DECEMBER 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
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9	10	11	12 Technical Breakfast Rock Physics SIG	13 GSH Board Meeting	14	15
16	17	18 Technical Luncheon West Omni Palace	19 Technical Luncheon Downtown Petroleum Club	20	21	22
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VOL. 42, NO. 4 NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2007

Technical Luncheon

The Same Talk, Two Locations

Date 1: Tues., Dec. 18, 2007
Time: 11:30am
Location 1: Omni Palace
12121 Westheimer Rd.
Houston, TX 77077

Date 2: Wed., Dec. 19, 2007
Time: 11:30am
Location 2: Petroleum Club
800 Bell St.
Downtown Houston

Register Online: www.gshtx.org
Cost: $30/members pre-registered
$35/non-members, non-registrants

Title: ***"Approaches to Imaging Reservoirs Below Salt"***

Speaker: **Young Kim,** *TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company*

Abstract:

A significant amount of exploration and new field development are taking place in salt provinces around the world and will inevitably continue in the future. Seismic imaging of hydrocarbon accumulations below

Technical Luncheon continued on page 20.

Technical Breakfast

Date: December 12, 2007
Time: 7:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Breakfast & Social
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Presentation and Q&A
Location: Chevron Building. Downtown Houston!
1500 Louisiana St.
Houston, TX 77002

Note: ***Please RSVP to Liz Ivie 713-369-5863 or livie@fugro.com***

Title: ***"A Review of Tests Leading to the Acquistion of a High Channel Count 3C Cable-less Seismic Survey"***

Speaker: Dave Monk

Abstract:

Early in 2007 Apache recorded what was only the 2nd survey to be acquired with the FireFly™ system, and the first survey to be acquired in a production sense where equipment was "rolled" during acquisition. The "Upshure" survey was preceded by a set dynamite shot hole tests which were recorded into both 3C digital sensors, and conventional geophone arrays in order to evaluate the different response of individual

Technical Breakfast continued on page 20.

President's Column

by Haynie Stringer - 2nd Vice President

I did not realize that Tom Fulton had bigger plans when he asked if I could spend some of my "valuable" retirement time helping with the GSH Museum Committee. Two years later, I am still on that museum committee, but am also 2nd Vice President of the GSH, chaired a committee of great volunteers to put on Houston's first Geoscience Day, and am involved in discussions for starting a Houston Museum of Natural Science branch in Sugar Land. All these are GSH sponsored activities!

The GSH's 2nd Vice President is responsible for social events; so, if you have not participated in the past, this is the year you need to sign up for the fun. Check out the calendar on the GSH website *(www.gshtx.org)* to find the event dates:

* *Sporting Clays Tournament*
* *Saltwater Fishing Tournament*
* *Tennis Tournament*
* *Golf Tournament*
* *Honors and Awards Banquet*
* *Annual Meeting and Social*

Bring your friends and invite them to join the GSH. For $30.00 per year it is hard

President's Column continued on page 6.

Happy Holidays!

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Museum News *by Tom Fulton*

The LIVING LEGENDS response in San Antonio suggests that the SEG and GSH consider the needs of our living artifacts. They are at a point in their lives when new technology though interesting, won't bring them to GSH luncheons or SEG conventions. So they leave our organizations, who then wonder why our numbers dwindle. On the other hand there are groups of mostly retired who meet once a month for lunch and conversation with friends. True, these folks may join oil company or other retirement groups to satisfy a need but they won't likely be able to talk geophysics and their history. Please let us know if Living Legends groups attached to local SEG sections might be a good idea.

Lee Lawyer suggested that stories of the interpretation of paper seismic records in the field be solicited. Two GSI stories related by Dick Conroy were about interactions with client representatives commonly called "Birddogs" assigned to crew operations. A G.S.I. Party Chief made a chalk line on a quarterboat (housing the crew near the offshore exploration site) that the client rep was not to cross. This bounced up the ladder to Cecil Green. After listening patiently Cecil suggested that one party probably should be re-assigned. After a long pause the client said, "I will remove my man."

