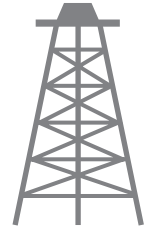




Pacific Petroleum Geology



NEWSLETTER

Pacific Section • American Association of Petroleum Geologists

January-February 2023

Monterey Formation Research Conference

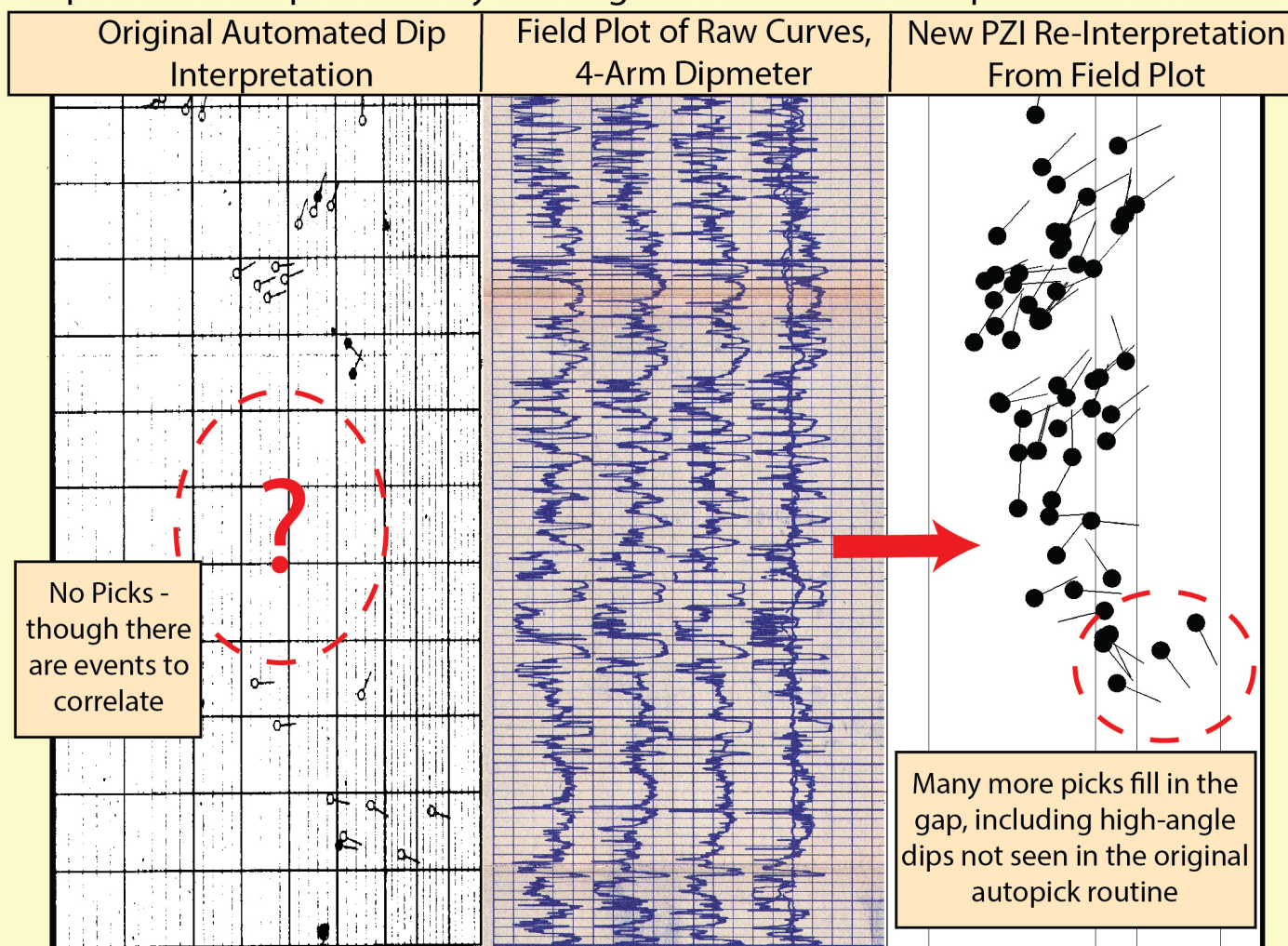


Overview of November Conference, P. 8

- Reservoir characterization, geology, and petrophysics, logs of all ages
- Specializing in problem-solving and difficult reservoir questions
- 40+ years of experience in California oilfields
- Training in log analysis and field studies - customized private courses and mentoring available
- Image log and dipmeter interpretation and analysis

Featured Service: Dipmeter Log Resurrection

In geologically complex areas, it isn't always possible to obtain new image logs for structural information where you want them, but often there are dipmeters available which we can, in many cases, re-interpret to extract better dips than were provided by the original automated interpretation routines.



