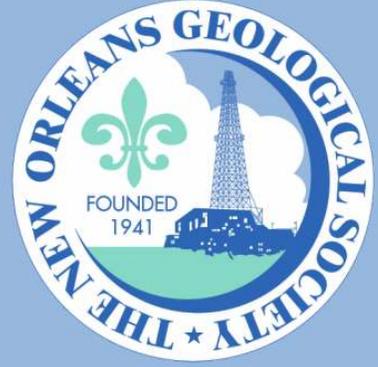


NOGS LOG



August 2010

Volume 51, Number 2

Upcoming Events and Activities

August 2 - NOGS Luncheon

*** At the Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome ***
\$2.00 validated parking in hotel garage

Guest speaker Arthur Johnson, Hydrate Energy International, will present
"Recent Discoveries in South Louisiana Fields Rejuvenate Production."

(See page 7 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

August 18-19 - 14th Annual Deepwater Technical Symposium

At the Hilton Riverside Hotel. See announcement on page 17.

September 13 - NOGS Kick Off Luncheon

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome. Activities include Foundation Scholarship
Awards and introduction of New Orleans Geological Auxiliary Officers –
Spouses and Significant Others are welcome.

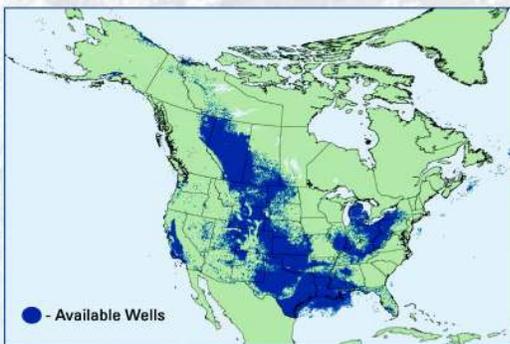
September 12-15 - AAPG 2010 International Conference & Exhibition

Calgary, AB CANada. See short courses and field trips information on page 14.

October 10-15 - GCAGS 2010 Convention

60th Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX.
Check the "NOGS website" for updated information and see ad on page 19.

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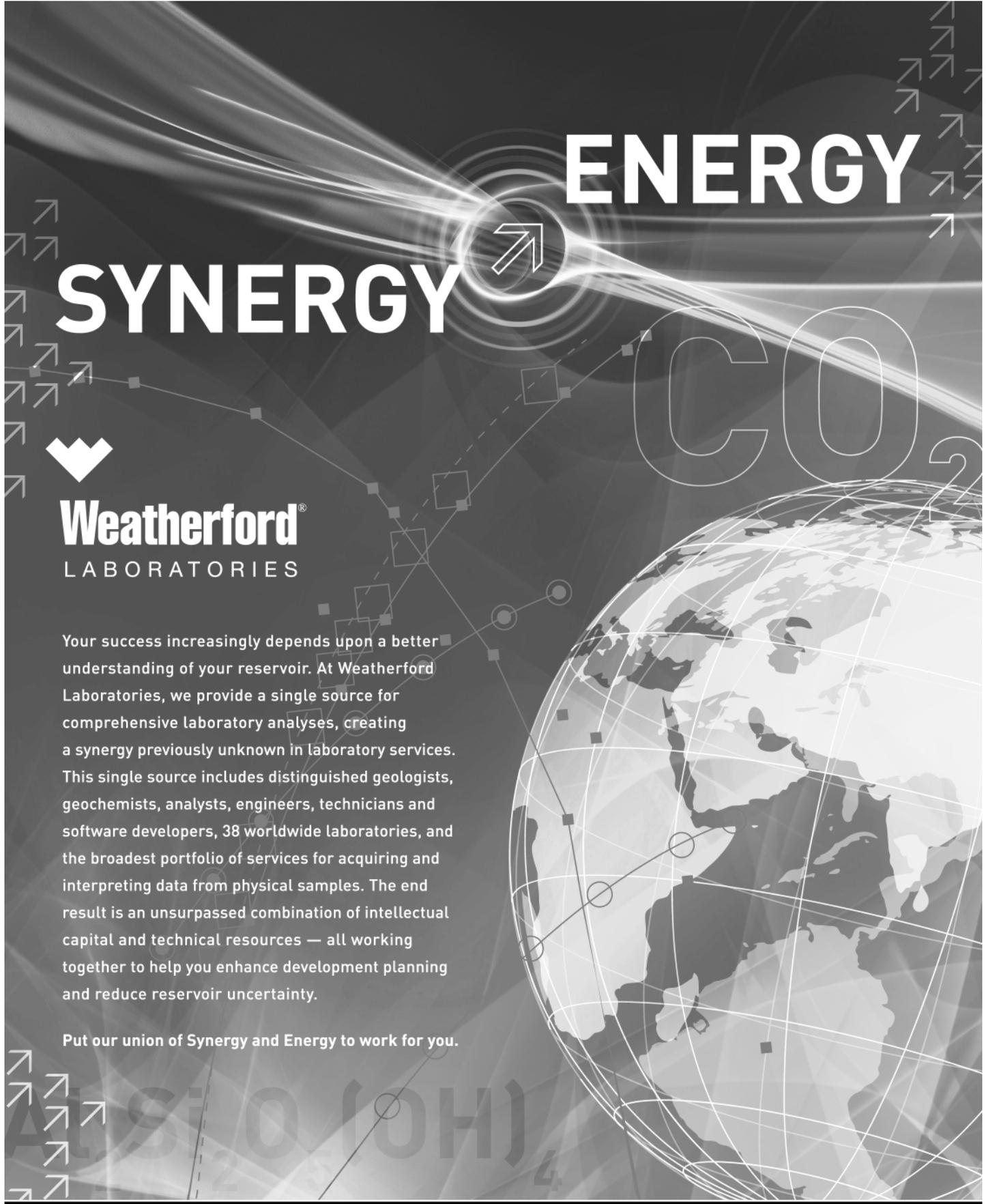
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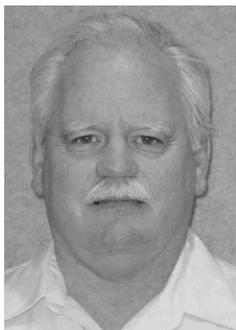
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from the President

