

NOGS LOG

MAY 2020
Volume 60 No. 11

NOGS FIRST

Virtual Meeting

Monday, May 11, 2020



NOGS MAY MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020 11:30 AM
ZOOM MEETING



ROBERT M. ROONEY

Robert is currently employed as a Senior Geoscientist with Cantium. Prior to joining Cantium, he worked as an independent oil & gas geoscientist for various clients in South Louisiana for Robert M. Rooney, Inc. He has also been employed with Freeport Sulphur Company, Shell Exploration and Production in New Orleans, CLK Energy, LLC, Century Exploration – New Orleans LLC, and Upstream Exploration LLC. He has over 34 years of experience working in exploration and production, mostly in the Gulf of Mexico, but also overseas and in other continental US basins.

He has a BS in Earth Sciences from UNO, and he is a graduate of Archbishop Rummel High School. He is currently President of NOGS (2019-20). He has also served as: NOGS President-elect 2018-19; NOGS Delegate to AAPG from 2001-2003; NOGS LOG Editor-elect in 2005-06; Editor in 2006-07; NOGS Vice President in 2007-08, and 2017-18; and was AAPG Sponsorship Chairman for the New Orleans Convention in 2010. He has been a NOGS luncheon speaker and has served as Publicity Chairman for the SLOPES Symposium in 2003. He is an active member of AAPG, and is a member of SIPES.

PAPERLESS OFFICE TOOLS FOR THE PETROLEUM GEOLOGIST “WORKING AT A DISTANCE”

ABSTRACT

Whether a geologist is working as an independent consultant on a limited budget, or working as an employee for an operating company, from time-to-time it may be necessary to work from a home-based office. In these situations, the paperless office becomes a necessity for the sake of organization, efficiency, and effective communication of results.

In this presentation I will introduce some tools that have been important, useful, and relatively affordable to me throughout my career, and which facilitate the interpretation and analysis of public information subsurface data in South Louisiana. I will present how the NOGS Publication CD sets are an excellent guide to helping a relative newcomer get started on an exploration journey. By using the studies as a seed-point, I will demonstrate how subsurface work can be performed on a desk-top computer including structural balancing of cross sections, fault picking, log correlation, stratigraphic analysis, and base map set-up for subsurface mapping.

It will be a scratch of the surface presentation, but it is my hope that it may be helpful in planting a seed of inspiration that may help some of our membership make the best use of this current industry situation and down-turn to develop a new skill set and build some practical experience on your own.

**CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER**

**ZOOM INFO WILL BE EMAILED DAY PRIOR
TO MEETING**

IN THIS ISSUE



On the Cover

Magmatic Dike in Makhtesh Ramon, Israel

Makhtesh Ramon (Ramon crater), located in Israel's Negev desert, is a 40 km-long crater that varies between 2 and 10 km wide, and up to 500 meters deep. Unlike typical impact or volcanic craters, a makhtesh is created by erosion and may be unique to the Negev/Sinai region. Makhtesh Ramon is the largest of the five in the Negev.



From the Editor...

Thanks to all those who continue to contribute to the monthly LOG. If you have any suggestions for future issues or have an article/photo(s) to contribute, please email me at cmiller@ocsbbs.com. We would certainly love your input and any additional LOG content to be considered that may be of interest to NOGS members.

Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone during this unprecedented time and hope you and your loved ones are healthy and safe.

Charlie



Charles Miller III
NOGS LOG Editor

Let's Play
GOLF

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FROM THE NOGS PRESIDENT ROBERT ROONEY



Greetings NOGS members:

By this time in the lock-down perhaps most of us have had the experience of interacting with friends, family, and business associates with a web-based media such as Zoom or Go-to-Meeting. Our Board of Directors meetings are handled in a similar fashion these days, and recently the Board decided to have our May luncheon meeting via the web-networking software Zoom. The meeting will be on Monday May 11th at 11:30. Please look for the meeting announcement in the *NOGS LOG* and make your reservation. We will introduce the candidates for the 2020/21 term, make announcements, give updates for future events, and will have a technical presentation. The best thing is that you get to attend from your own office or home via the miracle of Zoom. You also get to prepare your own lunch. Please see the announcement for details and registration.

