

NOGS LOG

OCTOBER 2015

Volume 56, Number 4



OCTOBER 5 - NOGS LUNCHEON

Presentation: Using Petrographic Analysis for Formation Damage Evaluation

Guest Speaker: Ms. Christy Gresham

Core Laboratories LP, PS-USA • Broussard, Louisiana



Society of Exploration Geophysicists
The international society of applied geophysics



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PIPE (Petroleum Industry Promoting Education) is a collaborative effort among the petroleum industry societies, corporations and the education community to support efforts that advance educational efforts in Southeast Louisiana.

For more information please contact Eric Zimmermann at ericz@llog.com or Julius Doruelo at j.doruelo@shell.com



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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 requests should contact the NOGS office at info@nogs.org.

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on the cover

Cover Photo Submitted by Tom Klekamp

Plaza Blanco — near Abiquiu, New Mexico

Fluid flow and mineralization along a fault. The less resistant tuffaceous sedimentary valley fill was eroded leaving this unusual outcrop. Rocks in the area are the Abiquiu tuff, consisting of more than 1,000 feet of stream-laid tuff and volcanic conglomerate, with a few small interbedded lava flows. Towards the close of Tertiary time, extensive downwarping with normal faulting occurred. Geologist Tom Ewing (green shirt) stands near the fault. Because of the unique gullies and cliff faces, this site and the surrounding Plaza Blanco have been used for movies including "Cowboys & Aliens" and Disney's "The Lone Ranger." Nearby Abiquiu was the home of artist, Georgia O'Keefe.

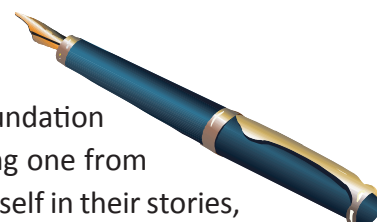
Photo by Tom Klekamp taken on SIPES field trip, 2013.

More information

<http://www.plaza-blanca.com/>

https://nmgs.nmt.edu/publications/guidebooks/downloads/58/58_p0182_p0187.pdf

From the Editor



It is rewarding to read the short biographies submitted by our NOGS Memorial Foundation scholarship awardees. They come from various towns across the country, including one from my own hometown. You will see parts of your own journey in geology and find yourself in their stories, their love of the landscape, interest in nature, hiking and camping. Some have military experience. Some want careers in "The Patch," others in teaching and research. Most have a devotion to improving their communities. Read about their young lives and academic pursuits, and then plan to attend the October Luncheon and spend some time meeting them in person. Congratulations to the 2015 Memorial Foundation scholars.

Tom
Tom Klekamp, Editor

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From the President

We at NOGS like to put our money where our mouths are. Recently the often stated NOGS goal of “facilitating the development of the profession of Geology” has been aptly funded with several good sized disbursements of Society funds. As you recall, in July NOGS donated \$5,000 to the Louisiana Children’s Museum for their newly designed learning center due to begin construction in City Park early next year. Then, at our last monthly luncheon in September, NOGS donated another \$5,000, this time to the St. Tammany Children’s Museum as part of a 10 year \$50,000 commitment to help build a new science and technology early learning facility between Covington and Mandeville. And finally, at the upcoming October 5th luncheon, NOGS is scheduled to award a total of \$30,000 in scholarships to geoscience college upperclassmen from Tulane, LSU, and UNO. Each recipient is at the top of their class and well deserving of these awards. So, if you have the opportunity to attend the October NOGS luncheon, please meet and congratulate these future geoscientists and encourage them to stay the course even in these difficult financial times in the petroleum industry. Hopefully, by the time many of these students graduate, the oil industry will be back on an upswing and jobs will be plentiful once again. Congratulations and best of luck to each of the awardees!

And speaking of money, NOGS, like most of the petroleum industry, is experiencing a significant decline in one of our most important sources of income. Advertising in the *NOGS LOG* is down significantly this year as many companies tighten their belts and pull their ads out of the *LOG*. Actually, this is probably the best time to place or keep an advertisement in the *NOGS LOG*, allowing the name of your company or professional business to be kept fresh in the minds of readers. The next time the oil industry starts on an upswing (as it always does), your company or business will be the first ones they call. If interested in placing a *NOGS LOG* ad, please call Annette in the NOGS office at 504-561-8980.

The October 5th NOGS luncheon will feature a very interesting presentation by Ms. Christy Gresham of Core Laboratories concerning “Using Petrographic Analysis for Formation Damage Evaluation.” Please make your reservation early and either pay online at www.nogs.org or at the door. Also, please note that the Saints big Sunday night home football game with the Dallas Cowboys is the day before, on Sunday October 4th (GO Saints!). If there are a lot of leftover tourists in town the next day, parking for the NOGS luncheon in the Downtown Holiday Inn may be problematic.

For those of you geoscientists who like to look at squiggly lines, the Society of Exploration Geophysicists is holding their International Exposition and 85th Annual Meeting at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans on October 18–23. Registration is now open online at www.seg.org.

See you at the October 5th luncheon.

David Reiter

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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School Outreach	Thomas C. Bergeon	Century Exploration	504-832-3772	Tom.bergeon@centuryx.com
Special Projects	TBD			

NOGS LOG STAFF

Editor	Tom Klekamp	Amber Resources, LLC	985-630-2480	ekle1959@gmail.com
Editor-Elect	Laura Sorey	Chevron	985-773-1870	laura.sorey@chevron.com
Auxiliary	Peggy Rogers	NOGA	504-392-6323	lrogers79@cox.net
Drill Bits	Al Baker	Beacon Exploration, LLC	504-836-2710	ABaker1006@aol.com
Drill Bits	Carlo C. Christina	Retired (C & R Expl. Inc.)		drillbits81@yahoo.com
Drill Bits	Kevin Trosclair	Stone Energy Corporation	504-202-7997	kevintrosclair@gmail.com
Staff Photographer	Arthur Christensen	Shalimar Consulting	985-893-2013	arthur_shalimar@yahoo.com
Layout / Printing	Kristee Brown	Creative Graphics & Printing, LLC	985-626-5223	kpbrown@bellsouth.net
Webmaster	Charles Miller	OCSBBS Website	504-439-3164	cmiller@ocsbbs.com

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Officers		Phone	Directors	Year	Phone
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October 5 • NOGS Luncheon

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome

\$3.00 validated parking in hotel garage

Presentation:

Using Petrographic Analysis for Formation Damage Evaluation

Guest Speaker:

Christy Gresham

Core Laboratories LP, PS-USA • Broussard, Louisiana

See pages 8 and 9 for Abstract and Biography

HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN SUPERDOME

Check with concierge or front desk for location.

Lunch served at 11:30 am

Note: Sunday is the Saints/Cowboys game. Lot may be full!

