

# NOGS LOG

OCTOBER 2013

Volume 54, Number 4



**OCTOBER 14 - NOGS LUNCHEON**

**Presentation: Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Reservoir  
Surveillance Logging Experiences and Best Practices**

**Guest Speaker: Philip Fox**

**Halliburton • New Orleans, Louisiana**



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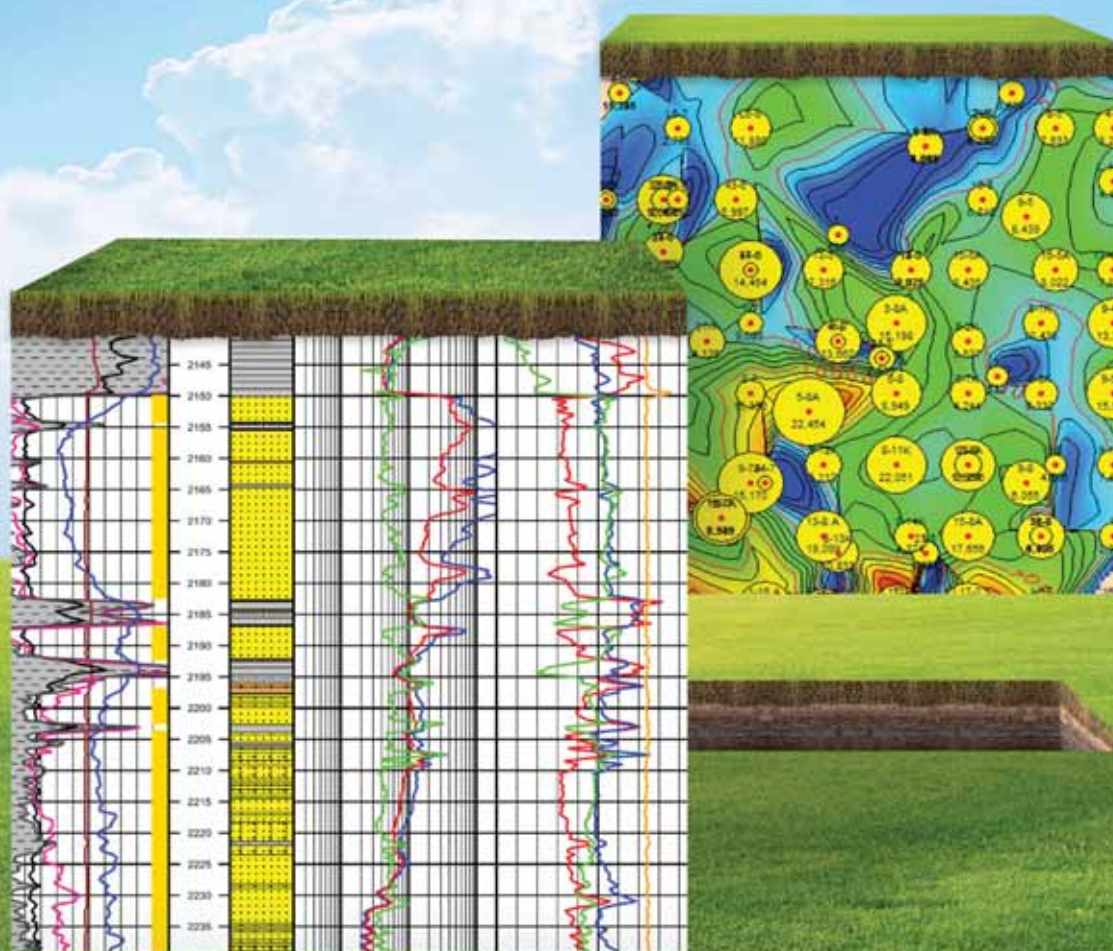
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## IN THIS ISSUE

### Regular Features:

From the Editor .....	3
From the President .....	5
NOGS Officers / Contacts .....	6
Upcoming Events & Activities .....	7
NOGS Luncheon Presentation .....	9
October & November Calendars .....	12
Drill Bits .....	24
Info-Tidbits .....	31
NOGS Memorial Foundation.....	33
FONO Fund.....	33

### Special Features:

NOGA News.....	13
NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships.....	18
N.O. Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show.....	23
NOGS Welcomes .....	29
NGNO "Meet & Greet" at GCAGS .....	30
NOGS Christmas Holiday Party Announcement.....	32
A Remembrance: Clement R. "Bob" Rondeau.....	32

## on the cover:

**Cover Photo Submitted by: Philip Richardson**

### **Manly Beacon at sunrise Zabriskie Point, Death Valley National Park**

Zabriskie Point, named after the early 20th century vice-president of the Pacific Coast Borax Company, Christian Brevoort Zabriskie (also the title of a 1970 commercial film failure), is a very popular destination for landscape photographers. The view is quite spectacular with the badland topography of the Furnace Creek formation dominating the foreground, and the salt flats of Death Valley, the Panamint Range, and Telescope Peak (11,331 ft.) to the west. The Furnace Creek formation (6-4 Ma) is composed of lacustrine mudstone/conglomerate/sandstone and volcanics deposited during the subsidence of the Furnace Creek Basin along the Furnace Creek Fault Zone prior to the extension and opening of Death Valley. Manly Beacon, named in honor of mid-19th century pioneer William L. Manly, is a prominent outcrop of the Furnace Creek formation, and the focal point for many photographs.

# From the Editor



NOGS launched the new version of our website recently and I encourage everyone to view it at [www.nogs.org](http://www.nogs.org). Ed Picou has spent many hours with a web designer to give us a modern, attractive site. As of press time there were still some glitches that need to be ironed out so please be patient. We welcome comments and suggestions so that we can have the best site possible. Kudos to Ed for his dedication and hard work!

The Gem & Mineral Society of Louisiana will be presenting the 43rd Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show October 11-13. There will be two special exhibits this year: Tom Bergeon will present his collection of dinosaur fossils and casts, and Michelle Carrone and her family have graciously consented to exhibit some of the works of H. Alvin Sharpe, known to Mardi Gras aficionados as the originator of the doubloon back in 1959.

It's never too early make a note of upcoming events so that you can "save the date." The Annual NOGS Golf Tournament is scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2014, at Money Hill Golf Course in Abita Springs.

And don't forget, the 63rd Annual GCAGS Convention will be in New Orleans at the Marriott Hotel on October 6-8.

Thanks,

**Sheri Richardson – NOGS LOG Editor**



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## From the President

Let's look at the September activities that happened before press time. Tropical Storm Humberto just became a hurricane, but it is way out in the Atlantic Ocean, so no worries.

At the September luncheon, Jeffrey Nunn gave an excellent summary on the Bayou Corne Sinkhole: how it formed, its history, and its future.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Phil Fox from Halliburton will present "GoM Deepwater Reservoir Surveillance Logging: Experiences and Best Practices" at the October Luncheon on the 14th.

The Gem and Mineral Society of Louisiana will hold their annual Gem and Mineral Show on October 11-13. It will be at the Landmark Hotel in Metairie, 2601 Severn Avenue, from 10 am to 6 pm. The show will include vendors selling gems, minerals, fossils, beads, and jewelry. The adult admission is \$5.00, children under 12 are free with an accompanying adult, student admission is \$3.00, and a three day pass is available for \$9.00. For further information, go to page 23 or to the Gem and Mineral Society of Louisiana Facebook page.

The AAPG-DPA is hosting the first annual Reserves Forum "Evaluating the Prize" on Thursday, October 31st at the Norris City Centre in Houston, Texas. Go to <http://www.aapg.org/forum/2013/reserves/index.cfm> for details on the program and registration.

Here it is only October, the leaves haven't turned yet, the grass is still green, but it is time to talk about the NOGS Christmas Holiday Party. It 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 complementary parking at the hotel, and we will have an open bar, buffet dinner, and music from The Profiles. Save the date.

The GCAGS is here! The GCAGS is here! Yes, it's finally here....Actually of all the conventions, it's my favorite because it's all about the Gulf of Mexico. I started out in the Gulf of Mexico and I always learned something at GCAGS, something that was directly applicable to my work, something that confirmed my hunches, or something that took me to a different direction than I had anticipated. I got to meet and talk with people like me, people who were working on the same things I was working on, and people who shared a common interest. I hope that you too will have the same feelings when you attend.

