



September 2008

Volume 49, Number 3

Upcoming and Activities Events

September 8 - NOGS Luncheon

*** 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 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

September 15-20 - Association of Environmental and **Engineering Geologists Annual Convention**

At the New Orleans Marriott. Go to www.aegweb.org for more information.

September 19 - NOGS Kickoff Party

7-10:00pm at New City Grill in Metairie. \$35 per person, cash bar. See announcement on page 15.

September 20 - Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation's Beach Sweep

19th Annual Beach Sweep. Go to www.saveourlake.org to volunteer.

October 5-9 - GSA and GCAGS Joint Annual Meeting

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

October 13 - NOGS Luncheon

Bernie Regel, Chevron, will present "4D Seismic in Field Development."

October 18 - NOGS Fall Field Trip

"The Baton Rouge Fault." See page 27 for announcement.

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NOGS Office

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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.





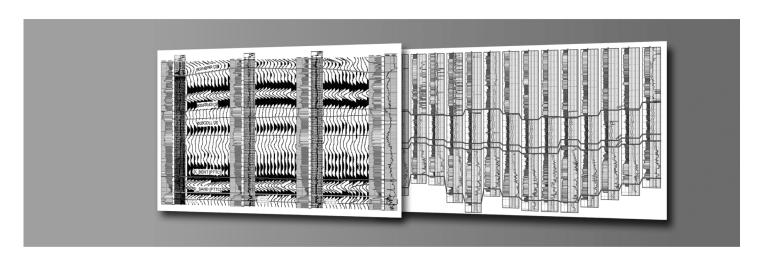
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Photography	J. David Cope	Taylor Energy Co LLC	504-589-0419	dcope@taylorenergy.com
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Scouting	Carol Rooney	Consultant Geologist	504-835-1909	carolbrooney@aol.com
Technical Projects	TBA			
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from the President

NOGS has co-hosted and participated in two symposiums since the last letter. The forum on July16th on Geologic Facts of Life for Flood Protection was well attended and located at the Levee Board's Headquarters near the Lakefront. The quality of the presentations was excellent and our own Dr. Mike Miner's topic on coastal erosion management during a transgression was impressive, well-done Mike. Dr. Juan Lorenzo from LSU presented his work on the application of shallow high-resolution seismic data in identifying soil changes and flaws in the existing levee systems. An interesting map by the LGS on Louisiana land loss since 1937 generated much interest and discussion. Kudo's to Mike Merritt, the Commissioners, Annette and others who helped make this second forum a success and I hope it will continue to grow in the future.

The 12th annual Deep Water Technology Symposium has passed. It has taken a year of planning by the Committees to "pull off" this yet again successful event. The cooperation it takes between the drilling and petroleum engineers, geologists, and service industry personnel is a good example of what it takes to be a success in our petroleum industry today. Thanks to our NOGS volunteers for handling registration, awards and manning the NOGS Booth. Some of the volunteers that come to mind include Annette Hudson, Carol St Germain, Fran Wiseman, Art Johnson, Corine Armstrong and Tom Klekamp (our NOGS news photographer). Rakesh Kumar the general chairman kept it all together with the help of the everywhere present Tom Hudson. Robert Meltz organized the geoscience speakers and Emmitt Lockard the student poster presenters. Thanks to anyone else I may have missed. All of the technical talks were informative and worth attending. I found one talk on "the Gulf Serpent" deep-sea program quite unique. There are more species out there in deepwater besides engineers and geologists. Volunteer for next year!

Tom Hudson the General Chairman for the 2010 AAPG Convention here in New Orleans is in the

organizational stage of the event and is calling for volunteers that would like to participate in this important convention. I encourage all members and interested parties to sign on.

Left on the August table at this writing is the NOGS Luncheon on the 11th, the PTTC seminar on the 12th, FETCH on the 16th and API luncheon on the 19th.

Tom Klekamp has organized our "Kick Off" party for September 19th, register early as it helps with the planning and space is limited. Also Tom informs us The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation 19th Annual Beach Sweep is September 20th.

Oct 5-9 is the GCAGS/GSA Convention in Houston. A special session in memory of Shea Penland will be held there.

