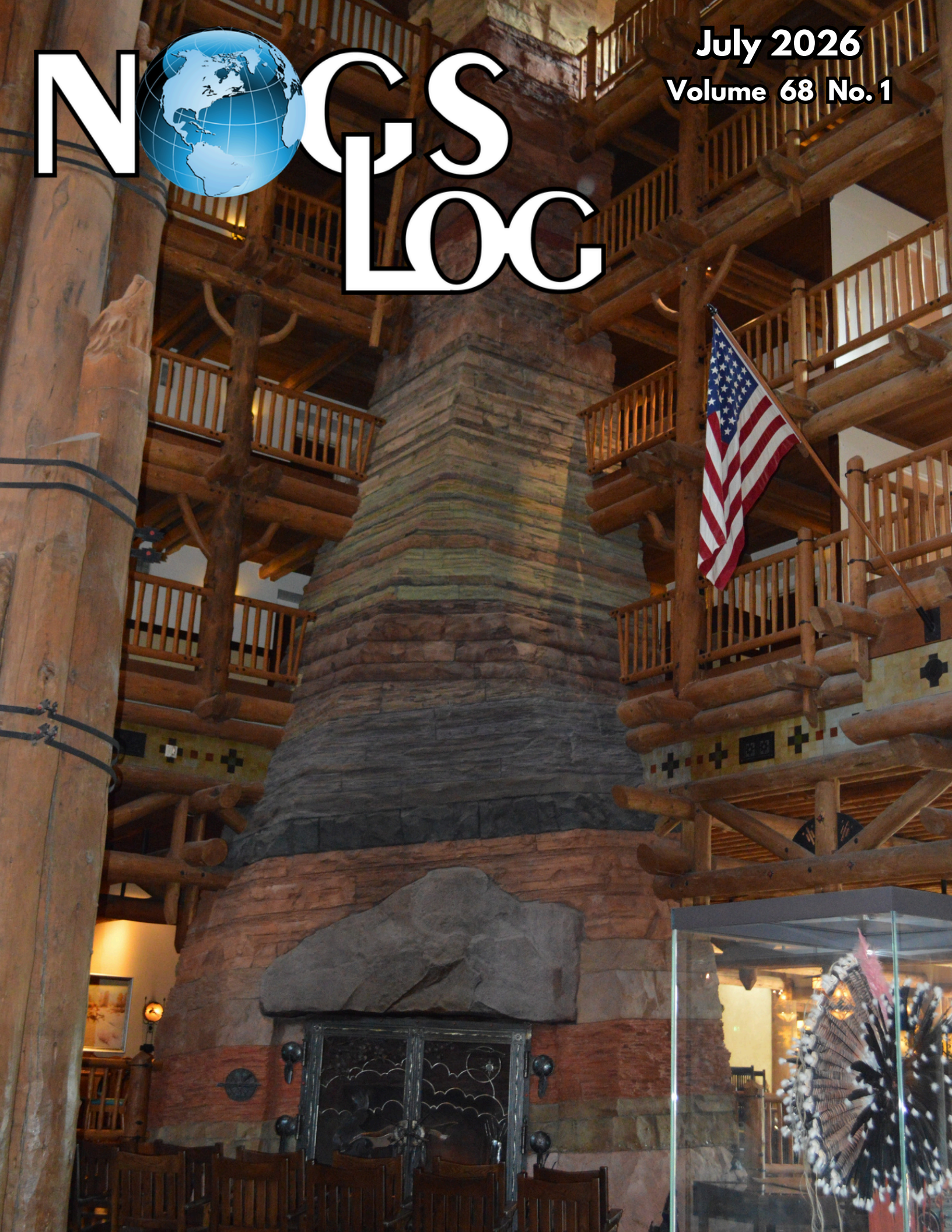


NCGS LOG

July 2026
Volume 68 No. 1



On the Cover

Disney World's Wilderness Lodge Fireplace

The Old Faithful Lodge and fireplace in Yellowstone National Park was the inspiration for the design of Disney World's Wilderness Lodge Resort lobby and fireplace. Although not an exact replica, the similarities are unmistakable. Additionally, Disney "Imagineers" were inspired by The Bright Angel Lodge "Geologic Fireplace" designed by Mary Colter. Colter's design utilized rocks collected and cut from the Grand Canyon walls. The layered stones were assembled in the same geologic sequence as the rocks along the Bright Angel Trail mimicking the stratigraphic sequence from the Colorado River to the canyon rim. Disney's design did not utilize actual canyon stone. The Wilderness Lodge fireplace is a work of art depicting the stratigraphic sequence of the Grand Canyon's South wall, from river to rim! Disney expanded on Colter's original concept by building the Wilderness Lodge "Geologic" fireplace to scale! From the

