Filtered Residual Topography of Northwest Louisiana

Bubble Trouble p. 13
Tennis Tournament & 5K Entry Form p. 25
Shreveport Geological Society
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318-865-8568, Fax: 318-869-3335, abrittain@obrienenergyco.com

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It’s already May and that means that this is the end of another SGS year. I was told by last year’s President, Larry Frizzell, just before our September meeting, that the year would go by fast. He was right!

But, just because we are winding down another year doesn’t mean we have nothing going on. To the contrary. For example, Saturday, May 3rd is our annual SGS/ALTAPL Spring Fling at East Ridge Country Club. This event is early this year, by the time you read this newsletter it will be close at hand or over! So, we have e-mailed a separate notice to all our members. Please note the lower price, only $5 per person! I hope this will cause an increase in SGS attendance.

Also in May, on Friday May 16th, is the SGS “Hit and Run” event. The 5k run will start at 8:00 am and the tennis will start at 9:00 am. Entry deadline is May 9th. More details are available in this newsletter.

Our final membership meeting is on Tuesday May 20th. This should be a fun meeting for several reasons. First, our speaker is Dr. Jeffrey Nunn from LSU whose topic is the Bayou Corne Sinkhole. Secondly, Alan Brittain, our Youth Activities Chairman, has invited the science fair winners to attend along with their families and
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projects. Finally, at our May meeting Bill Meaney will be inducted as an Honorary Member. So, please make an effort to attend this one by signing up early.

Last month was our annual Geology and Wine meeting, this year celebrating eastern France. Everyone seemed to have a great time, the food was delicious and the wines selected were superb! Many thanks to Kevin and Rachel Hill and to our special guest, Clive Coates Master of Wine, and to the staff of the Petroleum Club. Kevin is already working on next year’s event!

The SGS Board has been informed by Gray Marston that the new photo directory should be mailed to our members around June 1st. So, look for that.

Long time SGS member Jamey Walker has informed me and Rich Adams (ETGS President) that a core repository has been opened at Stephen F. Austin. If you have any cores just sitting around collecting dust you could donate them to the East Texas Core Repository rather than throw them away.

Roger Berg our AAPG delegate, recently attended the House of Delegates (HOD) meeting in Houston. After much debate, the HOD decided that new candidates for admission to the AAPG need to be endorsed by one member in good standing. This is a change from the traditional three endorsements.

After serving a three year term on the SGS Board of Directors Jared Dysart, Matthew Chumley and I will be stepping down. However, I’m pleased to announce that Mark Dunham, Zach McDonald and John Stroud have agreed to serve. Mark, as you may know has served before and was President. For Zach and John it will be their first time. Roger Berg will serve as SGS President and Alan Brittain will be the Second Vice President (Program Chairman). This Board has a mix of experience and youth which is exactly what our society needs to keep it running.
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Since this is my last “Message from the President” I just want to thank everyone, our Executive Assistant Demetra Morgan, the Board of Directors, the committee chairpersons, and all the members. Serving as your President has been a really wonderful experience. I appreciate all of you for allowing me to serve. It has been an honor that I will never forget.

Have a great summer! Hope to see you next fall.

-Greg Zerrahn

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Invest in the future of science.

The deadline for students to apply for a scholarship from the Shreveport Geological Society is June 1.

Members can donate to the SGS Scholarship Fund by writing a check to the SGS with “Scholarship” in the memo line, and may include an “in memory of” or “in honor of” note there as well. Mail to: Shreveport Geological Society, P.O Box 750, Shreveport, LA 71162.

The application form for students can be found online at sgs1.org/education.
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Calendar of Events

May 3
Spring Fling at East Ridge Country Club - RSVP Required by April 30.

May 9
Deadline to enter the annual Hit & Run

May 13
Board Meeting; 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Petroleum Club 15th Floor

May 16
Annual SGS Hit & Run, All Day; Pierremont Oaks Tennis Club

May 16
Reserve your seat for the monthly meeting

May 20
Monthly Meeting; 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Petroleum Club 16th Floor
Jeffrey A. Nunn presents “Bubbles, Bubbles, Tremors and Trouble: The Bayou Corne Sinkhole”

September 5
Golf Tournament – Look for registration and sponsorship forms on SGS1.org in July

View this interactive calendar at sgs1.org

Newsletter editor available at 1RachelHill@gmail.com
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Main Office
2615 East End Blvd. South
Marshall, Texas 75672
Telephone: (903) 938-9949
Fax: (903) 935-0521
Email: camterra@camterra.com

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The May Meeting

Make your
RESERVATION

Jeffrey A. Nunn

presents

“Bubbles, Bubbles, Tremors and Trouble: The Bayou Corne Sinkhole”

11:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 20

The Shreveport Petroleum Club, 16th floor

Cost: $15, Children 10 and under $8

We encourage members to invite guests, spouses, and friends to any of our meetings.

