



**June 2011** 

Volume 51, Number 12

# Upcoming Events and Activities

### June 6 - NOGS Luncheon

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

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome. Guest speaker Kimberly L. Faulk, Geoscience Earth & Marine Services (GEMS) in Houston, will present "Marine Archaeology in the Gulf of Mexico."

(See page 7 for Abstract and Biography)

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome

Check with concierge or front desk for location Lunch served at 11:30am

#### Admission:

with reservation		
without reservation	\$35.00	
Student Member with reservation	Free	

### June 10 - Coastal Restoration Forum: Our Wetlands, Our Future

Free symposium. 8:30am - 3:00pm, Our Lady of Holy Cross College. See announcement on page 8.

### June 20-24 - SIPES 48th Annual Meeting

Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Info: www.sipes.org

### June 23-25 - Oil History Symposium & Fieldtrip

Marietta, Ohio. Info: www.petroleumhistory.org

### July 11 - NOGS Luncheon

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome. Guest speaker David Garner, Shell Exploration & Production Co. in New Orleans, will present: Integrating Technologies to Unlock New Volumes in a Mature Deepwater Gulf of Mexico Field."



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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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### from the President

New Orleans Geological Society - NOGS' 2011-2012 leadership team is beginning their tour on July 1st and I wish them all the best. We all need to offer them our full support and encouragement. I would encourage you to ask, "What can I do to help?" It's a pretty safe bet that they will have something for you.

We still have a number of vacancies within the NOGS committees and the Chairs thereof:

- 1. Continuing Education
- 2. Fields Trips (which resides within the Continuing Education group)
- New Geoscientists NGNOGS in conjunction with the SPE Young Professionals

Additionally, with NOGS hosting the 2013 GCAGS Convention, the following Chairs will need committee members for us to be successful:

- 1. General
- 2. Treasurer
- 3. Exhibits
- 4. Technical Program
- 5. Registration
- 6. Field Trips
- 7. Short Courses
- 8. Publicity
- 9. Printing
- 10. Spouses/Guest Program
- 11. Entertainment

There are many other opportunities to serve besides those mentioned above. Volunteering to assist the society in one of these roles can at first seemed quite scary. So to take away some of the fear factor we are asking our senior members and those members who have had the experience previously to assist anyone willing to step up for 2013.

Please make every effort to bring a friend or colleague to our July 11th luncheon meeting and hear our own David Garner of Shell Exploration and Production, speak on "Integrating Technologies to Unlock New Volumes in a Mature Deepwater Gulf of Mexico Field." Also don't forget to support the 15th Annual Deepwater Technical Symposium, August 11-12 at the Hilton Riverside.

Please take note of the passing of our member and colleague, Terry Keegan on April 27th and Director Jack Langford's wife, Beverly on May 3rd.

I want to thank the entire membership for my opportunity to serve as your president this past year. I received hearty support from so many of you especially our past presidents and senior members. I could not have done it without ya'll and the strong board of directors that has served the society during the 2010-2011 term. It has been an honor and a privilege to have served for and with you. But even though I have moved to Conway, Arkansas, and finished my term as your President you won't be completely rid of me yet, as I look forward to visiting with you at least once a month.

God bless you all,

Rick

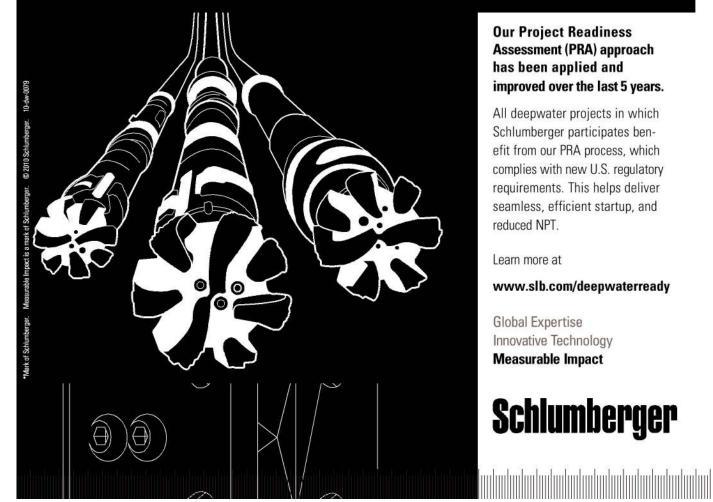


# Deep Water

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-2	Complexity	-2	-4	-6	-8	-10
-3	Complexity/Process + Exposure	-3	-6	-9	-12	-15
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# June 6 NOGS Luncheon Presentation \*\*\*At the Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome\*\*\*