As I write this month's President's Letter (mid June), BP's Maconda well is still spewing oil out of its "containment" cap, spreading out far and wide, fouling marshes, beaches, and the lives of thousands of people who make a living in the Gulf of Mexico. It will take many months, probably years, to clean up the mess and make everyone's life whole again. It will also take a long time for the overall petroleum industry to regain the trust of the general public as an environmentally responsible extractor of natural resources that are critically vital to the economic health of the U.S. Despite the bad rap that the industry has taken in the media lately, I for one am proud to call myself a Petroleum Geologist, and I hope all the rest of you fellow petroleum geoscientists will continue to do the same. The Maconda disaster is definitely a wake up call for the petroleum industry in terms of both improving worker safety and mitigating risk of a major spill event. Many improvements in how we conduct exploration and production are due to be implemented during the continuing deepwater drilling moratorium, and I hope that all of my fellow geoscientists survive what may be a rather difficult time in our industry. Keep the faith.

Because of the Maconda incident, an upcoming event here in New Orleans will likely be one of the best attended and perhaps controversial industry meetings this year. The 14th Annual Deepwater Technical Symposium is a 2-day event scheduled for the Hilton Riverside Hotel on August 18 & 19. Two concurrent sessions each day will address the latest technological issues concerning Geoscience, Regulatory/HSE, various types of Production and Reservoir Engineering, and alternative energy sources. Registration and additional information can be obtained at: www.deepwaternola.org.

Recently, La Senate Bill 788, the "Louisiana Professional Geoscientist Practice Act," concerning professional registration of geoscientists, passed both the House and Senate and is awaiting final approval of minor amendments before being signed into law by Governor Jindal. The bill requires registration of all geoscientists who perform any work in the public purview and is not required for anyone doing work strictly for a private company. The bill requires all registrants to pass a written examination to become a licensed professional geoscientist although there will be a grandfathering period until the end

of 2011 for qualified geoscientists to avoid having to take the test. The new "Louisiana Board of Professional Geoscientists" will consist of 9 members, 7 of which will be selected by the governor from lists of nominees submitted by 5 different geological and engineering societies in Louisiana, including NOGS. Registration and annual fees are yet to be determined. Both Texas and Mississippi have enacted similar professional registration laws in the past. Let the NOGS Board know if you may want to serve on this board.

Next month's luncheon meeting should prove to be a little different than usual. Instead of having the annual NOGS Kickoff Party at a restaurant or someone's house in late September, the NOGS Board has decided to have the event at the monthly meeting. The installation of the new NOGS Board will be combined with our annual awards ceremony and the awarding of NOGS Memorial Foundation Board scholarships. In addition, we will have the typical sumptuous luncheon buffet, and we are trying to arrange for an open bar. Come meet and greet the new NOGS BOD, annual awardees, and deserving student scholarship winners.

As I mentioned last month, I will be leaving New Orleans soon to take a transfer assignment with Eni Petroleum in Houston. As a result, the current Vice President Rick Kear will take my place as NOGS President around the first of August. Fortunately, as Martha Stewart might say, "This is a good thing." Rick is the Principal Geologist with Schlumberger Well Services here in New Orleans and is one of the best petrophysical/geological interpreters of well log data in the Gulf Coast. He organizes and runs numerous geological field trips and seminars each year for industry participants. I've known Rick for over 20 years, worked with him on many projects, and I know he will bring a very strong moral and ethical well-being to the NOGS Presidency. Of course, he will be at a slight disadvantage without the benefit of having served first as President-Elect last year as I did. So, give him all the support you can, and everything will turn out great.