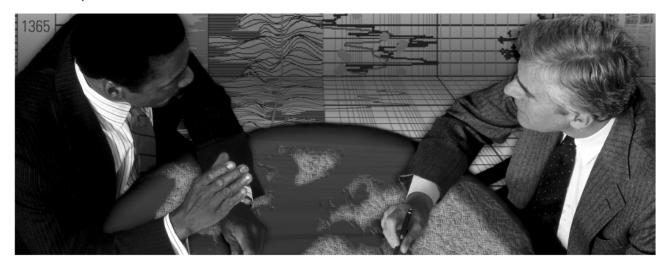
October 18th is our Field Trip in conjunction with Earth Science Month. Thanks to Art Johnson, the Foundation will help fund Earth Science teachers to attend. More sponsors are needed for students, and volunteers are welcome. Thirty seats are reserved for NOGS. Sign up and share your knowledge in this great discipline with the less informed. Thanks to Kathy Haggar and Dave Garner for their efforts.

I note the passing of Norm Scaife, a former Chevron Exploration Geologist and District Development Geologist. Norm was the Mississippi District Supervisor and in the absences of the North Louisiana District Supervisor (Jerry Siler), I reported in to Norm at his home late one evening from a final Wilcox log run at Lake St. John Field. It was a long run and a long drive back to Jackson, Mississippi. Norm grilled me on every sidewall core I had had shot. Once he was convinced no one was trying to "pull one off" he smoothed my ruffled feathers with homemade devil's food cake a la mode. Norm was a good geologist; sharp on detail and a creative explorationist.

Bill

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September 8 Luncheon Presentation

*** at the Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome ***

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

presented by

William R. Finley Independent Geologist

ABSTRACT

Creole Field was discovered by Superior and Pure in 1938 based on seismic data acquired in 1934. This discovery resulted from implementation of cutting edge technologies for the time, and field development continued with the use of cutting edge engineering technologies in drilling highly directional wells from a central location. A total of 20 wells were drilled and/or sidetracked from a central platform resulting in 10 producing wells on this platform with 7 pay sands. Exploratory drilling in 1956 resulted in adding 4 additional pay sands, with further development in the 60's and 70's establishing production in non producing fault blocks, and adding 2 deep gas sands to the inventory.

First Lesson - Perseverance Pays Off.

During the 60 years since discovery, the field produced a total of 8.6 mmbo and 13.6 bcfg. The field changed hands several time during this period, and the leases (then owned by Burlington) were finally dropped in 2000. After numerous delays, Rozel acquired leases over the Creole field area in 2005. We had worked on this prospect since 1996, taking nine years to acquisition.

Second Lesson - Just 'cause its old don't make it dead. Three wells have been drilled to date, discovering 11 pay sands (10 of the original pays in new or previously unproduced fault blocks) with 4.4 mmbo and 4.4 bcfg reserves. Additional exploratory and development locations could prove up another 4 mmbo and 8 bcfg. The deep potential is currently being evaluated.

Third Lesson · Old fashioned Geology still works when technology fails.

New 3-D seismic data was acquired over the field in 1996, kicking off our exploration efforts in the Creole area. Unfortunately, this cutting edge technology did not facilitate our acquisition or subsequent drilling activity. A gas chimney exists over the field that makes a reliable, unbiased interpretation of the seismic data difficult to impossible. Instead, interpretive geologic mapping, and especially interpretation without prior bias lead us to a new round of drill bit exploration. The data thus acquired has turned the original interpretation around and opened the door to future opportunities.

BIOGRAPHY

William Finley grew up in Lake Charles, LA, and graduated from LaGrange High with honors in science and math. In 1984 he married Heather Warner. William started college at USL as a math major, but twisted off at the "Library" and got drafted in 1968. However, while serving he learned "if you want better, you have to work for it," and somehow that got him into Geology. He returned to college (USL) on the GI Bill and finished with a MS in Geology in 1975. His professional career started with Gulf Oil in New Orleans where he worked in exploration in the MAFLA Region, including some well site work in the Baltimore Canyon. After a transfer to Venice Area Development and subsequent disillusionment with

management, William accepted a position with Forest Oil in Lafayette in 1979. He worked with Forest until 1990 when he left to pursue his career as an independent. (His first contract job was with Forest Oil.) He joined SIPES that year and has been a member since. As an independent, he worked extensively with computer applications for geologic mapping and seismic interpretation with Forest Oil, ESRI in Columbia, SC, and Subsurface Consultants & Associates. He joined Rozel, LLC in 1996 and is currently a partner generating prospects and selling deals. A long time member of AAPG, SEG, and SIPES, William is the 2008 SIPES Vice President of National Energy.

