



NOC Newsletter

New Orleans Chapter
Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists

Volume 7, Number 9

December 2007

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Ed Barry 504-835-2508

Open Mike for December Luncheon Andrea's Northern Italian Resturant Tuesday, December 18th

The Best and Worst of Times?

Chairman's Column

In the midst of this 2007 holiday season, Charles Dickens' passage again rings true: "It was the best of times, and it was the worst of times." This is irony at its best to say the least. Who would have contemplated record setting oil prices and record gas supplies in storage at the start of this winter season? Does this mean that oil is scarce and gas is plentiful? Supposedly, as an oil industry "expert," I wouldn't think so, but it doesn't seem to matter to the geo-politicos for it is said that once it becomes known that you have some money, there are plenty of people in line wanting to take it away from you. This truism certainly applies to the petroleum industry, and you find examples of it occurring all over the globe. Internationally, we see nationalization of the industry by greedy dictators. Nationally, we witness the Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service raising offshore royalty rates on new leases and trying to renege on royalty relief agreements on some currently producing deep water leases. At the state level, we find that Alaska has entered the money-grab fray by increasing their royalty rates by 11% from 22.5% to 25%.

But alas, will the world's governments be able to fix all of our global problems with their windfall of profits from the oil and gas industry coffers? If history repeats itself, then they probably will not. However, one thing is for certain, and that is that the governmental blame games will continue. Get ready for more rhetoric on the causes of global warming and its detrimental impact upon life on earth, the loss of the earth's wetlands and our coastlines, etc. Who knows what's in store for our future? Hopefully, science will be paid attention to and allowed to be a major part of the solutions. I can't wait for 2008, how about you?

That's enough of my standing on the "soap box". What I really want to do is to wish everyone the happiest and healthiest of Holidays with a safe and blessed New Year. May your discoveries be many, and your dry holes are few.

Don't forget to call in your reservations for the NOGS-SIPES Holiday Party.

Al Baker

**2008 NOLA Convention:
McMoRan's Moffett to
Address National Meeting
Luncheon**



Convention Chair Jeanne Phelps announced that **James R. Moffett** – Co-chairman of the Board **McMoRan Exploration Co.** will be the keynote luncheon speaker for the 2008 SIPES Convention general meeting. Mr. Moffett will present McMoRan's success in the deep gas discovery at Mound Point/Tiger Shoal area. It is very rare to have a 1.5 TCF success in a mature area. McMoRan used a combination of technology and tenacity to discover this field. Mr. Moffett will be using a video that incorporates 3D images and the development of the play. He will then follow up with an update of their recent success that includes a well that came on at 71 MMCFPD.

**CHRISTMAS and
HOLIDAY PARTY**

**Friday, December 14, 2007
7-10 P.M.**

**Cannon's Restaurant
4141 St. Charles Avenue; New
Orleans**

COST: \$40 Per Person

Reservations through the NOGS Office

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2008 Convention Previews:

Technical Sessions May 13 and 14th: So far we have the following talks lined up:

<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Title</i>
Dave Pursell	O&G supply/demand and prices
Jim Clancy	O&G law talk
Shawn Porche	Reservoir AVO attributes
Deborah Sacrey	Auburn Field Discovery
George Johnson	"Turning Water into Oil," Hartley County, Texas
Bill Knebusch	Granite Wash in the Texas Panhandle
Ken Huffman	Deep Gas Success – Rabbit Island
Barry Scheider	DRI CO2
Stephen Trammel	Hot Oil and Gas Trends in The Lower 48.
Steve Reynolds	Barnett Shale
Phillip Carlisle	Going Independent - Case History of Aspen
	Integrated Oil and Gas Co LLC
Bill Britian	On Line Energy Group
Lee Peterson	Low-budget Subsurface Exploration in the 21st Century"

There are still spaces available for your presentation.

LaBay Exploration, L.L.C.

Walton D. "Bubba" Sanchez
 Kenneth J. Huffman
 L.R. "Lee" Prout
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SIPES New Orleans Chapter meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month from September through May.

Guests are always welcome reservations for the luncheon must be made through Ed Barry (Reservations) at 504-835-2508 no later than two days before the meeting, for a \$30 charge. We offer a complimentary lunch to prospective members. Please contact Tony Carollo if you are considering joining our Chapter

Ad Rates for 12-months (2-sessions, 8-issues):

Business cards ads are \$50

1/4 page ads \$100

1/2 page ads \$200

Full page ads \$400

Business card ads for non-members are \$50.

SIPES New Orleans Chapter
Carol St. Germain, Executive Secretary
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Ad Space Available A Great Bargain!

Jeanne Phelps reminds us that December 15th is the final date for putting your professional card in front of a large audience by taking an ad in the Convention brochure. The New Orleans 2008 Convention is slated to be one of the best in the history of SIPES. We've got the food, the culture the sites, Professor Nelson's field trip and an interesting technical program. The ad rates for the convention brochure are a bargain, considering the exposure your company or name will receive. Don't wait to the last minute. Act today!

Call SIPES at 214-363-1780

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