

NOGS LOG



October 2008

Volume 49, Number 4

Upcoming Events and Activities

October 5-9 - GSA and GCAGS Joint Annual Meeting

In Houston. Go to www.geosociety.org for details.

October 13 - NOGS Luncheon - Rescheduled from September

*** At the Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome ***

Free validated parking in hotel garage

William R. Finley, Independent Geologist, will present

“Creole - Geology breaths new life into 1st Gulf of Mexico Oil Field.”

(See the September 2008 *LOG* or the NOGS website for Abstract and Biography)

HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN SUPERDOME ADMISSION:

Check with concierge or

front desk for location

Lunch served at 11:30am

with reservation \$30.00

without reservation \$35.00

Student Member with reservation Free

October 18 - NOGS Fall Field Trip

“The Baton Rouge Fault.” See page 7 for announcement.

November 8 - Super Volunteer Day

9:00am-Noon at City Park. See page 12 for announcement.

November 10 - NOGS Luncheon

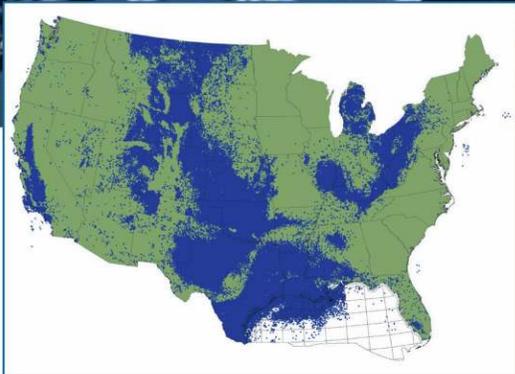
Guest speaker and topic not available at time of press.

Please check the NOGS website for updates.

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NOGS Office

Office Manager: Annette Hudson
 Office Hours: 8:30am – 3:30pm on Monday-Wednesday-Friday
 Tel: 504-561-8980 □ Fax: 504-561-8988
 E-mail: info@nogs.org □ Website: www.nogs.org
 The office is located at Suite 300, 810 Union Street, New Orleans, LA 70112.
 Correspondence and all luncheon reservations should be sent to the above address.
 Sent to press on October 3, 2008.



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E-mail

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ajme@chevron.com
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james.swaney@mms.gov
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504-593-7480

dbalcer@Chevron.com
rcosentino@tulane.edu
thgem@gmail.com
jennifer.connolly@shell.com
dcope@ankorenergy.com
mikef@wtoffshore.com
james.swaney@mms.gov
dreiter@eplweb.com
paul.post@mms.gov
klekamp@bellsouth.net
dpate@eustiseng.com
mike.a.fogarty@gmail.com
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epicou@bellsouth.net
prappold@gmail.com
abaker1006@aol.com
DGldthwt@aol.com
artjohnson51@hotmail.com
epicou@bellsouth.net
dcope@taylorenergy.com
Tom.bergeon@centuryx.com
carolbrooney@aol.com
Michael.Gallagher@enipetroleum.com