THE LUNCHEON RESERVATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 3, SO CALL THE NOGS OFFICE - TODAY!

"And Looking Ahead..."

The next NOGS Luncheon will be October 6 at the Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome. Bernie Regel, Chevron, will present "4D Seismic in Field Development." Contact the NOGS office to make your reservation.







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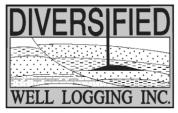
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--- continued from page 3 ---

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Lisa K. Meeks

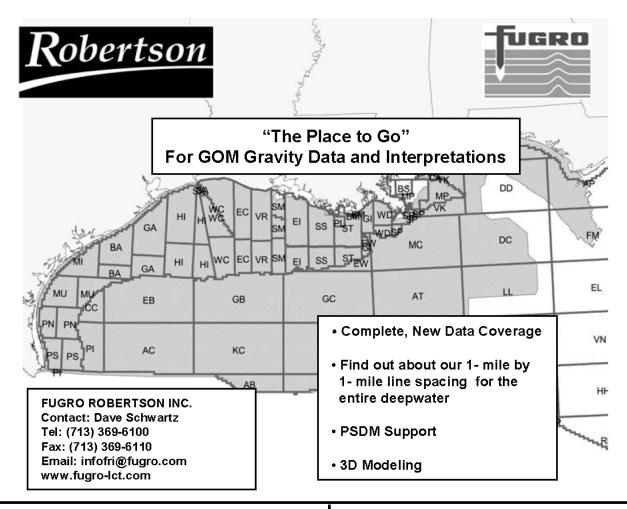
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NOGS FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2007-2008

The following accounts are tracked by the NOGS Treasurer:

- 1. Publications: Funds from sale of publications after postage expenses, refunds and amounts that are due HGS are paid. This account pays to the operations checking account \$300.00 per quarter for office overhead, etc.
- 2. FONO: Funds are from donations to the Friends of NOGS Office Fund (FONO). There are no expenses credited to this account and the interest from this account is to be used for office operations.
- 4. Operations Investment Account: Cash in excess is transferred to the Operations Investment Account.
- 5. Hibernia Homestead Checking Account. This account is used for the day to day operation of NOGS administration.

The following are the balances on NOGS accounts:

Hibernia Homestead Checking Account as of June 30, 2008: \$24,853.79, up \$18,231.26 from June 30, 2007. Citigroup Smith Barney FONO Account as of June 30, 2008: \$147,200.59, down \$40,124.27 from June 30, 2007. Citigroup Smith Barney Publications Account as of June 30, 2008: \$167,890.31, down \$18,718.50 from June 30, 2007. \$81,117.60, down \$14,428.52 from June 30, 2007.

2007-2008 Operations Income – Expenses (excludes Smith Barney Accounts)

2007-2008 Income \$150,735.65 2007-2008 Expenses \$154,884.31 Net Decrease (\$4,148.66)

Totals: Sum of All Accounts as of June 30, 2007: \$476,102.32 Sum of All Accounts as of June 30, 2008: \$421,062.29 Depreciation: -\$55,040.03

J. David Cope, Treasurer 2007-2008

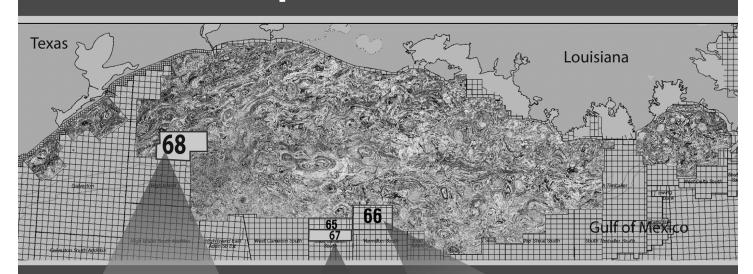
Michael N. Fein Chairman

NOGS Memorial Foundation 2007-2008

NOGS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION YEARLY REPORT 2007-2008

