

# MISSISSIPPI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

# eBULLETIN

Volume 65

No. 9

May 2017

## **BOLAND AWARD WINNERS**

## **DUSTIN JOHNSON AWARD WINNER**

## **RETIREMENT RECEPTION:**

Michael Bograd, Office of Geology

## **LYELL IN MISSISSIPPI**

Dr. David T. Dockery, RPG, Office of Geology



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# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*Cragin Knox*



A special thanks to our members that worked so hard to sieve through a number of excellent scholarship resumes:

- David Hancock
- Neil Barnes
- Dave Cate
- Tony Stuart
- James Starnes
- Joe Johnson
- Bob Schneeflock

And congratulations to the deserving young geologists who received the Lawrence F. Boland Memorial Scholarships:

- Christopher Boucher, University of Mississippi
- Noah van Hartesveldt, Mississippi State University
- Elizabeth Cardenal, University of Mississippi
- Brooks Ronsandich, Millsaps College

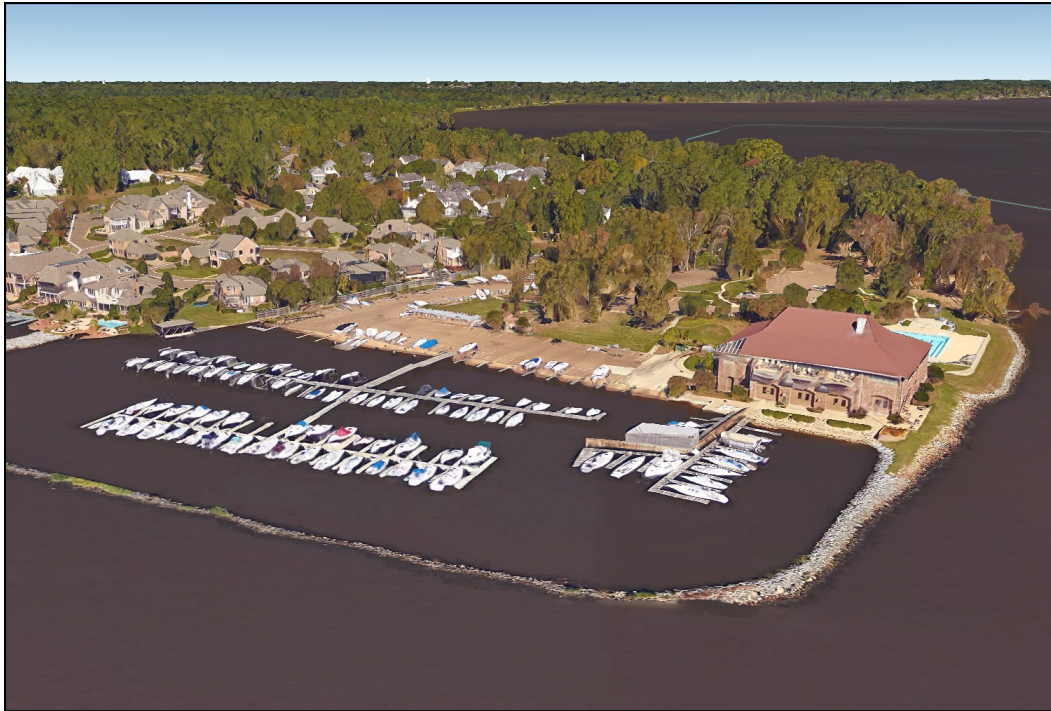
And to the winner of the Dustin Johnson Memorial Scholarship:

- Shana Byrd, University of Southern Mississippi

Our final meeting of the year will be the Spring Fling at the Jackson Yacht Club, on Thursday, May 11, at 5:00 PM.

# 2016-2017 MGS MEETING SCHEDULE

When	What/Who	Where
September 8, 2016	Fall BBQ	Jackson Yacht Club-5:30pm
October 13, 2016	Deep Lakes in Early Mars—Ezat Heydari	River Hills – 11:30am
November 10, 2016	Tuscaloosa Marine Shale Paul Hackley et al. USGS	River Hills – 11:30am
	<b>MAPL Christmas Party CANCELLED</b>	
January 12, 2017	Jamie Harris—Millsaps College The Geology of Scotland	River Hills – 11:30am
February 9, 2017	Dr. Greg Easson Oil & Gas Research and Education	River Hills – 11:30am
March 9, 2017	The Geology of Mississippi Dr. Stan Galicki Millsaps College	River Hills – 11:30am
April 13, 2017	<b>Boland Scholarship Awards</b>	<b>River Hills – 11:30am</b>
May 11, 2017	Spring Fling	Jackson Yacht Club– 5:30pm



