



TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS



March 2006

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Inside this issue:

Enforcement	2
Continuing Education	2
Firm Registration	3
Calendar of Upcoming Events	3
GeoJumble	3
Board members	4
Staff Info	4

- *The mission of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists is to protect public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring that only qualified persons carry out the public practice of geoscience.*

Interview with the Chairman

As Chairman of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists I can promise you two things: an aggressive enforcement program which will be in full swing by the end of this calendar year and that the Board will work to make sure that the value of our license will increase.

I will do everything in my power to reach out to the geoscientist community, gather your opinions and add worth to our Professional Geoscientist (PG) license. We need to dem-

onstrate to the citizens of Texas and our legislators who have granted us this licensing opportunity, that we are protecting their public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring that the practice of geoscience in Texas is well regulated and administered.

The staff will make a major effort in the near future to survey the needs and requirements of Professional Geoscientists and we hope to have many public forums to discuss in great detail where the Board has

come from and where it intends to go. I look forward to meeting many of you.

Best Regards,
Gordon Ware



Message from the Vice-Chairman



As Vice Chairman of the TBPG I will do everything in my power to support the Chairman and the Board as we accomplish our mission by:

- Using the Board's statutory authority to clearly define the parameters of the geoscience profession
- Base Board decisions on the law, sound geoscientific principles back upped by appropriate standards of practice
- Ensure that regulations are clear and consistent, and Continue to clearly define the parameters of the geoscience profession under the

Board's statutory authority.

The Chairman and I agree that improving the public perception of the TBPG beyond licensing and enforcement activities will be a major goal of the Board until the next election of Board officers in November 2006. I hope to meet you all soon, especially those of you in the gas and oil business in Houston.

Best Regards,
Kelly Krenz-Doe

ENFORCEMENT



Alberto Jimenez, P.G. began as the Investigator for TBPG on October 17, 2005.

"Enforcement activities have commenced at the TBPG..."

Enforcement activities at the TBPG have commenced. One aspect of this enforcement activity consists of reviewing reports submitted to various Texas agencies. Agencies visited include the Texas Water Development Board, the Railroad Commission of Texas, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the Texas Department of Transportation. The purpose of this compliance activity is to ensure that maps and figures in these reports are submitted with the proper P.G. seal(s) and to also ensure that people signing the reports are licensed in Texas. Another purpose of this enforcement activity is to make certain that geoscience work is not being performed by non-licensees or expired licensees. This compliance activity will continue at these agencies

for the foreseeable future.

Future plans for enforcement will include visiting other State agencies and programs within these agencies to review reports that contain geoscience information. For example, investigation efforts at the TCEQ have currently focused on the Voluntary Cleanup Program. Other programs to be investigated at the TCEQ will include the Corrective Action Program, Leaking Petroleum Storage Tank Program, and the Municipal Solid Waste Program.

Other aspects of enforcement include responding to formal complaints received by the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPG). These complaints will include, but are not limited to, instances involving behavior

harmful to the safety of public health and welfare or that involve violations of the Texas Geoscience Practice Act. It is imperative that the general public inform the TBPG if such instances occur so that an investigation can commence immediately.

Notices of Violation(s) (NOV) concerning the use of the P.G. seal will be mailed out to individuals deemed to be in violation of the sealing requirements of our rules. If you receive an NOV, you must respond in the time-frame prescribed in the letter. The corrected document(s) should be resubmitted to the agency where the report was originally submitted, and a copy of the corrected document(s) should be forwarded to our office.

—Alberto J. Jimenez, P.G., Investigator

EXAM RESULTS

The ASBOG® exam was last given in October of 2005. Of the 33 candidates who took the Fundamentals of Geology, 17 received passing scores. Of the 19 who took the Practice of Geology, 10 received passing scores.

The ASBOG® exam will be given again in Austin, Texas on March 3, 2006.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Continuing Education Program for TBPG licensees will become effective September 1, 2006. All licensees renewing after that date will be required to submit proof of their continuing education hours upon renewal if requested.

Booklets outlining the CE Program will be sent out to all licensees in the coming weeks. Included in the booklet will be a log sheet to assist in tracking CE hours.

Random audits will be conducted as part enforcement, and upon request additional

proof of CE hours must be provided.

For information on the CE Program or additional copies of the log sheet, please visit our website.

FIRM REGISTRATION

At the November 17, 2005 Board meeting, the Board approved rule §851.30 for the registering of firms to practice geoscience before the public in Texas. The rule would apply to all corporations, joint stock associations, partnerships and sole proprietorships. The rule will be up for adoption at the March 17, 2006 Board meeting *if* after the public comment period and any public meet-

ings held, there are no significant changes made to the rule.

The fee for firm registration was also approved at the November meeting and it is set at \$75, with an annual renewal fee of \$150. However, the Board may discuss a reduced fee for sole proprietorships at the next Board meeting in March.

If you have not yet reviewed the proposed rule you may do

so on our website at www.tbpg.state.tx.us. If after reviewing the rule you would like to submit a public comment, please do so by contacting Ariel Juarez at 512.936.4402 or by e-mail at ajuarez@tbpg.state.tx.us or by contacting Executive Director Michael Hess at 512.936.4401 or by email at mhess@tbpg.state.tx.us.

Calendar of Upcoming Events



- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * March 3, 2006- ASBOG® exam administered in Austin * March 17, 2006-Board meeting in Houston, Texas * August 18, 2006—Board meeting (location TBD) * August 22, 2006—Deadline for October ASBOG® registration * October, 2006—ASBOG® exam administered in Austin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * December 15, 2006—Board meeting (location TBD) * April 20, 2007—Board meeting (location TBD) * August 17, 2007—Board meeting (location TBD) * December 14, 2007—Board meeting (location TBD) |
|---|---|

Geo-Jumble

Unscramble these five jumbles of geoscientific terms.

abslat

□□□○□□

leisfc

○□○□□□

futf

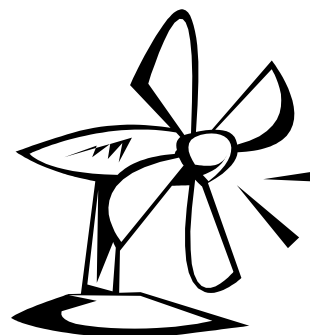
□○□□

theainwreg

□□○□□□□□○□

anolvsimc

○□○□○□□□□



Now rearrange the circled letters to get the answer to the clue below.

Clue: Unfortunately for Jill, what she found at the foot of the mountain could not provide relief from the sweltering heat.

She found an _____.

Answers to May's GeoJumble: lichen, pediment, slate, fracture, foliation

"A continental rift"



TEXAS BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

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The office of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists is open Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm.

Visit our website at www.tbpg.state.tx.us.

BOARD MEMBERS

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Kelly Krenz-Doe, P.G.,
Vice-Chairman, Houston

Rene D. Pena,
Sec./Treasurer, El Paso

Y. Lynn Clark, P.G.
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Shiela B. Hall, P.G.
Lubbock

Glenn R. Lowenstein, P.G.
Houston

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