Deborah M. Olson, President
Geologist/Log Analyst
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4	President's Message	Plamen Ganev
8	Monterey Research Conference Overview	Jon Schwalbach
12	TOTY Application Deadline April 11	
13	'Blue Hydrogen' Proposal at Elk Hills	Bakersfield Californian
16	Richard Lee Pulley, Oct 6, 1946 - Nov 5, 2022	
18	Member Society News	

Cover Photo: The 2022 Monterey Conference was held in Ventura on November 4 and was followed by a field trip along the Santa Barbara coast on November 5. Photo is of Gavoita Beach Monterey outcrops by Rick Behl. To view more photos of the conference and field trip go to the CSG website at: http://www.psaapg.info/cgs/psaapg_monterey_conference.html

Submit an Article to the Pacific Petroleum Newsletter!

- CONTACT THE EDITOR at editor@PSAAPG.org
- Images (graphics, photos, and scans) must be at least 300 dpi resolution. Text should be at least 600 dpi.
- Scanned photos, illustrations (line art) or logos should preferably be submitted as a .tif, .gif, or .bmp; .jpeg

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Fellow Pacific Section Members-

It is hard to believe that it is already the end of 2022! I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very special holiday season, full of positive emotions and quality time that you can share with those you love and care about.

I am personally going to “disconnect” from all those tasks that I feel I should have completed yesterday, and I will intentionally focus on spending time with my family. I look forward to spending time with my 93-year-old grandmother and my 15-month-old daughter... what a life perspective that makes some of our daily obstacles much less significant!

As some of you may recall, about a month ago I asked that our members fill out a survey to help the PS-AAPG Executive Committee better plan for 2023. Thank you to all of those that took the time to answer the survey, and to those of you that did not have a chance to answer the questions- I look forward to finding ways for getting you more involved with the PS-AAPG and its offerings in the new year.



While I'm going to take the liberty and provide my own explanation and commentary of the results, I'm also including the answers below for your own interpretation.

- **We received a total of 30 responses.** While this seems relatively low and some may consider it statistically insignificant, the percent is not that unusual for this type of surveys (16% of the total active membership).
- **97% believe that being a member of the PS-AAPG makes them a better professional.** This is a very resounding affirmation that the Section provides unsurpassed and differentiated value to our members in their professional lives.
- **83% responded that PS-AAPG's purpose and goals are NOT outdated, and the Association helps them grow professionally.** Again, this is a strong signal that the Pacific Section creates value to our members and the Section is successfully navigating the bigger changes seen in the industries our members belong to.
- **50% agreed that the PS-AAPG is responding appropriately to the Energy Transition shifts by providing relevant professional offerings.** To be honest, this split is not a surprise to me. I have heard members who feel strongly that the Section should do much more, and at the same time I have heard members who don't believe the Section should do anything as related to the Energy Transition. While it can be a very dividing topic, it is my full intent to position the Section to be well prepared as the Energy Transition unfolds. What this means is that the Section will continue to support our traditional programs and offerings, while we will also embrace some of the new opportunities that the Energy Transition is bringing to the forefront.

- **More than ½ of the respondents find the annual convention (incl. fieldtrips and courses), online newsletter, and fieldstrips as the most valuable offerings.** This is not surprising, given the long-lasting history of the annual convention, and the multi-dimensional benefits an event like this brings to our members- dissemination of breakthrough science, hands-on/practical learning, and enhanced social interaction. As society continues to “return to normal” post COVID-19, the Executive Committee will be looking for new and additional ways to provide in-person events. In line with this feedback from our members, one of this year’s Section’s priorities is to Accelerate the delivery of science and development of new skillsets [*You can read more about the PS-AAPG’s 2023 Priorities in the October-November Newsletter*].
- **Respondents would like to see more fieldstrips and science sharing events, and fewer social events.** This is valuable feedback to me and the Executive Committee. It is clear that the Section creates value for our members through events that bring the latest scientific knowledge forward, and our focus should be on providing more of these events. I recognize that organizing events like these is not a small task, and here I will look to the broader membership, and I will ask for your involvement so that we can collectively deliver on this objective.
- **Most respondents are interested in the following professional development topics: O&G late-stage field development, and professional opportunities in the Energy Transition.** This is consistent, in general, with where the O&G industry and the overall energy sector are these days in California. It will be important for the Pacific Section to remain well aligned with the latest dynamics in the California energy space so that our members can feel appropriately supported and enabled to continue to be successful professionals.
- **30% of respondents would be interested in participating in PS-AAPG committees, and the majority of those would like to get involved in “accelerating the delivery of science and development of new skills”.** I am thrilled to see that 9 out of the 30 respondents are interested in getting more involved to further progress the delivery of our science and the development of new skills. We will be reaching out to those of you that are interested, and I look forward to working together in 2023!

