

Volume 59

No. 8

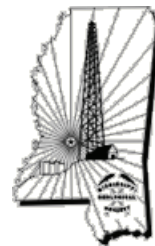
March 2011

MISSISSIPPI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY *eBulletin*



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Brian Sims

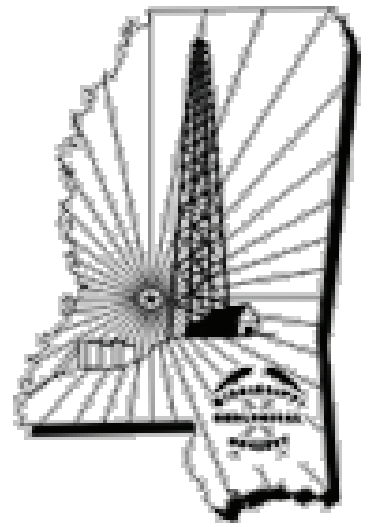
Fellow Members:

I apologize for not taking ~5 minutes out of my daily schedule to write you a monthly update on our society.

Please do not blame the editor for the slacking of my duties, because he sent me numerous reminders to do so.

Thanks,

The Editor (For Brian Sims)



MGS

In This Issue:

Meetings Schedule

Monthly Speaker Info

Rig count and gas spot prices

ROCKHAMMER CORNER

A Good Read

Lower SMK Symposium

Oil & Gas Fields of S. LA.

MGS Membership

Application

Members in good standing.

MGS Advertising Notice

**MGS Boland Scholarship
Fund**

MGS Honorary Members



MGS MEETING SCHEDULE

When	What/Who	Where
September 9, 2010	Fall BBQ	Jackson Yacht Club
October 7, 2010	Art Johnson: RECENT DISCOVERIES IN SOUTH LOUISIANA FIELDS REJUVENATE PRODUCTION	River Hills – 11:30am
November 11, 2010	Kevin Macumber: CO2 EOR project a Raleigh Field in Smith Co., MS	River Hills – 11:30am
December 4, 2010	Christmas Party and Dance	Colonial Country Club
January 13, 2011	Jack C. Pashin: Shale Gas Plays of the Black Warrior basin and the Appalachian Thrust Belt of Alabama	River Hills – 11:30am
February 10, 2011	Dan Tearpock– President, Division of Profes- sional Affairs: Professionalism/Ethics	River Hills – 11:30am
March 10, 2011	Lawrence R. Baria: A Status Report on Little Cedar Creek Field, Conecuh County, Alabama: The Largest Smackover Field Dis- covered in the Last 40 Years.	River Hills – 11:30am
April 7, 2011	Boland Scholarship Awards	River Hills – 11:30am
May 13, 2011	Spring Fling	Jackson Yacht Club



OFFICERS MEETINGS

August 27, 2010

September 1, 2010

September 28, 2010

November 3, 2010

December 1, 2010

January 5, 2011

February 2, 2011

March 3, 2011

April 6, 2011

May 4, 2011

MGS MARCH SPEAKER:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF LAWRENCE R. BARIA

After receiving a BS in Geology in 1967, Larry pursued a Masters Degree in stratigraphy and sandstone petrology at Northeast Louisiana University and PhD studies in carbonate facies, stratigraphy and sulfate diagenesis at Louisiana State University. In his early years he worked as a field geologist in Louisiana, Arkansas, Colorado and Alaska. After leaving LSU, he went to work for Getty Oil Company in their Exploration & Production Research Lab where he specialized in Cretaceous and Jurassic stratigraphy. In 1976 Larry moved to Jackson, Mississippi to work with Enserch Exploration in Jurassic and Cretaceous exploration of the eastern Gulf Coast. Since 1980 he has been a consulting geologist active in the generation of prospects within the Haynesville, Smackover and Norphlet Formations. In addition to generating prospects, Larry often consults with various companies active in Jurassic exploration in the Gulf Coast Region and the Middle East. Larry is currently on the graduate faculty at Ole Miss and the University of Alabama and he also serves on graduate thesis committees at Southern Mississippi, LSU and Mississippi State.

A Status Report on Little Cedar Creek Field, Conecuh County, Alabama,

The Largest Smackover Field Discovered in the Last 40 Years.

