# Pacific Petroleum Geologist NEWSLETTER



Pacific Section • American Association of Petroleum Geologists

July & August • 2006

#### Message from the President

Your Pacific Section is alive and well, and living on the Pacific Rim. And you, its members, are vibrant and fully engaged in the profession of geology. Nowhere was this lively enthusiasm more ably displayed than at the Convention in Anchorage. Chairman Greg Wilson took up the challenge and coordinated ably with the GSA and SPE to bring forth a meeting that had something for everyone. Over 900 people enjoyed the frontier experience, and Greg, we thank you and the entire Alaska Geological Society for your dedication to the task. The convention was a great success in so many ways.

A hearty thank you is due to each of the officers who have served the Section this past year. As we change the guard, thanks go to Janet McAlee for her work as Secretary, Mike Clark as Vice-President, and Steve Sanford as Past-President. Newsletter Editor Karen Blake brought style and great content to the Pacific Petroleum Geologist newsletter. Steve Sanford, Past-President, gave the benefit of his counsel all year long. Continuing on for another year will be Melissa Kolb, Treasurer for both the Section and the PSAA-PG Foundation. Incoming President Mike Wracher will be ably assisted by the new VP and Pres-Elect (see article on election results in this Newsletter).

A host of dedicated individuals serve as Committee Chairs. Without them, much of the mission of the Section would not be accomplished. Thank you to Hana Baker, our webmaster; Muriel Norton, finance; Mark Yarlot, membership; Tom Hopps, planning and organization; Rick Blake, legislative and public affairs; Larry Knauer, publications; Adam Mahan, directories; Bob Lindblom, honors and awards; Rob Fairman, constitution and

bylaws; and Kay Pitts and Larry Knauer, conventions. A special relationship is maintained with the California Well Sample Repository under the auspices of Larry Knauer and Mark Wilson; this effort often goes unremarked, but is ahead of the curve in maintaining and preserving geological samples that otherwise would have been destroyed. Mark Wilson also heads the PSAAPG Foundation, wherein our publications and various scholarships are supported.

Perennially, Bob Lindblom brings energy and enthusiasm to the Honors and Awards committee, and this year's results again displayed the wisdom of his management. Thanks also go to Sandra Szymanski, who coordinates the PSAAPG Teacher of the Year award, won this year by Scott Kleuver from Anchorage. The awards were presented in Anchorage at the Convention, and are fully described in this newsletter, complete with photos courtesy of Brian Pitts. Congratulations to all the winners!

Our Section is very fortunate that Don Lewis represented us on the AAPG Advisory Council over the last 3 years. Thank you, Don, for your insight into the workings of AAPG and keeping an eye out for our Section. Happy "retirement" from the Council; enjoy your time back at home with the Northern California Geological Society. And congratulations to

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recently-elected John Minch, of the Coast Geological Society, our Advisory Council representative for 2006-2009, who now steps up to the plate as he begins his rotation on the Council. Welcome to the bigs, John!

Several others deserve recognition as they serve to connect us with AAPG. Thanks to Barbara Houghton, representing the Division of Environmental Geosciences, and John Armentrout, representing the Division of Professional Affairs. Don Clarke, hailing from the Los Angeles Basin Geological Society, ends his reign as Chair of the AAPG House of Delegates; his accomplishments are legend, enumerated in the PPG and the House's own Delegates Voice. He continues his labors nationally, serving on the Executive Committee. Thanks, Don, for giving your time and energy to the AAPG, and sharing the Pacific experience with the organization at large.

Pacific Section Delegates also served on several House committees during the 2005-2006 year -Karen Blake, Rules and Procedures; Don Clarke, Newsletter; Bob Countryman, Resolutions; and Bob Lindblom, Honors and Awards, Constitution & Bylaws, and Nomination and Election Committees. A big thanks to all House Delegates!

In closing, I want to thank you for being members of the Pacific Section AAPG. All of us volunteer our time to serve our professional societies, whether in the LA Basin, the Pacific Northwest, the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, the far north in Anchorage, the San Francisco Bay area, the Ventura-Santa Barbara coast, or the Sacramento Valley. This Section needs each and every one of us to contribute however we can to "making things go" in a positive and productive direction. So please get involved and stay involved, and together we will achieve our goals. I have truly enjoyed the year I've spent as President of the Pacific Section, and look forward to joining the ranks of past presidents and continuing the good work that has been set in motion.

