



# SPEE

SOCIETY OF PETROLEUM EVALUATION ENGINEERS

# Newsletter

February 2021

## President's Letter

**A**s your 2021 President of the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers, I send you my greetings. I am honored to serve you as an Executive Committee member and the current-year president.

The Executive Committee and Board of Directors began their new terms at the January 27, 2021, board meeting. **Jennifer Fitzgerald** passed the torch as Past President to **Robert Green**. As such, she stepped down from official leadership of SPEE. I want to personally extend a thank you to Jennifer for her commitment and hard work leading the society. Her energy for the SPEE is as strong as ever, and she has volunteered to lead the efforts for Monograph 5. **Robert Green**, the 2020 SPEE President, ascended to the position of Past President and I thank him for a great year of leadership and innovation for the society, especially during this pandemic year.

**Joe Young** stepped up to the position of 2021 Vice President and is working on the program for the 2021 Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting will be held from June 12 through 15, 2021, at Omni Grove Park Inn in Asheville, North Carolina. We continue to plan for this amid the COVID-19 shutdowns and will keep the membership informed on its status as the year progresses.

With great pleasure, I welcome **Attila Szabo** to the Executive Committee as the 2021 Secretary-Treasurer. Atilla is no stranger to hard work, and I look forward to working with him this year. Atilla has served the past three years on the Board of Directors, and I anticipate his skilled leadership on the Executive Committee.

As 2021 begins, let me welcome the new members to the Board of Directors. Those elected this past fall to serve a three-year term are **Gregg Birrell** from the Europe Chapter, **Steve Gardner** from the Denver Chapter, and

**Dean Sergent** from the Oklahoma Chapter. I thank the voting members of the society for participating in the election process. All three of these members bring a lot of new energy to the board.

Additionally, I want to offer my thanks for their hard work and bid farewell to our departing members, **Anna Hardesty** and **Steve Hendrickson**, who have finished their tenure on the board.

SPEE offers numerous opportunities to volunteer and serve on various committees. I thank all of the 2021 Committee Chairs who are listed on the website and in the newsletter. Please review the committees and contact me or the committee chairman for further information or to serve on a committee. We are always looking for volunteers! Thank you once again to our editor, Diane Pollard, who makes this communication possible.

This list is not complete without a special thank you to Debbie Suter, SPEE's Executive Assistant, whose commitment and organizational skills allow the society to run as smoothly as it does. She and the professionals within our organization who volunteer as chapter and committee members provide invaluable support to the membership.

Thank you all once again for allowing me to serve as the 2021 SPEE President. I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events and meetings.



**Charles Boyette**  
President

# 2021 Officers and Directors

## Executive Committee

President ..... Charles Boyette (Dallas)  
Vice President ..... Joe Young (Dallas)  
Secretary-Treasurer ..... Attila Szabo (Calgary)  
Past-President ..... Robert Green (Midland)

## Directors

Chuck Boyer (Pittsburgh)	Shane Hattingh (Europe)
Gregg Birrell (Europe)	Fred LeGrand (Denver)
Brenda Brown (Dallas)	Dean Sergent (Oklahoma)
Steve Gardner (Houston)	Doug Wright (Calgary)
Steve Gardner (Denver)	

## Bylaws Committees

Chair of Past Presidents' Council ..... Rick Krenek  
Qualifications ..... Mark Reeves  
Committee: Steve Blair, Danilo Bandiziol and Claudio Virues  
Nominating ..... Robert Green  
Grievance ..... David Gold  
Committee: Dan Olds  
Reserves Definitions ..... Rawdon Seager  
Committee: Shane Hattingh, Tim Smith, Jorge Faz, Rod Sidle and John Lee

## Individual Appointments

Ethics ..... Deb Ryan  
Evaluation Parameters Survey ..... Steve Hendrickson  
Fair Market Value ..... Dee Patterson  
Internet ..... Steve Gardner  
Membership ..... Fred LeGrand  
Newsletter Coordinator ..... Floyd Siegle  
University Interface ..... Marshall Watson  
Historian ..... Melissa Nance  
Communications .....  
Recommended Evaluation Practices ..... Daniel R. Olds  
Annual Meeting Advance Planning ..... Tim Smith  
Professional Registration ..... Anna Hardesty  
Monograph 5-Type Curves ..... Jennifer Fitzgerald  
Technical Training ..... Chuck Boyer  
SPE OGRC Oil and Gas Reserves Committee Observer ..... Ron Harrell  
COGEH (Canadian Oil and Gas Evaluation Handbook) ..... Mike Verney  
UNECE Expert Group on Resource Classification .....