## OFFICERS MEETINGS

September 6, 2015
October 11, 2015
November 8, 2015
January 10, 2016
February 7, 2016
March 7, 2016
<b>April 11, 2016</b>
May 9, 2016



# SCHOLARSHIPS

## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Lawrence F. Boland Memorial Scholarship Fund Trust, Inc. is pleased to announce the 2017 winners of the Lawrence F. Boland Memorial Scholarships and the Dustin Johnson Memorial Scholarship. This year's winners of the Lawrence F. Boland Memorial Scholarships are:

**Brooks Ronsandich**, Millsaps College

**Noah van Hartesveldt**, Mississippi State University

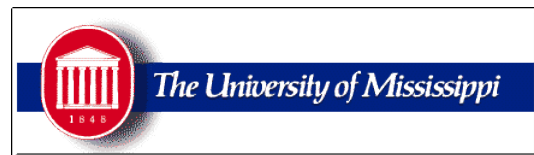
**Elizabeth Cardenal**, University of Southern Mississippi

**Christopher Boucher**, University of Mississippi

This year's winner of the Dustin Johnson Memorial Scholarship is **Shana Byrd** from the University of Southern Mississippi.

These winners were selected from among outstanding students nominated by their departments.

The award for each scholarship is \$1,000.00 and will be presented next week, Thursday, April, 13<sup>th</sup>, at the regular lunch meeting of the Mississippi Geological Society. The luncheon will be held at the River Hills Club in Jackson at 11:30 a.m.



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTHERN  
MISSISSIPPI

MILLSAPS  
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# BOLAND SCHOLARSHIPS



