

October 2010

Volume 51, Number 4



## Upcoming Events and Activities

#### **October 4 - NOGS Luncheon**

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

Guest speaker Terrence A. McCloskey, LSU School of the Coast and Environment, will present "Long-term variability in hurricane activity: using the study of ancient hurricanes to improve both long-term hazard risk assessment and short-term forecast of landfall location."

(See page 7 for Abstract and Biography)

#### October 10-15 - GCAGS 2010 Convention

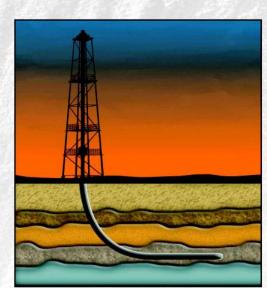
60th Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX. Check the "NOGS website" for updated information and see information on pages 26-27.

#### November 1 - NOGS Luncheon

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome. Guest speaker Andrew J. Petty, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement in New Orleans, will present "Stratigraphy and Petroleum Exploration History of the Smackover Formation (Oxfordian), Northeastern Gulf of Mexico."

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Office Manager: Annette Hudson Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on Monday-Wednesday-Friday Tel: 504-561-8980 I Fax: 504-561-8988 E-mail: info@nogs.org I 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 September 15, 2010.



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NOGS LOG

#### OCTOBER 2010



from the President

Louisiana Children's Museum held their Energy FETCH Saturday, August 21, 2010. This event was quite well-attended and not just by youth. Many thanks to Tom Bergeon and the "Helpers" who volunteered their time and expertise to staff the NOGS interactive exhibits at FETCH. The "Helpers", wearing hats for NOGS and SPWLA, included Mike Fein, Robin Broussard, Taylor Benoit, Tom Klekamp, Ed Picou, and Dave Cope. Our young people deserve our best and that's what the NOGS volunteers delivered.

NOGS was a co-host for the 14th Annual Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Technical Symposium held at the Hilton Riverside Hotel on August 18th and 19th. The Symposium was well-attended and I saw several of our members present in the sessions and the exhibit area. I requested to be more deeply involved in the planning and organizing the Deepwater Symposium next year so that we can increase the geological content and NOGS involvement.

The NOGS Memorial Foundation, Inc. and New Orleans Geological Society boards have tentatively voted to fund \$3,500 each for a total of \$7,000 for research on flood protection levees. "A Geoscience Strategy to Monitor Flood Protection Levees" is a collaboration between LSU Department of Geology and Geophysics, and UNO Departments of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Physics, and Mathematics. The project was submitted by Dr. Juan M. Lorenzo (LSU-Geology and Geophysics), Dr. Mark A. Kulp (UNO-Earth and Environmental Sciences), Drs. Juliette W. Ioup (UNO-Physics), and Dr. George E. Ioup (UNO-Physics). The project will utilize a shallow surface seismic approach to evaluate and monitor levee conditions. The 60th Annual Convention of GCAGS is being held in San Antonio, Texas October 10-12, 2010. If you have not yet registered, please consider doing so. NOGS will have a booth at the convention and we will be highlighting our NOGS publication, "Oil & Gas Fields of South Louisiana 2010." The volume will not be completed by then but we want to tease those present with what is coming. Any member who would care to assist with the booth should contact me or a board member. We could use your help. I look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

We are looking into one or more joint meetings both with SPE Delta Section and with SGS at another time. The discussions thus far with SPE are targeting the April 2011 luncheon meeting. SPE is currently visiting with McMoRan to inquire about their interest in providing a speaker for their deep Wilcox play in the shallow GOM. If that is something that appeals to you, please let me or a member of the Board know so we can arrange this joint meeting.

Carlo Christina brings back "Drill Bits" to the NOGS LOG in this issue, and Carlo is recruiting additional "Scouts" to contribute. So, we know that you know - so share it with Carlo and he will share it with the membership.

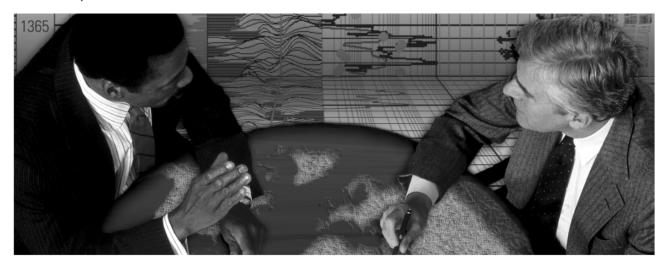
The NOGS Board is actively investigating ways to increase and enhance our membership and your ideas and suggestions are welcome. Please bring them forth to the Board or myself. We want to hear from you and we will listen.

God bless,

Rick

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#### **October 4 NOGS Luncheon Presentation**

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

## Long-term variability in hurricane activity: using the study of ancient hurricanes to improve both long-term hazard risk assessment and shortterm forecast of landfall location

presented by

#### Terrence A. McCloskey, Ph.D. Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences, School of the Coast and Environment, Louisiana State University

#### ABSTRACT

Hurricanes present one of the major obstacles to successful human use of coastal environments in many parts of the world, including the Gulf coast of the United States. Long-term planning and sustainable use of coastal resources require quantifiable information concerning the average frequency of strong hurricanes. However, as hurricane risk assessments are generally based on NOAA's "best track" record which only extends with decreasing accuracy to 1851 is too short to completely capture the average frequency of landfall. This is particularly true for major hurricanes (category 3 or greater), which typically have return intervals on the order of a century or longer. Therefore, the instrumental record provides the least accurate information for the most socially significant storms, thereby introducing large levels of uncertainty into the probability calculations for the reoccurrence of such devastating storms as Hurricanes Andrew and Katrina.

Paleotempestology, the study of ancient hurricanes, attempts to rectify this situation by increasing the number of data points for specific locations, especially in regard to major hurricanes. During the past two decades, we have developed research methodologies and produced geological proxy records of paleohurricane activities from the U.S. Gulf and Atlantic coasts to the Caribbean region