Another involved the Grapevine (G.S.I. company publication) monthly report written by Bob Stair (I remember him being called "Le Lazy" TF), assigned to a houseboat crew on the Amazon River. Bob had been submitting detailed reports for Party 502 and 503. The editor did not know that Party 503 was a "party" houseboat that followed 502 down the river. The fun was all spoiled by some "beancounter" searching for the income from Party 503."

The "Birddog" had quite a bit of power and could shut down a crew, if, for example, the instruments (recording,cables and geophones) were deemed to not be in spec. I remember a Western comment regarding a Gulf instrument "Birddog" "oh, you mean the one with horns." Many of you know that "Birddog" is my much nicer nickname for my wife, Emilie.

LL had a nice letter and update from Clem Blum, a more modern day hired, "birddog" in processing (I took over from him on his last job as he retired). Clem declined to come to SA, as a wheel chair would be needed because of limited walking. After a thought to copy parts of his well written letter of past experience and current volunteer activities, it seems best to suggest that his many friends contact him at 713-467-3634 or clementblum@att.net.

Our search for artifacts continues with the current need for a display of seismic streamer technology.

Living Legends

At the 2007 SEG Annual Meeting in San Antonio

Joe Sanders
and Marion Bone

Enders Robinson
and Tury Taner

John W. C. Sherwood, Enders Robinson
and Sam Evans

Editor's Note

To ensure your information reaches the GSH society members in a timely manner it must appear in the appropriate newsletter issue. Please note the following deadlines and plan your function's publicity strategy accordingly. Items must be received on or before the corresponding deadline date. Please send any obituary or memorial articles of recently deceased members to the Editor for inclusion in the newsletter. Materials can be emailed to Fernanda Araujo, Editor at fernanda.v.araujo@conocophillips.com with a copy sent to Glenn Bear at glenn.w.bear@exxonmobil.com. If you have any questions please call Fernanda Araujo at 832/486-2564, or Glenn Bear at 713/431-6583.

2008 GSH Newsletter Deadlines

Issue ..... January 2008
Deadline ..... December 4, 2007

Issue ..... February 2008
Deadline ..... January 3, 2008

Announcements

Technical Breakfast
December 12, 2007

Rock Physics SIG
December 12, 2007

Technical Luncheon
(WEST)
December 18, 2007
Omni Palace

Technical Luncheon
(DOWNTOWN)
December 19, 2007
Petroleum Club

Auxiliary

The Geophysical Auxiliary of Houston

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Start the holiday season with the Geophysical Auxiliary of Houston!
December 7, 2007 we meet for a luncheon at the Sugar Creek Country Club with Bill Stubbs, Interior Designer.

January 27, 2008
At Royal Oaks Country Club for an elegant buffet.

March 17, 2008
At The Junior League of Houston for a rollicking day of games and buffet.

March 31, 2008
"Opera in the Heights" for a tour of backstage, a mini opera and lunch.

May 1, 2008
At the Westlake Club for the GAH Annual Business Meeting and lunch.

Program TBA
At the Westlake Dining Room

Please join us and become a part of the GAH.
For more information contact Suzy Stepanek at 713-783-6888
or Kathi Hilterman at 713-467-7640.
We would LOVE to hear from you.

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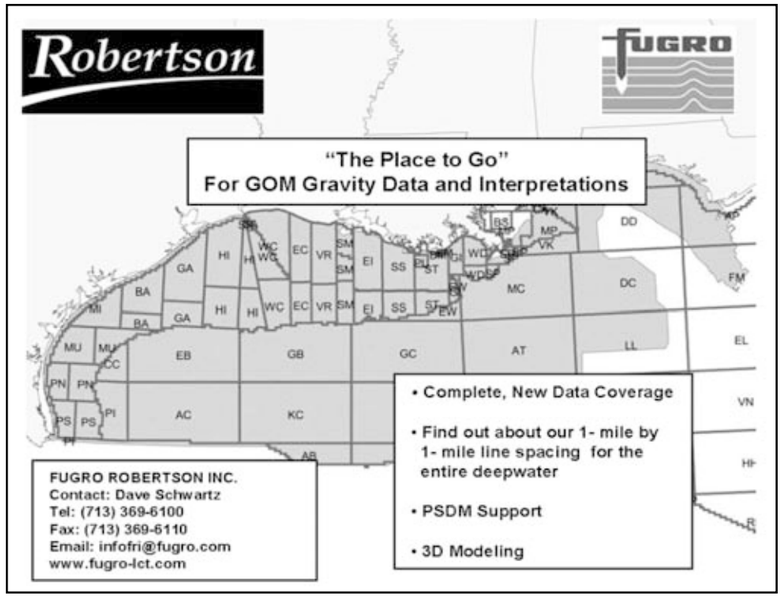

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Technical Breakfast continued from page 1.

single sensor acquisition vs. an array of conventional geophones. Not only did these tests prove useful in establishing change size and hole depth, but they proved be a valuable insight into the potential for data improvement with a high channel count cable-less 3C system.