Chuck

## NOGS Office

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



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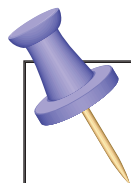
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# UPCOMING Events & Activities

**October 14 • NOGS Luncheon**

**Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome**

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**Presentation:**

***Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Reservoir Surveillance Logging Experiences and Best Practices***

**Guest Speaker:**

**Philip Fox**

**Halliburton**

**New Orleans, Louisiana**

*See page 9 for Abstract and Biography*

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**October 6-8**

**GCAGS 63rd Annual Convention**  
**Marriott • New Orleans, LA**

*For more information, [www.gcags2013.com](http://www.gcags2013.com)*

**October 22-24**

**LA Gulf Coast Oil Exposition**  
**Cajundome • Lafayette, LA**

*For more information, [www.lagcoe.com](http://www.lagcoe.com)*

**October 27-30**

**GSA 125th Annual Meeting & Expo**  
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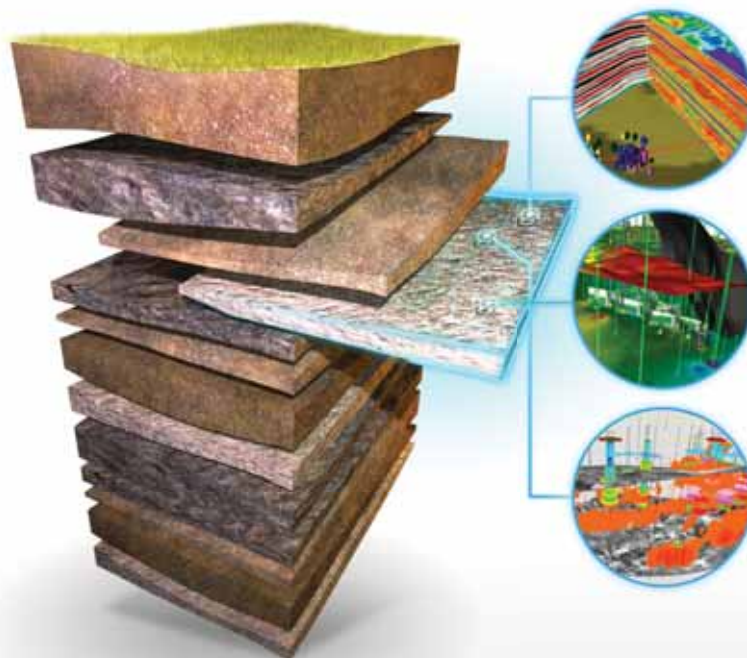
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## October 14 NOGS Luncheon Presentation

☆☆☆ at the Holiday Inn Superdome ☆☆☆



### Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Surveillance Logging Experiences and Best Practices



*Presented by*

**Philip Fox**

Halliburton  
New Orleans, Louisiana

#### ABSTRACT

The presentation highlights results from reservoir surveillance experiences in a Gulf of Mexico deepwater field. Published evaluation examples are used to demonstrate development of best practices for logging program design. These experiences span baseline formation compaction monitoring in 1996 through more recent high rate production logging and tri-fluid pulsed neutron results in the waterflood era. There is discussion surrounding methods for log data quality assessment and evaluation of measurements during acquisitions. Included in the presentation are the sharing of best practices and lessons learned from years of surveillance logging. Additionally several examples include time-lapse strain profiles, layer pressures and fluid saturation analysis that illustrate the value of repeat monitor measurements.

#### BIOGRAPHY

Phil Fox is a technical advisor for the Wireline and Perforating product line with Halliburton supporting formation evaluation job design and interpretation for the Gulf of Mexico. He holds a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Colorado and joined Halliburton in 1981. Current activities include program designs for deepwater logging evaluation programs. Previous responsibilities included field engineering, log analysis and technical support in Southeast Asia, South America and the United States. During his career in the petroleum industry he has accumulated fourteen publications and holds four United States patents.

**THE LUNCHEON RESERVATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 10 - CONTACT THE NOGS OFFICE**

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

*The next luncheon will be held on November 11. Our guest speaker, Ed Haire of INEXS in Houston, Texas, will present "Continuing Insights into Structure and Stratigraphy of the Onshore Gulf Basin from Pre-Stack Depth Imaging of Mega-Regional Strike Lines from South Texas to the Florida Panhandle." Contact the NOGS office at 561-8980 or use the PayPal link on the NOGS website ([www.nogs.org](http://www.nogs.org)) to make your reservation.*

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		LA Gulf Coast Oil Exposition - Lafayette, LA				
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween		
GSA Convention - Denver, CO						

November						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 UNO Mineral Auction 7:00 PM	9
10	11 NOGS Luncheon Holiday Inn 11:30 AM	12	13 NOGA Luncheon Ormond Plantation	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 NOGS Board Meeting	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

# 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 Auxiliary is ready to start an exciting 2013-2014 year with plans in place to have fellowship, pleasant times, learn a little, and help NOGS a little. We welcome new members Jerri Cullinan, Sandy Green, and Kacy Wainwright. Hopefully more new members are coming our way.

The directories have gone to press. 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.

Every NOGA member receives a wonderful, chatty, newsletter along with each invitation.



*Peggy Rogers, Trudy Corona and Alma Dunlap*

Don't miss a luncheon trip to Ormond Plantation on November 13th. Susie Baker and Jean Jones are planning an exciting day. More details will be forthcoming.

The GCAGS convention will be held in New Orleans on October 6-8, 2013. The Auxiliary will be called on to assist NOGS. President Mary Walther is the NOGA representative. Call her at (504) 392-9332 or contact her at [mwalther@earthlink.net](mailto:mwalther@earthlink.net) to volunteer.

**Mary Walther, President**

Our opening luncheon was held at the home of Trudy Corona on September 11th. Alma Dunlap and Peggy Rogers, along with Trudy Corona, were the committee members. The delicious meal featuring a spectacular shrimp salad was catered by Karen Lowry. Twenty-two guests admired the beautiful orchids that decorated the lovely home. There was a lot of catching up to do on everyone's summer news. It was a pleasure to have new member Sandy Green attend the luncheon and we look forward to seeing Jerri and Kacy soon.



*Mary Walther, Camille Yeldell and Sandy Green*

## New Orleans Geological Auxiliary Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's Company \_\_\_\_\_ DUES: \$25.00

**Please send \$25 check payable to NOGA to Judy Lemarié, Treasurer, #2 Yosemite Dr., New Orleans, LA 70131**

**Countdown:** The convention is **here**. Please join us!

The short courses, field trips, and Monday evening "View from the Top" are filling up quickly. **Don't miss out; it's not too late to register!**

**Visit** [www.gcags2013.com](http://www.gcags2013.com) **to register.**

We appreciate all who have agreed to volunteer to help at the convention, but we need more. If you can help out, contact Bill Whiting at [Bootscon@aol.com](mailto:Bootscon@aol.com).

**Art Johnson**  
General Chairman  
[Artjohnson51@hotmail.com](mailto:Artjohnson51@hotmail.com)  
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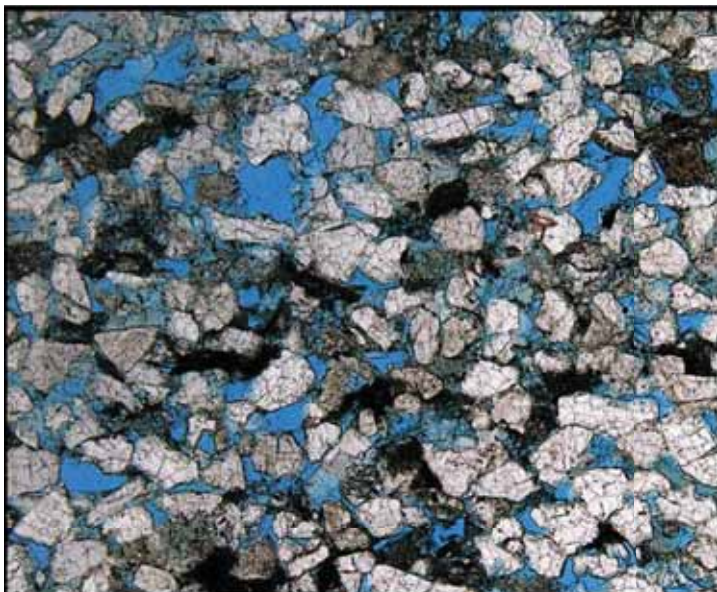
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The New Orleans Geological Society was organized in 1941 to foster scientific research and advance the science of geology. Particular emphasis is laid on the exploration for and production of petroleum and natural gas. Related objectives include encouraging the adoption of improved methods of exploration, disseminating pertinent geological and technological data, and maintaining a high standard of professional conduct among its members.

