

NOGS LOG

JANUARY 2017

Volume 57, Number 7



JANUARY 9 - NOGS/SGS LUNCHEON
Presentation: Technology Advance — A Two-Edged Sword:
Fracking and Other Global Security Adventures
Guest Speaker: Terry C. Wallace, Ph.D.
Los Alamos National Laboratory • Los Alamos, New Mexico

NOGS Serves at John Curtis Science Fairs



John Curtis Christian School in Jefferson held its annual student science fairs on November 19 for the Junior Division and December 13 for the Senior Division. NOGS members were invited by teacher and honorary NOGS member Cathy Boucvalt to serve as judges for the fair. Michael Fein, Bill Whiting, Dave Cope, and Laura Sorey volunteered as judges and reviewed a variety of posters across scientific categories.

These 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners from the Earth and Environmental Science category will advance to the GNOSEF Region IX Science & Engineering Fair on February 13-16 at the UNO Human Performance Center along with winners from other categories.

• JUNIOR DIVISION •

1st place: Zachary LaBarre

"How Does Saltwater Intrusion Affect the LA Coastline?"

2nd place: Isabella Pita

"Does Point Source Pollution (NO3) from Fertilizer Run-off Affect Invertebrate Health?"

3rd place: Cole Landry

"Rip Rap: It's Not Hip Hop...It's Erosion – Stop!"

• SENIOR DIVISION •

1st place: Blythe Broussard

"Point Source Pollution: How Does Motor Oil Affect the Heart Rate of Grass Shrimp?"

2nd place: Sebastian Rubio

"Do Mississippi Freshwater Diversions Contain a Lower Percentage of Silt Than Non-Diversion Areas?"

3rd place: Thomas Poole

"Which Type of Soil has the Highest Bearing Capacity?"





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This issue was sent to press on December 29, 2016.

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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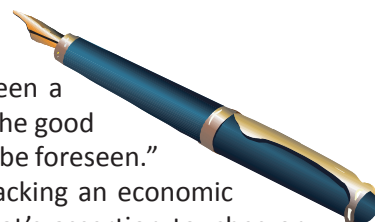
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From the Editor

French economist Frédéric Bastiat posited that, "There is only one difference between a bad economist and a good one: the bad economist confines himself to the visible effect; the good economist takes into account both the effect that can be seen and those effects that must be foreseen." Replace the word *economist* with *geologist*. Before any economists object that I'm hijacking an economic principle for my own purposes (which I of course am), allow me to contend that Bastiat's assertion touches on the larger implications of a Law of Unintended Consequences and is thus free for hijacking. This law refers to, among other things, the fact that most decisions we make incur consequences or reactions beyond what we anticipate or what we can readily observe. It takes no great leap of imagination to envision scenarios in which unseen consequences can undermine the decisions we make as geologists. Build a levee to stop flooding? We see that the flood risk is mitigated, but do we see what else follows? How do we account for the unseen challenges and unintended consequences of geology and engineering projects in south Louisiana? We will examine this question over the next few issues of the *NOGS LOG*, beginning with this month's interview with Mr. Mike Merritt of the SLFPA-W. If you're interested in participating in the series, please email nogseditor@gmail.com.



Laura

Laura Sorey, Editor

on the cover

Cover Photo Submitted by Kristee Brown

Petrified Oak Slab - Painted Gorge Basalt Formation Swartz Canyon, Crook County, Oregon

The petrified oak slab on the cover is heavily detailed and agatized with a golden, translucent agate-filled heart. It is from Painted Gorge Basalt Formation from Swartz Canyon in Crook County, Oregon. This canyon has produced some of the finest fossil oak trees ever found.

Petrified wood forms when plant material is buried by sediment and protected from decay by oxygen and organisms. Then, groundwater rich in dissolved solids flows through the sediment replacing the original plant material with silica, calcite, pyrite or another inorganic material such as opal. The result is a fossil of the original woody material that often exhibits preserved details of the bark, wood and cellular structures.

A wide variety of names are commonly used for petrified wood. "Fossilized wood" is a general term for wood that has been petrified or preserved by other methods of fossilization. "Opalized wood" is petrified wood that has been replaced by opal, an amorphous form of silica. "Agatized wood" is wood that has been replaced by agate, a form of chalcedony or microcrystalline quartz. "Silicified wood" is wood that has been replaced by any form of silica, including opal and agate.

Photo and description courtesy of Marc Villarreal of Monarch Mineral and Fossil.

Reference: <http://geology.com/stories/13/petrified-wood/>



Contact:
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2017 ADVERTISING RATES

The New Orleans Geological Society was formed in 1941, with an initial membership of only 55. It has always been an active professional society and presently has a membership of 500.

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Eighth Page (3.75"x2.5")	\$600	\$300
Twelfth Page (3.75"x1.65")	\$375	\$188
Note Size (3.75"x.75")	\$120	\$60



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From the President

The NOGS Christmas Holiday party was a great affair! Hosts Cathy and Mark McRae allowed us to use their absolutely beautiful 1850 home and everyone had a wonderful time catching up with old friends and making new ones. The house is very spacious and allowed for mingling and easy access to the bar! Many people spent time on the front porch chatting and enjoying the view of Bayou St. John. The food was excellent, albeit in short supply due to an error by the caterer, but the camaraderie and laughter made up for it. I want to thank President-Elect Kathy Haggard and NOGA members Camille Yeldell, Trudy Corona and Genny Melillo for all the hard work they put into planning this very successful event. I would also like to thank Tim Klibert and Leslie Broussard of Diversified Well Logging for their very generous support. Also, besides hosting the party, the McRae's made a donation to sponsor all of the students who attended. Thanks very much, Cathy and Mark!

Another year has gone by, and it has been a difficult one for the many people employed directly and indirectly in the search for and production of petroleum. NOGS members have been as hard hit as any group. Optimism, however, is something petroleum geologists have in abundance, and we are looking to 2017 for a return to more prosperous and stable conditions.

