

NOGS LOC

DECEMBER 2013

Volume 54, Number 6



DECEMBER 2 - NOGS LUNCHEON

**Presentation: A Structural Analysis of the Green Knoll Salt Dome
Located in Southeast Green Canyon, Gulf of Mexico**

Guest Speaker: Randy Broussard

University of New Orleans and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management • New Orleans, Louisiana

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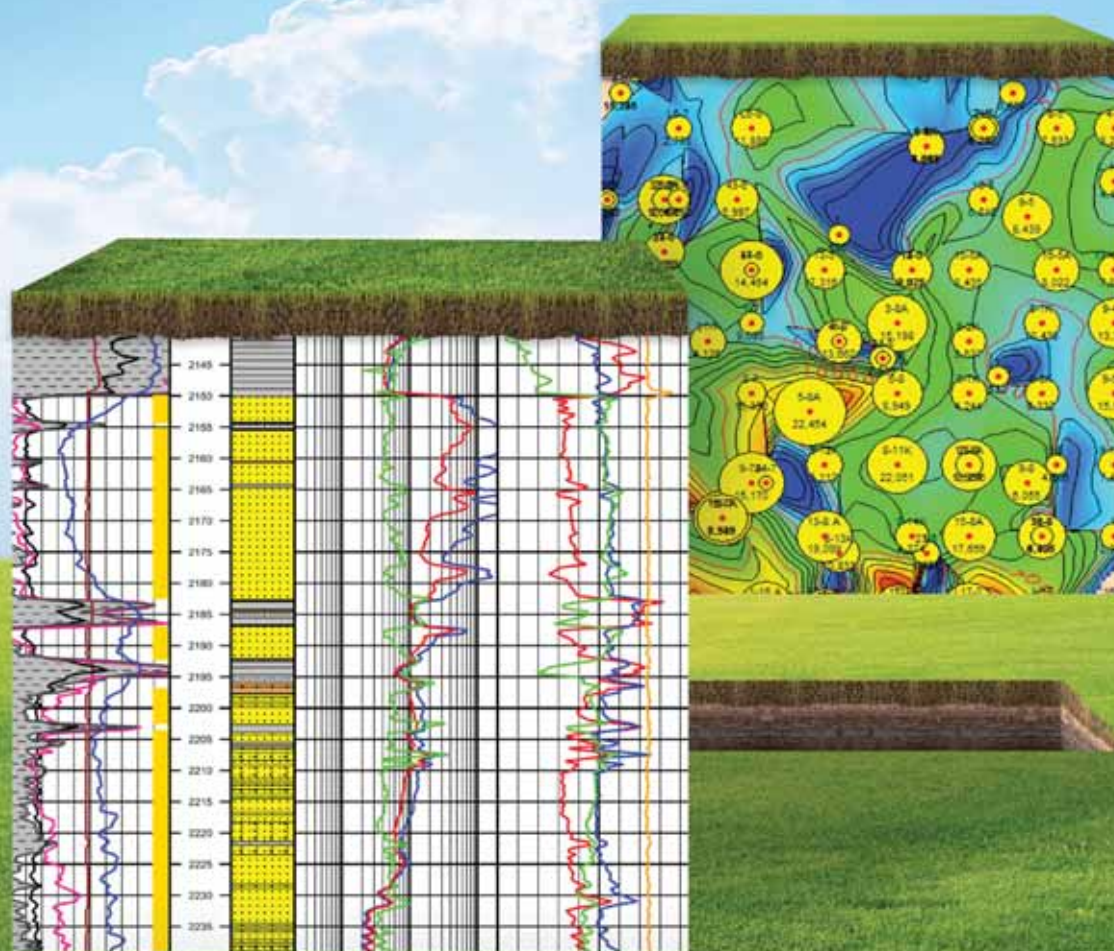
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Interested in contributing to the NOGS LOG? Please submit items by the 1st Friday of the month to nogseditor@gmail.com. Advertising request should contact the NOGS office at info@nogs.org.

IN THIS ISSUE

Regular Features:

| | |
|--|----|
| From the Editor | 3 |
| From the President | 5 |
| NOGS Officers / Contacts | 6 |
| Upcoming Events & Activities | 7 |
| NOGS Luncheon Presentation | 9 |
| December 2013 & January 2014 Calendars | 12 |
| Drill Bits | 26 |
| Info-Tidbits | 31 |
| NOGS Memorial Foundation..... | 33 |
| FONO Fund..... | 33 |

Special Features:

| | |
|--|-------|
| NOGS Christmas Holiday Party Announcement..... | 8 |
| NOGA News..... | 13 |
| NOGS Welcomes | 15 |
| GCAGS Convention Thanks | 17 |
| GCAGS Photos | 18-19 |
| LA Board of Professional Geologists | 20 |
| Membership Renewal | 23 |
| NOGS Committee News..... | 23 |
| Scholarship Recipients..... | 24-25 |
| Ultimate Wildcatter Award | 29 |

on the cover:

Cover Photo Submitted by: Roy Walther

Interior of an Avery Island Salt Mine

Avery Island, Iberia Parish, Louisiana

This postcard shows the interior of an Avery Island salt mine with several miners and two mule-hauled tram cars visible.

Although the postcard is undated we can determine that the picture was probably taken between 1869 and 1921 by several important events that occurred at the mine. The earliest and longest-used method of salt mining was by evaporation of brine springs by local native inhabitants and early settlers. In May of 1862, when cleaning and deepening a brine spring, John C. Marsh struck solid rock salt at a depth of 16 feet. Rock salt was then produced from an open pit until April 1863, when the Union army captured Avery Island. A report published by the Bureau of Mines in 1867 rejected the open pit method of mining in favor of constructing shafts and galleries, which are visible in the picture. A tramway was built in 1869 allowing mule-hauled tram cars to transport salt from the mine to the dock. However in 1921, electricity came to the mine and three-foot-gauge electric locomotives were used for hauling, thus ending the need for mules in the mine.

Source: Richard Terry, "Avery Island Salt Works," HAER, No. LA-9 August 1989.
Website: <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/pnp/habshaer/la/la0200/la0274/data/la0274data.pdf>

From the Editor



I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving. Since this is a time to reflect on what we're thankful for, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who make our monthly *NOGS LOG* a success each month.

I owe a debt of gratitude to our monthly *NOGS LOG* contributors who are always prompt in providing me with their informative articles: Al Baker, Carlo Christina, and Kevin Trosclair for keeping us well-informed about industry activities in South Louisiana and Offshore Gulf of Mexico, Peggy Rogers for keeping us abreast of the NOGA events and for almost always having a photo or two to share, and of course, Chuck Holman for his monthly letter and for working with me on last minute details.

Special recognition must go to Arthur Christensen who provides us with great photos of the Society's events, including the GCAGS Convention and the scholarship recipient photos in this month's issue. Many thanks as well to Art Johnson, who has contributed monthly GCAGS updates, and to Tom Bergeon, who provides us with reports and photos from the volunteer opportunities in which NOGS members participate.