Happy Holidays and Happy New 2023!

Sincerely,

Plamen Ganev, PhD
2022-2023 PS-AAPG President

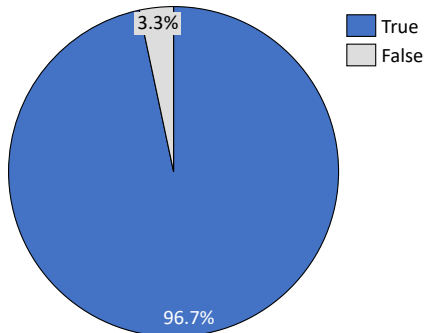
PS-AAPG Survey Results

Q4 2022

PS-AAPG Survey Results

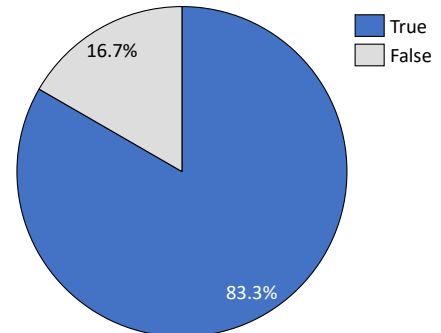
Being a member of PS-AAPG makes me a better professional.

N= 30



PS-AAPG's purpose and goals are outdated, and the Association does not help me grow professionally.

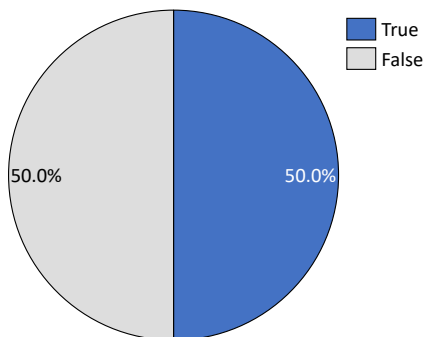
N= 30



PS-AAPG Survey Results

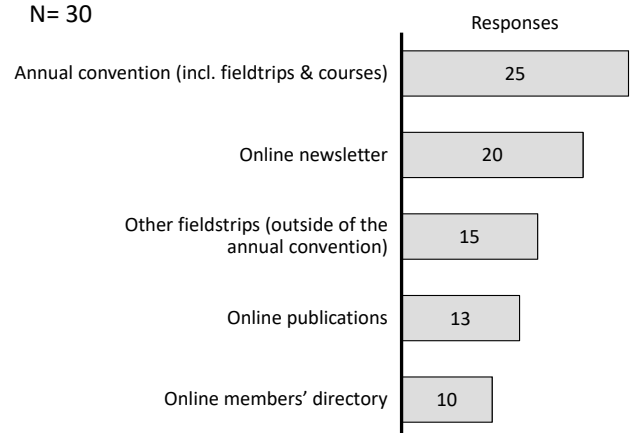
PS-AAPG is responding appropriately to the Energy Transition shifts by providing me with relevant professional offerings.

N= 30



What offerings from PS-AAPG do you find the most valuable?

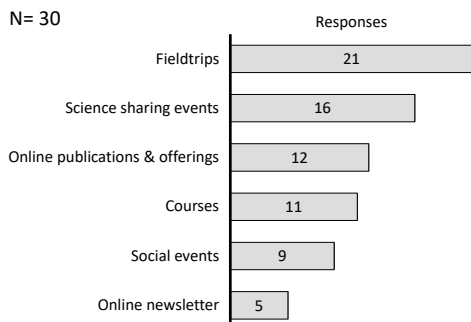
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PS-AAPG Survey Results

What would you like to see MORE of?

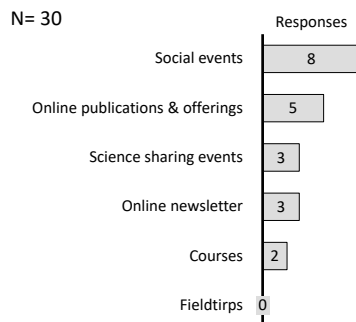
N= 30



Additional (write-in) suggestions (1 suggestion of each): Community outreach, Joint events with other science organizations, Return of convention, Luncheons or dinner talks

What would you like to see LESS of?