One by-product of the downturn has been a very significant decrease in revenues NOGS receives from advertising revenues. A while ago, we were thinking about ways to raise money when Tom Bergeon came up with the idea of selling polo shirts with the NOGS logo on them. Board member Jennifer Connolly volunteered to do some research on this and soon found a vendor who could produce shirts of all kinds – golf shirts, polo shirts, t-shirts, sweatshirts and even bags with the NOGS logo embroidered on them. She found another vendor who would imprint our logo on coffee mugs, key chains, drink holders, drinking glasses, and a host of other things. I am not going to

publish the link to the two websites here because I want to wait until Jennifer is satisfied that everything is running smoothly. Bill Haworth has ordered a few items and they look great! The NOGS office now has a new wall clock with our logo emblazoned on it. Buying these items is a terrific way to show pride in your profession while supporting your society at the same time.

I'm going to repeat something I wrote about earlier in 2016, and that is volunteering to help with the events/activities that NOGS runs throughout the year. Like many professional societies, NOGS is an organization that relies on its members to complete most of the tasks necessary for it to exist. We have a very dedicated, talented group of volunteers now who can keep NOGS alive, but we need more people and their talents and energy for the organization to thrive. Making a difference to your profession doesn't take a huge amount of time, just a few hours per month. If you recruit a buddy to work with you it will take even less of your time. At the GCAGS meeting in Corpus Christi, one of the societies based in Florida talked about a field trip they ran to the Cote Blanche salt mine here in Louisiana. I think that would make a great field trip and would be of interest to many NOGS members, but there is no one to take the lead and make it happen. Similarly, we would like to reach out more to geologists in the environmental field and grow the NOGS membership. To do that, we need someone to lead a membership drive. Please consider stepping up and helping NOGS achieve the things we need to do to stay a vibrant and valuable professional society.

This month's luncheon will be our annual joint meeting with SGS. The date is January 9, and our speaker will be Terry C. Wallace, PhD, of the Los Alamos National Laboratory. His talk is entitled "Technology advances – A two-edged sword: Fracking and other global security adventures" and it promises to be very interesting and informative. See you there.

Al Melillo



NOGS Office

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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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January 9 • NOGS/SGS Luncheon

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome

\$3.00 validated parking in hotel garage

Presentation:

***Technology Advance – A Two-Edged Sword: Fracking
and Other Global Security Adventures***

Guest Speaker:

Terry C. Wallace, Ph.D.

Los Alamos National Laboratory • Los Alamos, New Mexico

See pages 8 & 9 for Abstract and Biography

HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN SUPERDOME

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Lunch served at 11:30 am

ADMISSION:

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January 24-25

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February 1

Submission Deadline for Abstracts: 2017 GCAGS Annual Convention

For more information: Lee Billingsley at technicalprogram@gcags2017.org

February 6

NOGS Luncheon - Speaker TBA

Holiday Inn Downtown Superdome • New Orleans, Louisiana

For more information and reservations, contact Annette at annette@nogs.org or 504-561-8980

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Jan. 9 NOGS/SGS Luncheon Presentation

☆☆☆ at the Holiday Inn Superdome ☆☆☆

Technology Advance — A Two-Edged Sword: Fracking and Other Global Security Adventures

Presented by

Terry C. Wallace, Ph.D.

Los Alamos National Laboratory • Los Alamos, New Mexico

ABSTRACT

This talk will look at global security challenges to the US with an emphasis on earth sciences and natural resources. Examples include the rise of fracking and its role in decreasing CO₂ emissions, but impacts with waste water injection, lithium and high powered batteries, and the economic consequences of an ice free artic.

BIOGRAPHY

As Principal Associate Director for Global Security (PADGS) at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Dr. Wallace leads laboratory programs related to national security. Los Alamos enhances our nation's security by developing and applying the scientific and engineering capabilities to counter threats, in particular those associated with weapons of mass destruction.



Wallace has served as Principal Associate Director for Science, Technology, and Engineering from 2006 to 2011 and as Associate Director of Strategic Research from 2005 to 2006. In those positions, Wallace integrated the expertise from all basic science programs and five expansive science and engineering organizations to support LANL's nuclear-weapons, threat-reduction, and national-security missions.

Wallace's expertise is forensic seismology, a highly specialized discipline focusing on detection and quantification of nuclear tests. His research has focused on measuring the effects and behaviors of explosive sources in complex environments, and assessing various geophysical signatures to determine explosive yields.