<del>------</del>

# Marine Archaeology in the Gulf of Mexico presented by

### Kimberly L. Faulk Geoscience Earth & Marine Services (GEMS), Houston, TX

#### **ABSTRACT**

Marine Archaeology is still a relatively young field, having only been around a few decades; but its impact on the offshore oil and gas industry has been steadily growing. With recent regulatory changes by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement the field is swiftly becoming a larger part of the energy industry. In the recent past, projects only hired marine archaeologists if they were working in a designated "archaeology block." Today marine archaeologists are reviewing data for every block in the Gulf of Mexico.

At present, there are fewer than 20 archaeologists working for private companies in the oil and gas industry in the Gulf of Mexico region. Our responsibilities include setting up deepwater surveys for clients, assisting our clients in complying with federal guidelines established by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement

(BOEMRE, formerly the Minerals Management Service), assessing data from deepwater surveys, making recommendations regarding pipeline routing and subsea infrastructure placement, monitoring ROV surveys of potential cultural targets, and working with the BOEMRE and private industry to protect submerged cultural resources.

This presentation focuses on several questions: Why are marine archaeologists working in the oil and gas industry? What do they bring to the table? What are they looking for, and how do they identify what they find? How can marine archaeologists help you at the start of a project to minimize downtime caused by archaeological discoveries? What does marine archaeology have to do with geohazard and geotechnical studies? What has been found in the past? How does marine archaeology fit into your offshore program?

#### **BIOGRAPHY**



Kimberly L. Faulk (née Eslinger) is currently the Marine Archaeologist for Geoscience Earth & Marine Services (GEMS) in Houston, Texas. She holds an MA in Maritime History and Nautical

Archaeology from East Carolina University, and a BA in History from Roanoke College. She is the Vice Chair for the Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology, the chair for the Society of Historic Archaeology's Technologies Committee, an elected member of the Society for Underwater Technology's

Offshore Site Investigation Group, and the chair for the first sessions on marine archaeology at the Offshore Technology Conference 2011. Her current work utilizes Autonomous Underwater Vehicles, Remotely Operated Vehicles, and conventional remote sensing equipment in deepwater to survey, investigate, and assess potential archaeological sites. Ms. Faulk has published several articles on marine archaeology, and acted as producer and historical consultant on several documentaries and videos about history and marine archaeology.

### THE LUNCHEON RESERVATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 1 - CONTACT THE NOGS OFFICE

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

The next NOGS Luncheon will be held on July 11 at Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome. Guest speaker David Garner, Shell Exploration & Production Co. in New Orleans, will present: Integrating Technologies to Unlock New Volumes in a Mature Deepwater Gulf of Mexico Field." Contact the NOGS office to make your reservation.

### **Register Today!**

### **Coastal Restoration Forum**

Friday, June 10, 2011 8:30am-3:00pm

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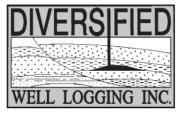
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# NOGS Annual Golf Outing

Photos courtesy of Arthur Christensen



Winner Tim Moran after 18 holes



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Jay Morales, Anthony Catalanotto Jr., Anthony Catalanotto Sr., Ray Spain



Doug Manning, Ward Bannerman, Mike Robinson, Bo Wolcott



Janine Klibert



Bob Hafner, Annette Hudson and Tchefuncta Golf Pro Ed Carlisle present awards

### **NOGS 2011 Golf Outing**

On a pleasantly warm but not hot Monday in May, NOGS held its annual golf outing. The NOGS 2011 Golf Outing raised \$4,700 toward the NOGS Memorial Scholarship Fund. The real winners are the future students at UNO, LSU, and Tulane that are awarded the scholarship monies. The entire NOGS board wishes to thank the following sponsors.