Normally May would have seen our joint NOGS/PLANO/SPWLA Golf Tournament, but due to the current circumstances, we are doing our best to reschedule it for the Fall when we hope to be able to hold this important event. Thanks to Toby Roesler for continuing to push this forward. Thanks also to Ed Picou and to Charlie Miller and Christy Himel for arranging to have a link from our website to purchase the NOGS Publications CDs, The NOGS Field Studies, and other technical publications, continue to be in high demand by industry and are an important legacy to all of the geologists who contributed their talents and dedication. The CDs are a must-have item for anyone performing geological work in Louisiana and the greater Gulf of Mexico.

It is with deep sadness that we learned of the passing of Bill Furlong in April. Bill was a special person and a friend to all NOGS members. We will miss seeing and talking with him at our luncheon meetings and send our deepest sympathy to his wife Elizabeth.

Please look for the 2020/21 officer candidate's email ballots in May and reply along with your membership renewal and dues.

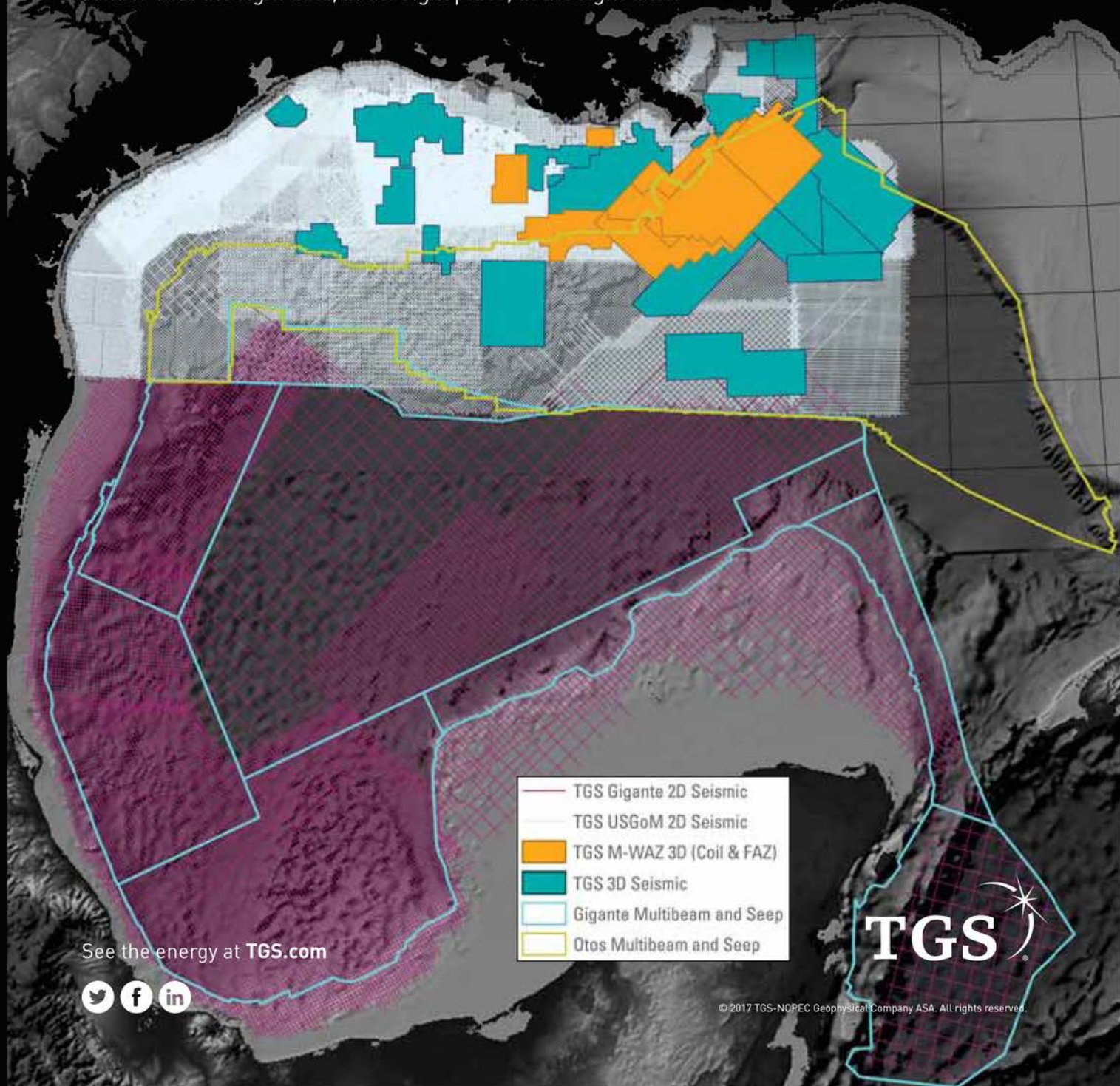
We look forward to seeing you at the Zoom luncheon meeting on May 11th. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Rooney". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Robert Rooney
2019/2020 NOGS President