NOGS LOG STAFF

Editor	Michael D. Miner
Editor-Elect	Clare Falcon
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cfalcon2@new-orleans.oilfield.slb.com
paul.post@mms.gov
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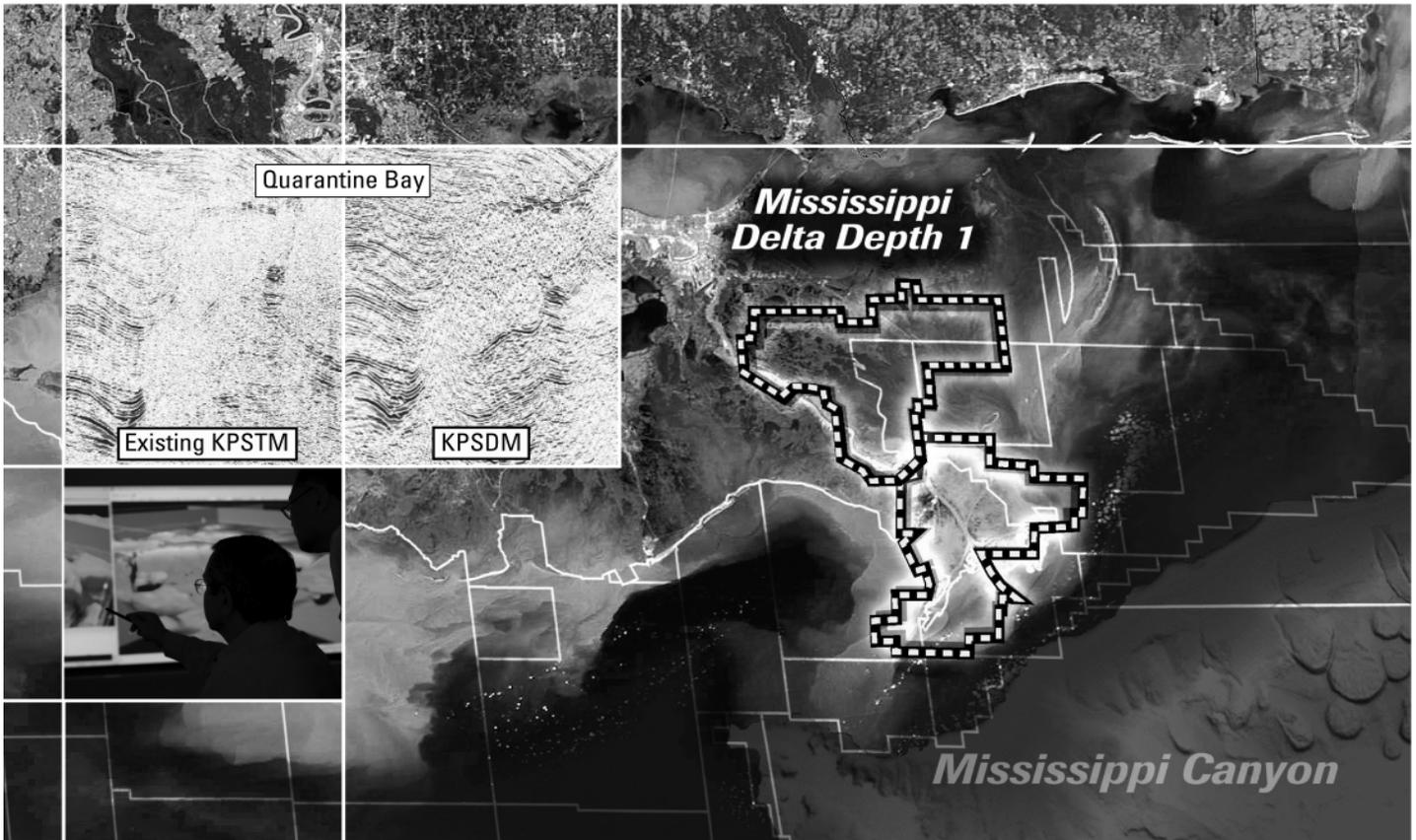
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from the President

Today is September 1 and I am writing the first part of this month's President's Letter from the 7th floor of the Holiday Inn in Birmingham, Alabama. I'm waiting to get back to New Orleans while on return route from Michigan along with plenty of Gustav evacuees from Louisiana. At least the view of the lower Ridge and Valley Province from my room is rewarding. On my trek to Michigan I visited three "Sacred" family sites in the Tuscarawas Valley, Ohio. I was surprised to find them on an insert on page 28 of the September "Explorer".

NOGS was host for the August 12th PTTC seminar. Dr. Earnest Mancini gave an excellent presentation on "Sequence Stratigraphy and Its Application to Petroleum Exploration in Onshore Mesozoic Salt Basins, Gulf Coastal Plain". Thanks to Art, Dr. Goddard, and Annette and special thanks to Shell Oil for the use of their auditorium. This event could have been better attended, especially with possible applications to understanding deepwater eastern Gulf stratigraphy.

On August 16th NOGS had five displays for "FETCH" at the New Orleans Children's Museum. This event was sponsored by PIPE (Petroleum Industry Promoting Education) under the auspices of API's Delta Chapter. Thanks to Art and Tom for the use of their materials. Other volunteers included Mike Fein and Dave and Darby Reiter. There was an excellent turnout of children and parents. Several parents were "home schooling" and were impressed by the "Tapestry of Time and Terrain" map as well as the other geological displays.

Being a volunteer is a rewarding way to spend part of your weekend. An important opportunity to help your Society and profession will be coming up in the form of the AAPG 2010 Convention here in New Orleans. Tom Hudson is organizing his committees

and can use your support now, also contact Art Johnson for the EMD.