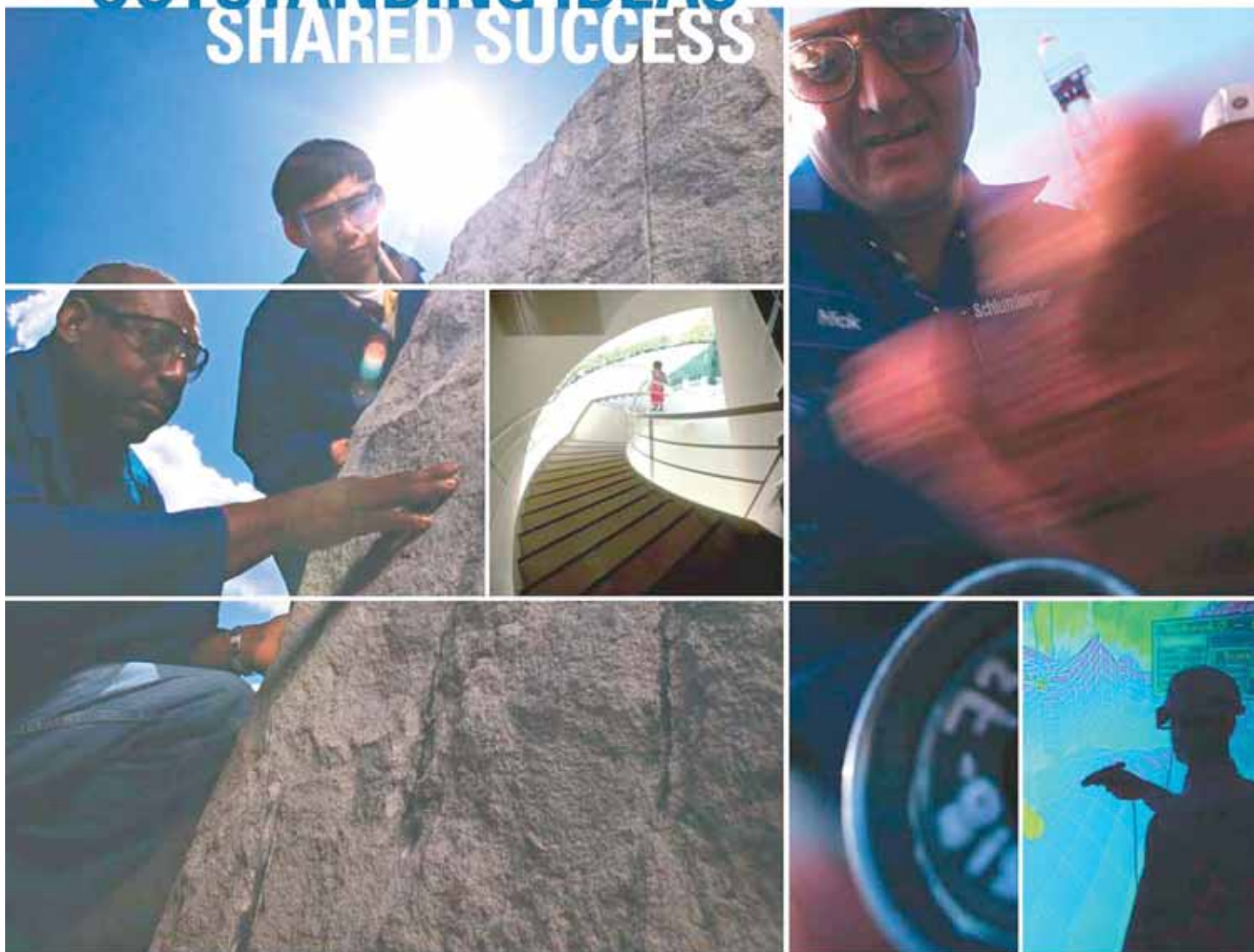
Raised in Los Alamos, Wallace served for 20 years as a professor of geosciences and an associate in the applied mathematics program at the University of Arizona. He returned to LANL in 2003 as Director of Los Alamos's Earth and Environmental Sciences Division. Wallace holds Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in geophysics from California Institute of Technology and B.S. degrees in geophysics and mathematics from New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. Wallace is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union (AGU), and in 1992 he received the AGU's Macelwane Medal. Wallace has served as President of the Seismological Society of America, Chairman of the Incorporated Institutions for Research in Seismology. Wallace is the co-author of the most widely used seismology textbook, "Modern Global Seismology", and has authored more than 100 peer review articles on various aspects of seismology. Wallace chaired The National Academy of Science Committee on Seismology and Geodynamics for 6 years, and was a member of the Board of Earth Science and Resources. In June 2011, Wallace gained the rare honor of having a mineral named after him by the International Mineralogical Association Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification

**THE JANUARY LUNCHEON RESERVATION
DEADLINE IS JANUARY 6TH.
CONTACT THE NOGS OFFICE**

"And Looking Ahead . . ."

The next luncheon will be held on February 6. Our guest speaker will be announced later this month. Contact the NOGS office at 504-561-8980 or use the PayPal link at www.nogs.org to make your reservation.

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If you know of upcoming seminars or academic events that may be of interest to our members, please email the event details to Laura Sorey at nogseditor@gmail.com to be included in the monthly calendar.

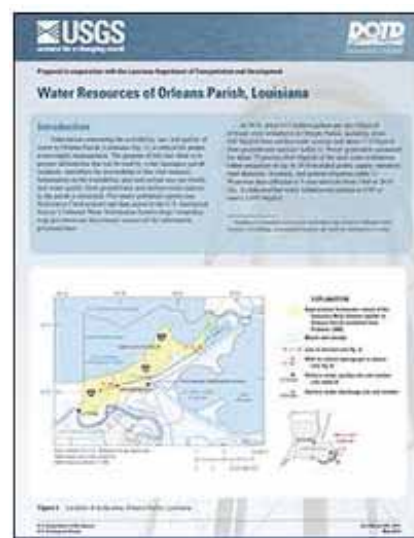
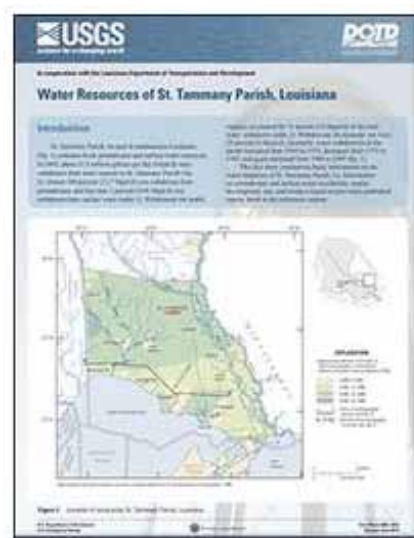
2016	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT / INFO
1 Jan	New Year's Day		
6 Jan	Twelfth Night Start of Mardi Gras		
9 Jan	Joint NOGS/SGS Luncheon Terry Wallace Los Alamos National Laboratory Topic: Technology Advances — A Two-Edged Sword: Fracking and Other Global Security Adventures	Holiday Inn Superdome	annette@nogs.org or 504-561-8980
13 Jan	BRGS Luncheon	Baton Rouge Mike Anderson's Seafood	lisapultz@cox.net
24-25 Jan	AAPG Deepwater and Shelf Reservoirs: Big Data, New Knowledge and Analytics for Enhanced Results	Houston, Texas	www.aapg.org/career/training/in-person
1 Feb	Submission Deadline for 250-word Abstract/Summaries for Planned Papers and Posters for 2017 GCAGS Annual Convention		Lee Billingsley technicalprogram@gcags2017.org
6 Feb	NOGS Luncheon Speaker: TBA	Holiday Inn Superdome	annette@nogs.org or 504-561-8980
10 Feb	BRGS Luncheon	Baton Rouge Mike Anderson's Seafood	lisapultz@cox.net
28 Feb	Mardi Gras		

USGS Water Resource Information – Parish Fact Sheets

The note below is from the USGS website.