As for me, I will always be a NOGS member no matter where I work or end up retiring. I've thoroughly enjoyed all my past associations with NOGS members, officers,

--- continued on page 26 ---

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August 2 NOGS Luncheon Presentation

At the Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome

Recent Discoveries in South Louisiana Fields Rejuvenate Production

presented by

Arthur Johnson

Hydrate Energy International

ABSTRACT

In 1901 a well drilled into a south Louisiana rice field near Jennings sparked what would become a major world-class petroleum province. The oil and gas fields across the southern tier of parishes, encompassing the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources' Lafayette District, have been a mainstay in the production from Louisiana for decades.

With the decline in production over the years, many of these fields were abandoned or sold by the majors to smaller mid-cap or small-cap operators. Even today some fields continue to be operated by majors. In the late 90's 3-D seismic began to be acquired over many of these older fields. The results yielded new unseen compartments, faulting and in many cases, deeper objectives. An old trend was rejuvenated with new discoveries.

The increase is best documented from the online file system of the Louisiana Dept of

Conservation's SONRIS database. Using the SONRIS data, a technical study group of the New Orleans Geological Society has highlighted over forty rejuvenated fields throughout the Lafayette District. We can now show you several cases where the results are quite dramatic. The purpose of the NOGS study is to produce a field studies volume documenting at least two dozen of these recent discoveries. Local companies have used field studies volumes as a successful exploration tool. The current project is well along the path to completion and will prove a resource for exploration.

This presentation will highlight the stories of several of these unique re-discoveries, including Fresh Water Bayou, Ramos, Stella and Pine Prairie fields, and how they fit into the larger scope of rejuvenated fields in South Louisiana. It will also briefly highlight the story of carrying out a large field studies volume.

BIOGRAPHY

Art Johnson is President and Chief of Exploration for Hydrate Energy International (HEI) and is engaged in energy consulting in the U.S. and throughout the world. Prior to forming HEI in 2002, Art was a geologist with Chevron for 25 years. Art has a B.S. degree from Humboldt State University, with graduate study at LSU.

Art is a Past-President of New Orleans Geological Society. He has advised the U.S. Congress and the White House on energy issues since 1997, and has served on a federal committee advising the Secretary of Energy since 2001, chairing the committee from 2001 to 2006. He has an on-going

role coordinating the research efforts of industry, universities, and government agencies. Art has been appointed as a Lead Analyst for the "Global Energy Assessment," an international project supported by the World Bank, U.N. organizations, and national governments. He has published over 60 papers and articles, along with several books. Art's recent publications include Economic Geology of Natural Gas Hydrate, Alternative Energy and Fuels Technology, and "AAPG Memoir 89". Articles in press include topics on energy conversion, global resource estimation, and the geology of Mars.

THE LUNCHEON RESERVATION DEADLINE IS JULY 28 - CONTACT THE NOGS OFFICE

“And Looking Ahead...”

The next NOGS Kick Off Luncheon will be held on September 13. Activities include Foundation Scholarship Awards and introduction of New Orleans Geological Auxiliary Officers – Spouses and Significant Others are welcome. Contact the NOGS office to make your reservation.

2010 AAPG Convention & Exhibition Thank You!

NOGS wishes to thank its sponsors who generously donated a total of \$13,000 towards the success of “An Evening with America’s Greatest Generation.” The event was held at the National World War II Museum in conjunction with the 2010 AAPG Convention & Exhibition on Tuesday, April 13, 2010.

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The June luncheon was well attended. Bryan Stephens (right) gave his talk on “Basement Controls on Subsurface Geologic Patterns and Coastal Geomorphology across the Northern Gulf of Mexico: Implications for Subsidence and Coastal Restoration.”



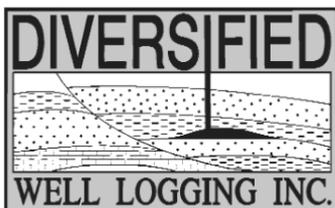
If you missed Bryan Stephens excellent presentation at the June Luncheon, you can access both his slides and audio via the “NOGS website.” On the Homepage, click on Articles and Presentations, then on the title. Be aware that it takes a while for the file to open.

