



# eBULLETIN

## MISSISSIPPI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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**SPEAKER - DR. ERNEST A. MANCINI**

**Improved Oil Recovery from Upper Oxfordian Microbial Carbonate and Grainstone-Packstone Reservoirs through Strategic In-Fill Drilling and Secondary Water Flood and Gas Injection Methodologies in Mature Fields, Onshore Northeastern Gulf of Mexico, USA**

**RICK ERICKSEN**

**MSBRPG News**

**DR. DAVID T. DOCKERY**

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**News - IBA**



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# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*Neil Barnes*

Greetings!

After what seems like an unusually long winter it feels like Spring is upon us. That said, no doubt there will be another cold snap to challenge the early flowering plants.

It feels like the MGS calendar took a lull during that time as well. It really didn't, however. We had a great talk by Dr. David Dockery at last month's regular luncheon. Just looking at some of his slides of outcrops that we can drive to reminded me how long it's been since I've actually been on a field trip. Let's plan a trip for next year. Any suggestions?

I had the privilege of giving a "Brown Bag Lunch" talk to the Department of Geosciences at Mississippi State on February 28<sup>th</sup>. I had a great time. It was well attended which I attribute to the free pizza that was provided. The talk had nothing to do with geology per se'. I had been told the students were interested in what a geologist did. I reviewed my career path – my educational background (a psychology major for my first two years of college!); where I worked, including the very stimulating and enjoyable time working outside of industry in the mid 90's; and what my jobs entailed. I plotted that on a timeline. Then I showed them the history of oil prices and rig's working! At the end of the day my messages were that being a petroleum geologist was a wonderful career but it required that they be responsible for themselves – there is a continuing need to remain current in their training. And it was their own responsibility; their current degree was the beginning of their lifelong learning not the end. Since the Department Geosciences includes GIS (Geographic Information Systems), which I highly value, I also had fun playing a game I'll just call "the value of location." Ask me about it sometime.

As I write this the Mississippi State University Imperial Barrel Award Team is finishing up their preparations for the competition which will be held shortly. They are working very hard and learning a lot. Most of us recognize that "learning a lot" often means there's a lot of pain and suffering going on. It's no less true for them. They have been provided a database in a foreign land. The data contains some seismic and some wells. Their task is to explore that area and present their findings including any potential. Future generations of MSU IBA Teams will owe a debt of gratitude to this first team. They are leading the way.

I am reminded of my own experience in Petroleum Geology class. On one occasion we were tasked with making a cross section and given logs. Having never made a cross section with logs before I did what I thought reasonable. I purchased what was likely a whole roll of graph paper and proceeded to make essentially a 1:1 cross section. I carried this to class having accomplished my task. Some of my peers were familiar with the industry. They'd gotten their logs to a reduced scale and fit the whole cross section, at an exaggerated scale, on a modest size sheet of paper. Not that these things matter but I was embarrassed. There is no substitute for experience! The IBA Team is boldly getting some experience. There are plenty of students who would greatly appreciate you sharing your stories with them. Volunteer to give a Brown Bag Talk at State or participate in the Society's initiative to proactively engage the geology departments at USM, Jackson State, Millsaps, Ole Miss or State!

Please remember to come out to the luncheon on Thursday the 13th. Our friend, Dr. Ernie Mancini will be our speaker. His talk is entitled "Improved Oil Recovery from Upper Oxfordian Microbial Carbonate and Grainstone-Packstone Reservoirs through Strategic In-Fill Drilling and Secondary Water Flood and Gas Injection Methodologies in Mature Fields, Onshore Northeastern Gulf of Mexico, USA". I am sure there is some revenue hiding in this talk somewhere! I am sure he will also tell us about the planned Research Conference scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup> in Tuscaloosa: Critical Factors for Future Oil and Gas Development in Alabama: Resource Availability and Accessibility, Application Of Existing and New Technologies, Environmentally Responsive Methodologies, and Economic Feasibility.

