

The Delegates' Voice

Newsletter for the House of Delegates of AAPG

JUNE 2008

Letter from the Chair

Marty Hewitt, Chair



With our San Antonio annual meeting now behind us, it's time to spend time reflecting on a successful 2007-2008 term for the House and what lies ahead for George Bole and his incoming leadership team in 2008-2009.

One of the highlights of my term was having an opportunity to visit with many of you at Delegates' Breakfasts at Section/Region meetings. I had the pleasure of hosting breakfasts in Wichita, Lexington, Snowbird, Corpus Christi and Athens. I do regret missing the meetings in Abilene and Bakersfield but George Bole and Will Green filled in for me at those venues. Each of us has been active at the local level throughout our careers and the pride that we have in our local societies shines brightly at the Region/Section meetings.

Your AAPG Executive Committee met at two of the Section meetings and several other times throughout the year. It has been an honour to serve under President Will Green with my colleagues on the EC. This is a dedicated, professional leadership team with a passion for the Association that is unmatched. I learned a great deal from this group and I would like to thank them for their commitment. I will miss them.

Our annual meeting in San Antonio went smoothly and all business was conducted as planned. Credentials Committee Chair Patrick Gooding noted that the 207 delegates at the San Antonio meeting was 89 percent of the 232 total House delegates – the highest percentage participating over the past 10 years.

Proposed amendments to AAPG Bylaws and House Rules and Procedures were adopted, virtually without comment. Changes approved by delegates included:

Continued on page 2

Letter from the Chair-Elect

by George Bole



My fellow delegates, I chose not to write a lengthy article for this issue of *The Delegates' Voice*. I feel it more appropriate to make some comments about things past, present and future.

On July 1, 2008, my watch as Chair, House of Delegates, will begin; on June 30, 2009, that watch will end. The coming year promises to be eventful: the Leadership Conference in August; Section Meetings that begin in July, 2008, and run through May, 2009; the International Conference and Exhibition in Cape Town, South Africa; our AAPG Annual Convention next June, in Denver; probable changes to our Constitution and Bylaws; continued emphasis on growing our membership and providing services; and probable participation with newly formed committees. These and other worthy involvements will help to maintain AAPG as a premier professional society that offers quality services to its' membership. It will be my pleasure to help coordinate these activities with the Executive Committee, Advisory Council, AAPG Section and Region Delegates, the general membership through our delegate process, and Headquarters Staff.

Continued on page 3

Letter from the Secretary/Editor

By Robert Webster



Finally, this is the wrap-up edition of *The Delegates' Voice* for the 2007-2008 term. It has been both fun and a challenge to serve as your editor this year, and I hope that the newsletter has met your

expectations in providing current news and information for HoD members. I welcome Sigrunn Johnson as your new Secretary/Editor for 2008-09, and I am sure she will add spice and a fresh perspective to the position as an international delegate. Special thanks are due to Linda Ramsey at AAPG for doing most of the real work of layout, printing, and distribution of the newsletter this year.

It has been a relatively quiet but productive year in terms of HoD events, with the recently-completed annual meeting in San Antonio producing approvals of recommended changes to the AAPG Bylaws and to the Rules and Procedures of the House, as published in the March edition of the *DV*. The meeting also provided fodder for future debate regarding the issue raised by John Hogg on whether or not the expansion of AAPG membership requirement from geological degree to geoscience degree or other associated geoscience interest might be considered during next year's HoD meeting. After a straw vote, Chairman Marty Hewitt referred this issue to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for consideration, so we will see it again next year.

Distribution of *The Delegates' Voice* was also the subject of a straw poll at the annual meeting, with the question being whether or not to go to electronic (e-mail) rather than paper distribution. A large majority favored receiving the *DV* electronically, as a pdf file, but a vocal minority expressed a strong desire to continue the current system. This issue is being mailed as usual, but Delegates will also receive an e-mail with a live link to the *DV* pdf file on the AAPG website. This is done

Continued on page 3

- An amendment dealing with how the number of delegates is determined for U.S. affiliated societies versus international Regions. The amendment was proposed to bring the Rules and Procedures in compliance with the AAPG's Constitution and Bylaws.
- A Bylaws change that gives the AAPG Executive Committee authority to expel a member who falsely states his or her qualifications on an application for AAPG membership.

Two impromptu straw votes stirred the majority of remarks from the delegates. In giving the report of the Newsletter Committee, Secretary/Editor Bob Webster posed a question to delegates concerning the all-electronic publishing of *The Delegates' Voice* noting cost savings in addition to negating printing and mailing lag times as the main rationale.