I am very grateful to Tavia Prouhet, Editor-elect, for her NOGS Welcomes articles, helping with the editing process, and being an enthusiastic board member. Sincere thanks to Annette Hudson who handles so many details and is just an email or phone call away. And of course, tremendous thanks must go to Ed Picou for his guidance and support, and to Kristee Brown for making each *NOGS LOG* look flawless.

Last but not least, I am very appreciative to everyone who submitted a photo for the *NOGS LOG* cover.

Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

Sheri Richardson – NOGS LOG Editor

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From the President

Well it is the beginning of November and as I write this column cold winds are coming from the north, water temperatures are decreasing, and there is nary a tropical storm on the horizon, so I am going to say that we have come through the Atlantic Storm season this year with barely a scratch...Whew!

For all those who have asked about the Louisiana Professional Geoscientists application, the website is now active. Go to the website at www.lbopg.org to download a Grandfathering Application Form. Send the completed form and a check for the application fee of \$200 to the following address:

Louisiana Board of Professional Geoscientists
P.O. Box 14209
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898

In addition, email a digital copy of the completed form to apply@lbopg.org.

Interested applicants should be aware that the grandfathering application and the fee is only a part of the application procedure. In order to complete the application process, the applicant must fill out the regular application forms electronically through the lbopg website. Upon the receipt of the grandfathering application, the regular application forms, and all other required documents, the Board will review the completed application and make decisions regarding the issuance of the applicant's P.G. License

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2nd will be the date of our monthly meeting, and Randy Broussard from UNO and BOEM will present "A Structural Analysis of the Green Knoll Salt Dome in Southeast Green Canyon, Gulf of Mexico."

The NOGS Christmas Holiday Party will be on Saturday, December 7th from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the Holiday Inn Superdome on Loyola Avenue. There will be free parking at the Holiday Inn, and we will have an open bar, buffet dinner, and music from The Profiles. Please come join us!

December is the time of year when business activity slows and religious events come to the forefront. Chanukah started at sunset on November 27th and will end on December 5th and then Christmas will arrive three weeks later. In the spirit of the season, peace on Earth and good will to all.

Chuck

NOGS Office

Office Manager: Annette Hudson

Phone: 504-561-8980 • Email: info@nogs.org • Website: www.nogs.org

The office is located at 810 Union Street, Suite 300, New Orleans, LA 70112.

Correspondence and all luncheon reservations should be sent to the above address.



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E-mail

| |
|--|
| charleswholman@bellsouth.net |
| snowde.fran@gmail.com |
| margaret.mckinney@tgs.com |
| rbclark@uno.edu |
| kelli.hardesty@erm.com |
| nogseditor@gmail.com |
| mikef@wtoffshore.com |
| bootscon@aol.com |
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| 978-621-5074 |

| |
|--|
| bootscon@aol.com |
| kdenom1@lsu.edu |
| wbenson3@tulane.edu |
| r_carter@me.com |
| kimberlym@llog.com |
| kelli.hardesty@erm.com |
| mikef@wtoffshore.com |
| rbclark@uno.edu |
| bay.salmeron@chevron.com |
| kelli.hardesty@erm.com |
| daisy.pate@gmail.com |
| mike.a.fogarty@gmail.com |
| rbclark@uno.edu |
| epicou@bellsouth.net |
| reiterde@stoneenergy.com |
| jeremyprouhet@chevron.com |
| epicou@bellsouth.net |
| DGldthwt@aol.com |
| william.r.jorgensen@shell.com |
| epicou@bellsouth.net |
| Tom.bergeon@centuryx.com |
| Larissacupp@gmail.com |

NOGS LOG STAFF

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Editor | Sheri Richardson |
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| |
|--|
| srichardson@wtoffshore.com |
| tavia.prouhet@chevron.com |
| lroggers79@cox.net |
| ABaker1006@aol.com |
| drillbits81@yahoo.com |
| kjtrosccl@uno.edu |
| arthur_shalimar@yahoo.com |
| kpbrown@bellsouth.net |
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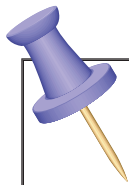
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UPCOMING Events & Activities



December 2 • NOGS Luncheon

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome

\$3.00 validated parking in hotel garage

Presentation:

A Structural Analysis of the Green Knoll Salt Dome Located in Southeast Green Canyon, Gulf of Mexico

Guest Speaker:

Randy Broussard

UNO and BOEM • New Orleans, Louisiana

See page 9 for Abstract and Biography

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December 7

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817-885-1144
318-349-8217

E-mail

william.r.jorgensen@shell.com
charleswholman@bellsouth.net

klekamp@bellsouth.net
kearl@slb.com

bootscon@aol.com
reiterde@stoneenergy.com

artjohnson51@hotmail.com
reillybe@yahoo.com
ecmcade@bellsouth.net
snowde.fran@gmail.com
susan.waters@shell.com
bootscon@aol.com
dbalcer@chevron.com
earlcumming@bellsouth.net

jburns1945@aol.com
kdenom1@lsu.edu
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cmjohns6@uno.edu
dkardell@uno.edu
jlopez@chevron.com
alvin.rowbatham@iongeo.com
pricilla.camoses@gmail.com
abby.walters@shell.com
jessica_wold@xtoenergy.com
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Christmas Holiday Party

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome

330 Loyola Avenue • New Orleans, Louisiana

Saturday, December 7, 2013 • 7:00 p.m.

Buffet Dinner

RSVP by Friday, November 22nd

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December 2 NOGS Luncheon Presentation

☆☆☆ at the Holiday Inn Superdome ☆☆☆



A Structural Analysis of the Green Knoll Salt Dome Located in Southeast Green Canyon, Gulf of Mexico



Presented by

Randy Broussard

University of New Orleans (UNO) and
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)
New Orleans, Louisiana

ABSTRACT

The western portion of the Mississippi frontal fold belt in the Gulf of Mexico contains what is known as the Green Knoll Salt Dome. The autochthonous root of the Green Knoll Salt Dome has a salt-cored fold "Frampton anticline" that runs through it. The creation and growth of this salt diapir is punctuated by salt deposition, salt migration, and sediment loading, and is linked to the "Frampton" fold. An indicator of these growth periods is exhibited in an angular unconformity (halo-kinetic sequence boundary) that flanks the diapir. This unconformity developed during the Pliocene and Miocene chronostratigraphic boundary. The "Redwood" (GC 1001) prospect was drilled after the discovery of upper middle and lower middle Miocene-aged sands containing hydrocarbons in the Mad Dog Field (GC 826) located about 12 miles northeast of "Redwood." The objective Miocene sands in the "Redwood" borehole were absent due to this angular unconformity causing the sands to pinch out. An evaluation of seismic and well log data provided by BOEM indicated that the unconformity may not have provided the seal needed to trap hydrocarbons on the flank of the salt dome, even though there is a sufficient amount of Cretaceous and Jurassic source rock, as well as faulting, to provide the migration of hydrocarbons to the trap. Yet, it is still possible that if a well were to be drilled further down dip from where the "Redwood" prospect was drilled, one may find good quality sands with potential hydrocarbons along with a suitable trap.