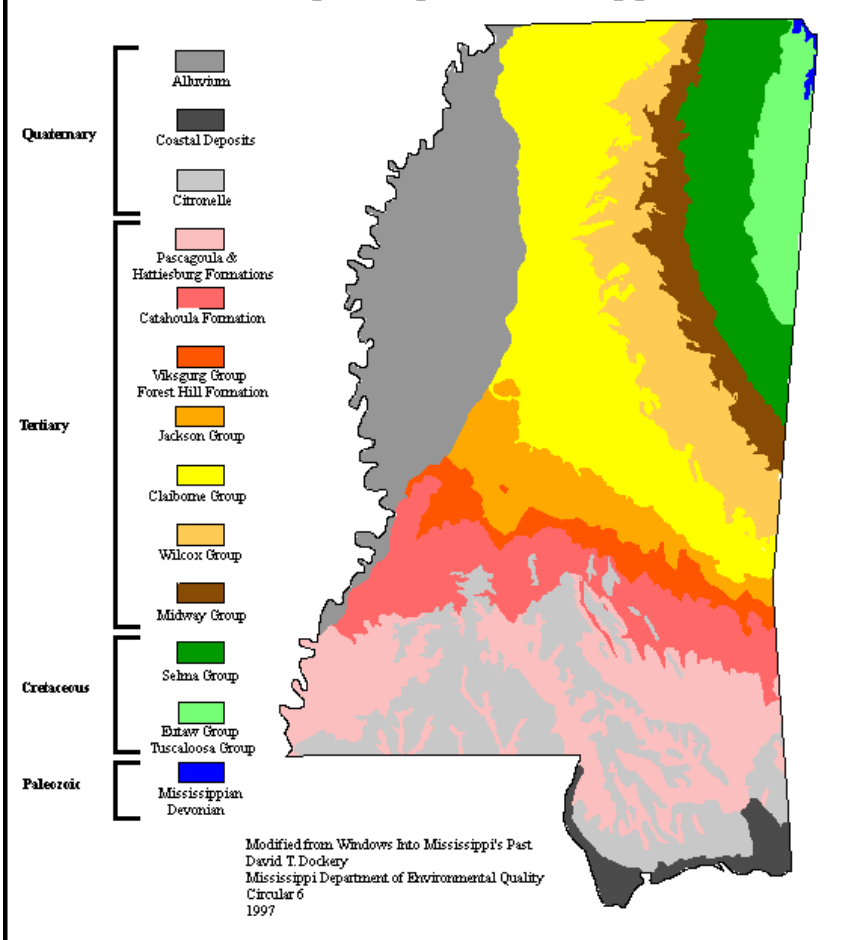
Until next time,

Neil

# 2013-2014 MGS MEETING SCHEDULE

When	What/Who	Where
September 12, 2013	Fall BBQ	Jackson Yacht Club-5:30pm
October 10, 2013	Steve Craft Recent Activity: Smackover South Alabama	River Hills – 11:30am
November 22, 2013	M SOGB	River Hills – 11:30am
December 14, 2013	MAPL Christmas Party and Dance	Duling Hall, Fondren District 7:00pm
January 9, 2014	John Ryan HydroFracking - Mississippi Operators	River Hills – 11:30am
February 13, 2014	Dr. David Dockery Climate Change	River Hills – 11:30am
<b>March 13, 2014</b>	<b>Dr. Ernest A. Mancini</b>	<b>River Hills – 11:30am</b>
April 10, 2014	Boland Scholarship Awards	River Hills – 11:30am
May 8, 2014	Spring Fling	Jackson Yacht Club– 5:30pm

## Generalized Geologic Map of Mississippi



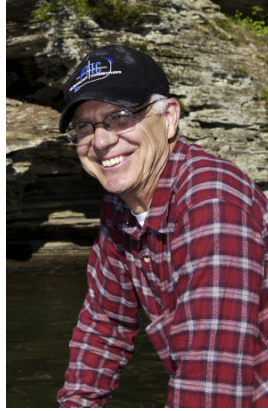
## OFFICERS MEETINGS

August 4, 2013
September 10, 2013
October 8, 2013
November 20, 2013
December 12, 2013
January 7, 2014
February 11, 2014
<b>March 11, 2014</b>
April 8, 2014
May 6, 2014



# JANUARY SPEAKER

*Ernest A. Mancini*



## **Ernest A. Mancini**

Ph.D., Texas A&M University, 1974

M.S., Southern Illinois University, 1972

B.S., Albright College, 1969

## **Improved Oil Recovery from Upper Oxfordian Microbial Carbonate and Grainstone-Packstone Reservoirs through Strategic In-Fill Drilling and Secondary Water Flood and Gas Injection Methodologies in Mature Fields, Onshore Northeastern Gulf of Mexico, USA**

Ernest A. Mancini, Sharbel Al Haddad, Moetaz Mostafa  
University of Alabama  
ExxonMobil, Houston, TX, United States  
Halliburton, Houston TX, United State

The application of the results from integrated case studies of mature fields to improve oil recovery from Upper Oxfordian microbial carbonate and grainstone-packstone reservoirs in the onshore northeastern Gulf of Mexico, USA, indicates that the productive life of mature fields (Appleton, Little Cedar Creek and Womack Hill) can be extended and additional oil recovered economically by utilizing strategic in-fill drilling and secondary water flood and gas injection methodologies. The field-wide reservoir development strategies were formulated by analyzing sedimentary, petrophysical and fluid flow characteristics, developing 3-D geologic reservoir models, conducting reservoir simulations and evaluating hydrocarbon productivity. Petroleum traps as interpreted are: Appleton-combination structural including basement paleohighs and stratigraphy, Little Cedar Creek-stratigraphic involving facies changes, and Womack Hill-structural involving faulted salt anticline. The petroleum seal rocks include overlying anhydrite, lime mudstone and shale beds. The microbial carbonate reservoir is subtidal thrombolitic boundstone formed in association with microbial buildups. These buildups developed in clusters with distribution in Appleton Field being controlled by pre-Jurassic paleotopography. The microbial boundstone beds have high potential as hydrocarbon flow units; however, the buildup areas are separated by inter-buildup areas characterized by lower permeability that results in potential baffles or barriers to flow. Boundstone porosity consists of depositional constructed void (intraframe); and diagenetic solution-enhanced void and vuggy and intercrystalline dolomite pore types. This pore system generally provides higher permeability, connectivity and productivity than the grainstone-packstone pore system. The ooid and peloid grainstone-packstone reservoir facies accumulated in carbonate shoal (Appleton and Womack Hill fields) and bank (Little Cedar Creek Field) settings. These shallow-water marine carbonate buildups are comprised of wackestone-packstone-grainstone sequences that clearly developed in association with paleotopography in Appleton Field. Porosity includes primary interparticle; and secondary solution-enhanced interparticle, intraparticle, vuggy and grain moldic and intercrystalline dolomite pore types. Grainstone-packstone facies serve as potential hydrocarbon flow units, and wackestone and lime mudstone facies act as potential baffles or barriers to flow.



# NEWS

## MGS WEBSITE

### Members

Please take the time to visit us on our website. You can view current and previous bulletins, update your address, access local and regional organizations, well records/data, oil and gas boards, neighboring societies and upcoming events. There are also several links to interesting articles and papers.

[www.missgeo.com](http://www.missgeo.com)

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The Mississippi Geological Society

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**Welcome To The MGS Website!**

**Don't Miss The  
MGS Noon Luncheon  
River Hills Club  
January 9, 2014  
Speaker: John Ryan  
Allen Engineering and Science  
Topic:  
"Hydrofracking: Are Mississippi Operators  
And E&P Professionals Prepared  
For the Environmental Risk?"  
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January 28-29](#)  
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February 20](#)  
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Plays & Extensions Workshop  
February 24-26](#)

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# MSBRPG NEWS

*Rick Ericksen, RPG, CPG*

## **Informational Update on the Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists - The Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®) Exams and the ASBOG Foundation**

This past Friday, the board administered 19 Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and 5 Practice of Geology (PG) exams. We have been administering the national, geologic competency exams since the spring of 1999 (ASBOG®, is the acronym of the Association of State Boards of Geology, the organization that developed, maintains, and continuously updates the national geologic competency exams that are administered in every state that has geologic licensure/registration). Of those taking the FG exams, many were students from Ole Miss, USM, and MSU as all of those institutions require their students to take the FG as an Assessment/Exit exam prior to graduation. Millsaps College also participates and encourages its students in its Environmental Geology career path to also take the exam. Over the years this board has been administering the exams, Millsaps College has graciously allowed the use of one of its classrooms to administer the exams - with that said, we wish to extend our thanks to both Dr. Jamie Harris and Dr. Stanley Galicki for allowing this.