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2020/2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENTED

PRESIDENT - JOHN R. DRIBUS



John Dribus is a Geologic Consultant living in Mandeville, Louisiana. He retired from Schlumberger in 2018 after a 42-year career at Bendix Field Engineering, Mobil Oil, and Schlumberger Oil Field Services. He has worked deep water basins of the Atlantic from Western Greenland all the way down to South Africa. His primary focus has been on the petroleum system characteristics of deepwater clastic sediments, and pre-salt and subsalt carbonates, and carbonate diagenesis. He has also done extensive work on the geology of salt, identifying sea floor and salt-related geo-hazards, and geologic risk analysis. He is the former Chair of the American Petroleum Institute (API) Delta Chapter, served on the Imperial Barrel Award Committee of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), and is a member of the AAPG (40 years), New Orleans Geological Society (NOGS), Houston Geological Society (HGS), the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), and the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers (EAGE). In 2013, he was recognized by the SPE with the Reservoir Description and Dynamics Award. In 2014, he was an invited speaker at the AAPG Discovery Thinking and Playmaker Forums, and received the Meritorious Service Award from the API Delta Section. In 2017, he was recognized as an AAPG Heritage Geologist at the 100th Annual Convention in Houston, and received the Best Technical Paper of the Year Award from NOGS. In 2018, he received the A.I. Levorsen Award from the AAPG for best technical paper at the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies (GCAGS).

PRESIDENT ELECT - DOUGLAS BRADFORD

Douglas is a geologist and a registered professional geoscientist with over 40 years' experience in environmental and petroleum geology. Experience includes environmental consulting and environmental regulatory work in soil and groundwater remediation, permitting and sampling, monitoring and recovery well installation, solvent recovery, water and hazardous waste injection wells, oil and gas permitting, exploration, and production operations. Environmental projects also include preparation of RCRA hazardous waste and solid waste facility, wastewater, air, and Department of the Army permit applications, modifications, closure, and post closure plans; oversight of both hazardous waste and solid waste closure and post closure activities. Projects have also included surface impoundment, landfill and waste storage design and construction oversight, design, evaluation and oversight of facility ground water monitoring, corrective action, and monitor well installation.



VICE PRESIDENT - HILLARY SLETTEN, PH.D.