ADMISSION:

With reservation..... \$30.00

Without reservation \$35.00

Student Member with reservations..... FREE

October 18-23

Society of Exploration Geophysicists International Exposition

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center • New Orleans, LA

For more information, www.seg.org/web/seg-new-orleans-2015/

October 27-28

Louisiana Gulf Coast Oil Exposition

Cajundome & Convention Center • Lafayette, LA

Notice: A Career Fair will be held on Oct 29th, 9 am - 2 pm
Registration is free to industry personnel.

December 13-16

2015 34th Annual GCSSEPM Foundation Perkins-Rose Research Conference

UMNI Houston Westside • Houston, TX

For more information, http://www.gcssepm.org/conference/2015_conference.htm

December 19

NOGS Christmas Holiday Party

Home of Ed Picou • 232 Lake Marina Ave. Apt. 14C • New Orleans, LA

Save the Date! Await further information on the NOGS website.

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Continued from previous page

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Phone

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504-593-3623
504-947-8495
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504-836-2710

E-mail

kelli.hardesty@erm.com
reiterde@stoneenergy.com
bootscon@aol.com
artjohnson51@hotmail.com
greatmre@aol.com
ekle1959@gmail.com
charleswholman@bellsouth.net
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McMoRan Exploration Company
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985-630-6898

elizabeth_mcdade@fmi.com
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elijahadedeji@yahoo.com
aakintom@tulane.edu
Ted@BourgoyneEngineering.com
ndaig13@yahoo.com
rharr71@lsu.edu
martin@dqsi.com
duncan.mcintoshjr@gmail.com
frank.rabbio@llog.com
vann@paleodata.com
thorshr0@sewanee.edu
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jcwildma@uno.edu
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Oct. 5 NOGS Luncheon Presentation

☆☆☆ at the Holiday Inn Superdome ☆☆☆

Using Petrographic Analysis for Formation Damage Evaluation

Presented by

Christy Gresham

Core Laboratories LP, PS-USA

Broussard, Louisiana



ABSTRACT

Clays are important contributors in the reduction of permeability in most United States unconventional tight sands. Most unconventional tight sands contain argillaceous components, which may be confirmed by X-ray diffraction (XRD) resulting in various clay percentages (i.e., illite, mixed-layer illite/smectite, kaolinite, and chlorite). Clays can be derived from diagenetic factors (i.e. compaction, dissolution, bioturbation), and they can occur as 'structural' or matrix components, various rock fragments (i.e., argillaceous rock fragments), and as authigenic constituents. Since these properties cannot be distinguished by XRD alone, conventional core and rotary sidewall core samples obtained from reservoir rocks depict evidence of diagenetic processes and possible past fluid migration. These processes may alter, transform, and create authigenic clays with pore-lining, pore-filling, pore-bridging, and/or grain-coating properties.

Chemical reactions from selected ionic flowing fluids could cause authigenic clays to become unstable and dislodged resulting in pore blockage which will result in formation damage due to the reduction on flow capacity. Since the size and forms of various authigenic clay particles differ, it is important to observe the size and structure of sensitive, unstable clays, open pore sizes, and pore distributions in thin section and scanning electron microscopy (SEM).



Authigenic clay identification, morphology, and location may be needed when selecting proper ionic flowing fluids in order to prohibit clay migration and thus the reduction of permeability pathways. By understanding the damage mechanisms behind possible formation damage, one must understand not only where the sensitive, unstable, authigenic clays are located in the pore systems, but also the authigenic clay sensitivity to various fluids (i.e., fresh water, HCl acid, HF acid, or a combination of HCl and HF acid).

Damage mechanisms of rock/fluid compatibility include fines migration, clay swelling (fresh water sensitivity), and acid sensitivity; all of which could occlude pore throats causing further reduction in permeability of the reservoir due to clays.

In summary, formation damage evaluation using petrographic analysis (XRD, thin section, and SEM) generates useful results in determining authigenic clay and pore characteristics essential for proper flow fluid section.

BIOGRAPHY

Christy Gresham was born in Natchez, Mississippi. She grew up in Sibley, Mississippi, surrounded by the countryside noted for its sandy creek beds. Summers were usually spent hiking the cliffs and gullies and searching for rocks. Her fate wasn't sealed until her first Geology 105 class at University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Christy has a B.S. in geology (2006) and a M.S. in petroleum geology (2009), both from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

She currently works for Core Laboratories and has nine years of petrographic experience analyzing the fabric, texture, composition, and porosity in U.S. and internationally-located sandstones, shales, and carbonates. While employed at Core Lab, she obtained her M.S. with a thesis titled, "Techniques for Determining Porosity (in Reservoir Rocks) from Conventional Core Thin Sections using Petrographic Image Analysis." Most of her time is spent looking at thin sections through a polarizing microscope with emphasis on grain and clay identification and distribution, depositional features, and pore abundances.

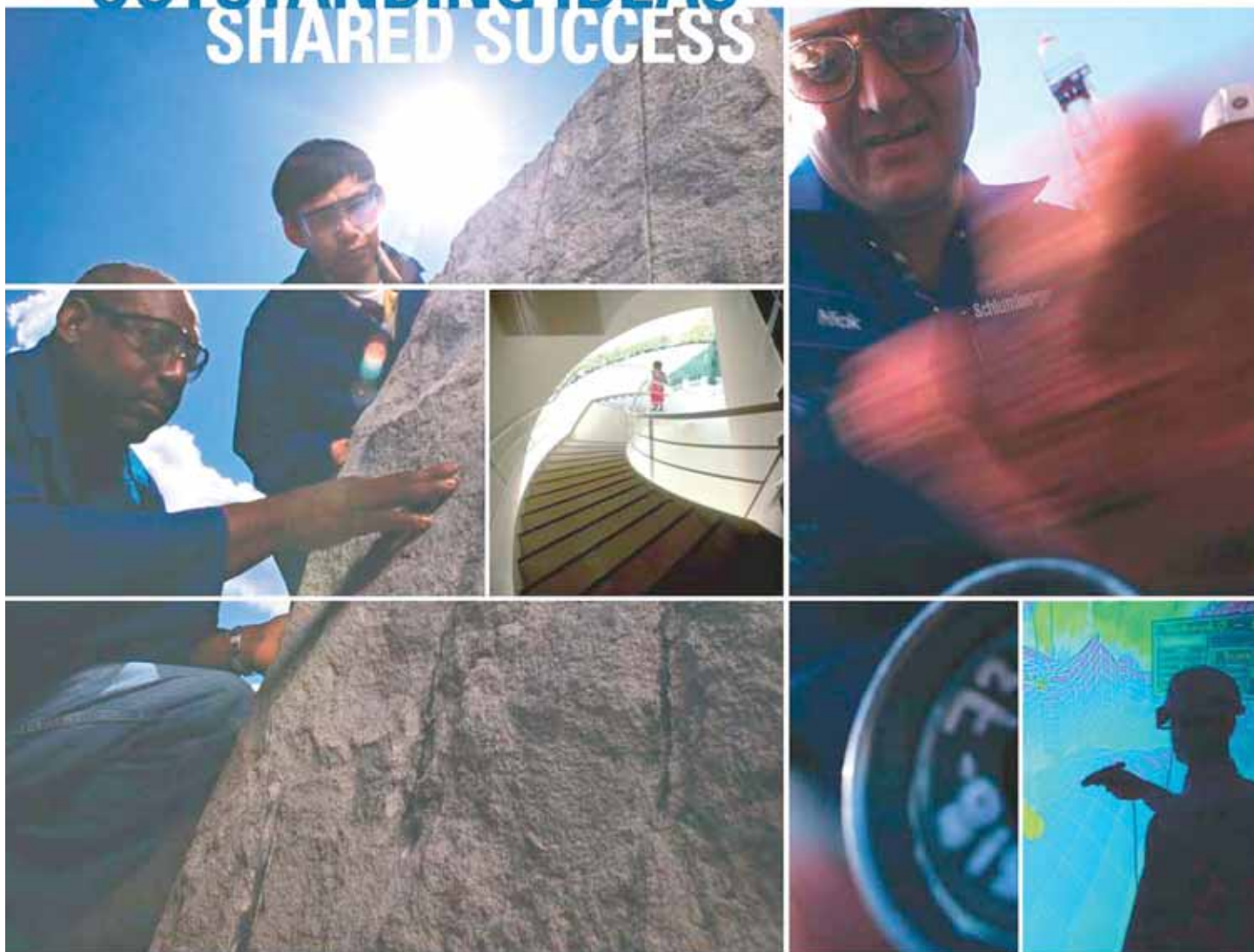
Christy's interests include photography, travel, and of course, visiting the creek beds in Mississippi.