The talk reviews the results of these tests, and compares the response of the different receiver types to different types of noise. Specifically the attenuation of ground roll is compared (which in this area is both strong and coherent), and the effects of truly random (not shot related) noise are also evaluated, as both the test and actual production survey were conducted for some of their duration during rainstorms, which resulted in high levels of noise.

While final data from the survey is not currently available, some comments on lessons learned when deploying large numbers of autonomous detection units can be made.

Biography:

Dave Monk is the Director of Geophysics at Apache Corporation. Dave is responsible for worldwide seismic activity including acquisition and processing in areas such as: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Egypt, North Sea and the domestic USA. Having completed a Ph.D. in physics, he worked on seismic crews in Nigeria for two years, and has subsequently been involved in seismic processing and acquisition in most parts of the world. Monk has received "best paper" awards from the Society of Exploration Geophysicists and the Canadian SEG, and was recipient of the Hagedoorn Award from the European Association of Exploration Geophysics. He was the first vice president of SEG in 2006 and drives a very cool car!

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Technical Luncheon continued from page 1.

salt is a formidable challenge because complexly-shaped salt bodies severely distort wave fronts or scatter seismic energy. As a consequence, subsalt targets are often poorly illuminated or reflections from them are incoherent or buried in multiples and background noise. Thus, building a reliable velocity model below salt for depth imaging often requires an integration of many techniques and disciplines.

When subsalt reflections are reasonably coherent and exhibit enough moveout in angle-domain common image gathers, we can use tomography to update the velocity model. On the other hand, when subsalt reflections are somewhat incoherent, we may rely on a brute force approach, such as a wave equation migration (WEM) scan, which is a get-what-you-see type method. The presentation will discuss the use of two techniques for subsalt velocity model building: subsalt tomography and WEM scan. We present examples of their application in the Gulf of Mexico.

Biography:

After a few years research at the Electronics Research Center, University of Texas at Austin in fluctuation-induced particle transport and wave phenomena in plasmas, Young Kim started his career in geophysics at Exxon Production Research Company (now ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company). He began doing research in seismic data processing and imaging, and he later became research supervisor of seismic data acquisition and processing. In 2005, he retired from ExxonMobil and joined TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company to build a new research and development team. He is currently Vice President of Research and Development directing advanced processing and imaging techniques.

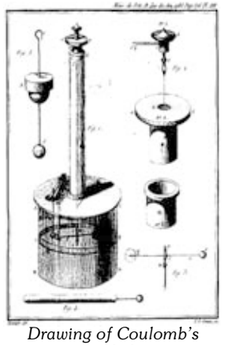
Young received a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Texas at Austin and won Outstanding Graduate Student Award from The Nuclear and Plasma Science Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

Sightings

From the October 2007 GSH Technical Breakfast

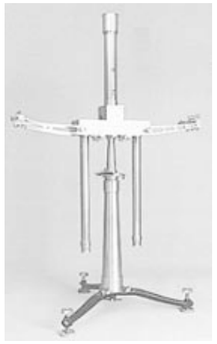
Item of Interest...

John Michell invented the first torsion balance in 1777. The second one (top right) was designed by Charles Augustin de Coulomb in 1786.



Drawing of Coulomb's torsion balance.