The USGS is summarizing basic information on water resources for each parish in Louisiana and presenting the information in fact-sheet format. Information presented includes groundwater and surface-water availability, quality, development, use, and trends. These brief summaries of water resources will provide parish officials, local officials and concerned citizens with information needed to make decisions about current and future development in their parish. So where can you get your hands on this great resource?

<http://la.water.usgs.gov/ParishWaterResources.html>





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The Thin Gray Line: Flood Control in the Crescent City

In many ways, New Orleans remains a city built on boundaries. Some of the boundaries mark the seemingly arbitrary distinctions in neighborhood identities (woe unto him who thinks Mid-City and Tremé are to be used interchangeably). Some have devolved into charming artifacts of history, like the traditional boundary of Canal Street between the French Creole population of the Vieux Carré and the Anglo neighborhoods uptown. Others continue, like the racial and economic divisions that still remain part of life in our city and state. But within the course of the three hundred-year history of New Orleans, one pressing truth remains clear. When it floods, there are no boundaries.

Perhaps this point appears self-evident to readers familiar with the mechanics of dispersal of flood waters during any high-water event, but the idea merits explication when one begins to examine the unique geological, engineering, and political challenges faced by flood protection in the greater New Orleans area. Mike Merritt, a longtime member of NOGS, offers a direct insight into the nature of these hurdles by virtue of his service as a levee board commissioner for the South Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West.

Merritt began his career in the 1970's as a geologist in oil fields of Oklahoma, thus embarking on a lengthy, circuitous career path that would eventually lead him to Baton Rouge, LA, when his wife accepted a position at Louisiana State University in the early 2000's. With the move to Baton Rouge came Mike's decision to open his own consulting firm in the city. While researching information on potential office locations, Merritt pulled several FEMA flood maps to assess flood risk for locations of interest and was dismayed at the low quality of the outdated and poorly drafted maps. Merritt, in a move that reflects his tendency towards directness when observing problems, wrote to Governor Kathleen Blanco to notify the state government of the need for more accurate, up-to-date flood maps. The contents of this letter resulted in Merritt receiving a call from Andy Kopplin, Gov. Blanco's Chief of Staff, asking him to help review new, soon-to-be published flood maps and later lead to him being designated an "expert on flood control."

As an isolated incident, this would be a funny, instructional anecdote on how being proactive leads to new and exciting things. But what came next, turned the anecdote into a spring board for Merritt's future of public service. The man-made disasters of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans need not be recounted here. Indeed, a few inches of column space are unlikely to fully capture the nuanced picture of complexity and tragedy floating on the flood waters that inundated our city. But as the waters receded and communities across Louisiana and Mississippi faced the prospect of rebuilding after Katrina and Rita, Louisiana's government began to reassess the nature of parochial levee boards and how they related to flood control policy and Corps of Engineers initiatives. To this end, the Louisiana

state legislature convened in a special session to abolish the Orleans and Jefferson Parish Levee Boards, creating the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority East and West (SLFPA-E and SLFPA-W). Each authority would be responsible for swathes of territory of the Greater New Orleans area on their respective banks of the Mississippi River without being hampered by parochial divisions.

After seeing the call for applications to the newly reorganized levee boards in the newspaper, Merritt, a former prairie boy who rode out his first hurricane with Katrina, became one of nearly two hundred people to apply and then one of seven to eventually be selected to serve on SLFPA-W when the board was officially seated on February 3, 2007. The SLFPA East and West are member boards of the larger Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana (ALBL), a coalition of thirty-six levee districts across the state. While the ALBL does not hold regulatory power of the member boards, it has become an important stage for discussions regarding flood control strategies, common problems across districts, and ways to influence technical policy passed down by other agencies. In an interview, Merritt



Harvey Interim 1 & 2: SLFPA-W picture of the Harvey Canal interim flood protection project near Dynamic Industries on Peters Road, April 9, 2009. Photos from Mike Merritt.



described the necessity working with other levee districts to devise a set of best geology practices for advisory for commissioners across the state.

While the Corps of Engineers maintains a quality control protocol to assess project design, Merritt stands out as an outspoken advocate for the importance of incorporating geologic assessments into the design of flood control structures beyond what's typically considered adequate for engineering purposes. As a result of an effort originally spearheaded by Merritt, Ed Picou, and Woody Gagliano



focusing on the geologic facts of life for flood protection, in May 2016, the ALBL formed a committee to review the geologic forces typically at play in these sorts of projects and to

eventually publish a set of geology best practices based on Louisiana systems and examples from other countries. Though the ALBL geology committee has yet to conclude their work, Merritt suggests that final set of practices will likely resemble this basic structure of a three-step process.

- 1) Conduct comprehensive literature research to identify what subsurface information we have and what is lacking
- 2) Design geology site surveys to fill in the missing information gaps
- 3) Design and conduct geophysical survey and put together a cohesive report

I can already detect the pending incredulous response of masters student reading those three points and saying, "Seriously? Is this not what we were already doing?" Indeed, they seem simple and readily apparent goals for any project taking place in complex, dynamic environment like coastal Louisiana. But whereas the masters student is answerable only to their advisor and thesis committee, the chain of command for flood control is understandably more complicated.

For while the levee boards indeed play a vital role in mitigating flood risk, they are not the only players in the game. Anyone with even a superficial understanding of wet infrastructure public works could identify the Army Corps of Engineers as the designers and overseers of much of the flood protection in south Louisiana. But some might

overlook the role of the Louisiana Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority (CPRA). Created in 2007, the CPRA is responsible for "hurricane protection and the protection, conservation, restoration, and enhancement of coastal wetlands and barrier shorelines or reefs" according to the legislation mandating its formation. The CPRA is also the body responsible for Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast as well as one of the regulatory bodies for flood control in New Orleans. For example, under the Water Resource Development Act passed by Congress, the SLFPA-W would have to have an approved project in order to build a levee on the wetlands side of Westwego to protect from hurricane storm surge traveling up from the coast. As tends to be the case, getting the money for said project is the tricky bit.