Diversified Well Logging (deserves a special thanks for the great cook out to end the day)

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Please continue to support this noble cause next year and attend a fun event with your golfing friends.

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**Bob Hafner** 

### South Louisiana and Offshore Exploration and Production Activity

South Louisiana and Offshore Gulf of Mexico Exploration and Production Activities

By Carlo C. Christina

### LAFAYETTE DISTRICT, ONSHORE AREA

Changes to the Drill Bits column.

In an attempt to make the Drill Bits column more informative, and to allow you, the reader, to better follow the onshore activity, the following changes will be incorporated in future reports:

Each new location and completion will carry a letter identification, (A), (B), etc., which will be posted on the attached map of South Louisiana in order to quickly pinpoint that activity. Also, each well will be identified with its serial number so that the reader can activate the complete history of that well by visiting the **SONRIS Lite** website and clicking on the "Wells by Serial Number" link. Tom Klekamp has provided the activity map.

#### **NEW LOCATIONS**

Forty-six new drilling permits have been approved in the Lafayette District since my last report.

In Avoyelles Parish (A), Nelson Energy will drill in **North Bayou Jack Field** the #1 Deshotels to a depth of 20,146 feet in Sec 13, T2S-R5E, shown as "A" on the activity map. The objective section is the Austin Chalk, which will be penetrated at 15,380 feet and drilled in a horizontal lateral approximately 4700 feet in length (243093).

El Paso has permitted another location in Beauregard Parish (B), in **Shoats Creek Field** located in Sec. 10, T7S-R12 W. The #1 Olympia Minerals will be drilled to 15,000 feet (243065).

Also, in Beauregard Parish (C), Midstates has permitted the #2 Musser-Davis in **South Bear Head Creek Field** in Sec. 28, T6S-R11W and will drill to 15,500 feet (243109).

In East Feliciana Parish (D), Devon Energy has permitted its Lane #64-1 in **Ethel Field.** This well is the first in a series of deep **Tuscaloosa Marine Shale** wells to be drilled in the Marine Shale Fairway shown on the activity map. It will be drilled in Sec. 64, T3S-R1E. It is now reported that the well will be drilled as a straight hole to 15,500 feet (243108). Devon had previously filed for a 720-acre unit for a horizontal well to be drilled with a 5200-foot lateral leg. Several horizontal wells are reported to be drilled in the near future.

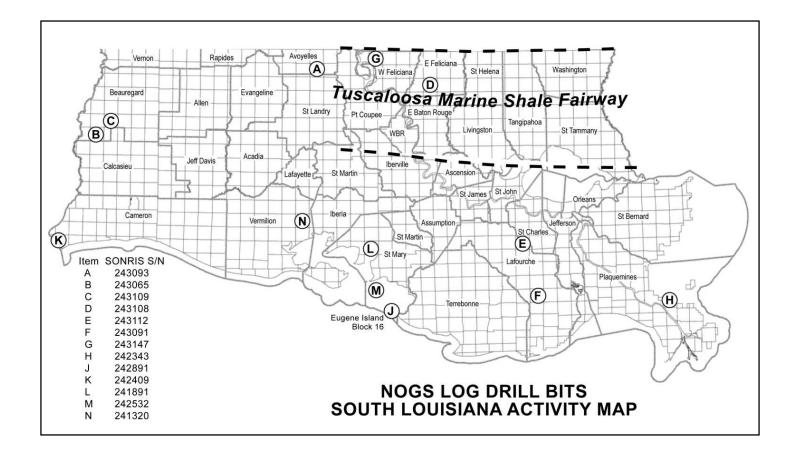
The leasing activity in this area has increased in the past few months with more than 800,000 acres being leased or traded.

The **Tuscaloosa Marine Shale** has been the target of several horizontal wells drilled in recent years. Encore Operating Limited has drilled 4 wells, 2 in Louisiana and 2 wells in Mississippi, completing 3 of the 4 wells drilled.