In a straw poll, the House overwhelmingly voted in favor of the PDF-only newsletter. However, the handful of members opposed were vocal in their opposition. Webster stated that all delegates should be able to receive *The Delegates' Voice* in the format of their choice, and he would pass this forward to next year's House leadership to investigate the best means to deliver the newsletter.

The other straw vote came up in new business during a discussion of the possibility of modifying the degree requirements for Active membership. Vice President-Regions John Hogg began the discussion by asking for a sense of the delegates concerning keeping the requirements for a "degree in geological science" for a person applying for Active membership.

The dialog included the exclusionary aspect of the degree requirement as it affects geophysicists, geological engineers and others who otherwise would be interested in full membership.

It was noted that there are mechanisms for individual exceptions to the requirement, which are considered by the Executive Committee on a case-by-case basis.

Delegates voted overwhelmingly to send the issue to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for consideration.

Honors and Awards Chair Jim McGray recognized the following awardees:

- Distinguished Members of the House - John Brooks (European Region), Alan DeGood (Mid-Continent Section), Patrick Gooding (Eastern Section)

- House Long Service Award – Jeannie Mallick (Gulf Coast Section)
- House Recognition of Service Awards - Marty Hewitt (Canada Region) and Robert Webster (Southwest Section)
- In addition, Delegates reaching 9 and 15 year service milestones were also acknowledged with Certificates of Service

Officers elected for 2008-09 were Steve Sonnenberg, Chair-Elect from Rocky Mountain Section and Sigrunn Johnsen, Secretary/Editor from European Region. Steve is the first past president of AAPG to become leader of the House. Sigrunn becomes the first delegate from European Region to be a House officer. Steve and Sigrunn will assume their roles along with Chair George Bole from Gulf Coast Section July 1. I would like to thank Deborah Sacrey and Erik Mason for letting their names stand for House leadership. Their commitment to AAPG and the House is greatly appreciated.

Looking forward, I ask each of you to keep in mind the grass roots membership drive within the House of Delegates. As leaders of AAPG, delegates have the opportunity to lead by example; setting the standard for those who follow your direction and guidance in serving AAPG on a volunteer basis. Recall that 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. 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.

I encourage you to discuss this membership initiative within your delegation, identify a membership ambassador for your delegation and recruit at least one new member for each Delegate by June 30.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow officers, Chair-Elect George Bole and Secretary/Editor Bob Webster for their hard work and support during my term as Chair. I would also like to thank my Committee Chairs and their committees for their hard work over the past year. Thanks also to Donna Riggs, Regina Gill and Janice Scott at AAPG HQ for their assistance throughout my term. Also, I appreciate the backing of my employer, Nexen Petroleum International, over the past two years. In closing, it has been a privilege and distinct pleasure to serve as your Chair for the past session. Thank you for providing me with this opportunity to serve the House and AAPG. ♦

Credentials Committee From page 3

Twelve U.S. Affiliated Societies had no representation; either the delegate did not attend or the society did not hold elections in time to get their paperwork into AAPG Headquarters. These geological societies include: Alabama, Everglades, Fort Smith, Fort Worth, Graham, Iowa, Miami, New York, North Dakota, San Angelo, South Eastern, and the Professional Geologists of Indiana. The Credentials Committee recommends that every effort should be made to encourage Societies and International Regions to have 100% representation. U.S. Affiliated Societies that consistently do not have representation should be dropped from the rolls. ♦



HoD officer candidates Sigrunn Johnsen and Steve Sonnenberg greet delegates prior to the start of the HoD meeting in San Antonio. They were subsequently elected as Secretary/Editor and Chair, respectively, for the 2008-09 HoD term

Editor From page 1

in lieu of sending the file as an attachment to the e-mail, which can cause problems with some anti-spam software. Please read the following article regarding your choice of how to receive the *DV* in the future, and be sure to return the "mail-back" page if you want to continue with paper mailing. Hopefully the e-mail/link system of distribution will prove satisfactory for most, but if you have comments or (hopefully positive) suggestions please be sure to send them on to me.

The passage of a yearly milestone always provides a good occasion to reflect on what has occurred during that year and to set new goals for the year ahead. In this year as your Secretary/Editor, I have shared some events in my life with you in this column, mainly to add a more personal perspective to the relatively dry reporting of HoD events. In the March, 2008, issue, I commented on the value of the network of personal contacts that you develop by belonging and participating in the local and national societies. After only three months as a newly independent consultant, this has become even more evident, as I continue to be amazed at the number and variety of projects that just seem "to come out of the woodwork". Thus far it has been my privilege to work on a couple of field studies in Iraq, a basin evaluation in Argentina, a multi-basin project in Peru, the sale of a large independent oil company, a Barnett Shale property acquisition, and the evaluation of a multi-county acreage position in Texas. Life has not been dull, and I can only wonder what the next three months- and years- will bring. What I do know is that my network of contacts, made largely through society activities, has been the catalyst that has brought most of this work in my direction.