The Corps is the federal sponsor who pays two-thirds of the cost, and the CPRA is the other sponsor as a state agency. If commissioners on the SLFPA-W argue that a shallow seismic survey would be necessary to identify potential risk zones in the subsurface, they have to justify that additional cost to two different government agencies before it can be approved. In these instances of multiple needs and limited funding, a seemingly apparent necessity becomes anything but apparent. How to convince a competent specialist of another technical expertise to financially prioritize your disciplinary initiative over other demands for time and money? And how is this complicated by the simple fact that geological initiatives, problems, and solutions are rarely simple? In a situation where the potential for failure remains ever constant, the designers of flood control have to pick their battles as carefully as any general. Just like in battles, all the allies in the fight for Louisiana share the same goals but differ on how to achieve those results, but these differences are more than just a philosophical exercise in "Agree to disagree." In this fight, they can be the distinction between safety and catastrophe.

Next month, the series will continue with a closer look at some of the technical realities influencing project design and risk assessment for flood control in New Orleans.



Google Flooding: Image from the Houston Chronicle showing extent of Hurricane Katrina floodwaters in Greater New Orleans area.

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.

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.

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.

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

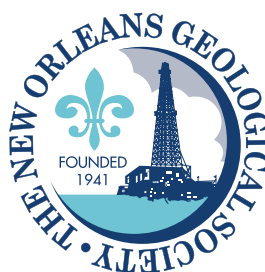
In 2005 Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans on August 29 causing the cancellation of the NOGS hosted 55th Annual GCAGS Convention. Thankfully, NOGS had a cancellation policy!

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.



South Louisiana and Offshore Gulf of Mexico Exploration and Production Activities

LAFAYETTE DISTRICT, ONSHORE AREA

By Kevin Trosclair and Carlo C. Christina

The Baker-Hughes United States rig count for the week of November 23 was 593, up 16 rigs from the prior month. Rig activity in the U.S. continues to gradually increase from a low of 404 rigs in May of this year. The Louisiana rig count (not including the OCS) averaged 30 rigs for the month of November, an increase from 25 rigs the prior month.

North Louisiana Rigs:	22
South Louisiana Rigs:	8
Land	6
Inland Waters	2

NEW LOCATIONS

The Office of Conservation, Lafayette District, Onshore Area, issued 10 permits to drill during the month of November compared to 6 permits one year ago. The following are new locations of interest this month:

In Beauregard Parish, **Wildcat-So La Lafayette Dist (A)**, Forza Operating, LLC has permitted the #1 OLYMPIA MINERALS 25 (SN 249897) in Sec. 25, 5S-13W to a proposed total depth of 3500 feet (3300 feet TVD) targeting the 3300 zone. The permitted location offsets a dry hole drilled in 1955 that has a zone of increased resistivity on the log at the 3300 foot level. This shallow wildcat is more than 1.5 miles from the nearest production.

In Beauregard Parish, **Bivens Field (B)**, Tri-C Resources, LLC has permitted the #1 CF RA SUA;LAWRENCE MOSLEY (SN 249906) in Sec. 3, 5S-12W to a proposed measured depth of 8000 feet targeting Cockfield Sands. The permitted location is one-half mile northeast of shallower Frio production also drilled by Tri-C Resources completed in September 2015.

In Plaquemines Parish, **Lake Washington Field (C)**, Hilcorp Energy Company spud (11/19/2016) the #1 LL&E A (SN 249873) in Sec. 31, 19S-28E with a proposed total depth of 13,082 feet (11,613 feet TVD) targeting the Cib carst 11 Zone. This location is 2 miles south of other Hilcorp production Lake

Washington field.

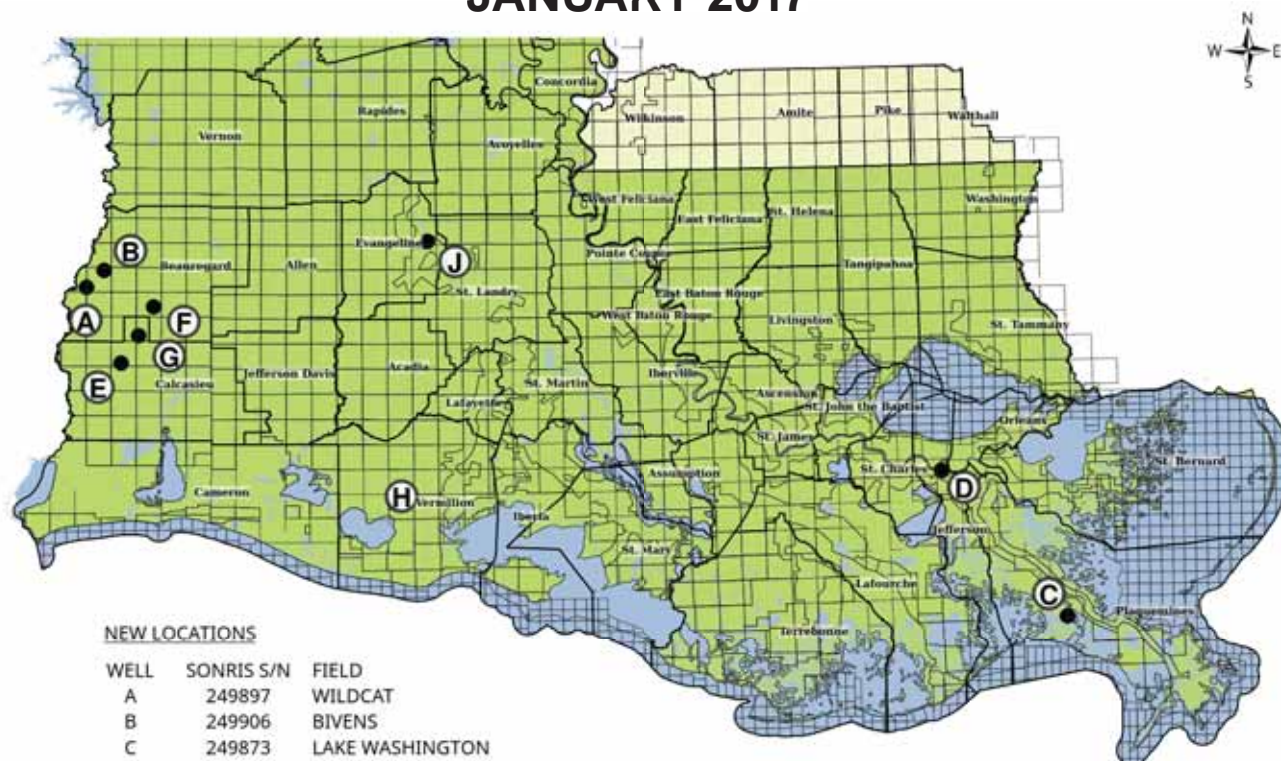
In Jefferson Parish, **Westwego Field (D)**, Expert Oil & Gas, L.L.C. has re-permitted the #1 CIB OP 1A RA SUA;JEFFERSON PH (SN 249915 (Exp SN 249618)) in Sec. 5, 13S-23E to a proposed total depth of 9532 feet (9500 feet TVD) targeting the Cib op 1A Zone. There is no current production in Westwego Field.