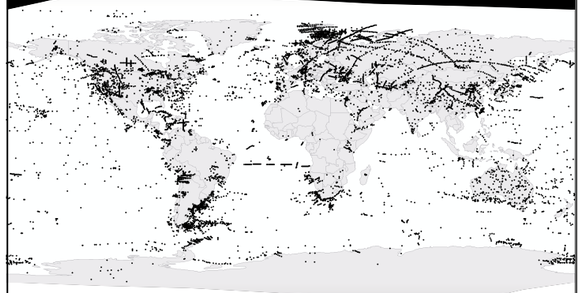
In 1921, Rycade Petroleum under the direction of Everette Lee DeGolyer, brought two Eotvos Torsion Balances to North America, one of which was used to discover Nash Dome in 1924, the first discovery using a geophysical method.



Eotvos Torsion Balance

GLOBAL SEISMIC REFRACTION CATALOG (GSC)

digital Earth crust data base



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- crustal thickness
- thermal modeling
- tectonic age

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President's Column continued from page 1.

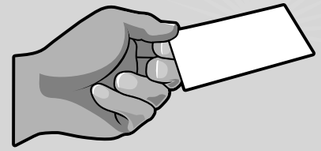
to beat the six social events, 25 or so technical lunches and breakfasts, Special Interest Group meetings, camaraderie and networking. By the way, the major portion of these events is funded by sponsors, so ask your company to sponsor an event at the same time that you ask them to pay your annual GSH membership dues. All funds not used to pay for the event go to the GSH to provide scholarships and support other worthwhile needs to advance the geophysical industry.

Geoscience Day, a joint effort of the GSH and Houston Geological Society, is now a yearly event after premiering September 7, 2007 at the Bureau of Economic Geology's facility in northwest Houston. The one day event's target attendees are people new to the industry. Presentations, seismic acquisition, potential field and land positional surveying demonstrations provide attendees an overview of what goes on in work areas other than their own. As a vote of confidence, several companies made Geoscience Day part of their official new-hire training program. Over 100 attendees and 40 volunteers, presenters, and demonstrators enjoyed the event. We encouraged those attending to join the GSH if not already a member and to tell next year's new employees about attending. If you or your company would like to participate in next year's event, please contact the GSH or me directly at haynies@promoconnection.net.

A nice surprise from Geoscience Day Committee activities was the opportunity to learn about the NeoGeos, the young professionals group started by the Houston Geophysical Society. The NeoGeos meet monthly as a group, have their own website, message board, and newsletter, and participate in an umbrella group of young professional organizations in the Houston area. The HGS and GSH are having discussions about joint sponsorship of the NeoGeos to form a larger networking group and path through which new professional can be drawn to become members of the two societies.

The Houston Museum of Natural Science plans a museum branch in a historical prison building in Sugar Land. Planning is in its early stages now and the HMNS is currently occupied with the expansion of their main facility near Hermann Park; however, we have had discussions with both Sugar Land and the HMNS and hope to place some of the GSH artifacts in the Sugar Land branch when it opens in the future.

As a final note on GSH membership, there are many SEG members and other geophysicist in the Houston area who are not members of the GSH. Those people will not be reading this members-only publication so here's your chance. When you finish reading your copy, pass it on to someone else or leave it on a table at your office. Let's hope it sparks them to membership. A primary goal of the society is to serve members, so the more members, the better.



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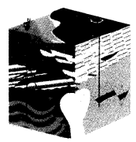

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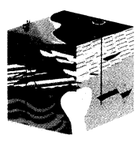

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Census As Of October 11, 2007

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Associate	141
Emeritis	38
Honorary	28
Lifetime	30
Students-FT	10
Total Members	**961**

New Member Applications
(Ready for Board Approval)

Emeritus - 0

Active - 8

Warren Mautz
* Shell * Active SEG

Rebecca Cash
* GeoTrace * Assoc. SEG
* GSH Sponsor-
Jim Bloomquist
* 8yrs + Industry Exp.

Matthew Padon
* Seabird Exploration
* 10 Yrs. Industry Exp.