Lawrence R. Baria, Jura-Search Inc., P.O. Box 320426, Flowood, MS 39232; E-mail: bearlear@bellsouth.net, Telephone: 601-932-0002, Fax: 601-932-0820

Abstract:

Little Cedar Creek Field appears to be the largest Smackover field discovered in the Northern Gulf Coast Province in the last several decades. By January 2011, the field demonstrated an oil column of approximately 2100 feet, and extended along strike over sixteen miles in length.

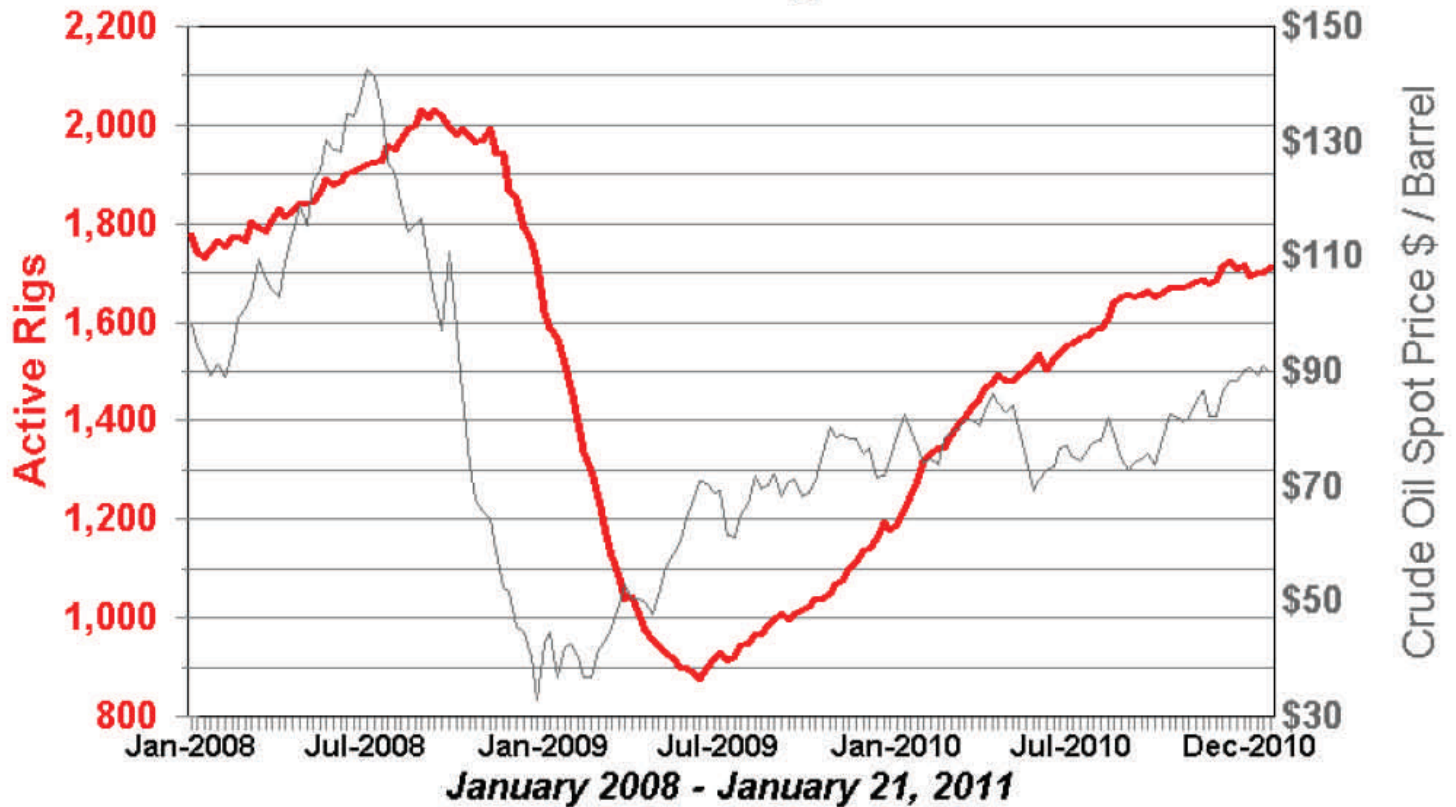
Two distinct reservoirs are recognized in the field. The lower reservoir consists of a microbial boundstone. Pellets, peloids, ostracods and foram tests were microbially and abiotically bound by micrite and fibrous cements to form a reefal character resulting in the preservation of framework porosity. Subsequent late Jurassic exposure added significant moldic porosity to enhance the reservoir storage capacity and permeability. This reservoir is overlain by a bioturbated peloid packstone lithofacies which forms the seal over the lower reservoir.