*Ed Picou
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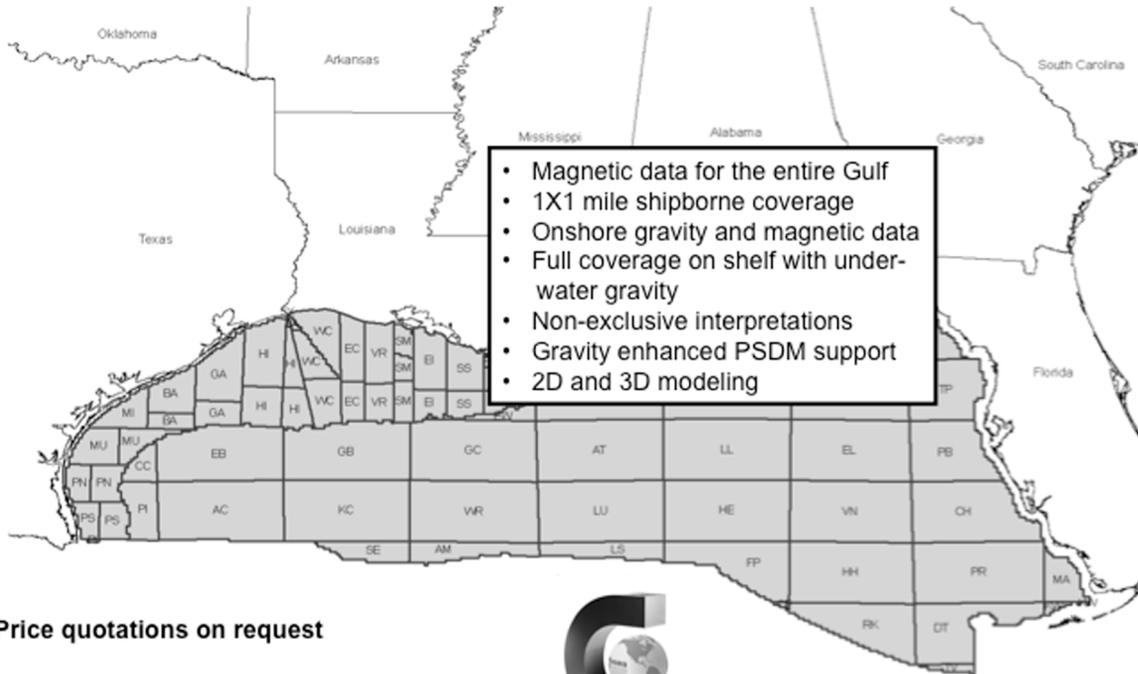
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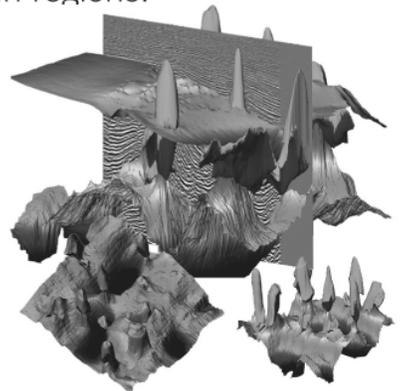
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Tour of Salt Dome Caprock Features, Winn Rock Quarry, Winn Parish, LA, J. R. Kyle and M. R. Ulrich (1993, 48 p.). **NOGS 09, \$10.00**

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Geology of the Ouachita Core Area, Vicinity of East Shore, Lake Ouachita, Garland Co., AR, W. W. Craig, J. K. Bellis, D. A. Danielsen, Jr., J. Bessler (1993, 39 p., geol. map). **NOGS 11, \$10.00**

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OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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Sunday, September 12

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Monday, September 13

- Technical Program and Posters
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- Plenary Session — Canada: Our Resources to International Exploration
- Management Forum — E&P Challenges in Complex Environments: From the Arctic to Deep Water
- Special Lecture — Burgess Shale Tales — Mud Volcanism and Chemosynthetic Communities on the Middle Cambrian Seafloor of Southeastern British Columbia
- Featured Speaker Luncheon — The Unconventional Future: Where Ideas and Technology Converge
- Student Reception
- James Joyce Pub Social Activity

Tuesday, September 14

- Technical Program and Posters
- Exhibition
- Business Forum — Unconventional Exploration and Development Geoscientists' Toolbox
- Special Lecture — Geology of a Major SAGD Bitumen Development — A Case Study from Long Lake, Northwestern Alberta
- Unconventionals Day Topical Luncheon — Global Challenges in Shale Reservoir Development
- Calgary Zoo Social Activity

Wednesday, September 15

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Gulf of Mexico spill

The Society of Petroleum Engineers wishes to express its concern for all those impacted by the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and support for our colleagues who are working to resolve this situation. Updates on the situation are provided at the following locations: BP, Deepwater Horizon Response and API Gulf spill.