In East Feliciana Parish, Encore re-established production in **Richland Plantation Field** with the #1 Richland Plantation. It was drilled in Sec. 69, T1S-R2E to a total depth of 16,209 feet in a 3720-foot horizontal hole and completed through the interval 13,850 to 15,900 feet. Since being completed in May 2008, it has produced 10,831 barrels of oil.

Encore's #1 Weyerhaeuser was drilled in St. Helena Parish and completed as the discovery well for the **North Chipola Field.** It was drilled in Sec.60, T1S-R4E to a depth of 17,032 feet in a 4100-foot horizontal hole. It was completed in November 2008 through perforations 14,750' to 16,703' flowing 323 BOPD. Total production is 28,087 barrels of oil in 27 months.

The Tuscaloosa equivalent section in Texas is the **Eagle Ford**, which has been successfully drilled and completed in the shale in recent months. In LaSalle County, Texas, wells came online at 600 to 940 BOEPD. Some of the major operators are Newfield Exploration with 335,000 net



acres and Cabot Oil & Gas having more than 40,000 net acres. Horizontal drilling of the **Eagle Ford** in Texas has proven to be very successful. The question now is will it be as successful in the Florida Parishes of Louisiana.

In Jefferson Parish (E), Manti Exploration Co. is drilling a step-out to **Bayou Villars Field.** The #1 SL 20413 is located in Sec. 20, T15S-R20E (243112).

A deep test has been permitted in Lafourche Parish (F). ConocoPhillips has permitted the #1 LL&E, a 23,000-foot well in **Golden Meadows Field.** It will be drilled in Sec. 71, T19S-R21E (243091).

In West Feliciana Parish (G), Griffin & Griffin will drill the #1 McGaw in **Tunica Bayou Field**. The 9100-foot test will be drilled in West Feliciana Parish within Sec. 57, T1S-R4W (243147). The field was originally discovered by the Radzewicz #1 Clintwood Plantation in 1988 and completed flowing 100 BOPD through perforations 8792 to 8800 feet. The well produced only 7900 barrels over a period of 3 years. In 2007, Griffin & Griffin drilled a Frio discovery and completed the #1 Faust flowing 236 MCFG through perforations 2347 to 2349 feet. This well was drilled under a program of Frio and Miocene Sand Bright Spot Prospects. The latest proposed test will probably evaluate both the Frio and deeper oil sand potential.

#### **COMPLETIONS**

Martin-Marks has completed an oil well in Plaquemines Parish in **Coquille Bay Field** (H), located in T19S-R18E. The #1 R. F. Price, Jr. was drilled to 11,527 feet and tested 528 BOPD and 2300 MCFPD gas through perforations 11,352 to 11,362 feet in the S-3 Sand (242343).

In **Eugene Island Block 16** (J), Clayton Williams has plugged and abandoned its wildcat, the #1 SL 19924, at a depth of 14,000 feet (242891).

Forza Operating Co. has completed the #2 SL 19067 in **Sabine Lake Field** located in T14S-R15W of Cameron Parish (K). The well was drilled to 13,818 feet and completed in the Hackberry reservoir flowing 2690 MCFG and 180 BCPD through perforations 13,020 to 13,142 feet (OA) with FTP 7200 psi (242409).

In St. Mary Parish (L), **Bayou Carlin Field,** McMoRan is preparing to complete the #1 Valentine after testing the well at 54 MMCF gas per day with flowing tubing pressure of 9989 psi. The well is located in Sec.18, T15S-R9E and is an offset to the #1 Peterman, which McMoRan completed in 2007. The Peterman has produced more than 509,300 barrels of

--- continued on next page ---

### **Drill Bits** (continued from previous page)

oil and 30.6 billion cubic feet gas in 46 months. These wells were drilled as McMoRan's Laphroaig Prospect but are carried in **Bayou Carlin Field** by the State's records (241891).

In St. Mary Parish within **Atchafalaya Bay Field** (M), Phoenix Exploration is waiting on a completion rig for the #2 SL 20035 after drilling to a total depth of 18,974 feet and setting a liner at 18,971 feet (242532).