Vishnu Basement Rocks (Paleoproterozoic, 1840 Ma.) on the lobby floor, through the Grand Canyon Super Group tilted sedimentary sequence (Neoproterozoic, 1255 Ma.), to the Horizontal Layered Sedimentary Rocks (Paleozoic, 530 Ma.) at the top, this 82 foot stratigraphic section depicting 1.5 billion years of geologic history includes unconformities and actual fossils embedded at the appropriate levels. Each level of the hotel lobby contains a glass display case next the the fireplace and chimney. Each display case contains the geologic description, rock samples, and were appropriate, fossil samples at that level. And of course it's Disney so several "fossilized" hidden Mickeys can also be found throughout the section.



Photo: Brian Bothner 2016

Resources: [https://www.wildernesslodgesite.com/content/grand-fireplace-wilderness-lodge/;](https://www.wildernesslodgesite.com/content/grand-fireplace-wilderness-lodge/)
[https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/grcatime-grand-canyon-s-three-sets-of-rocks.htm;](https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/grcatime-grand-canyon-s-three-sets-of-rocks.htm)
<https://mouseplanet.com/enjoying-the-outdoors-the-disney-way-disneys-wilderness-lodge-and-yellowstones-old-faithful-inn/4838/>
https://www.nps.gov/grca/learn/photosmultimedia/colter_ba_photos.htm

From the Editor

Hello friends,

As I step into the role of NOGS Log Editor, I want to start by thanking Brian Bothner for his many years of contributions to the Log and to NOGS as a whole. His steady hand and continued involvement have shaped this newsletter into what it is today, and I'm grateful to be building on that foundation.

I'm looking forward to this role and to keeping the Log a strong resource for our members — sharing research, event updates, and the geologic community's work here in the Gulf Coast region and beyond. If you have ideas, feedback, or content you'd like to contribute, my door (inbox) is open.

A few reminders and updates from this month:

Registration is still open for the 29th Annual Deepwater Technical Symposium, taking place August 25–26, 2026 at the Hilton Riverside, New Orleans, LA. NOGS will again offer pre-symposium training courses along with a member registration discount. Course descriptions and registration details will be posted to the NOGS website once confirmed. The call for abstracts remains open until July 14, 2026 and we are still actively looking for additional contributions. Visit the Deepwater Technical Symposium website for more information.

As always, I encourage professionals, academics, and graduate students to grow your network and share your research through NOGS. Consider writing a short article for the Log, giving a lunchtime presentation at a monthly meeting, volunteering at NOGS events, or offering your services as a Board Member. NOGS runs on the contributions of its members — thank you for yours.

Sincerely,

Eric Fischer



Eric Fischer
2026/2027 NOGS Log
Editor



A MESSAGE FROM THE 2025/2026 NOGS PRESIDENT

BRIAN DAVID



Dear NOGS Members and Friends,

I hope everyone had a wonderful time celebrating our country's momentous 250th birthday. Hopefully, you were able to take some time to reset, enjoy family and friends, watch the fireworks, and grill or cook some of your favorite foods. Wishing our great country another 250 years and beyond!

I was very hesitant to sit down and write this message, mainly because I knew it would be my last message as President of NOGS. It has been a great honor to serve you and this wonderful organization over the past year. I want to sincerely thank my fellow Board members—Charles Miller, Eric Fisher, Brittany George, Carol Avery, Chase Cromwell, Bobola Akintomide, and Brian Bothner—for all of your hard work, dedication, and support throughout the year. Your efforts helped make this year successful, and I truly appreciate the time and commitment each of you gave to NOGS. A very special thank you goes to Christy Himel. Without her tireless efforts, knowledge, and dedication, NOGS simply would not be what it is today. Her continued commitment to this organization is truly appreciated.

As we look ahead, the Deepwater Technical Symposium will be held August 25–26, 2026, at the Hilton Riverside in New Orleans. Early registration is now open. This year's conference is shaping up to be an outstanding event, featuring valuable training opportunities and a strong lineup of technical presentations. Vendor and sponsorship opportunities are still available.

NOGS will also be taking a break from our monthly luncheons during the summer. We will resume in August, with Chris McLindon scheduled as our featured speaker.

I wish NOGS many more years of continued success. This organization only thrives because of our amazing members who remain proactive, engaged, and willing to take an active role in its future. Speaking of proactive and dedicated members, NOGS has a wonderful incoming Board for the 2026–2027 year. I want to personally thank Charles Miller, David Culpepper, Eric Fisher, Kaare Egadahl, TJ Herbert, Chase Cromwell, Bobola Akintomide, and Anna Strimas for their willingness to serve on the incoming Board.