For more information please go to: www.nogs.org/nogs_external_affairs.html

INFO TIDBITS

What would you get if you crossed a whale with a shark? Maybe something like *Leviathan melvillei*, a long-extinct, hypercarnivorous whale with teeth longer than any *T. rex* ever had. *L. melvillei* -- a newly described sperm whale named to honor Herman Melville, author of the whaling novel *Moby-Dick* -- lived between 12 million and 13 million years ago, says Olivier Lambert, a vertebrate paleontologist at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris. For more information visit: http://www.wired.com/wiredscience/2010/06/leviathan_melvillei/#ixzz0t11VqI6e

Morgan City, Louisiana (CNN) -- Behind each video feed of oil billowing out of the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico is a robot about the size of a minibus built at an industrial center in this Louisiana oil town. The robots, which go by the name Millennium, are constructed as if they're on a voyage to another world -- one that's "harsher than space," says Mark Campbell, the manufacturing manager at Oceaneering International's production site.

For more information visit: http://geology.about.com/gi/o.htm?zi=1/XJ/Ya&zTi=1&sdn=geology&cdn=education&tm=26&gps=133_527_974_586&f=00&tt=14&bt=1&bts=1&zu=http%3A//www.cnn.com/TECH/space/

Bacteria Could Help Clean Oiled Gulf Sands. Microbes could munch oil away from Gulf sands, but dispersants may have made the problem worse. A big effort is underway to scrub and cart away oil-soaked sands in the Gulf. Some researchers believe tiny microbes could do the job. Hurricane Alex recently pushed new sand over oil-covered sands in the region. For more information visit: http://geology.about.com/gi/o.htm?zi=1/XJ/Ya&zTi=1&sdn=geology&cdn=education&tm=561&gps=138_644_974_586&f=00&tt=14&bt=1&bts=1&zu=http%3A//dsc.discovery.com/news/news.html

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Front Row L-R: Robert Branson 1990-91, Donald Andrews 1963-64, Edward Picou 1992-93, Alfred Baker 1996-97, Tom Klekamp 2009-10

New Orleans Geological Auxiliary News

Thanks to all the volunteers who have done so much to make this past year a success and full of many memorable moments. To our Board Members and others who have offered their homes and time in Chairing and Co-chairing events and luncheons, we extend our appreciation. Thanks to Trez and Jim Zotkiewicz for providing their home for our Spring Social, and Joan and Bob Sylvester for the NOGA Coffee/Luncheon Social. We appreciate your willingness to open your homes for our benefit, giving us an opportunity to socialize.

We are so very grateful to Linda Peirce for volunteering for two years to be our fearless leader. You were a great President, and a member who is always willing to do whatever it takes to help out. What would we have done without you? Thank you is an understatement.

Now I introduce to you, our new "Pres" Jean Jones. Jean was born and raised in Long Island, NY. In her adult years, Jean moved to Houston, and in the year 2000 she married Charlie Jones with Taylor Energy. Jean was no stranger to the oil business. Long before Charlie captured her heart, she worked for years in Houston with several different oil companies as a Division Order Analyst.

