



# NOC Newsletter

Volume 11, Number 1

September 2010

## Co-Chairman's Message

We kick off our 2010-2011 year on Tuesday, September 21st at the usual time and place – Andrea's in Metairie at 11:30 a.m.

At this time last year I thought I would be just reading this column, not writing it! Things don't always work out as anticipated, we do the best we can.

In this connection, there will be a change in the chapter officers. **R.T. Cerniglia** has agreed to act as Co-Chairman with me and together we will both assume the duties of the Vice Chairman. **Reese Pinney** will continue as Treasurer and **Al Baker** as Secretary. **Tom Klekamp**, thankfully, will stay on as Newsletter chairman along with **Carol St. Germain**, our administrative secretary. **Ed Barry** will call to remind everyone of the meetings and take a head count for the restaurant. This is Ed's twenty-second year with us. **Jim Evans** is the new board member from our chapter, replacing **Ken Huffman** who is now the National SIPES President.

For the first meeting, I was delighted that **Professor Eric Smith** with the Tulane Energy Institute accepted an invitation to speak. Professor Smith last addressed our group in January, 2009 with an excellent presentation on oil and gas prices.

Since the ill-fated BP blowout, if you have followed events in the media, you know Professor Smith was one of the experts interviewed on numerous occasions, both locally and nationally. He always came across as a voice of reason in a sea of sometimes chaotic and conflicting verbiage.



Professor Eric Smith  
Tulane Energy Institute

## Professor Eric Smith Tulane Energy Institute

will speak on the BP Incident and related energy operations/issues

**Andrea's Restuarant**  
**Tuesday, September 21**  
**11:30 am social with cash bar**  
**12:00 luncheon seating**

*This is our first meeting of the season and an excellent opportunity to introduce your colleagues and associates in the geoscience, engineering and allied fields to SIPES. Every prospective member is welcomed with a complementary luncheon. Reservations, Ed Barry 504-835-2508*

*Continued on page 2*

## Co-Chairman's column

His talk will be an overview of the BP event, but I am sure he will take questions on other subjects such as prices, demand, supply, etc.

Mark your calendars and Blackberrys; the meeting dates for 2010- 2011 are as follows:

### ----- 2010 -----

September 21

October 19

November Joint API Luncheon  
Date to be announced

December 21 - Open Mike Luncheon, where the fortified and emboldened may hold forth on matters of import, being assured of at least one set of receptive ears.

### ----- 2011-----

January 18

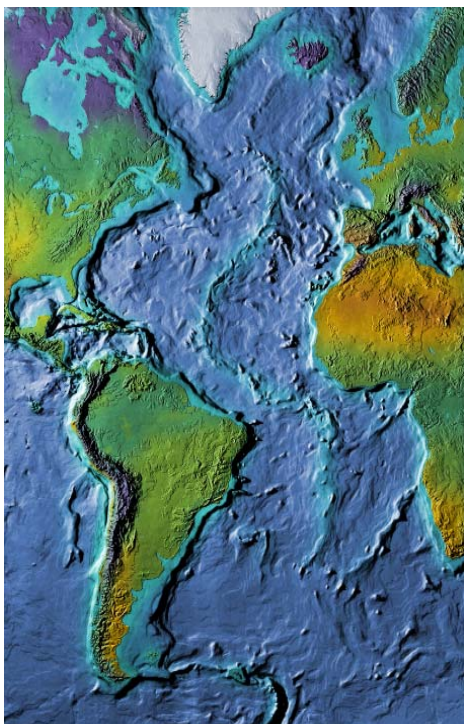
February 15

March 15

April 19

May 17 Evening Dinner

*Louis Lemarié*



## 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.

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## Oil and Gas Fields of South Louisiana 2010 - an update

**Carlo Christina** reports that the NOGS field studies volume is moving according to schedule.

"We thought it would be finished in time for the October GCAGS Convention, but this proved unrealistic," said Christina, "It will be ready by the end of the year."

The project started with a stable of perhaps 40 fields and it now looks like there are 25 definites.

All maps, cross-sections, and type-logs are being redrafted by **Anthony Catalanotto's Geo-Draft** and the quality will far exceed any previous field studies volume. As of September about half of all the drawings were fully completed and everything else is in various stages of completion.

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# Upcoming Conventions, Conferences and Expos

EVENT	DATES	CITY
GCAGS Annual Meeting	11-13 October	San Antonio
NAPE - Exhibits	17-18 February	Houston
AAPG 2011 Annual Meeting	10-13 April 2011	Houston

## Oil & Gas Fields 2010 continued

The following is a listing, in terms of completion, with possibly two more in the process of being submitted at the last minute.

RAMOS (LILY BOOM)  
 LAC BLANC  
 STELLA  
 PINE PRAIRIE  
 BAYOU POSTILLION  
 LAKE SALVADOR  
 KENT BAYOU (ETOUFFEE)  
 RIGHTHAND CREEK  
 LAKE BOUDREAUX  
 PATTERSON  
 BAYOU VILLARS  
 FRESHWATER BAYOU  
 MYETTE POINT NW  
 BRETON SOUND 53  
 MANILA VILLAGE SE  
 COTE BLANCHE BAY WEST  
 CREOLE -WEST CAMERON BLK 2  
 EUGENE ISLAND BLOCK  
 NORTH BLACK BAY  
 NORTH BLACK BAY EAST EXT.  
 LAKE BOEUF, SW  
 PORT HUDSON  
 SATURDAY ISLAND, SE  
 LAKE WASHINGTON  
 JUDGE DIGBY

## Professional Geoscience Registration enacted in Louisiana. What it means for you.

The recent Louisiana Legislature passed Senate Bill 788, the "**Louisiana Professional Geoscience Practice Act.**" Governor Jindal signed it and it is now Act 974. The Bill was introduced into the 2010 Session by **Senator Troy Hebert** of St. Martinville. The entire 27-page marked up version of the bill is available online at:

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/billdata/streamdocument.asp?did=723984>

The group sponsoring this bill was the Baton Rouge Geological Society, though

the bill had endorsements from the Lafayette and New Orleans geological societies. In addition, several prominent oil and gas geologists in the Lafayette area endorsed the SB 788. However, many Shreveport geologists were generally against the bill.