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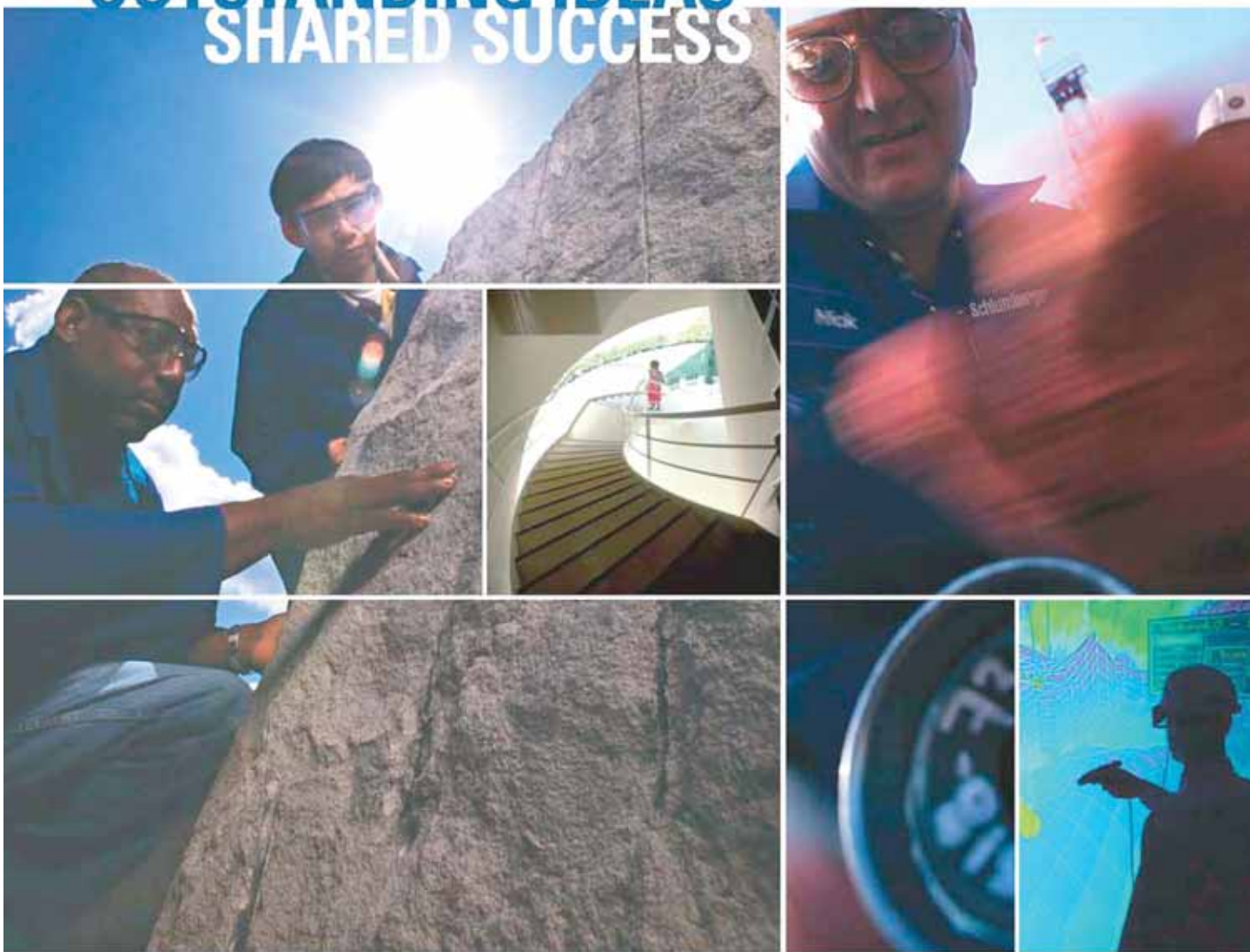
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# Schlumberger



# The University of New Orleans NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships



## RICHARD W. BOEBEL GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

### Andrew Boudreaux - \$3,000 Cash Award

**Drew (Andrew) Boudreaux** was born on December 18th, 1989, in Kenner, Louisiana, to Brenda Borne Boudreaux and Paul Boudreaux. He was raised in nearby Luling, Louisiana, and attended Hahnville High School. Academic achievement has always been important to him, thus he graduated magna cum laude in 2008 and was offered a full scholarship to the University of New Orleans for the term Fall 2008 – Spring 2012. Originally intending to study film, he defaulted to his strong background in science and mathematics and decided to study geoscience.

Drew has excelled academically, socially, and professionally through involvement in the department and a myriad of campus organizations. He has worked as an undergraduate research assistant during the last two years of his undergraduate program, and is now a teaching assistant and graduate student in the Earth and Environmental Sciences Department. His thesis research involves the mineralogy and geochemistry of pegmatites in the Erongo granite in Namibia. Drew expects to graduate in May of 2014 with an MS in Geology. He interned with Chevron for the summer of 2013 and hopes that it will eventually turn into a full-time career.

## NOGS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

### Christopher Mark Johnson - \$2,500 Cash Award

Mark Johnson is a graduate student at UNO. During his undergraduate career he studied abroad in Japan for a summer to improve his Japanese language skills. He traveled to Maine (twice) to attend a workshop specifically about pegmatites. Another highpoint of his travels was a recent trip to Namibia, Africa, in order to assist his professors and two graduate students with the collection of samples for their thesis work. He has also traveled to Tennessee, Oklahoma, and throughout the Rocky Mountains for school. Currently, he studies the behavior of rare earth elements as they concentrate in highly evolved silicic melts. His undergraduate thesis focused on extremely rare carbonate assemblages found in the Mt. Mica pegmatite in Oxford County, Maine. This past summer Mark presented a poster about his undergraduate studies at the International Symposium on Granitic Pegmatites in New Hampshire. He graduated with honors in May 2013 and began his graduate studies this fall. He will continue to work with Dr. William "Skip" Simmons, Dr. Karen Webber, and Mr. Alexander Falster and hopes to travel back to Japan for research opportunities.

### 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.

# The University of New Orleans

## NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships



### JULES & OLGA BRAUNSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

#### **Dominik A. Kardell - \$2,500 Senior Cash Award**

Dominik Kardell was born in West Berlin, Germany, on September 12, 1989. Dominik obtained his German High School Diploma from Gymnasium An der Stenner, Iserlohn, in 2008 with concentrations in physics and English. While fulfilling a mandatory civil service working in a hospital for one year, Dominik was recruited to play intercollegiate tennis for William Carey University in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. He started his college career in the fall of 2009, majoring in mathematics. His coach promoted him to be the team captain in his sophomore year. Looking for a school with a good geology department and a competitive tennis program, Dominik decided to transfer to the University of New Orleans in the fall of 2011 and changed his major to Earth and Environmental Science, with a concentration in geology and a minor in mathematics. While taking his first geology classes, he determined geophysics to be his major field of interest. After finishing his bachelor's degree and his career as a college athlete, Dominik plans on pursuing a master's degree in geophysics. His hobbies include all kinds of sports and physical activities, rock music, and meeting interesting people.