**Congratulations  
Noah Van Hartesveldt**





# BOLAND SCHOLARSHIPS



## Congratulations Christopher Boucher





# BOLAND SCHOLARSHIPS



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTHERN  
MISSISSIPPI

## Congratulations Elizabeth Cardenal



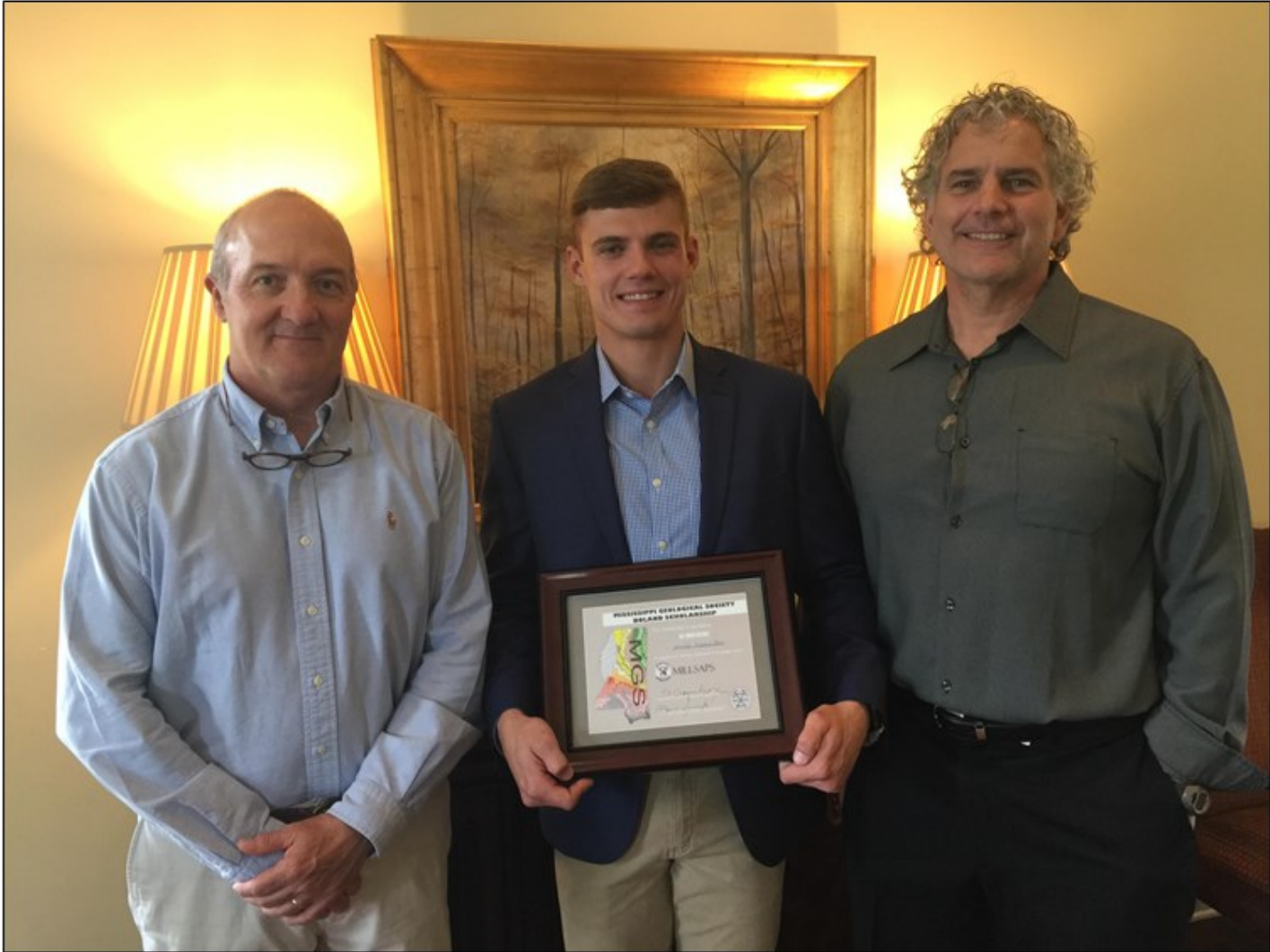




# BOLAND SCHOLARSHIPS

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**Congratulations  
Brooks Rosandich**