N= 30

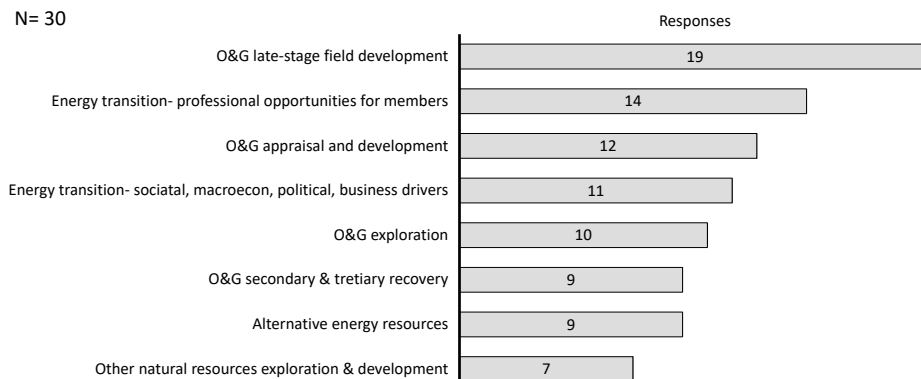


Additional (write-in) suggestions (1 suggestion of each): You can't do any less, Why do I have to answer this section- I want more of everything, Social engineering, N/A, Nothing- keep it all going if possible, Pacific Section's inactivity, Nothing, Anything related to the "energy transition"- this is the American Association of PETROLEUM Geologists, It is all good and valuable, All are welcome

PS-AAPG Survey Results

What professional development topics would you like to see the PS-AAPG offer in the future?

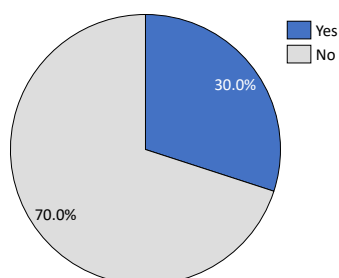
N= 30



PS-AAPG Survey Results

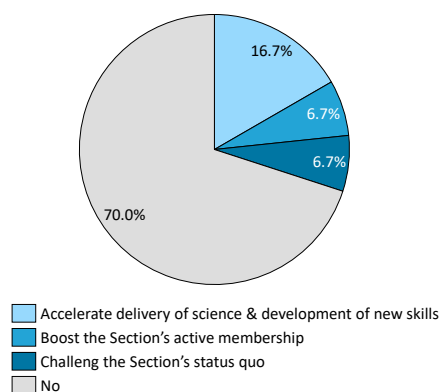
Would you be interested to participate in a PS-AAPG committee in support of the 2022-2023 priorities?

N= 30



If you answered "YES" to the previous question, in which committee are you most interested?

N= 9



Over 50 Geologists Gather in Ventura for the Monterey Formation Research Conference November 4 and 5, 2022

Jon Schwalbach

The Coast Geological Society (CGS) and the Pacific Section AAPG (PSAAPG) sponsored a Monterey Formation Research Conference on November 4th and 5th. The meeting was held at the Aera/Shell Clubhouse, a historic 1930's building on Aera's Ventura Avenue property. Over 50 geologists participated in the meeting, which featured a one-day seminar covering various aspects of the Monterey, and a one-day fieldtrip to some of the classic coastal outcrops along the Santa Barbara Channel.

One goal of the meeting was to bring together researchers, energy workers, and students to review recent developments in Monterey Formation studies. Of particular interest to many of the attendees was the improved age control available for Monterey Formation stratigraphic sections, reflecting updated work with biostratigraphy, geochemistry, and a number of techniques to refine the dating of ash beds prevalent in many outcrop sections. This promises to improve our understanding of the transition from the warm "greenhouse" climate to a colder "icehouse" climate that occurred in the Miocene and is recorded in Monterey sediments. A number of talks highlighted how data and sample materials obtained by the energy industry for exploration and development activities can be used to answer questions about Miocene climate and paleoceanography. These same data, of course, are valuable for predicting subsurface variation in Monterey reservoirs. The abstracts of the talks presented at the meeting can be viewed on the AAPG Search and Discovery website: <https://www.searchanddiscovery.com/abstracts/pdf/2022/91203CGS/index.htm>

Slides from some of the presentations can be viewed by searching the same site by author's last name.

Many attendees also participated in the Saturday field visit to Santa Barbara Channel outcrops at Tar Pit Park and Gaviota Beach and El Capitan State Beaches. The weather cooperated and there were numerous lively outcrop discussions focused on the current research as well as Monterey stratigraphy, lithofacies, and fracturing.

The meeting was not intended to replace the typical Pacific Section annual conventions many are used to, but it did provide a venue for discussions and professional connection. There are numerous retired and semi-retired Monterey workers still active who presented both historical perspectives and updated information. The meeting also featured the first "professional" presentations by a number of current and recent graduate students.