BIOGRAPHY

Randy Broussard is currently working on his master's degree in Geology at the University of New Orleans where he is expected to graduate this fall. He also received his bachelor's degree in Geology from the University of New Orleans in 2011. He has worked for BOEM (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) as a geologist in their Geophysical and Geological unit for two years. His experience includes deep-water Gulf of Mexico geology, structural geology, and salt tectonics.

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

"And Looking Ahead . . ."

The next luncheon will be held on January 6, 2014. Our guest speaker, Dr. Martin Cassidy of the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Houston in Houston, Texas, will present "CO₂ as a Free Gas in the Subsurface, Source and Worldwide Occurrences: Bravo Dome CO₂ Field, NM as a Type Example." Contact the NOGS office at 561-8980 or use the PayPal link on the NOGS website (www.nogs.org) to make your reservation.

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| December | | | | | | |
|----------|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|--------|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| 1 | 2 NOGS Luncheon Holiday Inn 11:30 AM | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 NOGS Holiday Christmas Party Holiday Inn 7:00 PM |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 NOGS Board Meeting | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Christmas Day | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 New Year's Eve | | | | |

| January | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------|-----------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | 1 New Year's Day | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 NOGS Luncheon Holiday Inn 11:30 AM | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 NOGS Board Meeting | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| GCSSEPM Foundation - Bob F. Perkins Research Conference - Houston, TX | | | | | | |

New Orleans Geological Auxiliary News

"The objective of the Auxiliary is to promote fellowship among the wives of the members of New Orleans Geological Society and to render assistance to NOGS upon request."

The busy NOGA members have started the 2013-2014 year with a luncheon at the home of Trudy Corona, a trip to Ormond Plantation for lunch and a house tour, and by participating in the GCAGS Convention that was held October 6-8th. Thanks to Trudy Corona and Judy Lemarié who were hostesses in the GCAGS hospitality room, along with Mary Walther, Elizabeth Furlong, Joanne Severson, and Peggy Rogers (previously pictured).

Look forward to full coverage and pictures of the trip to Ormond Plantation in next month's *NOGS LOG*.

The next event will be the NOGS Christmas Holiday Party on December 7th. It will take place at the Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome, 7 pm to 10 pm, with lots of delicious food, and a chance to get together with old friends and meet some new members. There will be music by The Profiles for your dancing pleasure. Convenient parking in the hotel garage will be free! Invitations will be in the *NOGS LOG* and also mailed separately to NOGA members. Don't miss out on this festive occasion!



*GCAGS Convention Hospitality Room Volunteers
Trudy Corona and Judy Lemarié*

The directories have been distributed.

Information on any additional new members will be mailed to everyone having a directory to be incorporated in the membership. New members will be welcome to participate in all activities.

Peggy Rogers, *NOGS LOG*

New Orleans Geological Auxiliary Membership Application

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____
Address _____ Home Phone _____
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Spouse's Company _____ DUES: \$25.00

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NOGS WELCOMES

Submitted by Tavia Prouhet

Joe W. Burns is a geologist and owner of Joe Burns, Inc. in New Orleans. He received his BS in geology from Mississippi State in 1967. Joe also holds a BA (1992) in accounting from Our Lady of Holy Cross College. During his career, he has worked as a geologist for Amoco as well as a variety of small companies and as an independent. Joe is a member of AAPG, the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA), and a reinstated member of NOGS.

Kathryn C. Denommee is currently working on her PhD in sedimentology at LSU. She earned her BS (2008) in hydrogeology from the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario, and her MS (2011) in geology from the Memorial University of Newfoundland. Kathryn is currently the AAPG Student Chapter President for LSU and is also a member of GSA, SEPM, AUG, and IAS. She recently received the Lee H. Meltzer Graduate Scholarship from NOGS.

Fiona Fairhurst is a production geologist with Shell in New Orleans. She has nearly six years of industry experience. She recently moved to New Orleans from Aberdeen, where she was working the North Sea. Fiona earned an MS (2006) in natural sciences from Cambridge University and her MS (2007) in petroleum geoscience from the Imperial College of London. She is a member of the Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain (PESGB).

Christopher M. Johnson is a student member from UNO where he earned his BS (2013) in geology and is continuing to work towards an MS in geology. Christopher recently received a NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarship.

Dominik A. Kardell is currently working on his undergraduate studies in geology at UNO. He is a recent recipient of a Jules & Olga Braunstein Memorial Scholarship from NOGS.

Jessica E. Lopez is a geologist for Chevron in Covington. She earned her BS (2005) in geology from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and her MS (2007) in sedimentology and stratigraphy from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Jessica enjoys participating in marathons, triathlons, and recently competed in a half Ironman race. Jessica is a reinstated member of NOGS and recently assisted with the Girl Scouts STEM event at UNO. She is interested in the Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts Committee.

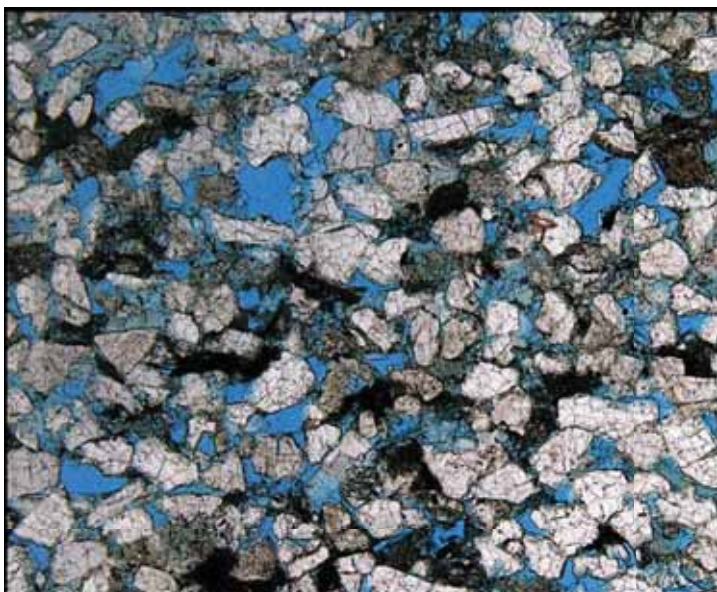
Alvin Rowbatham is in Sales with ION Geophysical in Houston, TX. He earned his BS (1993) from Louisiana State University in Marketing.

Pricilla Souza lives in New Orleans and is currently seeking employment as a geologist. She graduated from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro with an MS (2011) in structural geology. She earned her BS (2008) in geology from Rio de Janeiro State University and a BS (1999) in computer science at Gama Filho University. Pricilla has six years of oil industry exploration, development, and well operations experience.