The upper reservoir consists predominantly of a cross-laminated ooid grainstone with intergranular, moldic, vuggy, and intercrystalline porosities. This reservoir grades upward into wackestones and packstones that occasionally show algal laminations. These gray and tan tight peritidal limestone facies become increasingly sandy (siliciclastic) and further grade upward into calcareous green and red shales of the lower Haynesville Formation.

Unlike virtually all other Smackover fields in the Eastern Gulf Coast, Little Cedar Creek does not possess a true Buckner anhydrite top seal. Although these stratal geometries and facies are not uncommon throughout the Smackover trend of southwestern Alabama, Little Cedar Creek Field is unique in that both of its reservoirs are composed predominantly of limestone, not dolomite, as is the case in most Smackover fields in this region.

Currently the field produces over 225,000 barrels per month, and since it's re-birth in 2004, has produced over 12.0 million barrels. Amazingly the field continues to expand in several directions, and today hosts over 90 producing wells.

U. S. Rotary Rig Count Total Active Rigs



WTRG Economics ©2011

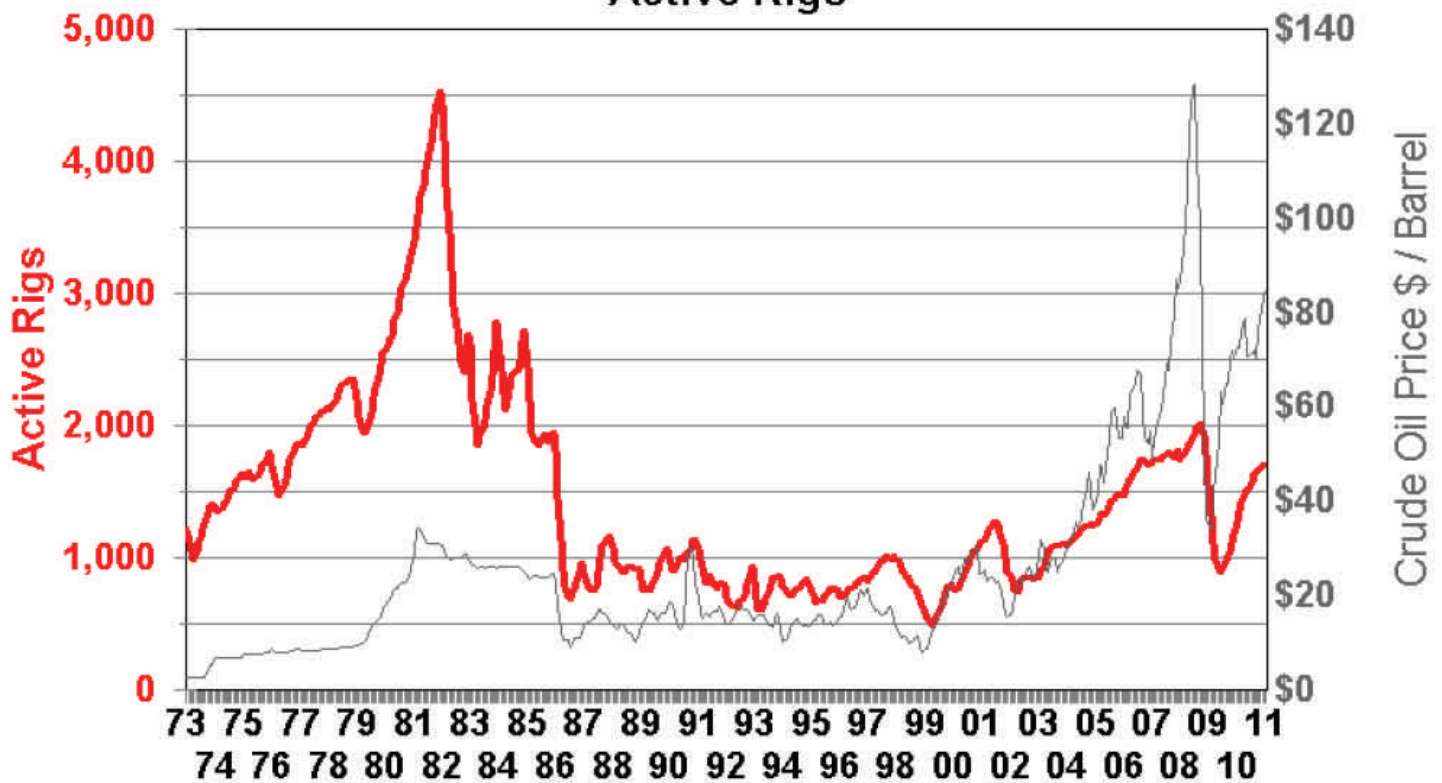
Sources: Baker-Hughes, Energy
Information Administration (DOE),
WTRG Economics