GENERAL FUND		SMITH BARNEY ACCOUNT	
Income:			
Interest	\$20,915.47	Value of Investments June 19, 2007	\$ 689,343.85
Qualified Dividends	3,501.88	Value of Investments June 30, 2008	\$ 665,594.21
Other Dividends	6,658.26	The scholarships were presented at the	September NOGS luncheon
Capital Gains LT	5,900.01	meeting.	
Capital Gains ST	471.97	Net Increase (decrease)	(\$ 23,749.64)
Money Fund Earnings	3,618.81		
Contributions	46,988.87	VANGUARD ACCOUNT	
TOTAL	\$88,055.27	Value of Investments June 30, 2007	\$140,353.58
Expenses:		Value of Investments June 30, 2008	\$111,409.20
Scholarships	\$23,500.00	Net Increase (decrease)	(\$ 28,944.38)
Donations	\$2,500.00		
Board Insurance	723.00	Total Net Increase (decrease)	(\$ 52,694.02)
Accountant Fees	650.00		
Scholarship Luncheon	300.00	NOGS has now awarded a total of	180 scholarships to date. The
Miscellaneous	0.00	numbers break out as follows:	
TOTAL	\$27,673.00	74 awards to LSU for a total of	\$140,500
		30 awards to Nicholls State for a t	total of \$ 40,000
		70 awards to Tulane for a total of	\$134,000
Respectfully submitted,		76 awards to UNO for a total of	\$143,000
•		for a grand total of \$457,500 in so	
1 (1 1 1 1 T)		101 a grana total of \$157,500 in St	onorarompo a maraca.

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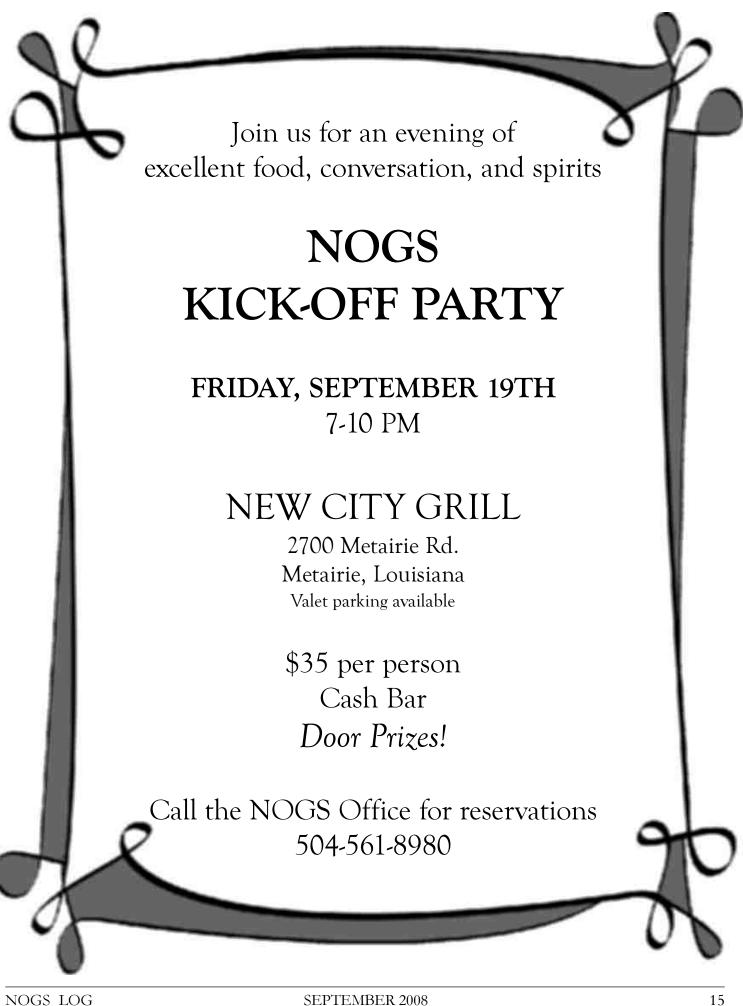
E. Cameron South (65) & Vermilion South (66) 30,000' offsets, 11 second records processed in January 2008

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2008 Joint Annual Meeting

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This adds up to one singular opportunity for you.

