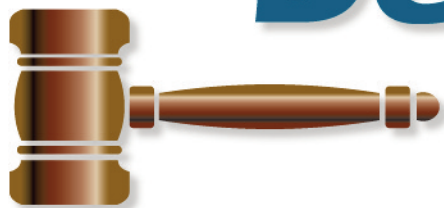


The Delegates' Voice



Newsletter for the House of Delegates of AAPG

FALL 2008

Chair

George R. Bole

grbole@sbcglobal.net



On July 1, your Chair took up his position on the AAPG Executive Committee, along with newcomers John Lorenz, President Elect; Rusty Riese, Vice President of Sections; and Kay Pitts, Treasurer. It will be a pleasure serving with John, Rusty and Kay, as well as Scott Tinker, President; John Hogg, Vice President Regions; Ted Beaumont, Secretary; and Gretchen Gillis, Editor. I also look forward to working with our Executive Director Rick Fritz, and his fine support staff at HQ. We have much to do between now and next June 30; with help and input from you as AAPG's elected delegates, along with your Chair-Elect, Steve Sonnenberg and Secretary/Editor, Sigrunn Johnsen, I believe much will be accomplished.

House Committees

In the matter of House activities, our Committee Chairs have been confirmed and population of each Committee is underway, or complete. The following delegates will serve through June 30, 2009:

- Terry Hollrah – Chair, Constitution and Bylaws, hollexco@sbcglobal.net
- David Dolph – Chair, Resolutions, ddolph@talisman-energy.com
- Robert Suydam – Chair, Rules and Procedures, basuydam@bresnan.net
- James McGray – Chair, Honors and Awards, jmcgray@aol.com
- Mark Rainer – Chair, Nomination and Election, mrainer@jonesenergy.com
- Patrick Gooding – Chair, Credentials, gooding@uky.edu
- Sigrunn Johnsen – Chair, Newsletter and Minutes Approval, sigrunn.johnsen@rwe.com.

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Chair-Elect

Steve Sonnenberg

ssonnenb@mines.edu



It is an honor to be elected as Chairman-Elect of the House of Delegates. It is a position that will require leadership and a lot of work. In this column, I will review my primary objectives.

AAPG, in its new strategic plan, has as its "big audacious goal" to make AAPG indispensable to the 'energy-related' geoscientists. One of the key words in this goal is "indispensable." A. I. Levorsen in his Geology of Petroleum textbook says "Imagination is an indispensable quality of the petroleum geoscientist." Wallace Pratt is quoted as saying "one indispensable attribute of the oil finder is vision." Using the wisdom of these AAPG icons, it follows that for AAPG to be indispensable requires that the leadership have vision and imagination.

My vision for the House of Delegates is for us to work in directions that will help and support AAPG achieve the "big audacious goal." Imagination and vision along with mission, will move us towards achieving the goal. Agenda items that I have include the following:

Continued on page 2

Secretary/Editor

Sigrunn Johnsen

sigrunn.johnsen@rwe.com



To all of you that made it possible for me to serve as the House of Delegates Secretary/Editor 2008 – 2009; Thank You Very Much! I am looking forward to managing the HoD tasks this year together with the Chair, George Bole and Chair-Elect, Steve Sonnenberg.

In this issue of *The Delegates' Voice* you will find letters from some of the Chairs of the HoD committees, the European Region, Canada Region and from the Southwest Section. I hope to always be able to include letters from the International Regions and the US Sections. In this issue, you will also find letters from the AAPG President, the Energy Minerals Division president, and letters from Delegates. Last, but not least, please pay attention to the proposed changes to the Bylaws. You will find those on page 4 in this issue.

What are our duties and responsibilities?

First of all, thank you George, for distributing the HoD CD to all the delegates with information about the responsibilities and the duties of the delegates and information regarding the Association. This is important information for the new delegates and a good reminder for the rest of us of why it is important to:

- keep ourselves updated on HoD business by reading *The Delegates' Voice*
- attend the House of Delegates' meeting in connection with the AAPG Annual Meeting to vote for changes to AAPG legislative affairs.