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TURN IT TO THE RIGHT!



U. S. Rotary Rig Count Active Rigs

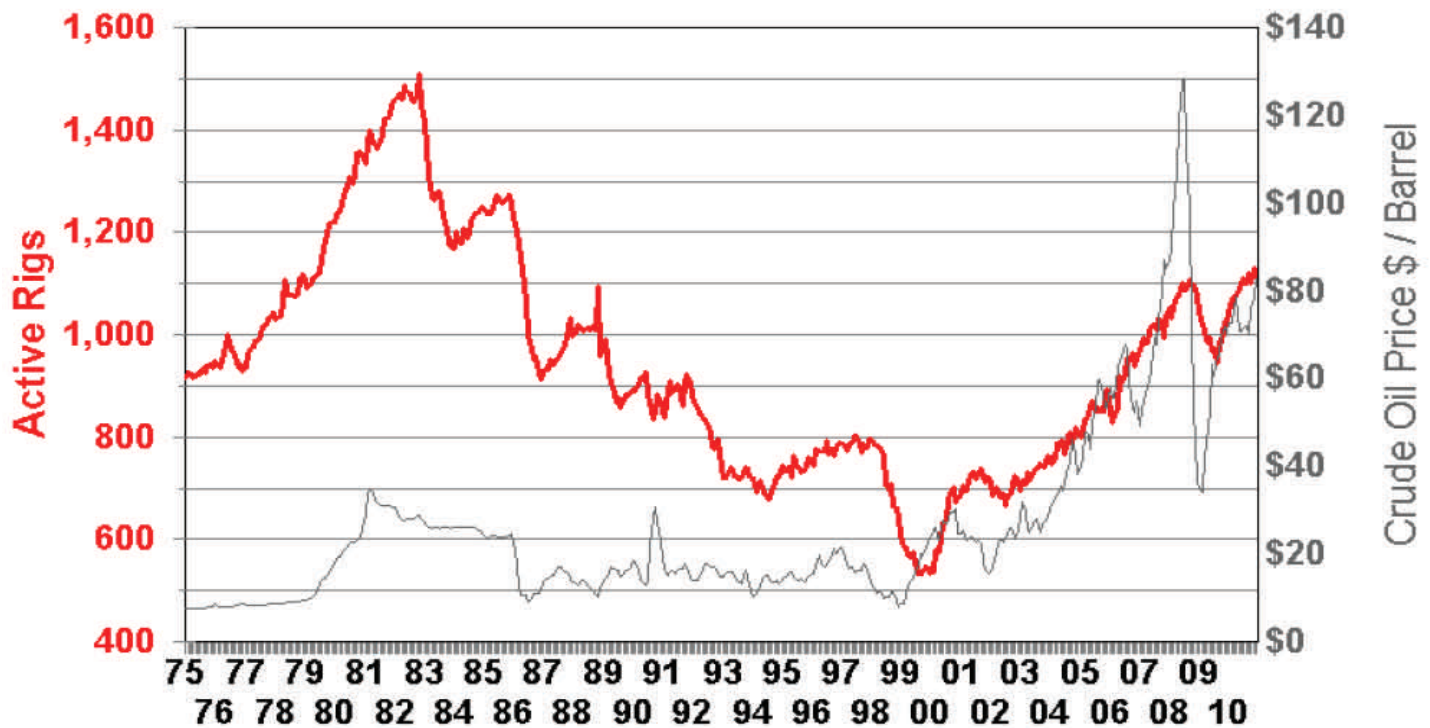


January 1973 - January 21, 2011

Sources: Baker-Hughes, Energy
Information Administration (DOE),
WTRG Economics

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Foreign Rotary Rig Count



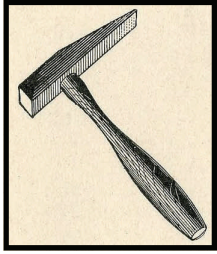
January 1975 - Dec. 2010

Sources: Baker-Hughes, Energy
Information Administration (DOE),
WTRG Economics

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North American Rig Count				Change		Percent Change	
	03/04/2011	02/25/2011	03/05/2010	Weekly	Annual	Weekly	Annual
Total U.S.	1,707	1,699	1,396	8	311	0.5%	22.3%
Offshore	25	25	44	0	(19)	0.0%	-43.2%
Land	1,682	1,674	1,352	8	330	0.5%	24.4%
Inland Waters	17	16	13	1	4	6.3%	30.8%
Oil	801	783	456	18	345	2.3%	75.7%
Percent	46.9%	46.1%	32.7%	0.8%	14.3%		
Gas	899	906	926	(7)	(27)	-0.8%	-2.9%
Percent	52.7%	53.3%	66.3%	-0.7%	-13.7%		
Directional	234	220	230	14	4	6.4%	1.7%
Horizontal	970	981	695	-11	275	-1.1%	39.6%
Vertical	503	498	471	5	32	1.0%	6.8%
Gulf of Mexico	25	25	42	0	-17	0.0%	-40.5%
Gulf Oil	4	4	24	0	-20	0.0%	-83.3%
Percent	16.0%	16.0%	57.1%	0.0%	-41.1%		
Gulf Gas	21	21	18	0	3	0.0%	16.7%
Percent	84.0%	84.0%	42.9%	0.0%	41.1%		
Canada	625	623	543	2	82	0.3%	15.1%
Oil	447	426	338	21	109	4.9%	32.2%
Percent	71.5%	68.4%	62.2%	3.1%	9.3%		
Gas	177	196	205	(19)	(28)	-9.7%	-13.7%
Percent	28.3%	31.5%	37.8%	-3.1%	-9.4%		
North America	2,332	2,322	1,939	10	393	0.4%	20.3%

ROCKHAMMER CORNER:



Why did the Geologist get expelled by the School House Marm?

.... he couldn't keep a clean slate!

Why was the Geologist expelled from Reform School?

... he was a dirty layer!