#### **Andrew Adams - \$2,000 Junior Cash Award**

Andrew Adams was born December 29, 1986, in New Orleans, Louisiana. He and his family moved to North Louisiana. In 2005, Andrew, at the age of 18, signed a six year contract joining the Army National Guard of Louisiana. After basic training, he married his high school sweetheart, started college at Northwestern State University, and worked as a security guard at the charity hospital in Alexandria, LA.

Unfortunately, Andrew and his wife separated. The division of assets caused him to have to withdraw from his college education at Northwestern University, but his drive for knowledge and insatiable love of learning wasn't quenched. Andrew moved back to New Orleans after a brief two month winter deployment to Sekiyama, Japan. In 2008, he promptly started taking classes at Nunez Community College in Chalmette, LA.

In January 2010 Andrew's National Guard Unit was activated to serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn. There Andrew spent a year in the combat zone serving his country. After serving his time overseas, he immediately went back to Nunez and completed his Associate's Degree in Science and graduated with a 3.5 GPA. At that point, his time in the military was also complete and he was honorably discharged. Andrew had learned not only how to succeed in college but also that he loved sciences. He decided to attend the University of New Orleans and entered the Earth and Environmental Sciences field. Currently, Andrew is striving for excellence in scholastic endeavors at UNO, departmental and community volunteer work, and extracurricular groups such as SEES, SGE, AAPG, and GSA. His hobbies consist of spelunking, visiting museums, and traveling. Andrew plans on finishing his bachelor's degree in geology in the spring of 2014 at UNO and attend graduate school soon after that.

**JAMES ALLEN GILREATH GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP**

**Katherine Telfeyan - \$3,000 Cash Award**

Katherine Telfeyan first realized what she wanted to study in graduate school while writing the capstone to complete her minor in poverty and human capabilities at Washington and Lee University. To finish this degree she had to combine the curriculum with studies from her major (i.e. geology). She decided to research the arsenic poisoning of millions of people in Southeast Asia. Katherine learned, and was able to convince others in the program, that geology and natural resources are essential for any developing society. This is especially true for water resources, both the supply and quality.

After her first year of graduate school at Tulane, she worked on an arsenic project in India. Katherine is now in her third year of dissertation research, which is focused on groundwater chemistry in southeastern Louisiana, particularly the cycling of trace metals. She will examine the redox chemistry using ion exchange columns and will collect her results to build geochemical models to summarize the zones of geochemical reactions and determine whether delta sediments are a source or supply of these elements to the Gulf of Mexico. After graduation, Katherine hopes to continue groundwater geochemistry research either in the private sector or through government research.

**NOGS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP**

**Jordan Adams – \$2,500 Cash Award**

Jordan Marie Adams is a PhD student in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Tulane University. She is working with fluvial geomorphologist Dr. Nicole Gasparini on the broad topic of post-fire erosion. Her current research focuses on using terrestrial LiDAR scans to quantify erosion and deposition volumes across a severely burned watershed in the Chiricahua Mountains in Arizona. Additionally, she is using numerical models to examine the controls on the sediment transport that occurred after the 2011 Horseshoe 2 Fire. She graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science from Moravian College in 2010.

**JULES & OLGA BRAUNSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Christiane Alepuz - \$2,500 Senior Cash Award**

Christiane Alepuz was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, and lived there until Hurricane Katrina. During Hurricane Katrina, Christiane and her family relocated to Houston, Texas, where she finished high school. While living in Texas, she traveled around the state, and realized how beautiful it was. With a passion for science and exploration, Christiane entered Tulane, but she was undecided as to what science to pursue. Since she had always enjoyed the outdoors, she decided to take Physical Geology, and discovered that she loved it. She has been a geology major ever since and plans on pursuing a graduate degree in geology after graduation.

**Daniel Coleman - \$2,000 Junior Cash Award**

Daniel Coleman is a half-deaf environmentalist with a fascination for the natural world. Ever since he was fairly young, he loved learning about the environment. Initially, he was solely focused on biology, but upon entering Tulane he was exposed to geology and instantly fell in love. It all started when he went out of his comfort zone and applied for a position in a coastal geology lab. He still works in this lab and loves the hands on experience it has given him. Daniel is passionate about research and has worked on projects about subsidence and groundwater discharge. The goal of conducting research and amassing new geological knowledge is an inspiring and motivating one. Daniel is a very hard-worker and dedicates himself completely to the tasks he takes on, whether they be academic or extra-curricular. He is a strong proponent of complimenting his intellectual pursuits with social and environmental endeavors, which keeps him happily busy.



# Louisiana State University NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships



## LEE H. MELTZER GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

### **Tara N. Jonell - \$3,000 Cash Award**

Tara Nicole Jonell was born in Dublin, Ohio, on November 2, 1987, to Margaret and Tom Jonell. Her family instilled her love for the natural world and travel by visiting various local and state parks as she grew up. Tara graduated at the top of her class at Granville High School in 2006. Upon graduating magna cum laude with Distinction in Geology at Kent State University in 2010, Tara moved to Las Cruces, New Mexico, to complete a Master's of Science in Geology at New Mexico State University. Her graduate research addressed chronologic and geochemical discrepancies in volcanic rocks formed as a result of the Cenozoic Ignimbrite Flare-up in the western United States. Tara graduated summa cum laude from NMSU in the summer of 2012 and then went on to pursue a PhD at Louisiana State University so she could follow her not-so-secret love of geomorphology and paleoclimate. This past summer Tara completed her first dissertation field season in the Himalaya of northwest India. She currently aims to address how and when the monsoon modulates erosion and terrace formation in Indus River mountain catchments, as well as constraining the flux of sediment from mountain sources to the final marine sinks.

## GEORGE W. SCHNEIDER SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

### **Kathryn Denommee - \$2,500 Cash Award**

Kathryn Denommee was born in Calgary, Alberta, and grew up in Ottawa, Ontario. She earned her undergraduate degree in Earth Sciences with a specialization in hydrogeology from the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario, where she graduated from the co-operative education program with honours. After graduation Kathryn joined Conestoga Rovers and Associates in Waterloo where she worked as an environmental hydrogeologist until leaving to pursue her MS at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Here she produced a proxy record for hurricane activity from the sedimentary record of the Blue Hole of Lighthouse Reef in Belize. This work remains the highest-resolution paleo-hurricane record produced to date; recording over 1,200 years of storm activity at sub-annual resolution. She then went on to Louisiana State University where she is currently pursuing her PhD in Geology. Her doctoral dissertation entitled "Developing Recognition Criteria for Wave-current Sediment Gravity Flows" looks to develop a greater understanding of the dispersal, accumulation, and sedimentary fabrics associated with newly-recognized classes of fine-grained wave-current-gravity sediment flows on modern continental shelves in order to recognize their products in the rock record. To conduct this research Kathryn and her colleagues are cataloguing sedimentary fabrics from the nearby Atchafalaya River subaqueous delta. These data will then be used to enable the identification of such ancient flow deposits, effectively creating a combined sedimentary fabric and hydrodynamic atlas for these types of sedimentary deposits in the rock record. Ultimately Kathryn hopes that her doctoral work will lead to a better understanding of mudstone facies variability, which will in turn enhance our ability to better develop these resources. In her spare time Kathryn enjoys playing clarinet with the Baton Rouge concert band and exploring the southern USA.

# Louisiana State University NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships



## JULES & OLGA BRAUNSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

### **Matthew Smith - \$2,500 Senior Cash Award**

Matthew Smith initially enrolled at LSU as a chemistry major but between his freshman and sophomore year he switched to geology because he did not see his future in a lab 24/7. He attended LSU's freshman field camp in Colorado and absolutely loved it. He thoroughly enjoyed outside "lab work" and seeing rock formations in the field; something that he never could have done in chemistry. Matthew has enjoyed geology classes at LSU, and especially liked the field work. This past summer he returned to Colorado for the LSU senior field camp. Currently his research focuses on sedimentation rates and land formation processes involving the Mississippi River Delta. Matthew wants to be a part of the solution towards saving Louisiana's coast.