All legislative affairs within the scope of the Constitution and Bylaws of AAPG are vested in the House of Delegates which means it is our responsibility to ensure a strong, healthy and sustainable foundation for the world's largest association for geologists; an association where honesty,

Continued on page 2

Chair From page 1

Membership Initiative

We will continue to work on our “grass roots” membership initiative through AAPG Member Services and Delegate involvement at the local, section, regional, national and international levels. I look to each of you to become involved in some capacity as we recruit new potential members. Following are some highlights from a letter recently e-mailed to you relative to the membership initiative:

AAPG has an ongoing membership drive. As leaders within the organization, we should all be actively recruiting!

The goal of the AAPG Recruitment, Reward and Recognition Program is to build and strengthen our organization by increasing the Active membership and to recognize the members who work toward this achievement.

By inviting a colleague to join our professional community, we are helping to further the profession and the science, and therefore expanding the professional aspect of our lives. It also helps the Association grow, which is a major player in creating and maintaining the reputation we enjoy as petroleum geoscientists. In addition, it also helps to keep our dues reasonable.

Complete details of the program, as well as the list of current recruiters, are available on the AAPG Web site: <http://www.aapg.org/recruit/>. Applicants may join online or forms are available for download; remind applicants to list your name (as recruiter) on the appropriate form.

As leaders of AAPG, Delegates have the opportunity to lead by example; setting the standard for those who follow our direction and guidance in serving AAPG on a volunteer basis. In order to help AAPG's Recruitment, Reward and Recognition Program, and continue the grass roots membership initiative within the House of Delegates it will help if you can assist in the assignment of a point Delegate in your local society. This person can act as a local membership ambassador with the prime responsibility of promoting AAPG membership at local society events. The Delegate will also be a conduit for providing sponsor names and streamlining the membership process. One-on-one contact can be a very successful form of recruitment and Delegates are ideally positioned to carry out this function for AAPG.

Please remember that one of the main reasons people don't participate is that no one asks them to do so.

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, 2009. Offer a challenge within your delegation or challenge other societies to see who can/will recruit the most. It's a win-win situation for all involved.

There are two proposed changes to the Bylaws that can be reviewed on page 4. Additional changes are anticipated at the mid-year meeting scheduled January 16-17, 2009 in Houston.

Please contact me or Chair-elect Steve Sonnenberg with your ideas. Together we *all* can build a better AAPG - one member at a time.

Future Meetings

I plan to attend the Delegates' Breakfast meetings at the Eastern, Gulf Coast, Pacific and Southwest Section Meetings, as well as the International Conference and Exhibition in Cape Town, South Africa. Sigrunn Johnsen, HoD Secretary/Editor will attend the meeting in Oslo, Norway in early October; I've also been advised that John Hogg, AAPG's Vice President,

Regions will be there too. And, of course we'll have our Annual HoD meeting at the Convention and Exhibition in Denver next June. Many of you will also attend these meetings and I look forward to seeing you then. Please encourage your fellow Delegates and colleagues to participate, if at all possible, in these and other activities as well.

Your ideas and comments are always welcome. ♦

Chair-Elect

 From page 1

1. Set up an ad hoc committee to address areas of the strategic plan that the House of Delegates should or could be working on.
2. I want to make sure all the House committees have fair representation from all the diversity within the House of Delegates.
3. I want to increase the duties of both the House Nomination/Election and Honors and Awards committees to the point where they provide names of people from the HoD to the Advisory Council who should be considered for AAPG officer positions and/or AAPG awards. The HoD has great leaders and you should be considered for AAPG awards and officer positions.
4. Let's start grooming our future leadership; Let's encourage our regions and sections to get some of the younger geologists to run for election to the House of Delegates.
5. I want to promote professionalism in AAPG, for example: let's find ways to encourage professionals to become Active members in AAPG, new members, of course, but also Associates who are eligible for active membership; could there be a new incentive program we can establish? More active members means more support for the profession and more people involved in AAPG.

