



## Chairman's Column

I am beating the drum for new (*and old!*) faces to step-up and assume some of the leadership roles for our Chapter.

For the second consecutive year we do not have a Vice-Chairman, who functions as program chairman. R.T. Cerniglia volunteered to help out as "Co-Chairman" last year and I greatly appreciate his efforts, but this was intended to be a temporary situation. Help us fill this spot. Other than Art Johnson, most of us have held these spots for nearly half a decade! (I jest, but it seems these Chapter positions come with a terminal clause—the ultimate way out.) *We need new people!*

The Chapter Newsletter is back to the full format, thanks to Tom Klekamp's generous offer to resume the editing job. We will publish a B&W hardcopy and color electronic copy. We have a new non-member advertiser, Lafayette Geological Research Center. Finally, Carol St. Germain, continues as our administrative secretary. Thanks Carol for your service!

Let me hear from you.

**Louis E. Lemarié**  
Co-Chairman

**New Orleans Chapter Newsletter**  
Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists  
Volume 13, Number 6  
September 2012

# **Art Johnson, Hydrate Energy International The Impact of Market Forces on Emerging Technology**

## **Tuesday, September 18th 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**

### **Abstract**

The sustained low natural gas price in North America is having a profound impact on companies and organizations that have been pursuing emerging technologies and alternative energy resources. Technologies supporting shale gas E&P are a high priority, while technologies for alternative energy resources have been curtailed despite recent technical success.

The situation is different outside of North America. The on-going conversion of electrical generation in Japan from nuclear to natural gas and other resources has led to record-high LNG prices in the Far-East, with significant impacts on

LNG markets throughout the world. This has had several ripple effects for the economics of alternative energy and emerging technology. At current LNG prices, several alternative energy resources (including gas hydrate) are becoming commercially viable outside of North America. However, throughout the world oil and gas are still the dominant energy sources – and that situation will not change despite government efforts.

*See bio, page 2*

**Acclaimed  
talk at  
16th Annual  
Deepwater  
Symposium**

## Art Johnson Bio

Art Johnson is a founding partner of Hydrate Energy International (HEI) and is engaged in energy consulting in the U.S. and throughout the world. Prior to forming HEI in 2002, Art was a geologist with Chevron for 25 years where his positions included Division Geologist for the Gulf of Mexico and New Trends Team leader. In this latter role he identified numerous unconventional resource plays and emerging technologies for the company.

Art has advised Congress, the Secretary of Energy and the White House on energy issues since 1997, and served on the federal Methane Hydrate Advisory Committee from 2001 to 2010, chairing the committee from 2001 to 2006. He has an on-going role coordinating the research efforts of industry, universities, and government agencies. Art served as a Lead Analyst for the “Global Energy Assessment”, an international project supported by the World Bank, UN organizations, and national governments that evaluated the energy resource base of the entire planet with a view to addressing energy needs in the decades to come. He is chair of the AAPG/EMD Gas Hydrate Committee and is a Past-President of the New Orleans Geological Society.

Art has published over 60 papers and articles, along with several books. These cover a diverse range of topics that include geology, geophysics, economic geology, astrogeology, and gas hydrates.

## Newsletter Ad Rates

Sessions	September - December (4 issues) and January - May (5 issues)
Business Card	\$25 per session
1/4-page	\$100 per session
1/2-page	\$200 per session
Full page	\$400 per session
Non-member Business Card	\$50 per session
Send ad copy to	Tom Klekamp, Editor klekamp@bellsouth.net
Send payment to	SIPES New Orleans Chapter PO Box 50088 New Orleans LA 70150-0088

## Opponents of Fracing go to Extremes

*by Michael J. Mazzone, Haynes  
and Boone LLP, Houston  
Excerpted from O&G Financial  
Journal*

Nothing better illustrates the extremes that opponents of hydraulic fracturing will go to than the deception noted by Texas State District Judge Trey Loftin on Feb. 16. His comment came in an order he entered in the Parker County (Texas) case of Steven Lipsky against Range Resources, a Fort Worth-based exploration and production company.

Lipsky, the landowner, alleged that Range’s gas well contaminated his water. Emulating the movie “Gasland,” Lipsky showed a sensational video of ignited gas coming out of a garden water hose.