### **James Emerson Smith IV - \$2,000 Junior Cash Award**

James Emerson Smith IV is the third youngest of nine children and a graduate of Covington High School located in St. Tammany Parish. The strong presence of LSU alumni in the area where he was raised, coupled with the fact that he has two older brothers that are LSU graduates, limited his options for college, at least in his own mind. So, needless to say, LSU was his first and only choice for college. Despite his certainty in regards to which college to attend, he was far less certain what subject to study during his tenure at LSU.

His dilemma in regards to his field of study while attending LSU resolved itself shortly after graduating from high school. He and several friends went on a road trip from Louisiana to California that summer. During this trip they camped and hiked in some of the most beautiful parks in the entire world, including the Grand Canyon and Yosemite National Park. The giant granite cliffs in Yosemite and the beautiful layering of the beds in the Grand Canyon enamored him with nature's beauty. That experience also instilled within him the desire to understand how such natural beauty could possibly come to be. It was during that trip that he was first introduced to the products of Earth's natural processes and brought about his decision to study Geology at LSU. Over two years later he still thinks back on that trip and realizes what a life altering experience it truly was. He is fortunate to have realized his passions early and to have the opportunity to pursue them in a top notch program at an excellent university.

James would like to take this opportunity to thank the faculty and staff of LSU's Department of Geology and Geophysics. Without their tireless efforts and guidance his achievements over the past two years would not have been possible. The members of the department are amazing people that are enthusiastic about teaching geology and challenge their students everyday to become the best geologists possible. For the investments they have made in both him and his education, he forever owes them a debt of gratitude. James would also like to thank the New Orleans Geological Society for offering such an amazing opportunity to Geology students across Louisiana. This is the first scholarship that he has ever received and is truly awestruck to receive such prestigious award. Thank you and GEAUX TIGERS!



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**10 AM TO 6 PM**

**SATURDAY**

**OCT. 12**

**10 AM TO 6 PM**

**SUNDAY**

**OCT. 13**

**10 AM TO 4 PM**



# South Louisiana and Offshore Gulf of Mexico Exploration and Production Activities

## LAFAYETTE DISTRICT, ONSHORE AREA

*By Carlo C. Christina*

This monthly Drill Bits column has been written with the intent to provide you with the most significant and interesting drilling activity in South Louisiana. The 63rd Annual GCAGS Convention will be held in New Orleans from October 6 through October 8 where you will have the opportunity to see and hear complete presentations including many areas discussed in previous Drill Bits columns. These presentations include the Austin Chalk reservoir types, Tuscaloosa Marine Shale-an emerging play, the Wilcox re-birth, the Treasures of the T-Zone, Grand Bay Field review, Atchafalaya Bay Field-Raised from the ashes, Anatomy of a Cib carst channel and others. **Please plan to attend the Convention.**

*During the month of August, 35 permits to drill were issued by the Office of Conservation, Lafayette District, Onshore Area.*

### NEW LOCATIONS

Hilcorp Energy will drill in **South Harmony Church Field**, (A), in Allen Parish, in Sec. 12, 6S-5W, to test the Upper Wilcox sands. The #1 AMC is permitted to 15,161 feet and is located 1 mile northeast of nearest production in the Upper Wilcox sands through perforations 12,606 to 12,954 feet. (246860)

In Iberville Parish, **Southeast Maringouin Field**, (B), Vitrol Resources is drilling a significant horizontal Cockfield Sand well. The #6 Row is located in Sec. 4, 7S-10E, and will be drilled 3,700 feet in the horizontal leg to a proposed total depth of 14,646 feet. The bottom hole is to be located one-half mile east of 2 Cockfield completions which have produced more than 524,000 barrels of oil. (246827)

Hilcorp Energy continues to develop production in **Lake Raccourci Field**, (C), in Lafourche Parish in 22S-21E. The #1 SL 21089 is permitted to 16,065 feet and is located 3 miles southeast of Hilcorp's recent excellent gas well which was completed flowing 14,788 MCFD and 1,115 BCPD. Hilcorp is currently drilling the #1 SL 1480 located 1½ miles north of the new location. (246837)

In Livingston Parish, **North Livingston Field**, (D), Lake Ronel Oil Co. will drill its #1 Floyd in Sec. 30, 6S-6E to a proposed depth of 10,546 feet. This well is located 1½ miles southeast of recently discovered Wilcox production at 9,500 feet, which was completed flowing 300 BOPD, and has produced more than 8,000 barrels of oil in less than 4 months. (246852)

Badger Energy has staked a location for the #1 SL 21081 in **Southeast Saturday Island Field**, (E), in Sec. 27, 19S 25E, Plaquemines Parish. The well is permitted to a proposed depth of 12,000 feet and is located 2 miles southeast of production. (246880)

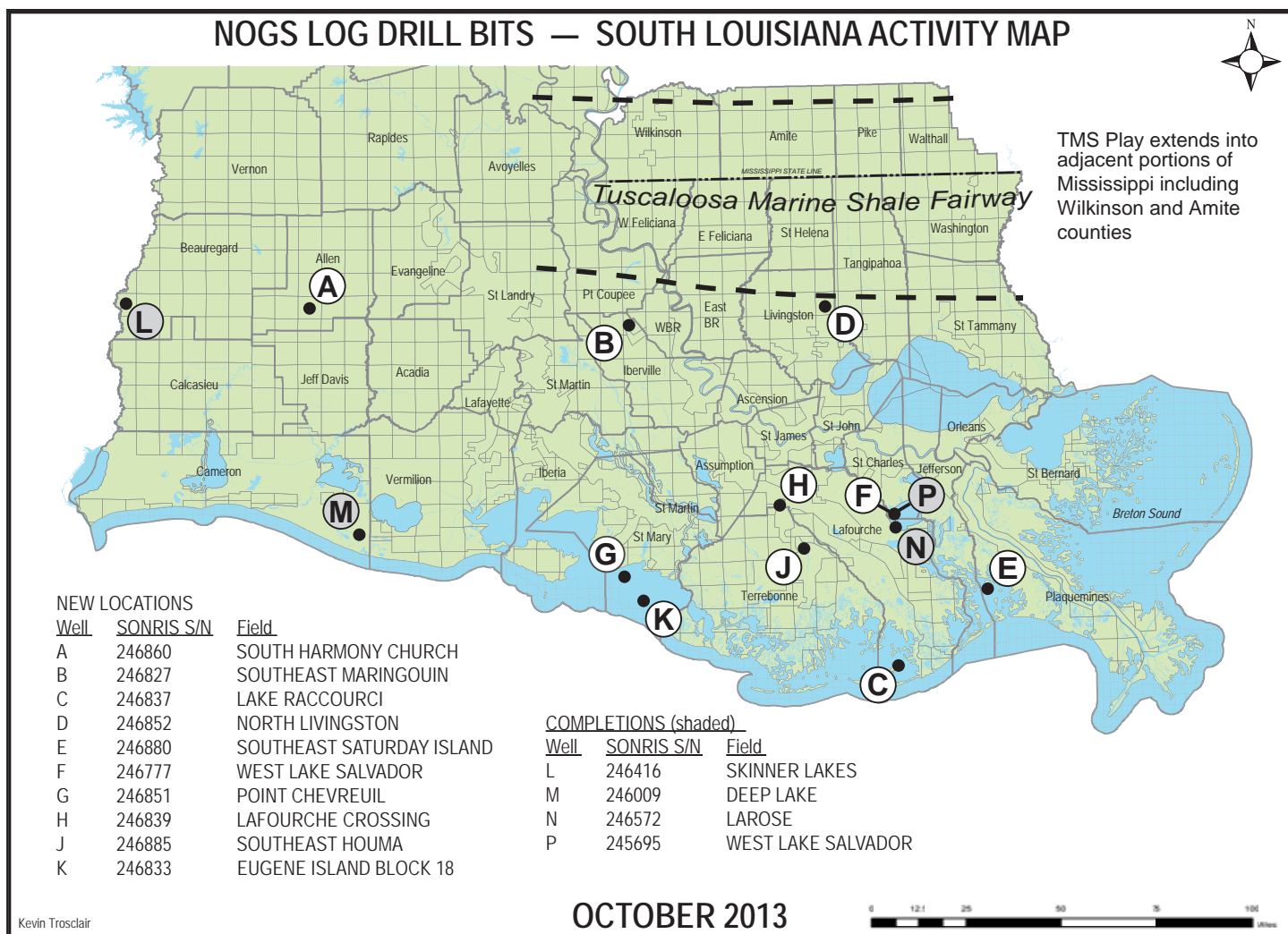
In St. Charles Parish, Square Mile Energy has permitted the #1 SL 21063 in **West Lake Salvador Field**, (F), in 16S-21E, at a location 1 mile south of production in the field. The well will be drilled to 16,683 feet to test deep Cris I sands. (246777)