I am a second generation petroleum geologist and I have about 30 years of experience in the industry. Last August I joined as Professor of Geology in the Department of Geology at Colorado School of Mines where I hold the Charles Boettcher Distinguished Chair in Petroleum Geology. The petroleum geology profession has been very rewarding to me and I truly enjoy it. Now I get to teach petroleum geology to the new generation.

Can you imagine AAPG being indispensable to energy-related geoscientists? Imagination, vision, and mission are key ingredients to get us there. I want to help AAPG in becoming indispensable.

I look forward to serving as Chair-Elect and Chair of the House of Delegates. Please contact me if you have an interest in becoming more involved in AAPG HoD activities. ♦

Secretary/Editor

 From page 1

integrity, loyalty, fairness, impartiality, candor, fidelity to trust and inviolability of confidence are in focus. In an international environment, it matters that we, the Delegates, are able to communicate a common level of professional standards among the members.

How do we fulfill our duties?

As delegates we represent each of the geoscientists who are members of AAPG. It is therefore important that we act as bridges between the Association, the House of Delegates and the Executive Committee, and the Association's members by bringing concerns and suggestions from the members to the Association, and by bringing information of the decisions and doings of the Association to the members. We should make sure that the members are aware of this part of our duty as

Continued on page 3

Secretary/Editor From page 2

delegates so that they feel free to contact us. Part of this communication is also, of course, that you as a Delegate should make your voice heard in *The Delegates' Voice* by writing letters to express the concerns and comments of the members of your Region or Section. Such contributions, along with a picture of yourself, should be sent to me, sigrunn.johnsen@rwe.com.

Why are our duties important?

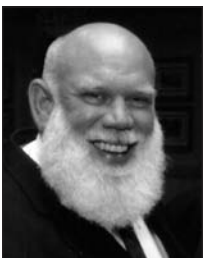
AAPG needs volunteers in several areas and the House of Delegates is one such area. Why have we chosen HoD as our way of serving AAPG? It is probably the best way to make sure that the members in your Region or Section have influence over the Association. By being a delegate we have been given the responsibility of setting the level of professional morality and defining professional responsibility for AAPG members. For us geologists, this really matters! By having chosen to be a Delegate, you have shown that it really matters for you as well!

Enjoy the rest of 2008 until we meet again in the December issue of *The Delegates' Voice*. ♦

HoD Committees

Credentials Committee

Chair, Patrick J. Gooding



The Credentials Committee consists of five members including a chair to serve one-year terms. Members of the Credentials Committee consist of the two House of Delegates candidates for chair-elect, the two candidates for secretary/editor, and a chair. If any members must relinquish their seats for any reason, the Chair of the House has the authority to appoint a replacement. Officers of the House may not serve on this Committee.

Responsibilities of the Committee include; (1) Checking in and verifying all elected delegates, elected alternates, and appointed alternates to the House of Delegates for the annual meeting, (2) Presenting to the House for seating any representatives that were not cleared 15 days before the meeting, and (3) Submitting to the Chair of the House an attested roll of delegates, alternate delegates, and appointed alternate delegates who are qualified and present, and the number needed for a quorum.

Goals of the Committee this year will be:

1. Work with AAPG staff and other pertinent committees to ensure all affiliated societies and regions duly elect delegates and alternates to represent them.
2. Make sure that presidents of societies understand the importance of full representation to the House of Delegates Meeting.
3. Make every effort to see that there is 100% representation at the next annual meeting.