Why did the Geologist win top prize in the Military Prep School Parade?

... because he had that Drill down.

What state do Geologists live in?

...Ochrehoma.

Why did the Geologist win first place in the Braille contest?

...because he had a great Feeled Test.

What do a Geologist and a Clairvoyant have in common?

... they both are great Remote Sensing experts.



**STOP CONTINENTAL DRIFT!
IT IS DESTROYING THE OZONE LAYER,
CAUSING GLOBAL WARMING, AND RUINING
U.S. POLITICS!**

Peak oil notes - March 3

by Tom Whipple

Developments this week

The fighting in Libya continues to push oil prices higher with NY crude futures settling on Wednesday at \$102.23, the first settlement above \$100 since summer 2008. In London, Brent crude settled at \$116.35 a barrel after touching \$117.80. The situation in Libya appears to be moving towards a prolonged civil war, with the West unwilling to intervene militarily and neither the forces still loyal to Gadhafi nor the rebels having the strength to overcome the other. The IEA says as much as 1 million b/d of Libya's pre-uprising production of 1.6 million b/d is no longer being produced. Although a few tankers apparently are still leaving the country, much of the circa 1.3 million b/d of exports is no longer being shipped.

The Saudis announced that they have offered two European refiners additional cargoes of Arab Light crude for loading in March. Given that European refiners are facing shortfalls on the order of 30 million barrels or more per month due to the shut-in Libyan production, it is difficult to see the Saudis coming up with this much oil and getting it to European refiners on short notice. Most knowledgeable observers are skeptical that the Saudis can make up for the loss of the high-quality Libyan oil.