Kenneth Hargrove
* BP * Active SEG

Jean-Charles Ferran
* CGGVeritas * Active SEG

Adrian Hampshire
* GX Technology
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James Stevens
* Halliburton * Assoc. SEG
* GSH Sponsor-
Keith Matthews
* 32 Yrs. Exp

Brian Dent
* GeoTrace * Active SEG

Associate - 2

James Squire
Rogelio Rufino-Jimenez

Student - 0

On Admin. Hold For Active

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* Sonia Graham
* Eldar Guliyev
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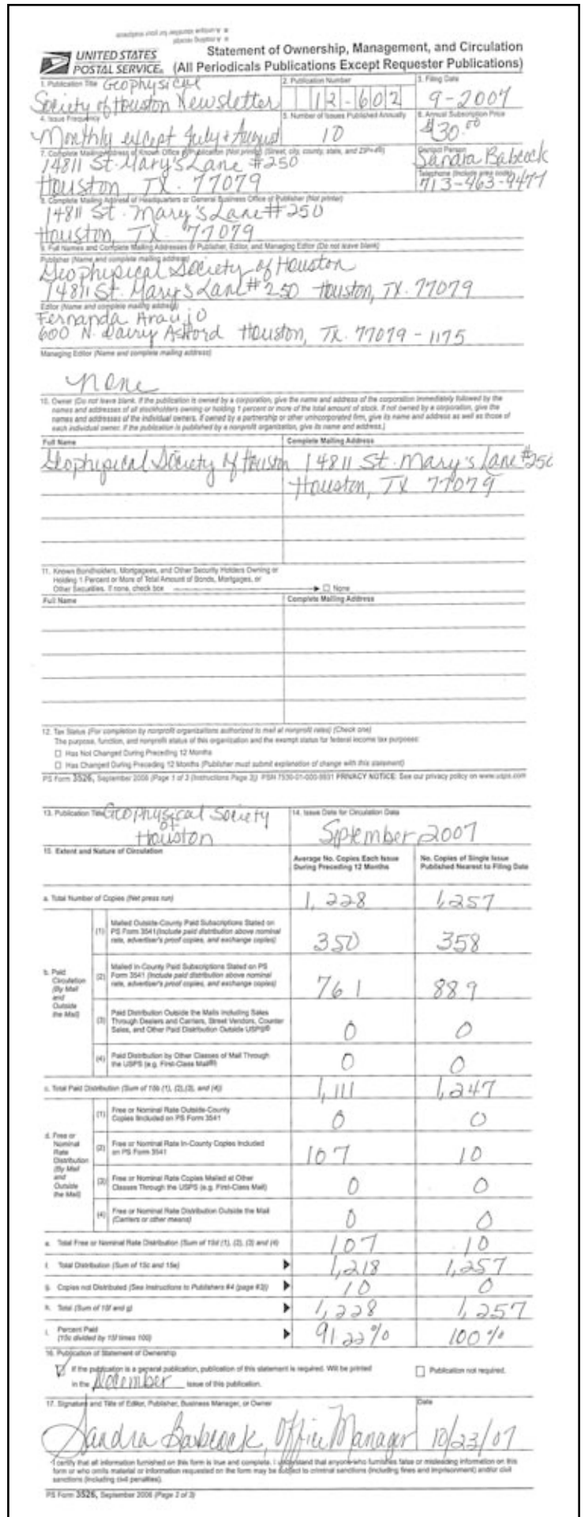

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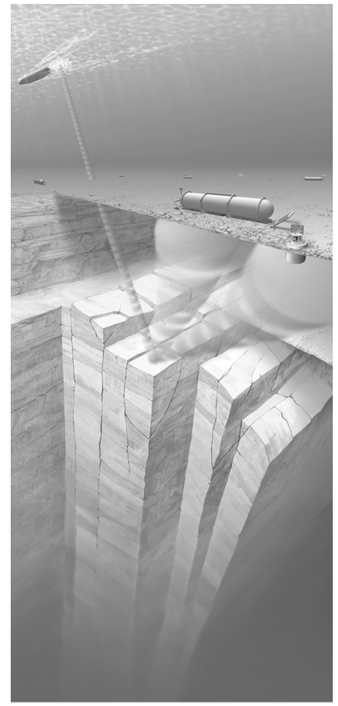