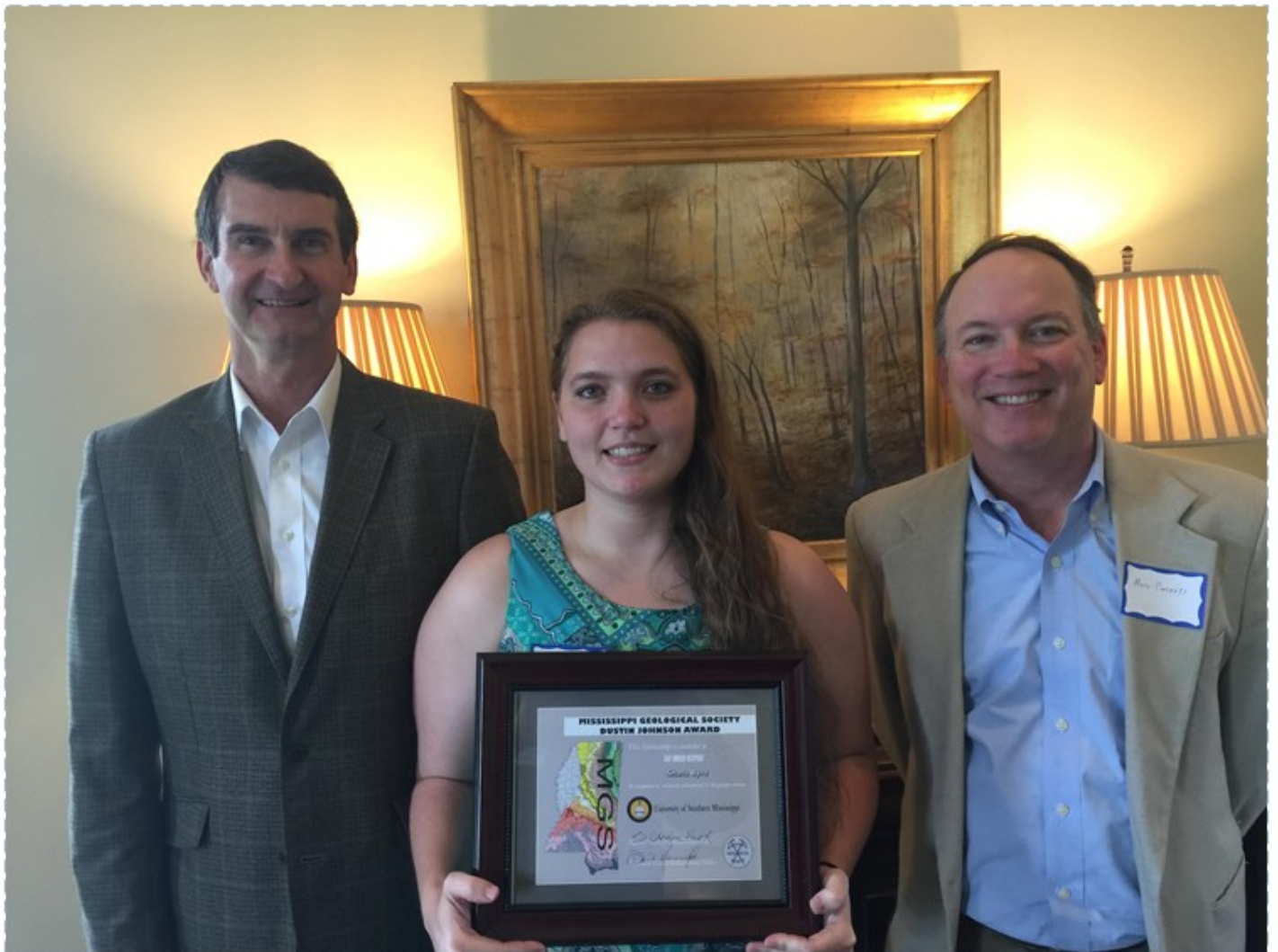


# DUSTIN JOHNSON AWARD



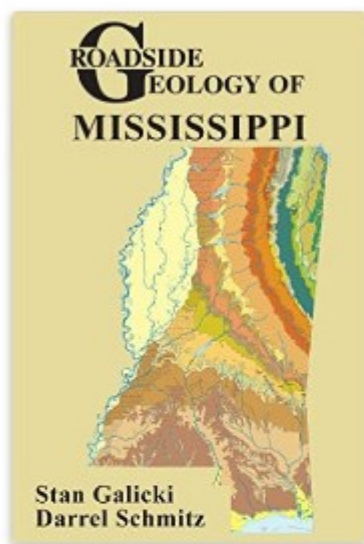
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## Congratulations Shana Byrd



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October 15, 2016

by Stan Galicki (Author), Darrel Schmitz (Author)

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# RETIREMENT

*Michael Bograd*



*After 46 years  
Of patience, hard work and dedication,  
It's time for Michael Bograd  
To take a vacation.*

*The Office of Geology Requests  
That you join us for a  
Retirement Reception  
Honoring  
Michael Bograd*

*At*

*700 North State Street  
Multi-Purpose Room*

*Friday, June 09, 2017  
From*

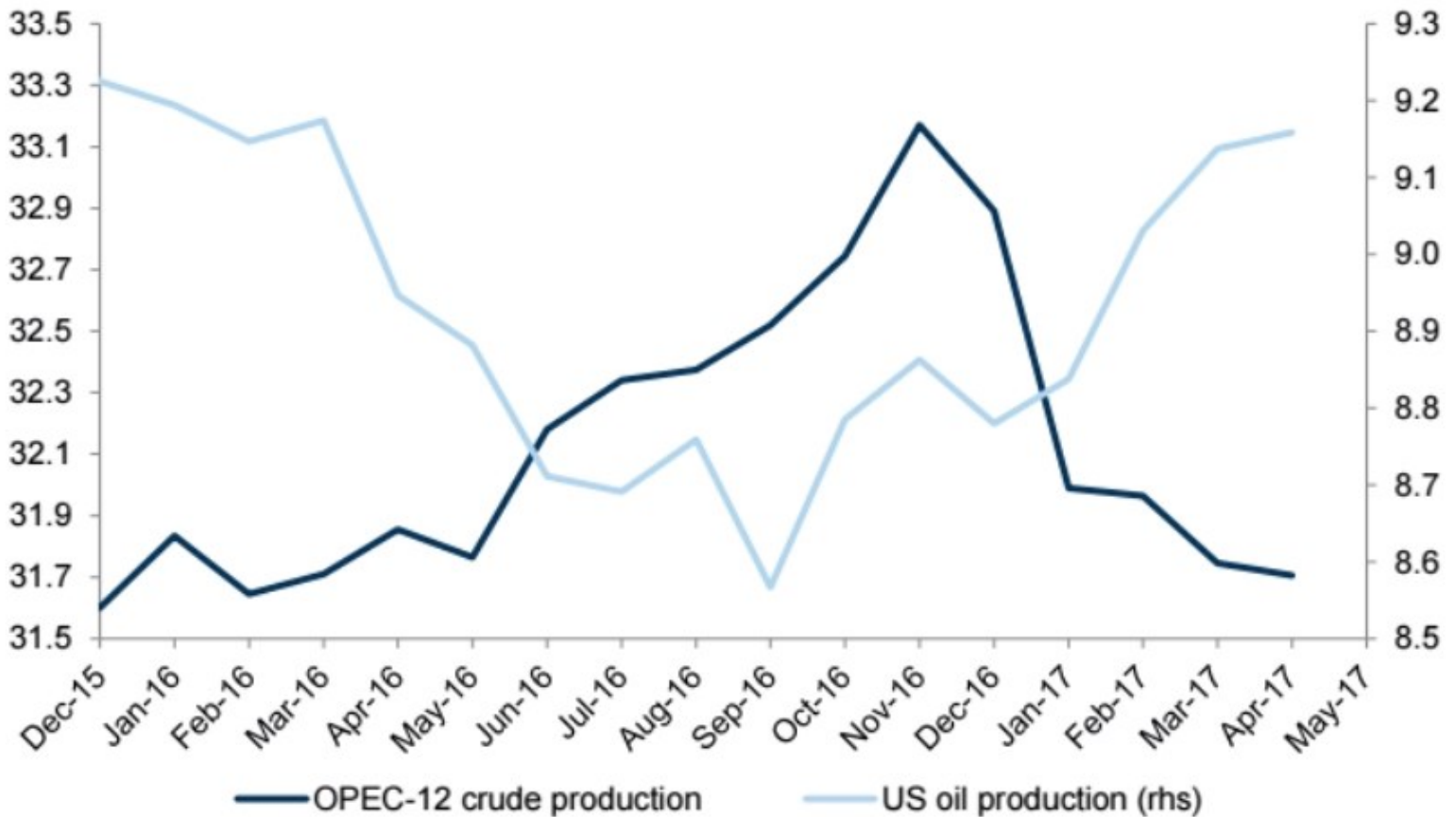
*2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