Phoenix is also drilling the #1 SL 20369 below 12,700 feet to a projected total depth of 20,500 feet (242873). Phoenix had previously completed the #1 SL 20035 and the #1 SL 20221 in 2010, which are now producing more than 32 MCFGPD.

In Erath Field, Vermilion Parish, (N), Manti #1 Moss, Cris R unit is preparing to complete at a depth of 20,225 feet. The well is located in Se. 33, 13S-4E, 2 miles south of production. (241320). The well is located in Sec. 33, T13S-R4E (242320).

Erath Field was discovered in 1940 and has produced more than 9 million barrels of oil and 86 billion cubic feet of gas since 1977. Production has been declining since 2006, with no drilling activity since 1983. The deepest well in the Field was drilled to 17,100 feet, so the results of this 20,225 foot test will be interesting.

#### **LEASING NEWS**

In the March 9<sup>th</sup> State Lease Sale, six tracts totaling 11,264 acres were acquired for \$4,872,000 in Cameron Parish. The leases, SL 20571 through SL 20576, are located in T15 and 16S and R3,4 and 5W and were taken in the name of Theophilus Oil & Gas & Land Services. The bids averaged \$432 per acre with 25% royalty.

The tracts are located west and south of Deep Lake and West Deep Lake fields, and east of Price Lake Field, in an area of deep prolific sands. A 1445-square mile 3-D seismic survey of has been shot in this area. With a 4.8 million dollar investment in leases, we can expect requests for drilling permits in the near future.

### OFFSHORE GULF OF MEXICO SHELF ACTIVITES

By Al Baker

Between April 5<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup>, the BOEMRE issued forty-nine drilling permits. Nine permits were for new wells two of which are exploratory and seven are development. The exploratory wells include the Vermilion Block 342 #1 operated by Peregrine Oil & Gas and the ANKOR Energy Ship Shoal Block 290 #3. The development well permits were issued to Arena Offshore for the East Cameron Block 328 #C-4, to Apache Corporation for the Eugene Island Block 330 #D-15, to Pisces Energy for the Ship Shoal Block 151 #A-2 and to Chevron for the South Timbalier Block 52 #CK-33, # CK-34, #CK-35 and #CK-36.

According to RigOutlook, as of March 31<sup>st</sup> there were 55 active jackup rigs out of the 107 available rigs in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, which translates into a 51% utility rate. The average dayrate for a jackup rig was \$75,000 per day. In the floater rig market, there were 29 active out the 39 vessels available, which equates to a 74% utilization rate. The dayrate average for a floater rig was \$373,000 per day.

On April 19th, the BOEMRE announced the completion of a draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for the proposed oil and gas Lease Sale 218 in the Western Planning Area in the Gulf of Mexico. This draft SEIS updates the findings in several previously published EISs covering the Gulf of Mexico, as well as new analyses using the latest available information following the Deepwater Horizon explosion and spill. A public comment period extending to June 6, 2011 is now underway prior to issuing the final draft. The public comment period will include meetings in Houston and New Orleans. Currently, OCS Sale 218 is tentatively scheduled for late 2011 or early 2012.

In an April 19th press release, McMoRan Exploration reported that their Davy Jones #2 well had reached a total depth of 30,546 feet. McMoRan was preparing to evaluate exploration objectives in the Cretaceous section below the previously identified Wilcox pay sands. Based upon interpretations of drilling data, McMoRan believes that the well encountered the Cretaceous section. If confirmed, McMoRan further believes that the combination of productive Wilcox and Cretaceous sections on the same geologic structure could enhance the prospectivity of Davy Jones and the value of McMoRan's other ultra-deep shelf prospects on its acreage position within the Davy Jones Trend.