A lot of effort is going into the October 18th Field Trip. This trip promises to be well-organized and informative. Get your reservations in early and if you would like to nominate a K-12 Earth Science Teacher to attend, please do so soon. Our appreciation to Kathy Hagggar, Tom Klekamp, Woody Gagliano, Dick McCollough, Clare Falcon and others.

The new budget has been approved. Membership renewals are running a little behind so get those forms into the NOGS Office. We have been averaging a little over 500 members during the last few years.

According to the 1972 Directory we had over 1200 members:

Consultants-----	145
Chevron -----	151
Shell-----	113
Gulf-----	44
Texaco-----	100
Mobil-----	54
Exxon-----	94
Amoco-----	79

Given what has happened to the hydrocarbon industry here, we are doing quite well.

We can save NOGS nearly \$1700 by not using credit cards to pay registration and by getting your LOG on the web-site as opposed to first class mailings.

With regrets, our September 8th meeting was cancelled. The September luncheon talk and scholarship recognitions will be moved to the October luncheon. Just as we did for post-Katrina scholarship recipients, the student's checks have been mailed to their universities.

Bill

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***NOGS Fall Field Trip –
October 18th 2008
The Baton Rouge Fault
... and its Friends
from New Orleans to Baton Rouge***

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1998 IR aerial

Trip Date: October 18th 2008

Leaders: Woody Gagliano (Coastal

***Environments), Kathy Haggan (Riparian, Inc.), Rick McCulloch (LGS), and
Arville Touchet (Bayou Cajun Environmental)***

Time: 7:30a.m. depart UNO geology parking lot and return about 8:30p.m. the same day.

Cost: \$100 per person. Includes bus transportation, snacks/drinks, box lunch, dinner, and boat ride to Cypress Flats at Alligator Bayou in Prairieville.

Reservations Required - Limited Seating - First Come Basis

30 NOGS Members/Guests/Spouses

Contact Annette at NOGS Office ASAP to reserve your seat
at 504-561-8980 or fax 504-561-8988

(20 seats reserved for teachers and students sponsored through the generosity of members and friends of NOGS.)

What you'll see and hear on the road:

The Baton Rouge Fault and many of its friends are now easily identified in aerial photography, satellite imagery, and LIDAR elevation data. However, this trip provides an opportunity to see many faults at various locations along the north shore between Slidell and Baton Rouge up close. Since faults in southeast Louisiana are relatively subtle features, their zones of deformation tend to be important clues to their presence and activity. We'll see the signs and expressions of faults at various locations - Hwy 11 bridge, Goose Point, Maurepas vicinity, Livingston Parish Gum Swamp, through Baton Rouge streets, and Ascension Parish's Spanish Lake Basin. While we roll along the road we'll talk about the faults and their contributions in shaping Louisiana from the Jurassic to the present, how and where the ancient native Americans followed the Mississippi River (whose courses likely changed by fault movements), earthquakes and the seismically quiet mega slumps of listric faults, the plant communities that react to the gradual change in slope and subsidence of the land, and the urban impact of geo-hazards (a/k/a faults) to levees, schools, and infrastructure. We'll have dinner at Alligator Bayou and travel on the Alligator Queen to see Cypress Flats, a fault lake within the Spanish Lake Basin.

This trip will provide teachers and students with a chance to see the landscape of Louisiana through the eyes of geologists. Another great benefit to this trip will be to meet, and perhaps to mentor, a teacher or a student who is interested in geology.

We offer a special thanks to all who sponsored the teachers and students who will join us in seeing "The Baton Rouge Fault and its Friends."