Related to the ASBOG® exams, members of the board and staff have been involved with the leadership of the ASBOG® organization over the past decade and a half and that involvement has now been extended to a sister organization that was organized to help with the work of ASBOG®. The following is a synopsis of the *ASBOG Foundation* that companies, professional organizations, and individuals are encouraged to consider.

### **What is the *ASBOG Foundation* ?**

The *ASBOG Foundation* was formed in 2007 to provide the opportunity for sponsorships that are fully deductible as an ordinary business or trade expense in support of quality national geology/geoscience examinations. This *ASBOG Foundation* provides support for the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®) and its activities.

### **Tax Classification of *ASBOG Foundation***

The *ASBOG Foundation* is exempt from income taxation under the Internal Revenue Code section 501(c) 6. Accordingly, sponsorships are not donations and are not tax deductible as a gift or donation but as a pre-tax business expense. Although the *ASBOG Foundation* believes that sponsorships are fully deductible as an ordinary business or trade expense, we recommend that you consult your accounting department or your tax professional regarding any circumstances that would affect you differently.

### **What is the objective of the *ASBOG Foundation* ?**

The objective of the *ASBOG Foundation* is to support the development and administration of the national geology examinations through the establishment of an endowment. The national geology examinations are currently required for licensure in 30 states and one US territory.

### ***ASBOG Foundation* provides support for:**

Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to develop, review, and evaluate the examinations with appropriate specific geological expertise, areas of practice and geographic representation to develop, review, and evaluate



# MSBRPG NEWS

*Rick Ericksen, RPG, CPG*

the examinations. The professionals who prepare the geoscience examination questions must be the very best in the profession. Our first objective is to provide support money to ASBOG<sup>®</sup> to defray Council of Examiners Workshops costs.

Most recently the *ASBOG Foundation* has committed its financial support for the development of the Curriculum Performance Assessment Tool (CPAT). CPAT, via ASBOG<sup>®</sup> and the *ASBOG Foundation* will initially be made available from a secure Internet web site at no cost to all U.S. universities and colleges who use the ASBOG<sup>®</sup> Fundamentals of Geology (FG) exam as an Assessment/Exit examination for graduating senior-level geology/geoscience students whereby these institutions can further assess their geoscience programs.

## **Purpose and Goals of the *ASBOG Foundation***

- Help defray cost of geology/geoscience examinations
- Facilitate participation by qualified individuals in ASBOG<sup>®</sup> Council of Examiners (COE) Workshops
- Develop financial “sponsors” for the *ASBOG Foundation*
- Sponsorship monies for unfunded or under-funded Council of Examiners (COE) Support future activities such as additional ASBOG<sup>®</sup> participant travel and Examination Defense Fund
- Support development and implementation of the Curriculum Performance Assessment Tool (CPAT) for use by subscribing geoscience degree granting institutions.

## **Sponsorships**

I (individual or company) would like to become a sponsor of the *ASBOG Foundation* in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. The *Foundation* accepts checks and money orders. If you or your company wishes to become a sponsor using a check, please make your check payable to:

The *ASBOG Foundation*

Post Office Box 12711

Columbia, South Carolina 29211

The *Foundation* deposits all checks promptly and will send an acknowledgment of your sponsorship and a receipt for your tax records.

## **Payment By Credit/Debit Card**

We invite you to visit the *Foundation's* web site at [www.asbogfoundation.org](http://www.asbogfoundation.org) where one can point, click and GIVE! We have made it easy to be a recognized sponsor by making a sponsorship contribution to the *ASBOG Foundation*. With the help of PayPal ([www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com)) **you or your company can become an immediate Sponsor by clicking one of the pre-designated sponsorship amounts.**

**For further information on the *ASBOG Foundation*** you may contact me, Rick Ericksen at 601/354-6370 or e-mail at: [geology@msbrpg.state.ms.us](mailto:geology@msbrpg.state.ms.us)





# MONTHLY COLUMN

*Dr. David T. Dockery III*

## REAL GEOLOGY

I appreciated the encouraging words after my February MGS talk, especially as I was in the throes of an oncoming cold. The speaker's "plaque" with logo and date was also nice and a great idea (thanks Joe). Two or three of you told me this: "You're the real geologist. We spend our time working on prospects over a computer screen." Much of the "real geology" (i.e. field geology) at our office today is being done by David Thompson and James Starnes as they complete 7.5-minute surface geological maps. Oh, by the way, real geology, at least for the state, doesn't pay as much as looking at prospects on a computer screen. But, "real geology" is rewarding; I tell my Hinds C. C. Physical Geology classes that I look forward to going to work every day. Not everyone can say that. Our job gives us the opportunity to know more about Mississippi's geology than university professors and those in large consulting firms. When consultants get a job in Mississippi, they call us for information—we essentially do their work for them.

The following article was one of the two all-time favorites (judged by feedback) of those that I've published in MDEQ's newsletter. It was an ode to Kodachrome film at a time when Kodak announced that the popular film would be discontinued. One email response from the Office of Pollution Control's Air Division said, "Just wanted to let you know that I loved your article... Who knew Kodachrome film could be so interesting? I actually felt a little sad when I read that, as of this year, Kodachrome is no more.... Anyway, I'm just saying, if your words can make someone feel affection for a type of film, you could make someone love anything!" So, here is Mississippi's "real geology" (plus other things) as captured on Kodachrome film, published in the August 2009 edition of *Environmental News*.

## INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY CAPTURED IN KODACHROME

I began work with the Mississippi Geological Survey as summer-time help in 1968 as a driller's helper in drilling test holes for the Rankin County geology bulletin. My summer work continued until I finished graduate school and was hired fulltime in the summer of 1978. Photography has always been an important aspect of my job, even when working as a "sunbeam," as the summer help was called. Our publications were illustrated in black and white, and for this purpose the Survey's laboratory was turned into a darkroom for processing film and prints taken of fossils and field exposures. Many field pictures were taken also with 64-ASA Kodachrome and 100-, 200-, or 400-ASA Ektachrome color slide film and with Kodacolor or equivalent color negative film. Now MDEQ's Dallas Baker is requesting pictures that document the department's history. The Office of Geology (MOG) was ready for this occasion with a captioned image file of some 1,300 scanned slides and color negative films (created to use in a book on *The Geology of Mississippi*), some 800 scanned slides from the Geological Survey of Alabama, and 250 scanned slides from the Mississippi Petrified Forest. In the scanning process, color negatives were sometimes found to have a green or blue tint due to age and required much work in Photoshop to be of use, but even Photoshop could not bring back their original brilliance. Certain slide films had also changed in color and needed a little digital doctoring, but the Kodachrome slides were found to be in good condition.



