

NOC Newsletter

New Orleans Chapter Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists

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March 2008

Eric Orgeron:

The "Green Corridor Solution"

Tuesday, March 18th, Andrea's Restaurant, Metairie Social 11:30, seating for lunch, noon

The Chairman's Column

Five weeks from my last column it's now March 6th, \$105 oil (not \$90) is the norm, and from their February 1st meeting, OPEC now plans to keep their 40% of the worldwide production at the same level during the ensuing economic downturn in the U.S. The real questions are...when will we witness \$4.00 a gallon gasoline, and will we have \$150 oil by the end of this year. How about double digit natural gas prices? It could all happen real soon.

By now, everyone should have received in the mail the **SIPES 2008 Convention** brochure. **Dianne Finstrom** and the National Chapter did an excellent job putting together an attractive brochure, and the planned venues should entice a large attendance by the membership. I hope to see everyone there; local chapter turn out is important if not paramount. As the registration costs increase after April18th, the best advice is to register early. In addition, because the New Orleans Chapter is the host society, many of us will also be asked to volunteer for various jobs during the May 12-15th time frame. So, please check your calendar ahead of time to see if you can devote some of your spare and valuable time to helping out, if needed.

The May dinner is on the Tuesday evening (the 20th) following the convention. Tony Carollo is attempting to schedule a speaker who will be knowledgeable on the local geography of New Orleans and who will be entertaining to our spouses and guests. More information on this and the May dinner will follow soon.

Once again, if you have an interest in volunteering as an officer or committee chairman candidate for the 2008-2009 term, please let a current Board member know soon. We need to announce and vote on all candidates at the April 15th luncheon.

Al Baker, Chairman New Orleans Chapter

Green Corridor?

Green Corridor is a non-profit, public interest organization dedicated to accomplishing three major goals – permanent wetlands restoration, complete hurricane protection for coastal Louisiana and economic revitalization of the Greater New Orleans area. Founded in 2008, the organization researches and promotes alternative ideas, engineering processes and methodology that provide solutions to problems that have overwhelmed Louisiana and her citizens. The foundation works to educate the public about the colossal problems facing the region and to categorize information and technology relative to accomplishing goals to develop solutions to these complex problems.

The main focus of the "Green Corridor Solution" proposal is to provide funding! Funding that allows us to properly and effectively plan our future. A funding mechanism that takes into consideration the fact that the destruction of our wetlands will never end. The problems that face this region cannot be left to funding mechanisms that rely heavily on sources that require time for acceptance, approval and/or manipulation from political forces. Simply put, time is not on Louisiana's side! Procrastination from our past political leaders and internal quarrels has brought us to the "Do or Die" point for saving the wetlands. The time has come for Louisiana's people to move collectively towards an absolute plan and the Green Corridor is designed to accomplish just that the monumental goal to permanently fund wetlands restoration. The key to solving our problems depends upon us, individually and as a group.

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The Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists New Orleans Chapter meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month from September through May.

Guests are always welcome; make your luncheon reservations through **Ed Barry** (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 SIPES Chapter.

Correspondence may be directed to: Carol St. Germain Administrative Secretary SIPES New Orleans Chapter Post Office Box 50088 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130-0088 Annual Advertising Rates for (2-sessions, 8-issues):
"Business card" ads are \$50
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