

Volume 59

No. 9

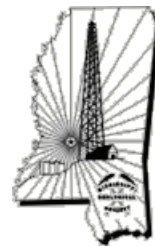
April 2011

MISSISSIPPI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY *eBulletin*



missgeo.com

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Brian Sims

Fellow Members:

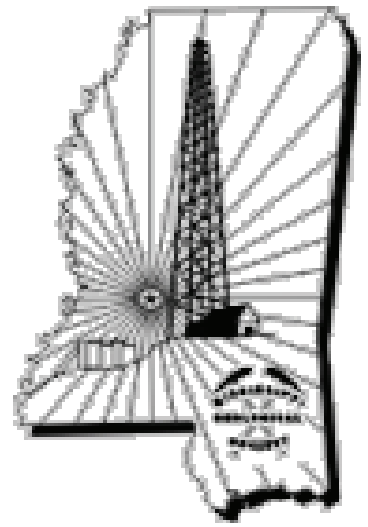
At this month's luncheon the Mississippi Geological Society will honor four collegiate level geology students as recipients of the Boland Scholarship. As you are aware the MGS began awarding these scholarships several years ago named in honor of former MGS member Larry Boland. The geology departments of each of four schools, Mississippi State University, Millsaps College, University of Southern Mississippi, and the University of Mississippi nominate two to four students who submit a resume and are then interviewed by members of the MGS. This year's list of candidates was extremely impressive and the final decisions were difficult. One student's GPA was tarnished by what appeared to be one B in their four years of college. I had one B in college, but I had a lot of Cs and Ds also. I would again like to thank Dave Cate for leading the efforts of the Boland committee. Others on the committee who helped with interviews are Bob Schneeflock, James Starnes, Ray Lewand, Tony Stuart, and Stanley King. Please thank these people for their efforts.

Also at this month's luncheon, the MGS will be bestowing Honorary Member status to one of our long time members, Julius Ridgway. The Honorary Member Committee nominated Julius and his nomination was approved by the MGS Board.

Come out 11:30AM Thursday April 7, 2011 and show your support for our Boland recipients, their professors and Julius. We will meet at the usual place, River Hills Club.