--- continued on page 34 ---

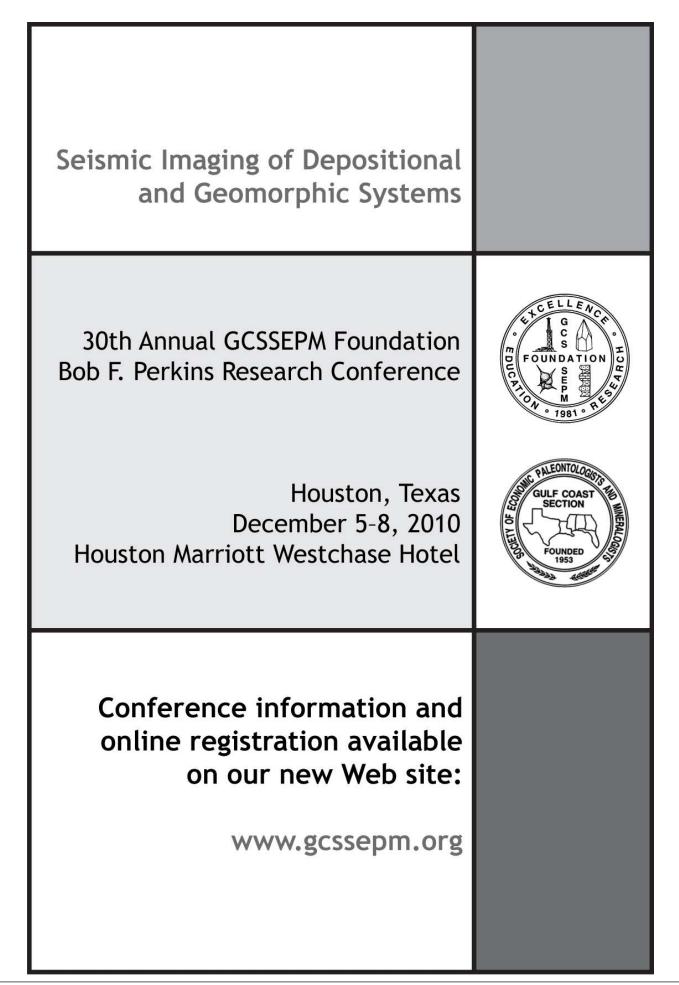
#### BIOGRAPHY

**Terry McCloskey** is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Louisiana State University. After spending more than 20 years as a small farmer in Belize, Central America, he returned to the United States in 2000 to pursue his education. In 2003 he earned a BA in Geosciences with certificates in Environmental Studies and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs from Princeton University, graduating magna cum laude. That fall he entered the Department of Geography and Anthropology at LSU, completing his General Examinations in that department in 2006. However, in 2007 he followed his major professor, Dr. Kam-biu Liu, over to the Department of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences, where he obtained his Ph.D. in December 2008. Dr. McCloskey's main interest is paleotempestology, with his dissertation based on the establishment of long-term landfall records from the southern and western Caribbean. He led or participated in coring trips to New England, all coastal states from Georgia through Texas, as well as Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Barbados, Belize, Honduras, and Nicaragua. He taught Introductory Physical Geography classes at LSU and tutored a large variety of Earth Sciences (Geography/Geology/Oceanography) courses at the Cox Student Athlete Academic Center there.

#### THE LUNCHEON RESERVATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 29 - CONTACT THE NOGS OFFICE

#### "And Looking Ahead..."

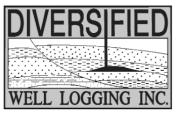
The next NOGS Luncheon will be held on November 1. Guest speaker Andrew J. Petty, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement in New Orleans, willpresent "Stratigraphy and Petroleum Exploration History of the Smackover Formation (Oxfordian), Northeastern Gulf of Mexico." Contact the NOGS office to make your reservation.





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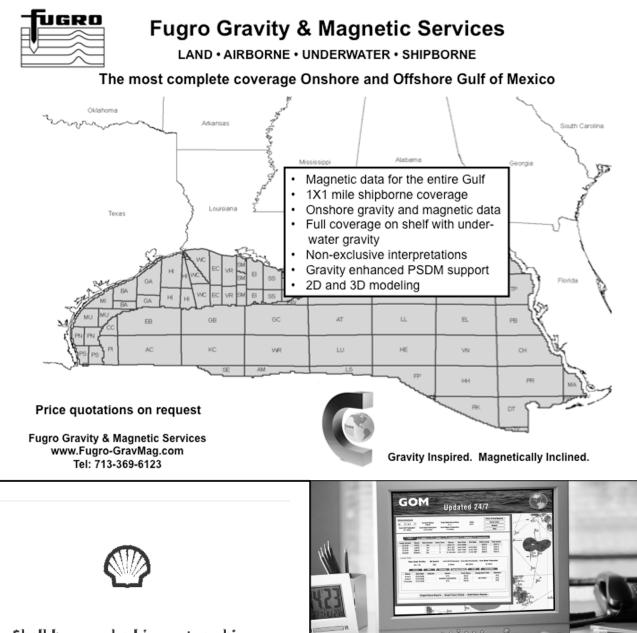
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Shell has worked in partnership with the NOGS for many years, and is proud to count the society among its closest business associates.

The New Orleans Geological Society was organized in 1941 to foster scientific research and advance the science of geology. Particular emphasis is laid on the exploration for and production of petroleum and natural gas. Related objectives include encouraging the adoption of improved methods of exploration, disseminating pertinent geological and technological data, and maintaining a high standard of professional conduct among its members.

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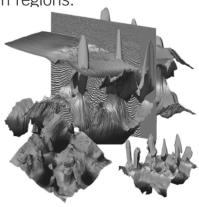
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 24, 2010

**Contact:** Diane Finstrom Dallas, Texas **Telephone** (214) 363-1780

**Dallas, Texas** – The SIPES Foundation, administering the scientific, educational and charitable programs of the Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists, is very pleased to announce that ten outstanding earth science students have been selected to receive scholarship awards this year, the highest number presented in the foundation's history. Applications were accepted from upper-division or graduate students who were U.S. Citizens studying any field of earth science or engineering, and who had a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Receiving \$2,000 awards from the Marvolene Speed Bennett and Carleton D. Speed, Jr. Endowed Fund; the Stephen. E. Collins Scholarship Fund; and the Edward A. McCullough Endowed Fund are **Janette E. England**, a master's degree student in geology at Stephen F. Austin State University; **Tom H. Shimura**, an undergraduate student in petroleum engineering at New Mexico Tech University; and **Katharine M. Knoph**, a graduate student in geology at the University of Kansas. A \$2,000 award, funded by donations from the SIPES Houston Chapter, was presented to **Alexandra E. Kirshner**, a doctoral candidate in sedimentology at Rice University. A \$1,500 award, funded by an individual petroleum engineer and SIPES Member, was presented to **Racha Boukadi**, a master's degree student in petroleum engineering at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

\$1,250 scholarship awards were presented to **Christopher D. Althoff**, a master's degree student in geology at the University of Oklahoma; **Alexandra K. Breeding**, an undergraduate student in geology at Texas A&M University – Kingsville; **Katie M. Hulsey**, a master's degree student in geology at the University of Oklahoma; **Sean Kerrin**, a master's degree student in geology at Louisiana State University; and **Andrea Nolting**; an undergraduate student in geological engineering at Colorado School of Mines.

Since its establishment in 1981, the SIPES Foundation has awarded scholarships to more than 180 promising earth science students. Funding for the 2010 awards was made available through donations from SIPES members; a bequest from the estate of Marvolene Speed Bennett, widow of the society's founding member, Carleton D. Speed, Jr.; the Stephen E. Collins Scholarship Fund; the Edward A. McCullough Endowed Fund; and the SIPES Houston Chapter. The SIPES Foundation also conducts and films educational seminars, contributes funding to earth science publications and continuing education programs, and also maintains an extensive library of earth science films.

The Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists is a national organization of more than 1250 self-employed geologists, geophysicists and engineers engaged primarily in domestic energy exploration and development. SIPES has eleven chapters located in oil and gas centers of the United States.