THE LUNCHEON RESERVATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 30 - CONTACT THE NOGS OFFICE

"And Looking Ahead . . ."

The next luncheon will be held on November 2. Our guest speaker, Mike Merritt, GEM Consulting, Ltd., will present "When Earth Attacks! A Geologist's Retrospective." Contact the NOGS office at 504-561-8980 or use the PayPal link on the NOGS website (www.nogs.org) to make your reservation.

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October 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Luncheon 	6	7	8 SGS 	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 SPWLA 	16	17
18 85 th Annual SEG Meeting – New Orleans – Oct 18-23	19 Board Mtg	20 SIPES Party w a Purpose	21	22	23	24
25	26	La Childrens Museum 7-10 PM	28	29	30	31

October 5: NOGS Luncheon, Holiday Inn Superdome, 330 Loyola Ave. @11:30 am

Guest Speaker Christy Gresham, Core Laboratories LP, PS-USA

Will Present: Using Petrographic Analysis for Formation Damage Evaluation

November 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Luncheon 	3	4	5	6 UNO Mineral Auction 7-10 PM	7
8	9	10 SIPES	11	12 SGS 	13	14
15	16 Board Mtg 	17	18	19 SPWLA 	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 	27	28
29	30					

November 2: NOGS Luncheon, Holiday Inn Superdome, 330 Loyola Ave. @11:30 am

Guest Speaker: Mike Merritt, President and Principal Geologist, GEM Consulting, Ltd, Baton Rouge

Will Present: When Earth Attacks! A Geologist's Retrospective



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New Orleans Geological Auxiliary News

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

As this hot New Orleans summer draws to a close, everyone here looks forward to cooler days! With that, a new year of NOGA activities is about to begin. Our first event of 2015-16 will be a luncheon at the home of Camille Yeldell, where we will hear about everyone's summer travels and adventures. Potential new members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Look for photos in the next *NOGS LOG*.

Gratitude and thanks to new officers: Trudy Corona, president; Margie Conatser, vice president; Alma Dunlap and Jean Jones, directors; who have graciously stepped up to take on important duties for the coming season. Thanks also go to Debra Fein and MaryEllis Hasseltine, who will be leaving the



Current president Trudy Corona and husband Charley enjoy the entertainment at 1991 NOGA Luau party at the home of Peggy and Wayne Campbell.

2015-2016 Board (temporarily, I'm sure), for their past service to the Auxiliary. Grateful appreciation also to long time directory editor Mary Walther, and forever-treasurer Judy Lemarié. Peggy Rogers will stay on as a reporter for *NOGS LOG* as well as managing the duties of Secretary. Unnamed are those hard working and dedicated people who plan the many great events the Auxiliary enjoys year after year who are not on the Board.

Trudy Corona, Margie Conatser, Alma Dunlap, Mary Walther, Judy Lemarié and Peggy Rogers recently helped with check-in of preregistered participants for the Deep Water Symposium, August 19th – 20th.

NOGS Photographer Arthur Christensen came by our registration booth; you can see photos of our at-work NOGA ladies in the center section of the September *NOGS LOG*.

December 19th will be the exciting NOGS Christmas Holiday Party at the beautiful home of Ed Picou which overlooks the yacht harbor on Lake Pontchartrain. The Auxiliary will be lending a helping hand for this holiday celebration.

Directories were distributed at the September luncheon, and if you would like to join, your name will be added to an addendum mailed to all the members. New members are warmly welcomed; plan to join and enjoy all the events for the coming year. Please use the application found below.

Trudy Corona, President 2015-2016

New Orleans Geological Auxiliary Membership Application

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____
Address _____ Home Phone _____
City, State, Zip _____ Cell Phone _____
Spouse's Company _____ Email _____

Dues: \$25 payable to New Orleans Geological Auxiliary
Please mail to Judy Lemarié, Treasurer, #2 Yosemite Dr., New Orleans, LA 70131

NOGS BIG at



On Saturday, September 12th, 1160 eastern Louisiana Girl Scouts and 624 leaders converged on the Southeastern University campus in Hammond.

On hand to meet and greet them were twelve women volunteers from the **New Orleans Geological Society** and the **Southeastern Geophysical Society**.

"The girls had a lot of fun learning about what we do as geoscientists and really looked up to all the women role models teaching them various concepts and utilizing hands-on experiments."

Our geo-volunteers led the girls through demonstration stations showing just how exciting a career as an exploration geoscientist can be. There were two shifts of volunteers to handle the constant crowd of girls flocking to our display tables. It was a great day!