These steps would increase efficiency at registration. ♦

Resolutions Committee

Chair, David Dolph



The Committee reports to the HoD at the annual meeting its recommendations concerning all advance petitions, resolutions, or motions offered by Delegates, Affiliated Societies, or by charge from the Chair of the House. It is not required to review resolutions on proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and Rules and Procedures.

The Resolutions Committee is comprised of seven (or more) Members serving a staggered two-year term, including a Chair. Optimally, the Committee will have two Vice-Chairs, one for US Domestic and one for International.

The Committee is responsible for directing any required "Disaffiliation" procedures of an inactive U.S. Affiliated Society due to non-representation at the HoD annual meeting. In the 2007/2008 Fiscal Year there were 11 Societies that the Resolutions Committee was trying to re-involve in the AAPG to avoid disaffiliation. For the 2008/2009 year the current status of these Societies will be reviewed and addressed.

The Committee also handles the process of Affiliation of International Societies. Resolutions Committee Members will be asked to work with the International Regions Committee in this regard. This year the International focus will be to encourage better Delegate participation from International regions and contact Affiliated International Societies who have dropped out of contact with AAPG.

The Resolutions Committee currently has a strong team from North America. HoD Presidents from the Latin America, Africa, Asia Pacific, European and Middle East Regions have been contacted requesting volunteers to join the Committee to help with our International representation.

Resolutions Committee Members

David Dolph Chair, Canada	Charles A. Caughey Gulf Coast
Paul W. Britt Past Chair, Gulf Coast	David H. Hawk Rocky Mountain
Sandi Barber Gulf Coast	K. Lee Avary Eastern
Kay L. Pitts Pacific	Maurice N. Birdwell Gulf Coast ♦

Nomination and Election Committee

Chair, Mark Rainer



It is a privilege to chair this Committee this coming year and I look forward to seeing you all in Denver at our Annual Meeting. We are busy already. Committee members are:

Larry Wickstrom, Vice Chair, Eastern Section
Ed Dolly, Rocky Mountain Section
Bob Lindblom, Pacific Section
John Kaldi, Asia/Pacific Region
John Hogg, Canada Region

Jeff Lund, Gulf Coast Section
Royce Carr, Gulf Coast Section
Jim McGay, Mid-Continent Section

Nomination and Election Committee *From page 3*

The Committee is made up of seven section Delegates. The Gulf Coast Section qualifies under the Rules and Procedures, to have two delegates from that section. If you wish to see this rule, it is posted on our Web site at www.aapg.org. Under the AAPG SITE SHORT CUTS tab go to House of Delegates then select Rules and Procedures.

The Nomination and Election Committee will present to the annual meeting of the HOD a slate of two nominees for Chair-elect and Secretary/Editor to be elected by the House. The slate or slates with factual background data concerning each candidate shall be given to the Chair of the House of Delegates by September 30 for publication in *The Delegates' Voice*. We are very excited about those who wish to give service to the House and hope to present to the Chairman an outstanding slate of candidates for you to vote for next year. ♦

Newsletter Committee

Chair, Sigrunn Johnsen



As the Secretary/Editor of the House of Delegates, I am also responsible for the HoD Newsletter Committee. The committee should consist of two or more members. This year the members are:

- Valary Schulz, Consulting Geologist, Dallas.
- David Farmer, Consulting Geologist, Midland, Texas.
- Martin Jentsch, Project Coordinator Geoscience, Exxon-Mobil, Hannover, Germany

These members will help and support me in questions that may arise regarding this newsletter, *The Delegate's Voice*, which we plan to publish quarterly. Since this is your Voice, we actively invite letters and submissions on any issues effecting our organization throughout this coming year. Please, address those letters to: sigrunn.johnsen@rwe.com.

