



# NOC Newsletter

Volume 9, Number 1

January 2009

## Welcome to 2009!

Our December "no speaker" meeting was a very enjoyable get together to close out the first half of our meeting year. Don't forget that Spring Session dues are due in January! The invoice is enclosed in this issue for your convenience.

**Eric Smith** of Tulane's Freeman School of Business is our January speaker. This would be an excellent opportunity to introduce a prospective member to SIPES.

**Art Johnson's** excellent article on gas hydrates was featured in the November SIPES Quarterly, as the New Orleans Chapter's contribution to the ongoing series of technical papers from SIPES chapters. We owe Art a sincere vote of thanks for his efforts on our behalf.

I recently received, from Dallas headquarters, a list of members who have not paid national dues and will be dropped from the membership roles. Two chapters, New Orleans and San Antonio did not have any names on this dubious notice. Keep up the good work!

One last reminder, the SIPES National Convention will be held April 27-30 at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Sounds like a great trip and as an extra bonus, if you are a first-time attendee, your spouse can attend for free!

**Tom Klekamp** has agreed to edit our NOC Newsletter for next year's season.

*Louis Lemarie'*



Professor Eric Smith  
Tulane Energy Institute

## Tulane's Eric Smith: THE TWO YEAR OUTLOOK Tuesday, January 20th, 11:30 am Andrea's Restaurant, Metairie

Speaker biography inside this edition

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## Eric Smith

Eric Smith currently is a professor at the A.B. Freeman School of Business at Tulane University. He also serves as the Associate Director of the Tulane Energy Institute, an economic research unit focused on energy issues impacting the gulf coast region.

He is a 1965 Chemical Engineering graduate of Georgia Tech and earned an MBA, in 1967, from Tulane University. He has 38 years of experience, first, in the petrochemical industry, since 1984, in the international offshore drilling and construction business.

Eric has worked with Global Industries, The CRP Group, and Torch Inc. where, as EVP he was instrumental in arranging an \$80 mm. Initial Public Offering. Prior to joining Torch, he assisted Italian contractor Saipem in a major public offering that financed their deep water drilling and installation initiative. He also served as Chairman and President of Saipem Inc., their U.S. subsidiary. Prior to that, Eric worked for J. Ray McDermott in the Treasury and Business Planning units.

Eric's petrochemical experience was with Allied Chemical, now a unit of Honeywell, and with the Ethyl Corporation. At Allied he focused on synthetic fiber production, while at Ethyl, he served as Finance Director of the Petroleum Chemicals Group, the unit that produced the gasoline additive, tetra ethyl lead.

He is author or co-author of several reports dealing with LNG markets, long term changes in the offshore construction market and most recently authored a report on the prospects for growth in the use of petroleum coke in the Gulf Coast power generation market. He has numerous trade journal articles to his credit and has appeared as a speaker in a variety of conferences dealing with energy matters.

## The Talk

Professor Smith will generally address the outlook for oil and gas prices over the next two years and how operations in Louisiana might look at the end of that time frame.

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### In Memory of a SIPES member Thomas Cullinan 1933-2008

Tom grew up in San Francisco and Dallas, Texas, where he graduated from Jesuit High School. He graduated in 1955 from UT at Austin with a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering, received an M.S. in 1959 from Texas Tech and, in 1969, obtained the Ph.D. in Petroleum Engineering from Tulane. Cullinan served in the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserve. In 1959, He began a long and distinguished

career in oil exploration and development, beginning in Midland with Honolulu Oil. Later he worked for Amoco and Davis Oil in New Orleans. In 1981, he formed Thomas A. Cullinan, LTD, retiring in 2004. In 1970 he married, Jerriane Carpenter Miller, with whom he formed a lifelong partnership. Tom was a member of SIPES, where he was regularly attended the luncheons, the Petroleum Club, NOGS and AAPG; he was a charter member of the WWII D-Day Museum, an inaugural member of the Producers Circle at the Entergy IMAX Theatre, and, in his early days, he was a member and officer of the West Bank Toastmasters' Club. He was a supporter of the Audubon Zoo, donating a giraffe to the Zoo that his mother proudly named "Tommy." At 6 foot 4 inches tall, he towered over Ralph, his beloved miniature dachshund, who he walked proudly for years through his Old Metairie neighborhood! Tom's friends and family all have many favorite stories of his sense of humor, incredible sense of organization, "copious note-taking."

and love of holidays - his motto being "...it's always better to receive than to give!" Tom's love of sports was known to all and he especially enjoyed his "lunch-eat" buddies with whom he had weekly lunches, football "pools" and lots of great fun. He was a die-hard Saints and UT fan. Tom was an avid reader and a history buff, and especially loved traveling to Europe with friends to visit battlegrounds and historic war memorials. *Excerpted in part from the Times-Picayune*

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