If you’d like a seat, kindly email or call in your reservation by Friday, May 16 to:

Roger Berg
orberg@bellsouth.net
Phone: 318-220-0300

Name: __________________________________________
I will bring __ guest(s):________________________

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Jeffrey A. Nunn

Biography

Jeffrey A. Nunn is the former Ernest and Alice Neal Professor of Geology and Andrew Clinton Pereboom Alumni Professor in the Department of Geology and Geophysics in the College of Science at LSU where he is an Adjunct Professor and Alumni Professor Emeritus.

He has had a career in geophysics and hydrogeology that spans more than 30 years focusing mostly on the onshore/nearshore Gulf of Mexico and Alaska. Most recently he has worked on the Eagle Ford, Haynesville, and Tuscaloosa Marine Shale plays as well as biogenic gas in Cook Inlet.

Research interests include: fluid flow and heat and mass transport in porous media; hydrologic and rheologic properties of faults and fine grained sediments; fluid flow around salt structures; near surface geophysics; x-ray tomography of mudrocks; thermal, pore pressure, and mechanical evolution of sedimentary basins; geothermal energy; rheology of lithosphere, geodynamics of fold-thrust belts and modeling of sedimentary basins.

He is currently working as a Senior Research Scientist in Subsurface Integrity Technical Services for Chevron Energy Technology Company in Houston, TX.

Keep in Touch through the Shreveport Geological Society LinkedIn Group.
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STEVEN A. SINGLETARY
BEN ROBINSON
Petroleum Geologists

Office: (318) 424-2031
Fax: (318) 425-8140

330 Marshall Street, Suite 930
Shreveport, LA 71101

401 Edwards Street, Suite 1200
Shreveport, LA 71101

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Shreveport, LA 71164

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Fax: (318) 222-8981
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Abstract

“Bubbles, Bubbles, Tremors and Trouble: The Bayou Corne Sinkhole”

At the end of May 2012, methane bubbles were first observed in Bayou Corne in northeast Assumption Parish, Louisiana. Geochemical analysis revealed that the methane was thermogenic rather than biogenic. Additional sites of methane bubbling in Bayou Corne, Grand Bayou and on land have been discovered over time.

As of February 2014, one hundred bubbling sites have been identified. Gas was also found in the top of the Mississippi River Alluvial Aquifer (MRAA) about 125 ft below the surface. Vent wells have been drilled into the MRAA and more than 25 million SCF of gas has been flared. Trace amounts of hydrogen sulfide have also been detected. Bayou Corne and Grand Bayou flow above the Napoleonville salt dome which has been an active area for oil and gas exploration since the 1920s.

In addition, the dome is a site of dissolution salt mining which has produced numerous large caverns with diameters of up to 300 ft and heights of 2000 ft. Some caverns are used for storage of natural gas and liquified petroleum gas.

In mid-July 2012, some local residents felt tremors. Microseismic activity was confirmed by the US Array seismic station.

Photo courtesy Jeffrey A. Nunn.
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222 EAST TYLER STREET
LONGVIEW, TX 75601
903-758-8276 (O)

Jamey Walker
V. P. Exploration
jwalker@rlacyinc.com

Jim Carpenter
Sr. Geoscientist
jcarpenter@rlacyinc.com

Chris Bresch
Staff Geoscientist
cbresch@rlacyinc.com

Hunter Brumble
Geoscientist
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in White Castle, LA. A temporary array of microseismic stations set up in the area recorded more than 60 microseismic events in late July and the first couple of days of August, 2012. These microseismic events were located on the western side of the dome. Estimated focal depths place the events just above the top of salt.

In August 2012, a sinkhole approximately 400 ft in diameter developed overnight just to the northwest of a plugged and abandoned brine filled cavern. The sinkhole continues to grow in area to more than 27 acres and has consumed a pipeline right of way. The sinkhole is more than 750 ft deep at its center. Microseismic activity was reduced for several months following the formation of the sinkhole. Microseismic events have reoccurred episodically since then with periods of frequent events preceding slumping of material into the sinkhole or a “burp” where fluid levels in the sinkhole drop and then rebound followed by a decrease in microseismic activity. In addition to microearthquakes, very long period events have been observed which are believed to be related to subsurface fluid movement. A berm has been constructed around the sinkhole to prevent hydrocarbons or brine from entering the surrounding swamps. A relief well drilled into the abandoned brine cavern found that it was filling with sediment.

From September 2012 to March 2013 the floor of the cavern rose 600 ft and was 90% filled. However, the sediment fill level dropped more than 300 ft in June 2013. The fill level fluctuated for many months and is currently just a few feet below the top of the cavern.

A 2007 seismic survey suggests that the bottom of the abandon cavern is close to the edge of the salt dome potentially allowing direct contact with permeable formations. A 3D seismic survey was shot in 2013 to better characterize the subsurface in the area. In addition, microseismic, subsidence, water quality and air quality monitoring programs have been established.
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The Geology and Wine of Eastern France

Champagne, Alsace, Burgundy, and Rhône

Event photos by Brenda Pender.