Hillary Sletten has been working as a Production Geologist for Shell in New Orleans since March 2019 supporting the well delivery team for the Auger asset in offshore Gulf of Mexico. Prior to that she worked as an Exploration Geologist for Shell supporting Brazil New Ventures and Colombia Deepwater Exploration. In 2016 Ms. Sletten received her Ph.D. in Geology from The University of Alabama focusing her research in biogeochemistry and the use of coralline red algae (CRA) as a proxy for climate change reconstruction. Her research involved collaboration with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute via a pre-doctoral fellowship to conduct field and laboratory experiments in Panama, as well as collaboration with the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources to study the impact of glacial runoff on CRA and the algae's ability to record seawater temperature through time. In 2011 Ms. Sletten received her M.S. in Geology from the University of Georgia where she began her love for isotope geochemistry using a Namibian stalagmite as her gateway to paleoclimate reconstruction. Prior to her graduate studies she was a Staff Environmental Geologist at Parsons in Syracuse, NY from 2006-2009 where she worked on multiple EPA Superfund sites and monitoring projects for major oil, manufacturing and utility companies throughout the Northeast. Ms. Sletten received her B.S. in Geology from the University of Dayton in Ohio, which is her hometown. She currently lives in Slidell, LA with her husband Phil and their four fur-children. In their free time they enjoy exploring the Gulf Coast – from brewery visits to kayaking to downtown NOLA date nights. Now that they are more settled in, Ms. Sletten is looking forward to being a part of the NOGS community and sharing her passion for the geosciences.

TREASURER -MICHAEL C. HOPKINS, PH.D.



Dr. Michael Hopkins is a geologist and GIS specialist with the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF). He began working for LPBF in 2016. Dr. Hopkins holds an undergraduate degree in geology and a Ph.D. in earth and environmental sciences from Tulane University. At LPBF, Dr. Hopkins has contributed to a variety of projects. The projects span a range of topics which include, fault driven subsidence, fluvial geomorphology and coastal monitoring. Dr. Hopkins' primary responsibilities include: assisting LPBF staff and contractors with data collection and analysis, providing GIS and GPS support when needed and drafting/reviewing technical reports on completed work.

SECRETARY - RACHEL CARTER

Rachel Carter is a geologist with Houston Energy as part of the deep water exploration team in New Orleans. She has been an active member of NOGS since 2013. She holds an undergraduate degree in Earth and Environmental Sciences and a masters degree in Geophysics from the University of New Orleans. Subsequent to her graduation, Rachel's thesis was published in the Journal of Sedimentary Geology. Rachel is just starting her career as a geologist, but looks forward to what the future may hold.



EDITOR ELECT - EMMITT LOCKARD



Mr. Lockard is the geology and geophysics expert on the science faculty of a renowned New Orleans High School: St. Augustine. He has taught science classes full time for the last several years. In the aftermath of recent hurricanes, the importance of providing an opportunity for students attending the school's campus in the historic 7th Ward cannot be understated. Mr. Lockard frequently involves himself in alumni affairs at the University of Oklahoma and gives generously of his time and effort to organize and chair meetings or entire sections of programs and technical conferences for young earth science professionals to inform themselves or share presentations about their original research.

Photo courtesy of St. Augustine School

DIRECTOR - DAVID B. CULPEPPER



David B. Culpepper is a Registered Professional Geoscientist in Louisiana. He has served as Treasurer of the New Orleans Geological Society, and was appointed by two governors as the groundwater expert on the Louisiana State Water Resources Commission. He has more than 30 years' experience in environmental and geoscience consulting. Most recently, he works with a consortium of scholars and subject-matter experts to plan and administer projects aimed at leveraging energy-sector technology in support of resiliency and coastal restoration, by providing expertise in coordinating with governmental departments and companies in response to complex geoscience issues. David holds a Bachelor of Science from Louisiana State University where he studied Physical Geography and Geology.