It's been suggested that these focused meetings may play a larger role in Pacific Section activities going forward. Having a topical meeting simplifies the logistics while still providing a venue for geologic discussions and networking. The group organizing this meeting included Renee Richards, Gregg Blake, John Dunham, Rick Behl and Jon Schwalbach.



Rick Behl introduces the group to the geology at Gaviota Beach.



Eliel Anttila, a post-doc working with UCSB professor Francis MacDonald, discusses the high-resolution age dates they are able to resolve from ash beds in the Monterey. Jeff Knott, Roberta Harma, and others look on.



Justin Arakaki presents his MS research from CSULB at the Aera/Shell Clubhouse.



Gregg Blake and Eliel Anttila discuss their research, while Kristy Whitaker and Kurt Neher resolve the fracture mechanics at Gaviota Beach.



A core from the offshore Molino field was loaned by Aera. One goal of the meeting was to remind geologists of the risk to both digital data and sample materials such as cores. This issue is not unique to the Pacific Section. As legacy properties change hands the fate of files, cores, and data bases are often overlooked. In many cases these data are irreplaceable, and in any event would cost millions of dollars to obtain again.



Many attended the social event after the seminar at Topa Topa Brewing in Ventura.

Deadline Approaching to Nominate a Geoscience Teacher of the Year

Nominations for a geoscience Teacher of the Year (TOTY) award are due by April 11, 2023. The award is intended for K-12 teachers that teach at least one unit per year on natural resources. The Pacific Section AAPG will match up to \$250 for the winner from each of our affiliated societies. The overall TOTY winner from the Pacific Section will received an additional \$500 and will become our representative for the national AAPG award. Karla Tucker is the Pacific Section TOTY coordinator.

The AAPG Foundation TOTY committee selects a winner from candidates received from the AAPG sections. The National TOTY awardee receives \$6,000 from the Foundation and is presented at the AAPG Annual Convention and Exhibition. Cynthia Huggins is now the Foundation TOTY coordinator.

Check the Pacific Section AAPG website for the application form. If you have questions, please contact Karla (ktr2@aol.com) or Cynthia (cahuggins@aeraenergy.com).

New Pacific Section AAPG Publication

Advances in the Geology of the Sacramento and Northern San Joaquin Basins since PSAAPG Miscellaneous Publications 41 and 43

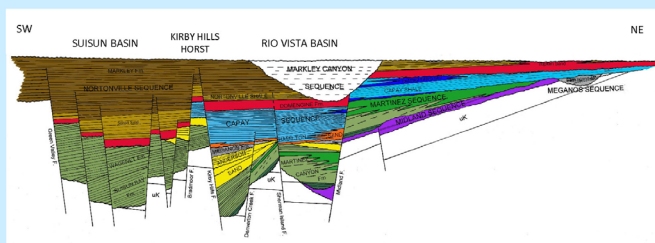
Available by direct download from the PS AAPG web site, or in CD form. In either form, the price is \$45.

To purchase, contact the PS AAPG Publisher at Pacific Section AAPG, Publications Chair, P.O. Box 1072, Bakersfield, CA, 93302, or contact Larry Knauer at laknauer@aol.com.

Advances in the Geology of the Sacramento and Northern San Joaquin Basins

since PSAAPG Miscellaneous Publications 41 and 43

Volume 1



Pacific Section AAPG•Digital Publication CD 7

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December 2020

from the Bakersfield *Californian*, December 7, 2022

New ‘Blue Hydrogen’ Proposal in Elk Hills Would Be California’s First

By JOHN COX

A large local oil producer announced an agreement Wednesday with an Oklahoma company for construction of a natural gas-fueled hydrogen plant whose byproduct carbon dioxide would be buried permanently in western Kern County's Elk Hills Oil Field.

Long Beach-based California Resources Corp.'s deal with Lone Cypress Energy Services LLC, based in Tulsa, was touted as California's first so-called "blue hydrogen" project, creating up to 125 temporary construction jobs and as many as 18 permanent positions.

If a final decision is made late next year to move forward with construction, the Lone Cypress Hydrogen Project would, by the end of 2025, generate 30 tons per day of hydrogen for use in transportation or industrial applications, plus 100,000 metric tons per year of carbon dioxide.

Terms of the agreement were not disclosed, but a news release issued Wednesday said Lone Cypress would pay an injection fee based on how much CO₂ is sequestered at the oil field. In exchange, the Oklahoma company would receive on-site transportation and storage of carbon, plus 50 surface acres at Elk Hills — or double that much land if the project is expanded to produce 60 tons per day of hydrogen and 200,000 metric tons per year of CO₂.

The project would piggyback on CRC's existing joint-venture partnership with Canadian-based Brookfield Asset Management Inc., which has a 49 percent stake to CRC's 51 percent in an entity called Carbon TerraVault JV Holdco LLC. CRC unveiled the partnership in August when it announced Brookfield had agreed to contribute a half-billion dollars toward the deposit of 5 million metric tons per year for a total of 200 million metric tons in a large geologic formation at Elk Hills.