“The Court references with concern the actions of Mr. Steven Lipsky,” wrote Judge Loftin, “under the advice or direction of Ms. Alisa Rich [his environmental consultant], to

intentionally attach a garden hose to a gas vent—not a water line—and then light and burn the gas from the end nozzle to the hose. This demonstration was not done for scientific study but to provide local and national news media a deceptive video calculated to alarm the public into believing the water was burning.”

Lipsky’s water well had a gas vent. Water wells often have gas vents because gas naturally is in some groundwater formations. Without the vents, the gas would come out of the waterspout. This is completely natural and has nothing to do with drilling or fracing.



# LAFAYETTE GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH CENTER, LLC

201 Heymann Blvd., Suite 33 • Lafayette, LA 70503

Tel: 337-233-8197 • Fax: 337-233-8177

## **COVERAGE:**

**Louisiana / Federal / State Offshore**

• *Multi State Geo Tech Services • Completion Data  
Production Data • Well Logs • Maps*

*~ MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE ~*

*The Industry's Premier • Well Data Center*

[orders@lafayettegrc.com](mailto:orders@lafayettegrc.com)

CALL OR EMAIL TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION!

## **LaBay Exploration, L.L.C.**

**111 Veterans Blvd. Suite 1550  
Metairie, Louisiana 70005**

**Office: 504-371-5967  
Fax: 504-371-5969**

**[www.labayexploration.com](http://www.labayexploration.com)**

## Where Macondo Ranks Among the World's Largest Oil Spills

1. GULF WAR OIL SPILL  
1991, Kuwait ~11 MMBO
  2. QOM WILDCAT GUSHER  
1956, Iran ~10.8 MMBO
  3. LAKEVIEW GUSHER  
1910-11, California ~9 MMBO
  4. DEEPWATER HORIZON -  
MACONDO WELL  
2010, U.S. GOM 4.9 MMBO
  5. IXTOC I  
1979-80 Bay of Campeche, GOM  
~3.3 MMBO
  6. ATLANTIC EMPRESS  
1979 West Indies 2,123,800 BO  
collision with *Aegean Captain* of Tobago
  7. MINGBULAK  
1992, Uzbekistan 2,110,000 BO  
worst in Asia to date
  8. ABT SUMMER - tanker  
1991, Atlantic Ocean 1,920,000 BO  
900 miles off Angola
  9. NOWRUZ OIL FIELD  
1983, Persian Gulf 1,920,000 BO  
tanker collided with a platform
  10. CASTILLIO DE BELLVER  
1983, Atlantic Ocean 1,870,000 BO  
caught fire 70 miles west of Capetown
  11. AMOCO CADIZ  
1978, Atlantic Ocean 1,635,714 BO  
Wx, lost rudder, grounded off Brittany
  12. M/T HAVEN  
1991, Mediterranean 1,023,571 BO  
violent explosion off Genoa
  13. ODYSSEY  
1988, N Atlantic Ocean 1,023,571 BO  
Storm - 700 miles off Nova Scotia
- Note: EXXON VALDEZ  
1989 Prince William Sound ~260,000 BO  
In terms of volume, this ranks 40th.
- Union Oil's Platform A spilled ~80,000 BO  
over a day period starting January 28, 1989

## Roy Walther Petroleum Geologist

2421 Prancer Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70131

504-392-8513 phone/fax  
504-392-9332

## Richard Provensal

**Apex Geophysical Services, Inc.**

**3337 N. Hullen St., Ste. 201  
Metairie, LA 70002**

**504-779-5006**

**richard@apexgeophysical.com**

## ART JOHNSON

HYDRATE ENERGY  
INTERNATIONAL, LLC

612 PETIT BERDOT DRIVE  
KENNER, LOUISIANA 70065  
504-220-6208

## WILLIS CONATSER

GEOLOGIST

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA  
ONSHORE PROSPECTS

WECONATSER@AOL.COM

## HARBRIDGE

PETROLEUM CORPORATION

### JOHN P. HARLAN

P.O. BOX 7865  
METAIRIE, LA 70010-7865  
(504) 831-4693

(3200 Ridgelake Drive - Ste 207  
Metairie, LA 70002)

## ALPINE EXPLORATION COMPANIES, INC.

Al Porretto and  
Merle Duplantis, Vice-President, Geology  
5910 N Central Xway, Ste 270  
Dallas, Texas 75206  
www.alpineexci.com  
ap@alpinexci.com md@alpinexci.com  
Dallas #s  
214-692-0070 Fax: 214-692-0071  
Merle's Mobile: 504-236-4650  
Al's Mobile 504-452-4020

## SEEK PRODUCTION

Petroleum Engineering and  
Geologic Consultants.