Your time, commitment, and leadership are greatly appreciated. I look forward to seeing all that NOGS continues to accomplish in the year ahead and for many years to come.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your President. Respectfully, Brian T. David President, NOGS 2025-2026

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian".

Brian T. David
President, NOGS 2025-2026



A MESSAGE FROM THE 2026/2027 NOGS PRESIDENT CHARLES MILLER



Dear NOGS Members,

It is an incredible honor to serve as the incoming President of NOGS. I am excited for the opportunity and look forward to working alongside other dedicated volunteers. I joined NOGS around 2011 after the late Ed Picou invited me to lunch and encouraged me to become involved with the Society. I took his advice, and I've been actively involved ever since.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Brian David for his outstanding leadership and service as NOGS President over the past year. Brian's efforts have strengthened our organization while continuing the Society's mission of education, networking, and industry engagement. On behalf of our membership, thank you, Brian, for your dedication and for leaving NOGS in a strong position for the future.

We will continue to build upon that momentum. We will continue providing meaningful technical programs, expanding opportunities for young professionals and students, strengthening industry partnerships, and creating valuable networking experiences that make NOGS one of the premier geological societies in the Gulf Coast region. Together, we will continue supporting the next generation of energy professionals while honoring the legacy that has defined NOGS for more than 80 years.

I have spent my career in the oil and gas industry working with offshore landmen, geologists, engineers and investors. Throughout that time, I have developed a deep appreciation for the technical expertise, collaboration, and professionalism that define our industry. As President, I am committed to ensuring NOGS remains a vibrant organization where professionals from every discipline can connect, learn, and contribute to the future of energy.

One of the highlights of the coming year will be the 29th Annual Deepwater Technical Symposium, taking place August 25-26, 2026, at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. Thanks to Emmitt Lockard for serving as DWTS Chair in recent years. Co-sponsored by NOGS, the symposium continues to be one of the Gulf of America's premier technical conferences, bringing together industry leaders to share innovations, best practices, and emerging technologies in deepwater exploration and production. I encourage every member to attend, participate, and invite colleagues to join us for this exceptional event. Additional information, registration, sponsorship, and exhibitor opportunities are available at DeepwaterNoLa.org.

Thank you for your continued support of NOGS. I look forward to serving you during the coming year and working together to continue the growth, excellence, and momentum that make our Society such an important part of the Gulf Coast energy community.

I hope to see you at one of our upcoming luncheons, Deepwater Technical Symposium this August or upcoming Lease Sale related events.

Sincerely,
Charles Miller III *Charlie*
President, New Orleans Geological Society



NEW ORLEANS
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMORIAL
FOUNDATION INC.



Dear NOGS Members,

On behalf of the NOGS Memorial Foundation Board, I'd like to say thank you to all of those who have supported the Memorial Foundation recently or anytime in the past. A combination of long-term, continued support and market conditions has helped to grow the assets of the Memorial Foundation to nearly \$3,000,000 today.

To remind everyone, the Memorial Foundation's federal tax treatment changed two years ago. The tax status change had an immediate and significant impact as the Memorial Foundation is now required to distribute 5% of the average monthly fair-market value of the assets each fiscal year (most recent fiscal year July 2025-June 2026). Before this change, the Memorial Foundation would distribute \$30,000 in scholarships to students at UNO, Tulane, and LSU as well as an additional ~\$30,000 to NOGS to cover 50% of their annual operating budget. In total, the Memorial Foundation has been distributing roughly \$60,000 a year for the past several years. Since the tax status change two years ago, the Memorial Foundation had to increase our annual distributions more than 100% to avoid a heavy excise tax. This forced change challenged the Memorial Foundation Board to ensure the additional distributions were made ethically, appropriately, and, most importantly, to align with the mission of the Memorial Foundation.

The Memorial Foundation Board met several times to discuss how to best increase our distributions. The Memorial Foundation Board approved to increase both the total scholarship amount and number of scholarships awarded for this fiscal year. The total scholarship amount was increased from \$30,000 to \$63,000 and the number of scholarships awarded was increased from 12 to 21 – divided among UNO, Tulane, and LSU equally.

The Memorial Foundation Board created an additional avenue to impact the local geoscience community and fulfill its mission by establishing the Memorial Foundation Grant Program. The program is available to college students affiliated with UNO, Tulane, and LSU who are pursuing studies in earth science or related fields, as well as K-12 educators and high school students in the Greater New Orleans area. Funding may be considered for educational programs, conference participation, research support, field experiences, classroom initiatives, student organizations, and other activities that align with the Foundation's mission. Applications will be reviewed by the NOGS Memorial Foundation Board upon receipt. The Board received and approved 1 grant for \$2,500 in the most recent fiscal year. The grant will be used to help cover expenses for a STEM camp for K-12 educators held at UNO where one of the speakers at the camp is John Dribus who previously served as NOGS President.