The weekly US stocks report showed a drop in US crude inventories of 364,000 barrels as opposed to a 750,000 barrel gain forecast by analysts. US gasoline inventories fell by 3.6 million barrels contributing to another rise in NY gasoline futures of 4.6 cents a gallon to close at \$3.03. Forecasts that average US gasoline prices will be above \$4 a gallon by the Fourth of July are now widespread. For now, however, US demand for oil products continues to run 1–2 percent above last year at 19.6 million b/d.

In addition to concerns that the fighting and reduction in oil production in Libya may be prolonged, concerns are rising over the possibility of domestic unrest in other Middle Eastern oil-producing countries. Websites are calling for a Saudi "Day of Rage" on March 11, and there are reports of demonstrators clashing with security forces in Tehran on Tuesday. In Oman, which produces nearly 900,000 b/d, the protests have spread to the capital. In Iraq, the country's largest refinery was badly damaged by a militant attack.

Newly released Chinese numbers show an 80-percent reduction in gasoil exports in January year over year. This suggests that Beijing is still concerned about diesel shortages developing during the spring planting season. Although some precipitation has fallen on China's winter wheat crop, the situation remains serious.

Shreveport Geological Society



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LOWER SMACKOVER SYMPOSIUM AND PANEL DISCUSSION

March 24, 2011
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Petroleum Club of Shreveport
15th Floor

**This one day program will focus on the Lower Smackover
of South Arkansas and North Louisiana.**

Ezat Heydari, "Everything You Wanted to Know About the Lower Smackover and
Were Afraid to Ask"

Roger Sassen, "The Smackover Environment of Deposition: Key to Source Rock
Richness in the greater Gulf of Mexico Salt Basin"

Larry Baria, "The Prolific Lower Smackover Reservoirs of Alabama; Will They Extend
into the ArkLaTex?"

A question and answer/panel discussion time will follow the talks.

Registration fee of \$75.00 includes continental breakfast, lunch, and handouts.

Attendance will be limited to the first 100 paid registrations.

Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email/Phone: _____

Please your completed registration and check made out to the Shreveport Geological Society to Shreveport Geological Society, P.O. Box 750, Shreveport, LA 71162.

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6 HOURS OF CLE CREDIT, INCLUDING 1 ETHICS HOUR, HAS BEEN APPLIED FOR WITH MISSISSIPPI & ALABAMA BARS

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DO YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE ICEBREAKER
ON THURSDAY EVENING?

Yes _____ No _____

Advance registration is \$125.00 (includes icebreaker on Thursday evening and lunch on Friday). Registration at the door on Friday is \$150.00. Icebreaker only is \$15.00. Make check payable to Mississippi Oil & Gas Law Seminar and mail to:

Mississippi Oil & Gas Law Seminar
c/o Troy Odom
Post Office Box 321423
Jackson, MS 39232

Fourteenth Triennial Mississippi Oil & Gas Law Seminar

Friday, April 29, 2011

Salon C

HILTON JACKSON

I-55 at County Line Road
Jackson, Mississippi 39211

SEMINAR PROGRAM & SCHEDULE

7:45 - 8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION (refreshments provided)

8:30 - 8:45 a.m. WELCOME

Troy Odom Seminar Co-Chairman -- Representing Mississippi Oil & Gas Lawyers Association

Forrest Hudson Seminar Co-Chairman -- Representing Mississippi Association of Petroleum Landmen

8:45 - 9:30 a.m. **Recent Developments in Mississippi Oil and Gas Law**

Watts Ueltschey Watts was admitted to the bar in 1975. He has represented a number of companies in the energy sector on a variety of matters, including handling disputes with land owners; preparation of mining, drilling and division order title opinions; transactions involving the purchase and sale of producing properties; acquisition of existing storage facilities; acquisition of surface and subsurface rights for the construction of storage facilities in salt domes; and obtaining regulatory authority for such facilities at the state level. Watts' litigation experience includes controversies over deed and lease construction, joint operating agreements, boundary line disputes and expiration of oil and gas leases on school lands. In addition to his oil and gas practice, Watts has been involved with issues involving hard minerals, including lignite and bentonite. He is a member of the Mississippi and Texas Bar Associations. He has also been a frequent speaker at seminars and is active in a number of civic organizations.