Tavia Prouhet and **Rachel Carter** described where oil comes from, that it's less dense than water and therefore floats to the top, and how it exists between sand grains. **Kristen Carpenter** from LSU, and new UNO graduate student **Celeste Woock** ran the structural geology station, explaining anticlines and oil migration and used a compression sand box to demonstrate how folds are created. **Daisy Pate**, **Leigh Anne Salathe**, and **Rachel Gasspard** demonstrated porosity in various ways including using eyedroppers on sands and shale to demonstrate the impermeable shale juxtaposed on sand to form a trap seal. **Jennifer Connolly** and **Liz McDade** took one of NOGS detailed fault models and showed how oil would migrate up the fault and into the highest structural position. By this time the girl scouts had learned how to find an oil field. They also described the tools we use to explore, particularly the 3-D seismic workstation. **Lisa Kennedy** and **Amanda Jo Zimmerman** of SGS ran the seismograph stations having the girls make their own three component seismic events on an iPad. Locally, **Stephanie Welch**, an earth science teacher at Southeastern, and **Miranda Flieg**, a Southeastern student, brought an interesting groundwater display that kept the kids fascinated.



"The girl scouts really learned a lot and developed an appreciation for being a geologist."



The most rewarding thing is how much they looked up to the women geologists who took time out to make this event happen. It is always rewarding to see NOGS step out in the community and make a difference. Major thanks go out to all our great volunteers and **Kevin Shipp** who directs the Girl Scouts East event.


girl scouts
louisiana east







Submitted by Laura Sorey

Elijah Adedeji is new student member from UNO.

'Bobola Akintomide is a new student member from Tulane University where he is working in structural geology with Dr. Nancye Dawers. During his spare time, he enjoys listening to good music and reading a wide variety of books, from autobiographies to management books.

Ted Bourgoyne joins us as the President of Bourgoyne Engineering LLC in Baton Rouge. He earned his BS and MS in petroleum engineering from LSU and a PhD from University of Texas. Ted spent about thirty years at LSU where he served as Department Chair of the Petroleum Engineering Department and as Dean of Engineering before retiring in 2000. A member of SPE for over fifty years, Ted was recently recognized for SPE and AIME as an Honorary Member.

Nick Daigle is new student member from LSU where he is working on his masters degree.

Ross Harrison is new member from LSU where he is senior geology major and is expected to finish in May 2016. He earned a prior BA degree from Texas Christian University in 2011. He currently works with Dr. Sam Bentley in the LSU Coastal Studies Institute. Ross is originally from Shreveport, LA.

Martin Klein joins NOGS as a geologist with DQSI LLC in Covington. He and his wife are expecting their second child this February.

Duncan McIntosh is a new student member from ULL where he is working on his masters degree.

Frank Rabbio is a Senior Geologist with LLOG Exploration working the deepwater GOM, primarily focused on the eastern Gulf. He has 27 years of experience in the Gulf Coast, Rockies, and Permian Basin and holds a BS and MS in Geology from Michigan State University. Frank lives and works in the foothills west of Denver at about the same elevation above sea level as he explores below sea level in the Gulf.

Vann Smith joins us as a nannofossil paleontologist from Paleo-Data in New Orleans. This past spring, he graduated from Tulane with an MS in geology. Vann is married to Stephanie Welch, an MS geology graduated from LSU and an instructor at Southeastern University in Hammond. They, along with their son Felix, live in Mandeville.

Haley Thorson is a new student member and currently attends Sewanee: The University of the South.

Zexuan Wang is a new student member in NOGS. After finishing his BS in petroleum geology at China University of Petroleum (Beijing) in 2014, he started at the University of Alberta for an MS in integrated petroleum geosciences. He is currently at UNO where he is conducting research in the Stratamax Lab under Dr. Royhan Gani.

Charlie Wildman is a student at UNO where he is working on a graduate degree in civil engineering with a focus on geotechnics and coastal processes. A native of Lafayette, Charlie graduated from Ole Miss with a degree in geological engineering before starting work with Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc as an onsite geologist and engineer in Dallas and New York City. After a foray into professional beer brewing in New York and Maryland, he was drawn back to geology and engineering and began the engineering program at UNO. Aside from beer making, Charlie is an active cyclist, having organized and participated in a Maryland to Colorado charity bike ride.

Rebecca Murphy is a reinstated member for NOGS. She completed her BS from UNO in 1999 and received her MS in geology and geophysics in 2005 also from UNO. She is currently a geologist with Shell in New Orleans.

Amanda Jo Zimmerman is a reinstated member with BOEM in New Orleans. After receiving a BS in geology at the University of Hawaii Hilo in 2007, she completed an MS in geology at LSU.

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South Louisiana and Offshore Gulf of Mexico Exploration and Production Activities

LAFAYETTE DISTRICT, ONSHORE AREA

By Carlo C. Christina

During the month of August only 16 permits to drill were issued by the Office of Conservation, Lafayette District, Onshore Area. Of these 16 permits only 8 were for new wells, 4 were for observation sulphur wells, 3 were for salt water disposal wells and 1 as for an observation well. Following are the most significant locations and completions:

NEW LOCATIONS

Castex Energy will drill a deep significant well in **Lake Enfermer Field**, (A), Lafourche Parish. The #2 Castex Lafourche will be drilled to 20,000 feet to test Tex W sands in Sec. 23, 20S-22E. The well is located 1 1/2 miles west of the deepest well in the field, a McMoRan well which was drilled to 19,500 feet and completed through perforations 17,300 to 17,348, overall, flowing 1320 BOPD and 5944 MCF. The productive section was found in top of a massive sand measuring more than 400 feet in thickness. The well produced only 3 years and was offset one half mile to the north, but no sand was found below 17,000 feet. (249248)

In Iberville Parish, **Dorcyville Field**, (B), Ponderosa Oil & Gas will drill its #1 SL 21168 in Sec. 55, 9S-1E. It will be drilled to test Marg vag sands at 12,800 feet. Nearest production is from Mio gyp sands located 1 mile to the west. (249226)

Petsec Energy will drill the #1 Levert-St. John Farm in **St. Martinville Field**, (C), St. Martin Parish, to test Marg tex sands at 12,500 feet. The well will be drilled directionally to 14,200 feet with the bottom hole located in Section 71, 10S-7E. No current production is found within several miles of the location. Although permitted in St. Martinsville Field the well is located on the extreme northeast flank of the St. Martinville, and midway to Section 28 Field. (249264).