Other distributions for the most recent fiscal year include \$10,000 total to the Louisiana Children's Museum and the Children's Museum of St. Tammany, \$2,500 to the GeoGulf conference for student support, \$10,000 each to UNO, Tulane, and LSU, and \$30,120.10 to NOGS operating budget.

The museum distribution was the final of a \$100,000 commitment that was made 10 years ago to both museums. The distribution to the GeoGulf conference directly impacted 21 students by covering expenses for conference registration, short courses, and field trips. The distribution to the universities was made with the requirement that the funds be used for student educational and research purposes. We have since received tremendous gratitude from each of the Earth Science/Geology Department Chairs at each university. Their official responses will be shared in a future NOGS LOG. In total for the most recent fiscal year (July 2025 - June 2026), the Memorial Foundation distributed \$138,120.10.

It's been a pleasure to serve as Chairman of the NOGS Memorial Foundation, and I hope that you find this Board has been good stewards of the Foundation. I believe the Foundation is having a significant impact locally on students and the geoscience community around us. Rest assured, the Board will continue to appropriately distribute funds that only align with the mission of the Foundation.

Sincerely,

Jared Bullock
Jared



SEPTEMBER MEETING

Geological Underpinnings of the Modern Mississippi Delta



Presented By:
Chris McLindon

LSU Center for Energy Studies

The modern Balize Delta Lobe of the Mississippi River appears to directly overlie a deeply rooted structural graben/salt basin. The bounding faults of this graben trend in a generally NNW-SSE direction with down-to-the-west faults along the eastern edge of the delta and down-to-the-east faults along the western edge. The course of this segment of the river sub-parallel the axis of the graben. A down-to-the-north fault extends across the axis of the graben towards its southern end, and the surface trace of this fault crosses the channel of the river at a right angle the point of trifurcation called "Head of Passes." A review of the major fault segments and salt domes includes their relationships to the major oil and gas fields at depth and to the architecture of the delta lobe at the surface.

About our Presenter: Chris worked for four decades as a geologist in the upstream oil and gas industry, and more recently as a geologist in the carbon capture and storage industry. Chris holds a B.S. in Geology from LSU. He is a member and past president of the New Orleans Geological Society, and is a member of the Geological Society of America. Chris received a 2026 Distinguished Service Award from the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies for his work in collaborating with university researchers using oil and gas industry data to geological faults in south Louisiana.

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Drago's Metairie

11:30 am Networking

12:00 noon Program & Lunch

NOGS Members: \$30

Guest: \$40

Virtual Option Available

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OCTOBER MEETING

Applications of palynology in the oil industry and beyond



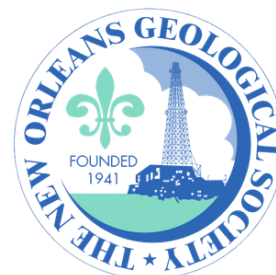
Presented by:

Dr. Vann Smith

Ellington Geological Services

Palynology, the study of organic microfossils, has a broad variety of applications in hydrocarbon exploration, carbon capture and storage, academic biostratigraphy, paleoecological/paleoclimatic research, archeology, and forensics. Palynological research examines diverse groups of organisms, including pollen, plant and fungal spores, invertebrate remains, algae, and other unicellular organisms. The utility of palynology will be explained using examples from previous and ongoing research projects. These projects include palynological analysis of the Chicxulub impact crater in Mexico and analysis of multiple Paleogene Wilcox Group well sections and outcrops in Texas. Particular focus will be given to the identification and significance of strata deposited during the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM) in the Gulf of Mexico.

More about our Presenter: Dr. Vann Smith is a palynologist currently employed at Ellington Geological Services in Houston, Texas. A New Orleans native, he obtained his BSc in Geology and Geophysics from Louisiana State University (LSU) in 2011, his MsC in Earth and Environmental Sciences from Tulane University in 2015, and his PhD in Geology and Geophysics from LSU in 2020. He recently completed a postdoctoral research project at LSU under the supervision of Dr. Sophie Warny. His current research interests include the biostratigraphy of the Wilcox Group and biotic changes during the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM).



Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Zea's Northshore

11:30 am Networking

12:00 noon Program & Lunch

NOGS Members: \$30

Guest: \$40

Virtual Option Available

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NOGS is seeking speaker and topic ideas for upcoming meetings. Know someone with valuable industry insights or have a topic you'd like to see covered? Send us your recommendations—we're building a strong lineup and welcome your input. Email us with your suggestions: admin@nogs.org



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August 25-26, 2026

Hilton Riverside, New Orleans LA

NOGS MEMBER DISCOUNT CODE: [nogs2026](#)

[DWTS 2026 Tickets](#)

***"Technology Innovations for Resilient
Deepwater Energy"***

Half Day Courses will be offered on August 25, 2026

Annular Pressure Build Up (APB) and Load Case Methodology

Professional development hours (PDH): 3

Course Description:

During production tubing gets heated by the hot formation fluids. When the hot tubing contacts fluids entrapped in the annulus, the result is fluid heating and pressure buildup. In subsea wells the annulus is accessible at the wellhead. The outer annuli are not accessible and therefore proper well management to avoid APB related failure is critical. This training course should enhance the students' ability to understand the causes of Annulus Pressure Buildup (APB), mitigation techniques and equipment, and how to manage load cases for various casing strings to maintain well integrity in an offshore HPHT well.

Instructor:

Barry Cresap, P.E., Well Engineering Director, Viking Engineering: over 20 years of oil and gas experience, primarily working as a principal drilling engineer and manager over a wide range of casing and rig types for both land and offshore. His engineering experience spans across both conventional and unconventional designs and operational practices including deepwater, shelf, and horizontal drilling. He began his career with ENSCO and completed a 3-year "fast-track" superintendent program which included working rig-based positions from crane crew, drill crew, up to toolpusher on jack-ups in the Gulf of Mexico. He broadened his experience at Grey Wolf / Precision Drilling while executing turnkey contracts along the US Gulf Coast. He joined BHP in 2012 in the Eagle Ford as a Senior Drilling Engineer and promoted to Drilling Manager. He joined the offshore division in 2014 and executed a deepwater exploration project in the Central GOA. He left BHP in 2021 with the merger acquisition by Woodside. He joined Viking Engineering shortly thereafter and is now working as the Director of Well Engineering and now resides with his family in Katy, TX.

Half Day Courses will be offered on August 25, 2026

Deepwater Sedimentary Systems

Professional development hours (PDH): 3

Course Description:

Deepwater Sedimentary Systems helps professionals identify, understand and interpret deepwater sedimentary systems at various scales – both onshore and offshore. This course describes the best practices in the integration of geology and geophysics used to interpret these diverse environments. It draws on technical results gained from deepwater drilling campaigns, global field analog studies and frontier exploration both foreign and domestic. Covering conceptual approaches and state-of-the-art information on deepwater systems, this course serves as the essential primer for companies, consultancies, universities, governments and deepwater practitioners around the world seeking to understand deepwater systems amid the race to acquire new acreage and replenish reserves out to 2050 and beyond. Based on two books and a decade+ of collaborative experience, this course provides a broad foundation in turbidite, contourite, hybrid and mixed deepwater sedimentary systems using a variety of subsurface, modern seafloor and outcrop examples.

Instructor:

Jonathan Rotzien: President of Basin Dynamics. He has worked in most of the world's petroleum producing regions and specializes in leading corporate projects, research programs and professional training courses pertaining to oil and gas exploration and production. In addition to his business, he serves in faculty and research roles at University of Houston, University of Texas at Austin, South Dakota Mines and The Drifters Research Group with the Andalusian Earth Sciences Institute. He currently holds consulting appointments with HOT Energy Group (Leoben, Austria) and Subsurface Consultants & Associates (Houston, USA). With over 100 publications including short courses, his most recent works include Deepwater Sedimentary Systems: Science, Discovery and Application (Elsevier, 2022), written by 62 authors from 20 countries, and the 2nd edition of The Explorer's Mindset: Lessons in Leadership in Applied Geoscience and the Energy Industry (Amazon, 2025). He holds a B.A. from Colorado College and a Ph.D. from Stanford University.

Half Day Courses will be offered on August 25, 2026

ERD as an Enabler for Subsea Tieback Optimization

Professional development hours (PDH): 3

Course Description:

Subsea tieback optimization is the strategic and engineering discipline focused on maximizing reservoir drainage, flow assurance integrity, and economic return from wells tied back to existing production infrastructure. Achieving that optimization increasingly depends on the ability to drill, complete, and produce from high-inclination and extended reach wellbores that push the boundaries of conventional subsea execution. Based on current industry practices, this course provides a comprehensive foundation in high inclination well challenges, latest landing string configurations in the GOM including ESP, Slotted liner and Screens running complications and mitigation strategies. Attendees will be equipped with actionable insights applicable to their next subsea tieback project as It draws on real-world case studies and lessons learned from active Gulf of Mexico (GOM) operations, incorporating the latest advances in landing string design, ESP deployment strategies, and wellbore conditioning techniques.