## Chapter Officers - 2021

### Asia-Pacific - Chapter in Formation

Chairman – Peter Stephenson  
Vice Chairman – Nick Pink  
Secretary – Hongfeng Wu

### Calgary

Chairman – Larry Petropoulos  
Vice Chairman – Tim Freeborn  
Secretary – Colin Edie  
Treasurer – Gary Metcalfe  
Membership – Claudio Virues

### California

Chairman - Brad DeWitt  
Vice Chairman – Rick Finken  
Secretary-Treasurer - Tom Walker  
Membership - John Davis

### Central Texas

Chairman –  
Vice Chairman –  
Secretary – Charles Price  
Treasurer –  
Membership –

### Dallas

Chairman - Tad Fielder  
Vice Chairman – John G. Davis  
Secretary-Treasurer - Colter Kazmann  
Membership – Michael Zuber

### Denver

Chairman – Zack Warren  
Vice Chairman - Emily Miller  
Secretary-Treasurer – John Seidle  
Membership - Nicole Ford

### Europe

Chairman – Joel Turnbull  
Secretary – Gregg Birrell  
Treasurer – Jes Christensen  
Membership-Program – Tom Gunningham

### Houston

Chairman – Ali Porbandarwala  
Vice Chairman – Jay Quinn  
Secretary-Treasurer – David Fulford  
Program Chairman – Jay Quinn  
Membership – Deji Adeyeye

### Midland

Chairman –  
Vice Chairman – Gail Hankinson  
Secretary-Treasurer – Monica Parkison  
Membership – Russell Hall

### Northern Rockies

Chairman – Rick Vine  
Vice Chairman – Leo Giangiacomo  
Secretary-Treasurer – Tom Hohn  
Membership – Joe Sinner

### Oklahoma

Chairman – David Yard  
Vice Chairman - Laura Stauffer  
Secretary - Bruce Heath  
Treasurer - Steve Blair  
Membership - James Sauseda



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The SPEE Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers. News items, correspondence, address changes and advertising inquiries should be directed to SPEE headquarters in Houston, Texas.

# Chapter News

## Asia Pacific

Membership - 13

## Calgary

Virtual online business meetings have been successful. We may continue as a hybrid of physical and online attendance in the future to boost participation.

On Nov. 24, 2020, there was a Virtual Online Technical Meeting featuring Tyler Schlosser giving a presentation titled *Introduction to Machine Learning: Performance Prediction and Reserves*. There were 23 members in attendance.

Past Chair Mike Verney and the COGEH committee successfully launched a recommended practice for Commodity Price Forecasts to be used in determining asset values for the remaining life of reserves.

*Meetings - 3rd Tuesday of each month except June, July and August. Membership - 53*

## California

Membership - 15

## Central Texas

Membership - 27

## Dallas

We will continue hosting virtual meetings for the near future.

With large groups we have used the chat function for questions. The Q&A portion of the virtual luncheons seems to go more smoothly this way versus having people with live microphones. However, it does feel a bit less personal.

We continue to discuss membership at the beginning of each virtual luncheon and have continued to use social media (LinkedIn) to promote SPEE.

On November 12, 2020, Dr. John Lee presented *Well Interference in Production Forecasting for Unconventional Resources*. Total Registered: 127

On December 9, 2020, C. Susan Howes with Subsurface Consultants & Associates LLC presented *Toolkit for Making Better Decisions when Faced with Ethical Dilemmas*. Total Registered: 129

On January 14, 2021, Dan Pickering of Pickering

Energy Partners presented *2021 Energy Markets: In Like a Lion*. Total Registered: 126

Future Meetings: The Deloitte Mergers and Acquisitions Group will present during our virtual luncheon on March 4, 2021. On May 14, 2021, Sue Sung of Trinity Consultants and Steven Flagg of DeGolyer and MacNaughton will discuss *Greenhouse Gas Reporting, Monitoring, and Mitigation Strategies*.

*Meetings - Bimonthly from September through May at the Brookhaven College Geotechnology Institute. Membership - 75*

## Denver

Because of COVID-19, we have been in warm shut-down mode in terms of in-person meetings and fundraisers. The Denver Chapter is enjoying virtual meetings that involve several international guests and have found the happy hour timeframe (4:00 PM) to be successful in drawing a good crowd.