**Exemptions.** There are important exemptions to Act 974 and you need to be aware of them. The portions relevant to SIPES members are emphasized below.

The following activities do not require a license under Act 974.

(1) Geoscientific work performed by an employee or a subordinate of a license holder ... if the work does not include the responsible charge of geoscientific work and is performed under the direct supervision of a licensed geoscientist who is responsible for the work.

(2) Geoscientific work performed by an officer or employee of the United States practicing solely as such an officer or employee.

(3) Geoscientific work performed exclusively in exploring for and developing oil, gas, or other energy resources, base metals, or precious or nonprecious minerals, including sand, gravel, or aggregate, if the work is done in and for the benefit of private industry.

(4) Geoscientific research conducted through an academic institution, local, state, or federal governmental agency, nonprofit research institution, or for-profit organization, including submission of a report on the research to a public agency.

(5) Teaching geoscience or a related physical or natural science.

(6) Work customarily performed by a cartographer, technician, or physical or natural scientist, including a geologist, geophysicist, soil scientist, chemist, archaeologist, geographer, or oceanographer, if the work does not include the practice of geoscience.

(7) Work performed by an archaeologist, geoscientist, or other person conducting

a stratigraphic or historical geological investigation for archaeological purposes.

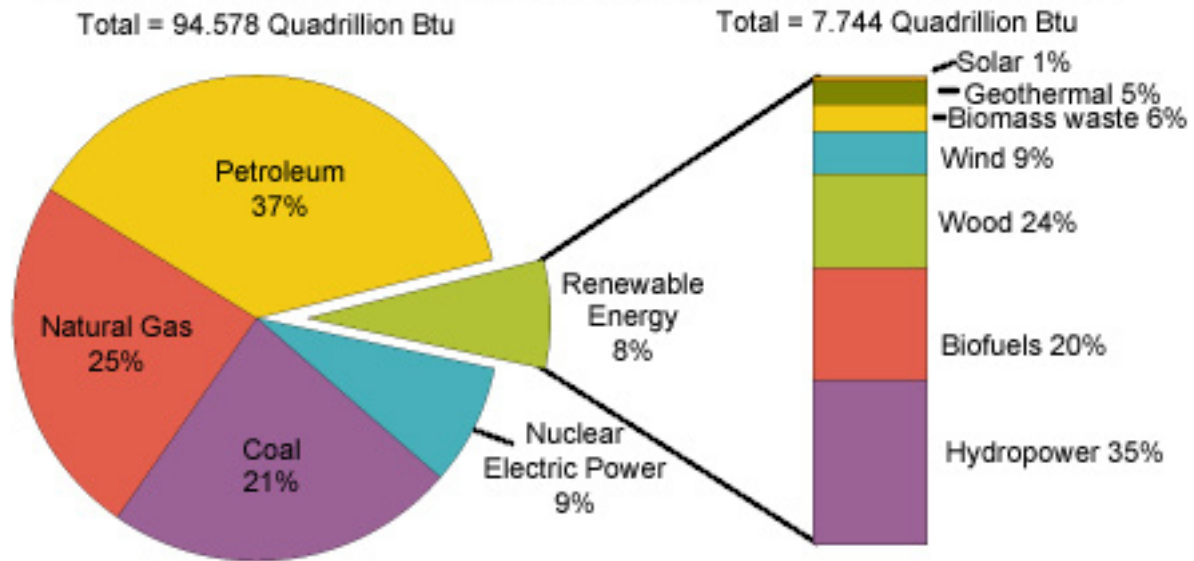
(8) Testifying or preparing and presenting an exhibit or document for the sole purpose of being placed in evidence before an administrative or judicial tribunal or hearing if the testimony, exhibit, or document does not imply that the person is licensed under this Chapter.

1-Year Grandfathering period. An applicant who applies for licensure under this Chapter prior to January 1, 2012, shall be exempt from taking the examination described in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph if the applicant satisfies all the requirements of this Subsection.

**What will it cost?** Once the nine Board members are named by Governor Jindal, they will establish a set of fees to support the Board. Note, the Board, its records and activities must be fee-supported; our Legislature was adamant about the establishment of more boards and insisted there be no public funds involved. Estimates by supporters of the bill, say the application may run from \$100-200 and an annual fee of \$100 for renewals. One idea is to pay the initiation and then let the license sit in "limbo" until the licensee actually has to use the license in professional practice. Then the annual fee would kick in.

**Who should register?** If you are working in the areas of natural hazards, shallow hazard investigations, regulatory (LA-DEQ), groundwater, or environmental geology in the public domain you will need licensing, especially if you are a principal or owner of your company. As noted above, petroleum geoscientists are exempt. There are several petroleum geologists in Texas who registered there and subsequently did not renew because it wasn't needed in their work. If you feel you may shift to these above areas in the future, it may be worth going through the registration process for a license.

## The Role of Renewable Energy in the Nation's Energy Supply, 2009



Note: Sum of components may not equal 100% due to independent rounding.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Annual Energy Review 2009*, Table 1.3, Primary Energy Consumption by Energy Source, 1949-2009 (August 2010).

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