Instructor:

Jaime Avendano: a Senior Drilling Engineer with 27 years of experience in land and offshore operations across the Gulf of Mexico, Asia Pacific, and the Middle East. Specializing in deepwater well engineering, Extended Reach Drilling (ERD), tubular stress analysis, real-time monitoring, and drilling optimization, with senior roles held across major international operators and service companies. Jaime holds a B.Sc in Mechanical Engineering from Tachira University, Venezuela and an M.S. in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Houston

Half Day Courses will be offered on August 25, 2026

Introduction to Geothermal and CCS Well Design

Professional development hours (PDH): 3

Course Description:

Geothermal and Steam injection wells pose significant challenges to casing design due to the extremely high temperatures inherent with their operations, along with produced fluid chemistry. With CO₂ injection, CCS wells differ from typical oil and gas wells as they have increasing reservoir pressure over the life of the well, along with increased corrosion and pitting concerns due to CO₂ and impurities in the injection stream. This training course covers the fundamentals of casing and tubing design and advanced topics affecting the Geothermal and CCS well design and the impact to the overall well integrity.

Instructor:

Parveen Sachdeva, Renewables Manager, GATE Energy | Engineering, Commissioning & Specialty Field Services: over 18 years of oilfield experience. His expertise is in critical well design, flow assurance modeling and thermal analysis of wellbore heat transfer. At Viking Engineering, he has been involved in projects for casing design of class IV & class IV CO₂ Injection (CCUS) wells, high temperature geothermal wells, casing and tubing design of shale gas wells and deepwater (HPHT) wells. He is well versed with design software WELLCAT, TDAS and StrinGnosis, and flow assurance software WELLFLO. His research interests include thermal well design including steam injection and high temperature geothermal wells. Sachdeva has authored or coauthored 8 technical papers and holds 1 US patent. He received his B.S. degree in Aerospace Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT Kanpur), and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Central Florida

Half Day Courses will be offered on August 25, 2026

Introduction to Western and Central Gulf of Mexico Environmental Regulations and Compliance

Professional development hours (PDH): 3

Course Description: Introduction to Western and Central Gulf of Mexico Environmental Regulations training class is a must-attend event for new and experienced engineers, geologists, operations, support and HSE professionals who want an introductory class on environmental regulations. The workshop is designed to enhance your skills and knowledge of environmental regulations affecting oil and gas operations in the Western and Central Gulf of Mexico. The course instructors have direct experience assisting oil and gas operators comply with offshore environmental regulations.

The schedule includes the following topics:

- Offshore Water Permitting Compliance
- Offshore Waste Management
- Oil Spill Reporting and Response
- Offshore Air Quality Regulations

Instructors:

Brian Boyer Principal Air Quality Scientist, INTERA, Incorporated. An environmental consultant to the petroleum and chemical industries, with a specialty in regulatory compliance for offshore and onshore oil and gas operations. His work includes air emissions inventories, air permitting, emission control system evaluations, and NPDES permit compliance. He has more than 40 years of environmental experience supporting the offshore oil and gas exploration and production operations.

Stephen Depew is a Planning Specialist with J. Connor Consulting, where he has spent the past 11 years supporting more than 30 oil and gas operators in oil spill response, contingency planning, and leadership development. A 20-year veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, Stephen brings deep expertise in emergency preparedness and incident management. He recently became an Aggie and is currently pursuing his Executive MBA at Texas A&M University's Mays Business School, with graduation expected in May 20