## **INFO**TIDBITS

**Dinosaurs Unleashed on Oxford Street**, London, an animatronic dinosaur experience, "Something is Stirring on Oxford Street in London." Dinosaurs Unleashed is the UK's largest animatronic, life-sized dinosaur experience, with 24 full-size dinosaurs in a Jurassic forest. For pictures go to the following website and look at the picture gallery in the upper right corner. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/science/picture-galleries/7094881/Dinosaurs-Unleashed-on-Oxford-Street-London-an-animatronic-dinosaur-experience.html

**Helicopter Triggers a Landslide**: The Norwegian Public Roads Administration uses a helicopter equipped with a "wrecking ball" to bash down potential rock fall hazards. To see the video go to: http://137.227.0.202/?URL=http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=afI58PRmTJ0&feature=related&IP=10.20.175.59&CAT=RRATED&USER=IPGROUP

**Unusual Release of Carbon Dioxide from the Southern Ocean**: A study of carbon-14 in the shells of fossil foraminifera living at the end of the last ice age, about 18,000 years ago, suggests an unusual release of carbon dioxide from the Southern Ocean at that time. For more information go to: http://geology.com/press-release/southern-ocean-carbon-dioxide-release/

What was T-Rex's favorite number? Eight (ate)



- Fran Wiselady

#### NOGS FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Fiscal Year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

I. Hibernia Homestead Checking Account: Used for day to day operation of NOGS activities.

Balance as of June 30, 2010: \$8,756.05, down \$2711.73 from \$11,467.78 on July 1, 2009.

- II. Morgan Stanley Smith Barney manages NOGS' Investments and there are three sub-accounts.
- 1. Operations Account: Account used to supplement the checking account

Balance as of June 30, 2010: \$126,524.83, up \$2793.43 from \$123,731.40 on July 1, 2009. Interest income from Bonds and CDs for the Operations Account was \$7,007.46.

2. FONO Account: Funded by donations to the Friends of the NOGS Office Fund. There are no expenses charged to this account and income from this account is used for office operations and is transferred to the Operations Account.

Balance as of June 30, 2010: \$142,839.17, up \$5238.54 from \$137,600.63 on July 1, 2009. Note: NOGS withdrew \$23,500.00 from FONO as a loan to pay AAPG WW II Museum Event expenses and repaid the \$23,500 in June 2010. Interest income from Bonds and CDs for the FONO Account was \$3,836.74.

3. Publications Account: Funded by NOGS publications sales. Expenses charged to this account include postage, refunds, and amounts due to Houston Geological Society. This account contributes \$300.00 per quarter to the Hibernia checking account to be used for office operations.

Balance as of June 30, 2010: \$76,869.08, up \$105.69 from \$76,763.39 on July 1, 2009. Interest income from Bonds and CDs for the Publications Account was \$4,432.23.

III.	Totals:	Sum of all Accounts as of June 30, 2009	\$34	49,563.20
		Sum of all Accounts as of June 30, 2010	\$3	854,989.13
		Increase	\$	5,400.93

2009-2010 NOGS Income vs. Expenses

Income	\$136,915.73
Expenses	\$137,482.46
Net	\$ - 566.93

Major projects	Income	Expenses	Net
NOGS Log	\$57,219.08	\$41,335.28	\$15,883.80
AAPG WW II	\$35,100.00	\$30,147.89	\$ 3,296.11
Luncheons	\$20,802.50	\$19,367.99	\$ 1,434.51
Golf Tournament	\$15,202.00	\$11,497.43	\$ 3,704.57
Deepwater Symp.	\$ 7,781.01	\$ 0.00	\$ 7,781.01
Entertainment	\$ 6,630.00	\$ 8,812.72	\$-2,182.72

Charles W. Holman 2009-2010 Treasurer

#### NOGS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010

Portfolio Val	ues June 30, 2009		Income		
	MS Smith Barney	\$652,049		MS Smith Barney	
	Vanguard	\$79,084		Dividends	\$18,950.38
	-			Interest	\$18,831.10
	Total	\$731,133		Vanguard	
				Dividends	\$2,010.54
Porfolio Valu	ues June 30, 2010				
	MS Smith Barney	\$736,125		Total	\$39,792.02
	Vanguard	\$89,837	Estimated A	nnualized Income 2010 \$41,	740
	Total	\$825,962	Donations th	nrough 6/30/2010	\$31,889.26
	Difference	\$94,829	Total Cash I	n	\$71,681.28
			Expenses		
				Scholarships (10)	\$25,000.00
				Scholarships Luncheon	\$360.00
				GCAGS/AAPG IBA	\$1,000.00
				NOGS Administrative	\$1,200.00
				State Registration Fee	\$5.00
				Board Liability (O&D) Insurar	
				CPA Tax Accountant	\$680.00
				Total Expenses	\$28,970.40
			Bill Whiting	July 20, 2010	

#### NOGS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010:

The NOGS Memorial Foundation, impacted by the declines in the financial markets this Spring, is reflected in the decrease in value of our investment accounts. However, income for the Foundation's programs was less impacted due to the balance of funds with secure yields. Contributions to the Memorial Foundation's funds continue to be generous.

A new scholarship was added for 2009-10 in the amount of \$2,500.00 per year. It was named in memory of George W. Schnieder, Sr. The Schnieder Scholarship will be rotated through three universities, with a student from the University of New Orleans being the first recipient. The next and third year will go to Tulane and LSU, respectively. In addition to the Schnieder Scholarship, the Board approved two additional scholarships for 2010-11, which will follow the Schnieder in rotation. The awards are in the amount of \$2,500.00 each. The Memorial Foundation by-laws were amended to reflect these changes.

#### Lee H. Meltzer Memorial Graduate Award \$3,000 Cash Award LSU - Yongbo Peng

Yongbo Peng was born in Shandong Province, China, on June 11, 1978. He received his B.S. degree in biological sciences from Ludong University in 2003 and a M.S. in Geology and Paleontology from the Nanjing Institute of Geology and Paleontology, Chinese Academy of Sciences in 2007. He enrolled in the Ph.D. program at the Department of Geology and Geophysics at Louisiana State University in the spring of 2006. He worked as a teaching assistant and research assistant in the laboratory of Dr. Huiming Bao. His research focuses on the fossil record of early eukaryotes and the overall biosphere, hydrosphere, and atmospheric conditions in the Proterozoic Eon (2500 to 542 million years ago). One particular subject is the origin of barite deposition at the immediate aftermath of Marinoan "snowball earth" at 635 million years ago. His future plans are to work as a post doctorate for several years after obtaining his Ph.D. and then look for a faculty position. Peng was awarded the Second-Class Scholarship, Weifang College in June 2003. He is a student member of AGU and AAPG. His hobbies are badminton and traveling. Yongbo is married and has children.

#### James Allen Gilreath Memorial Graduate Award

#### \$3,000 Cash Award

#### Tulane - Janwei Han

Janwei Han was born in Harbin, a big city in the northeast of China. After finishing high school in his hometown, he continued his studies in Beijing. He received both his Bachelor (2005) and Master (2008) degrees in physical geography from Peking University. His research in Peking University mainly focused on the response of ecosystems to climate change. Based on remote sensing and modeling methods, he monitored and simulated the water transfer in the soil-plant-atmosphere continuum of typical steppe in Inner Mongolia. In the fall of 2008 after he finished his studies at Peking University, he studied for his Ph.D. at Tulane University. He is now engaged in two projects: one is modeling the orographic precipitation and landscape evolution, and the other project is the comparison of vertical profiles of suspended sediment in laboratory turbidity currents with models developed for fluvial transport. Janwei's goal is to finish his Ph.D. Program at Tulane University and then continue his career in a research institute or university. Janwei is married, and his hobbies include basketball and swimming. His jobs have included being a teaching assistant at Peking University and Tulane University. Scholastic awards include the Prize for Excellent Students of Peking University, 2005-06, Geography Science Major Scholarship, 2004-05, and Geography Science Major Scholarship, 2003-04. He is a member of the Tulane Chinese Students and Scholars Association.