In addition to the committee members, I will also have strong support from the staff at AAPG headquarters in Tulsa, especially Linda Ramsey who is responsible for the layout of *The Delegates' Voice*. Regina Gill will assist with editing and distribution of the DV. Regina will also assist with the minutes of the HoD meeting at the AAPG Annual Meeting in Denver next year. ♦

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Chair, Terry Hollrah



As Chair of the HoD Constitution and Bylaws Committee, I am pleased to present the following members of the committee and the proposed Bylaw changes:

Terry Hollrah, Chair
H.W. "Dub" Peace
David Farmer
Peter Lloyd
Pat Gordon

Dwight "Clint" Moore
Paul Hoffman.

There will be at least two requested Bylaws changes put forth as a resolution from the previous Executive Committee. The changes are recommended as a result of suggestions made during the "new business" session of our last annual Delegates meeting in San Antonio, Texas. They pertain to:

Article I. Membership, Section 3. Active members

The proposed additions are shown in *Italics*, and the proposed deletions are shown with ~~strike through~~

The first requested change expands and defines the term "geological sciences" to be more inclusive and will be useful to both applicants for membership and delegates who screen member applications.

Any person engaged in the practice or teaching of geology may apply for Active membership, provided the applicant holds a Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctor's Degree in geological sciences, including, but not limited to geology, geophysics, earth science, geological engineering or environmental geology from a college of acceptable academic standards...

The second requested change eliminates the experience requirement for Active membership and endorses the recommendation of the 2007-08 HoD leadership. A presumption is made that any "geoscientist" gainfully employed has experience, or is gaining experience through on-the-job-training, and would not otherwise be employed if not deemed qualified and competent by their employer.

~~...and, in addition, has had three (3) years of experience in the practice or teaching of geology. Credit for experience can be counted as follows: Master's Degree one (1) year; Doctor's Degree two (2) years. The Executive Committee may waive degree or current professional activity requirements if in its judgment an applicant has adequate professional experience and has attained standing in the profession.~~

The two proposals will be considered as separate recommendations.

Article XIII. DUES. SECTION 3. Dues Scheduling and Billing

This requested change will have to be considered if the experience requirement in Article I. Section 3. is deleted by House vote at our annual meeting. The additional comment regarding the dues payment of \$20.00 firmly establishes that amount as the minimum dues cost for the Associate level.

(d) An Associate who has completed the degree requirements, but not the experience requirements, for Active membership shall pay one-half of the regular Active membership dues, but in no event less than \$20.00, for not more than four (4) years while not having satisfied such experience requirements and shall pay regular Associate dues thereafter while an Associate.♦

AAPG Divisions

Energy Minerals Division

President, Creties Jenkins



The Energy Minerals Division (EMD) is one of three divisions of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the largest professional association of geoscientists in the world. Organized in 1977, EMD serves as an international forum for those working in the exploration, development, and production of energy sources other than conventional oil and natural gas.

The purpose of EMD is to advance the science of geology as it relates to any earth materials/commodities capable of being

Continued on page 5

AAPG Divisions *From page 4*

used for energy production, to provide a forum for addressing developments in mineral and energy economics and in fuels supply and utilization technology, and to promote the integration of geoscientific knowledge with those in related professions and activities.

Current technical committees with an EMD Web site presence include:

- Shale Gas, Coalbed Methane, Coal, Energy Economics & Technology, Gas Hydrates, Geospatial Information, Geothermal, Oil Sands, Oil Shale, and Uranium.

In addition the EMD is considering becoming a center of expertise on alternative energy commodities, including wind, solar and biofuels.

The President of the EMD (2008/2009) is Cretis Jenkins who can be reached at cjenkins@demac.com, work phone (214) 891-1114. ♦

European Region

President, Istvan Berczi



Spring brought the petroleum industry again to the front pages of the media thanks to the skyrocketing energy prices in general and oil prices in particular. Pretending to be innocent of the high prices and reluctant to confess that the high prices provide unexpected extra income through the taxation of the energy and fuel for the state budgets, governments in Europe joined the media's approach of blaming the oil companies from profiting excessively from the situation. The industry responded professionally and calmly to this challenge with a populist tune. This professional and calm atmosphere characterized the AAPG Annual Convention in San Antonio (April) and the 19th World Petroleum Congress in Madrid (June).