9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Recent Developments in Alabama Oil and Gas Law

John Tyra John is a graduate of the University of Alabama (B.S. 1975; J.D. 1980). His practice includes all aspects of oil, gas and energy law including conducting record title searches, rendering drilling and division order title opinions, litigation, and regulatory proceedings before the Alabama State Oil and Gas Board. John is admitted to practice in Alabama and Mississippi. He is a member of the Alabama, Mississippi and Tuscaloosa County Bar Associations, and has served as Chairman of the Oil, Gas and Mineral Law Section of the Alabama State Bar. John is a frequent speaker at oil and gas law seminars in both Alabama and Mississippi.

10:00 - 10:15 a.m. MORNING BREAK (refreshments provided)

10:15 - 11:00 a.m. Environmental Effects of BP Oil Spill

Trudy Fisher Trudy is the Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, having been appointed by Governor Haley Barbour in 2007. She is the first woman to serve as the agency's director. Prior to her appointment, she was a partner with Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes law firm, where she chaired the regulatory department and co-chaired the environmental practice group. She previously served as MDEQ's general counsel. In addition to her duties as Executive Director, Trudy was designated by the Governor as Mississippi's Trustee for Natural Resources under the Oil Pollution Act and is tasked with leading Mississippi's recovery from the Deep Water Horizon oil spill. She also serves as co-chair of the Gulf of Mexico Alliance and the Governor's Commission on Gulf Coast restoration. Trudy earned a bachelor of science degree from the Mississippi University for Women and her juris doctorate degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law, where she served as Editor in Chief of the Mississippi Law Journal.

11:00 - 11:50 a.m. Geology for the Non-Geologist

David W. Miller David is a graduate of Mississippi State University (B.S. 1975 Geology). He is a Certified Professional Landman and a Registered Professional Geologist. He is the owner of Miller Land Professionals, LLC, which provides a variety of land related services across the U.S. and is a member of AAPG, MGS, AAPL, and MAPL.

11:50 - 1:00 p.m. LUNCH (provided in Penthouse of Hilton)

1:00 - 1:50 p.m. Legal Descriptions

Stan Ingram Stan is a partner in the Jackson, Mississippi firm of Biggs, Ingram, Solop & Carlson, PLLC. He is a 1977 graduate, cum laude, of the Mississippi College School of Law. He has extensive experience in title examinations, property rights disputes, exploration issues and the purchase and sale of producing properties. Stan has frequently participated in energy industry seminars.

Jay Stewart Jay is a partner in the Energy Group of Adams & Reese, LLP. Jay is licensed in both Louisiana and Alabama and balances his practice between both states. Jay has more than 30 years of experience in all phases of exploration, development, production, transportation and regulation of oil and gas operations in the Gulf Coast region. He has experience rendering title opinions, assisting in curing title defects and litigation over title issues pertaining to ownership of oil and gas production. Jay has assisted in drafting and lobbying for statutory and regulatory changes in a number of conservative and environmental issues in Mississippi. He is frequently invited to speak at numerous seminars presented by the legal bars and landman's associations in Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and Alabama.

2:40 - 2:50 p.m. AFTERNOON BREAK (refreshments provided)

2:50 - 3:40 p.m. Lignite Round Table Discussion

Michele McCain Michele joined Adams & Reese in 2007 after seven years of representing clients in the oil and gas industry. She was named partner in 2009. Michele focuses primarily in oil and gas litigation, title matters, environmental law and other real property legal services through the firm's Energy and Environmental and Real Estate practice teams. In 2005, Michele served as the President of the Mississippi Oil & Gas Lawyers Association and continues to serve on the Board of Directors of that organization. In 2009, she co-authored *Lignite Coal: A "Mineral" Under Mississippi Law?*, published by the Mississippi College Law Review. In 2011, the Mississippi Business Journal named Michele as one of the "Top 10 Business Women in the State of Mississippi" and she was also named by Mid-South Super Lawyers as a "Rising Star in Energy and Natural Resources for 2011".