#### Richard W. "Dick" Boebel Memorial Graduate Award

#### \$3,000 Cash Award

#### **UNO- Hiranya Sahoo**

After his M.S. degree in Geology, Hiranya Sahoo attended IIT Bombay, India with a Schlumberger Fellowship (2004-2006). There he pursued a Schlumberger-British Gas sponsored thesis titled "A geological and geophysical analysis of seismic data attributes from the post rift stratigraphy of a North Sea 3D seismic dataset." He graduated with M.Tech. (Master in Technology) degree in Geo-exploration. Later, he presented part of his work as a poster at the 2009 AAPG annual convention. In 2008, his interest in petroleum geology led him to pursue a Ph.D. at the University of New Orleans (UNO). He focuses his Ph.D. research on "Sequence stratigraphy and channel architecture of the Cretaceous Blackhawk formation in the Wasatch Plateau, Utah". The work is partially sponsored by Chevron Corporation, USA, and he just received a 2010 ExxonMobil student grant to additionally contribute toward the Ph.D. research. At UNO, he is a member of the student honor society Phi Kappa Phi and Golden Key International Honor Society, along with student membership in AAPG, SEPM, IAS, GSA, AGU and SPE. He is also an AAPG 2010 Grants in Aid Recipient - the Kenneth H. Crandall Memorial Grant. Hiranya was also a student volunteer at the AAPG 2010 Convention. His future plans are to pursue a career in research, either as faculty in a university or as an exploration and development geoscientist in the Petroleum Industry.

#### George W. Schneider Sr. Memorial Scholarship \$2,500 Cash Award UNO- Austin Nijhuis

Austin Nijhuis hails from New Hampshire, where he spent the first eighteen years of his life. While growing up in the picturesque state, he gained an appreciation for the natural world as an avid fisherman, kayaker, and snowboarder. Austin took that interest in nature and is now majoring in Geology at Tulane University, where he will graduate from in the spring of 2011. From there, he plans on attending graduate school to further his education in Geology. Austin's plan in graduate school is to obtain a Ph.D. in Geology, with concentration in Sedimentology, with the goal of obtaining a faculty position at a university. His scholastic awards include the Dean's list (Spring '08, Fall '09), and a research grant by the Louisiana Sea Grant College Program for project titled "Quantifying wetland accretion rates in the Mississippi Delta using recent crevasse-splay deposits as natural analogs for river diversion (summer 2010)." Student recreational activities are intramural soccer, and intramural softball. His hobbies are camping, guitar, ukulele and piano. Austin worked as a student worker for the Tulane University Card Services, and as an Audubon Zoo Volunteer.

### **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 unstituting 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.

*George W. Schneider, Sr.* for exceptional leadership in exploration activities and for being a positive force in establishing the New Orleans Geological Society and serving as its first president in 1941-42.

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 Memorial Award** - The Board approved two additional scholarships for 2010-2011 which will follow the Schneider Award in rotation.

### SENIOR

#### Jules & Olga Braunstein Memorial

\$2,500 Cash Award

#### LSU - Bryan Killingsworth

Bryan Killingsworth is currently in his senior year of an undergraduate degree in geology at Louisiana State University. He intends to continue studies at LSU as a Master's of Science candidate beginning in the spring of 2011. Bryan's involvement in a research project on the Mississippi River water sulfate at LSU's Oxy-Anion Stable Isotope Center (OASIC) has sparked his interest in future investigations of present-day and ancient earth processes using the powerful tool isotope geochemistry. He was awarded the Leo W. Hough Scholarship for Fall 2009. Bryan's future plans are to pursue a Master's or PhD degree in Geology with the eventual goal of research and teaching. He is a student member of the Mineralogical Society of America, and the Meteoritical Society. His hobbies are music, visual arts, and travel. Bryan is married and has children.

#### Tulane - Jordan Doig

Jordan Doig was born in December of 1988 and spent the first eight years of his life living in Mount Prospect, Illinois, a northwestern suburb of Chicago. In the summer of '97, his family moved to Colorado Springs to quench his father's thirst for nature and sunshine. It was in these first few years that his father and he took full advantage of their new home, regularly taking weekend hikes around the state with Phoebe, the nicest dog he had ever known. It wasn't until high school that he realized his love for nature and the surrounding mountains. In his short time here at Tulane, he has learned again to appreciate city life and the diversity of the people of New Orleans while struggling with the city's overwhelming flat topography. His scholastic awards include: Stewart Martin Lane Memorial Scholarship, President's Scholarship, National Merit Scholar (high school), Academic Letter (high school), and Honor Roll (high school). After graduation, Jordan plans on working in the field while he focuses on academic choices at grad school. His hobbies include hiking, rock climbing and cooking. Jordan has held jobs as a warehouse hand (West Electric Group), and as day laborer (Art Klien Construction).

#### UNO - Jennifer Brizzolara

Jennifer Brizzolara was born and raised in northern New Jersey and spent her summers on Long Beach Island, New Jersey. She held an interest in the sciences since she was young, but that interest was rivaled by a love for creating music. After a year of study in the School of Music at Ithaca College, she decided that a career in the arts was not for her. She knew she wanted to study the sciences but was unsure of the specific field until she encountered the Earth and Environmental Science program at the University of New Orleans. She is very enthusiastic about earning an undergraduate degree in geology and plans to continue her education in graduate school. Jennifer is a member of SEES (Society for Earth and Environmental Science) and Vice President of the Rock Climbing Club. Her interests are oceanography, coastal geology, coastal geomorphology, and coastal/ocean engineering.

### JUNIOR

#### Jules & Olga Braunstein Memorial

\$2,000 Cash Award

#### LSU - Carrol Michael

Carrol Michael first discovered geology through her parents and their casual interest, and she is now pursuing her undergraduate degree from LSU. The family recreationally explored the geology of Tennessee and Kentucky. She always had her Golden Guide to Rocks and Minerals. Carrol lived in Ohio, Georgia and Tennessee, relocating to Texas in 1980. She attended high school in Corpus Christi and won a scholarship to Texas A&M. She enrolled as an aerospace engineering major and graduated eleven years later with a B.A. in Anthropology and six years of experience repairing home appliances. Carrol moved to Alaska and held a variety of paid positions, in addition to performing EMT volunteer work. After meeting her husband, a Coast Guardsman, they relocated to Gonzales, Louisiana and she enrolled at LSU to obtain a chemistry degree. Eventually, Carrol realized that she belonged in the geology department and will have her B.S. degree with chemistry minor next December. Her future plans are employment with the National Park Service, Forest Service, Geodetic Survey, or Army Corp of Engineers. Her scholastic awards are the President's Endowed Scholarship, Texas A&M, National Merit, Merit Plus, Halliburton Field Camp Scholarship, Major J. Stewart Slack, Jr. Memorial Scholarship, and Devon Energy Corporation Scholarship. Her hobbies are emergency medicine, motorcycling, dogs, and geology. Carrol is married and has children.