Over 30 years of large & small company experience

**Brian Evans** **William Geen, Jr.**  
Sr. Petroleum Engineer Geology & Geophysics  
Houston and Greater New Orleans Areas

Louisiana 601-799-5925  
Texas 281-710-7034

email: [williamgeen@bellsouth.net](mailto:williamgeen@bellsouth.net)  
website: [seekproductionllc.com](http://seekproductionllc.com)

## SEISOX, LLC

*Seismic Opportunity Exploration*

Seismic Interpretation  
2D/3D

Map - Generate - Evaluate  
Geoquest - SMT - Landmark

**Philip Haerer**  
Consulting Geophysicist

504-885-9238  
cell 504-250-0451  
[phaerer@bellsouth.net](mailto:phaerer@bellsouth.net)



## CHAPTER CONTACTS

Chairman  
Louis Lemarié 504-393-8659,  
lemarie6@cox.net,

Vice-Chairman - TBA

Treasurer, Reese Pinney  
504-566-9802 X-121  
rbpinney@bellsouth.net

Secretary,  
Historical & Remembrances  
Art Johnson 504-220-6208  
artjohnson51@hotmail.com

Membership, Tony Carollo  
504-885-0004  
tcarollo@bellsouth.net

Website, Dave Broadbridge  
david@kimsuol.com

Editor, Tom Klekamp  
985-630-2480  
klekamp@bellsouth.net

Administrative Secretary  
and Reservations  
Carol St. Germain 504-267-3466  
CarolA.StGermain@gmail.com

National SIPES Board  
Chapter Representative  
Jim Evans III  
337-828-1955  
jpe3@cox.net

### BEACON EXPLORATION

Al Baker, Jr., Senior Explorationist  
Abaker1006@aol.com

Hank E. Ecroyd, Senior Explorationist  
hecroyd@aol.com

3636 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 210  
Metairie, LA 70002

Office: 504-836-2710  
Fax: 504-836-2709

### Mark Your Calendars! New Orleans Chapter

#### 2012 Luncheon Meetings

**September 18**  
**October 16**  
**November Joint API t.b.a.**  
**December 18**

### BRUNET FINANCIAL GROUP

RANDY BRUNET, CPA, PFS

*Securities offered through  
HD Vest Investment Services, Mbr SIPC  
Advisory services offered through  
HD Vest Advisory Services*

446 Rosa Avenue  
Metairie, Louisiana 70005  
504-838-0227 Fax 504-833-5217  
eltonfan@bfg.nocoxmail.com

Brunet Financial Group is a not a registered broker/dealer  
nor independent investment advisory firm

### GEO-DRAFT, INC.

A Professional Drafting and Graphics Firm  
Geological, Geophysical & Land Drafting  
Courtroom & Legal Graphics

**Anthony Catalanotto, President**

3349 Ridgelake Drive, Suite 202  
Metairie, Louisiana 70002

Office 504-836-2882 Cellular 504-481-7291  
Fax 504-836-2877 Home 504-464-5737

www.geodraftinc.com  
geodraft@bellsouth.

### Louis Gilbert and Associates, Inc. Consulting Geologists

#### LOUIS F. GILBERT

3636 N. Causeway Blvd. Suite 204  
Metairie, LA 70002-7216  
(504) 834-8112  
FAX (504) 834-1736  
louis@louisgilbert.com

### BOB DOUGLASS EXPLORATION CO.

M.R. (Bob) Douglass  
Consulting Petroleum Geologist

P.O. Box 1059  
Destrehan, LA 70047

bobdouglass@cox.net  
985-764-7463  
Cell 225-247-0600  
Fax 985-764-0955

**Visit our SIPES New Orleans Chapter Website**  
**<http://www.sipesneworleans.org/>**

**Past Newsletters Calendar Photos Links**  
**Consultants and Advertisers**

**David Broadbridge, Webmaster**  
**[david@kimsuol.com](mailto:david@kimsuol.com)**



SOCIETY OF INDEPENDENT PROFESSIONAL EARTH SCIENTISTS  
NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER - NEWSLETTER  
P.O. BOX 50088  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70150-0088

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**