*Donations Accepted Until May 31, 2017*



# OIL & GAS FUTURES

**The rebound in US oil production is overshadowing the high compliance to the OPEC cuts**  
**(million barrels per day)**



Source: Platts, Reuters, EIA



# OIL & GAS FUTURES

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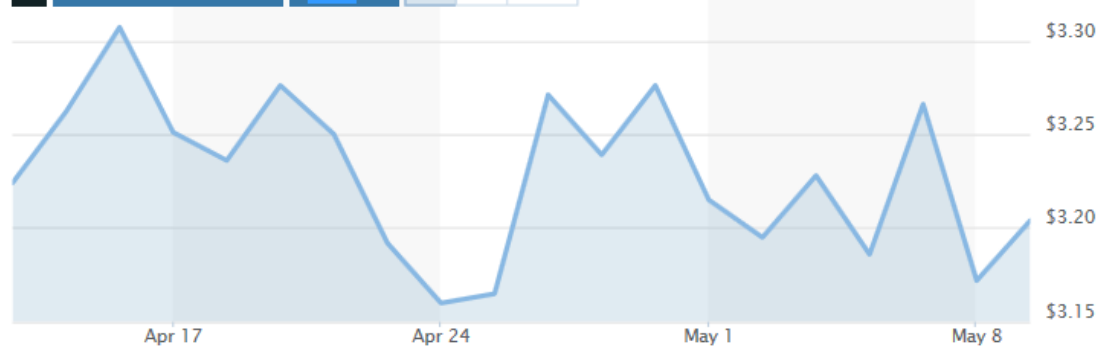
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# MONTHLY POST

*Dr. David T. Dockery III RPG*

## LYELL IN MISSISSIPPI

David T. Dockery III, RPG, Mississippi Office of Geology

Leonard G. Wilson gives an excellent account of Charles Lyell's travels in North America in his book *Lyell in America. Transatlantic Geology, 1841-1853* (1998, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 429 p.). One of Lyell's interests in these travels was to test his three-fold division of Europe's Tertiary Period into the Eocene, Miocene, and Pliocene epochs (other epochs came later) based on the stratigraphic distribution of fossil marine shells. In the Gulf Coastal Plain at this time, the Eocene Epoch was known for the large bones of the fossil whale *Zeuglodon* (now recognized by its original name *Basilosaurus*), and the underlying Cretaceous was known for its chalky sediments and the bones of large marine reptiles and dinosaurs. In 1834, Samuel George Morton published a book on Cretaceous fossils in the United States in which he included fossils from the chalky Nummulitic Limestone of Mississippi and Alabama; this limestone is recognized today as the Tertiary-age Marianna and Glendon limestones of the Vicksburg Group. The Nummulitic Limestone contained abundant quantities of the large Foraminifera *Nummulites* (the Vicksburg forms are now called *Lepidocyclina*, Figure 1), which was a guide fossil to the Eocene of Europe.



Figure 1. The large Foraminifera *Lepidocyclina mantelli* in the Early Oligocene Marianna Limestone of Mississippi, with associated fossil sand dollars and pectins. The limestone was originally referred to as the Nummulitic Limestone.



## MONTHLY POST

*Dr. David T. Dockery III RPG*

Herodotus first reported these fossils from the limestone facing of the pyramids in Egypt and named them *Nummulites* for their resemblance to coins (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Small and large species of *Nummulites* from Egypt. The large species is *Nummulites gizehensis*, the one Herodotus saw in the Cheops Pyramid at Giza. Specimens posted by Lorraine Casazza, October 27, 2007.