Come to Houston, Texas, 5-9 October 2008, to celebrate the International Year of Planet Earth. Professionals, students, and media from all over the world will find useful and valuable information at this unprecedented Joint Annual Meeting, held at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas, USA.

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/:

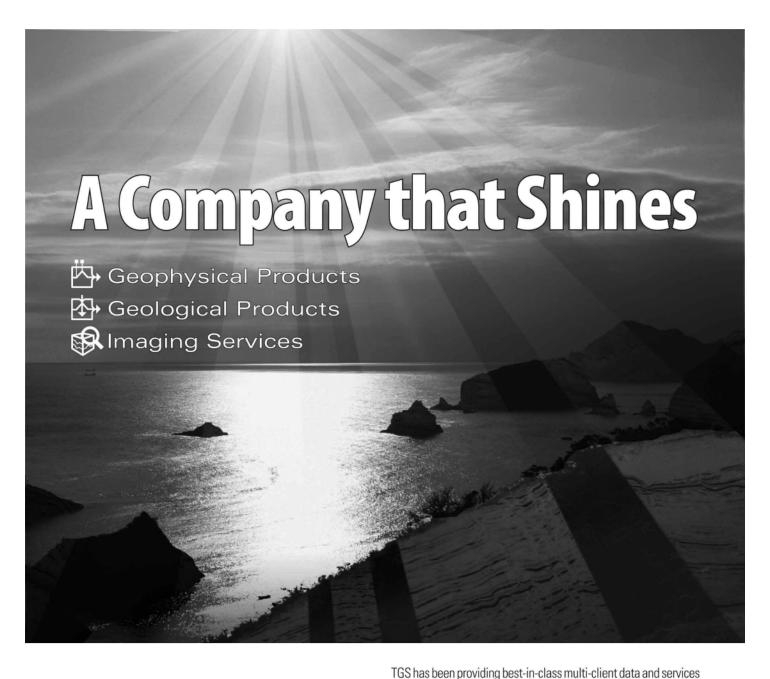
Online Meeting Registration
Online Housing Form
Joint Events
Field Trips
Tours
Houston Information
International Travel

Important Dates & Deadlines

Early Bird Registration closes 14 July 2008

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Childcare Registration closes 5 September 2008





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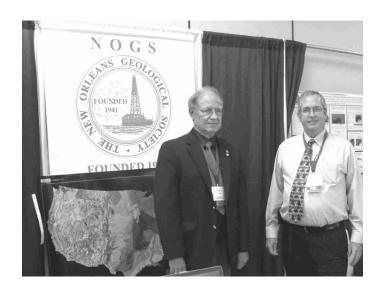
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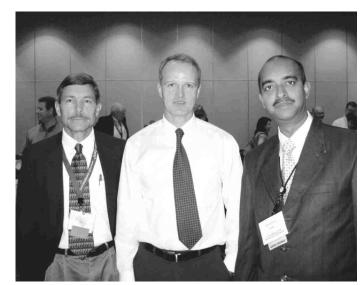
2008 Deepwater Technology Symposium



















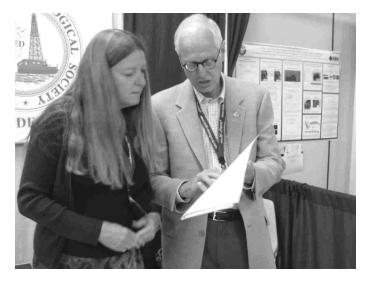




























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South Louisiana and Offshore Exploration and Production Activity

Noble Energy, Inc. on 15-July announced that it had identified a high-quality reservoir at the Tortuga prospect in MC Blocks 561 and 605. The Noble (50% WI) operated MC 561 #2 was drilled to a TD of 19,885 feet and encountered the primary objective water-bearing. However, natural gas in a secondary objective. Water depth at the location is 6,340 feet. Two miles northwest, Burlington Resources abandoned the MC 561 #1 at a TD of 14, 774 feet in mid-2001. A by-pass, drilled later that year to a TVD of 15,603 feet (MTD 15,598 feet) was abandoned later that year. MC 561 and 605 were originally acquired by Burlington (66.67% WI) and Hess (33.33%) for bonuses of \$9,106,560 and \$2,355,840 respectively at OCS Sale 169 in 1998.

