Presidents and Delegates, make sure that your organization is fully represented. The number of Active Members of the Association in each United States Affiliated Society and in each International Region as of November 30 of each year shall determine the number of Delegates to which each United States Affiliated Society and each International Region is entitled for the three year term beginning July 1 of the year following the November 30 deadline.

Each United States Affiliated Society shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate for up to seventy (70) members of the Association and to one (1) additional Delegate for each additional seventy (70) members, or major fraction thereof, allocated to that society for voting purposes. Each International Region shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate for up to seventy (70) members of the Association and to one (1) additional Delegate for each additional seventy (70) members, or major fraction thereof, allocated to that Region for voting purposes; provided, however, that no International Region shall have fewer Delegates than one (1) Delegate for each Affiliated Society within the Region.

- Arrive late to the meeting. If you are an alternate or an appointed representative whose Affiliated Society or International Region did not get your documentation in on time, you need to be first cleared by the credentials committee and then voted to be seated by the House. If you arrive after the House votes, you cannot be seated in the voting area. ♦

Report from the Resolutions Committee

George Britt, Chair



The Resolutions Committee consists of seven (7) members including a Chair, who serve staggered 2- year terms. This Committee reports to the House of Delegates at the annual meeting, their recommendations concerning all advance petitions, resolutions, or motions, but are not required to review resolutions on proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and Rules and Procedures. The Resolutions Committee had no petitions, resolutions or

motions to act on last year.

The Resolutions Committee is also responsible for assuring good attendance by affiliate societies and the regions, and directing any required "Disaffiliation" procedures for societies or regions that are persistent "no-shows" at the annual meeting.

We currently have eleven domestic Affiliated Societies that were in jeopardy of disaffiliation last year due to non-representation for at least two consecutive years at the annual HoD meeting. Of these, seven have taken steps to elect delegates again and attend the annual meeting, another one plans to elect a delegate this year, two are considering disaffiliation (one of those societies is completely inactive and the other has reportedly voted to disaffiliate but is already considering re-affiliation), and one, the Southeastern Geological Society in Florida, does not respond to any communications. More details on the status of these societies will be presented in the next *The Delegates' Voice*.

On the International Regions side, and working closely with the Regions Committee headed by John Kaldi and Peter Lloyd, we plan to move forward with affiliation of the Swiss Petroleum Geologists, and to keep pushing on international attendance. Over the last three years, attendance has been highest from Asia-Pacific (62%), followed by Canada (60%), Europe (59%) and Africa (58%). The Middle East has managed only 45% in that timeframe, but all their delegates attended in 2007, and this (and recent successful round of elections for their regional leaders) bodes well for the future.

The Latin America Region has achieved less than 5% attendance over the last three years, and we plan to pursue initiatives with the Regions Committee to increase their

HoD Grassroots Membership Campaign
Marty Hewitt, Chair

AAPG has a unique opportunity to increase membership as a result of current industry economics, workforce demands and the expansion of AAPG global services. The goal this year will be to reach non-members and retain existing members. There are four programs that will allow AAPG to focus on this goal – a grassroots membership drive through the HoD, corporate group memberships, graduated dues and membership niche marketing.

Each EC member has been assigned a membership focus area for 2007-2008. President Will Green has been assigned responsibility for a cross-indexing initiative of local society members who are not AAPG members. President-Elect Scott Tinker is responsible for corporate group memberships. Sections V-P John Armentrout and Treasurer Randi Martinsen will be responsible for retention of students. Regions V-P John Hogg will be responsible for graduated dues. Secretary Ted Beaumont will be tasked with looking at membership synergies from AAPG's relationship with PTTC. Editor Gretchen Gillis will focus on retention of existing members and I will be tasked with the responsibility of leading a grassroots membership drive through the HoD.

The concept here is to assign a point Delegate in each local society who will act as a local membership ambassador with the prime responsibility of promoting AAPG membership at local society events. The Delegate will have updated membership recruitment kits from HQ and will also be a conduit for providing sponsor names and streamlining the membership process.

Numerous studies have shown that one-on-one contact is the most successful form of recruitment and Delegates are ideally positioned to carry out this function for AAPG.

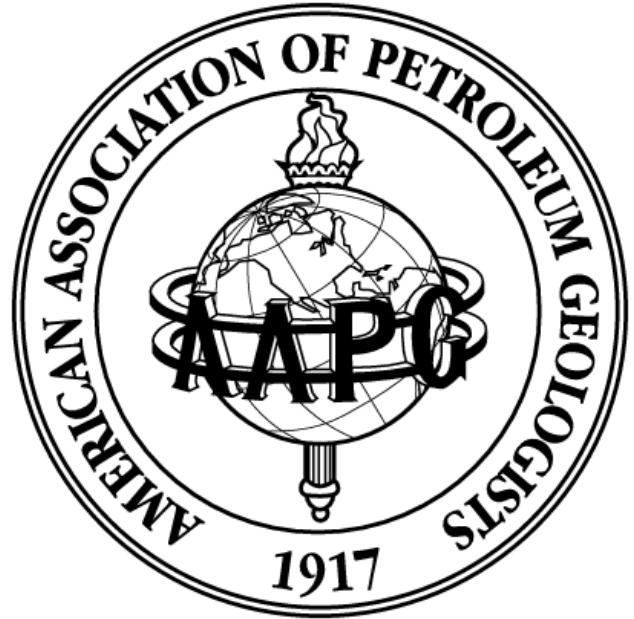
There will be further details on this initiative shortly from myself and President Green.