But what should a professional organization do to assist the industry to defend itself and its consumers from the unjust campaign of introducing new taxes to tap their resources through the "Robin Hood Tax"? Yes, this story is not about the turnover and revenue of oil companies, but about the security of supply and sustainable development of the world in general and the petroleum industry in particular. The higher profit of the companies serves the security and sustainability of supply only if it is to be re-invested in grass-root exploration projects. In the media and in the public the issue of the "Peak Oil" story is frequently and shockingly treated without mentioning that this is an issue, because exploration has been consistently underfinanced in the global petroleum industry since the 1980s. It is obvious that a scenario in which the annual reserves' growth from field extensions is 3 times higher than the new reserves booked from new discoveries – as exposed by Dr. Donald Gautier (USGS) in one of his excellent presentations in the 19th WPC – can't be maintained without risking the security of supply and sustainability. We have to find the ways and means of enhancing global exploration activity.

The ways are clearly defined – among others – in the strategy of the AAPG, answering what to do, where to do it, how to do it and who does it. Our programs regularly focus on frontier regions and well-known regions with neglected upside potentials. Our programs comprise lessons learned from successful grass-root exploration projects and appraisal and field development projects. Our programs – jointly with sister organizations – respond to the challenges of the frontier regions and difficult development areas, and they highlight the respective technologies to be applied. Who will do it? This is what is addressed in our special programs as well as our care for the next generation of professionals. This includes, but is not limited to, the mentoring of students and professionals with specific youth programs, Imperial Barrel Award, youth sessions in national and international conferences and last but not least, establishing and coaching student chapters at universities.

The means are the profits earned by the companies. When profits were low at the turn of the Millennium with oil prices around 10 USD/b, no assistance for the companies was expected since it was not market conform. We agree, but to take away the financial basis of the security and sustainability is not market-conform either. Moreover, even worse is the indication of lack of strategic vision, and improvised actions without vision leads to chaos. The global petroleum industry has to invest 22 trillion USD from now until 2030 to meet future energy demand, as Tony Hayward, GCEO of BP stated in his ple-

Regions and Sections

Canada Region

President, David Dolph



The Canada Region of the AAPG currently has 1,531 members, of which 927 have voting privileges. The Region's House of Delegates is comprised of 13 members. We have a number of ongoing and new initiatives which will keep the team busy in the coming year.

In 2008 the Canada Region held its first regional Imperial Barrel Award competition. The University of Calgary and University of Alberta competed, with the University of Alberta winning and moving on to the AAPG Finals where they finished 4th overall. With the success of this program, the Canada Region HoD has budgeted four to five Canadian Universities to compete regionally in 2009. We see the IBA program as an excellent training/recruiting vehicle for the students, great publicity for AAPG and an outreach platform for the development of Student Chapters within our region. We currently have three Student Chapters and will be targeting the creation of four more in 2009.

Canada may be hosting the 2011 International Conference and Exhibition. A committee is in place and is formulating a game plan.

A committee is in place and is formulating a game plan.

Other activities our House of Delegates members are involved with include volunteers on the Education, HoD Constitution and Bylaws, Resolutions and Student Chapters Committees. We would also like to place a copy of Datapages into each significant geoscience school in Canada, starting with a donation to one Canadian university this year. There is also an initiative to open an AAPG Canada Region office to better engage its membership and increased course and book sales in Canada. ♦

European Region From page 5

nary session speech at the 19th WPC. With this fact as background, we cannot afford chaos.

Thus, the challenge is clear: Robin Hood or Sustainability.