The well has been temporarily abandoned pending future development plans.

• **BHP Billiton** announced on 24-July that its Neptune Tension Leg Platform (TLP) in the deepwater GoM, which began production on 6 July, has five of six wells on-line and oil production has already been ramped up to full design capacity of 50,000 BOPD. Natural gas production continues to ramp up.

The Neptune TLP was installed in 4,250 feet of water on GC Block 613. Field development includes six initial subsea wells tied back to the TLP. Further development wells are expected to be drilled after interpretation of new seismic data, which will be obtained in the latter half of 2008.

The Neptune field comprises five blocks: AT 573, 574, 575, 617 and 618 where water depths range from 4,200 to 6,500 feet.

BHP Billiton is the operator of Neptune with a 35% WI. Partners include Marathon Oil Corporation (30% WI), Woodside Energy (USA) Inc. (20% WI), and Maxus (U.S.) Exploration Company (15 % WI).

- Bayou Bend Petroleum Ltd. commenced production on 24-July at its Eagle's Nest field in EI Block 6 in the state waters of Louisiana. The well was drilled as part of the Marsh Island project with partner Contango in the second quarter. As of 30-July, the well was FARO 35.1 MMCF/D and 744 BC/D with 9170 psi FTP. The well is tied into Contango's EI 11 production facility for processing and sales. Bayou Bend has a 12.453525% WI in the prospect.
- The planned multi-year drilling program for which **StatoilHydro** is searching for a partner could involve leases encompassing 17 prospects, six of which are near-term drilling candidates (http://www.waterous.com/statoil2008/overview.asp). As additional prospects are matured, the strategic partner(s) could have the opportunity to participate in additional drill options, and could to earn up to 50% of StatoilHydro's interest in these exploration prospects wherein StatoilHydro will retain operatorship. The prospects are located in the Miocene and Paleogene trends in the deepwater GoM and are advertised as having a reserve potential in the billions of barrels. StatoilHydro has executed drilling contracts for two new-build deepwater dynamically-positioned drilling rigs capable of executing the exploration drilling program, which will commence in 2009. The majority of the prospects and acreage are in Keathley Canyon, although near-term drillable prospects are also located in Mississippi Canyon, Green Canyon, Walker Ridge, and Alaminos Canyon. Proposals from interested parties are due in mid-October.

- Paul Post



Brian Joseph O'Neill

1954 – 2008

Our Society lost a dedicated member on June 26th with the death of Brian O'Neill. He fought a valiant fight with T-cell lymphoma for two years before succumbing. He was a most-valued contributor to the NOGS School Outreach Committee. Brian liked nothing better than being surrounded by bright-eyed youngsters as he explained the differences in his beloved dinosaurs.

Brian joined Shell in 1979 in Houston as a paleontologist after graduating with an MS degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 1981, he transferred to Shell Offshore Inc. to join the paleontology staff, as Shell's offshore drilling continued to accelerate and additional staff was needed. Brian excelled in the discipline and quickly demon-

strated his skills at manipulating well fossil data using continuously evolving sophisticated software applications that enhanced interpretations of correlation events and paleobathymetry. He, and several colleagues from other companies, created a very successful short course for geoscientists who wanted to learn more about the "hows and whys" of paleontology in the Gulf Coast Basin. Subsequently, Brian taught paleo short courses all over the world at Shell installations and at universities.

Although Brian never held an office in NOGS, he became active in SEPM Society for Sedimentary Geology. Brian held many positions in this organization including serving on the SEPM Council as Councilor for Paleontology and two terms on the K-12 Earth Science Committee. While serving on this committee, he authored four publications. Brian was president of the North American Micropaleontology Section of SEPM. His activities record at SEPM headquarters shows he participated in some fourteen committees. With such an enviable record of selfless dedication to the organization, Brian was awarded Honorary Membership in the Society at the national AAPG/SEPM Convention in April of this year in San Antonio.