COMPLETIONS

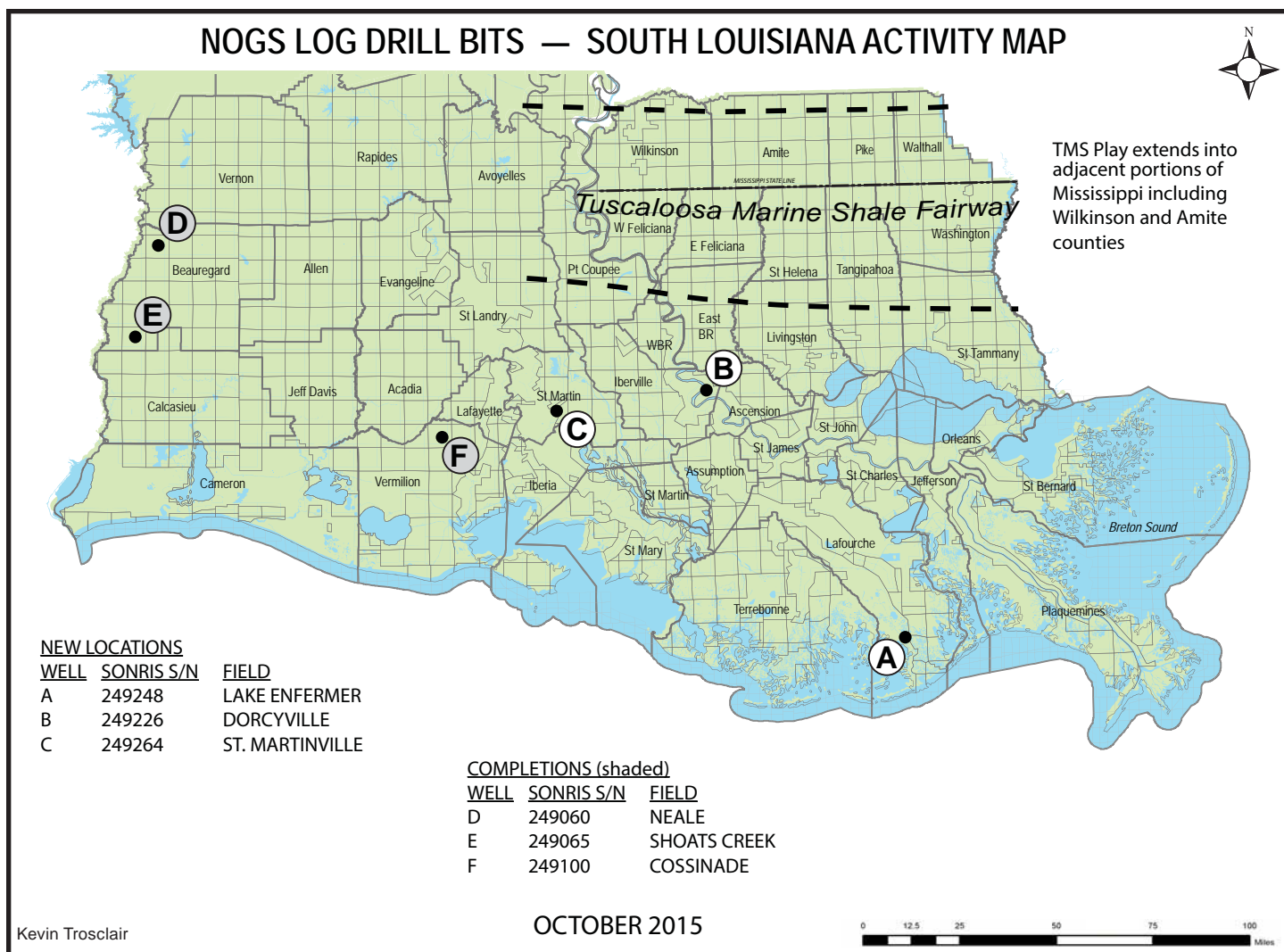
In Beauregard Parish, **Neale Field**, (D), Warhorse Oil & Gas has completed the #1 Rice Land in a Cockfield sand flowing 240 BOPD and 140 MCF through perforations 5811 to 5814 feet. The well was drilled to 7900 feet in Sec. 23, 3S-11W. It has been rumored that the well was tested Sparta sands through perforations 7399 to 7405 and through perforations 6676 to 6682 feet with no test information released. (249060)

As previously reported, the well is located 1 mile north of production on the north flank of the large Neale structure which covers an area 4½ miles by 1½ mile. If production is confirmed in these Sparta sands additional drilling can be expected.

Also in Beauregard Parish, **Shoats Creek Field**, (E), Northcote Energy has reported its operator, Aminex USA, has completed the #20 Lutchter-Moore Lumber Co. flowing 260 BOPD and 500 MCF in a Frio sand through perforations 5018 to 5023. The well was drilled to a total depth of 5500 feet in Sec. 2, 7S-12W. (249065)

Martex Operating has released the rig on the #1 Simon Family in **Cossinade Field**, (F), Vermilion Parish. The well was located in Sec. 28, 11S-2E and was drilled to a total depth of 11,723 feet. (249100)





OFFSHORE GULF OF MEXICO SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES

by Al Baker

During **August 2015**, the BOEM approved **66** Gulf of Mexico drilling permits. Of these, **14** were for shelf wells, and **52** were for deepwater wells. Of the total number of permits, there were **8 new well permits** issued, **all** in deepwater.

The eight new well permits were for deepwater exploration wells. These permits were awarded to **Freeport McMoRan Oil & Gas** for their **Mississippi Canyon 127 #SS-3** and **Mississippi Canyon 129 #SS-4** wells, to **Shell Offshore** for their **Walker Ridge 508 #8** and **Mississippi Canyon 566 #1** wells, to **Murphy Exploration & Production Company** for their **Desoto Canyon 134 #2** well, to **Statoil Gulf of Mexico** for their **Walker Ridge 160 #2** well, to **LLOG Exploration Offshore** for their **Green Canyon 39 #1** well and to **BP Exploration & Production** for their **Mississippi Canyon 383 #K-3** well.

Over the past eight months, there have been **8** new wells permitted on the Gulf of Mexico **shelf**, whereas there have been **45** new well permits issued in **deepwater**.

On August 28th, **IHS-Petrodata** reported that the Gulf of Mexico mobile offshore rig supply stood at **116**, which is **6** more rigs than last month. The marketed rig supply consisted of **76** rigs, of which **56** were under contract. The contracted versus total rig supply utilization rate is **48.3%**, while the marketed contracted versus marketed supply utilization rate stands at **73.7%**. The marketed rig supply number is **2** more than reported last month, whereas the contracted rig supply number is **2** less than reported last month. In contrast, the August 2014 fleet utilization rate stood at 67.0% with 77 out of the 115 rigs under contract.

On August 28th, **BakerHughes** indicated that there were **30** active mobile offshore rigs in the Gulf, which is **53.6%** of the rigs under contract mentioned above. This active rigs number is **4** less than reported last month. The current active rigs count compares to 66 active rigs during the same period last year, representing a **60.0%** decline in yearly rig activity.

On August 19th, the **BOEM** held the most lackluster Gulf of Mexico lease sale since area-wide Gulf sales were first conducted in 1983. **OCS Sale 246** was held in the **Western Gulf of Mexico** planning area and only generated **\$22.7 million in high bids**. Just **5** companies submitted a total of **33 bids** on **33 tracts**. The Australian company, **BHP Billiton**, dominated the sale by submitting **26** bids on tracts that were concentrated in the **Alaminos Canyon Area**. The company exposed **\$16.3 million** for the deepwater acreage. The only shelf player was **Peregrine Oil & Gas**, who picked up **2** tracts in the **High Island Area** south additions for **\$299,403**. According to Randall Luthi, the head of the National Ocean Industries Association, the lack of enthusiasm in the sale reflected current low crude prices, uncertainty over new regulations and ongoing litigation over offshore energy development.