There is no doubt what should be the answer. Professional associations like AAPG are open to assist in bringing the interested parties together to find solutions. It is a moral obligation to do it – otherwise, as a famous Hungarian poet of the 20th century writes: *“If you do not contradict peccants, you will be their accomplice.”* ♦

Southwest Section

President, Debra Osborne



The Southwest Section has a thriving membership located from Dallas, Texas and west to Midland, Texas and Roswell, New Mexico. We just celebrated our Golden Anniversary Convention in February hosted by the Abilene Geological Society. Our upcoming convention will be hosted by the West Texas Geological Society on April 26-29, 2009 in Midland, Texas. Not only are quality talks presented, but a field trip and a free short course are also available for attendees. In addition to the free short course offered at our annual meeting, we will continue our tradition of providing our membership with a free fall short course. It has been so successful that we now offer it in two locations. We also provide up to nine scholarships a year to students or theses in our area. The Southwest Section is working hard on the IBA competition to put forward another winning team like Texas Christian University. ♦

AAPG President

Scott W. Tinker



The annual AAPG Leadership Days is always a refreshing gathering where those who are entrusted with guiding the association assess and discuss association business. In late August, 144 association leaders gathered in Tulsa to work, network, interact with AAPG staff and, yes, eat!

The overarching theme of Leadership Days was scientific globalization, and the agenda included a well-attended tour of AAPG headquarters, six sessions focusing on education, research, and publishing, and a general session on the view of the industry from an investor's perspective. In addition, Astronaut and AAPG Astrogeology Committee co-Chair Jim Reilly presented a fascinating talk on Exploring New Frontiers.

A special dimension to Leadership Days was the attendance of 13 students/young professionals representing all, but one, of the Sections and Regions. These new members held special sessions, offered insights, and worked to the best of their abilities to bring some of us seasoned vets into the 21st century! ♦

Letters from Delegates:

Delegate, Steven Earle Houston

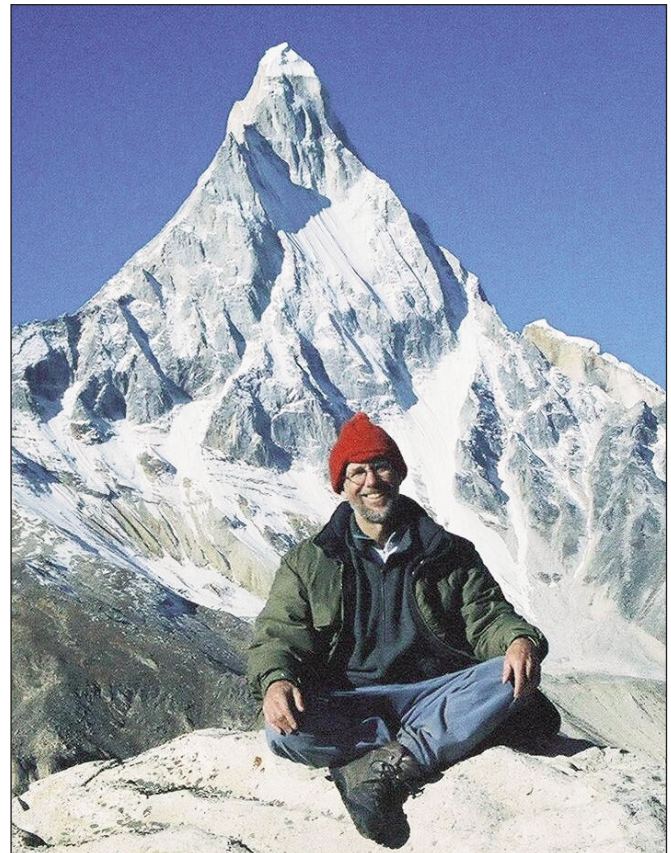
While attending the AAPG Leadership Conference, Sigrunn asked if I could find someone from the Houston delegation to write a letter for *The Delegate's Voice*. I agreed with the intent to pass the “opportunity” along; however once the hook was set, she told me it was due in one week. Being essentially stuck, you get to hear from me.