Brian also held membership in the Geological Society of America, Micropalaeontology Society, and Cushman Foundation for Foraminiferal Research, of which he is a Fellow and a member of the Board of Directors since 2004. He was a member of the Paleontological Research Institution, and the Paleontological Society. Please note the emphasis on paleontology. He was also a member of the Gulf Coast Section of SEPM and served as vice-president in 1987-1988. I could go on, but I believe I have given you a just sampling of Brian's dedication to his chosen profession. He was also an active member and participated in many volunteer activities of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

In recognition of his outstanding achievements at Shell in the past 29 years, and in recognition of his outside professional activities, Shell International Exploration and Production had recently promoted Brian to Global Biostratigraphy Lead.

Brian was an exceptionally gifted individual in many areas. He will be greatly missed by all.

Edward B. Picou, Jr.



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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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NOGS Fall Field Trip – October 18th 2008 The Baton Rouge Fault

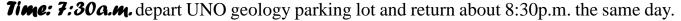
...and its Friends from New Orleans to Baton Ronge

Trip Date: October 18th 2008

Leaders: Woody Gagliano (Coastal

Environments), Kathy Haggar

(Riparian, Inc.), and Rich McCulloh (LGS)



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

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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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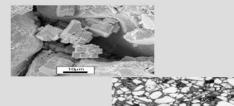
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- Assessment of oil and gas resources: The USGS released an assessment of oil and gas resources that they deem recoverable from northern latitudes north of the Arctic Circle. For more information check out the article at: http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=1980
- NASA's report on Saturn moon: The latest results from the Cassini spacecraft released by NASA's JPL show Titan, Saturn's moon has hydrocarbon filled lakes on it's surface as part of a methane-based hydrological cycle. For more details go to: http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.cfm?release=2008-152
- **OneGeology:** OneGeology, a new web portal for worldwide geological map access was launched at the IGC this month. OneGeology's homepage is at: http://www.onegeology.org/home.html

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New Orleans Geological Auxiliary News

It is my privilege to have been given the opportunity to serve as President of the New Orleans Geological Auxiliary for 2008-2009. Being involved with the auxiliary and its members for the past several years has been such an enjoyable and meaningful experience for me that I would like to invite those of you who have not joined or who have been inactive to come socialize with us and have fun at our upcoming events.

We will begin our new year on September 10th with a luncheon at Jean Jones' beautiful home. The event will be cochaired by Alma Dunlap, Beverly Christina, and Camille Yeldell. This is always a special occasion as it gives us a chance to catch up on summer happenings and to get acquainted with prospective members.

On November 12th, the Auxiliary will be dining at the New City Grille on Metairie Road. Be assured that Judy Lemairié, Dolores Murphy, and Ann Gilbert will plan a lovely and delicious luncheon for this event.

We'll be "across the lake" for our Northshore Luncheon at Benedict's on February 11th. Co-chairs, Joan Sylvester and Pat Williamson, will make certain that this will be an enjoyable day for all!

Beverly and Everett Kastler have generously offered their beautiful home for our Spring Social which will be held on March 21st. Beverly, with the help of Susie Baker and myself, will do our best to make this a special occasion for all of us and our spouses or significant others.

Our year will conclude on May 20th with our Installation Luncheon at Ralph's on the Park. June Perret and Josie Markey will make sure we end on a "high

note" by planning a wonderful day in honor of the upcoming slate of officers and directors.

In addition to these NOGA events, the Auxiliary is also happy to assist NOGS with their social plans. Amber Klekamp and Mary Walther will help with the Kick-Off Party. Susie Baker and I will be assisting with the Christmas Party.