# MONTHLY COLUMN

*Dr. David T. Dockery III*

Kodachrome film had a good reputation for its high resolution, lack of “graininess,” and as a good archive film before I first used it in 1970. Its fame was even more enhanced by Paul

*Kodachrome*

*They give us those nice bright colors*

*They give us the greens of summers*

*Makes you think all the worlds a sunny day, oh yeah*

*I got a Nikon camera*

*I love to take a photograph*

*So mama don't take my Kodachrome away*

Like Paul, by 1970 I was armed with my Nikon camera and Kodachrome film. In searching for my earliest Kodachrome slide for use in the article, I didn't find the greens of summer. The earliest Kodachrome slide I found was a picture of the noonday sun! (Figure 1) Why would I have done that?--Probably because I could. Kodachrome is a daylight film, and my Nikon camera had a shutter speed of 1000<sup>th</sup> of a second and a 55 mm macrolens with an f/ stop down to f/32.



Figure 1. The noonday sun photographed from the driveway of 4550 Manila Drive in Jackson, Mississippi. Picture (Kodachrome slide) taken in September of 1970.



# MONTHLY COLUMN

*Dr. David T. Dockery*

On May 30, 1984, I once again took a picture of the sun, this time with my Nikon camera and a 135 mm lens and, of course, Kodachrome film. It was a day when geologists with Mississippi Geological Survey joined astronomy buffs at Flint Creek Water Park near Wiggins, Mississippi, to see an annular eclipse of the sun (Figures 2-3). Figure 3 is a composite of eight pictures I took with the 135 mm lens (not a telescope) just before, during, and after the moment of total eclipse.



Figure 2. Astronomy buffs with a video camera projecting image of solar eclipse to a screen shaded inside a cardboard box at Flint Creek Water Park. Picture (Kodachrome slide) taken with a 135 mm lens focused on the screen with the eclipse image on May 30, 1984.

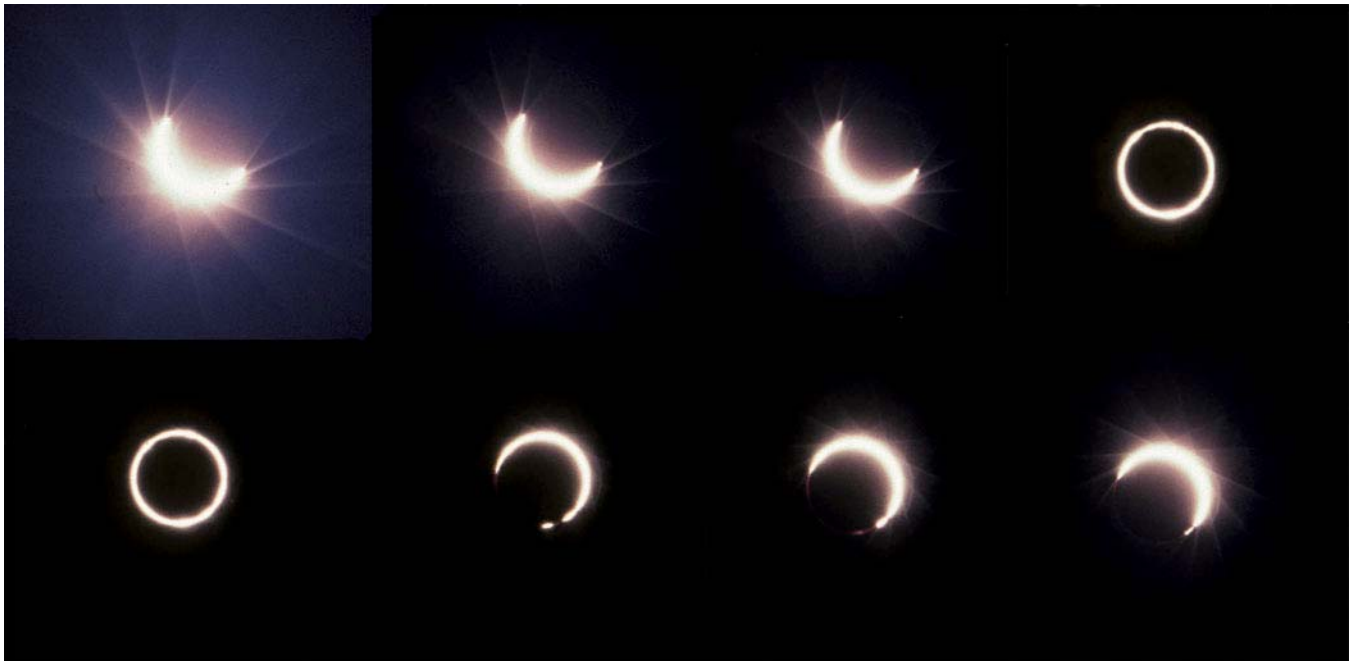


Figure 3. Progression of the 1984 annular eclipse of the sun taken at Flint Creek Water Park with a 135 mm lens. Picture (Kodachrome slide composite) taken on May 30, 1984.



# MONTHLY COLUMN

*Dr. David T. Dockery*

I used Kodachrome film in Figure 4 to capture my experience as a driller's helper in Smith County in the hot summer of 1971.



Figure 4. Randy Warren (driller at left), Ed Luper (geologist in middle), and Jim May (geologist at right) drilling test holes in Smith County, Mississippi. Picture (Kodachrome slide) taken in August of 1971.

Figures 5-8 record an important field trip to east-central Mississippi led by Wylie Poag, an internationally known expert on the Chickasawhay and Paynes Hammock formations of Mississippi and Alabama, and Jim May, who wrote the Wayne County geology bulletin. More recently in 2002, Wylie Poag distinguished himself in publishing the finding of a meteor crater under Chesapeake Bay in the journal *Geology*. The field-trip pictures show even small details such as fossil shells littering the ground at a site in Newton, Mississippi (Figure 5), and the varied colors of the strata at that same Newton site (Figure 6). In Figure 7, Wylie Poag is showing one of his fossil sites in the Chickasawhay Formation at Waynesboro, Mississippi, while, in Figure 8, Jim May is pointing to his Wayne County Geologic Map to show that he had correctly mapped the geology at the site where they are standing.