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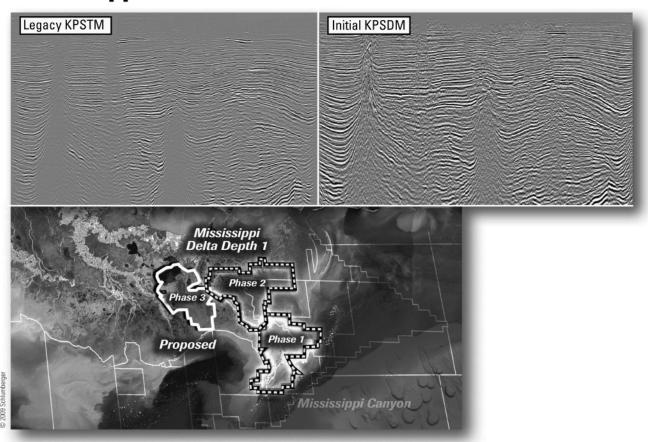
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### NFOITIDBITS

### **Great Images of the Lopsided Meathook Galaxy** - May 6, 2011 | NASA:

"The Meathook Galaxy, or NGC 2442, has a dramatically lopsided shape. One spiral arm is tightly folded in on itself and host to a recent supernova, while the other, dotted with recent star formation, extends far out from the nucleus." Quoted from the NASA photo release. For more information go to: http://www.spacetelescope.org/news/heic1108/

### **Record Dive in a New Zealand Cave** - May 5, 2011 | National Geographic:

National Geographic posted this video of a dive into a deep, cold-water New Zealand cave. The cave has a strong, cold current and the divers are searching for its source. For more information go to: http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/player/news/culture-places-news/new-zealandcave-diving-vin.html/

### Gulf of Mexico Microfossils and Climate Change - May 5, 2011 | USGS on YouTube:

"Proxy data such as tree rings, ice cores, and microorganisms are collected and analyzed by scientists to unlock past climate records stretching back thousands to millions of years ago. This video podcast examines how scientists can decipher past climate from such records by focusing on a proxy calibration study in the Gulf of Mexico." Quoted from the USGS video release. For more information go to: http://gallery.usgs.gov/videos/378/

A Renewable Twist on Fossil Fuels - April 26, 2011 UDaily, 1:04 p.m.: Pulling valuable fuels out of thin air? It sounds like magic, but Joel Rosenthal, a chemist at the University of Delaware, is working to transform carbon dioxide (CO2), a greenhouse gas in the atmosphere, into gas for your car and clean-energy future fuels. For more information go to: http://www.udel.edu/udaily/ 2011/apr/rosenthal-greenhouse-gas-042611.html/

### GEOLOGIST AT LUNCH



Fran Wiselady

Editor's Note:

I have been honored to serve as your editor this last year and I got to work with some terrific people. I

FROM THE EDITOR

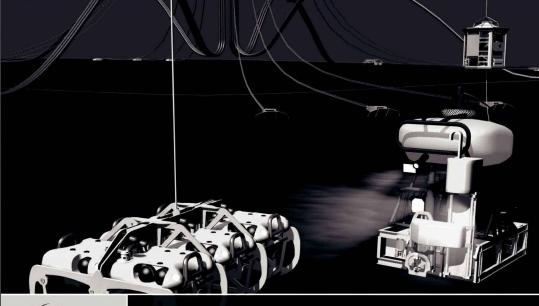
would like to thank Annette Hudson, Ed Picou, and Jannette Sturm-Mexic for their patience and help.

Next month the new editor, Dave Tatum, will be editing the articles for the NOGS Log. We have been working together and he is a very good editor. I know he will do a great job.

Also I wish to congratulate the new NOGS board members and thank the NOGA organization for their time and help with the parties and AAPG convention.

Fran Wiselady

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### **New Orleans Geological Auxiliary News**

Our deepest and sincerest sympathies are extended to the Jack Langford Family on the recent passing of Beverly Langford. Beverly joined the New Orleans Geological Auxiliary in 1959 and served in various positions on the Board, as well as, chairing many of our events. Beverly's long and enduring friendship with many of our members proved what a wonderful and loving person Beverly was. She is still in the hearts of all of her family and friends, who will miss her dearly.

Well, it's that time of year to say "Thank You" to all the ladies who have offered their time and their homes this past year for all of us to enjoy several luncheons, coffees and an unforgettable Spring Social at the Moseley's Garden District home. If space would permit, I would love to personally thank you individually: however, your efforts will not go unnoticed when we celebrate "You" on June 2nd at our annual "Thank You Luncheon"!