Abby May Walters is a geologist with Shell, in New Orleans, where she currently works in GOM development and production. She earned both her BS (2008) and MS (2010) degrees in geology from the University of Texas at El Paso. She is interested in the Field Trip and School Outreach Committees of NOGS.

Jessica L. Wold is a geologist for XTO Energy in Fort Worth, Texas. She graduated from Western Michigan University with her BS (2005) and MS (2008) degrees in geology with a focus on carbonate stratigraphy. Prior to joining XTO Energy, she worked in exploration and production geology for Exxon Mobil. She is a member of AAPG and the Fort Worth Geological Society.

Stephen R. Yancey is a student at Tulane University currently working on his MBA in Finance (expected 2014). He previously worked as a production geologist for Denbury Resources after graduating from Washington and Lee University with a BA (2007) in geology.



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GCAGS 2013 CONVENTION - THANKS!

As we are doing the final wrap-up on GCAGS 2013, I want to thank the many people who pulled together a truly excellent technical program. The heart of a GCAGS convention is the information shared in the oral and poster sessions, short courses, and field trips.

SESSION CHAIRS

Kirk Barrell, Elizabeth Chamberlain, Gary Citron, Don DuBose, Dougal Grant,
Jeff Hanor, Abby Hymel, Joe Johnson, Mark Kulp, Jessica Lopez,
Liz McDade, Bob Meltz, Stephen Palmes, Jeremy Prouhet,
Bernie Regel, Anthony Rodriguez, Toby Roesler,
Pete Rose, Tim Rynott,
and Eric Stromboe



SHORT COURSE LEADERS

Jeff Agnew, Steven Bloemendaal, Royhan Gani,
Larry Garmezy, Tavia Prouhet, John Steinmetz,
and Art Waterman

FIELD TRIP LEADERS

Harry Roberts and Stephen Nelson

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Again, my sincere thanks to everyone who helped make the convention a great event.

Art Johnson
General Chairman - GCAGS 2013

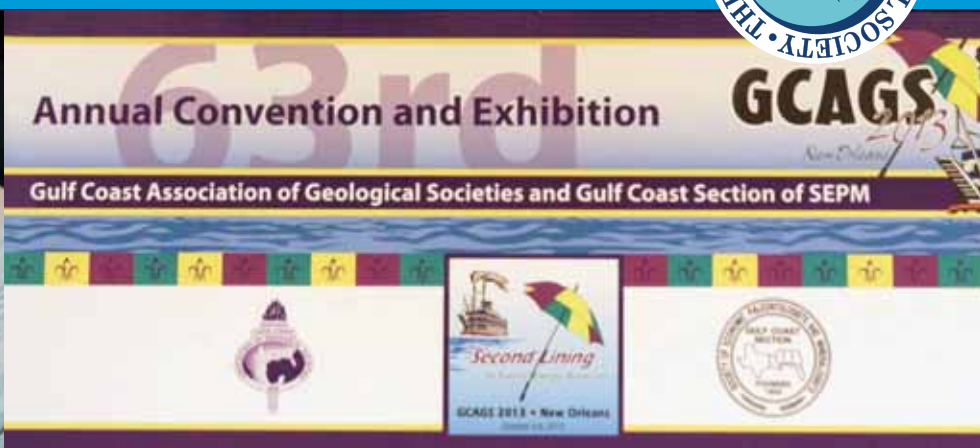




GCAGS 2013



CONVENTION



Photos courtesy of Arthur Christensen

Louisiana Board of Professional Geoscientists

NOTICE TO THE APPLICANTS FOR GRANDFATHERING ONLY

DEADLINE: JANUARY 1, 2014

In accordance with the Louisiana Professional Geoscience Practice Act, amended by Act 308 of 2012, **an applicant who applies for licensure prior to January 1, 2014, shall be exempt from taking the examination** described in a. R.S. 37:711.15(4)(a), if the applicant satisfies all the other requirements of Subsection 711.15.

In an effort to maximize efficiency, the Board is creating a web based Application form for data entry directly into our database. Because of the possibility of delays to the completion of this form, the Board is accepting a preliminary Grandfathering Application Form to ensure grandfathering status for applicants. Under the above provision, any geoscientists who want to gain the grandfathered status must use the Grandfathering Application Form. **This form is downloadable from the lbopg.org website.**

The first step of the application procedure is to complete and mail a Grandfathering Application Form and a check in the amount of \$200, to the Board at the address: LBOPG, P.O. Box 14209, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898. In addition, a digital copy of the completed form should be emailed to apply@lbopg.org.

The submittal of this grandfathering application and the fee is only a part of the application procedure. **In order to complete the application process, the applicant must fill out the regular application forms electronically through this website. The web based application forms will be made available when the work is complete.**

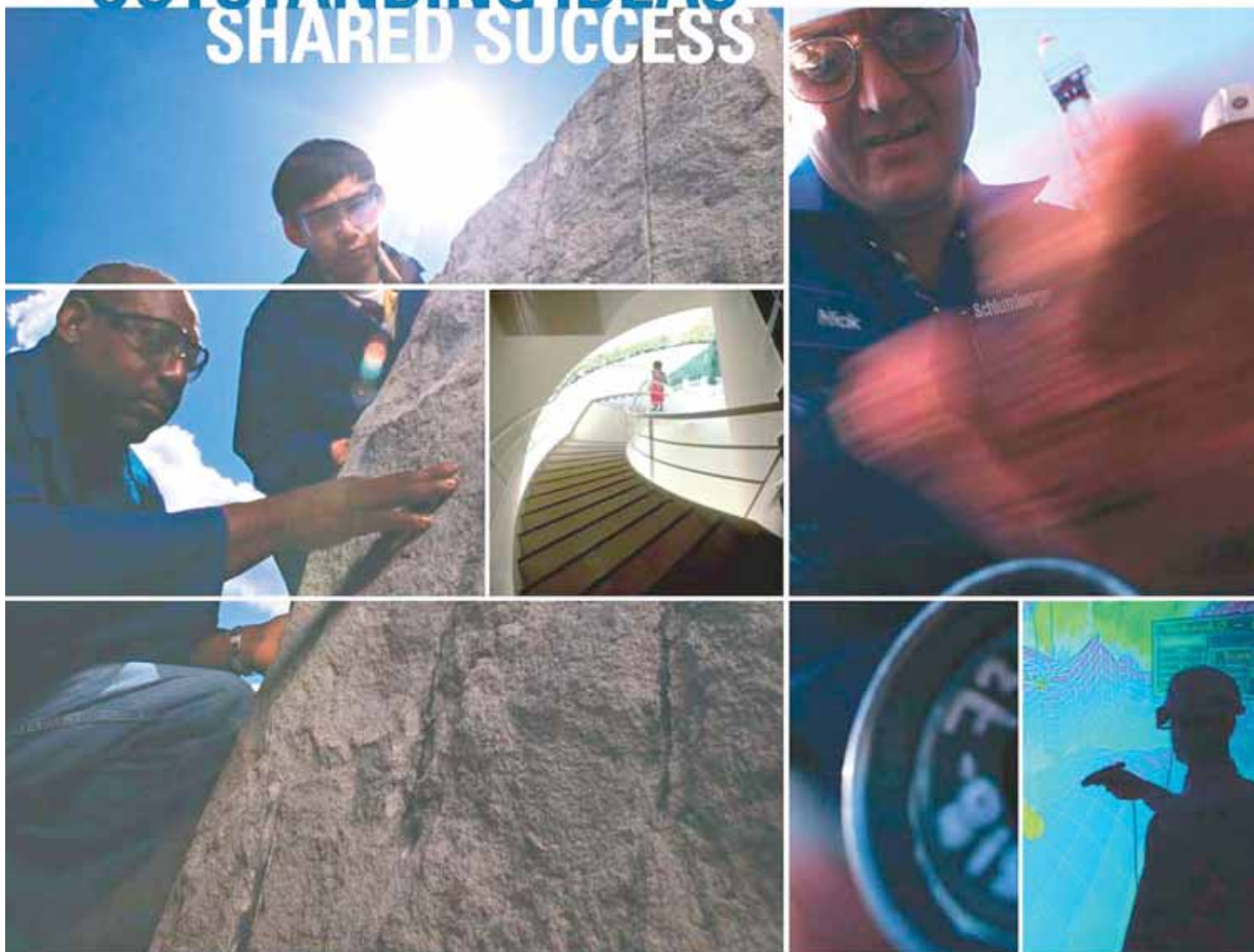
Upon the receipt of both the grandfathering application and the regular application forms, along with all other required documents, the Board will review the completed applications and make decisions regarding the issuance of the applicant's P.G. License.