# MONTHLY COLUMN

*Dr. David T. Dockery*



Figure 5. Jim May (left) and Wylie Poag (right) looking at fossil shells in the Cook Mountain Formation near the intersection of I-20 and Highway 15 at Newton, Mississippi. Picture (Kodachrome slide) taken on July 28, 1975.



Figure 6. Emmett Adams (left) and Jim May (right) looking for fossil shark teeth in the Cook Mountain Formation near the intersection of I-20 and Highway 15 in Newton, Mississippi. Picture (Kodachrome slide) taken on July 28, 1975.



# MONTHLY COLUMN

*Dr. David T. Dockery*



Figure 8. Jim May points to the location they are standing on his geologic map in the Wayne County geology bulletin to show that he correctly mapped the limestone newly exposed in the area. Looking at the map is Emmett Adams (front) and Wylie Poag, with David Williamson at right. Picture (Kodachrome slide) taken on July 28, 1975.

The Eastman Kodak Company announced on June 22, 2009, that it was ending the production of Kodachrome film, citing declining demand. Only one certified Kodak facility remains that processes Kodachrome film in the United States; this facility will continue processing the film until the end of the year. Over its 74-year run from 1935 to 2009, Kodachrome film has been appreciated in the archival and professional market for its color accuracy and dark-storage longevity. This film was used by photographer Steve McCurry when in 1984 he took the well-known portrait of Sharbat Gula, the “Afghan Girl,” which appeared on the cover of the June 1985 issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*. It also appeared on the magazine’s April 2002 cover, where the editor billed it as “the most famous picture in our magazine’s 114-year history.” The girl’s sea-green haunting eyes attracted the world’s attention to the plight of Afghan women and helped create the National Geographic Girl’s Education and Training Center in Kabul, which opened in October of 2002.



# MONTHLY COLUMN

*Dr. David T. Dockery*

A year before Steve McCurry took his famous portrait of the “Afghan Girl,” I took my Nikon camera and Kodachrome film on a fossil-collecting expedition to France, where, using a 135 mm portrait-suitable lens, I also took a picture of a green-eyed subject. It was not a portrait of a French girl, but of a school teacher of Dutch-Bohemian-English descent, my wife Mary, holding her bag of fossils beside a Scottish thistle (the national emblem of Scotland) at the famous Le Guépelle locality (Figure 9)



Figure 9. Mary Dockery standing beside a Scottish thistle (the national emblem of Scotland) with her fossil collecting bag at a Bartonian Eocene sand pit at Le Guépelle, France. Picture (Kodachrome slide) taken with a 135 mm lens on July 17, 1983.

I focused the 135 mm lens on Mary and the thistle, leaving the background a little hazy and giving the picture a three dimensional appearance. Last year an international petition was sent out to save the Le Guépelle site from encroaching development. For 200 years, Le Guépelle had been an important collecting site for fossils of the Late Eocene Bartonian Stage. When a French colleague (Luc Dolin) sent the petition to me, I was ready with a signature and a picture.

You are cordially invited to the  
Sixth Annual Shreveport Geological Society  
Geology and Wine Dinner

***The Geology and Wine  
of Eastern France***

**Champagne, Alsace, Burgundy, and Rhône**

**April 11, 2014**

**Petroleum Club of Shreveport, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor**

Champagne – 6:30 p.m.

Presentations and Dinner – 7 p.m.

with presentations by

**Kevin Hill, geophysicist**

and featured guest speaker

**Clive Coates, Master of Wine**

one of the world's leading wine authorities  
also signing his new book *My Favorite Burgundies*

Five courses, seven wines - \$85 per person

Seating is limited to the first 100 paid reservations

Tables of eight are available

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Call 318-221-3329 for more information.





# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## NEWS

### Updates

The schedule for Brown Bag talks given in the Department of Geosciences at Mississippi State University is listed below. These short talks are given on Fridays during lunchtime by students, professors, and industry experts in the geosciences field. Erik Larson schedules the roster and can be contacted via email [ebl47@msstate.edu](mailto:ebl47@msstate.edu) if you are interested in giving a presentation. A special thank you to Neil Barnes, the President of the Mississippi Geological Society, for his entertaining and informative presentation on how to become a more marketable geoscientist in preparation for employment in the oil industry, along with the importance of becoming GIS proficient.

February 28: Mississippi Geologic Society, Neil Barnes: A Mélange of Geologic and GIS Topics

March 7: Imperial Barrel Award Practice Presentation

-----Spring Break March 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>-----

March 21<sup>st</sup> Barrett Gutter

March 28<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Geological Society

April 4<sup>th</sup> Dr. Adam Skarke

April 11<sup>th</sup> Dr. Kathy Sherman-Morris

April 25<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Geological Society

The Geosciences Department at Mississippi State University has set the goal of obtaining six workstations so that courses such as Sedimentology, Structural Geology, and a new IBA course can include exercises using industry software. These lab exercises will be designed to give students hands-on experience with real software and real data sets. Financial contributions to this effort can be made through the MSU Foundation, <http://msufoundation.com/s/811/give/start.aspx>. Please designate in the memo line for the Geosciences Technology Fund. Inquiries regarding donations of data suitable for beginning students can be directed to Dr. Brenda Kirkland at [BLK39@msstate.edu](mailto:BLK39@msstate.edu).



# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## NEWS

The Imperial Barrel Team is at it again! During their AAPG Shell Basin Analysis training course at Shell Headquarters in Houston they were introduced to the systematic procedures involved using various maps such as expulsion-migration, thermal maturation level, and well data that are necessary when choosing a drilling prospect.



The IBA team hard at work at Shell Headquarters performing a basin analysis (from left) Max Cooper, Ryan Travis, Michael Brooke, Benjamin Breland, and Johnathon Geroux.

Present at the training course were their competitors for the southeastern region: Louisiana State University, Auburn University, University of Alabama and University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Present at the training course were their competitors for the southeastern region: Louisiana State University, Auburn University, University of Alabama and University of Louisiana at Lafayette.



# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## *NEWS*

seismic lines, the full spectrum of well log information, and limited geochemical data, including, vitrinite reflectance. Over the past month the IBA team has been hard at work performing a play analysis of the Taranaki Basin in New Zealand. Software such as Petra (to correlate wells and pick formation tops) and OpendTect (to interpret the subsurface structure) are being used to manipulate the array of data. The learning curve has been steep but success will be achieved through persistent teamwork. On March 19<sup>th</sup> all the IBA teams for the southeastern region will head back to Houston where they will each give a 25-minute presentation the next day on their findings for their perspective basins to a panel of judges made up of oil industry experts. The regional winner will be chosen then to move on to the finals. Best of luck guys you can do it!