Thanks,

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

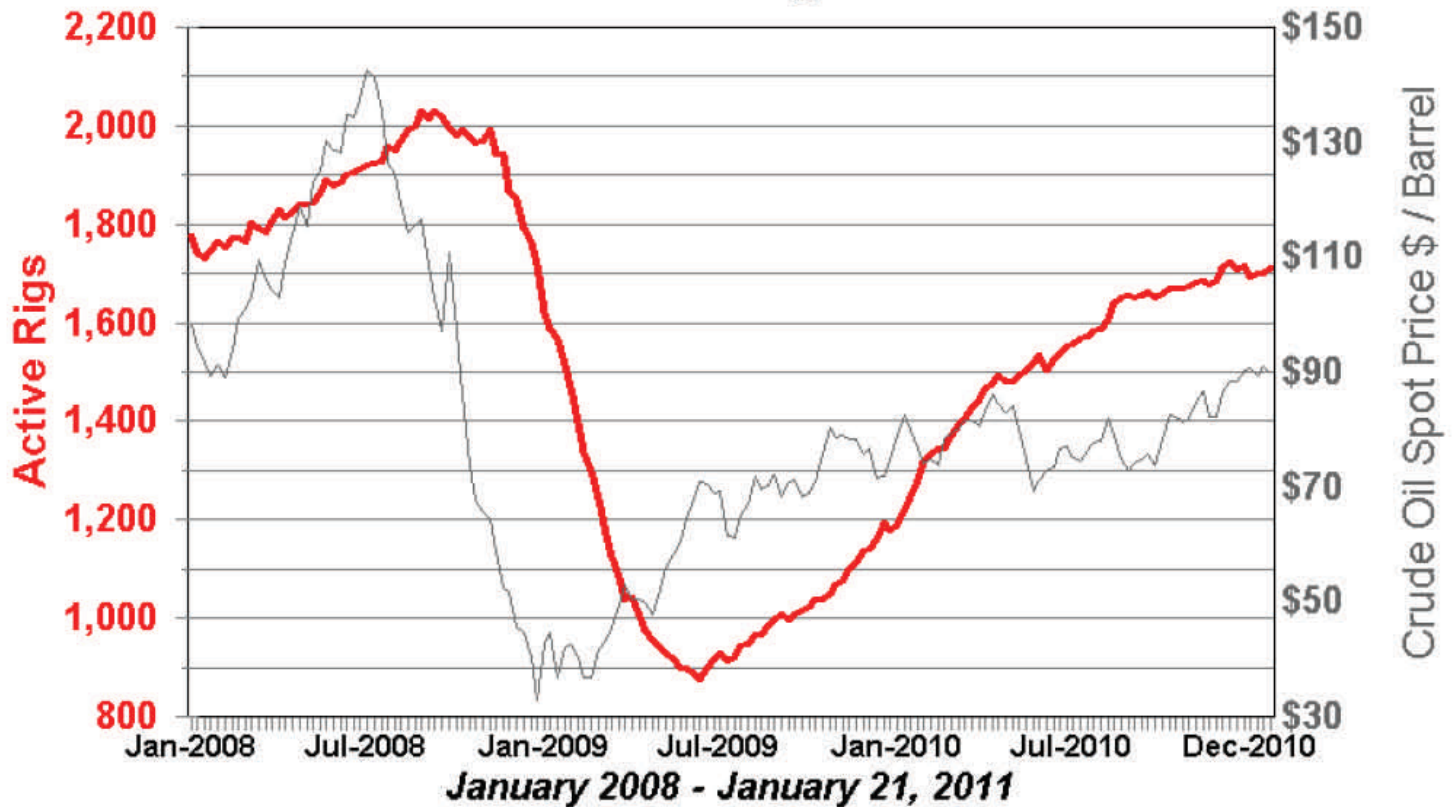
April 6, 2011

May 4, 2011

MGS APRIL SPEAKER:

No speaker this month. Please come and support the recipients of the Boland Scholarship