Joan Barminski
 President, 2005-2006



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Vice-President Michael Ponek 661-654-7342 mponek@chevron.com

Secretary Randall Stephenson 661-869-8043 Randall Stephenson@oxy.com

> Treasurer Melissa Kolb 661-763-6481 mmkolb@bak.rr.com

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#### AAPG Officers for 2006 - 2007

President Peter R. Rose has announced the results of the Election of Officers. The final results included 6,237 returned ballots from 16,538 eligible members with an election participation rate of 37.7%.

President-Elect Willard R. Green Term: 2006-2007 (432) 685-0103

wgreen@midland.edu

Vice-President John C. Dolson

Term: 2006-2007 TNK-BP

Moscow, Russia

7 495 777 7707, x2057 jcdolson@aol.com

Treasurer Randi S. Martinsen

Term: 2006 - 2007 University of Wyoming Laramie, WY 82071-3006

(307) 766-4858 randmart@uwyo.edu

The officers will take office on July 1, 2006, joining

President Lee T. Billingsley

Term: 2006-2007 (210) 490-4788, Ext. 104

lbillingsley@abraxaspetroleum.com

Secretary J. Michael Party
Term: 2006-2007 (432) 686-5971
mparty@wbltd.com

HoD Chair Larry T. Jones
Term: 2006-2007 (281) 493-1022

ljones1239@houston.rr.com

Editor Ernest A. Mancini Term: 2006-2007 (205) 348-4319

emancini@wgs.geo.ua.edu.

J.M. "BUZZ" DELANO, JR. Consultant

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Bakersfield, California 93309

#### AAPG - Officer Candidates for 2007 - 2008

Advisory Council Chairman Patrick J. F. Gratton announces the 2007 - 2008 slate of Officer Candidates:

President-Elect

Term: 2007-2008

Dr. Neil F. Hurley

Colorado School of Mines

Dept of Geology 1615 Illinois Street Golden, CO 80401 (303) 384-2128 nfhurley@mines.edu Dr. Scott W. Tinker

Bureau of Economic Geology The University of Texas at Austin P.O. Box X, University Station Austin, TX 78713-8924

(512) 471-0209

scott.tinker@beg.utexas.edu

Regions Vice President Term: 2007-09 Mr. John R. Hogg ConocoPhillips Canada 2100, Bow Valley Square IV

250-6th Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P 3H7

Canada

(403) 260-8313 jhogg@br-inc.ca Dr. John Kaldi

Australian School of Petroleum

University of Adelaide Adelaide, SA 5005

Australia 61 88 303-4291

ikaldi@asp.adelaide.edu.au

Sections Vice President Term: 2007-08 Dr. John M. Armentrout Cascade Stratigraphics Inc. 20060 SE Highway 224 Damascus, OR 97089 (503) 658-8797

jarmenrock@msn.com

Secretary

Mr. Edward A. (Ted) Beaumont Term: 2007-09

1444 South Boulder Tulsa, OK 74119-3604 (918) 584-6664 beaumont@aapg.org

Dr. John B. Curtis Colorado School of Mines 1516 Illinois Street Golden, CO 80401-4813 (303) 273-3887 ibcurtis@mines.edu

Mr. Terence G. O'Hare Emeral Energy, LLC

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Dallas, TX 75206 (214) 691-2399

tgo@emeraldenergyllc.com

Editor 2007-2010 Ms. Gretchen M. Gillis

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ggillis@sugar-land.oilfield.slb.com

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#### PACIFIC SECTION CONVENTION MAY 9, 2006 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA



Martin Van Couvering Award

A. I. Levorsen Memorial Award

H. Victor Church Memorial Award

Distinguished Educator Award

Distinguished Service Award

Honorary Life Membership Award

Teacher of the Year Award

Jacob A. Covault

Scott Kluever

Rebecca Bailey Ed Brandlen **Brad Burich** Julia Cohen Alec Duncan Robert Miller Ann Maglio Jesse White

Paul G. Lillis, Ph.D.

Rainer J. Newberry, Ph.D.

Michael S. Clark, Ph.D.

Arlen E. Ehm David M. Hite, Ph.D. Dalton F. Lockman

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#### Pacific Section AAPG - 2006 Honors and Awards Winners



Martin Van Couvering Award R. Bailey, E. Brandlen, B Burich, J. Cohen, A. Duncan, R. Miller, A. Maglio, and J. White



Distinguished Educator Award Rainer J. Newberry, Ph. D. and Joan Barminski



A. I. Levorsen Memorial Award Jacob Covault and Joan Barminski



Honorary Life Membership Arlen Ehm, Bob Lindblom, and Joan Barminski



H. Victor Church Memorial Award Paul G. Lillis, Ph.D. and Joan Barminski



Honorary Life Membership David Hite, Bob Lindblom, and Joan Barminski

#### Pacific Section AAPG - 2006 Honors and Awards Winners



Honorary Life Membership Dalton Lockman, Bob Lindblom, and Joan Barminski



Corporate Award BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. Sandy Phillips, and Joan Barminski