In addition, our organization would not exist if it wasn't for the fabulous Board members who graciously agreed to serve yet once again for our benefit. We told you, Jean, "it would be a breeze"! Jean, Alma, Judy (Lemarie'), Peggy, Beverly (Kastler) and Linda, please accept our debt of gratitude to all of you. Judy Sabate', thanks for getting great and interesting speakers for this past year. We are now up to date on fashion and sports. If you are not a member, I would encourage you to sign up as we not only eat well, but we do seem to acquire very interesting speakers (not to mention the many friends that you will meet).

Congrats to Beverly Christina and Ruthie Grimes for receiving the Loyalty and Service Awards, respectively. Your dedication and time that you have offered to NOGA all these past years has been invaluable. You deserve more! We hope that you were surprised and realize that you are much appreciated and greatly loved.

The Installation Luncheon was a huge success thanks to Camille Yeldell and Alma Dunlap. Metairie Country Club is always a beautiful venue for this special day. It seems awkward to say that this is the last luncheon of the year, but, before you know it, September will be here sooner than you think!

Our Planning Committee will gather soon to discuss the events for the 2011-2012 year. Good luck, as anyone who knows that has served on the Committee, this takes time and lots of phone calls concerning the venues and contacting members to chair events. Please consider making their job easier by participating where and when you can.

Have a safe and happy summer,

Susie Baker

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### **NOGS Student Members Receive Research Grants**

The AAPG Foundation Grants-in-Aid program recently announced their 2011 recipients. Included were NOGS Student members: Clint Edrington of LSU who received the R. Dana Russell Memorial Grant, and Andrew Ranson of UNO who received the Richard C. Hasson Memorial Grant.



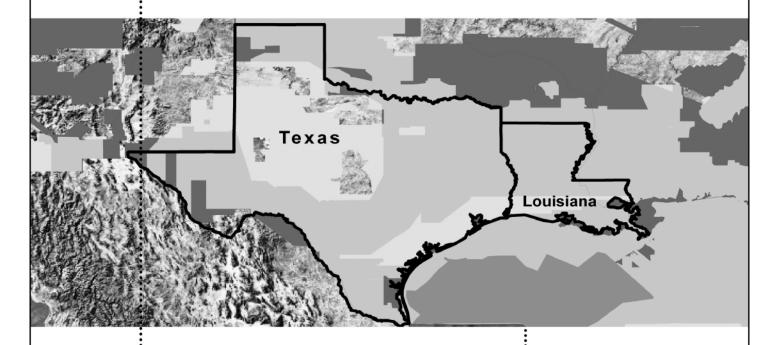
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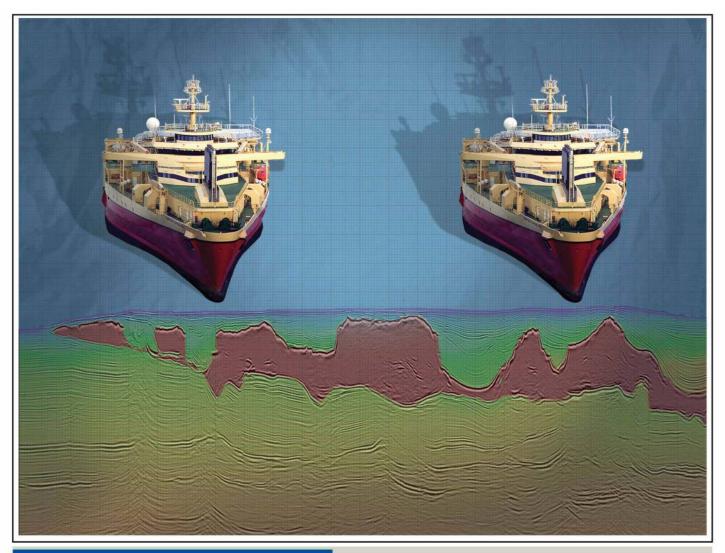
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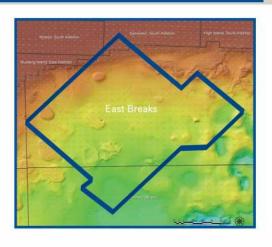
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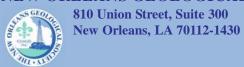
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