ABOUT THE LEGISLATION

To read the legislation in its entirety, visit <http://legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=727476>, and then click on "next section" to scroll through each of the 24 pages. For your convenience, a "Table of Contents" has been listed below.

| | |
|--|---|
| 711.1. Short title | 711.14. Examinations |
| 711.2. Definitions | 711.15. License eligibility |
| 711.3. Application of Chapter | 711.16. Qualifying work experience |
| 711.4. Board; appointments; terms | 711.17. Reciprocal license |
| 711.5. Qualifications of board members | 711.18. Temporary license |
| 711.6. Compensation and expenses | 711.19. Issuance of license |
| 711.7. Organization and meetings | 711.20. Expiration and renewals; fees |
| 711.8. Powers of the board | 711.21. Continuing professional development for professional geoscientists |
| 711.9. Receipts and disbursements | 711.22. Seal |
| 711.10. Records and reports | 711.23. Disciplinary proceedings against licensees and certificate holders; procedure |
| 711.11. Rosters and lists | 711.24. Enforcement proceedings against other persons; procedure |
| 711.12. License required; exemptions | |
| 711.13. Application for licensure or certification; fees | |

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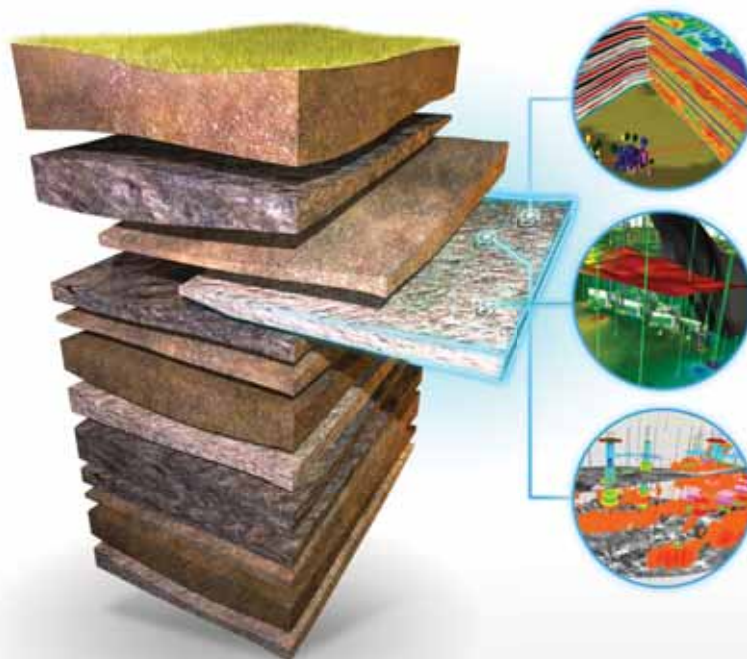
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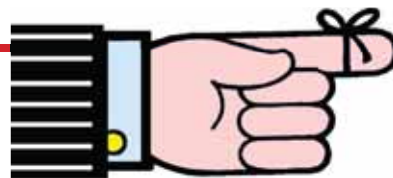
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Please remember to send us any updated contact information so that you can continue to receive your monthly NOGS LOG as well as important emails and information.



COMMITTEE NEWS

Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts Committee:

A Chairman is needed.

This committee promotes and supports the Scouting movement and assists in all matters pertaining to geology, including the Geology Merit Badge Program. If you're interested, please contact Bill Whiting at Bootscon@aol.com or info@nogs.org.

Sponsorship Committee:

A Chairman is needed.

This committee secures funding from sponsors to help finance various activities of the Society. This committee also insures that sponsors are thanked and adequately recognized for their generosity.

NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships

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

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

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

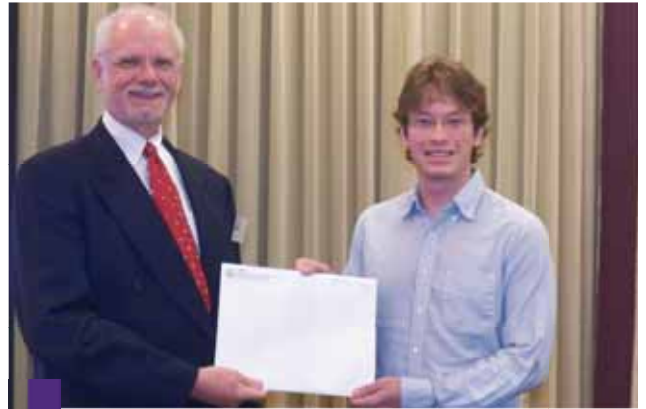
Richard W. "Dick" Boebel for his outstanding abilities as an oil and gas finder and in being a unique individual who was most generous of his time and talent to the industry, his peers, and in his support of many professional organizations.

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.