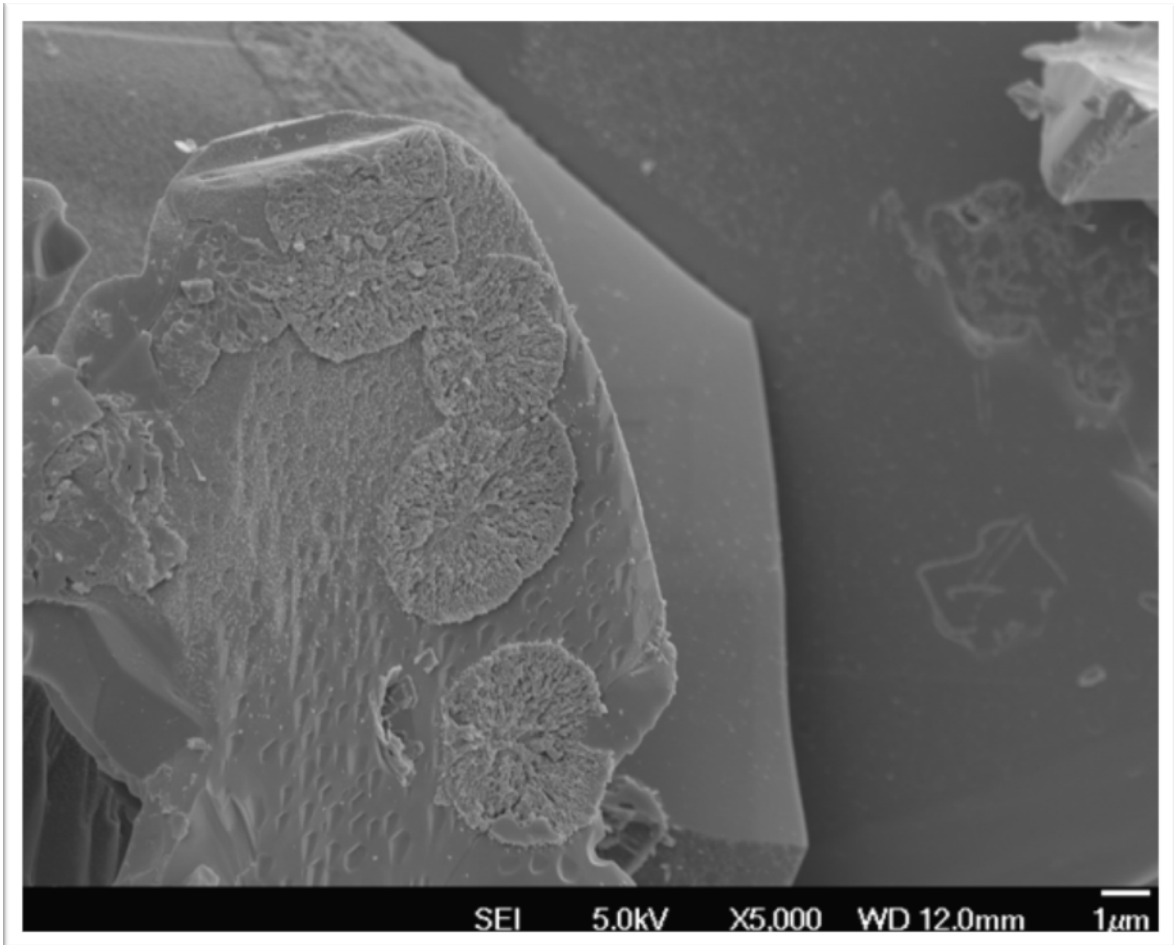
The IBA team receiving input on their progress from Neil Barnes, Dr. Brenda Kirkland and Dr. Darrel Schmitz.



# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## NEWS

### Interesting



This is an SEM image of well cuttings retrieved from the Cotton Valley Formation. Can you guess what you are looking at? Email your guesses to Michael Brooke at [jmb374@msstate.edu](mailto:jmb374@msstate.edu). The answer will be revealed in April's bulletin.



# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## NEWS

### Abstract

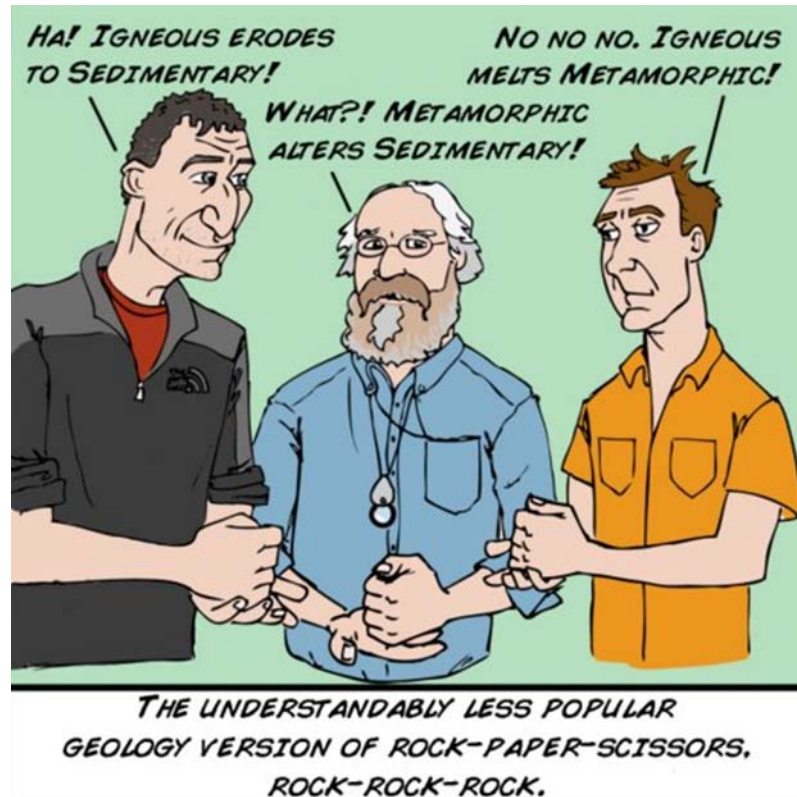
Did you know that with existing technologies, geothermal energy is a viable alternative in at least one county in Mississippi? Cary Lindsey completed her senior honors thesis, entitled "Geothermal Energy Potential In Oktibbeha County: Is Mississippi Really Hot?" in Spring 2013. Here is the abstract from her thesis:

"Geothermal energy is a clean, renewable, base load (always available) energy source. Advances in geothermal technology are making it possible to produce electricity at temperatures heretofore thought impossible. The last geothermal assessment of Mississippi was in 1976 and focused on extreme southern areas of the state. The conclusion of this assessment was positive, yet no further studies have been completed. Recent geothermal resource maps of Mississippi show the potential for thousands of megawatts of this unlimited energy source. This assessment focuses on Oktibbeha County in North Central Mississippi, an area of active fossil fuel production. Well logs were reviewed to gather bottom-hole temperatures, mathematically normalized, and used to create a thermal gradient map of the county. The map shows temperatures exceeding 160°C (beginning at depths of around 4,000 meters) well above the 135°C needed for geothermal binary production, in western Oktibbeha County."



# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## ROCK HUMOR

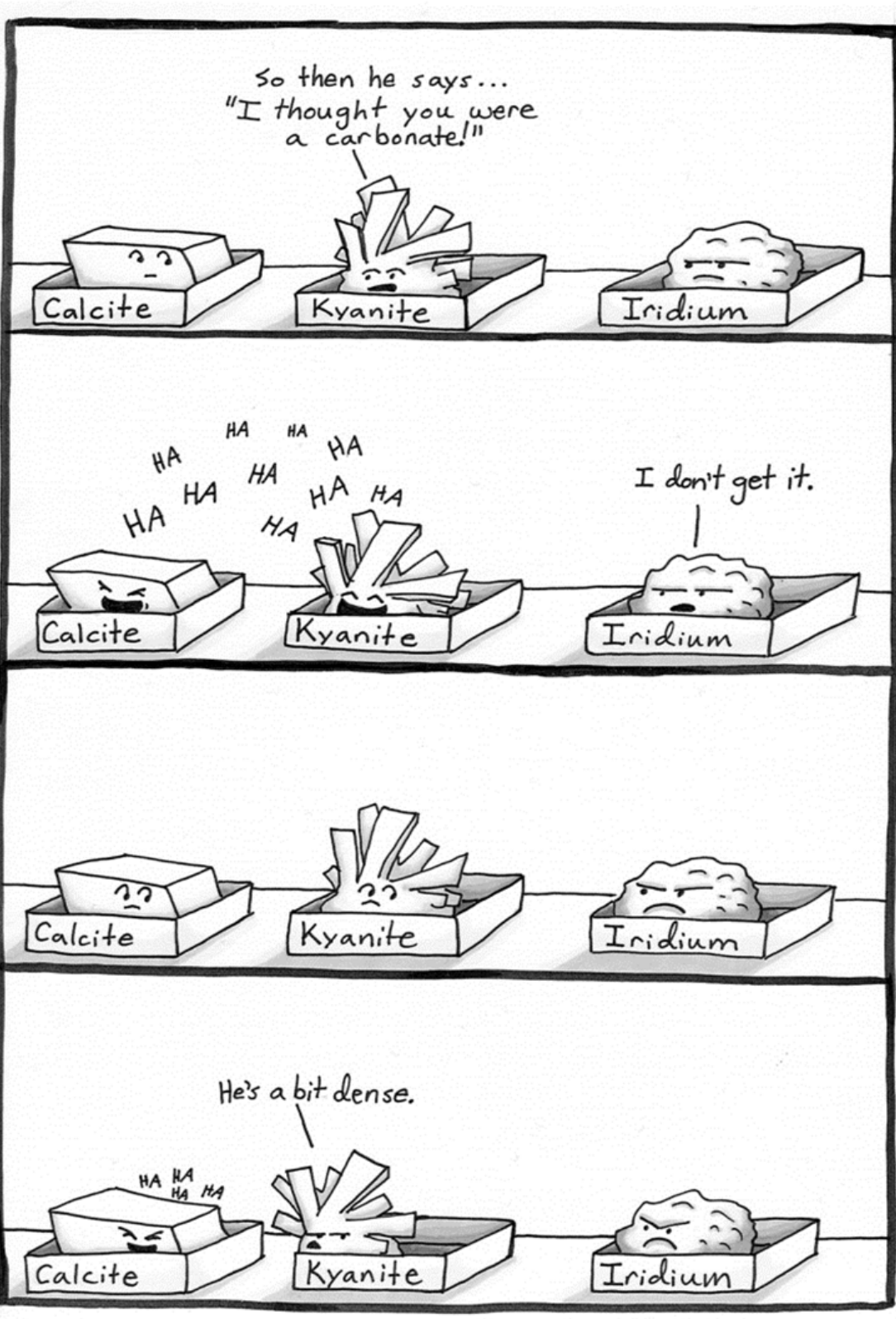


- What do you get when you mix sulfur, tungsten, and silver?  
SWAG
- What weapon can you make from the elements potassium, nickel and iron?  
A KNiFe
- What's wrong with a joke involving Cobalt, Radon, and Ytterium?  
It's CoRn Y
- What fruit contains Barium and double Sodium?  
BaNaNa



**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY**

***ROCK HUMOR***





# GRADUATE STUDENTS

The following is a preliminary list of current graduate students and their thesis work. I would encourage you to offer your knowledge and expertise and help our future geologists gain the experience they need as they move forward in their careers.

Name: David Luke Thompson

Email: [dlt168@msstate.edu](mailto:dlt168@msstate.edu)

Phone: 601-750-5497

Career Goal: mining industries and/or economic geology industries

Thesis Title: "Stratigraphy, Environments of Deposition, and Mineralogical Characterization of Heavy Minerals from Selected Cretaceous Formations of the Northern Mississippi Embayment"

Name: Ryan Travis

Email: [rtravis1123@gmail.com](mailto:rtravis1123@gmail.com) and [rwt85@msstate.edu](mailto:rwt85@msstate.edu)

Phone: [214-796-2443](tel:214-796-2443)

Career Goal: Hydrocarbon Industry

Thesis Title: Void Collapse as Related to Dissolution Megaporosity.

I am developing new collapse equations, based off of Loucks' (1999) Cave Collapse Model, to better understand and model paleokarst reservoirs.