Susie Baker

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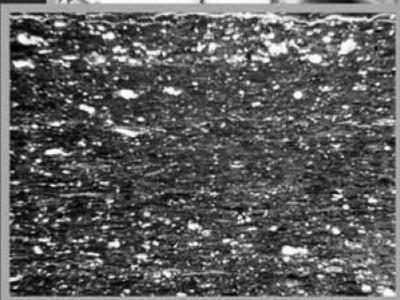
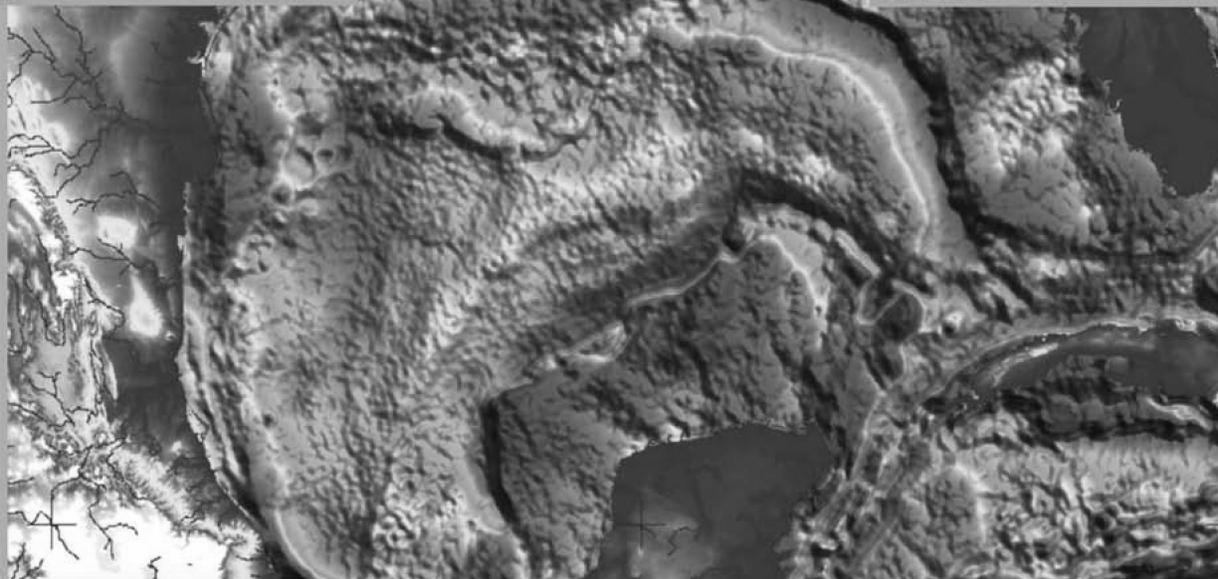
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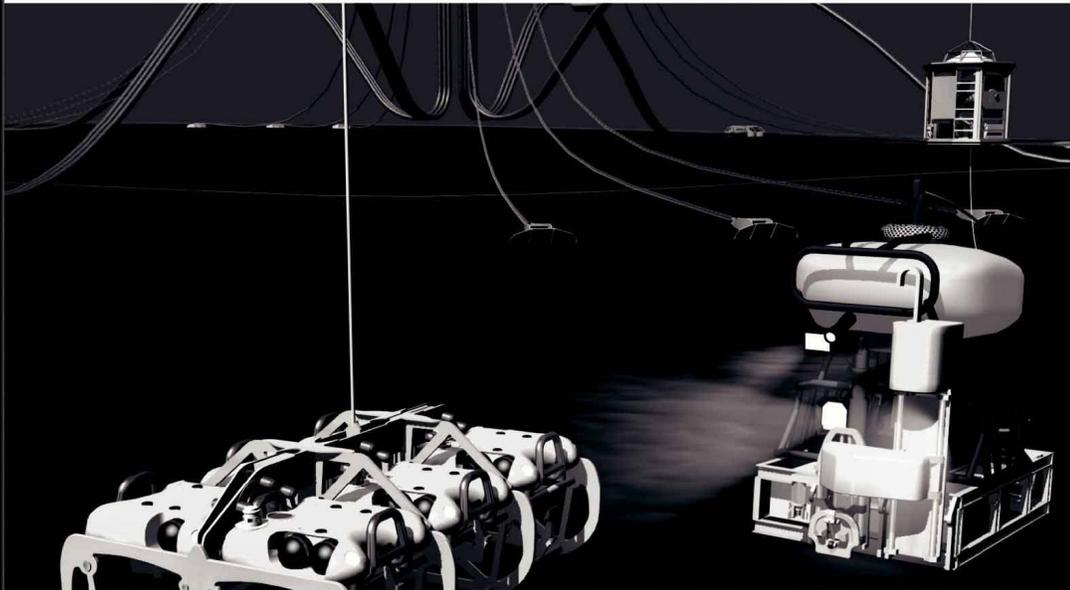
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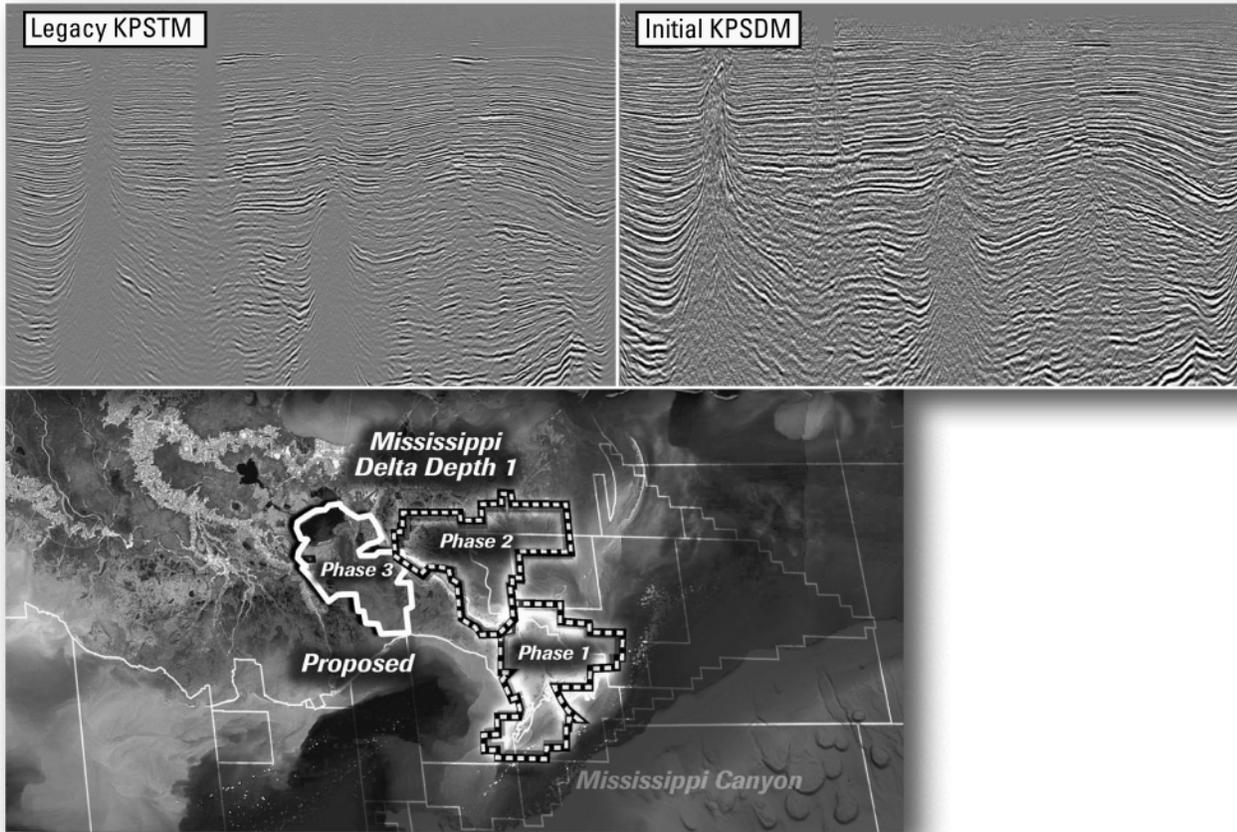
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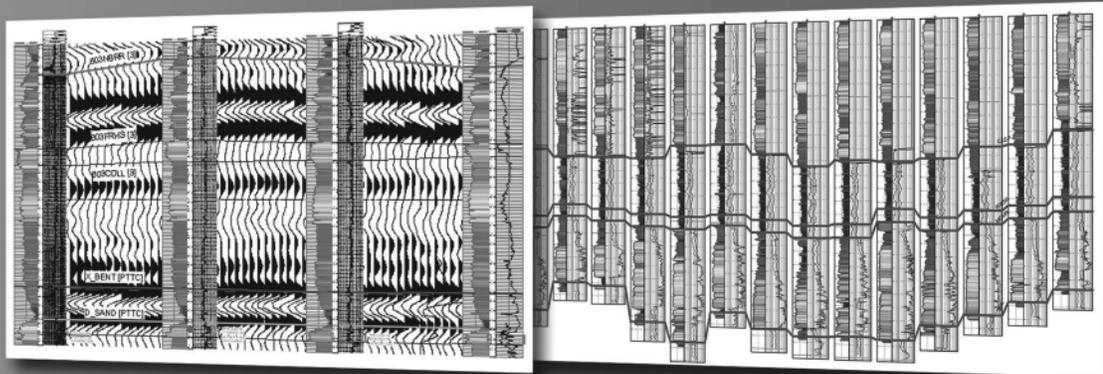