Troy Odom Troy is a partner with the law firm of Blair & Bondurant, P.A. Troy graduated from the University of Mississippi School of Law (cum laude) in 2002, and immediately began work with Blair & Bondurant. His practice focuses on real property litigation in both State and Federal Courts, natural resource law, title work, and probate. Troy is a past President of the Mississippi Oil and Gas Lawyers Association and past Associate Director of the Mississippi Association of Petroleum Landmen. Troy is a member of the Mississippi Bar's inaugural Leadership Forum. He co-chairs this year's Triennial on behalf of Mississippi Oil and Gas Lawyers Association.

3:40 - 4:40 p.m. Ethics for the Landman and Attorney

Speaker TBA

4:40 - 4:45 p.m. CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

ATTENTION MEMBERS:

Carlo Christina and Charles Corona will be at the **March MGS meeting** to offer for sale copies of the latest NOGS publication, "Oil and Gas Fields of South Louisiana, 2010", both in hardcopy and on CD. Carlo and Charlie were co-chairmen of the NOGS committee responsible for this latest addition to contributions in Gulf Coast geology.



Order Form

Oil & Gas Fields of South Louisiana 2010 Full-Color CD-ROM Edition

QUANTITY	ITEM	PRICE	EXTENSION
	CD-ROM EDITION - FULL COLOR - PC OR MAC	\$75.00	
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		TOTAL	

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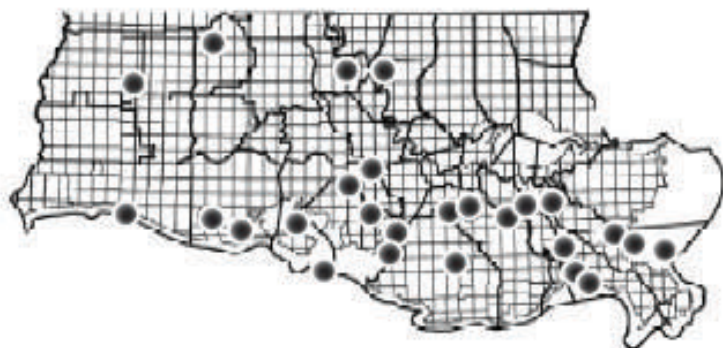
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NEW!
AVAILABLE
NOW

Oil & Gas Fields of South Louisiana 2010

26 FIELDS NEW PRODUCTION

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BAYOU VILLARS
BLACK BAY COMPLEX
BLACK BAY EAST - NORTHERN BLOCK
BLACK BAY NORTH - EASTERN EXTENSION
BRETON SOUND BLOCK 53
CREOLE - WEST CAMERON BLOCK 2
EUGENE ISLAND BLOCKS 10/24
FRESHWATER BAYOU
JUDGE DIGBY
KENT BAYOU (ETOUFFEE)
LAC BLANC
LAKE BOEUF SOUTHWEST
LAKE BOUDREAUX
LAKE SALVADOR
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PATTERSON
PINE PRAIRIE
PORT HUDSON
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MGS BOLAND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Society's L. F. Boland Scholarship Fund is open to donations (tax deductible) year round. Your contribution will help the Society recognize and reward outstanding earth science students at its annual Honors Day meeting on April 7th, 2011.

Since inception in 1980, the Society has honored 104 students with the Boland Award. If you would like to contribute, please contact Dave Cate at 601-718-9397 or mail your check (L. F. Boland Scholarship Fund) to him at 217 W. Capitol St., Jackson, MS 39201.

The MGS gratefully acknowledges the following contributors to the L. F. Boland Scholarship Fund for the 2010-2011 year.

Maurice Birdwell	Chris Franks
Jim Furrh	James Libiez
Maurice Meylan	Donnie Lambert
Julius Ridgway	Tony Stuart
Jim Michael	
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MISSISSIPPI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 422, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205-0422

2009-2010

Membership year is June through May

New Membership (\$20/yr)_____ Renewal (\$20/yr)_____ Student (\$5/yr)_____ Associate (\$20/yr)_____

Boland Scholarship Fund Donation \$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

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Degree(s) Obtained and Year(s) Awarded: _____

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The following are MGS members in good standing

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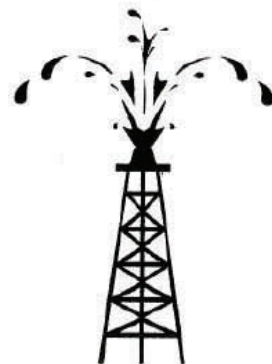
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