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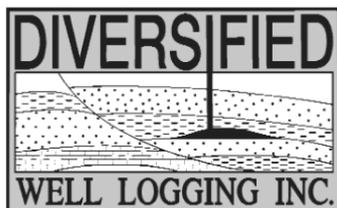
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2009	William Whiting	Consultant	504-947-8495	bootscon@aol.com
2009a)	Nancye Dawers	Tulane University	504-862-3200	ndawers@tulane.edu
2009a)	David Cooke	MMS	504-736-2609	david.cooke@mms.gov
2011	Tom Hudson	Chevron	985-773-7163	tom.hudson@chevron.com
2011	Edward B. Picou, Jr.	Consultant	504-529-5155	epicou@bellsouth.net
2011a)	Brenda Reilly	Energy Partners Ltd.	504-799-4811	breilly@eplweb.com
2011a)	Robert Rooney	Century Exploration	504-832-3777	Robert.rooney@centuryx.com

New NOGS
Members
August 2008

Corine K. Armstrong
LSU-Student
Dept of Geology & Geophysics
E 235 Howe-Russell
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
225-354-6435

Aaron B. Bradley
U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers
Const. Manager/Engineer
P O Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267
504-862-2439

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Max H Durham & Assoc. Inc.
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44052 Easy St.
Hammond, LA 70403
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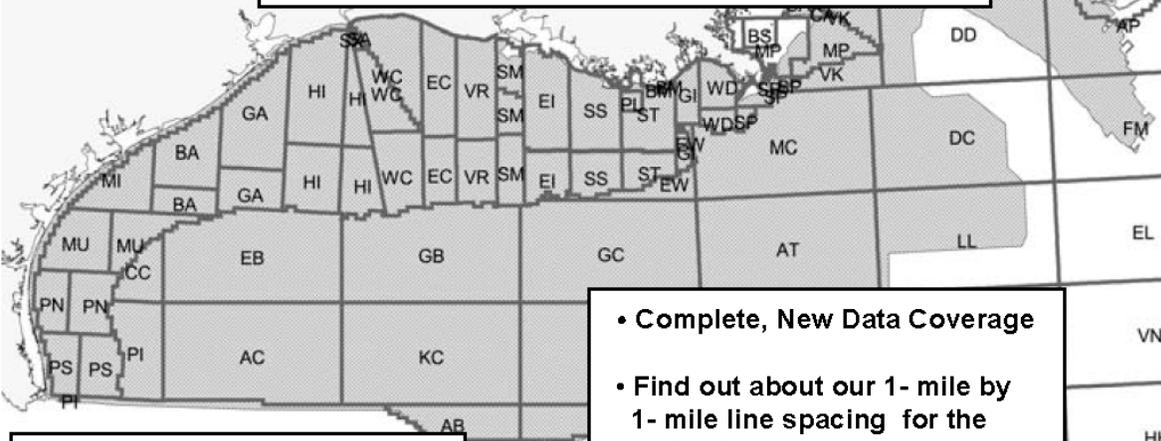
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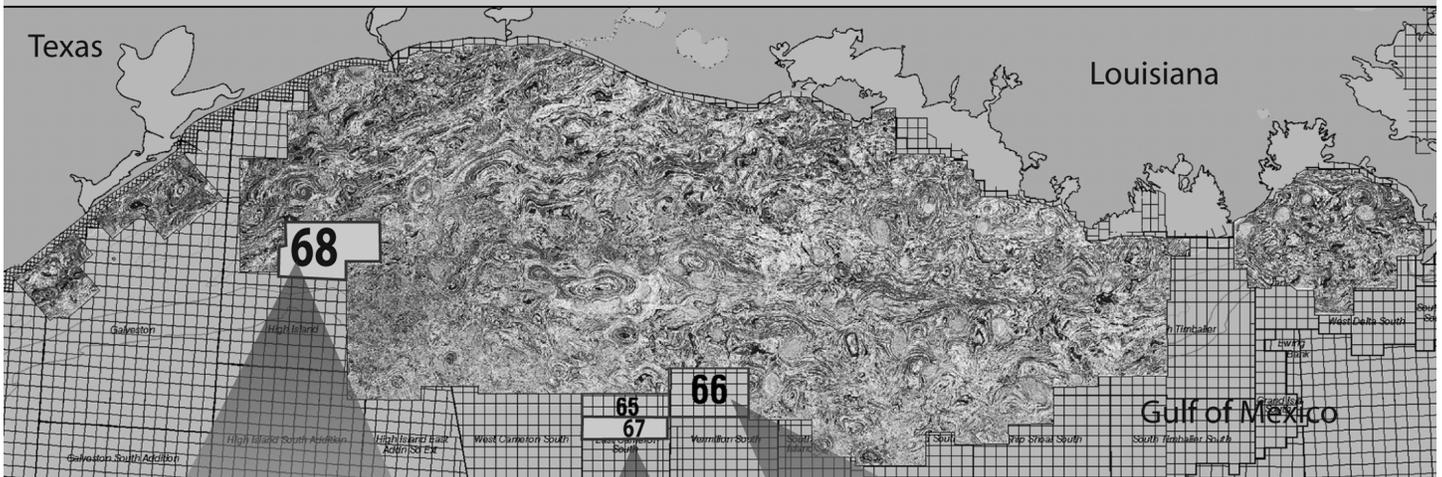
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November 8 – Super Volunteer Day 9:00am-Noon at City Park