Hydrogen energy production and carbon sequestration are not new ideas in Kern, though no such plants have yet been built in the county. What's different about the project disclosed Wednesday is that it would be the first proposal to combine the two technologies beyond a purely theoretical discussion.

Another difference is that the other two hydrogen generation plants proposed locally would be fueled entirely by renewable energy, making them “green hydrogen” projects. Making blue hydrogen in Kern would tap another resource produced locally, natural gas, in a process considered net-zero carbon intensity because the CO₂ would be buried.

Government incentives are one reason why the proposal makes sense from a financial perspective: State and federal cash and credits are being made available to promote capture and burial of carbon; the same or related funding sources also support greater use of hydrogen, which when combusted produces only water.

The technologies involved are seen as helpful to Kern's economic development as Sacramento's climate policies increasingly discourage oil and gas production while encouraging a fast transition to cleaner energy.

"Energy is one of our region's most important traded sectors," J.P. Lake, executive director of Kern's B3K Prosperity economic development collaboration, said in an email statement Wednesday.

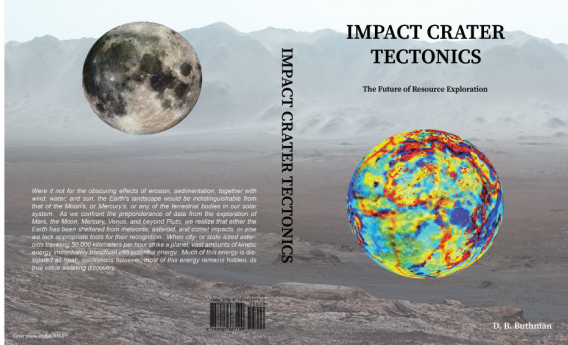
"Innovative projects like the one announced today by CRC, Carbon TerraVault and Lone Cypress Energy have the potential to build on our legacy strengths, evolve our energy industry and provide quality jobs for local workers," Lake continued. "We're hopeful for good news when the partners announce their final investment decision next year."

In Wednesday's news release, CRC President and CEO Mark A. "Mac" McFarland said the company is excited to be at the forefront of California's energy transition. Carbon TerraVault project represents a "meaningful step forward" in the company's rollout of carbon capture and storage technology, he added, and one that the company believes will lead to "many projects to come."

Lone Cypress develops and operates infrastructure across the energy industry, developing, managing and operating projects while specializing in hydrogen generation and distribution, waste-to-energy technology and traditional oil and gas facilities. It said in Wednesday's release that the Elk Hills project, where it plans to deploy what CRC called steam methane reformation technology, might not be Lone Cypress' only facility in California.

"CTV's unique expertise in subsurface operations and permitting, large CO2 storage position and ability to deliver on highly complex and capital-intensive projects provide us with a clear line of sight as we continue to evaluate additional projects in California," President and founder Greg Brooks stated.

The release said the agreement with Lone Cypress gives the CRC-Brookfield joint venture the right to take a majority stake in the Lone Cypress project and to provide carbon-sequestration services for all subsequent hydrogen projects the Oklahoma company may build in California.



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by **David B. Buthman**



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President

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Richard Lee Pulley, October 6, 1946 - November 5, 2022

Richard Lee Pulley died on November 5, 2022. Richard was born in Houston, Texas on October 6, 1946. Along with his younger brother Robert (1952-1990), they were raised in the loving family environment provided by their parents Thomas Edward Pulley and Jeanne Miller Pulley. His education was thoroughly Houstonian: Park Place Methodist church kindergarten, Alcott elementary, Hartman junior high, started at Jones and finished at Lamar high school, and Rice University, from which he earned a B.A. in geology in 1968.

Richard served in the Peace Corps in the Turkana region of Kenya installing water wells. In 1969, Richard followed the family tradition of grandfather, uncle, and father by enlisting in the navy. He served as a crash-rescue firefighter, at Barber's Point naval air station on Oahu, Hawaii.



While in the Navy, his good friend Ross Bonny taught him to fly. Richard maintained his pilot's license for over 25 years. Richard was a lifetime EAA member. His interest in flying lasted his entire life.

Following his discharge in 1973, he returned to Houston. In 1976, he married the love of his life Marguerite Kelly. One of their first dates was to a meeting of the Houston Underwater Club and they continued to enjoy both scuba diving and snorkeling for many years. They resided in Houston until moving to Bakersfield, California in 1983.