#### **Tulane - Holly Ann Jeffries**

Holly Ann Jeffries was born in Guam to Teresa and Richard Jefferis (now both US Navy retired). She spent her childhood in Monterey, California; Norfolk, Virginia; Honolulu, Hawaii and Louisiana. While living in Hawaii, she fell in love with geology through weekends of hiking and exploring the mountains and extinct volcanoes of Oahu and numerous trips to the Big Island and Volcano National Park. Louisiana taught her to love rivers. She attended Northshore High School in Slidell, Louisiana, graduating as the valedictorian in 2008. She currently attends Tulane University as a full-time junior and works summers at the Naval Oceanographic Office Geo-technical Analysis Lab. She plans on earning her Masters degree in Geology from Tulane University. Following graduate school, she hopes to continue working at the Naval Oceanographic Office in the Geo-technical Analysis Lab. Her scholastic awards include the Tulane University Louisiana Legislative Scholarship, Tulane Valedictorian Scholarship, TOPS, National Beta Club Scholarship 2008, and the SEG Scholarship 2008. She is the Publicity Chair for the Tulane Catholic Center 2009-present, and is an active member in Tulane Students for Life 2008-present, and Relay for Life of New Orleans Universities 2009-present.

#### UNO - Krisztian Megyeri

Krisztian Megyeri was born in Hungary, lived in Germany for several years, then moved to the United States with his parents at the age of 12. He has always been passionate about the environment. The increased degradation of the environment inspired him to devote his life understanding complex environmental systems and seeking solutions to the many issues. Currently, he is pursuing a B.S. in Environmental Science with a concentration in coastal restoration. Krisztian is an active member of the Society for Environmental Science(SEES) and is also involved with several coastal restoration nonprofit organizations. After graduating from the University of New Orleans, he plans to continue his education at the graduate level, and the support offered by the New Orleans Geological Society is an enormous help toward achieving these academic goals. Krisztian is a member of SEES, NOGS, Society for Ecological Restoration International, the Honor Society of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, and The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. He was on the Dean's List: Fall 2007, Spring 2009, Fall 2009, Spring 2010 and was a nominee for the 2009 UNO Morris K. Udall Foundation. His hobbies include hiking, canoeing, gardening, wood working, and music.

#### **NOGS Memorial Awards**

\$2,500 Cash Award

#### LSU - Matthew Clark

Matthew Clark is currently a Ph.D. student in the Department of Geology and Geophysics at Louisiana State University. Matthew was first introduced to geology in the mountains of southern Colorado on family trips as a child. Matthew developed an interest in stratigraphy as an undergraduate at LSU and currently works with Dr. Brooks Ellwood. Matthew is most interested in carbonate and evaporites cyclostratigraphy and is beginning some of his initial work on the Guadalupian and Lopingian section in West Texas. This spring he was a member of LSU's Imperial Barrel team and presented the stratigraphy and petrophysics component of the group's Danish North Sea prospect. Matthew will work with Chesapeake Energy's Permian Basin group this summer and looks forward to a career in the petroleum industry after graduation. Matthew is a student member of AAPG, Geology Club, SEG, AGU, and GSA. He was awarded the Board of Regents Fellowship (2009-10), LSU Geology sophomore (2007) and junior (2008) of the year. His hobbies are astronomy, computers, and outdoor activities such as camping and hiking.

#### **UNO - Chris Esposito**

Chris Esposito is a Master's Degree Candidate in the University of New Orleans' Earth and Environmental Sciences Department. His thesis examines the short term sediment dynamics of a crevasse splay in the Cubit's Gap subdelta of the Mississippi River. His fieldwork will provide data showing the hydrodynamic processes that govern the growth of a small delta feature in a river-dominated wetland. He hopes the resulting analysis will aid in the planning and design of diversion based restoration projects in southeast Louisiana. Chris holds an undergraduate degree in Mathematics and Physical Oceanography (double major) from Rutgers University from his home state of New Jersey. Prior to attending graduate school he was an educator, teaching high school math at schools in New Jersey and in New Orleans. He founded an environmental education program at a school for adjudicated youths in rural Louisiana. Chris's future plans are to obtain a Ph.D. in Coastal Sciences and teach at a university level. His hobbies include gardening, kayaking, reading and trapeze.

## New Orleans Geological Auxiliary News

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as President of the New Orleans Geological Auxiliary for 2010-2011. I really enjoyed being involved with the Auxiliary and its members as the past years have been a memorable experience for me. We have a great year planned and invite those who have not joined or who are inactive to come and have fun with us at our upcoming events.

I want to thank Linda Peirce for holding my hand during the transition, and Alma Dunlap, Judy Sabate, Peggy Rogers and Judy Lemarie for serving with me on the Board. By accepting these positions it makes my job much less complicated.

I am looking forward to all of the events planned this year by our Chairs and Co-Chairs. Ladies, we all know how time consuming the preparation is for these events and your help and attendance is greatly appreciated. The September luncheon at Ruth Grimes' house on September 8th was a great success. The food supplied by Foxtrot was delicious as always and we had a great turnout. Thank you Ruth for opening up your beautiful home for us.

A reminder that the November 10th Luncheon at Austin's Restaurant is for NOGA members and their spouses/ significant others only as seating is limited. Reservations need to be made a week in advance.

See you in November.

Jean Jones President NOGA



1250 Poydras Street Suite 2000 New Orleans, LA 70113 Tel: (504) 593-7000 Fax: (504) 593-7745 1201 Louisiana Street Suite 3500 Houston, TX 77002 Tel: (713) 393-6100 Fax: (713) 393-6205

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## New NOGS Members June - September 2010

Natanya M. Black Chevron 100 Northpark Blvd Covington, LA 70433 985-773-6426

#### Brooks B. Ellwood

Louisiana State University Professor, Department of Geology and Geophysics Baton Rouge, LA 70803 225-578-3416

Donald F. Haefner Black Mountain Geophysical Service LLC Member 985-778-3030

#### Jeffrey S. Hanor

Louisiana State University Professor, Department of Geology and Geophysics Baton Rouge, LA 70803 225-578-3418

#### Matthew R. Hoffman

Chevron Geologist 100 Northpark Blvd (N3217) Covington, LA 70433 985-286-3054

Soazig Leveque Schlumberger Well Placement Instructor Ste 932, 1515 Poydras St New Orleans, LA 70112 504-256-5429 Jeffrey A. Nunn Louisiana State University Professor, Department of Geology and Geophysics Baton Rouge, LA 70806 225-578-3353 Sophie Warny AC

Louisiana State University Asst. Prof., Department of Geology and Geophysics Baton Rouge, LA 70803 225-578-5089

REINSTATE W. Naylor Stone Consultant - McMoRan Exploration 1615 Poydras St New Orleans, LA 70112 504-582-4008



#### State of Louisiana Proclamation of Earth Science Week 2010 October 10-16, 2006





The Governor

Secretary of State

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this  $10^{\text{th}}$ October the 2010

Governor misiana

a a

## South Louisiana and Offshore Exploration and Production Activity

**Back by Popular Demand**: Drill Bits has returned after a brief absence from the LOG, and I have agreed to report on the most significant and interesting exploration activities in south Louisiana. In order to accomplish this task, I have invited several "scouts" to assist me in writing this column.