Award next week on April 7th at River Hills Country Club.

U. S. Rotary Rig Count Total Active Rigs



WTRG Economics ©2011

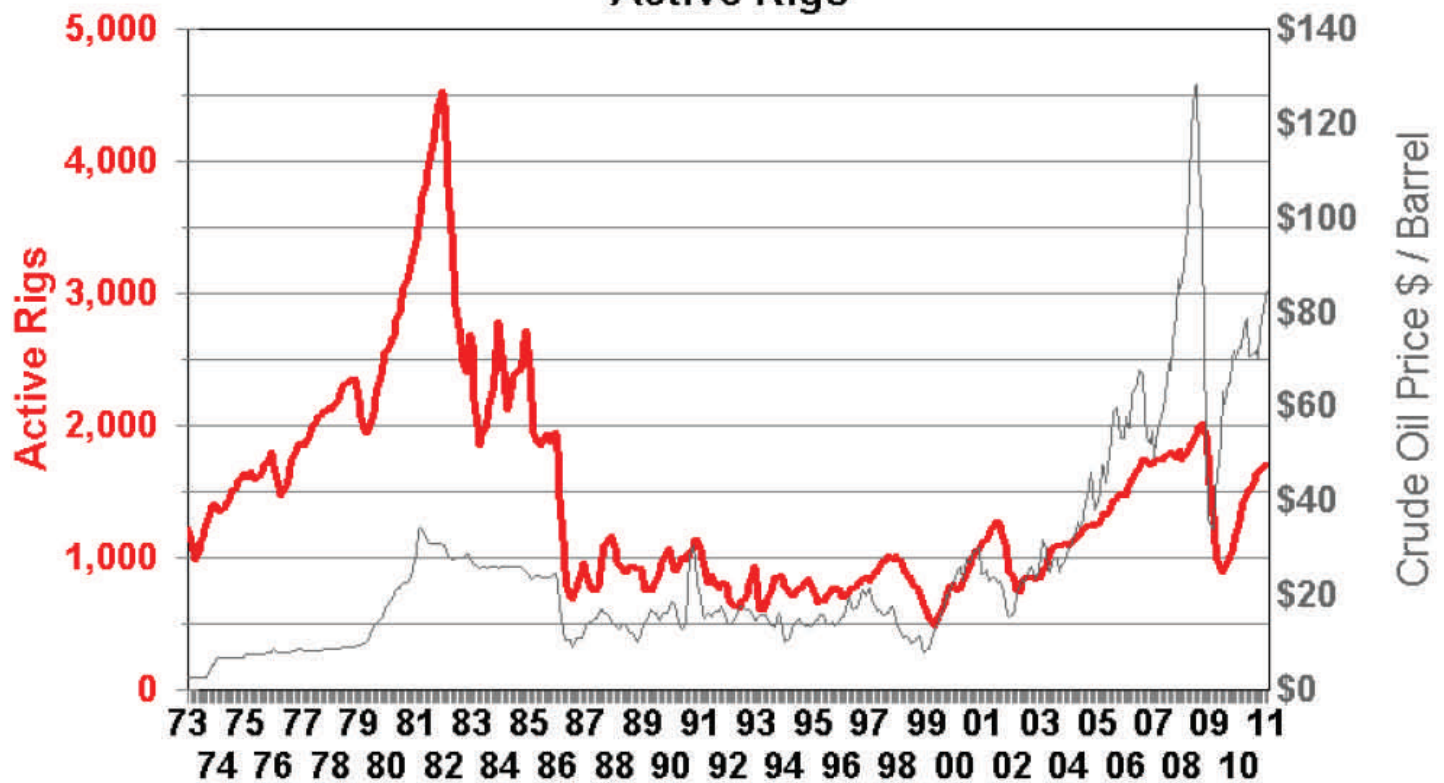
Sources: Baker-Hughes, Energy
Information Administration (DOE),
WTRG Economics