Richard worked as a petroleum geologist for 41 years in such places as: Kenya, Angola, the Congo, Oman, Pakistan, Madagascar, China, Gabon, Syria, Qatar, New Guinea, Russia, Nigeria, and Iraq. His fondest memories were of the friends he made.

Richard and Marguerite traveled extensively abroad for vacations, beginning in the 80's. Among their favorite cities were Hong Kong, Bodrum, Bruges and Avignon.

In 2006, Richard and Marguerite moved to Atascadero, California, where they made many dear friends. Richard volunteered with The Friends of the Atascadero Library. Richard was an accomplished musician. He played the cello, guitar, mandolin and ukulele. Richard especially enjoyed his friends in the Templeton ukulele band.

He is survived by his wife Marguerite, and Oklahoma City cousins Marilyn Myers, Nancy Tiernan, Donna Hodkinson, and Glenn Pulley.

Editor's Note: Richard Pulley worked for Oxy and was based in Bakersfield. Thanks to Richard's friend Larry Miller of Atascadero for forwarding Richard's obituary.

**New Publication from the
Pacific Section AAPG**

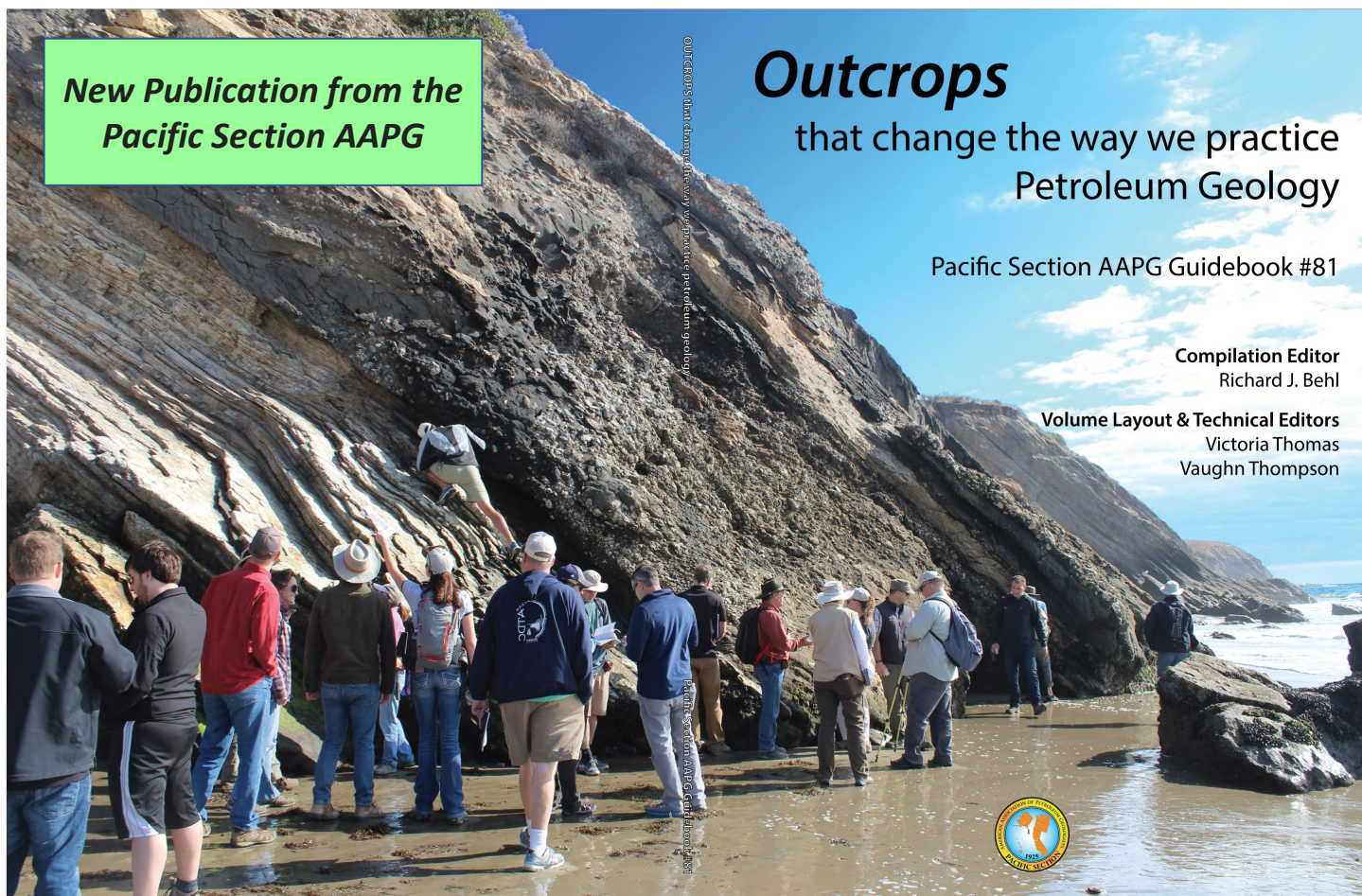
Outcrops

that change the way we practice
Petroleum Geology

Pacific Section AAPG Guidebook #81

Compilation Editor
Richard J. Behl

Volume Layout & Technical Editors
Victoria Thomas
Vaughn Thompson



PS-AAPG Guidebook # 81

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Member Society News

Alaska Geological Society www.alaskageology.org

P. O. Box 101288
Anchorage, AK 99510

Meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month. Most meetings are hybrids, using Google Meet, and in person at the BP Energy Center. Meeting time is 11:45.

Check the AGS website for details on upcoming monthly meetings.

President:	Sarah Frey	sking11311@gmail.com
President-Elect:	OPEN	
Vice-President:	Ben Rickards	rickards.ben@gmail.com
Secretary:	Heather Beat	heather.beat@alaska.gov
Treasurer:	Corey Ramstad	cramstad@hilcorp.com
Past-President:	Laura Gregersen	laura.gregersen@alaska.gov

Coast Geological Society http://www.psaapg.info/cgs/index.html

P. O. Box 3055
Ventura, CA 93006

In-person meetings are the third Tuesday of the month at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd, Ventura, CA 93003

Tuesday, February 21st, 2023: Pacific Offshore Wind: A Panel Discussion with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management facilitated by Joan Barmink, with panelists Sara Gultinan, Jennifer Miller and Renee Richards

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Los Angeles Basin Geological Society www.labgs.org

Luncheon meetings have a new venue: Signal Hill Petroleum located at 2633 Cherry Ave, Signal Hill, CA (562-595-6440, Brady Barto, ext. 5233). Meetings are on the fourth Thursday of the month, from 11:30 am to 1 pm.

Check the website for information on the next talk.