Volunteers are invited to meet in front of Storyland at 9:00 a.m. Work assignments and tools will be handed out at that time. Last year NOGS installed the lighting for Celebration in the Oaks. This year work may include pruning, raking, cutting grass, picking up trash, and planting. Please dress appropriately for the season and bring your own garden gloves, sunscreen, and insect repellent, along with any food and drink you wish to consume. Since we don't know how many volunteers will show up each week, please bring yard tools if you have them. No chainsaws!



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The Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies with the Gulf Coast Section of SEPM, the Geological Society of America, the Soil Science Society of America, the American Society of Agronomy, and the Crop Science Society of America have joined together to highlight and stimulate discussions in areas of common interest across the diversity of disciplines and organizations represented by our members. Areas of mutual interest include energy, water resources, education, and earth systems, to name a few. The meeting is hosted by the Houston Geological Society.

The GCAGS president's reception has been expanded this year and it is a ticketed event to get a good head count. However, the cost is modest and the benefits are great.

Important Links found on <https://www.acsmeetings.org/>:

Online Meeting Registration
Online Housing Form
Joint Events
Field Trips
Tours
Houston Information
International Travel

Important Dates & Deadlines

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closes 14 July 2008

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closes 2 September 2008

Childcare Registration
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\$3,000 Cash Award

LSU- Kyle Michael Metz

Kyle Metz grew up in Round Rock, Texas, where the technology industry was booming. Due to the tech industry's influence on the area, his father and nearly everyone's father he knew were electrical engineers. By growing up surrounded by engineers and attending a top-ranked school, he graduated from high school with a strong math and science background. When applying for college, he decided to enter Texas Tech University to pursue an engineering degree because he knew it was something he liked and that he could easily find employment after graduation. During his first semester at Texas Tech, he took a Physical Geology class that sparked his interest, but it was not until the instructor presented his work that entailed structural mapping of an ophiolite complex in Tierra del Fuego, Chile, that Kyle became excited about a career in geology.

James Allen Gilreath Memorial

\$3,000 Cash Award

Tulane - Kristen Butcher

Kristen Butcher is originally from Metairie, Louisiana and is currently a M.S. candidate at Tulane University. She received her B.S. in marine biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz where her studies focused on the ecology of rocky intertidal communities. Her current research interests are in the areas of coastal land loss and sea level rise. Kristen is presently working on her thesis, which investigates the impacts sea level rise may have on sulfur cycling within marsh substrate. She plans to graduate in May 2009 and pursue a career in coastal restoration.

Richard W. "Dick" Boebel Memorial

\$3,000 Cash Award

UNO- Sachidananda Mishra

Sachi was born and raised in Raghunathpur, India. In 2000 he completed his B.S. degree in Geology and graduated with distinction from Berhampur University in Orissa, India as the highest ranked honor student among all University honor students. In 2002 he graduated from Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, India, with a M.S. degree in Geology and in 2005 finished a M.S in Ocean Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Madras. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University of New Orleans in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Sachi's research, under the direction of Dr. Deepak Mishra, is focused on combining remote sensing techniques to more fully document the development of hypoxia zones. His long term goal is to enter into academia as a professor where he intends to combine his love of teaching and research with his interests in geological processes.

2007-2008 NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships

SENIOR

Jules & Olga Braunstein Memorial

\$2,500 Cash Award

LSU - Matthew Clark

Matthew Clark is the son of Reino and Wendy Clark. Born in Oklahoma City, his family moved from Oklahoma to Texas and finally Louisiana where Matthew graduated from Fontainebleau High School in 2005. Matthew's father is a petroleum geologist, so he grew up surrounded by rocks and the great outdoors. He grew up hiking through the badlands of New Mexico but never considered actually studying geology until his first semester at Louisiana State University. Matthew has just finished his junior year at LSU, where he has done exceptionally well. Besides geology, he is also interested in coastal morphodynamics and anthropology. He enjoys fieldwork and attended field camp in Southern Utah during the summer of 2007. At field camp he worked with the Triassic Moenkopi Formation and mapped Sevier thrusting. Matthew is interested in shallow marine depositional systems and looks forward to attending graduate school.