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TURN IT TO THE RIGHT!



U. S. Rotary Rig Count Active Rigs

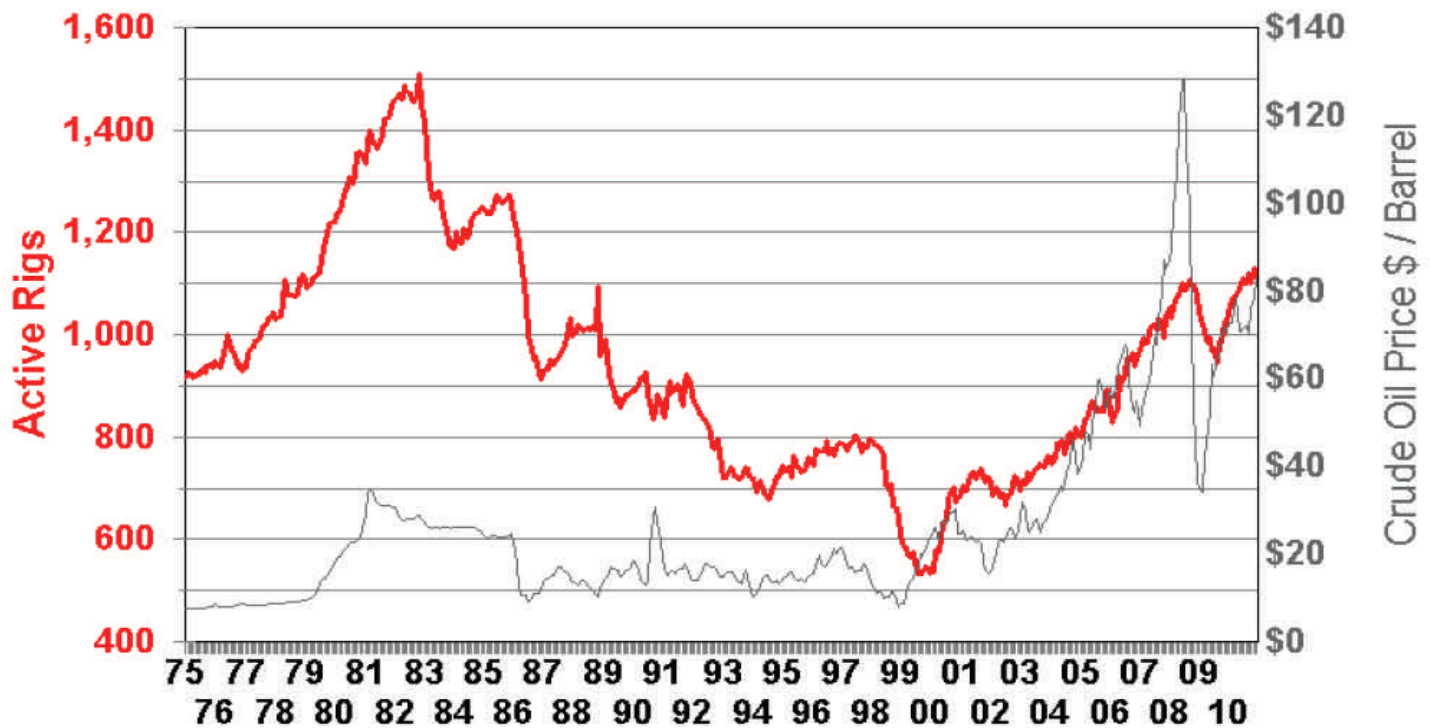


January 1973 - January 21, 2011

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

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Foreign Rotary Rig Count



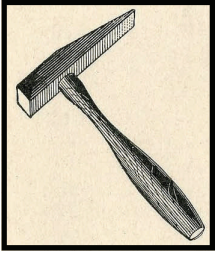
January 1975 - Dec. 2010

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

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North American Rig Count				Change		Percent Change	
	04/01/2011	03/25/2011	04/02/2010	Weekly	Annual	Weekly	Annual
Total U.S.	1,776	1,738	1,465	38	311	2.2%	21.2%
Offshore	27	28	51	(1)	(24)	-3.6%	-47.1%
Land	1,749	1,710	1,414	39	335	2.3%	23.7%
Inland Waters	20	20	15	0	5	0.0%	33.3%
Oil	877	851	502	26	375	3.1%	74.7%
Percent	49.4%	49.0%	34.3%	0.4%	15.1%		
Gas	891	880	949	11	(58)	1.3%	-6.1%
Percent	50.2%	50.6%	64.8%	-0.5%	-14.6%		
Directional	228	224	222	4	6	1.8%	2.7%
Horizontal	1,017	995	735	22	282	2.2%	38.4%
Vertical	531	519	508	12	23	2.3%	4.5%
Gulf of Mexico	27	28	50	-1	-23	-3.6%	-46.0%
Gulf Oil	6	6	25	0	-19	0.0%	-76.0%
Percent	22.2%	21.4%	50.0%	0.8%	-27.8%		
Gulf Gas	21	22	25	-1	-4	-4.5%	-16.0%
Percent	77.8%	78.6%	50.0%	-0.8%	27.8%		
Canada	285	429	151	(144)	134	-33.6%	88.7%
Oil	177	299	53	(122)	124	-40.8%	234.0%
Percent	62.1%	69.7%	35.1%	-7.6%	27.0%		
Gas	107	128	98	(21)	9	-16.4%	9.2%
Percent	37.5%	29.8%	64.9%	7.7%	-27.4%		
North America	2,061	2,167	1,616	(106)	445	-4.9%	27.5%

ROCKHAMMER CORNER:



OLD GEOLOGISTS never die, they just recrystalize!

A geologist is the only person who can can talk to a woman and use the words "dike" "thrust" "bed" "orogeny" "cleavage" and "subduction" in the same sentence without facing a civil suit.

Geologists are amazing. They know hundreds of words for different sorts of dirt and hundreds of words for things it does when left alone for a few million years.



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

Review March 21, 2011

Posted By [admin](#) • on March 21, 2011

[Download Full PDF](#)

1. Oil and the Global Economy

Oil prices saw a volatile week as traders' attention shifted from the uncontrolled nuclear reactors in Japan to the fighting in Libya and uprisings across the Arabian Peninsula. Some days prices swung as much as \$3-4 a barrel; however, prices closed about where they began on Monday: \$101 for NY oil and \$114 in London. Over the weekend the Japanese seemed to be making progress in cooling the six runaway nuclear reactors thereby reducing the possibility that their economy will be disrupted by major leaks of radioactive material.

Tokyo has announced that the six tsunami-damaged reactors will be permanently closed and that plans to build additional reactors are on hold. With some 25% of its generating capacity currently shut down, the Tokyo area is being subjected to rolling blackouts which have forced the closure of many major industrial facilities thereby disrupting parts shipments to factories around the globe.