## MONTHLY POST

*Dr. David T. Dockery III RPG*

Figure 3 shows the cross sections of large *Nummulites* specimens in the locally available Honed Seagrass Limestone from quarries in Western Turkey. Morton's inclusion of the Nummulitic Limestone in the Cretaceous created a formation in North America that contained a mix of both Cretaceous and Tertiary fossils.

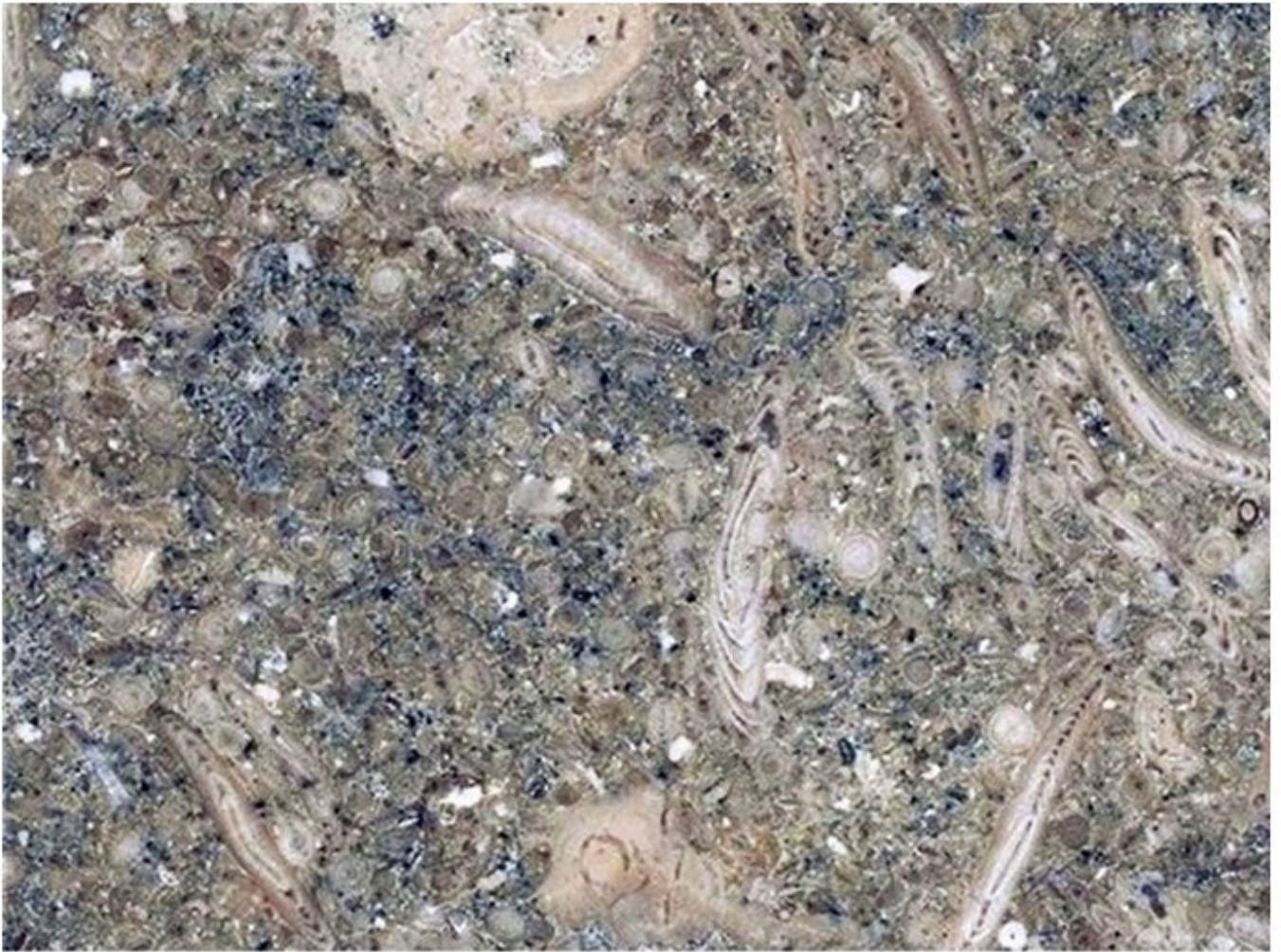


Figure 3. Honed Seagrass Limestone tile with cross sections of the large Foraminifera *Nummulites gizehensis*. The stone was quarried from Eocene limestone in western Turkey and is locally available.