Cathexis Oil & Gas recently restored production to **Point Chevreuil Field**, (G), in St. Mary Parish with the completion of its #1 SL 20878. The well was completed flowing 456 BOPD through perforations 11,520 to 11,530 feet. Cathexis has drilled the #2 SL 20878 located 1 mile to the southeast, and is now completing the well. Cathexis has staked a new location for the #3 SL 20878 located one-half mile to the northeast of the #2 well. (246851)

In Terrebonne Parish, **Lafourche Crossing Field**, (H), Square Mile Energy will drill the #1 Plater-Acadia in Sec. 144, 15S-16E. The well will be drilled to 16,583 feet to test Rob L sands. The well is located 2 miles southwest of the productive limits of the field. (246839)

Petroquest Energy will drill the #1 Oil States as a Hollywood Sand test in **Southeast Houma Field**, (J), in Terrebonne Parish. The well is located in Sec. 104, 17S-17E, 2 miles southeast of production and is permitted to 16,300 feet. (246885)





Castex Energy continues to develop the Cib op production in **Eugene Island Block 18 Field, (K)**, with the #1 SL 20532 currently drilling below 11,640 feet to a projected total depth of 15,015 feet. The well is located 2 miles southeast of Castex's recent completion in Block 13 flowing 9,032 MCFD and 317 BCPD in through perforations 14,652 to 14,666 feet. (246833)

## COMPLETIONS

In Beauregard Parish, **Skinner Lakes Field, (L)**, Will-Drill Operating Co. has completed the #1 Columbia Land & Timber in Sec. 9, 6S-13W flowing 160 BOPD through perforations 9,707 to 9,787 feet in the Upper Wilcox. (246416)

Hilcorp Energy has completed the #1 SL 20579 in **Deep Lake Field, (M)**, in Cameron Parish as a gas well flowing 3,309 MCFD and 44 BCPD through perforations 16,290 to 16,376, overall. The well was drilled on the northwest flank of the field in Sec. 7, 16-3W to a depth of 16,970 feet. (246009)

In Lafourche Parish, **Larose Field, (N)**, in 16S-21E, Badger Energy has plugged and abandoned the #1 SL 21069 after drilling to a depth of 13,583 feet where drill pipe was stuck. The well was permitted to test the Cris I section at a location 3 miles south of the nearest production. (246572)

In St. Charles Parish Castex Energy has completed its #2 SL 19744 as an oil well in **West Lake Salvador Field, (P)**. The well was drilled to 13,300 feet and was completed flowing 350 BOPD in the Cris I sand through perforations 12,582 to 12,712, overall. (245695)

## OFFSHORE GULF OF MEXICO SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES

by Al Baker

During August 2013, the BOEM approved **89** Gulf of Mexico drilling permits. Of these, **46** were for shelf wells, and **43** were for deepwater wells. There were **4 shelf** (1 exploratory and 3 development) and **5 deepwater** (all exploratory) **new well permits** issued.

On the shelf, development well permits were given to three operators. **ANKOR Energy** received a new well permit for their **Eugene Island 208 #J-12** well. **W&T Offshore** was awarded a new well permit for their **Ship Shoal 359 #A-15** well, and **Energy XXI** was granted a permit for their **Main Pass 61 #C-10**. **LLOG Exploration** obtained a new well permit for their **#2** exploratory well on **South Timbalier 232**.

In deepwater, exploration permitting activity was done by five operators. **Chevron** received a new well permit to drill their **Keathley Canyon #1** well. **LLOG Exploration** was granted a permit for their **Mississippi Canyon 816 #1** well. **Noble Energy** obtained a permit for their **Mississippi Canyon 782 #1** well. **Apache Deepwater** was awarded a permit for their **Mississippi Canyon 983 #1** well. In addition, BHP Billiton was issued a permit for their **#2** well on **Desoto Canyon 726**.

On August 30th, IHS-Petrodata reported that the Gulf of Mexico mobile offshore rig supply totaled **109**, and the contracted rig count stood at **76** for a fleet utilization rate at **69.7%**. Both the rig supply and the contracted rig count are **1** less than reported last month. This compares to 74 out of the 114 rigs available during the same period in 2012 for a 64.9% fleet utilization rate.

In addition, there were **27** platform rigs under contract out of the **54** total in the rig fleet for a fleet utilization rate of **50%**. The number of platform rigs under contract in the Gulf is **2** less than reported last month.

On August 30th, the BakerHughes Rig Counts indicated that there were **63** active mobile offshore rigs in the Gulf, which represents **82.9%** of the total rigs under contract. The total number is **5** more than reported last month. The current active rig count compares to 51 active rigs during the same period last year representing a **23.5%** increase in yearly activity. Additionally, of the 27 platform rigs that are under contract, **18** (or **66.7%**) are currently working. This is **2** less than the total number of working platform rigs reported last month.

On August 7th, **Inpex Corporation** announced that it had encountered approximately 120 feet of oil pay in the **Shell-operated, Yucatan North #1** well located on **Walker Ridge Block 95**. Block 95 is part of a four contiguous block area that also includes Walker Ridge Blocks 96, 139 and 140. The discovery well was drilled to a total depth of approximately **31,200 feet** in **5,947 feet of water**.

On August 9th, **W&T Offshore** reported that it was completing a development well on **High Island Block 21**. Its **#A-1 BP-1** well was drilled to a total depth of **13,673 feet** and found pay near 12,500 feet in the **LH-20 Sand** (Lower Miocene - *Lenticlina hansenii*). First production is anticipated in the 3rd or 4th quarter of this year at an initial rate of **1,500 BOEPD** net to W&T after royalties. W&T obtained the rights to the lease in late 2010 via an acquisition from Kerr-McGee, who paid \$5,143,560 for the lease at OCS Sale 207 in August 2008.

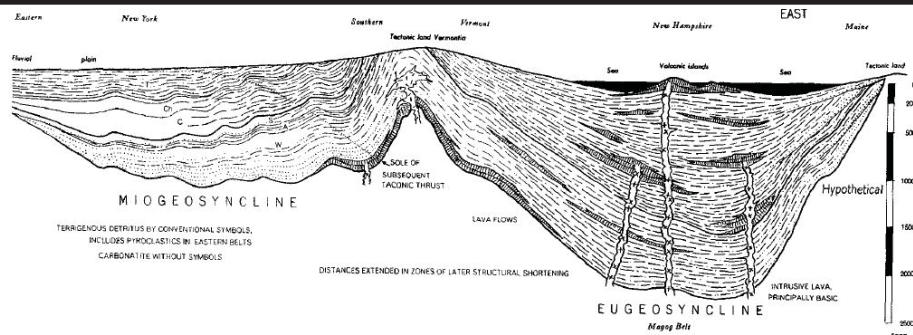
On August 21st, **Energy XXI** updated its drilling activities in the Gulf of Mexico. According to their press release, their shallow-water, salt dome exploration play operated by **Apache**, the **Heron #1 well** located on **Main Pass Block 295**, had been drilled to 13,170 feet MD/13,160 feet TVD in **218 feet of water**. A liner has been set, and drilling will resume towards multiple primary target sands against the salt dome down to a proposed total depth of **20,000 feet TVD**. As previously announced, the well has encountered 76 feet of net oil pay in two sands.

The **BOEM** held offshore lease sale, **OCS Sale 233**, on August 28, 2013, in New Orleans. The sale encompassed the **Western Gulf of Mexico** open acreage totaling nearly 21 million acres. The sale has been described as tepid and lackluster because it only attracted **61 bids** on **53 blocks** by **12 companies**. In a similar western Gulf sale last year, 13 companies submitted 131 bids on 116 blocks.