2026/2027 Slate Board of Directors



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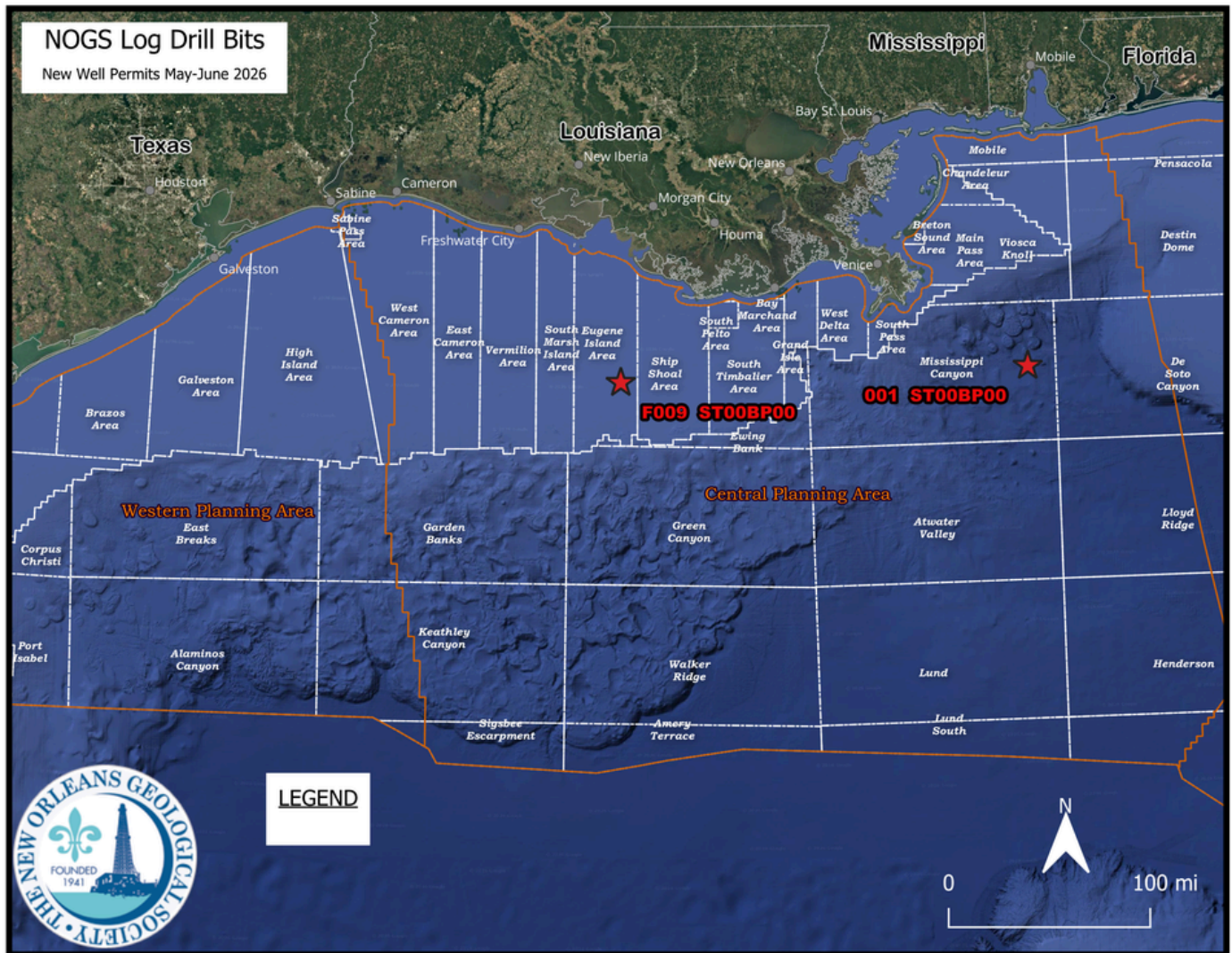
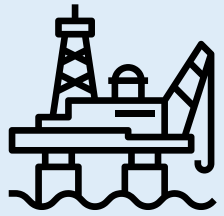


The NOGS LOG invites short articles from industry professionals, academics, and graduate students on topics related to Gulf Coast geology, energy resources, and related disciplines. Submissions may include technical summaries, case studies, research highlights, or industry perspectives.

If you are interested in contributing or have a topic idea, please contact the Editor or email admin@nogs.org.

DRILL BITS

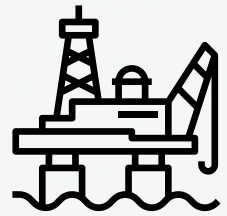
NEW WELL PERMITS OFFSHORE GULF OF AMERICA
SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES
MAP BY ERIC FISCHER



API Well Number	Company Name	Block Area	Surface Lease Number	Well Type	Well Name	Water Depth (feet)	Surface Lat	Surface Long	Rig Name
608174152600	Shell Offshore Inc.	MC 477	G36962	Expl	001	6842	28.515	-88.144	T.O. DEEPWATER PONTUS
177104170300	Arena Offshore, LP	EI 276	G00989	Dev	F009	180	28.43	-91.47	WFD 400

DRILL BITS

OFFSHORE GULF OF AMERICA SHELF AND
DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES
BY BRIAN BOTHNER



North America Rig Count Report May 2026

North America: 548

State/Province	Protraction Area		Rig Count Value	Change from Previous Month	
LOUISIANA	East Cameron		0	-1	
LOUISIANA	Eugene Island		0	-1	
LOUISIANA	Green Canyon		3	-2	
LOUISIANA	Mississippi Canyon		5	-1	
Gulf of America Total:			8	-5	
State	Rig Count	Change from Previous Month	State	Rig Count	Change from Previous Month
ALASKA	12	1	NEW MEXICO	95	-6
ARKANSAS	0	0	NORTH DAKOTA	26	0
CALIFORNIA	7	0	OHIO	11	0
COLORADO	11	-3	OKLAHOMA	46	4
LOUISIANA	31	0	PENNSYLVANIA	17	-1
MICHIGAN	1	0	TEXAS	242	8
MISSISSIPPI	0	0	UTAH	13	-1
MONTANA	2	0	WEST VIRGINIA	8	0
NEVADA	2	0	WYOMING	16	-1