Directors Returning

ALLAN MELILLO, PHD

CHARLES W. HOLMAN

PICTURE FROM THE PAST



NOGA

New Orleans Geological Auxiliary Officers & Directors

Photo taken at NOGS Kick Off Party at The Steak Knife – September 1998

Front Row: Mim Brumbaugh, Deena Cramer, Betty Youngblood-Lewis, Margie Tucker

Back Row: Peggy Rogers, Carol Andrews, Dot Edmund, Lucretia Bryant, Ruth Ingram, Beverly Kastler, Fran Vallette

Submitted by

Ed Picou, Chairman - Historical Committee

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The New Orleans Geological Society was organized on October 3, 1941, as a non-profit organization for the purpose of facilitating the development of the profession and science of Geology, with specific emphasis to exploration and production of petroleum and natural gas. Secondary related objectives include the dissemination of pertinent geological and environmental technological data, and the maintenance of a high standard of professional conduct of its members. The full history of the Society can be found at nogs.org.

Advertising rates have not changed since 2008 but the printing process has allowed printing the LOG entirely in color. Please contact Christy Himel admin@nogs.org for placement availability. Full page NOGS LOG advertisers will have their Company LOGO posted on the NOGS Website front page. All advertisers are included on the Society's monthly powerpoint and listed on the website with a link to their home page. Please check out our website www.nogs.org

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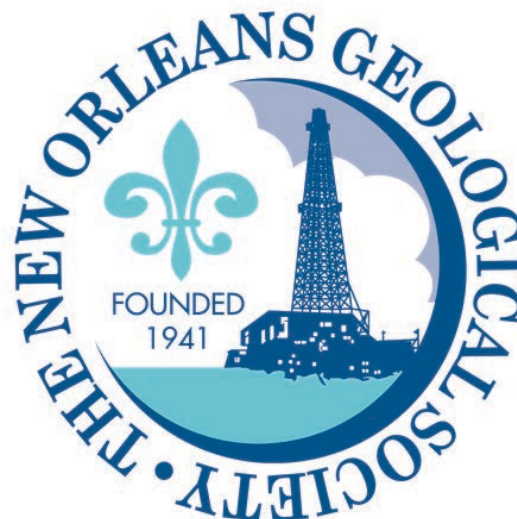
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DRILL BITS

OFFSHORE GULF OF MEXICO SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES BY AL BAKER

During March 2020, the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) approved 62 Gulf of Mexico (GoM) drilling permits. Twelve of these were for shelf wells, and 50 were for deepwater wells. Of the total number of permits, there were 9 new well permits. All were issued in deepwater.

The 9 deepwater new well permits were for 8 exploration wells and one development well. The exploration wells included 7 new well permits awarded to Shell Offshore for wells located in their Appomattox/Vicksburg and Great White fields. Shell received 5 new well permits for the following Appomattox/Vicksburg wells: Mississippi Canyon 391 #IW-1 and #AW-5, Mississippi Canyon 392 #AC-3 and Mississippi Canyon 393 #VX-3 and #VX-6. Shell also obtained 2 new well permits for the following Great White wells: Alaminos Canyon #GD-6 and #GD-7. The remaining exploration new well permit was awarded to TOTAL E&P USA for their Garden Banks 1003 #1 well in their South Platte Field area. The development new well permit was granted to LLOG Exploration Offshore for their Mississippi Canyon 503 #1 well in their Who Dat Field area.

On March 27th, IHS-Petrodata indicated that the GoM mobile offshore rig supply stood at 69, which is one more than last month. The marketed rig supply consisted of 41 rigs, of which 31 were under contract. The marketed rig supply was one greater than last month, whereas the contracted rig supply number was the same as last month. The marketed contracted versus total rig supply utilization rate stood at 59.4%, and the marketed contracted versus marketed supply utilization rate stood at 75.6%. By comparison, the March 2019 total fleet utilization rate stood at 57.7% with 41 rigs under contract out of the 71 rigs in the fleet.

As of March 27th, BakerHughes reported that there are 18 active mobile offshore rigs in the GoM, which is 58% of the rigs under contract mentioned above. This active rigs number is 4 less than reported last month. Currently, there are 3 rigs drilling on the shelf and 15 in deepwater.

