President's Letter

By now I hope that everyone has had an opportunity to make reservations for the SPEE Annual Meeting, June 6th through 10th, in Monterey, California. Annual Meeting Chairman Andy Merryman has put together a terrific agenda of activities starting with tours of Big Sur and the Monterey Aquarium on Saturday, June 6th. Monday afternoon activities on the 8th include bike and kayak tours; golf; and tours of Cannery Row, the wine country and Carmel antique stores. As in the past, a welcome reception will be held Sunday evening and the dinner and awards banquet will be held Monday night. Technical Program Chairman Bernie Brauer has put together an outstanding mix of speakers and panel discussions with a focus on valuation issues. Steve Holditch will present a short course on Sunday afternoon entitled “Using 3D Seismic in Evaluation of Reserves.” Please note that there are currently some excellent airfares available through several of the carriers. Continental is offering round-trip fares as low as $250 between Houston and Monterey. As a reminder, deadlines for registration and hotel reservations are May 8th and May 15th, respectively.

Attached to this newsletter are two surveys of the membership relating to annual meetings and annual meeting location preference which have been prepared by Secretary/Treasurer Richard Miller. Your response to these surveys is critical to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors in determining the type and location of annual meetings which will attract the largest number of our members. By now you should have also received the 1998 Economic Parameters Survey questionnaire prepared by Kerry Pollard and his committee. The Economic Parameters Survey continues to be a major contribution by SPEE to our industry but the survey is only as meaningful as the number of our members who contribute to the survey. Please take the opportunity to complete these surveys and return them as soon as possible.

In the last newsletter, it was announced that a membership drive had been instituted by the Board of Directors which would allow SPEE members to receive free dues for one year for every two new members which they recruit into the Society. For purposes of clarification, please note that if two members are responsible for recruiting a new member, they would each receive half a credit towards free dues for a year. If three members recruit a new member, they would each receive a third credit toward free dues for a year and so forth. Free dues for one year are received when a member has accumulated a total of two credits. Please contact B.K. Buongiorno with respect to recruiting efforts so that she can keep up with the accounting. The current membership drive effort will last until the Board meeting in January of 1999 at which time the Board will consider whether to continue the program. Special thanks to Harry Gaston for his efforts in recruiting new members in the Banking/Financial sector as well as from his own organization.

In closing, I encourage all members to communicate with the Executive Committee and Board of Directors if you have any questions or suggestions concerning SPEE. I look forward to seeing everyone in Monterey next month for what promises to be a most memorable Annual Meeting!

Gene (Skip) Wiggins

17th Annual Parameters Survey
The 1998 survey was mailed several weeks ago. If you want to be included in this year’s survey, send your response immediately. If you have any questions, call Kerry Pollard at (512)480-8800.

ANNUAL MEETING
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA
JUNE 7-9

65 rooms are already reserved at the Monterey Marriott! We only have 35 more in our reserved block which must be released May 15th if not booked.

Make your reservations NOW!
If you haven’t received your information packet, call B.K. Buongiorno ASAP!

Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers • 811 Dallas, Suite 1416 • Houston, Texas 77002 • (713) 651-1639
SPEE Officers, Board of Directors
1998

Officers
President ........................................ Gene B. (Skip) Wiggins, III
Vice President ..................................... Andrew A. Merryman
Secretary/Treasurer .............................. Richard J. Miller
Past President .................................... Forrest A. Garb

Directors
William D. Anderson ........................... Kerry A. Pollard
Brian E. Ausburn ................................. J. Glenn Robinson
Harry J. Gaston .................................. John Thibeaux
James D. (J.D.) Hughes ......................... John Thibeaux

Committee Chairmen
Evaluation Parameters Survey .................. Kerry A. Pollard
Fair Market Value ................................ D. Russell Long
Gas Imbalance .................................... Richard B. Banks
Grievance........................................... John N. Black
Internet ........................................... Gary Swindell
Inter-Proffession ................................ Sam Singer
Membership ....................................... Charles R. Vanorsdale
Newsletter Manager ......................... Jon E. "Rick" Riseden
Past Presidents Council ......................... Arlen Edgar
Qualifications .................................... James W. Haag
Reserve Definitions .............................. Brian Ausburn

Individual Appointments
Annual Meeting Advanced Planning ............... Richard J. Miller
Chapter Coordinator ............................. J. D. Hughes
1997 Directory ................................... Raymond Garcia
Production Tax Summary ....................... Charles G. Massey
Professional and Public Affairs ................. James F. Eisterhold
Publicity Director ................................ M. Fred Duewall
Historian ......................................... Herbert Poyner
Liaison Representative on SPE ..................... Chapman Cronquist
Oil & Gas Reserves Committee ................. Paul Cleveger
AD HOC - Foreign Meeting ....................... Dave Tutt
Investigation Committee ......................... Dave Tutt

