WAPT Annual Meeting
Marquette University---October 27, 2007

High School Committee Report
Judy Schmidt, Oak Creek Senior High School (retired)

Highlights, 2007 Summer Meeting (Greensboro, NC)

Applications for the "Innovative Teaching Award" are due by November 1, 2007. It is usually a $500 award.

> The proposal should be creative, original, unique and represent a new approach to an old problem. It should impact a particular student group in a novel manner. It should perform a needed service to an underserved group while being cost effective. It should be easily adaptable to other ability levels, and generate interest and success with students. The proposal should be a new approach that others will want to use. It should be user friendly and connect school to external resources and incorporate current physics educational research.

See AAPT website for application and details. Because this reminder is so close to the application date, please think about applying for next year.

High School Committee Old Business: Work continues on the "New Teacher Handbook", Physics 1st website, High School Teaching Grant, "Role, Education and Qualifications of HS Physics Teachers" AAPT booklet, "AAPT Booklet on High School Labs", and "Standards". Review of the Physics Photo and Video Contest (see AAPT website for this year's winners).

The committee reviewed the Greensboro sessions and workshops and discussed sessions and workshops for the upcoming Baltimore meeting. The High School Committee will sponsor a "High School Physics Teacher Recognition Day" at the Baltimore meeting.

There is a new High School Committee Website at http://www.highschoolphysics.org/ (Upon checking for the website on Wed. 10/24, it didn't seem to be up and working.)

***See additional page for AAPT projects and resources taken from the AAPT website.

Excerpts from John Roeder's* open letter to AAPT High School Physics Teachers:
...As I hope you know, the AAPT Executive Office is now led by our new Executive Officer, Toufic Hakim. We chose Toufic because of our desire to enable AAPT to respond more to the needs of our members in a more agile manner and to make AAPT a stronger presence in the science education community. ....Toufic envisions establishing AAPT as the "one-stop shop" for physics education resources and recognizes that it takes all of us, volunteers and professionals, working together to fulfill that vision.

...AAPT will shortly be recruiting a second Senior Physics Fellow to focus on middle and high school programming. One of this fellow's goals is to develop "workshops for new school-teachers of physics or physical science in the mode of New Faculty workshops." Another aspect of AAPT Programs that will be of special interest to high school teachers is an Annual Symposium of Physics Education planned for each winter meeting. One topic that could be addressed at the symposia is "Physics First," about which the High School Committee recently completed the text of a pamphlet, which is soon to go to press.

Two other new developments that would be of special interest to high school teachers in AAPT are the establishment of a National Task Force on the Preparation of K-12 Physics and Physical Science Teachers, with AAPT taking leadership, and the phasing out of *The Announcer*, to be replaced by an Annual Report, a new, more frequent *Interactions*, and an expanded AAPT website. The intent here is to be able to disseminate information through the most appropriate channel in the most-timely fashion.

*John Roeder is AAPT High School Member-at-Large to the AAPT Executive Board

Question: Should we become more familiar with the work of the Teacher Preparation Committee?

AAPT homepage address: http://www.aapt.org

Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Schmidt, High School Rep.