AAPG President Pete Rose and Pacific Section AAPG President Joan Barminski

AAPG Annual Convention & Exhibition Understanding Earth Systems Pursuing the Checkered Flag

April 1-4, 2007 • Long Beach, CA

Call for Papers



Abstracts: www.aapg.org/longbeach Exhibitors: www.aapg.org/exhibits/longbeach

#### Pacific Section AAPG - News In Brief

The PSAAPG Executive Committee will be meeting on July 21 in Carpinteria at Venoco's offices, from 1:00 - 4:00 PM. The meeting is open to the membership.

Earth Science Week is October 8-14, 2006. The American Geological Institute announced the theme as "Be a Citizen Scientist!". More information is on web at http://earthscienceweek.org. The Pacific Section reminds its affiliated societies that it will match, up to \$250, efforts by the local societies in connection with Earth Science Week activities. Simply send in a request, with justification, and it will be duly considered. We fully support educational outreach in our communities, and this is a great opportunity to do it. One way is to purchase AGI's Earth Science Week kits and distribute to teachers. Every society is encouraged to participate in some way during Earth Science Week.

Congratulations to John Armentrout, of the Northwest Energy Association, who is running for the national AAPG office of Vice President (Sections).

AAPG Foundation 2006 Grant-In-Aid Recipients were recently announced, including several outstanding students from the Pacific Section arena.

Elizabeth Cassel, Stanford University, "Cenozoic Growth and Evolution of High Topography in the Northern Sierra Nevada, California"

Kristin Hepper, University of California, Riverside, "The Evolution of Great Valley Group Hydrocarbons and Their Relationship to Temporally and Spatially Disparate Hydrocarbon Seep Localities, Northern California"

Robert Kervin, California State University, Fullerton, "Sequence Stratigraphy and Paleokarst Evolution of the Ordovician Antelope Valley Limestone Near Beatty, Nevada"

Rebecca Missler, University of Alaska Fairbanks, "Combining Magnetic Susceptibility with Traditional Lithostratigraphy, Biostratigraphy, and Sequence Stratigraphy to Improve the Stratigraphic Resolution of Upper Devonian Carbonates in Western Canada"

Jesse Mosolf, UCLA, Detrital Record of Rapid Neogene Exhumation of the Cordilleran Real, Bolivia"

The 2007 AAPG Annual Convention and Exhibition is April 1 - 4, 2007, in Long Beach, California. Mark your calendars now to attend. Understanding Earth Sys-

calendars now to attend. Understanding Earth Systems, Pursuing the Checkered Flag is the convention theme, with abstracts due September 27, 2006. Explore the web at www.aapg.org/longbeach/ for the most upto-date details on sessions and the online abstract submission process.

#### DAVID B. DEL MAR

Consulting Petroleum Geologist California Registered Geologist #634

Development - Thermal EOR - Property Reviews

2027 Park Drive Los Angeles, CA 90026 H (323) 664-3358 dbdelmar@earthlink.net

# RMAG/DAPL/DGS IPAMS/SPE

# **Prospect Fair and Techofest**

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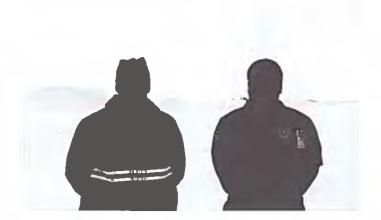
BBQ RSVP and Questions: Tracey\_Fleming-Reese@oxy.com, (661) 763-7523

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\$50.00/ Person Includes:	Golfer 3				SJGS/SEG/SJWLS
Green Fee, Cart, Lunch, BBQ, Polo	Golfer 4				SJGS/SEG/SJWLS
Shirt, and Prizes	Total \$	-			
Reservation Deadline	Preferred Starting Time:			<del>-</del>	
September 1, 2006	Contact email:	C	ontac	t Phone: _	

Golf Questions: Bryan Bell, bryan.bell@corelab.com or Phone: (661) 325-5657

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THANKS ConocoPhillips - and to the many people who made it possible...