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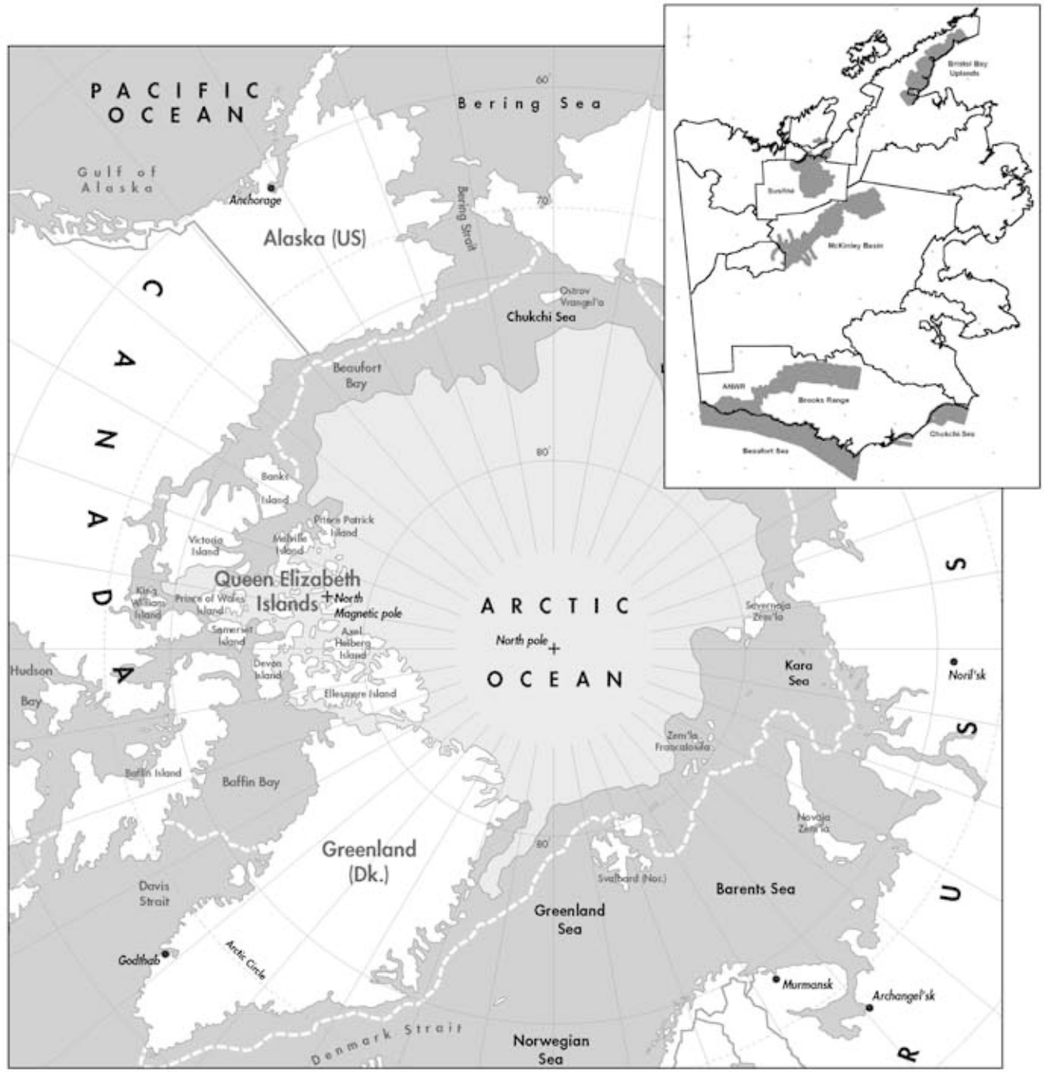

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Results From
The 2007 GSH Tennis Tournament
Held Friday, October 19, 2007
at Westside Tennis Center

Winners in each category:

"A" Division Champions:
Ronnie Johnson
Marlene Walker

Runners Up:
Javier Adame
Jochen Moser

"B" Division Champions:
Magda Tobias
Paul Dominic

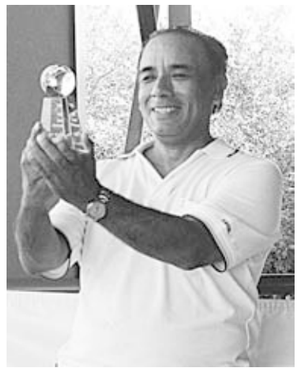
Runners Up:
Anita Wolfe
Mark Niles

"C" Division Champions:
Carlos Spindola
Marvin Taylor

Runners Up:
Mike Whitehead
John Plappert

After a four year hiatus, the tennis tournament event returns in grand fashion, contributing a sum of $6500 to the GSH Scholarship fund.