In his column, Marty Hewitt highlighted once again the grassroots membership initiative that he has promoted through the House of Delegates. I hope all of you will take this to heart and either volunteer for or work with the Point Delegate for your society to help make the membership ambassador program work. For my part, now that I am passing on my editorial pen, I plan to take a more active leadership role in recruitment for AAPG within my local professional community.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Secretary/Editor this year, and I have certainly enjoyed participating with the outstanding leadership provided by Marty Hewitt and George Bole. Here's to another good year going forward! ♦

Chair-Elect From page 1

Working this past year with the officers, committee chairs, and various members of AAPG and the House of Delegates has been a wonderful experience. They are thanked for their support and cooperation. I now feel better prepared to assume responsibilities that will be passed forward. It will be a pleasure to be a member of next year's Executive Committee and to work with: Scott Tinker, President; John Lorenz, President-Elect; Rusty Riese, Sections Vice President; John Hogg, Regions Vice President; Ted Beaumont, Secretary; Kay Pitts, Treasurer; and Gretchen Gillis, Editor.

As we look forward, I ask that you please remember one of President Will Green's goals, as stated during our House of Delegates meeting in San Antonio. That is, "Enjoy AAPG!" I plan to do so.

Any comments or suggestions you want to share with me will be greatly appreciated.

Here's to the coming year! May it be successful.

George R. Bole, Chair-Elect, House of Delegates ♦

A Report from the Credentials Committee

By Patrick J. Gooding, Chair



At the 2008 annual meeting in San Antonio, Patrick J. Gooding, Chair of the Credentials Committee, acknowledged the members of his committee: Sigrunn Johnsen and Erik P. Mason, candidates for Secretary/Editor, and Deborah K. Sacrey and Steve Sonnenberg, candidates for Chair of the House. He reported that the 232 elected Delegates to the House represents the following Societies and Regions: U.S. Affiliated Societies 178,

Canada Region 13, Asia / Pacific Region 11, European Region 18, African Region 0, Latin America Region 9, Middle East Region 3.

Gooding reported that 189 delegates had been cleared by the Credentials Committee. In addition, fifteen people who did not submit documentation on time, or who did not have any documentation from their society, requested to be seated in the House.

A motion was made by Patrick to the Chair of the House and it was seconded, to seat as delegates the following individuals: Ameer Ghori, Asia/Pacific Region, Keishi Nakashima, Asia/Pacific Region, Abul Shamsuddin, Asia/Pacific, Andrew Barrett, Asia/Pacific Region, Jim Tucker, Middle East, Valary Schultz, Dallas Geological Society, George Eynon, Canada Region, Tim Hunt, West Texas Geological Society, Kimberly Wright, South Texas Geol. Society, David Cook, Europe Region, Bill Harrison, Michigan Basin Geol. Society, Nilo Azambuja, Latin America, Bob Shoup, Asia/Pacific Region, Harsh Gupta, Asia/Pacific Region, Istvan Berczi, Europe Region.

After the motion was carried, Gooding reported there are 232 delegates elected to the House and the total required for a quorum is 117. He reported that 204 delegates were present and seated in the House for a quorum.

Patrick J. Gooding, Chair of the Credentials Committee, provided an update to the Credentials report stating two additional delegates have been seated in the House raising the total to 206 seated delegates.

Final Delegate Count: An elected Delegate to the House arrived late to the meeting, but before voting began and was seated. An alternate from the Baton Rouge Geological Society was checked in and later the elected delegate arrived. The society is allowed only one delegate. The credentials committee did not realize the discrepancy until late in the proceedings. This keeps the total number of Delegates present at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the House to 206. This number represents 88.9% of the total eligible delegates, the largest representation present in ten years.

In a perfect world, if all the U.S. Affiliated Societies and International Regions held elections for their delegates and submitted their paperwork in on time to AAPG Headquarters potentially there could be a total of 250 eligible delegates. Present at this year's Annual Meeting were 153 elected delegates, (66%), and 54 alternates and appointed representatives, (34%). U.S. Affiliated Societies had 167 representatives out of 178 eligible delegates, a (93.8%), attendance presence. International Regions had 40 representatives out of 59, a 67.8% attendance. Asia/Pacific had 83.3% attendance, African 25%, Canada 76.9%, European 77.8%, Latin America 22.2%, and Middle East 100%.