I am also working on an ongoing research project with Dr. Jon Sumrall utilizing petrographic and geochemical tools to understand the diagenetic history of a paleosol collapse breccia on Aruba.

Name: Michael Brooke

Phone: 601-594-6309

Email: [jmb374@msstate.edu](mailto:jmb374@msstate.edu)

Thesis Title: A Sequence Stratigraphy of the Haynesville/ Bossier interval in Jefferson County, MS using SEM analysis. Interested in someone who has worked in the newer shale plays. Also information about the Burkley-Phillips #1 well will be greatly appreciated.

Name: Natalie Odegaarden

Phone: 601-826-3903

Email: [nao23@msstate.edu](mailto:nao23@msstate.edu) and [napsamai@yahoo.com](mailto:napsamai@yahoo.com)

I would like to focus my thesis on the Smackover Formation in the Jay Field. I need help locating a core and logs in order to perform correlation, sequence stratigraphy, depositional environment and thin section analysis to name a few.

Name: Claire E. Babineaux

Email: [ceb445@msstate.edu](mailto:ceb445@msstate.edu) and [clairegeobx@gmail.com](mailto:clairegeobx@gmail.com)

Thesis Title: Glass cullet as an alternative aggregate for beaches: an ecological compatibility and public opinion survey. Area of research: Coastal processes-- The research I do focuses on the ecological compatibility of glass cullet to natural beach sand. I will simulate a natural beach environment and determine what grows naturally on sand. Then I will simulate a beach environment in which the composition is 100% glass cullet and determine what will grow naturally on the glass cullet as compared to natural sand. During this process, I will also be monitoring how coastal grasses and native biota within each of the simulated environments in order to determine whether it is affected. Sample will be taken and analyzed using microscopes and SEM. I will also be doing a public opinion survey to determine whether the general public will accept glass on the beaches in areas in which they live or visit in Mississippi.

Name: Courtney Killian

Email: [ck695@msstate.edu](mailto:ck695@msstate.edu)

Phone: 724-549-3544

My thesis will be geared towards hydrology, groundwater and surface water interactions.





# GEOLOGY POST

## ARTICLES, PAPERS or NEWS?

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

I would like to add 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)

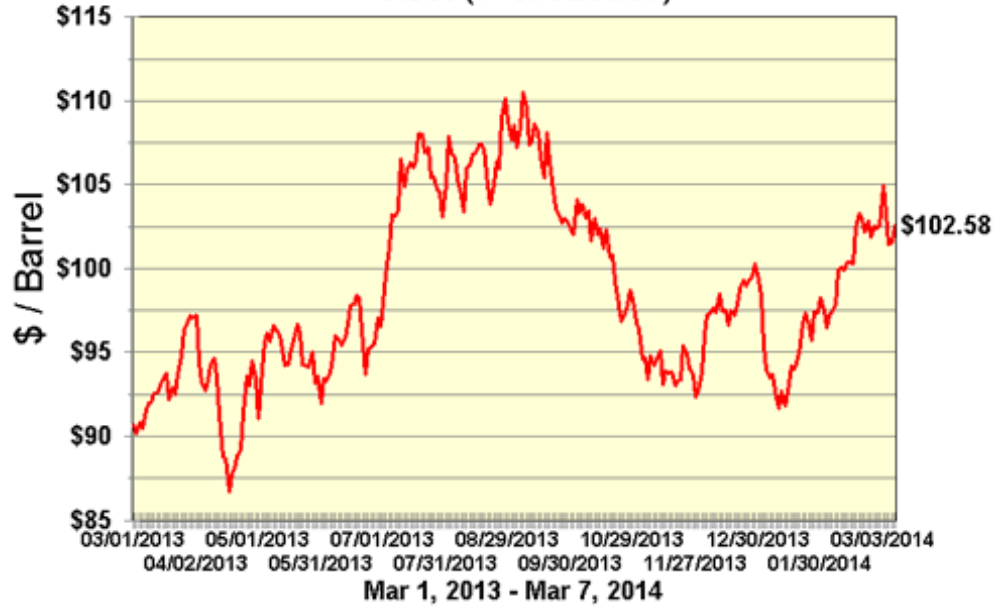
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# BOLAND SCHOLARSHIP WATCH

Faculty & Students,

The Mississippi Geological Society along with the Boland Scholarship Fund would like to remind you that we want to honor the most outstanding overall students for the 2013-2014 year.

Each year, the Boland Scholarship awards 1 student from each institution a check that rewards students for their hard work and dedication to the Geosciences and their community.

We look forward to a great year and hope to see you at our monthly meetings.

Best Regards,

Matt Caton  
Editor



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If you would like to make a donation please see Bill Bagnall at the monthly meeting or you can mail to the following address:

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# 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.

**FREE TEXAS TOPO'S** <http://www.tnris.state.tx.us/digital.htm> these are TIFF files from your state government that can be downloaded and printed. You can add them to SMT by converting them first in Globalmapper. Other digital data as well.

**FREE NATIONAL TOPO'S** [http://store.usgs.gov/b2c\\_usgs/b2c/start/\(xcm=r3standardpitrex\\_prd\)/.do](http://store.usgs.gov/b2c_usgs/b2c/start/(xcm=r3standardpitrex_prd)/.do) go to this webpage and look on the extreme right side to the box titled TOPO MAPS DOWNLOAD TOPO MAPS FREE.

<http://www.geographynetwork.com/> Go here and try their top 5 map services. My favorite is 'USGS Elevation Date.' Zoom in on your favorite places and see great shaded relief images. One of my favorites is the Great Sand Dunes National Park in south central Colorado. Nice Dunes.

<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.

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/seg/topo/globegal.shtml> More great maps to share with kids and students.

[www.geo.org](http://www.geo.org) Don't forget we have our own web page.

<http://micro.magneet.fsu.edu/primer/java/scienceoptiscu/owersof10/>

<http://asterweb.jpl.nasa.gov/galery/default.htm> Great satellite images of volcanoes

<http://terra.nasa.gov/gallery/> More here

[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://terrasrver.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/gpnf/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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1943-1944	K. K. "Bob" Spooner	1977-1978	Sarah Childress
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1945-1946	J. B. Story	1979-1980	Philip R. Reeves
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1949-1950	E. T. "'Mike" Monsour	1984- 1985	C. Kip Ferns
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		2010-2011	Brian Sims
		2011-2012	Stanley King
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