As of March 27th, the BakerHughes total U.S. rig count stood at 728 rigs, which is 62 less rigs than reported at the end of February 2020. Of the 728 rigs, 624 (85.7%) are oil rigs and 102 (14%) are gas rigs. A year ago, there were 1006 rigs working in the U.S. Thus, the current rig figure represents a 27.6% decrease in rigs year over year. Texas continues to have the largest number of rigs presently with 368, which is over half (50.5%) of the total number of rigs in the U. S. Louisiana has a total of 44 rigs, down 5 rigs from last month. Nationwide, Louisiana ranks fourth in the rotary rig count. New Mexico ranks second with 109 rigs, and North Dakota ranks third with 48 rigs.

On March 18th, the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) held OCS Sale 254 in New Orleans. A total of 84 bids on 71 blocks was submitted by 22 companies. The sum of the high bids was \$93,083,453. The majority of interest and money spent was, as usual, in deepwater with 65 blocks receiving high bids totaling \$92,182,114. BHP Billiton Petroleum (Deepwater) entered the highest bid of the sale, \$11,114,050, on Green Canyon Block 80. Chevron U.S.A. exposed the most money in high bids, spending a total of \$24,673,435 on 15 blocks. BP Exploration & Production submitted the greatest number of high bids totaling 16 while spending \$10,354,017.

NOGS 2020

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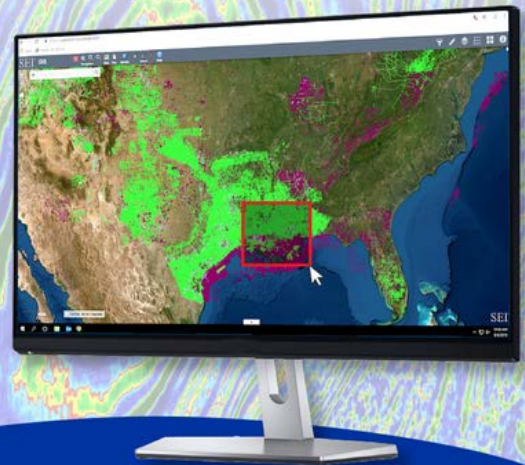
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In Memory of

William J. Furlong, III



Lieutenant Colonel William J. Furlong III, a native of New Orleans, joined our Lord April 14, 2020, after a long and full life. Bill was predeceased by his wife of thirty years, Betty Ann Furlong on April 13, 2001. Their union producing two daughters, a son and three grandchildren. Bill was twice married and is survived by Elizabeth Hahn Furlong, devoted spouse these last 17 years, faithfully seeing to his comfort and care until summoned by God. A retired U.S Army Lieutenant Colonel, Bill served his nation for 28 years in the First Infantry Division (Big Red One) earning along the way two bronze stars along the way for actions in Vietnam. Bill is a graduate of Jesuit High School ('52) and a graduate of Tulane University (B.S.), and Masters of Geology. He was also a member of Boy Scout Troop 55 at Holy Name of Jesus, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. He is a long-time member of the New Orleans Geological Society, a Hibernian, and a member of American Legion Post 307. Bill exemplified the life of a devout Catholic, dedicated father and husband and passionate patriot. He is missed, yet surely walking with our Lord, as he has always done. Lake Lawn Metairie Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Published in The Times-Picayune | The New Orleans Advocate, April 17 & 18, 2020.

Editor's Note: For many years, Bill was a "regular" attendee at monthly luncheons and enjoyed the technical aspects of the presentations and especially the social camaraderie with his colleagues. Through the years he volunteered for many special NOGS projects.



NEW ORLEANS GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION INC.