Tulane - James A. Menking

Born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas, James Menking supposes that his affinity for the geological and environmental sciences was in part driven by a desire to discover the wonders of the lands that lie outside of the vast, flat tracts of central Texas. Having harbored a love for the outdoors through middle school, high school, and now college, it is hardly surprising that James has not looked back since discovering the field of geology at Tulane University. And, of course, what began as an outdoor-adventure-craved "testing of the waters" has turned into an incredibly rewarding academic endeavor. While his commitment and passion for academics have grown since beginning at Tulane, his views concerning the world and our purpose in it have similarly followed suit. He now finds himself resolved to use the geological sciences to benefit the world in some way. In addition to geology, he has a personal and academic interest in Latin American literature, culture, people, and studies in general. He hopes to be able to combine his interests in both geology and Latin American studies in his future work.

Tulane - Josie Nevitt

Josie grew up in Santa Cruz, California and developed an interest in geology during family and school camping trips in areas such as Mammoth, Yosemite, the Green River in Utah, and the Grand Canyon. She graduated from Aptos High School in 2005 and attended UC Davis for a quarter when Tulane closed its doors following Hurricane Katrina. In Fall 2007, Josie attended the University of Sydney and plans to graduate from Tulane in 2009.

UNO - Julie Torres

Julie Torres was born and raised in Kenner, Louisiana, where she attended Bonnabel High School and participated in numerous athletics and student organizations. After her high school graduation Julie decided to attend the University of New Orleans and was soon overwhelmed with the travel possibilities presented by the UNO involvement in the National Student Exchange program. Since enrolling at UNO Julie has spent two semesters studying geology at the University of Hawaii and a semester studying geology at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California. Julie has always loved science and the outdoors, and her travels to coastal universities while in the exchange program have reinforced her interests in coastal and marine geology. She is currently looking into graduate school opportunities and is intent on getting a Ph.D., hopefully from a university in Australia or New Zealand.

2007-2008 NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships

JUNIOR

Jules & Olga Braunstein Memorial

\$2,000 Cash Award

UNO - Kathryn Purifoy

Kathryn Purifoy was born in Oxford, England but moved to Monticello, Florida at the age of four. It was in this karst-rich region where she first learned some basic geologic principles because she and her sister were forbidden from exploring the local sinkholes. Kathryn graduated with an Associate in Arts degree from Tallahassee Community College in 2002. During a vacation to New Orleans she fell in love with the city and surroundings. She moved to New Orleans less than a year before the 2005 hurricanes and relocated with her son to Westwego after the storms. She is currently working toward a B.S. with a concentration in Coastal Science and Restoration from the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Kathryn enjoys exploring the bayous of coastal Louisiana, weekend trips to the local fish markets and plans on applying her degree credentials toward maintaining and improving this beautifully historical city and the surrounding areas.

NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships

The NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships are granted each year to those students who have demonstrated exceptional talent in or commitment to their geologic studies and projects. It is the policy of the Memorial Foundation to posthumously name these scholarships after those members whose own extensive contributions to the profession have been particularly praiseworthy.

***Lee Hilliard Meltzer** for expertise in oil and gas appraisal and exploration, as well as manifold and unstinting support of and service to - from AAPG to NOGS - the region's professional geologic organizations.*

***James Allen "Al" Gilreath** for his work as chief tool developer of down-hole instrumentation and 'pattern' interpretation, earning him - world-wide - the title, 'Mr. Dipmeter'.*

***Richard W. "Dick" Boebel** for his outstanding abilities as an oil and gas finder and in being a unique individual who was most generous of his time and talent to the industry, his peers, and in his support of many professional organizations .*

***Jules Braunstein** gained wide recognition in the oil and gas industry not only for exceptional technical expertise but also as an exacting editor. His long career was conspicuous for selfless devotion - and as carried on by his surviving wife, **Olga**, in her bequeathal of the residue of their estate to NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarship Fund.*

NOGS Kick Off Party













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Dear HOD Delegates and Alternates:

You are no doubt aware that AAPG has an ongoing membership drive. Are we actively recruiting for AAPG? 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 low.