I'm an explorationist at Carrizo Oil and Gas, an independent E & P (Exploration and Production) company working the United States onshore. I do all the geology and geophysics for the company in South Louisiana and Alabama. The accompanying photo is Shivling and me in India. I'm on trek above Gaumukh (the source of the Ganges) on my way over the Kalindi Khal at 5947 meters (19,506 feet).

I was a chairman in the Houston Geological Society and thinking to get more involved in AAPG when Charles Sternbach recruited me to run for the House of Delegates. So I've been a Delegate for about four years now. It has been quite insightful to see the workings of AAPG and the issues we are grappling with. I believe that we, as delegates, must protect the integrity of our organization in two important ways. First, we are a resource to insure the quality of our applicants. Second, we screen and help fine-tune changes to our governing documents, namely the Constitution and Bylaws.

The other aspect of our job is that we represent about 75 AAPG members. We are their voice, but it also means we have the task of educating them about what is going on in the organization.

The House of Delegates is an exceptional networking venue and I value it highly. I've met a good number of incredible people and am sure I'll meet more. I salute your efforts on behalf of AAPG and hope to see you in Denver. ♦



Some Thoughts on Degree Requirements for Active Membership

*Delegate, Martin Jentsch
European Region*



During our Annual HoD Meeting in San Antonio John Hogg, Vice President-Regions brought up an interesting question: is the requirement for an Active member to have a “degree in geological science” still appropriate or do other geoscientists like geophysicists or geological engineers feel too excluded to join AAPG?

Well, when I think about it, as a Geophysicist I have been a “mole” within our Society for the last 25 years. And what’s more, I have made it to the House of Delegates, serving for the European Region for the last three years.

When I decided to join AAPG I had just spent my first couple of years in the oil and gas industry and already had been a member in SEG and EAGE. What I was looking for was a society that integrated the geosciences better than the geophysical societies did (at least that was my impression at the time). Their journals focused very much on the theoretical aspects of my field (lots of formulas) whereas the AAPG *Bulletin* contained many applied case histories involving seismic interpretation, geology and reservoir engineering, in short just what I needed for my job. Also I felt that you cannot interpret a seismic section without understanding the geology behind it. Again, that need was fulfilled by AAPG and its internation-

al conferences offering a host of great field trips. I still enjoy reading the *Bulletin* and attending AAPG’s great conferences.

If I look at the E&P industry today, we are ideally looking for the Reservoir Scientist who is able to integrate all aspects of the earth sciences at least to the degree that he or she is able to work in a team of specialists and is able to follow and contribute to the team’s discussions by understanding the other specialists language. This requirement has also been taken up by many European and American Universities offering integrated curricula. The walls between geologists, geophysicists and reservoir engineers have been crumbling for quite some time and will probably disappear altogether in the not too distant future.

I am sure there are quite a number of “Non-Geologist” members within AAPG who have decided that they benefit from the services that our Society offers. To change the requirement for Active membership from “degree in geological science” to something like “degree in geological or related science,” would in my opinion, just phrase what’s happening anyway and would signal AAPG’s openness to broaden its membership base.

I am looking forward to the proposal of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee at our next meeting in Denver. ♦

HoD 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**

Awardees list to the HoD Chair.* **Oct. 31, 2008**

Comments from EC, AC, Delegates and any designees regarding Bylaws amendments by resolution of the HoD.** **Oct. 31, 2008**

Bios and photos of candidates and awardees need to be at Headquarters.** **Oct. 31, 2008**

Count paid Active members by society/region for delegate entitlement.* **Nov. 30, 2008**

Proposed Constitution and/or Bylaws Changes, if published in the Explorer, need to be submitted for the March issue. February 01, 2009 (90 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.* **January 16 & 17, 2009, Houston, Texas.**

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.)

*HoD Rules & Procedures **AAPG Bylaws

The Delegates' Voice

A Newsletter for the
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

of
AAPG

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

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