Continued on page 2

House of Delegates Business Deadlines for 2008-09

- Bylaws amendments proposed by resolution of the EC; HoD Officers & Chair, C&B Com.; or 50 Members shall within 30 days be distributed to the EC, AC, Delegates, and any EC designees.** Floating
- Officer Candidates List to the HoD Chair.* **Sept. 30, 2008 (Set date.)**
- Awardees list to the HoD Chair.* **Oct. 31, 2008 (Set date.)**
- Comments from EC, AC, Delegates and any designees regarding Bylaws amendments by resolution of the HoD.** **Oct. 31, 2008 (Set date.)**
- Bios and photos of candidates and awardees need to be at Headquarters.** **Oct. 31, 2008 (Set date.)**
- Count paid Active members by society/region for delegate entitlement.* **Nov. 30, 2008 (Set date.)**
- **Proposed Constitution and/or Bylaws Changes, if published in the Explorer, need to be submitted for the March issue. February 01, 2009 (Bylaws 90 days/Constitution 60 days before the annual meeting, deadline for the Explorer is the 1st day of the preceding month.)**
- Mid-Year Leadership Meeting of officers, chairs, invitees, Executive Director and President on or before this date.* **February 27, 2009 (100 days before the annual meeting.)**
- Proposed changes to the AAPG Bylaws must be published. If Explorer publication deadline was missed, an alternate means of publication must be made to the voting membership.** **March 9, 2009 (90 days before the annual meeting.)**
- Proposed changes to the Rules & Procedures of the House must be in the hands of the Chair, HoD.* **March 9, 2009 (90 days before the annual meeting.)**
- Proposed changes to the Rules & Procedures of the House must be mailed to the Delegates if not previously published in the DV.* **April 8, 2009 (60 days before the annual meeting.)**
- Proposed changes to the Constitution must be sent to the voting membership if not included in a previous mailing or publication.** **April 8, 2009 (60 days before annual meeting.)**
- Committee and Officer written reports received at Headquarters for printing. **April 15, 2009**
- Last day for mailing meeting agenda and pertinent enclosures to the Delegates.* **May 3, 2009 (35 days before the annual meeting.)**
- Last day for mailing comments re proposed amendments to Delegates.** **May 8, 2009 (30 days before Annual Meeting.)**
- Names of appointed alternate delegates should be in Headquarters office.* & ** **May 23, 2009 (15 days before Annual Meeting.)**
- Delegates Reception: AAPG Annual Convention, Denver, CO **June 6, 2009**
- **Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates, Denver, CO June 7, 2009**
- Minutes Approval Committee should have completed review and approval of 2009 minutes.* **Aug. 6, 2009 (60 days after HoD meeting.)**
- Last day to mail ballot to members regarding Constitution changes.*** **August 6, 2009 (60 days after HoD Meeting.)**

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 2008/rg)

How will you receive future issues of *The Delegates' Voice*?

At the Annual HoD meeting on April 20th, a straw poll was taken to see how many Delegates would be agreeable to receiving *The Delegates' Voice* in digital, or pdf, format. A large majority indicated receiving the newsletter electronically was acceptable. If you are one of those, you need take no further action, and you will receive e-mail notification of future issues. Hopefully, most will take this course of action (or non-action!).

However, if you prefer to continue to receive the *DV* via paper mailing for whatever reason, you must let AAPG know of your desire. To make this easy, all you have to do is **tear out this page, fill in your name and address in the space below, fold on the dotted line and tape so the AAPG**

address is on the outside and drop it in the mail. We will compile a list of all surface mail recipients, and you will continue to get the *DV* in your mailbox as well as by e-mail. Failure to send this form in will result in your being on the e-mail distribution list only.

It is certainly the desire of the House leadership that this transition to mostly electronic distribution be as painless as possible, and that all Delegates continue to receive *The Delegates' Voice* in the format that best suits their needs.

Robert Webster
Secretary/Editor

------(fold here)-----

Please tape, DO NOT STAPLE.

Please continue to send *The Delegates' Voice* as a paper mailing.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____



Postage
Required
Post Office will
not deliver
without proper
postage.

ATTN REGINA GILL
AAPG
PO BOX 979
TULSA OK 74101-0979





Delegates listen to discussion of the issues at the HoD annual meeting.



Chair-Elect George Bole, Chair Marty Hewitt, and Secretary/Editor Bob Webster at the podium at the annual meeting.



HoD in Session: View from the back: House of Delegates in session at the April 20, 2008, annual meeting in San Antonio.

Note: All photographs courtesy of Patrick Gooding.

The Delegates' Voice

A Newsletter for the
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

of

AAPG

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

This Issue at a Glance

Chair's Letter	Page 1
Chair-Elect's Letter	Page 1
Editor's Letter	Page 1
Credentials Committee	Page 3
Deadlines	Page 4
DV Mailing Form	Page 5