#### Ernest K. Espenscheid April 28, 1933 - April 20, 2006

Ernest K. Espenscheid, longtime exploration geologist for Chevron, passed away at his home in Danville, California, on April 20th, 2006, after a two years long battle with cancer. Had he lived, he would have been 73 on April 28th. Ernie was a first generation American, born to young German emigrants who had left Germany in the late nineteen twenties. He was born and lived his youth in the Los Feliz/ Highland Park area of northern greater Los Angeles, where he enjoyed wandering the hills of Griffith Park. Rock collecting there probably doomed him later to become a geologist. He was an only child, but had the benefits of a large extended family of native Germans, some of whom were relatives, who had emigrated to the United States at the same time as his parents. After high-schooling in Highland Park, he attended close-by Occidental College to obtain a BA in Geology. Following that, and a Masters Degree in Geology earned at the University of Wyoming, he joined the Exploration Department of then Standard Oil Company of California, in Bakersfield in October, 1956, After a training regimen typical for young geologists, he was promoted in 1967 to District Supervisor, responsible for all exploration in the Sacramento Valley. A brief assignment to Chevron Overseas Petroleum followed, and then, in 1973 he was given the task, as District Supervisor, of evaluating Arctic National Wildlife and Native Regional lands in Northern Alaska. In 1982 he acted as Assistant to the General Manager of Exploration, Chevron Western Region, for one year, and, in 1983, was promoted to Exploration Manager of Chevron's Alaska Division. In 1990 he transferred to Chevron Overseas Petroleum. where he worked on project evaluation and served as exploration advisor to the Indonesian operation until he retired in 1996, after completing forty years with Chevron.

Ernie loved to travel and, before and after retirement, saw a good deal of the world up close, with his longtime companion, Jane Bolton. Ernie's generous nature and candor won him a legion of loyal friends and he will be sadly missed for his forth-right view of things, his honesty, and his very principled approach to life. He is survived by his longtime companion, Jane Bolton, daughters, Ann and Krista, of southern California, and son, Eric, who lives in Florida. (by Jim Parkinson)

#### Donald Frederick Towse December 5, 1924 - April 16, 2006

Donald Towse was 81 and had no intentions of slowing down. He dived out of a plane last year for his birthday, ran marathons and hiked through jungles. In fact, he often talked about how he planned to turn 100 and have a huge party to celebrate. And it was with this carpe diem spirit that the retired San Jose geologist embarked on a recent cruise to Panama and Costa Rica, where he jumped at the chance to go snorkeling when the morning's activities were announced.

He also traveled the world. He held a doctorate in geology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was always in search of oil and minerals. From the late 1950s to the early 1970s, he worked for now-defunct Kaiser Aluminum, which sent him to Brazil for two years. He also traveled the United States, Canada, South America, Indonesia, Vietnam and Madagascar.

In 1960, he was transferred to the company's Cupertino office, and he moved his family to San Jose. In 1985, he took a job with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory doing engineering geology and energy economics studies, including seismic hazard investigations for new facilities sites. He retired from there in 1990. Mr. Towse was also active with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, which he joined in 1949, and donated to the group's Energy Minerals Grant for geology students.

He and his wife, whom he married in 1945, shared in raising the couple's six children -- three of whom died as adults in separate tragedies. He is survived by: Wife, Marjorie Towse of San Jose; son and daughter-in-law, Lincoln and Joy Towse of Brentwood; daughter, Robin Towse of Soquel; daughter and son-in-law, Sally Towse and Burt Kendall of San Francisco.

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Alaska Geological Society www.alaskageology.org

P. O. Box 101288 Anchorage, AK 99510 Contact: Kristine Crossen afkjc@uaa.alaska.edu



Luncheon meetings are held monthly September through May, usually on the third Thursday of the month, at the Anchorage Hilton (500 W. 3rd Avenue) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$17 (members with reservations) or \$20 (members without reservations and nonmembers). For reservations, call the AGS reservation voice mail at 907-646-7106 or contact Edna Beuhler at edna.beuhler@encana.com by noon on Monday before the meeting.

2006 - 2007 Officers - TBA

Coast Geological Society www.coastgeologicalsociety.org

P. O. Box 3055 Ventura, CA 93006 Contact: Shaun Simon 805.495.2197



Dinner meetings are held monthly September through June, usually on the third Tuesday of the month, at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall at 3801 Market Street in Ventura. Social hour starts at 6:00 p.m., dinner is served at 7:00 p.m., and the talk starts at 8:00 p.m. The cost of dinner is \$15 (with reservations), \$18 (without reservations), or \$8 (students and K-12 teachers); the talk is free. For reservations, contact **Dave Brown** at 805.653.7975 or make reservations online at www.coastgeologicalsociety.org. Reservations should be made by 4:00 p.m. on Friday before the meeting.