## MONTHLY POST

### *Dr. David T. Dockery III RPG*

On the morning of January 28, 1846, Charles and Mary Lyell boarded the steamboat *Amaranth* on the Alabama River at Montgomery with plans to travel to Mobile and then back up the Tombigbee and Black Warrior rivers to Tuscaloosa. Lyell collected Cretaceous fossils from chalk bluffs along the river at landings in Selma and at Prairie Bluff. The steamboat arrived at Claiborne Bluff Landing at about eleven o'clock that night, and the captain led Mary up the long wooden staircase with one hand holding her hand and the other holding a blazing pine torch. Claiborne Bluff was a series of limestone strata topped by red clay with a total thickness of 150 feet. A resident of the Claiborne area took Lyell to the sites where Albert Koch had excavated the *Zeuglodon* bones used in his reconstruction of the beast, and it was here that Lyell found the Nummulitic Limestone to overlie the *Zeuglodon* beds. As Wilson wrote in his book, "When the Nummulitic Limestone became Eocene, all its fossils became Eocene rather than Cretaceous, and by this one step almost all the fossils thought to be common to Cretaceous and Tertiary formations in the United States were eliminated."

In New Orleans on the morning of Monday, March 9, 1846, Charles Lyell boarded the steamboat *Rainbow* and traveled up the Mississippi River to Port Hudson, arriving on the early morning of March 11. Mary boarded the steamboat *Magnolia* the evening of March 10 to travel directly to Natchez. It was in the 100-foot-high bluffs at Port Hudson that Dr. Carpenter had observed the conversion of buried trees into coal. Lyell wondered about the geologic processes responsible for burying cypress stumps beneath nearly one hundred feet of earth in the Port Hudson bluff. Lyell counted 220 rings in one buried tree.

Lyell joined Mary at Natchez on March 13 and visited the bluffs of Natchez with Dr. Montroville Dickeson. The loamy clay of the upper bluffs contained fossil land snails and "resembled the loess of the Rhine Valley that Lyell had studied near Heidelberg in 1823." Lyell and Dickeson then traveled to Washington, six miles east of Natchez, where they examined Benjamin Wailes' (who was the same age as Lyell) collection of ice-age bones from Mammoth Ravine near Natchez and of fossil marine seashells from Vicksburg. While in Washington, Lyell examined a local "marl" in the loess that contained freshwater mollusks such as "*Lymnea*, *Planorbis*, and *Cyclas*" rather than the usual land snail fauna. The Rhine Valley loess also contained unstratified (eolian) and water laid deposits. In his notebook, Lyell began referring to the Natchez loam as "loess."

Lyell, Dickeson, and Wailes visited Mammoth Ravine, where Wailes found many of his Pleistocene bones. Here the loess contained mastodon bones, while a bed of clay beneath it contained the bones of *Megalonyx*, horse, bear, stag, and other extinct species. Dickeson discovered a fossil human pelvis in the ravine just before Lyell's visit. The find was sensational as it placed human remains in the same fossil bed as those of extinct Ice Age mammals. Lyell learned from Dickeson that the pelvis came from float in the ravine bottom and not from a particular formation. The pelvis had a dark stain as if buried near the topsoil, and Lyell believed it to have washed down from an Indian burial ground above. Dickeson did not care for Lyell's ordinary explanation for his exceptional find. The true age of the Natchez Man remained a mystery until carbon 14 tests, using the University of Arizona's accelerator mass spectrometer, provided an answer. The results proved Lyell correct; the ground sloth bones from Mammoth Ravine were 17,840 +/- 125 years old, and Natchez Man was 5,580±80 years old (Hamilton, 1990, Natchez Man gets younger, *Science*, v. 250, p. 1662).

To be continued: In the next MGS Bulletin (the September 2017 Bulletin), *Lyell in Mississippi* will continue with travels to Vicksburg and Jackson, resulting in the resolution of additional stratigraphic problems.



# GEOLOGY POST

## ARTICLES, PAPERS or NEWS?

**ATTENTION!!!!!!** Industry, Professors and Students:

I am adding a dedicated section that includes more content from the industry and our schools.

Submissions can include anything from professional papers, thesis abstracts, job opportunities to pictures. Anything!!!!

If you have any information or news you would like to share with the Society **PLEASE** email them to the MGS Editor at:

[mcaton@tellusoperating.com](mailto:mcaton@tellusoperating.com)

Thanks & Regards,

Matt Caton  
Editor



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Thanks for your generous donations to the 2016-2017 Boland Fund

# GEO LINK POST

**USGS TAPESTRY OF TIME AND TERRAIN** <http://tapestry.usgs.gov> The CCGS is donating to all of the 5th and 6th grade schools in the Coastal Bend. Check it out—it is a spectacular map. You might want a framed one for your own office. The one in my office has glass and a metal frame, and it cost \$400 and it does not look as good as the ones we are giving to the schools. Call Owen 510-6224 if you want one for your office for \$150. Duncan, Mike, Chris, Dave, Bob Randy, Seb., Kevin, Ken, Craig, Patrick, Robert.