Bob Branson will be reporting the Tuscaloosa activities. Bob, a Tuscaloosa expert, was employed by Chevron in the glory days of the Tuscaloosa Trend drilling activities and he remains active in that area today. Our offshore "scout" is Al Baker. In addition, we have 2 or 3 roving scouts participating. We also extend an invitation to YOU, THE READER, to contact us about any exciting industry news to add to this column. Today, all major oil companies and most mid-sized companies employ scouts to gather oil field activities to assist in the exploration efforts of their companies.

The local scouting organizations are the South Louisiana Oil Scouts Association (SLOSA) and the Offshore Oil Scouts Association (OOSA). Both are members of the International Oil Scouts Association. SLOSA and OOSA meet weekly to give updates on every well drilled within its area. SLOSA covers land rigs drilling within the lower 40 parishes of Louisiana, including State Water Bottom Lands; OOSA covers the offshore wells outside the State of Louisiana's jurisdiction. Each well is followed from the day it is permitted to the day it is completed.

A Brief History of Scouting: In 1870, the first group of oil "scouts" was formed in Pennsylvania for the purpose of exchanging current and correct information about drilling wells. A common sight found scouts hiding in bushes or stationed high in a tree to count the stands of drill pipe going in and out of the hole. Formation tops were noted based on the drilling time through the formations.

By 1882, "Oil Scout" was an accepted profession with more than 100 scouts listed. In July 1924, a charter was adopted for the "National Oil Scouts Association." By 1940, due to the large number of landmen in the association, it was renamed "National Oil Scouts and Landman's Association." Membership peaked at 900. Fifteen years later the landmen formed their own association, resulting in the name change to the "International Oil Scouts Association".



"Pennsylvania – Scene in the Oil Regions - An Oil Scout Under Fire"

Current South Louisiana Activities: In Beauregard Parish, Midstates Petroleum Corp. is active in Bearhead Creek, South Field, having completed two Lower Wilcox wells, and is waiting on a completion rig for a third well while drilling its fourth well. The #2 Musser-Davis, located in Sec. 34, T6S-R11W, was drilled to a total depth of 15,034' and completed in the Lower Wilcox, flowing 125 BOPD through perforations 11,188' to 13, 977' (overall). The #6, located in Sec. 33, tested 220 BOPD. In the past five years, the field has produced approximately 2 MBO and 4.5 BCFG.

Apollo Energy Operating, Inc. has permitted four wells in the old Cameron Meadows Field, ranging in depth from 5800' to 7100'. Since 1975 the field has produced more than 10 MBO and 18 BCFG but has been in rapid decline in the last six years. Drill Bits will report on the progress of this Cameron Parish drilling program.

Also in Cameron Parish, Samuel Gary & Associates are preparing to test its #1 Texaco E&P in Marceaux Island Field. The well is located in Sec. 9, T13S-R14W, and has had 5-1/2 liner set at 13,830'. This field was discovered in 2001 and produces from the Hackberry. Since then, it has produced more than 3 MBO and 41 BCFG.

The Tuscaloosa Trend in the Baton Rouge area is still active 35 years after the discovery of False River Field, with four recently completed wells and additional drilling activity scheduled.

In East Baton Rouge Parish, Maritech Resources Inc. has completed an extension well to the previously depleted Irene Field. Maritech completed the #1 Acme Brick, located in Sec. 44, T5S-R1W. The well was drilled to total depth 20,508', plugged back to 19,512' and perforated 18,886 to 18,912'. It flowed 6346 MCFGD + 239 BCPD, on 12/64" CK, FTP 7258#, Gvt 52. The well was directionally drilled 3169' SW of the surface location of the Slapco #1 McVey, a depleted gas well. The #1 Acme Brick was

Maritech's first venture into the Tuscaloosa Trend and established the most southerly production in the field. Irene Field went off production in 2000, after producing 4.2 MMBC and 157 BCFG.

Also in East Baton Rouge Parish, BP America is waiting on a completion rig for its #1 Edwards in Comite Field. The well was drilled to a total depth of 19,200' in Sec. 1, T6S-R1E. BP America is also preparing location for its #1 Barber, a proposed 19,927' test.

In Point Coupee Parish, in Moore-Sams Field, Energy Producing Co. has completed its #2 Deville, located in Sec. 51, T5S-R9E. The well was drilled to a total depth of 21,497' and tested 2400 MCFGPD through perforations 20,855 to 20,865'. The completion was in the 19,900' Sand, the first completion in this sand.

Still in the Tuscaloosa Trend, in False River Field, West Baton Rouge Parish, the Energy Producing Co. #1 H.H. White, was drilled to total depth 21,171 and flowed 3057 MCFGPD and 378 BCPD through perforations 19,543 TO 19,590'. The well is located in Sec. 6, T6S-R12E, approximately 5 miles east of the discovery well.

In St. Mary Parish, Hunt Oil Co. has completed the #3 State Lease 14914 in Myette Point, NW Field, located in T13S-R10E. The well was drilled to a total depth of 16,740' and was perforated 16,248' to 16,304' (overall) in the Liebuesella 2 sand. It was completed flowing 2752 MCFG and 181 BCPD.

Dynamic Offshore has completed its #2 State Lease 19269 in Eugene Island Block 1, flowing 10,440 MCFG and 770 BCPD through perforations 16,222' to 16,372'. The well was drilled to a total depth of 16,866 feet.

In Atchfalaya Bay, Phoenix has completed the #1 State Lease 20035 through perforations 18,256' to 18,328', flowing 10,500 MCFG and 108 BCPD, after drilling to a depth of 18,772 feet. Phoenix has a new location for the #1 State Lease 20221, a proposed 19,500' test, and is drilling below 11,615'.

In Erath Field, Manti Exploration is drilling a proposed 21,500' test. The #1 Moss, located in section 33, T13S-R4E, is currently drilling below 18,000'.

OFFSHORE LOUISIANA: Six months ago, there were 92 rigs running in the Gulf of Mexico. Today, the old saying "The Gulf of Mexico is dead" pretty much rings true, not by reservoir depletions but by federal bureaucratic intervention, causing a great deal of uncertainty for the petroleum industry. The realization is that the deepwater drilling moratorium imposed until November 30, 2010 by the Department of the Interior transgresses the 500-foot water depth contour and engulfs the shelf drilling activity as well, creating a de-facto shelf drilling moratorium for the companies who wish to operate in shallow water. One of the major problems on the shelf is the inability to obtain a drilling permit in a timely fashion from the BOEMRE (which is the new government title for the "old" MMS). According to the BOEMRE's website, since June 1st a total of 21 drilling permits have been issued in the Gulf. Of these, two were for new wells, and the remaining 19 were for sidetracking existing wellbores. The new wells are located on the shelf and include Hilcorp's South Marsh Island Block 78, OCS-G 1210 #D-3 and Apache's High Island Block 179, OCS-G 1848 #21. Thus, it is apparent that the new set of rules for operators that are being created and imposed are definitely slowing the pace of the shelf drilling activity. Even after the moratorium is lifted, many operators do not predict a surge in drilling activity in the Gulf because of the changes in the way that business operations will then be done. So stay tuned, and don't expect much exciting news concerning an abundance of new Gulf discoveries.