The Sixth Annual Shreveport Geological Society Geology and Wine Dinner Meeting was held Friday, April 11, 2014 Petroleum Club of Shreveport, 16th Floor
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Champagne, Alsace, Burgundy, and Rhône

Event photos by Brenda Pender.

(Continued from page 17)

Presentations were given by

Kevin Hill, geophysicist

and featured guest speaker

Clive Coates, Master of Wine

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also signing his new book *My Favorite Burgundies*
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(Continued from page 19)

Find more photos online at
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Oil & Gas Exploration and Production

Kurt M. Ley
Exploration Manager & Partner
Robert E. Braswell
Engineering/Operations Manager & Partner

120 Arbor Place
Bossier City, Louisiana 71111
Phone: 318-918-7182
Fax: 318-918-7198
kurt.ley@kingwoodexploration.com
robert.braswell@kingwoodexploration.com

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SHREVEPORT GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2014

HIT & RUN
PIERREMONT OAKS TENNIS CLUB
FRIDAY, MAY 16th, 2014
ENTRY DEADLINE IS FRIDAY MAY 9TH

START TIME: 5K Run – 8:00AM Tennis – 9:00AM
COSTS: $35.00 per person for Tennis
$25.00 per person for Run
Entry fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, beverages, T-Shirt and prizes. Please fill out form below, enclose check made payable to Shreveport Geological Society & return to:

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Spanoil Exploration, LLC
416 Travis St., Suite 806
Shreveport, LA 71101
(318) 221-2371
anthony@spanoil.com

Mark Dunham
Sugar Creek Producing Co.
415 Texas St., Suite 410
Shreveport, LA 71101
(318) 221-2899
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Check where applicable:
_____ I will participate in the 5K Run
_____ I will participate in the Tennis Doubles
My partner is: _________________________
_____ Find me a partner
_____ I will participate in both events

Name: _____________________________________________________________
Contact Number: __________________________________________________

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CurtBateman@InspirationEnergy.net

Carl E. Gray | Geologist
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cjohnson@jerlic.com

Office Phone (318) 222-7123
Residence Phone (318) 925-2348

David L. Billingsley, Jr.
Certified Petroleum Geologist
400 Travis Street, Suite 1230
Shreveport, LA 71101
DLBJR1@aol.com

(318) 426-4320

GRIGSBY PETROLEUM, INC.
Oil & Gas Exploration and Production
333 Texas St., Suite 2285
Shreveport, LA 71101
Phone (318) 425-5306
Fax (318) 425-3733

iongeo.com

Ashley Garcia
Assistant Program Manager

Main +1 713 789 7250
Direct +1 281 781 1005
Fax +1 713 789 7201
Mobile +1 281 239 4576
ashley.garcia@iongeo.com

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Office: 318-221-4504
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Cell: 318-458-1515
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Shreveport, LA 71161
jsaye@prodigy.net

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E-mail: rmcgowen@coutret.com

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Alvin Rowbatham
Sales Manager

Main +1 713 789 7250
Direct +1 281 781 1005
Fax +1 713 789 7201
Mobile +1 832 372 2366
alvin.rowbatham@iongeo.com

2105 City West Blvd., Ste. 900
Houston, TX 77042-2837 USA iongeo.com

Delta-T
Comprehensive Geophysical Consulting, Inc.

Woodie Huffman, CEO
401 Edwards Street, Suite 826
Shreveport, LA 71101-5510
Phone: (318) 221-0414
Fax: (318) 425-0688
Email: delta@bellsouth.net

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Mobile: (318) 469-5625

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Oil & Gas Development

Robert L. Williamson

Office: (318) 221-2923
Fax: (318) 221-3488
Email: bob@williamsonogi.com

400 Travis Street
Suite 1410
Shreveport, LA 71101

Cowgill & Associates, L.L.C.

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P. O. Box 72180
Bossier City, LA 71172-2180
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Tyler, TX 75704
Direct: 903-594-4113  Fax: 1-877-815-2175
Cell: 903-312-8661
Email: richard.eck@bakerhughes.com

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Technical Sales Advisor
Wireline & Borehole Seismic
1101 ESE Loop, 323, Ste. 200
Tyler, TX 75701, USA
Direct: +1.903.594.4926
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PLEASE CONTACT
Michael S. Willey
VP Exploration
903-570-0936
alpine@nctv.com

David Cherry
Managing Partner
214-778-1474
dcherry@petroveninc.com


Registered Petroleum Engineers
416 Travis St., Suite 1400
P. O. Box 1763
Shreveport, LA 71166
(318) 222-0761
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James T. Maranto    Robert T. Maranto
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2013 - 2014

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<th>Position</th>
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<td>Hill Geophysical Consulting</td>
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#### Executive Assistant

Demetra Morgan Shreveport Petroleum Data, Inc. 429-2237

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