At the beginning of 2020, the Denver Chapter established a goal of attracting at least four new members during 2020. We added eight new members in 2020. The officers reached out to contacts and colleagues to encourage them to apply for membership and provided resources in terms of identifying SPEE member sponsors. We also offered to reimburse the first year of membership dues for any new Denver Chapter applicants who applied for membership in 2020. We are extending the offer in 2021.

On December 2, 2020 - Annual Ethics with Shawn Turner and Seth Belzley - *Ethics and Law: Obligations and Protections in Oil and Gas Securities Law*. Denver targeted advertising to smaller SPEE chapters and unaffiliated members. Pre-registration: 90 members from 10 chapters, 26 guests. This meeting is recorded and posted in Past Presentations on the SPEE website.

In 2021, we hope to host a short course on SEC reserves featuring Dr. John Lee. This had been scheduled to occur in April 2020.

*Meetings - 2nd Wednesday of first month of each quarter - Denver Athletic Club - The New Petroleum Club. Membership - 78*

## Europe

The European Chapter continues to have virtual meetings and intends to improve audiovisual equipment to allow more of a blend of remote and physical attendees, once Cv-19 has ended. To that end we will improve marketing to other European countries and allow attendees from outside of Europe who do not have access to a regional chapter.

October 15, 2020 Ethical Decision Making with Alexandra Konoplyanik - a review of our existing SPEE ethics material, a discussion of the SPEE code, and possible frameworks for an ethical algorithm which could be helpful in analyzing ethical decisions faced by SPEE members. Attendance 26

November 19, 2020 Bob Harrison - Re-grading reserves with PRMS - The path from prospective resource to reserves is inferred to be 'one way' as re-grading proven reserves is considered a 'rare event,' but evidence suggests reclassification decisions are more commonplace. Two case studies involving reserves re-grading were given. Attendance 41

An "Ethical Flowchart" created by the European chapter in conjunction with a specialist has been sent to the SPEE Ethics Chair for consideration as well as posted in the Past Presentations on the SPEE website.

*Meetings - Four per year. Membership - 42*

## Houston

The Houston Chapter is currently offering free participation through monthly Zoom webinars to all members. Non-members are now assessed a monthly fee to receive an invite to the Zoom webinar.

November 4, 2020 – Thad Touns, President & Owner of Haas Engineering presented *Reserves Reports and Reserves Based Loans*.

December 2, 2020 - Herman Acuna, Executive Vice President at Ryder Scott Company, presented *New on the Horizon: Corporate Sustainability Reports*.

The Houston Chapter is fully sponsored for 2021 by TRC Consultants and Mosaic.

The Monograph IV lunch has been postponed from 2020. At an available date in 2021 we have plans to host this course (pending local and national pandemic procedures).

*Meetings – 1st Wednesday of each month except June, July and August – Houston Petroleum Club. Membership – 167*

## Midland

*Meetings – 2nd Wednesday odd months at 11:30 a.m. – Midland Petroleum Club. Membership - 25*

## Northern Rockies

The Northern Rockies Chapter has been utilizing the Denver Chapter's virtual meetings for both the October 28, 2020, presentation by Jennifer Fitzgerald on Monograph 5 and the December 2, 2020, presentation by Shawn Turner and Seth Belzley on Ethics and the Law.

Upcoming events include a presentation titled *What Influences Production From The Wall Creek And Turner Reservoirs In Wyoming's Powder River Basin?* by Rachel N. Toner, Wyoming State Geological Survey, Laramie, Wyoming, on Thursday, April 29, 2021. 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Elections followed by Google Meet Virtual Meeting, subject to Covid-19 restrictions.

*Membership – 9*

## Oklahoma

The merger of the OKC and Tulsa Chapters to form SPEE-Oklahoma Chapter has been completed and officers have been elected. Going forward we will stick with Zoom meetings (mostly in 2021).

October 15, 2020, John & Richard Spears, *State of the US Oil Patch* presented an outlook for commodity prices and oil and gas production in the wake of this year's historic collapse and addressed questions such as: Where is activity headed over the next few years? How soon might investors return to the oil patch? Will technology have a role to play going forward? What steps will operators and service firms take to become more resilient? 12 Members and 30 Non-Members attended.