However, one of the more active independents still drilling wells on the shelf is McMoRan Oil and Gas. They currently have three rigs under contract that are drilling wells in their deep shelf and ultra-deep shelf drilling program. McMoran recently announced a new discovery at their Blueberry Hill Prospect in South Marsh Island Block 225. On August 3, 2010, McMoran reported that their State Lease 340 #9 ST-1 well has been drilled to 24,385' MD/23,630' TVD and found a 105-foot hydrocarbon-bearing zone of high quality sand in the well. They have continued deepening the well to a proposed total depth of 24,885' MD/24,000' TVD. The McMoran's Davy Jones well, OCS-G 2300 #4, in South Marsh Island Block 243 and its Blackbeard East well, OCS-G 21667 #1 in South Timabalier Block 144 are both drilling ahead towards proposed total depths of 29,950 feet.

BITS AND PIECES: BP America has announced their plans to sell all Tuscaloosa Trend properties.

Reported, but not confirmed, a 26,000' well is proposed for Johnson Bayou Field in Cameron Parish by an unnamed company (Armstong?), possibly a Canadian company.

Also rumored (which is scout's terminology for "I don't know") is that two major oil companies will join as working interest partners.

Tune in next month--*C C C (Carlo Christina)* 





October 10 - 12

60<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

> Complete Details can be found at: http://www.gcags2010.com

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#### 60<sup>th</sup> Annual GCAGS/GCSSEPM Convention

Presents

### The Stricklin Symposium: Forming and Filling of the Gulf of Mexico Basin: Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous Tectonics, Source Rocks, and Petroleum Systems

Tuesday, October 12, 2010 Ÿ 8:20 am – 4:10 pm, San Antonio, Texas

#### Symposium Conveners:

T. E. Ewing, Frontera Exploration Consultants, San Antonio, Texas E. A. Mancini, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

- 8:20 **Thomas Ewing:** Introduction to the Stricklin Symposium
- 8:30 **James Pindell:** History of Tectonic Modeling and Implications for Depositional Architecture in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM): Where we Should Go from Here
- 9:00 **Jim Harris, Rob Crossley, Nick Stronach, Paul Valdes, and Roger Proctor:** The Plate Tectonic, Paleogeographic, and Paleoclimatic Context for the Development of the Mesozoic Gulf of Mexico
- 9:30 **Steve Creaney:** A View of the Genetic Development of Gulf of Mexico Petroleum Systems
- 10:00 Break
- 10:30 Ernest Mancini and Wayne Ahr: Jurassic Depositional Systems, Facies, and Reservoirs of the Northern Gulf of Mexico
- 11:00 **Thomas Lovell and Amy Weislogel:** Detrital Zircon U-Pb Age Constraints on the Provenance of the Late Jurassic Norphlet Formation, Eastern Gulf of Mexico: Implications for Paleogeography
- 11:30 1:00 *GCSSEPM and Stricklin Symposium Luncheon (<u>ticketed event</u>): Roger Sassen: Preservation of Methane in Deep, Hot Reservoir Rocks*
- 1:10 **Robert Scott:** Cretaceous Stratigraphy, Depositional Systems, and Reservoir Facies of the Northern Gulf of Mexico
- 1:40 Thomas Ewing: Pre-Pearsall Geology and Exploration Plays in South Texas
- 2:10 **Marco Flores Flores, Jorge Lavín, Noemí Aguilera, Marco Peña:** The Kimmeridgian Oolitic Banks and their Exploration Potential in the Marina de Campeche Zone, Southeastern Mexico: Biostratigraphical and Sedimentological Implications
- 2:40 **Roger Sassen:** Laminated Lime Mudstone of the Upper Jurassic Smackover Formation: Source of High-Sulfur Oil and Gas
- 3:10 **Andrew Petty:** Stratigraphy and Petroleum Exploration History of the Smackover Formation (Oxfordian), Northeastern Gulf of Mexico
- 3:40 Russell Dubiel, Peter Warwick, Lauri Burke, James Coleman, Kristin Dennen, Colin Doolan, Catherine Enomoto, Paul Hackley, Alexander Karlsen, Matthew Merrill, Krystal Pearson, Ofori Pearson, Janet Pitman, Richard Pollastro, Elisabeth Rowan, Sharon Swanson, and Brett Valentine: Geology and Assessment of Undiscovered Oil and Gas Resources in Mesozoic (Jurassic and Cretaceous) Rocks of the Onshore and State Waters of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico Region

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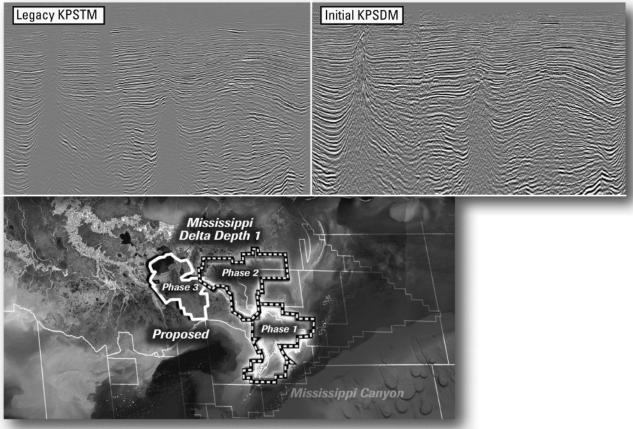
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Popular Online Course Available Again: Introduction to Geological Reservoir Characterization, will begin September 13 and run through December 17, 2010. This course is taught by Dr. Roger Slatt with University of Oklahoma, and covers the principles and practice of characterizing petroleum reservoirs using geologic and engineering data, including well logs, sample descriptions, routine and special core analyses, and well tests. There are weekly assignments, and interaction with the instructor on a regular basis. The price is \$1495 per person.

Short Course with Field Trip: Application of Structural Geology in Prospecting in Thrusted and Extensional Terrain is scheduled for November 8-12, in Las Vegas, Nevada and is taught by industry experts Chuck Kluth and Wayne Narr. Participants will learn to apply sound structural principles and techniques, and integrate a variety of data types to understand and predict overall trap shape, the character and impact of distribution of secondary structures (e.g., fractures) that may have a critical impact on reservoir performance, and identify likely exploration targets in each of the structural styles covered. Registration is \$1695 for AAPG members, \$1795 for non-members up until October 11.

### **Fall Education Conference on Unconventional Resources**

AAPG's Fifth Annual Fall Education Conference will take place October 4-8, in Houston, with all 10 courses revolving around the topic of Unconventional Resources. There will be 3 concurrent sessions each day, and topics include Reservoir Characterization and Production Properties of Gas Shales; Source Rocks 101 – What Geoscientists and Engineers Need to Know about Petroleum Source Rocks; The Varying Role of Natural Fractures in Unconventional Reservoirs; Log Analysis of Shaly Sand Reservoirs, and MORE! Registration for the week is \$1595 for AAPG members, \$1695 for non-members, and badges are transferrable. Courses are also individually priced if you can't attend the entire week. Hurry and reserve your spot before courses fill up. The early-bird prices expire September 6.