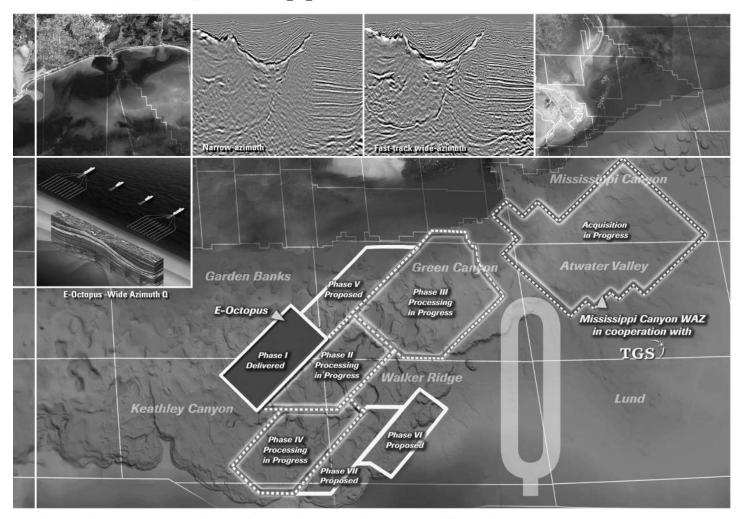
Many thanks to all who will be involved in making this year a pleasurable one. Remember, if you are not yet a member of NOGA, please consider joining us. Send in the attached application now and mark your calendar for a fun-filled year!

Linda Peirce, NOGA President

(NOGA Application Form

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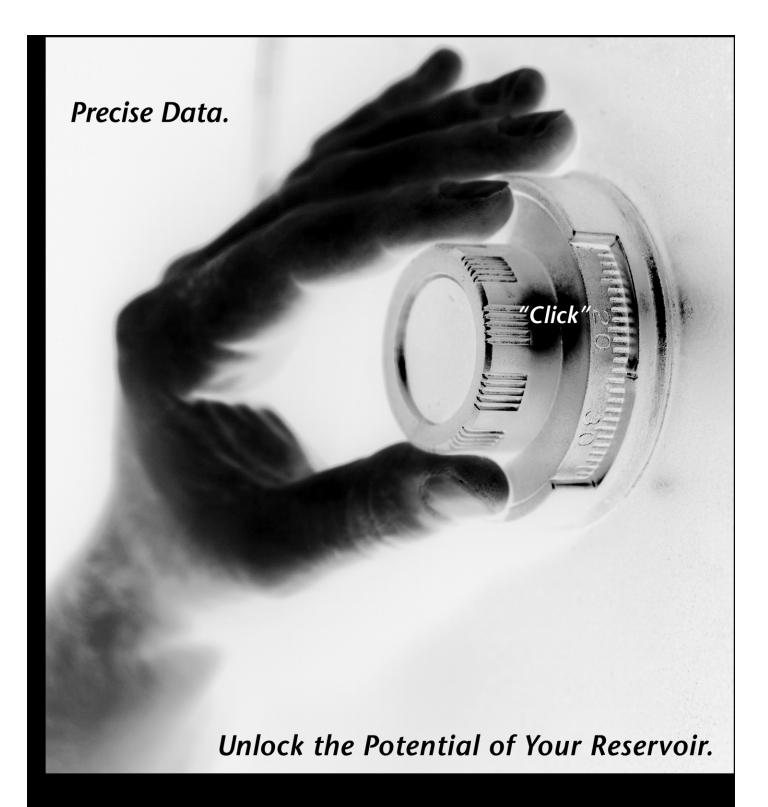
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---continued on page 34 ---



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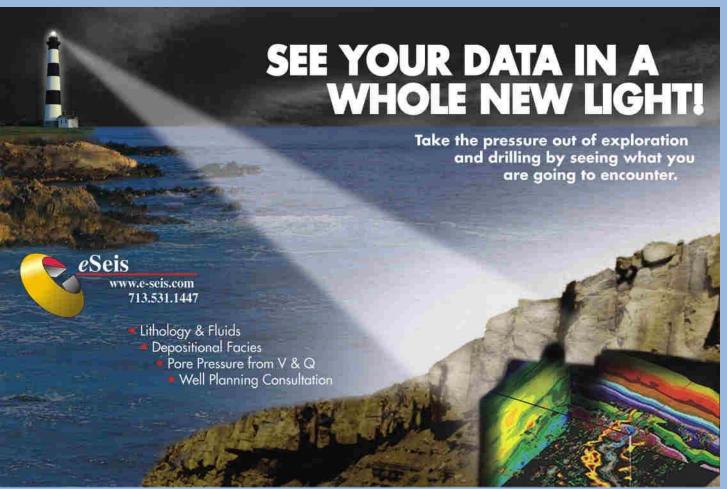
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