Complete details of the program, as well as the list of current recruiters, are available on the AAPG website: <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. As mentioned in the June issue of *The Delegates' Voice*, I would like to help AAPG's Recruitment, Reward and Recognition program and continue the grass-roots membership initiative within the House of Delegates, started by Marty Hewitt, past Chair. The concept 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. The Delegate will also be a conduit for providing sponsor names and streamlining the membership process. 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. 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.

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

Sincerely,

George R. Bole
Chairman, House of Delegates

GB/vb

South Louisiana and Offshore Exploration and Production Activity

- Western Gulf of Mexico Oil and Gas Lease Sale 207 was held in New Orleans on 20 August by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS). The sale attracted \$487,297,676 in high bids from 53 participating companies. MMS received 423 bids on 319 tracts. The sum of all bids received totaled \$607,134,968. The sale offered 3,412 tracts comprising approximately 18 million acres offshore Texas.

Comparisons between Sale 207 and Sale 204 in 2007 are shown below.

	<u>Sale 207</u>	<u>Sale 204</u>	<u>% Difference</u>
Tracts	319	358	(11)
Bids	423	282	50
High Bids (\$ MM)	487	289	68
Participating Companies	53	47	13

MMS Preliminary Sale Statistics showed the following:

The top five companies submitting the highest dollar amount of high bids for Sale 207:

Company	# High Bids Submitted	Sum High Bids Submitted (\$)
ExxonMobil Corp.	130	127,331,000
Chevron USA, Inc.	20	127,281,322
Statoil Gulf of Mexico, LLC	5	87,352,000
LLOG Exploration, Inc.	11	23,172,800
Shell Gulf of Mexico, Inc.	15	20,199,985

Comparing the two top bidders, Chevron exposed substantially more per tract (~\$6,364,066) than ExxonMobil (~\$979,469). Exxon appears to have been making more of a "play", while Chevron's bidding appears to have been prospect specific.

The top five companies submitting the highest number of high bids for Sale 207:

Company	# High Bids Submitted	Sum High Bids Submitted (\$)
ExxonMobil Corp.	130	127,331,000
Hess Corp.	22	14,162,407
Chevron USA, Inc.	20	127,281,322
Devon Energy Production Company, L.P.	20	6,671,461
Anadarko E&P Co., LP	19	14,806,839



Companies submitting the ten single highest bids in Sale 207:

Company	Protraction/ Block	Sum of Total Bids Submitted (\$)
Statoil Gulf of Mexico LLC	AC / 380	61,110,000
Chevron USA, Inc.	GB / 973	52,107,556
Chevron USA, Inc.	GB / 972	34,607,556
Statoil Gulf of Mexico LLC	AC / 424	22,332,000
Chevron USA, Inc.	AC / 775	20,121,217
Shell Gulf of Mexico, Inc.	AC / 771	11,999,999
Eni Petroleum US, LLC	KC / 580	8,103,115
LLOG Exploration, Inc.	HI / 169	8,012,000
ConocoPhillips Co.	KC / 146	6,200,110
LLOG Exploration, Inc.	HI / A 7	6,012,000

- **Golden Gate Petroleum** on 25 August advised that the Jumonville #1 at Bullseye Prospect, Iberville Parish, Louisiana, had on 21 August reached its revised MTD of 12,440 feet, which is estimated to be 80 feet below the base of the primary objective in the *Miogyp* sand. Because of high pressure conditions in the borehole from the *Miogyp* sands and surrounding shales, the decision was made to run and cement a production liner. This was completed on Saturday 23 August. Cased hole logs were to have been run 26 August. Work also continued on installing completion equipment in preparation for production testing the well.

Preliminary data from mud logging indicated a reservoir sand, estimated to be between 30 and 35 feet thick, was encountered in the *Miogyp* objective. This reservoir thickness is in line with pre-drilling expectations, and will hopefully be confirmed by logs.

During drilling operations significant amounts of light oil were observed in the mud pits and highly elevated gas readings were recorded. The general consensus is that the *Miogyp* reservoir is a predominantly oil reservoir with estimated bottom hole pressure of over 10,000 psi.