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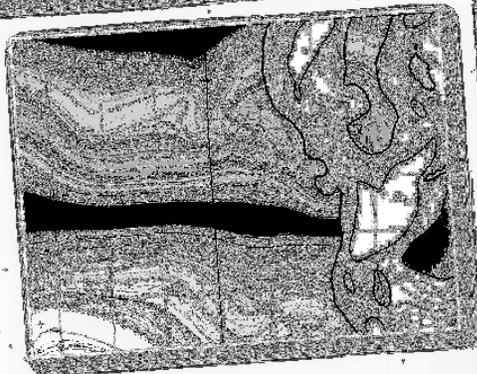
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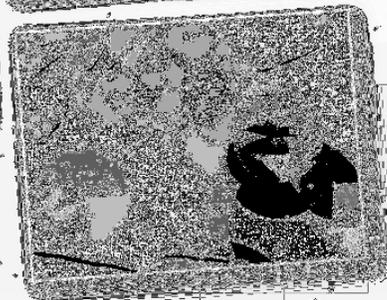


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President's Letter (continued from page 5)

committee members, and NOGA. In Houston, I will continue to promote to my professional colleagues all of the myriad benefits that NOGS membership has to offer. At this time, I would like to take advantage of a suggestion that former NOGS President Tom Klekamp once made to me. I asked him what type of things should I write about in the President's Letter, and he told me that it was my President's Letter and you could go wild and crazy and put anything that comes to mind in it.

