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# RPG News

A Publication of the Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists

July 1999

Mississippi State Board  
of  
Registered Professional  
Geologists  
ph/fax 601 354-6370  
P.O. Box 22742  
931 Hwy 80 West  
Jackson, MS 39225-2742

web <http://geology.deq.state.ms.us/geologyreg>

## Board Members

### *At Large*

#### President

Charles T. Swann

### *Academia*

#### Vice President

Darrel W. Schmitz

### *Environmental*

John W. Green

### *Mining / Mineral*

#### *Extraction*

W. Lester Aultman

### *Government*

Rick L. Ericksen

## Advisory Committee

#### Chairman

Stephen L. Ingram

#### Vice Chairman

David Patrick

#### Secretary

Tommy Dunlap

Robin Buchannon

Del I Gann

Ron Jenkins

Harold Karges

Jim May

Pat Phillips

## New Board Officers Elected

Swann - President

Schmitz - V. President

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

CHARLES T. SWANN

#### **Awaiting Board Appointment**

The Board is currently awaiting the Governor's appointment to represent the Mining & Mineral Extraction Sector for the state. Mr. W. Lester "Les" Aultman, whose term was completed in June 1999, was appointed in 1997 to a 2 year term, serving on the first RPG Board for Mississippi. The Governor will appoint the next Mining & Mineral Extraction representative to a 4 year term, expiring in 2003. Names under consideration for the post are Les Aultman, Ron Jenkins, and Ed Hollingsworth. These three individuals were duly nominated and elected by the registrants of the state for consideration by the Governor for the post.

#### **Ericksen leaves Board**

In other Board matters, Rick L. Ericksen resigned from the Board in June, having advised the Board of his departure in May. Ericksen was appointed to the first Board in 1997 as Representative for the Government Sector, for a term to expire in 2001. During his tenure, he ably served as the Board's President. Reasons for his separation were given as "personal considerations". Rick leaves with distinction and will be sorely missed.

Nominees for the Board's Governmental post, which have been selected by the Board's Nominating Committee are :

- Maureen K. Corcoran, Natchez, MS
- Stephen L. Ingram, Jackson, MS
- Dr. James H. May, Vicksburg, MS

Additional nominations may be made to the Board in writing as per §73-63-9 (Mississippi

Code, Annotated 1972).

#### **Applications Status**

The Board continues processing the deluge of application packages which were received prior to the *grandfathering* deadline in December, 1998. The application review procedure is thorough and time consuming; however, only a few (about 70) applications remain to be processed. Missing reference letters are a common problem for many applicants whose files are currently incomplete.

#### **Joint Meeting with Alabama Board**

On June 10th, 1999, the Mississippi RPG Board attended a joint meeting with the Alabama Board of Geology in Tuscaloosa. Their meeting lasted 6 hours, covering issues which included ethics, reciprocity, and joint enforcement, of respective geologic registration laws.

#### **Reciprocity Initiated with GA Board**

The Mississippi RPG Board has signed a letter of understanding for reciprocity with the Georgia Board of Geologic Licensure. This is a culmination of several months work by both boards. Contact the Board for details.

#### **Status of the MOU**

##### **(Memorandum of Understanding) -**

In June, the RPG Board sent a letter to the PE/PLS Board in an attempt to re-start the process of developing an MOU between both boards. The PE/PLS Board responded by requesting a joint meeting to discuss the "generic" MOU instrument drafted by the RPG Board. The meeting was held in late June and it is anticipated that a mutually acceptable document will be forthcoming shortly.

**K'Ann Sheppard - part time staffer**

## Table of Contents

Ericksen Leaves the Board	front page
Reciprocity and MOU update	front page
Special Notice to Registrants	back page

The RPG Board has hired part-time staff member, K'Ann, to handle some of the daily administrative duties. For information concerning meeting dates, etc.; please call Kay at the Board's number (601) 354-6370 and/or leave a message.

**Web Page Information -**

The RPG Board will soon update its web page to reflect new information concerning the activities of the Board, meeting dates, a codified copy of the Geologists Practice Act of 1997, complete Rules and Regulations, Executive Summary of the law, and ASBOG (National Association of Boards of Geology) test dates and related information

<http://geology.deq.state.ms.us/geologyreg>

**Email address request -**

From the April RPG Newsletter, the Board wants your email address for each of you if you have one. In order to disseminate information more readily and certainly faster, we request that you email the following address so we may compile this additional data in the Board's database. Please send your email to -

[Rick\\_Ericksen@deq.state.ms.us](mailto:Rick_Ericksen@deq.state.ms.us)

Thanks for the help and cooperation concerning this matter.

**Charles Swann**

Charles T. Swann, President

## **Special Notice**

**Stamps and Embossers** — The company originally under contract for design and delivery of the RPG stamps and embossers was purchased by another company a few months ago. The new company that we are dealing with is running a little slow on getting these items out, as well as constraints related to state purchasing regulations which must be adhered to. Please bear with us.

**Fall ASBOG Test Date** set for September 17, 1999 with an August 17, 1999 deadline for payment of test fees, which must reach ASBOG by the deadline. Contact the Board for details concerning the exams.

**Ken Ruckstuhl**, Advisory Committee Member with Malcolm Pirnie, has been asked to head up a search committee to locate several items of equipment needed by the RPG Board. The list is as follows :

one (1) typewriter — need one of good quality, something like an IBM Selectrix

one (1) 4 drawer legal-size file "fire safe"

—

needed for RPG licensure records

If you have an extra typewriter or fire safe you'd like to donate, or if you would be willing to contribute funds toward these items, please contact Ken at (601) 352-7020.