While preliminary, this information provides a strong indication of a commercial discovery. Further confirmation of sand thickness, BHP, flow rates and assessment of potential reserves will require data from logging and flow testing. The company and its partners remain cautious until a full evaluation can be completed. Golden Gate Petroleum Ltd (43.33% WI) is the operator of the Jumonville #1 well. Partners are Modena Resources Limited (15.00% WI), Pantheon Resources PLC (15.00% WI), Eastern Advisors (20.00% WI), and Nuenco (6.67% WI).

The Jumonville # 1 well targeted three objectives (*Camerina*, *Miogyp* and *Cib Haz*), with independent traps, defined by new, proprietary 3D seismic data. Total reserves for these objectives were initially estimated (P50) to be 12.5 million barrels of oil and 33 BCF of gas.

The areal extent of the *Miogyp* and *Cib Haz* reservoir sands were reportedly clearly delineated by seismic where thicker than 20 feet. The *Miogyp* and *Cib Haz* sands are high-quality reservoirs with porosity ranging from 24-30% and permeability of 300-1000 mD.

The initial location offsets a previously drilled well that demonstrated 50 feet of *Miogyp* sands on logs, but was not completed due to mechanical difficulties encountered in attempting to reach a deeper objective.

- Paul Post



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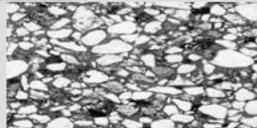
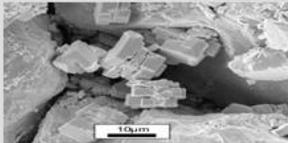
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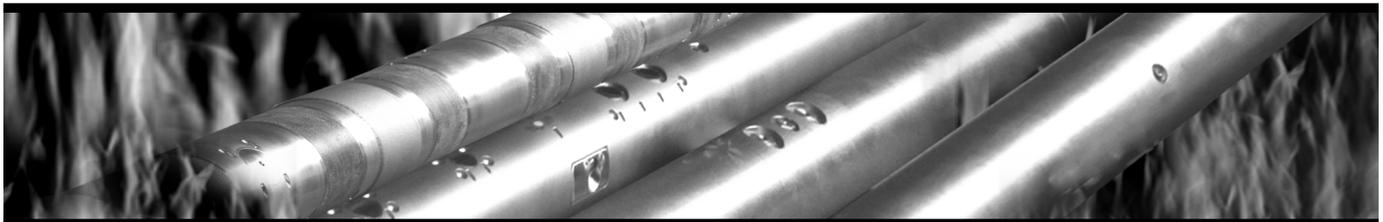
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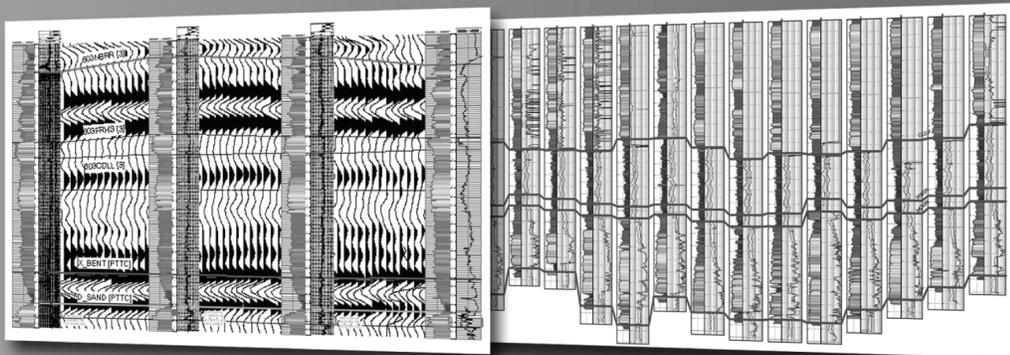
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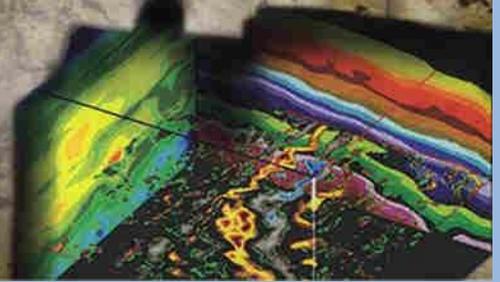
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