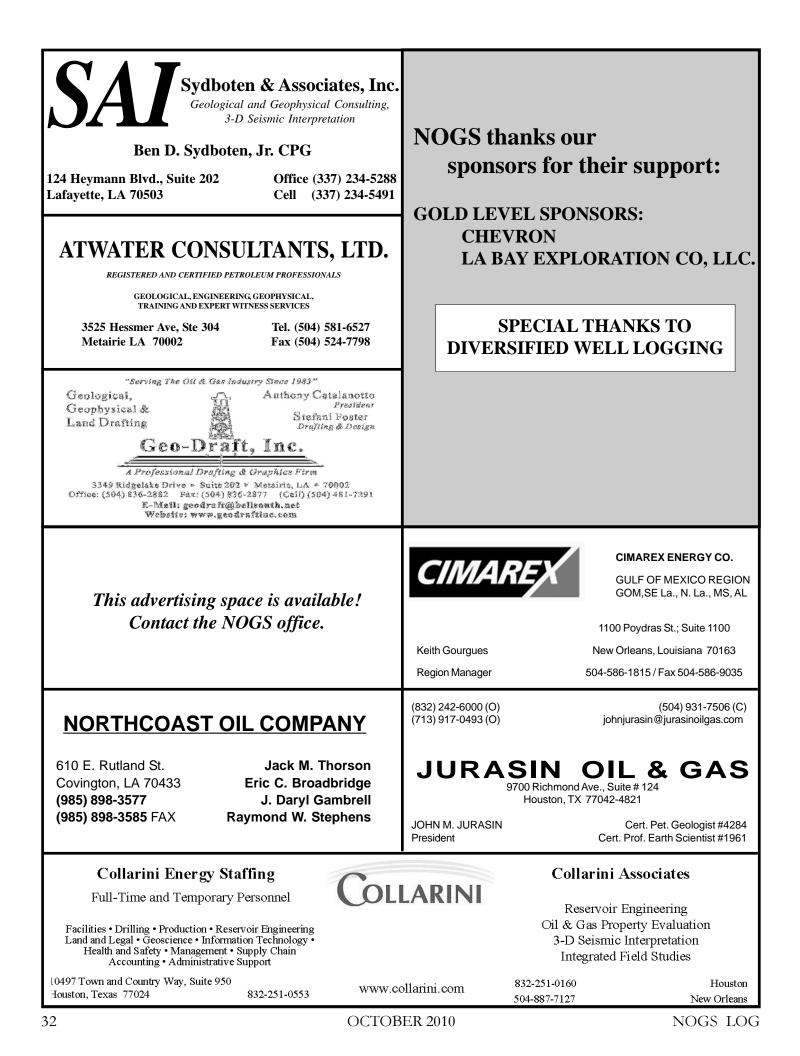
• New Ways to Look at Old Data: New Pay Zones, Increased Production, Expanded Regional Plays is planned for November 8-9, in Houston. How are new ways to look at old data resulting in new pay zones, increased production, and even new regional plays? How can you find and determine the best way to produce oil that's been "left behind?" This AAPG Geoscience Technology Workshop provides you with answers, ideas, and opportunities. Opportunities are still available if you'd like to give a presentation – contact Susan Nash snash@aapg.org at AAPG if you are interested. Registration to attend is \$695 for AAPG members, and \$795 for non-members, but only through October 11, so sign up now to save!

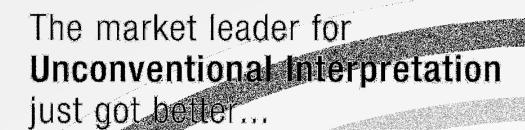
#### MONTHLY LUNCHEON MEETING SURVEY RESULTS

The results of the survey on the monthly luncheon meetings, distributed on August 2, have been tabulated. The attending members at the August meeting were surveyed to see if they wanted the monthly meetings to continue throughout the year (including the summer months) or if two or three of the summer meetings should be discontinued. The results are:

Meet Year Round: 21 Meet September – May: 10 Meet September – June: 8

The results are not conclusive and the NOGS board has elected to not pursue the issue any further at this time.



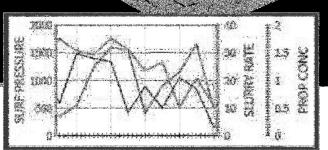




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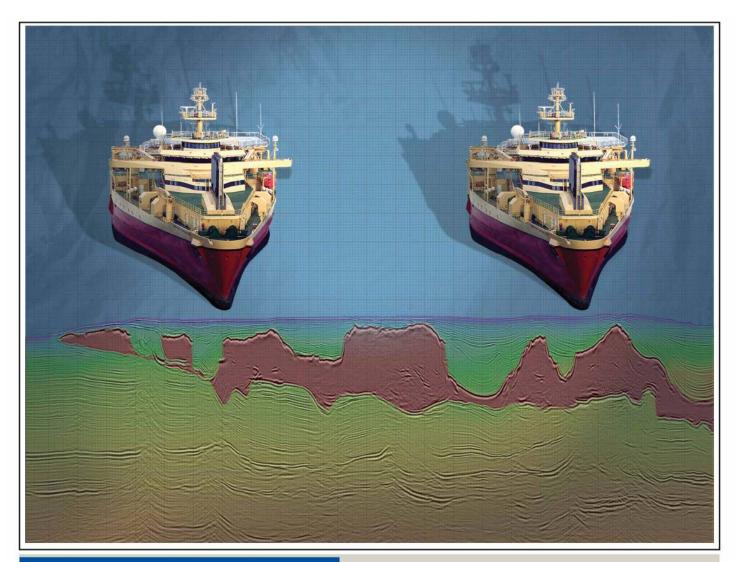
#### NOGS Luncheon Presentation Abstract (continued from page 7)

and the Pacific coast of Mexico. Research findings suggest that on the Gulf of Mexico coast catastrophic hurricanes of category 4-5 intensities typically have return periods on the order of  $\sim$  300 years. However, frequency of occurrence has not remained constant. Over the last 5000 years, hurricane activities along the Gulf Coast has exhibited alternating active and quiet periods with hurricane landfall being 3-5 times as frequent during the active periods.

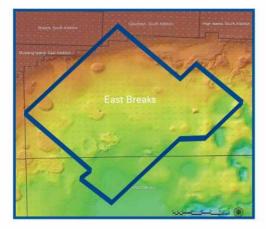
New data from Nicaragua show that the most recent millennium of inactivity on the Gulf Coast coincides with a period of heightened hurricane activity in the southern Caribbean, supporting the notion that long-term hurricane landfall risks in the U.S. and Caribbean coastal regions are governed by latitudinal shifts in the positions of the Bermuda High and the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) as a function of global climate changes.

A new method of plotting storm tracks suggests that location of landfall is controlled by the steering exerted by atmospheric/climatic conditions, with landfall probabilities for different regions either increasing or decreasing under specific, identifiable conditions. Currently, preseason forecasting focuses upon the estimation of storm frequency and the incorporation of this information may improve spatial predictability as well.

A long-term perspective learned from paleotempestology is vital for hurricane risk assessment and should be incorporated in any plans for coastal protection and restoration in Louisiana and along the Gulf of Mexico coast.



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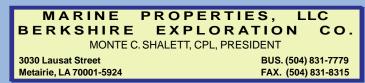
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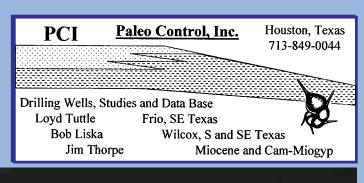
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