Tara Jonell - LSU
Lee H. Meltzer Graduate Scholarship (\$3000)



Matthew Smith - LSU
Jules & Olga Braunstein Memorial Scholarship (\$2500 Senior)

LSU



Kathryn Denommee - LSU
George W. Schneider Sr. Memorial Scholarship (\$2500)
Not pictured: **James Emerson Smith IV** (LSU), Jules & Olga Braunstein Memorial Scholarship (\$2000 Junior)



LSU Scholarship Recipients
Matthew Smith, Tara Jonell, Kathryn Denommee

Photo courtesy of LSU



UNO Scholarship Recipients
Dominik Kardell, Christopher Johnson, Andrew Boudreaux, Andrew Adams, and Dr. Skip Simmons (center back)



TULANE Scholarship Recipients
Jordan Adams, Christiane Alepuz, Daniel Coleman, Katherine Telfeyan, and Dr. Torbjorn Tornqvist (center)



Jordan Adams - Tulane
NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarship (\$2500)



Christiane Alepuz - Tulane
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Katherine Telfeyan - Tulane
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Daniel Coleman - Tulane
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Andrew Adams - UNO
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Andrew Boudreaux - UNO
Richard W. Boebel Graduate Scholarship (\$3000)



Christopher Mark Johnson - UNO
NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarship (\$2500)

Photos courtesy of Arthur Christensen

South Louisiana and Offshore Gulf of Mexico Exploration and Production Activities

LAFAYETTE DISTRICT, ONSHORE AREA

By Carlo C. Christina

The Office of Conservation, Lafayette District, Onshore and Offshore Areas, issued 32 permits to drill during the month of October. Following are the most significant locations:

NEW LOCATIONS

Pennington Operating Co. will drill a deep Wilcox well in **Clear Creek Field**, (A), in Allen Parish. The #1 Bel Minerals will be drilled to 15,700 feet in Sec. 16, 6S-7W at a location 1½ miles northeast of Upper Wilcox production at 12,000 feet. (247130)

In Iberville Parish, **Bayou Sorrel Field**, (B), Rozel Operating Co. is drilling below 7,770 feet in the #1 Wilbert Land in Sec. 29, 10S-11E. The well will be drilled to 14,000 feet to test the Cib haz section. (247129)

Strand Energy has permitted 2 **rank wildcats** in Livingston Parish. The #1 **Weyerhaeuser 33**, (C), is located in Sec. 33, 7S-4E, approximately 5 miles northeast of Wilcox oil production in Mallets Bluff Field. It will be drilled to 9,700 feet. (247154)

The #1 **Weyerhaeuser 2**, (D), is located in Sec. 2, 7S-3E, 4 miles southeast of excellent Wilcox production in Lockhart Crossing Field. Strand Energy will drill to 9,200 feet. (247155)

In Terrebonne Parish, **Donner Field**, (E), Kriti Te Energy has re-entered the #1 Barrilleaux in Sec. 47, 16S-15E, and is drilling below 11,700 feet. It will be drilled to 13,675 feet to test the Rob L section. The well was originally drilled by Zenergy, Inc. to a depth of 15,738 feet before the hole was lost. A sidetrack hole was drilled with 7⅝ inch casing set at 11,820 feet. The well was plugged and abandoned in August 2007. (247144)

COMPLETIONS

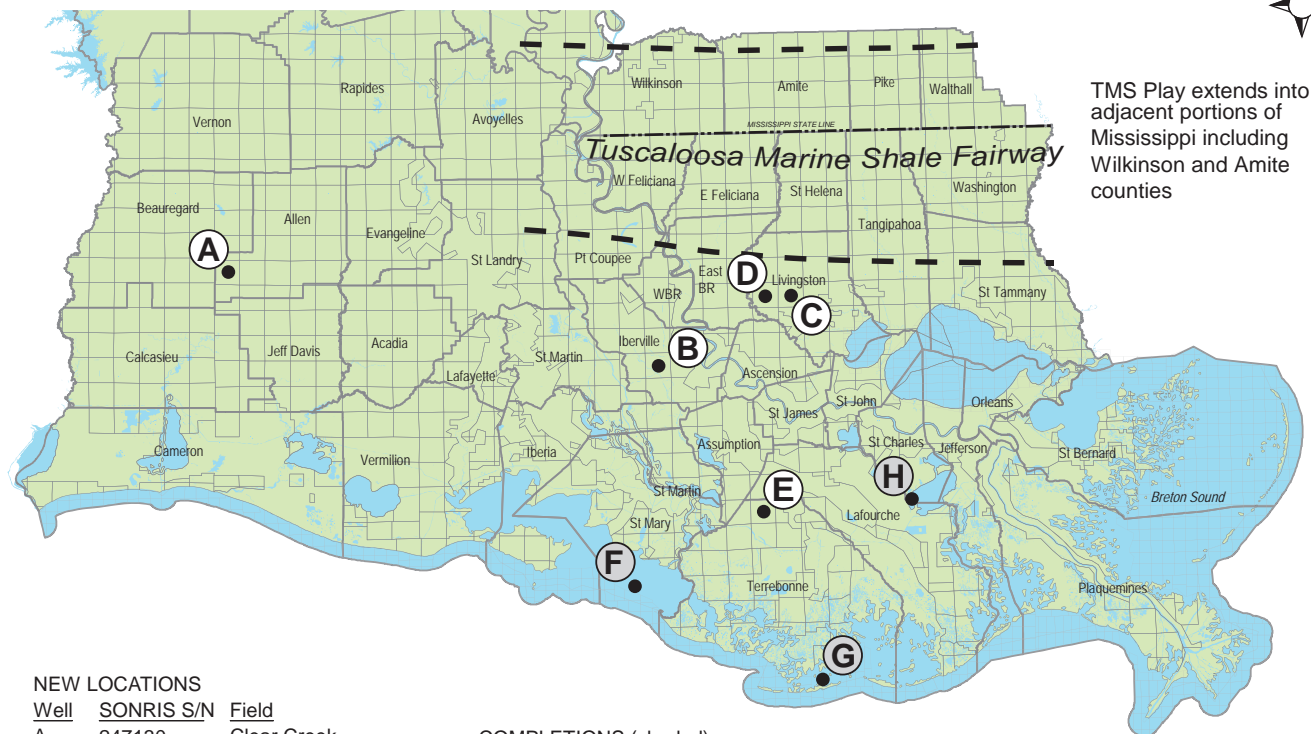
Castex Energy has completed an excellent gas well in **Atchafalaya Bay Field**, (F), in St. Mary Parish. The #3 SL 20369 was completed flowing **36,600 MCFD** and **213 BCD** through perforations 18,124 to 18,146 feet in the Cib op reservoir. The well was drilled to a total depth of 18,650 feet. (246340)

In Terrebonne Parish, **Lake Pelto Field**, (G), GCER ONSHORE has completed its #1 SL 21102 as a gas well flowing **11,978 MCFD** and **184 BCD** through perforations 13,542 to 13,614 feet, overall, in the Tex L Sand. As previously reported, the well is located in Sec. 25, 23S-17E, on the extreme south flank of the field, approximately 1½ miles from shallow production at 10,000 feet. The well was drilled to a total depth of 14,564 feet. (246484)

In **West Lake Salvador Field**, (H), St. Charles Parish, Tri-C Resources has completed the #2-ALT SL 20626 as an oil well flowing 569 BOPD through perforations 12,429 to 12,474 feet in the Cris I reservoir. The well was drilled to a total depth of 13,500 feet. (246638)



NOGS LOG DRILL BITS — SOUTH LOUISIANA ACTIVITY MAP



NEW LOCATIONS

| Well | SONRIS S/N | Field |
|------|------------|--------------|
| A | 247130 | Clear Creek |
| B | 247129 | Bayou Sorrel |
| C | 247154 | Wildcat |
| D | 247155 | Wildcat |
| E | 247144 | Donner |

COMPLETIONS (shaded)

| Well | SONRIS S/N | Field |
|------|------------|--------------------|
| F | 246340 | Atchafalaya Bay |
| G | 246484 | Lake Pelto |
| H | 246638 | West Lake Salvador |

Kevin Trosclair

DECEMBER 2013



OFFSHORE GULF OF MEXICO SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES

by Al Baker

During October 2013, the BOEM approved **78** Gulf of Mexico drilling permits. Of these, **41** were for shelf wells, and **37** were for deepwater wells. There were **7 shelf** (1 exploratory and 6 development) and **3 deepwater** (2 exploratory and 1 development) **new well permits** issued.