In the interim, if you have any ideas to enhance this membership initiative, I encourage you to contact me. ♦

Resolutions Committee From page 3

participation. One society in that Region falls into the category of inactive societies due to a total loss of contact with AAPG, and we will be working with them to get them active again to avoid disaffiliation.

The slate for Africa's forthcoming regional leadership has only one or two candidates for the HoD; we'd like to see eight (8) for their four (4) seats. And we'd like to see the new South African Affiliate represented, as well representatives of a broader range of countries and societies from that Region. ♦



Deadlines for 2007 - 2008 House of Delegates Business

Floating	** Bylaws amendments proposed by resolution of the EC; HoD Officers and Chair, C&B Com.; or 50 Members shall within 30 days be distributed to the EC, AC, Delegates, and any EC designees.
Jun. 29-Jul. 1, 2007	EC Meeting – Tulsa, OK
Aug. 17-19, 2007	EC/AC Meetings – AAPG Leadership Conference - Keystone, CO
Sep. 10, 2007	Delegates Breakfast – Mid-Continent Section Annual Meeting – Wichita, KS
Sep. 16, 2007	EC Meeting – Lexington, KY
Sep. 17, 2007	Delegates Breakfast – Eastern Section Annual Meeting – Lexington, KY
Sep. 30, 2007	*Officer Candidates list to the HoD Chair.
Oct. 8, 2007	Delegates Breakfast – Rocky Mtn. Section Annual Meeting – Snowbird, UT
Oct. 20-21, 2007	EC Meeting – Corpus Christi, TX
Oct. 22, 2007	Delegates Breakfast – GCAGS Annual Meeting – Corpus Christ, TX
Oct. 31, 2007	*Awardees list to the HoD Chair. **Comments from EC, AC, Delegates and any designees regarding Bylaws amendments by resolution of the HoD. (None from '07 meeting.) Bios and photos of candidates and awardees need to be at Headquarters.
Nov. 19, 2007	Delegates Breakfast – European Region Meeting – Athens, Greece
Nov. 20, 2007	Delegates Reception - Region Meeting – Athens, Greece
Nov. 30, 2007	*Count paid/Active members by society/region for delegate entitlement.
Nov. 30, 2007	HoD Mid-Year Meeting Dinner – Houston, TX
Dec. 01, 2007	HoD Mid-Year Meeting – Houston, TX
Dec. 01, 2007	Proposed Constitution and/or Bylaws changes, if published in the Explorer, need to be submitted for the <u>January</u> issue.
Jan. 11, 2008 (100 days)	*Mid-Year meeting of officers, chairs and invitees on <u>or before</u> this date.
Jan. 21, 2008 (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. *Proposed changes to the Rules & Procedures of the House must be in the hands of the Chair, HoD.
Feb. 20, 2008 (60 Days)	*Proposed changes to the Rules & Procedures of the House must be mailed to the Delegates if not previously published in the DV. **If not included in a previous mailing or publication, proposed changes to the Constitution must be sent to the voting membership.
Feb. 24, 2008	EC Meeting – Abilene, TX
Feb. 25, 2008	Delegates Breakfast – SW Section Annual Meeting – Abilene, TX
Mar. 7, 2008	Committee and Officer written reports need to be at Headquarters for printing.
Mar. 16, 2008 (35 days)	*Last day for mailing meeting agenda and pertinent enclosures to the Delegates.
Mar. 21, 2008 (30 days)	**Last day for mailing comments re proposed amendments to Delegates.
Mar. 31, 2008	Delegates Breakfast – Pacific Section Annual Meeting – Bakersfield, CA
Apr. 5, 2008 (15 days)	* & **Names of appointed alternate delegates should be in Headquarters office.
Apr. 19, 2008	EC Meeting – San Antonio, TX
Apr. 19, 2008	Delegates Reception: AAPG Annual Convention, San Antonio, Texas
Apr. 20, 2008	Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates: San Antonio, Texas
Apr. 23, 2008	EC Meeting – San Antonio, TX
Jun. 19, 2008 (60 days)	*Minutes Approval Committee should have completed review and approval of 2008 minutes. ***Last day to mail ballot to members re Constitution changes.
Jun. 27 – 29, 2008	EC Meeting – Tulsa, OK

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 (May 2007/dr)



House of Delegates in session at the 2007 annual convention at Long Beach, California.

photo by Patrick Gooding.

Your contributions are needed!

Do you have a story to tell on how and where you do your job as an AAPG Delegate or commentary on issues facing the House of Delegates? Submit a letter or article for the column, **“One Delegates’ Voice”**.

Deadline for the December issue is November 28, 2007; send contributions to the editor, bwebster@huntoil.com.

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The Delegates' Voice

A Newsletter for the
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

of
AAPG

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