In Calcasieu Parish, **Houston River Field (E)**, Magna Operating, L.L.C. has permitted the #1 WALKER LA PROPERTIES LLC ETAL (SN 249871) in Sec. 33, 8S-11W to a proposed total depth of 8150 feet (7851 feet TVD) targeting the Hackberry Zone. The proposed location offsets current Hackberry production 3 miles to the east.

In Beauregard Parish, **West Cowpen Creek Field (F)**, Fontainebleau Operating, LLC has permitted the #2 FORESTAR MINERALS 23 (SN 249872) in Sec. 23, 6S-10W to a proposed total depth of 11600 feet targeting Wilcox Sands. This well offsets the #1 Forestar Minerals (SN 249695), which was plugged and abandoned at total depth of 11,322 feet after sticking drill pipe at that depth. The hole was cleaned out and the well was logged. While conditioning the hole to run 5 ½" casing the drill pipe was stuck again. Efforts made to recover drill pipe were unsuccessful and the #1 well was plugged and abandoned on November 7, 2016.



SOUTH LOUISIANA ACTIVITY MAP JANUARY 2017



NEW LOCATIONS

WELL	SONRIS S/N	FIELD
A	249897	WILDCAT
B	249906	BIVENS
C	249873	LAKE WASHINGTON
D	249915	WESTWEGO
E	249871	HOUSTON RIVER
F	249872	WEST COWPEN CREEK

COMPLETIONS

WELL	SONRIS S/N	FIELD
G	249706	PERKINS
H	249752	WILDCAT
J	249806	VILLE PLATTE

CCC

COMPLETIONS

Tri-C Resources has plugged and abandoned its #1 Forestar Minerals, (SN 249706) in **Perkins Field, (G)**, Calcasieu Parish. The well was drilled in Sec. 30, 7S-10W, to a depth of 9865 feet to test Yegua sands at a location 1 mile north of production.

Hilcorp Energy has drilled its **Wildcat, (H)**, the #1 Exxon Mobil, (SN 249752), to a depth of 14,450 feet and set 7 5/8 inch casing to 14,430 feet. The well was perforated 13,583 to 13,645 overall and the rig was released on November 28, 2016. The well was drilled in Sec. 17, 14S-1E, 2 miles south of production at Outside Island, Vermilion Parish.

In Evangeline Parish, **Ville Platte Field, (J)**, Hilcorp has drilled an interesting well to a depth of 10,573 feet, in a horizontal hole to test the Upper Cane River section. The well was perforated 9724 to 10,338 feet, overall, and fracked. The rig was released and is waiting testing. The #19 Ludeau-Hass, (SN 249806), was drilled in Sec. 44, 3S-2E on the extreme southwest flank of the old field.

OFFSHORE GULF OF MEXICO SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES

by Al Baker

During **November 2016**, the **BOEM** approved **58** Gulf of Mexico drilling permits. Of these, **7** were for shelf wells and **51** were for deepwater wells. Of the total number of permits, there was **1 new well permit** issued in deepwater. This is the fourth consecutive month that no new well permits were issued on the shelf.

The single new deepwater well permit was for a **development well**. It was awarded to **Hess Corporation** for their **Green Canyon 512 #WI-4** well.

On November 23rd, **IHS-Petrodata** reported that the Gulf of Mexico mobile offshore rig supply stood at **104**, which is the same as last month. The marketed rig supply consisted of **48** rigs, of which **37** were under contract. The marketed contracted versus total rig supply utilization rate is **35.6%**, while the marketed contracted versus marketed supply utilization rate stands at **77.1%**.

The marketed rig supply number is **1** less than last month, and the contracted rig supply number is **1** more than last month. In contrast, the November 2015 fleet utilization rate stood at 60.7% (versus 46.2% today) with 74 out of the 122 rigs under contract.

As of November 23rd, **BakerHughes** indicated that there were **23** active mobile offshore rigs in the Gulf of Mexico, which is **62.2%** of the rigs under contract mentioned above. This active rigs number is **2** more than reported last month. Of the 23 rigs, **2** are located on the **shelf** and **21** are situated in **deepwater**. The current active rigs count compares to 30 active rigs during the same period last year, representing a **23.3%** drop (minus 7 rigs) in yearly rig activity.

As of November 23rd, the **BakerHughes** total U.S. rig count stood at **593** rigs **down 52.2%** from the **September 26, 2014 high** of **1931** rigs, but up **189** rigs or **46.8%** from the **May 20, 2016 low** of **404** rigs. By comparison, the rig count stood at 744 rigs a year ago. Of the current 593 rigs, **474** are **oil rigs** and **118** are **gas rigs**.

On November 10th, the **BOEM** reported the **final results** of their Phase 2 evaluation of the bids received in the **Western GOM OCS Sale 248** held on August 24, 2016. **All 24 bids** received in the sale were deemed **acceptable**.