On the shelf, an exploratory new well permit was granted to **Tana Exploration** for their **#1** well on **Vermilion 284**. The development well permits were awarded to five operators. **Energy Resource Technology** was given permits for their **South Marsh Island 130 #E-22** and **#E-23** wells. **Stone Energy** received a new well permit for their **West Cameron 176 #A-1** well. **Chevron** obtained a permit for their **Main Pass 59 #A-19** well. **Apache** received a new well permit for their **Ship Shoal 91 #H-2** well, and **EPL Oil & Gas** was granted a permit for their **West Delta 28 #19** well.

In deepwater, permitting activity was done by three operators. **Stone Energy** received a new well permit to drill their **Mississippi Canyon 26 #1** exploration well. **Anadarko Petroleum** was awarded a permit to drill their **Lloyd Ridge 317 #1** exploration well. **Shell Offshore** obtained a permit for their **Green Canyon 248 #GL-6** development well.

On October 25th, IHS-Petrodata reported that the Gulf of Mexico mobile offshore rig supply stood at **106**. The marketed rig supply consisted of **80** rigs, of which **76** were under contract. The contracted versus total rig supply

utilization rate is **71.7%**, while the marketed contracted versus marketed supply utilization rate stands at **95.0%**. These figures are the same as reported last month. They compare to 82 out of the 109 rigs that were available during October 2012, for a 75.2% fleet utilization rate.

On October 25th, the BakerHughes Rig Counts indicated that there were **60** active mobile offshore rigs in the Gulf, which is **79%** of the rigs under contract mentioned above. This active rigs number is one less than reported last month. During the week of October 25th, there were **53** rigs operating in offshore Louisiana, **5** rigs in offshore Texas, and **2** rigs in offshore Florida. The current active rigs count compares to 52 active rigs during the same period last year, representing a **15.4%** increase in yearly activity.



On October 24th, the **BOEM** published the initial statistics of its **Phase II** evaluation of the bids received at **OCS Sale 233**, on August 28, 2013. The BOEM reported that it had accepted 6 bids out of 52 bids under evaluation in Phase II. The BOEM has 90-days following the sale date to either accept or reject the high bids. That time period may be extended due to the recent federal government shut-down.

In a press release dated October 25th, the **BOEM** also announced that the date for the next Central Gulf of Mexico lease sale, **OCS Sale 231**, is slated for **March 19, 2014**, in New Orleans.

On October 23rd, **Energy XXI** provided an operational update of its Gulf of Mexico activities. At **West Delta 73**, the company brought its **Big Sky 3** well on production in mid-August at a rate of **1,275 BOPD** and **825 MCFPD** with a flowing tubing pressure of **750 psi**. The well was drilled to **11,600 feet measured depth (MD)/7,995 feet true vertical depth (TVD)** with a **1,283-foot lateral** into the **F-30 Sand**. The company's **Hulk** well was drilled to **12,155 feet MD/9,326 feet TVD**, including a **1,000-foot lateral** into the **H-35 Sand**. This well was brought online in mid-October at an initial rate of **1,690 BOPD** and **1,700 MCFPD** with a **1,350 psi** flowing tubing pressure. Energy XXI will bring a second rig into the field later this year in order to accelerate the development of the oil reserves.

In **Main Pass 61 Field**, Energy XXI's **Don Lino** well was drilled to **9,550 feet MD/8,200 feet TVD** and logged **126 net feet of oil in three sands**. The high-angle well will be dual-completed in the **J-6 and BA-4AA sands**. It is expected to be on production in mid-November at a flow rate of **1,400 BOPD**.

At the **Main Pass 295 Heron** well operated by **Fieldwood**, Energy XXI reached a total depth of **19,555 feet MD/19,510 feet TVD**. In addition to the previously announced 76 net feet of oil found in two shallower sands, the well logged oil pay in **multiple sands between 11,400 feet and 16,700 feet MD**, bringing the total to **100 net feet of oil**. The well is part of the company's shallow water salt dome exploration play that also includes past and present drilling activities on Vermilion 178 and 179.

| | |
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The Ultimate Wildcatter Award

Presented to
Jim Bob Moffett

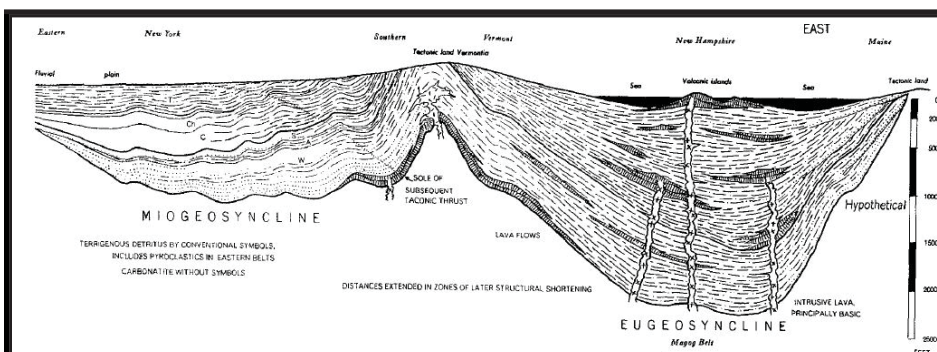
by Bob Douglass

New Orleans Geological Society members Bob Douglass and Charles Corona created the Ultimate Wildcatter Award to recognize a geologist who has made major contributions toward expanding future exploration.

Bob and Charles, along with other members: Don Andrews, Carlo Christina, Madison Woodward, Howard Murrish, George Severson, Rudy Siegert, Jim Yeldell, and LaBay Exploration Co., honored James Robert (Jim Bob) Moffett with this award, which was presented to him at the GCAGS All-Convention Luncheon in New Orleans on October 7, 2013.