The Tennis Tournament committee would like to thank the sponsors who contributed to the funding of this event. A special thanks goes out to Co-Chair, Liz Ivie of Fugro Multi Client Services, whose help was invaluable in the organization of the event.



Sightings

Some Scenes From the October 2007 GSH Technical Luncheon

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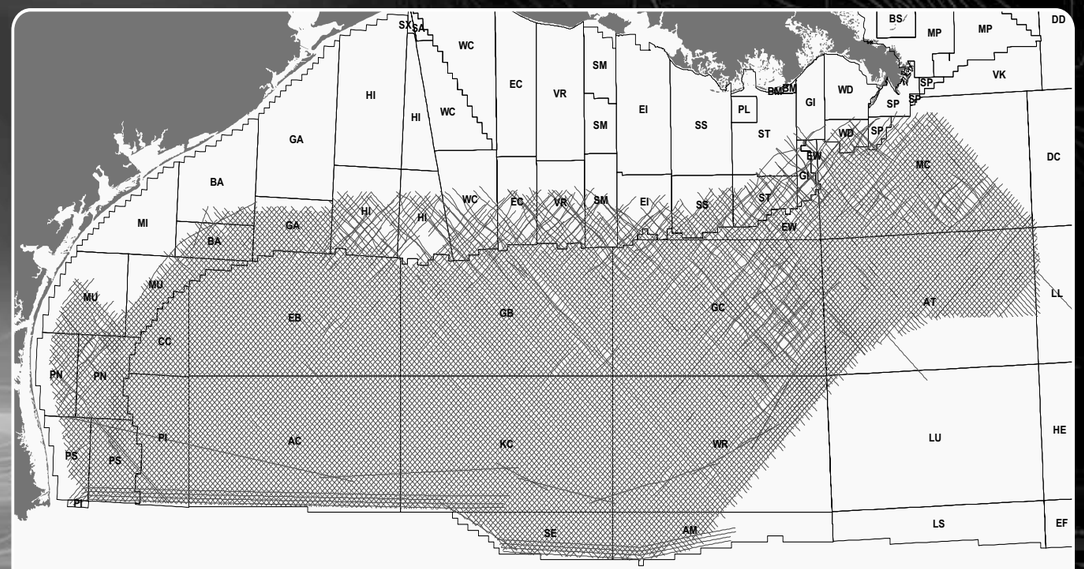

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Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: **CGG Veritas**
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Title: ***Velocity Modeling Using Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Porosity Logs (a Shaly Sand Example)***

Speaker: **Jeff Baldwin,** *Fugro-Jason*

Abstract:
Rock Physics models that treat porosity as consisting of inclusions in shaly sands usually discriminate between larger, more round pores (clean rock) and smaller, more crack-like pores (shale rock). Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) logs provide information about pore size distributions in clean and shale rocks. By using NMR log data we can more correctly represent the small (and crack-like?) pore sizes found in shale rock. It might be thought that using correct measurements of small pores in shale rocks would improve the ability to model sonic logs (DSI, in this instance) via inclusion velocity models (Xu & White, and Berryman's Self-Consistent, for example). However, my work with this data set has not shown this to be the case. This talk will present my velocity modeling results (using inclusion models) in a specific data set, followed by a summation of implications of these results. You are encouraged to offer your own explanations for the results achieved.

Biography:
Mr. Baldwin is currently the Petrophysics and Rock Physics Products Champion for Fugro-Jason. He holds a BS in Physics and has worked for Schlumberger, The Superior Oil Company (Offshore), and Halliburton in various technical, software development, and managerial capacities. Mr. Baldwin has written numerous journal and conference articles covering subjects from logging tools to data analysis methods. His current responsibilities include such activities as supervision of development and implementation of integrated petrophysics and rock physics processing and analysis methods for such needs as seismic inversion support and formation strength analyses.