Recent Energy Headlines

June 2026 Recap

6/3/2026 - US Sets August 12 Date for Third Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale Under The One Big Beautiful Bill Act - The US Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has announced that the third Gulf of Mexico offshore oil and gas lease sale under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act will be held on August 12, 2026. [Read Full Article](#)

6/9/2026 - SLB OneSubsea secures Thunder Horse boosting work in Gulf of America - SLB OneSubsea, a joint venture backed by SLB, Aker Solutions, and Subsea7, has been awarded a contract by supermajor BP to provide a subsea boosting system for the Thunder Horse project in the deepwater part of the US Gulf of America. This engineering, procurement, and construction contract for Thunder Horse follows recent subsea boosting contract awards for BP's Kaskida and Tiber developments. [Read Full Article](#)

6/12/2026 - BP Starts Sale Process for Gulf of America Project Stakes - BP has begun the process of selling minority stakes in two major Gulf of America oil projects, Kaskida and Tiber, as the British energy company seeks partners for some of its most important upstream developments in the United States. The company is marketing stakes in the two deepwater projects, according to Reuters, which cited people familiar with the matter. The size of the stakes being offered has not been disclosed, but BP had reportedly considered selling up to 50% in each project. [Read Full Article](#)

6/14/2026 - Louisiana just made it illegal to sue oil companies over climate change - So have other states - A bill signed by Gov. Jeff Landry on Thursday mirrors other laws passed in red states amid a national effort to ban climate lawsuits against oil and gas companies. Louisiana has joined a handful of Republican states that have recently passed legislation aimed at banning lawsuits against oil and gas companies over the harms of climate change. [Read Full Article](#)

6/16/2026 - Beacon advances deepwater Gulf developments with Monument, Zephyrus field work - Scott Gutterman, Beacon's chairman and chief executive officer, said the Monument drilling results support subsurface interpretation of the field, and the startup of Zephyrus #2 expands a growing production base. Beacon Offshore Energy LLC is advancing two deepwater Gulf of America developments, having drilled the first development well at Monument field and brought a second production well online at Zephyrus field. [Read Full Article](#)

6/27/2026 - BP launches sale process for minority stakes in Kaskida and Tiber Gulf of America deepwater projects - BP has formally launched a sale process for minority stakes in two of its largest deepwater Gulf of America projects, Kaskida and Tiber, according to four people with knowledge of the matter. The move, reported in June 2026, marks one of the first major strategic steps by new CEO Meg O'Neill, who took the helm in April. Each project is estimated to be worth billions of dollars to the company. [Read Full Article](#)

7/1/2026 - Shell to Sell Gulf of America Stakes to Talos and Ridgewood for \$1.7 Billion - Shell plc has agreed to sell its 50% non-operated interest in the Na Kika platform and associated fields, along with its wholly owned Coulomb subsea tieback, to subsidiaries of Talos Energy and Ridgewood Energy in a transaction valued at \$1.7 billion. [Read Full Article](#)



GULF OF AMERICA LEASE SALE: BIG BEAUTIFUL GULF 3

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Society of Petroleum Engineers

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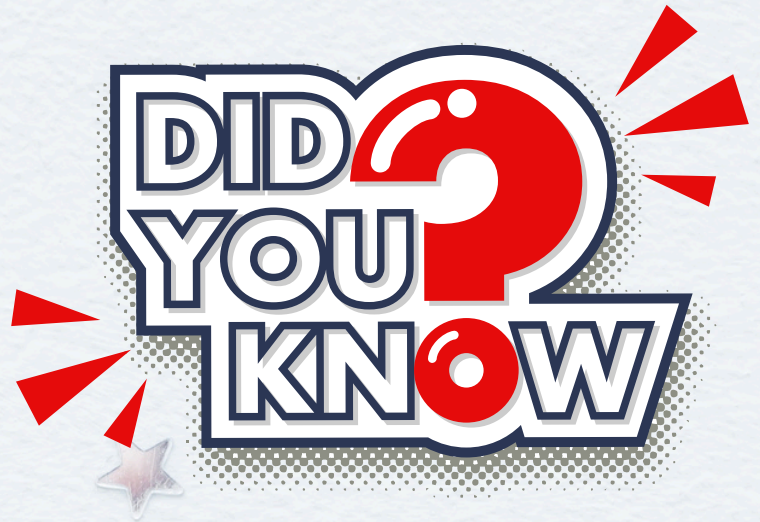


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