

75th Anniversary of NOGS

Key History Highlights

Ed Picou, Chairman Historical Committee

Although this is NOGS 75th Anniversary event, I want to start with mentioning that New Orleans has always been a favorite site for the annual convention of the AAPG. Even before NOGS was founded, AAPG held their first New Orleans convention here in 1930 and again in 1938. After the 1938 convention there was a twenty-seven year hiatus until 1965. AAPG has held eight conventions in our city.

For a comprehensive history of NOGS activities over the past 75 years, go to the ABOUT US page on the website. Chronicled there are all yearly events including SuperSaurus Saturday, Golf Tournaments, etc. Don't forget to take a look at the GALLERIES for photos of past NOGS events.

1941

NOGS was organized on October 3, 1941, just two months before the attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan.

1950

In 1950 the first NOGS membership roster was published in the new mimeographed newsletter.

1951

On November 15-17, 1951, the first GCAGS Convention was held at the Roosevelt Hotel with NOGS members playing a significant role with its membership now at 233. Over the years NOGS, assisted by NOGA, has hosted nine GCAGS conventions.

1954

On October 13, 1954, the New Orleans Geological Auxiliary held its first meeting at the Valencia Club.

1959

In 1959 NOGS established a Group Insurance policy for its members. This was later taken over by AAPG and is now the AAPG Geocare Insurance program.

1960

In 1960 the first of three Salt Dome volumes was published and the *NOGS LOG* replaced the old mimeographed version.

Speaking of publications – All our publications are now digitized. All oil and gas fields and salt dome volumes are on the original CD issued in 2002. Two additional CDs contain some fifty-six publications, such as field trip guide books and short course notes, were released in 2003. AAPG Datapages has paid NOGS a cumulative total of \$38,585.18 in royalties for access to these digital publications. Additionally, the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology, who handles sales of our remaining hard copy publications, has consistently sent semi-annual royalty checks.

1978

In 1978 the NOGS Scholarship Fund was created, which morphed into the NOGS Memorial Foundation. In the initial year of 1978, three university students were awarded a total of \$1500, whereas in 2016, twelve students were awarded a total of \$30,000. Since its inception, a total of \$713,500 has been awarded to university students.

1988

In 1988 NOGS Membership climbed to an all-time high of 1,500.

1991

In 1991 NOGS leased its first “permanent” office suite in the 234 Loyola Building and hired Annette Hudson as Office Manager.

1992

On May 30th, 1992, NOGS celebrated a 50th Anniversary Birthday Bash attended by a large crowd.

1995

In 1995 NOGS membership requirements were expanded to include geoscientists working in environmental and geotechnical services fields.

1997

In 1997 NOGS launched its first website and established e-mail capabilities.

1999

Faced with \$11.00 oil in 1999, corporate downsizing and relocations hit the industry and dealt NOGS a heavy blow. The Employment Counseling Committee arranged many social coffees and talks designed as network opportunities for displaced members.

2003

In 2003 NOGS presented the South Louisiana Onshore Petroleum Exploration Symposium (SLOPES) on May 22nd at the Marriott Hotel. Twenty-seven papers were presented in two concurrent sessions for 332 attendees.

2005

In 2005 Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans on August 29 causing the cancellation of the NOGS hosted 55th Annual GCAGS Convention. Thankfully, NOGS had a cancellation policy!

2007-10

The aftermath of Hurricane Katrina prompted NOGS to host a series of four (2007-2010) symposia titled “Geologic Facts of Life for Flood Protection.” All four symposia were well-attended.

2015

In 2015 NOGS and the Memorial Foundation agreed to fund the Louisiana Children’s Museum and the St. Tammany Children’s Museum, each \$50,000, to be paid over a ten year period. The first checks were presented at the August and September luncheon meeting.