Hugh Hardy GSH Scholarship Fund

It is with great pride that I announce the new name for the GSH endowed Scholarship fund. The fund will be named the ***Hugh Hardy GSH Scholarship***. This came about during my term as President, in which I actually awarded my Dad, Hugh Hardy, a glass President's Award because of his influence on my decision and actions during my term. The proposal to name the fund after Hugh was made by Art Ross, one of his dear friends, at the 2007 GSH Annual Meeting. Art is our Scholarship Chairman and was charged with a recommendation for the donations for the year. I include excerpts from his recommendation to update the membership on the scholarship activities of the GSH.

"The GSH has been contributing to ad hoc SEG scholarships as long as I have been involved and that goes back to 1986. In 1998 upon the guidance and urging of Lee Lawyer, the GSH endowed the Carlton - Farren GSH Scholarship for $40,000.00 and this was matched with SEG funds bringing the award to $80,000.00. This scholarship pays out a single $5,000.00 award each year. In 1999 we gave $45,000.00 matching funds to the Sheriff endowed grant making it $90,000.00 to be matched by the SEG for a $180,000.00 grant. Also in 1999 we gave $50,000.00 matching funds to the Charlie and Jean Smith Award making it a $100,000.00 grant then matched by the SEG and rose to a $200,000.00 grant. In 2000 at the request of Pat Starich, the GSH president for 99-2000, the annual $8,000.00 ad hoc donation was split into a $500.00 ad hoc donation and a $7,500.00 grant to be matched by the SEG making a $15,000.00 endowed grant. Pat had the idea that it would be added to annually however that did not happen when subsequent presidents reverted to the $8,000.00 annual ad hoc donations. Fast forward to today: The current SEG qualification for an endowed scholarship is a minimum of $20,000.00. Also we, the GSH have been asked if it would care to donate $5,000.00 matching funds to the Mr. and Mrs. Leon Thomsen endowed scholarship. After some discussion it is felt that this would be a good thing to do for various reasons all good. This brings us to this year's annual SEG scholarship donation. There are two goals: the first to bring our un-named $15,000.00 endowed grant up to the minimum of $20,000.00, and the second to match the $5,000.00 Thomsen donation. This will entail a donation of $10,000.00 to the SEG foundation to be used as described above. I am also suggesting that we name this soon to be $20,000.00 endowed scholarship. I have two suggestions: the first is the Hugh Hardy GSH Scholarship. Hugh was a dear friend and our staunchest advocate that I can recall and well deserving of have such a memorial. The second suggestion is the GSH Past Presidents Scholarship. My preference is the first choice. In subsequent years the ad hoc donation of $8 to 10,000.00 should be split evenly between growing the newly named endowed grant and the ad hoc scholarships granted each year. I humbly submit these requests for approval and I pray that they will be approved unanimously. Respectfully, Art Ross "

Art's recommendations were met with animated discussion. Many of the board members preferred the ad hoc scholarships as they went directly to the students and were not held as the endowed scholarships are held. Thus the board hesitated to fully support Art's recommendations. As a compromise, they voted to bring the un-named endowed grant to the $20,000 minimum with a $5,000 donation. Then they voted to add the $11,000 remainder of the 2006/2007 donation to the ad hoc fund.

There was no discussion about naming the fund and it was voted unanimously to name the fund the Hugh Hardy GSH Scholarship. For those of you who did not know Hugh or 'The General' as he was known by many, he was a man of service and dedication. If there was ever anything that needed to be done, you could call on him to do so. 'His activities in the Geophysical Society of Houston began in 1957. Over the years he served as membership chairman, SEG council representative, second vice-president (1988) and president (1992). Following his term as president, he continued his quest to gain tax-exempt status for the GSH, succeeding in January 1994', (excerpt from Lee Lawyer SEG Biography). He served under me in 1999/2000 when I was Secretary of the GSH as the Membership Chairman. His goal was to have 2000 members in 2000 and he came very close to reaching his goal. I had to move back to Corpus in the middle of my term as secretary and he, along with John Sumner filled in where I needed help. It is still difficult for me to go to a GSH or SEG meeting and not start to look for him in the crowd; you could always find him there. I thank you Art, and the GSH board 2006/2007 for picking my year as President to honor my Dad, General Hugh Hardy. At this time I request donations to the Hugh Hardy Scholarship in his memory or the memory of other GSH members. Thanks to Hugh, your donation will be fully tax deductible.

Thank you,
Kathy Hardy
President 2006/2007

Hugh Hardy 1924-2003