Founded March 14, 1978, the mission of the New Orleans Geological Society Memorial Foundation is to promote earth science related or scientific purpose by granting of scholarships to outstanding Geology students at the universities in Southeast Louisiana having a comprehensive curriculum and offering a degree in Geology. The Bill Craig Memorial Fund provides for any earth science related educational or scientific purpose that is a direct benefit to grades K-12 teacher or teachers within the Greater New Orleans Area. This area is defined as the area encompassing New Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany Parishes.

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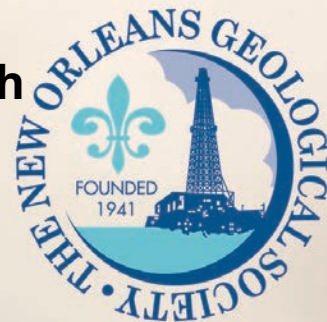
Margaret McKinney

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Morton, Mary Caperton, 2017, Aerial Geology: A High Altitude Tour of North America's spectacular Volcanoes, Canyons, Glaciers, Lakes, Craters, and Peaks.



An engaging overview of 100 of North America's most interesting geologic features. Most sections include a brief geologic description (some with cross-sections or models), and aerial photos highlighting the geology and scenery of the location. A nice coffee table book or reference to compile a list of future places to visit.

Barnet, James F., Jr, 2017, Beyond Control: The Mississippi River's New Channel to the Gulf of Mexico

The book recaps the geologic history of the Mississippi River and birdsfoot delta, summarizes man's efforts over the last two hundred years to manipulate the river, and discusses the events of April 1973 when the old river control structure incurred significant damage and was at risk of failing. The author summarizes the 1980 LSU study on the consequences if the Old River control structure were to fail, and addresses modifications made to the structure in the mid 1980s. A detailed history of the river and engrossing read.

YouTube link to online video of the Science of the Magnitude Magma, Utah Earthquake (March 18, 2020)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6R6FTQnR3U>

BOOK SUMMARIES OF INTEREST
BY: BILL HAWORTH



170 CASES FLU AT SALT CREEK THREE DEATHS

Conditions Aggravated by Necessity of Relying upon Casper Doctors for Long Journey

Salt Creek is in the throes of an epidemic of Spanish Influenza, there being about 170 cases in that village to date. With no regular doctor there it is doubly hard for those suffering with the disease as well as the Casper doctors who make the trip to Salt Creek every day or two.

The week end brought three deaths from influenza at Salt Creek with many who are desperately ill.

Casper Star-Tribune

November 18, 1918, p. 4

Flu in the oil fields 1918

Author/Contributor Jeff Spencer

These three newspaper headlines are examples of the impact of the 1918 flu on just three areas of North American oil production. As the infamous days of “Roaring Ranger” began a year earlier, here is a bit more about that Texas oil field and the arrival of the flu.

Ranger, Texas, is located approximately 80 miles west of Fort Worth. On October 21, 1917, the Texas and Pacific Coal and Oil Company’s No. 1 J.H. McCleskey well came in at 1700 barrels of oil per day. “The Boom that Won the War” (1917-1920) was attributed to the timing of the Ranger oil boom, which provided much-needed oil to the Allied Forces in Europe (Spencer, Jeff A., 2013, *Texas Oil and Gas*, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, SC, p. 85-89). In the midst of this oil boom, came the “Spanish” influenza.

“Operations in the Ranger District of Texas have been further retarded by the prevalence of the Spanish influenza. The congested condition of the housing facilities has caused a moving away temporarily of a large number of operators and their workers, particularly from the town of Ranger” (National Petroleum News, October 23, 1918, v. 10, p. 23).

Trading and Speculation in Ranger Field Is Ham- pered by Influenza.

By S. F. BALENTINE.

Eastland, Texas, Oct. 21.—Both development and trading during the past week were exceptionally slow in the central Texas oil fields, owing largely to so much sickness from influenza many of the speculators and buyers have been called home by sickness at home, and more than two-thirds of the rigs have temporarily suspended drilling. The only well brought to the point of production during the week in the Ranger Pool was the No. 1 Taylor of the Gulf Production company, just across the road and north of the Slayden farm about one-quarter mile northwest of the Slayden well.