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<http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html> Astronomy picture of the day — awesome. I click this page everyday.

<http://www.spacimaging.com/gallery/ioweek/iow.htm> Amazing satellite images. Check out the gallery.

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[www.ermapper.com](http://www.ermapper.com) They have a great free downloadable viewer for TIFF and other graphic files called ER Viewer.

[www.drillinginfo.com](http://www.drillinginfo.com) This is an incredible (subscription) well and completion data service for independents. Can be demo'ed for free.

<http://terraserver.com/> Go here to download free aerial photo images that can be plotted under your digital land and well data. Images down to 1 meter resolution, searchable by Lat Long coordinate. Useful for resolving well location questions.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnl/volcanocams/msh/> This is a live cam of Mt. St. Helens refreshed every 5 minutes. At the bottom are old videos of past eruptions in this cycle. It is worth a watch especially now.



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(Note: Please contact Steve Walkinshaw at (601) 607-3227 or mail@visionexploration.com for details concerning placing your ad on the MGS web site.)

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

190 EAST CAPITOL STREET SUITE 100 JACKSON, MS 39201  
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## Energy Land Services

Oil & Gas Leases

**I. Meade Hufford, CPL**

Owner

P. O. Box 302  
144 Wharton Grove Ln  
Weems, VA 22576

Phone: 804-438-5852

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# MGS PAST PRESIDENTS

1939-1940	Henry N. Toler	1973-1974	Larry Walter
1940-1941	Urban B. Hughes	1974-1975	W. E. "Gene" Taylor
1941-1942	J. Tom McGlothlin	1975-1976	Jerry E. Zoble
1942-1943	Dave C. Harrell	1976-1977	P. David Cate
1943-1944	K. K. "Bob" Spooner	1977-1978	Sarah Childress
1944-1945	L. R. McFarland	1978-1979	Les Aultman
1945-1946	J. B. Story	1979-1980	Philip R. Reeves
1946-1947	Frederic F. Mellen	1980-1981	Marshall Kern
1947-1948	H. Lee Spyres	1981-1982	Stephen Oivanki
	Robert D. Sprague	1982- 1983	James W. "Buddy" Twiner
1948-1949	Robert D. Sprague	1983- 1984	Charles H. Williams
1949-1950	E. T. "'Mike" Monsour	1984- 1985	C. Kip Ferns
1950-1951	J. Tate Clark	1985-1986	Steven S. Walkinshaw
	Charles E. Buck	1986-1987	J. R. "'Bob" White
1951-1952	George W. Field	1987-1988	Harry Spooner
1952-1953	James L. Md11in, Jr.	1988-1989	Stanley King
1953-1954	Wilbur H. Knight	1989-1990	Stan Galicki
1954-1955	A. Ed Blanton	1990-1991	E. James Files, Jr.
1955-1956	Gilbert A. Talley	1991-1992	Stephen L. Ingram, Sr.
1956-1957	Ben Ploch	1992-1993	Michael Noone/Stanley King
1957-1958	Emil Monsour	1993-1994	Brian Sims
1958-1959	Charles Brown	1994-1995	C. W. "Neil" Barnes
1959-1960	M. F. Kirby	1995-1996	Lester Aultman
1960-1961	Rudy Ewing	1996-1997	Jack S. Moody
1961-1962	Xavier M. Franscogna	1997-1998	George B. Vockroth
1962-1963	Robert B. Ross	1998-1999	Rick L. Ericksen
1963-1964	William A. Skees	1999-2000	Stanley King
	Marvin Oxley	2000-2001	John C. Marble
1964-1965	James F. Bollman	2001-2002	Andrew T. Sylte
1965-1966	Sankey L. Blanton	2002-2003	Aaron Lasker
1966-1967	Alan Jackson	2003-2004	John G. Cox
1967-1968	Julius M. Ridgway	2004-2005	James E. Starnes
1968-1969	Edward D. Minihan	2005-2006	Todd Hines
1969-1970	Kevin E. Cahill	2006-2007	Bob Schneeflock
1970-1971	John Lancaster	2007-2008	Tony Stuart
1971-1972	Larry Boland	2008-2009	Lisa Ivshin
1972-1973	Charles Barton	2009-2010	Joe Johnson
		2010-2011	Brian Sims
		2011-2012	Stanley King
		2012-2013	Jim Files
		2013-2014	Neil Barnes
		2014-2015	Ezat Heydari
		2015-2016	Jack Moody