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(Continued on next page)

Northern California Geological Society
www.ncgeolsoc.org

803 Orion #2
Hercules, CA 94547-1938

Meetings are at the Orinda Masonic Hall and online using Zoom on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Talks are 7 pm to 8:30 pm (social half-hour at 6:30 pm)

February 22, 2023: Mathieu LaPotre, Stanford University, Eolian dunes and landscapes on Mars – 10 years into the mission of Curiosity Rover

March 29, 2023: Dr. Don Lowe, Stanford University, Early Precambrian environments

President:	Noelle Schoellkopf	NoellePrince @ sbcglobal.net
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Website Editor:	Andrew Alden	geology @ andrewalden.com

Northwest Energy Association

P. O. Box 6679
Portland, OR 97228

Contact: Jim Jackson or
John Armentrout

No activities are planned at this time. Check the website for the latest information.

President	Chris May	c.law.may@gmail.com
Vice-President	Steve Pappajohn	
Treasurer	Barb Portwood	bbportwood@gmail.com
Co-Treasurer	Jim Jackson	jackson.js@comcast.net
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Sacramento Petroleum Association

P. O. Box 1844
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Contact: Pam Ceccarelli
916-439-0400

As of October 2021, in-person meeting have resumed at the Club Pheasant in West Sacramento. Meetings are held at noon on the third Wednesday of the month.

President:	Jerry Reedy	JWR5532@aol.com
Vice-President:	Scott Hector	Scott.Hector@gmail.com
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(Continued on next page)

San Joaquin Geological Society
www.sanjoaquingeologicalsociety.org

P. O. Box 1056
Bakersfield, CA 93302

DINNER MEETINGS:

SJGS meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month at the American Legion Hall, 2020 H St Bakersfield, CA.

Tuesday, February 14th (Spouse Night) – Sarah Milkovich from JPL

Tuesday, March 14th – Student Night – Poster session presented by CSU Bakersfield and Fresno students, talk given by Kenton Crabtree, M.S. from CSULB in progress

Tuesday, April 11th – Kathleen Marsaglia from CSUN

Tuesday, May 9th – Mara Brady from CSUF

We are still seeking sponsorship for all of these dinner meetings. If you would like to sponsor a meeting, please contact Jennifer Prosser at jprosser@envirotechteam.com.

EVENTS:

Saturday, April 15th – Wine trip to Paso Robles

Saturday, May 13th – Sharktooth Hill morning trip with lunch

Event details will be posted on the website, and SJGS members will be notified by email.

President:	Jennifer Prosser	jprosser@envirotechteam.com
Past President:	Jeff Kimber	Jeff.kimber@conservation.ca.gov
President-Elect:	Lisa Alpert	LAAlpert@aeraenergy.com
Vice-President:	Tom Howard	
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