Save the Date!

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December 19, 2015

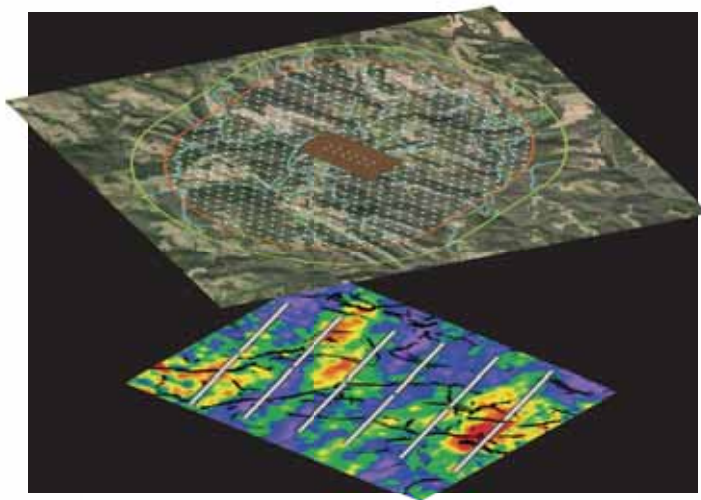
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Louisiana State University NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships



LEE H. MELTZER GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Don Hood - \$3,000 Cash Award

Don Hood graduated from Memorial High School in Houston, Texas. Don earned a B.S. degree in physics from Carnegie Mellon University with an interest in planetary science. He joined the LSU Planetary Science Research Group within the Department of Geology and Geophysics in fall 2014. Don serves as a teaching assistant for the Introductory Geology labs. His dissertation research focuses on the mineralogy of the soils on Mars and the distribution of elements within the near-surface environment of Mars. His future plans are based on his desire to be a professor in a Texas or Louisiana university.

NOGS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Gregory Keller - \$2,500 Cash Award

Gregory Keller grew up in Montz, Louisiana. From a young age he had an appreciation for the Louisiana landscape, which he gained by shrimping the local waters, fishing off Grand Isle, riding four wheelers in the Bonnet Carré Spillway, and playing on the Mississippi River point bars. During his undergraduate studies, he served underprivileged communities in Chicago, Nashville, and Louisiana, which cultivated his desire to serve people. His dream career would be one which would allow him to combine his native knowledge of Louisiana with skills acquired in the classroom and during LSU field trips to study the Mississippi River and use it for marsh restoration and protection of vulnerable communities. Gregory looks forward to community outreach and education opportunities to increase public knowledge of the natural erosion and changes that take place in large deltas.

JULES & OLGA BRAUNSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. Daniel Babin - \$2,500 Senior Cash Award

Daniel Babin is an LSU geology student graduating in 2016. He currently is doing research in the field of metamorphic petrology under Dr. Darrell Henry. Their work will result in a thesis in 2016. This will detail the generation of a low pressure (3kbar) surface for the Titanium in Biotite Thermometer and include data Daniel collected from a contact metamorphic aureole in Canada. Afterwards, he intends to enroll in a Ph.D. program in the fields of sedimentology and stratigraphy. This will best tailor his education to gain employment as an exploration geologist in the petroleum industry. His hobbies include long distance backpacking, writing and playing music, singing, mindfulness meditation, and rock climbing.

Mr. Hunter Songy - \$2,000 Junior Cash Award

Hunter Songy graduated from Archbishop Rummel High School in Metairie, Louisiana. He joined LSU as a petroleum engineering major; however, he has found geology to be much more interesting and has changed his major! In 2015, Hunter received the Outstanding Sophomore Award from the Department of Geology and Geophysics. Hunter is active in the Geology Club, LSU Community Bound, and works as a tutor. In fall 2015 Hunter plans to begin his undergraduate research leading to an undergraduate thesis and then onto Graduate School.

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 is carried on by his surviving wife, **Olga**, in her bequeathal of the residue of their estate to NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarship Fund.

Tulane University

NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships



JAMES ALLEN GILREATH GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Michael T. Ramirez - \$3,000 Cash Award

Michael was born and raised in Massachusetts. He received his B.A. in earth and environmental science from Vanderbilt University in 2009. That year he began working with Dr. Mead Allison at the University of Texas at Austin, studying sedimentology. Michael received his M.S. in geosciences in 2011 and began a Ph.D. program at the University of Texas. In 2013 he transferred to Tulane University to continue his Ph.D. researching the interaction between flow and sediment transport in the lowermost Mississippi River, with applications to Louisiana coastal restoration. Michael intends to pursue a career in hydrographic surveying or river resource monitoring.

NOGS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Ms. Elizabeth L. Chamberlain – \$2,500 Cash Award

Louisiana has been good to Elizabeth L. Chamberlain. She moved here from her home-state of Wisconsin in 2002 to study at LSU. Elizabeth earned three degrees concurrently from LSU: a B.A. in English (creative writing), a B.S. in animal science, and a B.A. in liberal arts (studio art/lithography). Clearly, Elizabeth was destined to be a geologist.

In 2010, Elizabeth entered into a graduate program in LSU's Department of Geology & Geophysics. One of the first and most influential classes she took was "deltaic geology." Within a few lectures, the familiar Louisiana landscape took on a new meaning. The clear connection of the coursework to local land management issues sparked an interest in Elizabeth that would guide her professional development. After completing her M.S. at LSU, Elizabeth entered the Ph.D. program at Tulane University's Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Here, she investigates rates and processes of deltaic evolution using stratigraphy and optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) dating, with guidance from advisor Torbjörn Törnqvist and mentor Zhixiong Shen. Elizabeth's study sites include Mississippi Delta (Lafourche subdelta) and the Ganges-Brahmaputra Delta.

Elizabeth is married to Baton Rouge native Rye Cooper. Together they have a 3-year old son, Frederick.

JULES & OLGA BRAUNSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Ms. Claire Beauchamp - \$2,500 Senior Cash Award

Claire was born and grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio. She credits summer camp creek hikes, where she collected trilobite fossils, with her interest in the stories that the earth has to share. Skipping forward a couple years, she now studies earth science at Tulane University and will be graduating spring of 2016. She loves applying the earth processes she learns in classes to current issues and counts herself as a climate change activist. She has worked on carbon footprint analysis with Professor Jeff Sigler and was an executive board member of the Tulane Green Club, which works to educate and engage Tulane students with the environment and provide them with service opportunities in New Orleans. She has developed an immense love for New Orleans and has committed herself to teaching people about its distinct ecological and geologic challenges.

