



## Chairman's Column

At the February meeting, 35 members and guests enjoyed an interesting and informative talk by **Lonnie Washam** with Nutech Energy Alliance, relating his company's technique for reformulating old well logs. Most of us were probably mentally listing logs we would like to see processed.

This month, on March 20, our speaker will be **Lawrence Baria** with Jura-Search, Inc. in Flowood, Mississippi, who will talk about one of the most active drilling plays in the southeastern United States. Little Cedar Creek Field in Conecuh County, Alabama has been described as the largest Smackover discovery in 40 years. It should be an interesting presentation!

**Carol St. Germain** tells me that her monthly call process has been going well; however, she also reports that as of the first of the month, 21 of you have not sent in spring dues. Check your records!

Next month, one of our chapter members, **Roy Walther** will address us, with a talk on "The Reliability of Well Log Measurements".

Louis E. Lemarié  
Co-Chairman

# THIS MONTH

## Larry Baria

### Talks About Alabama's Little Cedar Creek Field: The Largest Smackover Field Discovered in the Last 40 Years



**Tuesday, March 20th**  
**Andrea's Restaurant - Metairie**

Social 11:30 AM with seating for dinner at 12:00 PM  
Reservations and guests: contact Carol St. Germain - 504-267-3466

# A Status Report on Little Cedar Creek Field, Conecuh County, Alabama, The Largest Smackover Field Discovered in the Last 40 Years

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## **Abstract**

Little Cedar Creek Field and the nearby discovered Brooklyn Field extension, appears to be the largest Smackover field discovered in the Northern Gulf Coast Province in the last several decades. By January 2012, the field demonstrated an oil column of approximately 2100 feet, and extended over 42 square miles.

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 250,000 barrels per month, and since it's re-birth in 2004, has produced over 16 million barrels. Amazingly the field continues to expand in several directions, and today hosts over 120 producing wells.

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## **Lawrence R. Baria Bio**

Education included BS and MS geology degrees from Northeast Louisiana University dealing with sandstone petrology and PhD studies at Louisiana State University regarding sulfate diagenesis and carbonate stratigraphy.

Early experience involved field geology for the USGS in Oklahoma, Arkansas, western Colorado and the Brooks Range of northern Alaska and worked as a research geologist with Getty Oil Company. Since 1977 he has been an exploration consultant in the Jurassic of the Gulf Coast and the Middle East.

He has published numerous publications, primarily involving the Smackover Formation in the AAPG, GCAGS, SEPM and Geological Society of America.

Recently served as an adjunct professor at the University of Alabama and the University of Mississippi where he's on numerous theses and dissertation committees.

Topic of this presentation will be "The Stratigraphic and Reservoir Characteristics of Little Cedar Creek Field and Adjacent Producing Areas: An Update."

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your dues?**

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