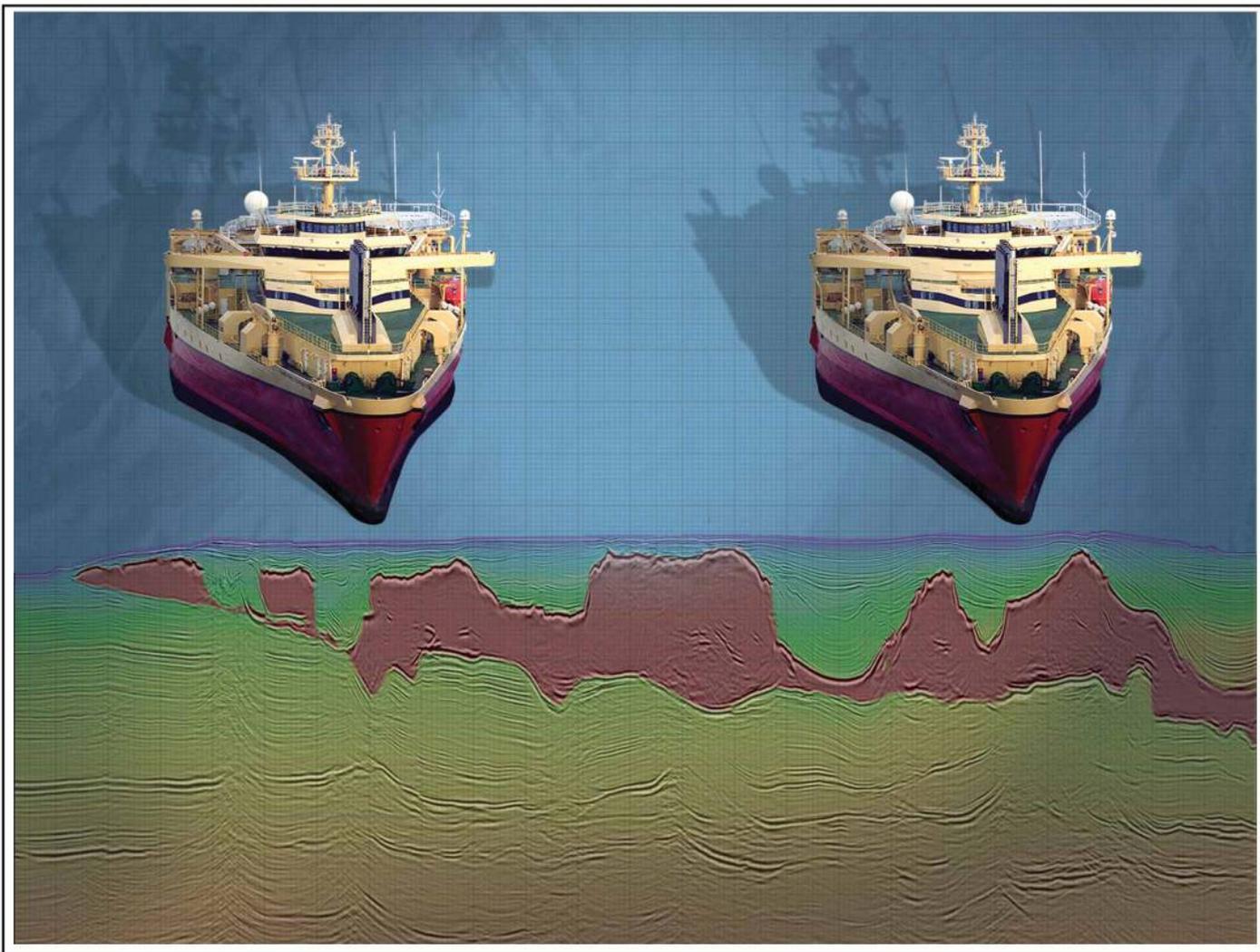
So, in closing, I would like to relate to you something that I memorized many years ago when I was in undergraduate school. It was written by late 18th century author, poet, and erstwhile geologist Robert Burns and is one of the earliest descriptions of a geologist.

He wrote (in his native Scottish brogue):

*The rin up hill and down dale
Knapping the chunky stanes t'pieces with hammers
Like sae many road makers run daft.
They say it is to see how the earth is made.*

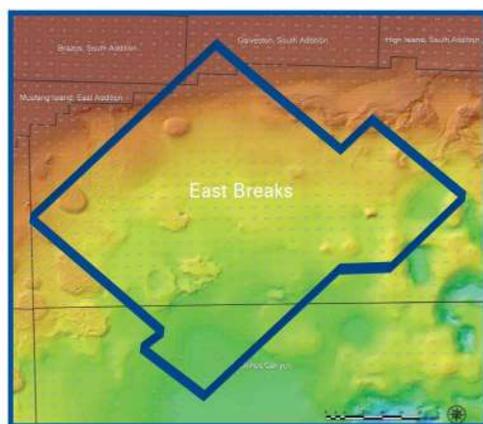
So, from one "daft road maker" to another, have a nice summer, and I'll see you all again soon.

Dave



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