Operations at Japanese refineries are returning to normal and the demand for oil imports is expected to return to normal soon. Japan's Petroleum Association announced that 780,000 b/d of refining capacity is expected to be restarted this week. Over the longer term Japan's demand for imported crude, oil products, and LNG is likely to increase significantly to replace the lost nuclear generating capability and support the cleanup and rebuilding of those towns destroyed by the tsunamis.

Last week's US oil-stocks report showed the gradual buildup which is normal for this time of the year continuing. Total US commercial-oil-product inventories, however, fell by 5.1 million barrels, while US oil consumption remains the same as last year at 19.4 million b/d.

2. Conflict in the Middle East

Major changes in the Middle Eastern situation came last week when the UN voted to use military force to prevent the Gadhafi government from using force against civilians, and the Saudis sent troops into Bahrain to help quell the protests. Within days of the UN vote, western forces had destroyed the pro-Gadhafi forces firing on Benghazi, eliminated much of the country's air defense, and grounded Gadhafi's air force. The coalition of powers attacking Libya seems to be taking the position that any military equipment such as tanks, artillery, and military transport found outside of military bases is a threat to Libya's civilian population and will be attacked. Given the great disparity between the power of Gadhafi's forces and those of the alliance arrayed against him, the government is unlikely to continue its offensive against the insurgent forces in eastern Libya and will likely be forced to withdraw to the West.

One of the key questions of the next few days is whether pro-Gadhafi forces can or will attempt to damage the key eastern Libya oil export terminals as whatever is left of these forces withdraws towards Surt. With the terminals permanently in insurgent hands, the revenues from any resumption of oil shipments would likely go to whatever government is established in Benghazi.

The future of Libya and its 1.3 million b/d of crude exports is murky. Gadhafi still seems to enjoy support among the tribes in western Libya who fear what would happen to them if the country were taken over by eastern tribes. Some see a stalemate developing that may last for an extended period as neither side has the power to overcome the other. Whether some or all of Libya's potential oil exports remain on hold through this period remains to be seen. With Libya forced to import 90% of its food it seems likely that major humanitarian issues will arise shortly, at least in those cities controlled by Gadhafi.

The situation on the Arabian Peninsula deteriorated further last week with the government of Bahrain forced to call on Saudi Arabia and the UAE for troops to help it control protests that seemed destined to get out of hand. With riots in Yemen turning more violent and protests taking place in Syria and Lebanon, the Saudis are clearly becoming worried. The king has made an unusual TV address to his subjects and is now offering new social spending worth some \$93 billion in hopes of forestalling social unrest. It is noteworthy that the government has yet to make any concessions to demands for political reform. A small demonstration took place in Riyadh over the weekend by relatives demanding the release of recently jailed dissidents.

For now the conflict between the ruling Sunnis and majority Shiites in Bahrain seems to have the most potential to grow into trouble for the Saudis. Tehran has denounced use of Saudi troops to suppress peaceful Shiite protesters. The whole situation clearly has many chapters to run, with the future of a major portion of the world's oil supply hanging in the balance.

3. The global oil balance

Developments last week increase the possibility that Japan will soon start to recover from the effects of the 9.0 earthquake and radioactivity leaks with an increased demand for imported oil and LNG. At the same time, the UN-sponsored intervention in Libya seems to increase the possibility that the near cessation of Libya’s exports could be prolonged due to war damage and economic sanctions. The IEA is already warning that the Libyan export outage could be a long one and that continued high oil prices will lead to a slowdown in global economic growth.

Last week the IEA released its monthly report showing that global oil supply rose to an all-time high of 89 million b/d in February. The Agency says that Libyan production dropped by 200,000 b/d in February, but that this was partially offset by higher production in the Gulf states. As the unrest in Libya was only getting started in February, the report due on 12 April should give a better insight into how well OPEC is coping with the loss of nearly all of Libya’s exports. There is talk of a special OPEC meeting to assess the changing situation.

Beijing announced that electricity consumption in China increased by 15.8% in February over the previous year, suggesting that the Chinese economy is still growing rapidly. Other reports suggest that Chinese bank loans still remain at high levels despite efforts to control inflation. In the coming week the Japanese energy situation should be clarified, possibly removing an impediment to oil prices moving higher. In the meantime, political unrest in the Arab Peninsula shows no signs of abating.