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46th Annual New Orleans Gem and Mineral Show

by Kristee Brown, Creative Graphics & Printing, LLC



The 46th Annual New Orleans Gem and Mineral Show was held at the Alario Center on October 14-16th. As the graphic designer and printer for the New Orleans Geological Society's newsletter, the *NOGS LOG*, I decided to go and check it out after designing an ad for the show. For the last six years I have become more and more interested in geology due to the influence of NOGS and the articles in the *NOGS LOG*. After spending a Sunday at the show surrounded by beautiful geodes, agates, petrified wood, and natural gems, I was inspired to write an article about the experience. The excitement lasted as long as it took me to sit down and write. Then, the panic attack! After all, what do I know about geology? What could I possibly say to an organization that consists of actual geologists that doesn't make me sound like a blithering idiot? My primary reaction to every exhibit at the show was, "Oh my gawd, that is soooo beautiful!" I'm an amateur, a newbie, a complete babe-in-the-woods when it comes to geology. I've never polished rocks in a tumbler as a kid, and in fact, I've always thought that geologists just studied plain old rocks. Rocks? I mean, c'mon, how boring is that, right? Well, NOGS has opened my eyes to just what geologists are and what the study of geology really is. It is about rocks, yes. But it's also about dinosaurs and fossils and mountains and earthquakes and oil and minerals and even dinosaur poop! In fact, I now believe that there isn't a science or study that does not in some way involve geology.

I was watching an episode of "How the Universe Works" on the Science Channel. This particular episode involved how the moon was created, and they had an astro-geologist on the show. A geologist that studies rocks from the moon, asteroids, and meteorites! How

cool is that?!? And now I'll never look at "plain rocks" the same way again. In fact, I think agates and geodes are possibly the most fascinating rocks ever. It looks like an ordinary everyday rock on the outside, but cut it open and WOW! It's like Mother Nature's surprise gift. And what impresses me even more is that a geologist actually knows that that plain old rock is an agate or a geode BEFORE it's cut open!

My first stop at the Gem and Mineral Show was the NOGS booth, manned by Tom Bergeon. I was lucky enough to catch his lecture on dinosaurs and their fossilized remains. It was most interesting with a very lively Q&A session afterwards. That man knows his dinosaurs! We even got to hold a fossilized chunk of dino poop. Thanks, Tom...I think.

Next, I moved on to the booths that displayed geodes and agates. My particular favorite was a huge geode chimney made of amethyst, my favorite gem. It was absolutely beautiful. And again, just so amazing that the outside is just a plain looking rock!

My last stop was at Monarch Mineral and Fossil's booth which has a huge display of petrified wood. I was completely blown away! I had no idea that petrified wood could be so beautiful. Cut open and polished, it displayed the rings and swirls of the original wood. Some of the pieces even had agate hearts in the center of the slabs. In fact, one of the oak slabs is the cover photo on this issue of the *NOGS LOG*.

After spending my Sunday at the show, I'm now jealous of geologists. It's like your whole profession is a treasure hunt. You're either hunting for dinosaurs, or agates, or meteorites, or even for oil. It makes me think that I had a pretty lousy high school guidance counselor!



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The American Miscellaneous Society

Two *NOGS LOG*'s ago, we discussed "The Great Earth Science Race" and we discovered something peculiar. Remember?

Well, to be honest my memory is Swiss cheese.. And more often than not, it is a swing and a miss on retrieval efforts. So let's take a trip back in time to "Project Mohole". In the late 1950s, we were attempting to beat the Russians to drill the deepest grandest most brilliant borehole. But we failed. Who funded this venture? None other than the American Miscellaneous Society (insert your very own "mystery" music).

Who is/are the American Miscellaneous Society? How do I join? And really, "Miscellaneous"? Let's be honest. Someone was being lazy and not very clever when naming their society.

According to our friends at Wikipedia, it was formed in 1952 by Gordon Lill, of the Office of Naval Research. Their main objective was to fund earth science research and any other ideas submitted by scientists that didn't fit into a bucket. It almost sounds like it was actually for "miscellaneous" research. Shame on me. The society dissolved itself in 1964.

End of story right? It's actually a little bit more interesting. You see, if you dive just a little bit deeper you find gems about this society. In fact, The American Miscellaneous Society or AMSOC as some may have known it, did not have any official membership rolls. And to top it off, there are no bylaws, officers, publications, formal meetings (that

of controversy and I wish I had some answers for you, but it is a bit complicated for this segment.

There was even a rumor that you were automatically admitted to the society if your research proposals to the Office of Naval Research was too far-fetched. In fact, some described the society as "a mildly loony, invisible college of otherwise mature academicians...exceedingly democratic, but harmlessly anarchic" (G.,R. 1973 courtesy of UC-San Diego). Wow.



Members of the AMSOC Committee, from left to right: Harry Ladd, Leonard S. Wilson, Harry Hess, Arthur Maxwell, Joshua Tracey, Linn Hoover, Gordon Lill, Edward Espenshade, Willard Bascom, William Thurston, Harold Saunders, William Heroy, James Balsley, and Lt. Col. George Colchagoff

This article from University of California – San Diego also learned that two passed members remembered two key bylaws:

- 1) Any two founding members of AMSOC constitute a quorum and can take any initiative or action in the name of AMSOC without consulting with, or receiving the approval of, other members.
- 2) All member of AMSOC automatically become founding members of AMSOC at confirmation of membership.

Last but not least, AMSOC lamented the amount of awards and prizes for oceanographers, so they decided to rectify the situation by presenting the albatross, a mounted adult specimen, to a deserving oceanographer (insert slow clap here).

References

http://scilib.ucsd.edu/sio/hist/albatross_award.pdf

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Miscellaneous_Society

G., R. "Do Oceanographers Have More Fun?" *Science* 181(4103): 926, September 7, 1973.