James Moffett, along with W.K. McWilliams and B.M. Rankin, founded McMoRan in 1969 and thus began a history of exploration and discovery. The first fields found were at Bastian Bay, Lac Blanc, and Sunrise. McMoRan then moved offshore in 1977 and had Shelf discoveries in Vermillion 25, Eugene Island 215, South Marsh Island 174/175, Matagorda Island 700, and West Delta 89. Moffett's discoveries have not been limited to oil and gas. In 1988, under his leadership, Freeport-McMoRan discovered sulfur at Main Pass Block 299 and one of the world's largest copper and gold complexes, Grasberg, in Papua, Indonesia. In the early 2000's he had notable successes at Jim Bob Mountain, Long Point, Laphroaig, and Flatrock in South Louisiana and most recently he has forged ahead into the ultra-deep realm with discoveries at Blackbeard, Davy Jones, and Lineham Creek.

For more than forty years Jim Bob has led his company and the oil industry into new territory and is most deserving of the Ultimate Wildcatter Award.



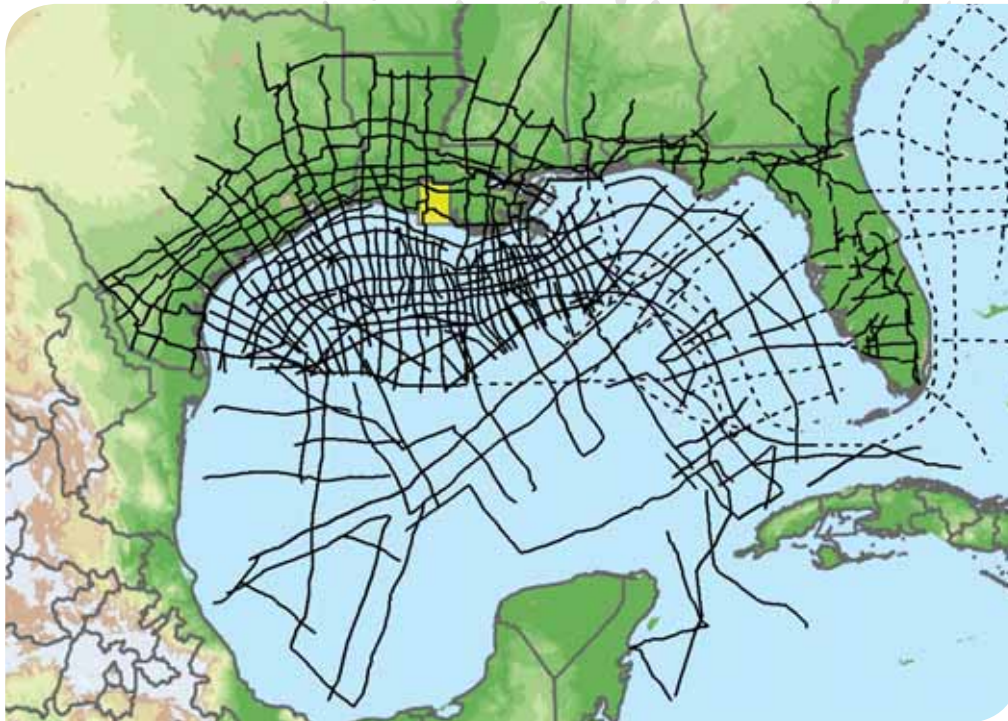
(Kay, Marshall [1951], *North American Geosyncline*: Geological Society of America Memoir 48)

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Reuters.com – Kristen Hays

“FACTBOX-Upcoming Gulf of Mexico oil platforms.” October 28, 2013 10:30am IST

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2013/10/28/oil-usa-gulfmexico-idINLN0IF23V20131028>

Seven new oil and gas producing platforms with combined capacity of some 715,000 barrels per day are slated to start up through 2016 in the Gulf of Mexico.

If current output holds steady at 1.3 million bpd, the new platforms would lift production by 55 percent to about 2 million bpd - one-fifth of projected output in the United States, which is fast becoming the world's top oil and gas producer.

Though BP Plc's deepwater Macondo well blowout in 2010 effectively halted new work in the Gulf for a year when it caused the worst offshore spill in U.S. history, the basin is making a comeback.

In addition to the platforms, Royal Dutch Shell, the top oil producer in the Gulf of Mexico, aims to start up a floating production, storage and offloading (FPSO) tanker in 2016 at its Stones field to initially produce up to 50,000 bpd from a pair of wells.

And it's not just new infrastructure, as some producers aim to hook up fields to others' existing or new platforms to save costs and make the most of multibillion-dollar installations.

Next year Exxon Mobil Corp will hook its Hadrian South field to Anadarko Petroleum Corp's Lucius while moving forward with studies on whether to build a platform for adjacent Hadrian North. This year, BP hooked up new wells in Atlantis North to its Atlantis platform and aims to do the same at its Na Kika platform.

| Owner/Operator | Platform | Capacity (Oil) bpd | Location | Startup |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Chevron | Jack/St. Malo | 170,000 | 250 miles S of New Orleans | Late 2014 |
| Chevron | Big Foot | 75,000 | 225 miles S of New Orleans | Late 2014 |
| Shell | Olympus | 100,000 | 130 miles S of New Orleans | 2014 |
| Anadarko | Lucius | 80,000 | 250 miles S of New Orleans | Mid-2014 |
| Williams/Hess | Gulfstar | 60,000 | 135 miles SE of New Orleans | Mid-2014 |
| LLOG/Blackstone | Delta House | 100,000 | 120 miles SE of New Orleans | 2015 |
| Anadarko | Heidelberg | 80,000 | 160 miles S of New Orleans | Mid-2016 |
| Shell | Stones FPSO | 50,000 | 200 miles S of New Orleans | 2016 |

BOEM.gov – Press Release

“BOEM Proposes Central Gulf of Mexico Oil and Gas Lease Sale: Approximately 39 million acres to be offered offshore Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.” October 25, 2013

<http://www.boem.gov/Press10252013/>

As part of President Obama's all-of-the-above energy strategy to continue to expand safe and responsible domestic energy production, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) today announced that it will hold Gulf of Mexico Central Planning Area (CPA) oil and gas lease sale 231 in New Orleans on March 19, 2014. The sale is the second CPA lease sale and the fourth overall sale under the 2012 – 2017 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Natural Gas Leasing Program. The auction will offer 39 million acres offshore Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, include all available unleased areas in the CPA.

“The Central Gulf of Mexico is one of the most prospective and productive basins in the world, and this proposed sale continues the Administration's all-of-the-above strategy to increase safe and responsible domestic energy production,” said BOEM Director Tommy P. Beaudreau.

Central Gulf Lease Sale 227 held last March netted \$1.2 billion in bonus bids, demonstrating the offshore oil and gas industry's strong commitment to the Gulf of Mexico. This proposed CPA lease sale encompasses approximately 7,508 unleased blocks covering approximately 39.4 million acres. The blocks are located from three to about 230 miles offshore, in water depths ranging from 9 to more than 11,115 feet (3 to 3,400 meters). BOEM estimates the proposed lease sale could result in the production of 1 billion barrels of oil and 4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

All proposed terms and conditions for Lease Sale 231 will be finalized when the Final Notice of Sale is published at least 30 days prior to the Sale.



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