El Paso Herald

October 21, 1918, p. 8

QUIET WEEK IN OIL SECTION RESULT OF AFTERMATH OF FLU

Resumption of Activity,
However, Has Been Be-
gun—Week's Progress.

A very quiet and uneventful week has just passed in the Caddo field and the completions were few and of small importance owing to the comparative inactivity of the past two weeks. Drilling has been resumed on nearly all of the wells which were shut down on account of sickness, and normal conditions are being rapidly restored. Leasing activity is still at its height, the most popular territories being the Pine Island district, the new pool in DeSoto, and the Greenwood neighborhood, between ten and fifteen miles southwest of Shreveport.

The Shreveport Journal

November 8, 1918, p. 3

Oil Industry HeadlinesIn The News (April 2020)

4/18/2020 - The Next Big Thing For The Petrochemical Industry. Petrochemicals is a lucrative market sector which have been hit hard by falling oil prices. A study points to synthetic biology (synbio) as a breakthrough in development of petrochemicals into new and profitable channels. Synbio is getting a lot of interest as investors look to alternatives — but there are other non-oil and gas energy sources to follow as well, including hydrogen. One of these new solutions is creating a profit center out of offering the oil and gas industry a new way to dispose of its hydrogen sulfide.

4/14/2020 – (Reuters) OPEC+ confirms agreement on cuts of 10 mln bpd in May, June. OPEC and allied oil producers, a group known as OPEC+, agreed on Thursday to cut output by 10 million barrels per day (bpd) in May and June to help prop up prices battered the coronavirus crisis.

4/13/2020 – (Wall Street Journal) The Art of an Oil Deal. The Administration received a diplomatic victory this weekend when Trump brokered a deal between the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and Russia to limit their production that may also limit the bloodbath in the U.S. shale patch.

4/10/2020 – (Offshore Engineer) Subsea 7 Bags Chevron's Anchor SURF Deal. Offshore installation and construction firm Subsea 7 has won a contract to deliver subsea equipment and flowlines for Chevron's Anchor development in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico

4/9/2020 – (Offshore Engineer) Offshore Helicopter Merger Nears Completion as HSR Waiting Period Ends. Offshore helicopter players Era and Bristow, which recently announced plans to merge, have skipped a hurdle towards the completion of the merger.

4/8/2020 – (Rigzone) US Will Return to Being Net Importer of Oil. The United States will return to being a net importer of crude oil and petroleum products in the third quarter of 2020 and remain a net importer in most months through the end of 2021.

4/8/2020 – (LDNR) Louisiana Conservation Leniencies During the COVID-19 and the 2020 Historic Market Low Crisis. The Louisiana Office of Conservation has already begun to grant leniencies and extensions to operators on a case by case basis as requested. For more info, visit www.lora-inc.com

4/6/2020 – (O&G Journal) Equinor's Oil Discovery at Walker Ridge 272 Monument Prospect in the US Gulf of Mexico. Equinor and co-venturers Progress Resources USA Ltd & Repsol E&P USA Inc. have encountered oil in the Monument exploration well in the US Gulf of Mexico. The Monument exploration well found 200 feet of oil pay with good reservoir characteristics in Paleogene sandstone.

4/2/2020 – (US Dept of Energy) U.S. Department of Energy to Make Strategic Petroleum Reserve Storage Capacity Available to Struggling U.S. Oil Producers. The Department of Energy is going to immediately make 30 million barrels of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve's oil storage capacity available to U.S. oil producers.

4/1/2020 – (O&G Journal) Otto Energy mulls South Marsh Island F5 sidetrack. Otto Energy Ltd. and its Gulf of Mexico South Marsh Island 71 partner will temporarily abandon the F5 wellbore in a manner that allows for a possible sidetrack when uncertainty from the COVID-19 pandemic dissipates and a time where oil price volatility stabilizes.