Ms. Margo Habets - \$2,000 Junior Cash Award

Margot was raised in the San Francisco Bay Area where she learned about the natural and geologic history of the area through hikes with her family. She is currently an undergraduate at Tulane University where she studies earth and environmental science and is especially interested in the effects of humans on the geology of the Mississippi River Delta. Margot is the founder of Tulane Trash to Treasure, an on campus business that reduces waste during dorm move-out, as well as the Service Chair for Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity and a Customer Service Employee for Tulane Technology Services. At the moment she is working with Dr. Alex Kolker to relate vegetation growth and decay to natural processes and elevation changes in coastal Louisiana. She hopes to continue to study human impacts on geology and natural disasters in graduate school after taking some time off to explore America and work in the National Park system.

The University of New Orleans

NOGS Memorial Foundation Scholarships



RICHARD W. BOEBEL GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Ms. Rachelle Thomason - \$3,000 Cash Award

Rachelle Thomason was born and raised in a small town outside of Kansas City, Missouri. She decided to trade out one small town for another and attended Mississippi State University to achieve her B.S. in professional meteorology. During her time at MSU, weather was her first interest with geology, emergency management, and community involvement following shortly behind. After graduation, she worked as an on-air meteorologist for WWL-TV in New Orleans. Rachelle has been attending the University of New Orleans since August 2014 and is in pursuit of her M.S. in geology. She also works as a teaching assistant at UNO. Under the advising of Dr. Mark Kulp, Rachelle's thesis research will be centered on marsh platform response in the Biloxi Marshes due to meteorological forcing. In her spare time she can be found running, volunteering for Girls on the Run, cheering on MSU at a game, or trying local cuisine.

GEORGE W. SCHNEIDER SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ms. Pricilla Souza - \$2,500 Cash Award

Pricilla Souza received a B.Sc. in computer science in 1998 and worked as a flight attendant for 3 years before discovering her true passion when she returned to college to pursue an undergraduate degree in geology. She participated in field trips throughout Brazil, worked in the Laboratory of Tectonics and on two research projects focusing on fold belts and their reactivations. Her undergraduate thesis, done in partnership with Shell Brazil, characterized the volcanic rocks that compose the structural high separating the Santos and Campos basins. Pricilla worked for six years as a geologist in oil and gas exploration and development for Shell and BG Group in Brazil and the UK. During that time she pursued a graduate degree in geology, and graduated in 2011. Her master's thesis examined the tectonic evolution of the onshore southeastern Brazilian continental margin during the Cenozoic. In 2013, Pricilla moved to New Orleans and enrolled in a Ph.D. program at the University of New Orleans. Her research aims to contribute to a better understanding of the evolution of tidal point bars and the complexity of their internal heterogeneity, which have a significant impact on the economic viability of hydrocarbon exploration of that type of subsurface reservoir.

JULES & OLGA BRAUNSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. Lewis Jones - \$2,500 Senior Cash Award

Lewis Jones was born in Slidell, Louisiana, and attended Salmen High School where he was an active member in many clubs and a band captain. He is planning to graduate from the University of New Orleans with a degree in geology. He has a great fascination in the environmental sciences and plans to use it to help society in a plethora of ways. Lewis has worked in the research lab with graduate students, helping them compile their research under the supervisors Dr. William "Skip" Simmons and Mr. Alexander Falster. This enabled him to get hands-on experience with research. His love for discovery and learning about minerals has led him to attend Pegmatite Workshops in Maine. Lewis has his mind set on working in the petroleum industry as a geochemist, but is open to exploring other fields in the industry. Outside of academics he loves to do community service projects and participates in clubs around campus. With that said, he lives by the motto "service above self" because he believes that in order to better himself he must reach out and help others. In his spare time he enjoys relaxing by playing his favorite videos and hanging out with friends and family.

Mr. Scott St. Romain - \$2,000 Junior Cash Award

Scott St. Romain graduated from St. Paul's High School in Covington, Louisiana, in 2013. From there he decided to go to LSU where he started out as a civil engineering major. It wasn't long into his first semester that he decided to change his major to Geology. He wasn't content at LSU and heard good things about UNO's Earth and Environmental Science program so he transferred sophomore year. Since then he has learned a lot and met many great students and professors. He plans to continue his studies into graduate school. He's a musician and plays the drums, guitar, bass and a little banjo. He would like to thank NOGS for the opportunity to receive a Junior Scholarship.



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Submitted by Laura Sorey

While I'm certain there's a great deal to be said for the famed majesty of the national parks and geologic wonders of the American West, I do occasionally grow weary of geologists who respond to my revelation that I've never been to the great western parks with, "What do you MEAN you've never been to Yosemite?" The storied ranges of the Tetons, the Sierra Nevada, the Rockies, the Cascades, etc. captivate generations of Americans who heed the fateful imperative of "Go West, young man." But with all due respect to our western colleagues and to the Manifest Destiny, I contend that there remains something to be said for the glory of the Appalachians. Maybe it's because of my yearly childhood vacations to western North Carolina. Maybe it's just because I like Doc Watson better than John Denver. But as the air turns cool and crisp, I encourage you to look towards the ancient beauty and geology of some of my favorite places in the Appalachians. Grab a rock hammer, put some Old Crow Medicine Show on your iPhone, and go East, young man.

Cades Cove: As one of the world's premier examples of a fenster, the geologic window marked by expansive meadows and cultural landmarks is one of the most visited sites within the Smoky Mountain National Park. The Precambrian sandstones and phyllite of the Ocoee Supergroup were displaced overtop the younger Ordovician age limestone that makes up the floor of the valley. The older rock, which makes up that hanging wall of the Great Smoky Thrust, was transported during the closing of the Iapetus Ocean as the modern African/Eurasian and North American plates collided in the Alleghenian orogeny. The susceptibility of the Jonesboro limestone to weathering resulted in the formation of large caves such as Gregory's Cave and Bull Cave. On the southern end of the Cove, you can hike to the summit of the grassy topped Gregory Bald that rises almost 3000 feet above the valley's floor as a mountain of the Elkmont sandstone member of the Ocoee Supergroup. While rightly renowned for its vistas and interesting hiking paths, the juxtaposition between the beauty, the historical, and the scientific makes Cades Cove more than just a scenic viewpoint on the side of some state highway. It's quite literally a window in the history of time itself.

Blue Ridge Parkway: While it perhaps goes without saying that this National Parkway is a destination in the Appalachian Mountains, it is not something to be merely delegated as a check list item for RV travelers. Stretching from the Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina to Rockfish Gap on the edge of Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, the 469 miles of Parkway are famous for their scenic views of the autumn foliage along the flanks of summits as the road winds through the Valley and Ridge province of the Appalachians. But beneath the foliage is some the most complex and interesting geology in North America. Primarily associated with the fold-and-thrust belt generated in by several Appalachian orogenic sequences, the petrology includes metamorphics, intrusive igneous formations, as well as sedimentary limestones. There is ample opportunity to investigate the geologic story up close at locations such as Linville Falls and Grandfather Mountain.