<http://www.nationalacademies.org/mohole.html>



The Albatross

we know of), or dues. "Excuse me," you say? No dues? I thought they funded Project Mohole? Approximately \$1.5 million in 1951, equals about \$14,190,000 million in 2016. The funding of this society has been a source

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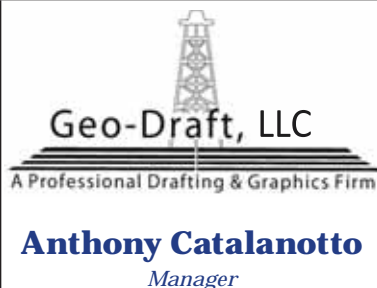
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In Memorium



John Pierce Harlan

1929 - 2016



John Pierce Harlan, a resident of Covington, Louisiana, passed away on his 87th birthday, November 23, 2016. Mr. Harlan was born in Bartlesville, Oklahoma on November 23, 1929. His parents, Ruth and Samuel Harlan, and his brother, Louis Eliphalet Harlan, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Martha Ann Neal Harlan of Covington La; two children, Debbie Harlan Woods (Phillip) of Birmingham, Al, and Michael Harlan (Cindy) of Covington, La; seven grandchildren, Hannah Woods Bourgeois (Greg), Claire Woods Maddox (Grady), Sarah Woods Stratton (Joe), David Woods, Brittany Harlan Graft (Jordan), Kate Harlan and John Harlan (Connie); eleven great grandchildren, Jackson, Maury, Aimee and Gaby Bourgeois; John Grady, Olivia and Thomas Maddox; Mary Joe and Samuel Stratton; Hudson and Madeleine Graft. Mr. Harlan graduated from Sewanee Military Academy and attended Carlton College in Northfield, Minnesota. He received a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering from Oklahoma University where he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity. After serving in the U.S. Army for two years, Mr. Harlan worked as a Petroleum Engineer at Chevron Oil Co. for 20 years. He then founded and was President of Harbridge Petroleum Corp. until his death. He was an active member of SIPES, LAIPRO and Tchefuncta Country Club and a former member of New Orleans Country Club and Blowing Rock Country Club in North Carolina. Friends and family are invited to A Celebration of Life on Saturday, January 7, 2017 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at Tchefuncta Country Club in Covington, La.

Originally published The Times-Picayune on Dec. 4, 2016

See more at: <http://obits.nola.com/obituaries/nola/obituary.aspx?n=john-pierce-harlan&pid=182975122#sthash.8pkeuqRk.dpuf>

Luther Franklin "Frank" Rogers, Jr.

1932 - 2016

Luther Franklin ("Frank") Rogers, Jr., born on December 18, 1932, in Selma, Alabama, passed away on November 24, 2016, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Frank graduated as valedictorian of his class at Industrial Consolidated High School near Lolita, Texas. He received a bachelor's degree in geology from Texas A&M in 1954 and a master of science degree in geology in 1955. Six days later, he went to work for the Humble Oil & Refining Company (which would become Exxon) in Corpus Christi, Texas. Frank worked as a geologist and geophysicist at Humble/Exxon for thirty-nine years and retired in 1994.



Frank met Peggy and her children, Dale and Kim, in Corpus Christi. Frank and Peggy married on June 25, 1966. Daughter Roseanne was born in Corpus Christi, and the family soon moved to Houston, where Kathryn and Daniel were born, and then to New Orleans in 1973.

Frank was a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the New Orleans Geological Society, the Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists, the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, the Houston Geological Society, the New Orleans A&M Club, the World War II Round Table, and the Civil War Round Table of New Orleans.

He was preceded in death by his father, Luther Franklin Rogers; his mother, Nell Isabel Romine Rogers; and his brother, Louis Romine Rogers. He is survived by his wife of fifty years, Peggy Jean Bull Rogers; his and Peggy's children: Dale Longmire, Kimberly Longmire Terry (Mike), Roseanne Rogers Guerra (Stephen), Kathryn Rogers (Michael), Daniel Franklin Rogers (Maureen); grandchildren Jade, Alex, Robin, and Benjamin; and other family and friends. He was beloved and will be sorely missed.

The family will celebrate his life privately, and he will be inurned at Lake Lawn (Metairie Cemetery). The family will be very grateful for memorial donations to Amici (New Orleans Friends of the Metropolitan Opera National Council, 232 Lake Marina Dr. #8B, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70124; amicimonc.org/donate).



Giving & Geology: The NOGS Memorial Foundation

Stewardship solicitations from a non-profit rank right up there with NPR pledge drives in terms of financial entreaties that we gamely smile through while mentally searching for ways to make a polite but hasty exit from the conversation. Having noted that, I encourage you to briefly refrain from that impulse to learn a bit about the NOGS Memorial Foundation and the vital role it plays in the betterment of geology students in Louisiana.

Instituted in 1991 as part of the NOGS Constitution and Bylaws, the NOGS Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit formed for exclusively charitable, educational, and scientific purposes in accordance with the aims of the New Orleans Geological Society as a whole. It consists of two separate funds that enable charitable giving through NOGS: the General Fund and the Bill Craig Memorial Fund.

Income from the General Fund goes exclusively towards the \$30,000 worth of cash scholarships the Foundation awards to undergraduate and graduate geology students at LSU, Tulane, and UNO. With all twelve scholarships awarded each year based on scholastic ability, high moral and ethical conduct, and need the NOGS Memorial Foundation serve as vital source of direct funding for promising geology students across southeast Louisiana.

The Bill Craig Memorial Fund provides for broader earth science related educational purposes and supports K-12 teachers within the Greater New Orleans Area. These purposes vary depending on the needs of the community and

the nature of NOGS charitable commitments each year. This money supports endeavors such as NOGS's pledge to donate \$50,000 a piece to the Louisiana Children's Museum and the St. Tammany Children's Museum over the span of ten years, funding for Imperial Barrel Awards teams from local universities, and other educational opportunities.

Giving to the NOGS Memorial Foundation is more important than ever. With depressed oil prices and pending cuts to higher education in Louisiana, NOGS scholarships have the potential for tremendous impact to university students.

Whether you donate \$20 or \$20,000, every contribution better enables us to support earth science education opportunities and allows the Foundation to continue operations as a 501(c)(3) so that we can effectively serve the community. As a 501(c)(3), the Foundation is required to have a certain percentage of its yearly income be derived from public donations. Among other financial difficulties of the oil downturn, the Foundation faces a challenge in meeting that threshold percentage in 2017.

If you feel compelled to cut a check for \$50,000 for the Memorial Foundation, far be it from us to dissuade you, but there are other ways you can help. Even if you donate just \$30, it makes a difference. All NOGS Memorial Foundation donations are tax deductible and eligible for corporate matching programs.

Give today so that we can support the geologists of tomorrow.



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The Memorial Foundation is an IRS Tax Exempt Code #501(c)(3) organization. The Federal I.D. is 72-1220999. Please consider making a donation to the Foundation. Your individual support in any amount will help meet the IRS Guidelines for our Foundation. Thanks!

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