The 2013 sale was predominantly a **deepwater sale** with the **shelf bids** comprising only **5 bids** on **4 blocks** by **4 companies** (\$867,148 in high **shelf bids**). The sum of all 61 bids totaled **\$144,685,246**, and the total sum of the 53 apparent high bids was **\$102,351,712** on approximately **301,006 acres**. The bulk of the bidding was done by a single company, **ConocoPhillips**. The company submitted **31 bids** (or 50.8% of the bids) on all deepwater tracts and exposed a total of **\$51.5 million**. Their high bid exposure was **\$50.3 million**. Once again, BP did not participate in the lease sale due to its suspension from new government contracts in connection with the 2010 Deepwater Horizon disaster.

The overall assessment of the lease sale was aptly stated by Randall Luthi, President of the National Ocean Industries Association, who said that “The cost impacts to the industry of continued changes to the regulatory system, such as the newly proposed production systems safety rule and the upcoming BOP (blowout preventer) rule, could have figured into how companies bid in today’s western planning area sale, as did the current low price companies can fetch for natural gas.” Obviously, the bottom line here is that the continuum of regulatory unknowns out of Washington, D. C., plus the current low price of natural gas factors uncertainty into oil and gas business planning. Conversely, it supports with certainty the business decision to stay away until the key variables of regulation and pricing become more predictable and more profitable.





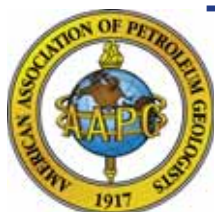
*Look how far we've come!*

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

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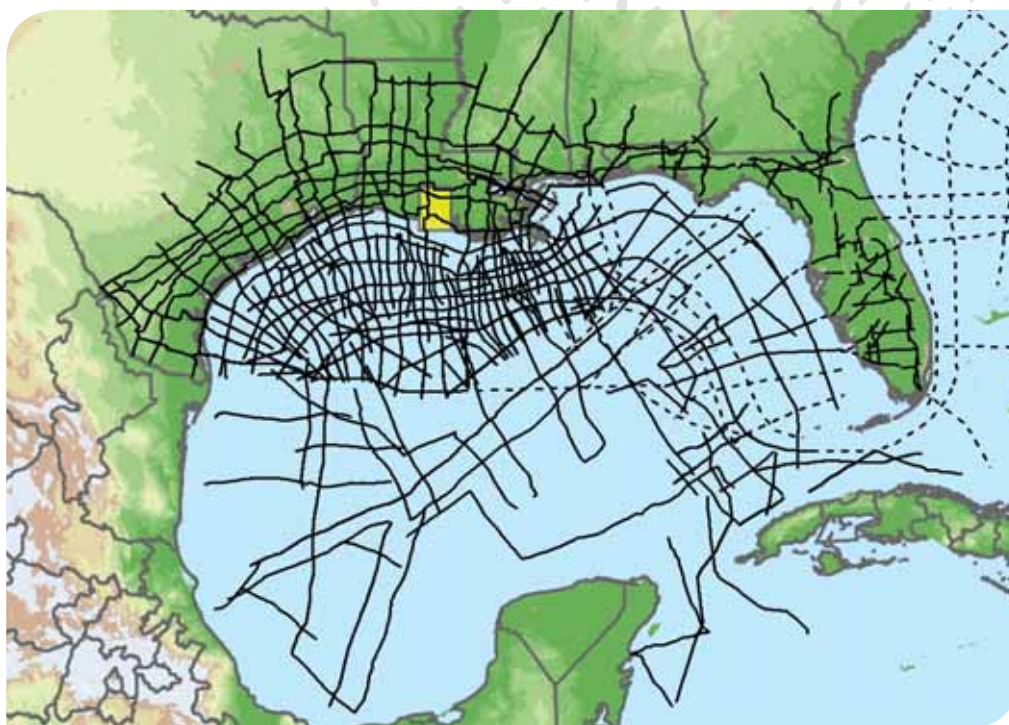
  
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# NOGS WELCOMES

*Submitted by Tavia Prouhet*

**J. Bryan Banks** is currently working for Terracon as Senior Project Manager in Baton Rouge. He earned both his BS in Geology (1996) and an MBA in Business (2011) from Louisiana Tech University. He is a member of National Ground Water Association (NGWA). Bryan is interested in joining the Continuing Education, Environmental, Finance & Audit, Membership and Nominating Committees of NOGS.

**Randal J. Broussard** is working as a student geologist for the Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management as he completes his education. He earned a BS in Geology (2011) from UNO and expects to receive his MS in Geology in December, also from UNO. Randal would like to participate in the AAPG Student Chapter Committee of NOGS.

**Rachel C. Carter** is a graduate student and teaching assistant at UNO where she received her BS in Geology (2013). Rachel is now working on a Master's degree in Geophysics at UNO and is the current UNO AAPG Student Chapter President. Rachel was a summer intern with Murphy E&P (2012) as an exploration geologist.

**Cindy M. Colón** is a research assistant and PhD student in structural geology at LSU. She received her BS in Environmental Science from Rutgers University (2011). Cindy, who previously was a student member, is interested in the AAPG Student Chapter and Employment Counseling Committees of NOGS.

**Timothy C. Conner** is a geophysicist at E&B Natural Resource Management. He earned his BS in Math and Geophysics (1974) from Washington & Lee University. Tim has worked exploration, development, and exploitation in onshore and offshore Gulf Coast.

**James P. Dunnivant** is a geoscientist at E&B Natural Resources in Houston, Texas. He received his BSG in Geological Sciences from the University of Alabama (2007). James is interested in the Continuing Education, Field Trip, and New Geoscientist Committees of NOGS.

**Terry A. Mattalino** is a geologist at U.S. Enercorp, Ltd. in San Antonio, Texas. She received her BS in Geology (1979) from Southern Illinois University - Carbondale. Terry has worked for 30 years as an exploration and exploitation geologist in the Gulf Coast, Rockies, and Mid Continent regions and in conventional and unconventional reservoirs.

**Rayford L. McCoy** works for E&B Natural Resources in Houston, Texas. He earned his BS in Geology (1975) from Mississippi State and MS in Petroleum Engineering (1981) from the University of Houston. Rayford earned his JD from South Texas College of Law (1989). Rayford is currently a member of AAPG and AIPG.

**D. Sue Pritchett** is a Business Development Manager at Ikon Science in Houston, Texas. She received her BS in Petroleum Engineering (1985) from the University of Texas at Austin. Sue is currently an active member of the Houston Geological Society, AAPG, SEG, and GSH.

**Monica L. Rasmussen** is a support geoscientist at Ikon Science in Houston, Texas. She earned both her BS in Geology and her BA in Anthropology from Tulane University in 2009. Monica has previously worked as a geologist-in-training with Sylvan Energy.





## ATTENTION ALL YOUNG GEOSCIENTISTS AND STUDENTS...

**The annual GCAGS convention in New Orleans is holding  
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Currently there is a lot of interest in the NGNO (New Geoscientists of New Orleans) Committee with new NOGS members. Unfortunately this committee lacks a local chairman. This event would be the perfect opportunity for you to meet with fellow NGNO members and GCAGS Young Professionals. If a local NOGS member is willing to lead this group, please contact [info@nogs.org](mailto:info@nogs.org).

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Submitted by Sheri Richardson

## Reuters – Yereth Rosen

**“North America's Highest Peak Not As Tall As Once Thought.” September 12, 2013 10:32am EDT**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/09/12/us-usa-denali-height-idUSBRE98B04Y20130912>

New technology used by the U.S. Geological Survey found that Mount McKinley, also known as Denali, tops out at 20,237 feet - short of the 20,320 feet commonly cited as the summit elevation.

The USGS elevation data was part of a series of about 400 updated maps released earlier in September by the agency, which is updating and refining all of Alaska's topographic maps, some of which have been used for decades.

For years, mountain climbers, aviators and others have relied on the published 20,320-foot measurement for the mountain because that was on topographic maps, the product of a 1952 geographic measurement.