Shenandoah National Park: Famous in at least small part for the song that gets perpetually stuck in your head, Shenandoah National Park is the site of a lush, verdant valley flanked by mountains that once surpassed even the height of the modern Himalayas. You can wind through the park along Skyline Drive, which offers plenty of opportunities for day hikes or you can take on the challenge of the famed Appalachian Trail which also includes several options for shorter hikes with a range of difficulty levels as you explore the geologic history of the valley. At Old Rag Mountain, you can find exposures of the Grenville age gneiss and other granitic rocks that compose the basement rock of the entire Blue Ridge and the oldest exposures in Virginia. Shenandoah is also home to a series of Neoproterozoic basalts that metamorphosed into the distinctive greenstone, marked by its visible green color due to an abundance of chlorite, epidote, and related minerals. While only mildly interesting in and of itself, these subaerial greenstone flows take on a variety forms from the sheer cliff of Crescent Rock to the dramatic columnar jointing along Skyline Drive at Indian Run Overlook and the Appalachian Trail north of Crescent Rock.

Sources:

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Field lecture notes. Dr. Stan Galicki, Dr. James Harris, and Dr. Zach Musselman. Millsaps College. May 2010.



Cades Cove

Photo source: <http://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/cadescove.htm>



Linville Falls

Photo source: <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-worldwar/5830>



Old Rag Mountain, Shenandoah Valley

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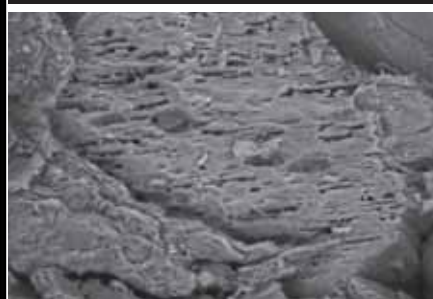
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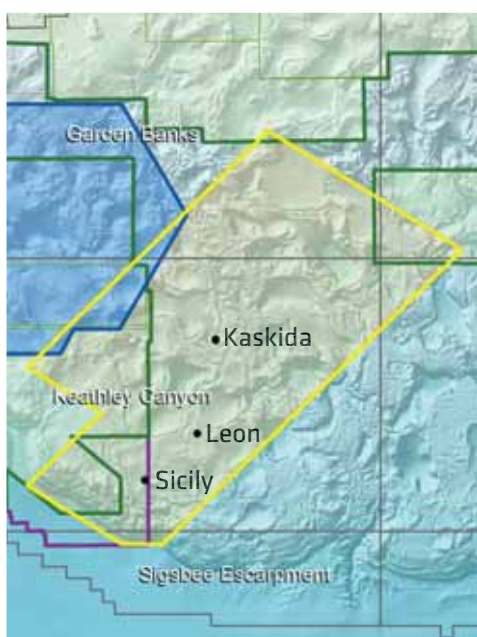
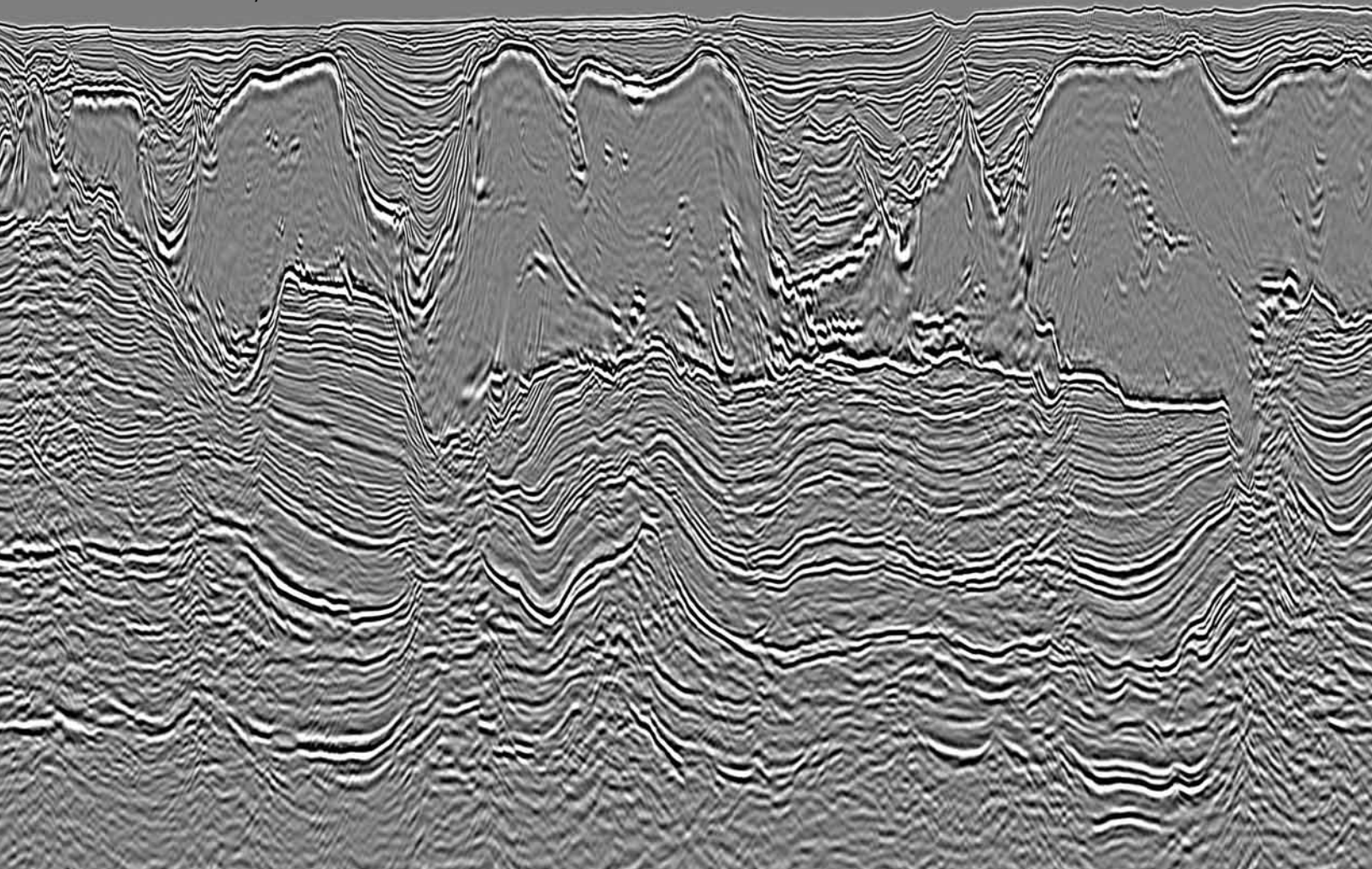


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