Chapter Officers - 1998

CALGARY
Glenn Robinson, Chairman
Robert Old, Vice Chairman
Mike Bruzet, Secretary-Treasurer
David Tutt, Past Chairman and Membership Coordinator
(3rd Tuesday of each month excluding July and August)

CALIFORNIA
Chairman, Richard Miller
Vice Chairman, Mike Starzer
Secretary/Treasurer, Barry Evans

CENTRAL TEXAS
S. Tim Smith, Chairman
Richard A. Johnston, Vice Chairman
Wayman T. Gore, Jr., Co-Membership-Austin
Paul Cleveger, Co-Membership-San Antonio
Michael Horne, Secretary-Treasurer
(Quarterly - Austin Country Club)

DALLAS
Robert Blair, Chairman
Blair Garrett, Vice Chairman
Dee Patterson, Secretary-Treasurer
Fred Duewall, Membership Chairman
(Bimonthly-September through May - CityPlace)

DENVER
Larry Nelns, Chairman
Steve Gilbert, Vice Chairman (Program)
Nanette Stulz, Secretary/Treasurer
Rene G. Daigre, Jr., Membership Chairman
(2nd Wednesday of first month of each quarter - Henshier Room - One Norwest Center)

HOUSTON
Marilyn Wilson, Chairman
Fred Goldsberry, Vice Chairman
Dan Olds, Secretary-Treasurer
Kevin McNichols, Program Chairman
(1st Wednesday of each month - Petroleum Club)

MIDLAND
Cathy Norwood, Chairman
Dean Eiland, Vice Chairman
Mike Black, Secretary-Treasurer
Bill Huck, Membership Chairman
(Bimonthly)

NEW ORLEANS
Tim Brookover, Chairman
Jim Glazner, Vice Chairman
Jim Hubbard, Secretary/Treasurer
(1st Wednesday of each month)

OKLAHOMA CITY
Max Holloway, Chairman
Fred Ferris, Vice Chairman (Program)
Brian Powley Vice Chairman (Membership)
Bruce Heath, Secretary/Treasurer
(Every other odd numbered month)

TULSA
Sharon Vosehull, Chairman
Richard Banks, Vice Chairman (Programs)
Donald Staires, Vice Chairman (Membership)
Robin LeBleu, Secretary-Treasurer
(1st Tuesday of each month - Petroleum Club)
Chapter News

CALIFORNIA

The California Chapter, in conjunction with the SPE Western Regional Meeting in Bakersfield, will host a workshop entitled “Practical Application of the 1997 SPE Reserve Definitions.” The 3-hour workshop will examine three primary topics but will cover any issue that arises. The three primary topics are:

What is Reasonable Certainty and is it the same as 90% Probability?
What are Current Economics Conditions and how do I apply them when I find out?
Are Reserves derived from escalated cashflows Proved or Unproved?

The workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on May 13th. A chapter meeting will be held prior to the workshop to discuss issues of interest and to introduce new and prospective members. The chapter is also in the process of preparing an informational pamphlet on California oil for distribution at the Annual Meeting in Monterey.

DALLAS

The Dallas Chapter’s first meeting was held on September 25th and featured Tom Taylor who addressed the current litigation involving wellhead vs. Processed product prices. The October meeting’s presentation was given by Dr. David Herrick of Mobil discussing Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Logging. In January, Dr. Arcangelo Sena of Arco discussed techniques for measuring reservoir thickness from seismic methods. Our March meeting featured Randy King of Petrie Parkman who gave a talk on the current mergers and acquisitions market. T. Scott Hickman will be our speaker in May.

The 1998 officers are as follows:

Chairman: Robert Blair
Vice Chairman: Blair Garrett
Secretary/Treasurer: Dee Patterson
Membership: Fred Duwell

DENVER

On April 8th, 26 members and guests of the Denver Chapter met at the Hershner Room - One Norwest Center. T. Scott Hickman discussed reserve definitions; past, present and where we might be going in the future. Mr. Hickman presented some interesting views on both strengths and weaknesses of the current definitions; as well as areas that need to be addressed, clarified, and strengthened. An award was presented to Jack England in appreciation of his four years of service as an officer of the Denver Chapter.

MIDLAND

The Midland Chapter met in December to elect new officers and hear a presentation from Mark Wilkins with Texaco about the ongoing CO2 flood operations and horizontal drilling program in Texaco’s Sundown Slaughter Unit.