That has been considered the "published" elevation, said Becci Anderson, a geographer who serves as the USGS' Alaska regional geospatial liaison.

The new data came from a 2012 survey that employed Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar, or IFSAR, a technology designed to track digitally very small geographic forms and changes that might be taking place.

Different methods of compilation may account for the change in measured elevation, along with other possible factors, including advancements in technology and even climate, the USGS said on its website.

The new 20,237-foot summit measurement is actually the second revision issued since 1952. Mapping in 1989, which used then-new GPS technology, found the mountain to have a summit elevation of 20,306 feet. But that figure was not considered published because it was not on topographic maps, Anderson said.

But there is more to the story than shrinkage of the famous mountain, Alaska Lieutenant Governor Mead Treadwell said in a statement on Wednesday. The mapping initiative added into the database an entire ridge of a nearby mountain, Mount Dickey, Treadwell said. That ridgeline had been omitted from previous documents.

## NASA - Release: 13-269 - Steve Cole, George Hale, Hannah Johnson

**“NASA Data Reveals Mega-Canyon under Greenland Ice Sheet.” August 29, 2013**

<http://www.nasa.gov/content/goddard/nasa-data-reveals-mega-canyon-under-greenland-ice/>

Data from a NASA airborne science mission reveals evidence of a large and previously unknown canyon hidden under a mile of Greenland ice.

The canyon has the characteristics of a winding river channel and is at least 460 miles long, making it longer than the Grand Canyon. In some places, it is as deep as 2,600 feet, on scale with segments of the Grand Canyon. This immense feature is thought to predate the ice sheet that has covered Greenland for the last few million years.

"One might assume that the landscape of the Earth has been fully explored and mapped," said Jonathan Bamber, professor of physical geography at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom, and lead author of the study. "Our research shows there's still a lot left to discover."

The scientists used thousands of miles of airborne radar data, collected by NASA and researchers from the United Kingdom and Germany over several decades, to piece together the landscape lying beneath the Greenland ice sheet.

In their analysis of the radar data, the team discovered a continuous bedrock canyon that extends from almost the center of the island and ends beneath the Petermann Glacier fjord in northern Greenland.

At certain frequencies, radio waves can travel through the ice and bounce off the bedrock underneath. The amount of times the radio waves took to bounce back helped researchers determine the depth of the canyon. The longer it took, the deeper the bedrock feature.

"Two things helped lead to this discovery," said Michael Studinger, IceBridge project scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. "It was the enormous amount of data collected by IceBridge and the work of combining it with other datasets into a Greenland-wide compilation of all existing data that makes this feature appear in front of our eyes."

The researchers believe the canyon plays an important role in transporting sub-glacial meltwater from the interior of Greenland to the edge of the ice sheet into the ocean. Evidence suggests that before the presence of the ice sheet, as much as 4 million years ago, water flowed in the canyon from the interior to the coast and was a major river system.

"It is quite remarkable that a channel the size of the Grand Canyon is discovered in the 21st century below the Greenland ice sheet," said Studinger. "It shows how little we still know about the bedrock below large continental ice sheets."



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## A REMEMBRANCE: Clement R. "Bob" Rondeau

by Louis E. Lamarié

Long-time NOGS member, Clement R. "Bob" Rondeau died on June 15, 2013, in Wausau, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Irma, two sons, Michael and Charles, and five grandchildren. He was 84 years old.

Bob (not many people called him "Clement") moved to New Orleans in the early 1950's to attend Tulane after serving in the Army, both in Europe and Korea.

Despite having the responsibility of starting a family, Bob was able to achieve a grade point average which saw him graduate Phi Beta Kappa, with a BS degree, majoring in Geology. He was hired by Texaco in New Orleans and worked South Louisiana exploration and development for a number of years, before leaving to open a district office for PUBCO. After PUBCO closed, he became an independent, successfully pursuing prospects, primarily in southeast Louisiana.

Because of the devastation from Hurricane Katrina, Bob and Irma decided to move back to his hometown of Ironwood, Michigan, where they were living at the time of his death.

Bob loved reading, hunting, fishing, and nature. Family values were first and foremost in his life.

Bob was a credit to his family, his profession, and his country. He will be missed and remembered by all of us who knew him!



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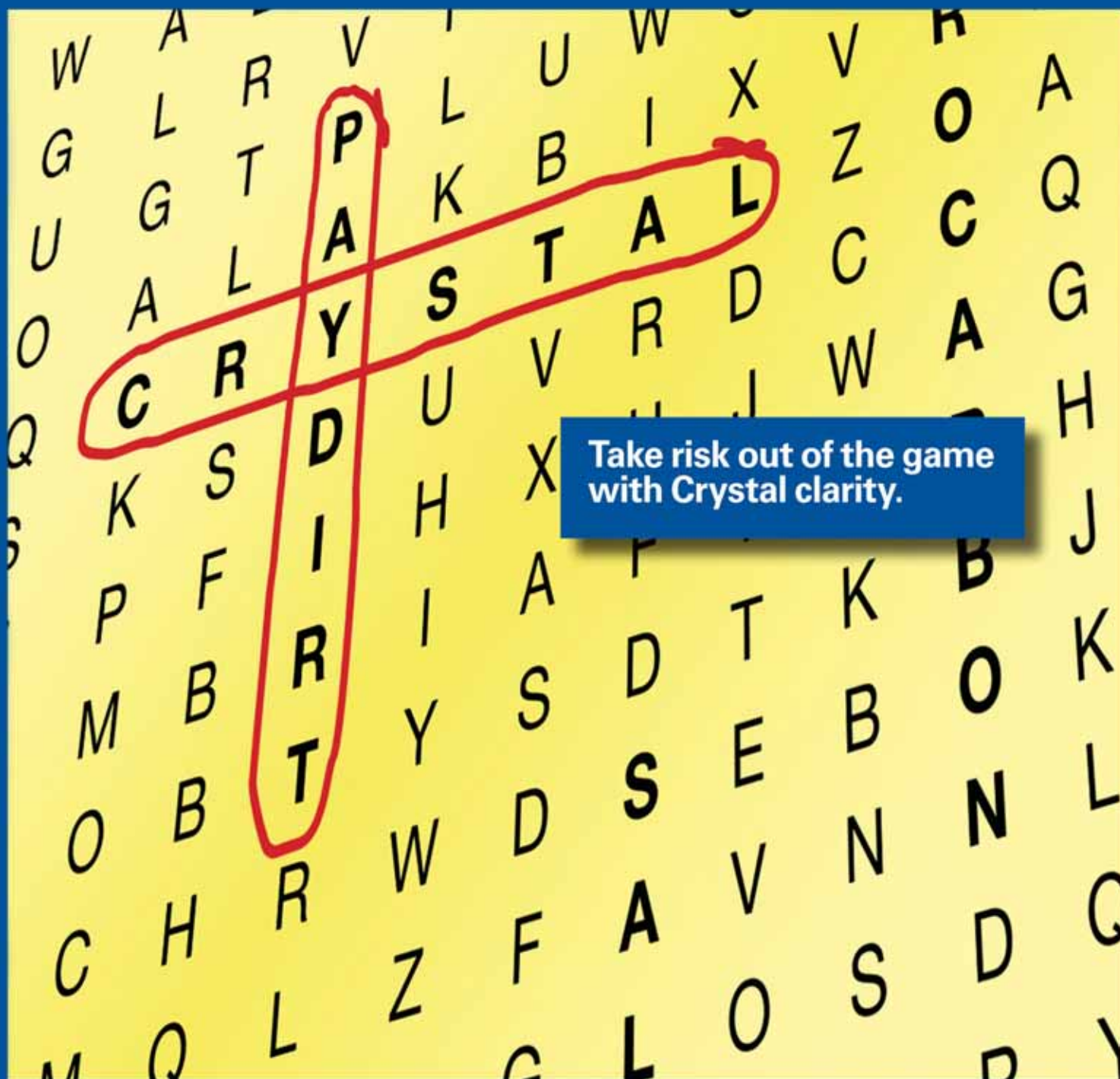
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