2005 - 2006 Officers

President: Shaun Simon 805.495.2197 president@coastgeologicalsociety.org Vice President: Greg Millikan 805.766.2040 vpresident@coastgeologicalsociety.org Treasurer: John Minch 805.682.4711 x137 treasurer@coastgeologicalsociety.org John Harris 805.407.7664 harris@numericsolutions.com Secretary:

2006 - 2007 Officers Candidates:

President: John Minch 805.682-4711, ext 137 Vice President: Greg Millikan 805.766.2040

Treasurer: Open

Secretary: Susan Bartz 805.682,4711

CGS will vote on 2006-2007 officers at the September 19, 2006 meeting. 2006-2007 officers will begin serving in October 2006.

#### **Advertising Rates**

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Luncheon meetings are held monthly September through November and January through June, usually on the third or fourth Thursday of the month, in the Monarch Room at The Grande at Willow Street Conference Centre (4101 E. Willow Street) in Long Beach. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m., and the talk starts at 12:15 p.m. The cost is \$20 (with reservations), \$25 (without reservations), or \$5 (students). Reservations can be made online at www.labgs.org or by contacting Ivan Aburto at iaburto@breitburn.com or 213-225-5900 ext. 234. Reservations should be made by Tuesday before the meeting.

2006 - 2007 Officers - TBA

Northern California Geological Society www.ncgeolsoc.org

9 Bramblewood Court Danville, CA 94506-1130 Contact: David Bero dbsquare@earthlink.net



Evening meetings are held monthly September through May, usually on the last Wednesday of the month, at the Masonic Center (9 Altarinda Road) in Orinda. Social hour starts at 6:30 p.m., and the talk starts at 7:00 p.m. (no dinner). The cost is <sup>5</sup>5. For reservations, contact **Dan Day** at 925-294-7530 (leave your name on the voice recorder any time before the meeting).

2006 - 2007 Officers - TBA

Northwest Energy Association dlgellar@msn.com

P. O. Box 6679 Portland, OR 97228-6679 Contact: James Jackson 503-771-3887



Luncheon meetings are held monthly October through May, usually on the second Friday of the month, at the Multnomah Athletic Club (1849 SW. Salmon Street) in Portland. The meeting starts at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$15. For information or reservations, contact Shelley Thomas at 503-848-2947 or Treck Cardwell at 503-226-4211 ext. 4681.

2006 - 2007 Officers

President Jamie Schick

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Remaining Officers: TBA

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925-422-9910

Contact: Rick Blake



Luncheon meetings are held monthly January through November, on the third Wednesday of the month at the Hungry Hunter Restaurant (450 Bercut Drive) in Sacramento. The meetings starts at noon. The cost is \$16. For information or reservations, contact **Pam Ceccarelli** at 916-322-1110 or peeccare@consrv.ca.gov.

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Dinner meetings are held monthly October through June, usually on the second Tuesday of the month, at the American Legion Hall (2020 H Street) in Bakersfield. The icebreaker starts at 6:00 p.m., dinner is served at 7:00 p.m., and the talk starts at 8:00 p.m. The cost of dinner is \$15 (with reservations) or \$18 (without reservations); the talk is free. For reservations, contact **Jonathan Lange** at 661-664-7644 or jlange@chevron.com.

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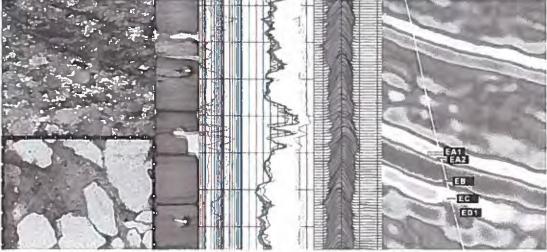
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Reservoir Optimization





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# PACIFIC SECTION AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS

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Membership dues (including subscription) are \$12 per year. Membership inquiries and change of address should be directed to the Membership Chair.

Articles, news about members and events, and other items of interest to our members are encouraged and should be sent to the Editor. Geological articles should be sent to the Geological Coordinator.

Memorial notices, articles, and photographs should be sent to the Editor. Materials may be condensed to accommodate newsletter space constraints and will be returned upon request.

Members with opinions or suggestions regarding our conventions, publications, newsletter, or other items of interest to our members are encouraged to share their views and ideas by sending letters to the Editor. All letters will be shared with the Executive Committee, and those with relevant and timely content will be published in the newsletter; letters may be condensed to accommodate newsletter space constraints.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the Advertising Coordinator.

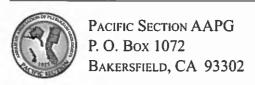
The submission deadline for the September & October 2006 issue is August 15, 2006.

The newsletter is accessible at www.psaapg.org.

User: psaapg Password: loidier

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