Newly elected officers are: Chairman, Cathy Norwood with T. Scott Hickman & Associates; Vice-Chairman, Dean Eiland with Eiland Natural Resources; Treasurer, Mike Black with BC Operating; and Membership Chairman, Bill Huck with Huck Engineering.

At the chapter’s February meeting, Ken Olive, President, and Dan Sodersten, Vice-President, of Oil and Gas Clearinghouse gave a presentation titled “Market Value and Recent Trends of Properties Sold at Auction.” Jim Dempsey with NationsBank in Dallas spoke on “Energy Risk Management” at the April meeting. The Midland Chapter meets bi-monthly on the even-numbered months at 11:30 a.m. at the Petroleum Club.

NEW ORLEANS

The 1997-98 year has been successful for the New Orleans Chapter. We have had many interesting meeting topics and have averaged about 10 guests for each meeting. In October, Francesca Beaumont of PI/Dwrights in Houston gave a presentation entitled “It’s About New Thinking - PD/D.” Chris Hopkins of S. A. Holditch & Associates, Inc. in Houston discussed “Advanced Statistical Production Data Analysis” at our November meeting. In January, Frederick C. Palumbo, Jr. Of Core Petrophysics, Inc. in New Orleans spoke on “Advances in Core Analysis.” Randy Smith of Landmark Graphics discussed “New Developments with Aries” in March. We had a roundtable discussion on “Petroleum-Related Sites on the Internet” in February and look forward to another this month on “Probabilistic Reserves vs. Deterministic Reserves.” Dennis Jordan of Collarini Engineering will lead the discussion.

The new slate of officers for the 1998-99 year are:
Chairman - Tim Brookover, Atwater Consultants
Vice Chairman - Jim Glazer, Crescent Technology
Secy/Treasurer - Jim Hubbard, S. A. Holditch & Assoc.

OKLAHOMA CITY

The Oklahoma City Chapter was victim to “spring break” and did not meet in March. Our next scheduled meeting will be in May (we meet on the off-numbered months) and the speaker/topic has not been finalized. Congratulations to Beth Richards with EBCO, U.S.A., Inc., for recently being accepted into the organization.

TULSA

The Tulsa Chapter didn’t miss a beat after installing new officers for 1998. Richard (Dick) Banks has taken over programs and has had excellent meetings in March and April. Bill Abernathy, Vice President, Vintage Petroleum, gave an overview and evaluation of recent acquisitions, i.e., dollars per barrel paid and acquisition strategies. Then, in April, Jim Smith with Marathon updated SPEE members on the much-debated SPE committee work done on reserve definitions. Both meetings were well attended and informative. Thank you go out to both speakers and to Dick Banks!
Welcome New Members

TIMOTHY JAY BROCK
Brock Engineering
763 Wolverine Road
Mason, Michigan 48854-9304
517-676-7023

STEVEN WAYNE DAVIS
Pluspetrol International
5599 San Felipe, Suite 1000
Houston, Texas 77056
713-513-4536

DAVID COMPTON EILLOTT
Gedgill Consulting Ltd.
6407 Laurentian Way S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T3E 5N2
Canada
403-242-1226

LETHA C. LENCIONI
Enron Oil and Gas Company
1625 Broadway, Suite 1300
Denver, Colorado 80202
303-572-9000

CHARLES E. NELSON
Sarita Energy Resources, Ltd.
P.O. Box 273127
Houston, Texas 77277
713-268-1112

KENNETH M. PETRIE
LaRoche Petroleum Consultants
4600 Greenville, Suite 160
Dallas, Texas 75206
214-363-3337

DARRELL LEE PIERCE
PanEnergy Corp.
5400 Westheimer Court
Houston, Texas 77056
713-627-5920

ELIZABETH P. RICHARDS
ECO U.S.A., Inc.
P.O. Box 22177
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73123
405-728-0313

Congratulations to Michael R. Starzer who has been approved to change from Junior Member to Regular Member.

WANTED!!! NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

There is always space available for articles you wish to contribute to this quarterly newsletter. Contact Newsletter Manager Rick Riseden
713-781-1537

Free 1999 Membership Dues
Just recruit 2 new members anytime during 1998!

The Houston chapter has started presenting leather map weights imprinted with the SPEE logo as speaker gifts. If you are interested in acquiring these for your chapter, please give B.K. a call at 713-651-1639 for cost information, etc.

SPEE P.O. Box Discontinued
We will no longer be using the P.O. Box in Houston. Please address mail to 811 Dallas St., Suite 1416, Houston, TX 77002 address