Quote of the week

Libya’s “exports could be off the market for many months due to both war-inflicted damage on oil infrastructure and international sanctions.”

Source: <http://www.energybulletin.net>

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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:

The slate of 2011-2012 MGS officer candidates is thus:

1st VP Jim Files

2nd VP Neil Barnes

Secretary Matt Caton

Treasurer Bill Bagnall

Please be sure to note that additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Spring Fling, May 19th.



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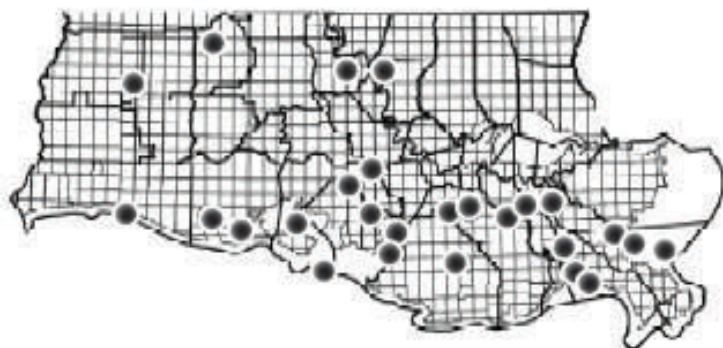
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Oil & Gas Fields of South Louisiana 2010

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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
LAKE WASHINGTON
MANILA VILLAGE SOUTHEAST
MYETTE POINT NORTHWEST
PATTERSON
PINE PRAIRIE
PORT HUDSON
RAMOS (LILY BOOM)
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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.

Randy Bissell	Maurice Birdwell	Chris Franks
Dawn Bissell	Jim Furrh	James Libiez
George Puckett	Maurice Meylan	Donnie Lambert
	Julius Ridgway	Tony Stuart
	Jim Michael	Linda Harper
	Stewart Welch	
	Dave Cate	
	Joe McDuff	Jerry Ogden

MGS Honorary Members

Esther Applin*	Paul Applin*	Lawrence F. Boland*
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

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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Office Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ FAX: _____

E-mail Address: _____

College/University Attended: _____

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

Professional Associations, Certifications, & Licenses: _____

The following are MGS members in good standing

Ken Adams	Dean Kebert	John Sullivan
Les Aultman	Stanley King (O)	Andy Sylte
Bill Bagnall (O)	Donnie Lambert	Tom Sylte
Adam Barham	Dee Layman	Mike Taylor
Larry Baria	Cody Lenert	Stan Thieling
Neil Barnes	James Libiez	Bob Thomas
John Becker	R. P. Major	David Thompson
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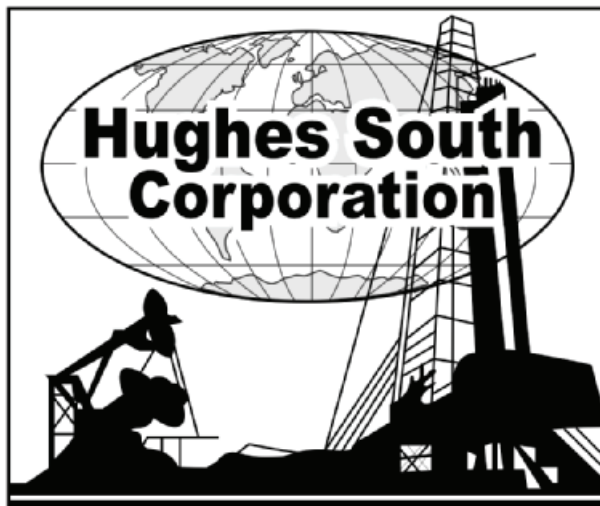
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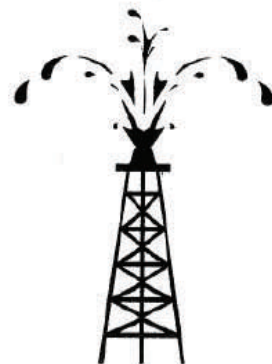
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