December 2, 2020, Denver Annual Ethics Meeting, Oklahoma members were invited to attend the Denver Chapter SPEE ethics meeting.

The mailing went out to 39 SPEE members in Oklahoma. We appreciate the invitation from the Denver Chapter! See Denver Chapter report for total attendance.

*Meetings – Every odd-numbered month. Membership - 31*

## THE ETHICS COLUMN

As many of you would have seen in the last SPEE newsletter, Tom Collier has stepped down as the SPEE Ethics Chair. I want to thank Tom for all the hard work and dedication that he has invested for the SPEE community, and it is with great honor to announce that I will be stepping into the role, and I will use this first column to introduce myself to you all and lay out my 2021 plans.

For those of you that I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Deb Ryan. I'm a Senior Manager – Engineering for Sproule. I lead the consulting services group in Denver and also help spearhead business development opportunities in the US and Asia Pacific. I have been an SPEE member since 2017. I'm a Professional Engineer in both Colorado and Texas, and in the final stages of finishing my registration for P.Eng. in Alberta. Given my multi-jurisdiction registrations, I am familiar with different ethics codes that we as professional engineers have made an oath to uphold. I will be using these, along with the SPEE Ethics Discussion and Guidelines document as references throughout my term.

On a personal note, I'm originally from Perth, Australia and have a Bachelors of Chemical Engineering and Masters of Petroleum Engineering, both from Curtin University in Western Australia. I started my career with Woodside Energy, working offshore oil and gas fields in Western Australia and also spent some time in Libya. I moved to Brisbane as the Reserves Engineer for Arrow Energy, which started my career in Reserves evaluation, and unconventional development, working on Coal Bed Methane Reserves. I joined MHA Petroleum Consultants (now part of Sproule) in 2012, and have been in Denver ever since. I currently live in Littleton with my husband, step-son, two dogs and four chickens.

As well as this role for SPEE, I'm extremely active in both Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and Women's Energy Network (WEN), and I'm currently working on my MBA at Penn State. In 2020 I started my three-year term as one of the North American Regional Directors on the SPE International BOD. I have also served on the SPE Business Management and Leadership Committee (BMLC) and the Denver Section Board. I have just finished my two-year term as the Treasurer of the WEN Foundation and was also the co-chair for the 2019 WEN National Conference, organizing speakers from all over the US, including ethics sessions. I'm looking forward to being able to draw on that experience to help plan future SPEE events.

For me, one of the biggest challenges I think we are currently facing is the ability to sit down and just have a conversation without screaming at each other from each side of very politically divided aisles. It feels like society has lost the ability to have a lively debate, where it's okay if we disagree with each other, but let's find the common ground that we can all agree on and build from there, irrespective of political, religious and more importantly for us in the energy industry, climate views.

I don't care if people are red or blue, or believe in climate change or not, the reality is that public opinion is changing. This changing opinion is then impacting the regulations that govern our operations, and importantly for SPEE members, the standards and guidelines that will be expected on reserves and resources evaluations and disclosures. These changes are likely to be required for both public and private oil and gas companies because of the impact it will have on the ability to raise future capital from investors. As we all try and understand the changing dynamics and the pivot within the industry, I am going to focus the remaining three columns in 2021 to ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) issues and the moral and ethical aspects that go along with them. If anyone has any thoughts or comments please don't hesitate to reach out ([Deb.Ryan@Sproule.com](mailto:Deb.Ryan@Sproule.com)). I'm looking forward to working with you all during my term. Thanks, Deb.



**Deb Ryan**  
**Ethics Chair**

## SPEE WEBSITE NEWS

As the global pandemic persists, multiple chapters are holding meetings virtually. The speakers and topics continue to be as pertinent and engaging as ever, and we have seen that the virtual format is attracting and enabling participation from around the world. Please contact [info@spee.org](mailto:info@spee.org) for help in setting up your next event. In addition, don't forget about SPEE's growing library of Past Presentations, which can be accessed from the SPEE homepage under the Resources menu. Three recent presentations were recorded and are available for playback at your convenience.

Unsure whether or not you've paid your membership dues? You can check by first logging into the website and then selecting the Membership Dues link in the drop-down menu from the Membership tab at the top of the page. Next, click on the "PAY ONLINE NOW" button, and look for your membership expiration date as shown below. If the date does not read 2021, then you have not paid.

**PLEASE SELECT YOUR MEMBERSHIP LEVEL BELOW:**

Your **General** membership expires on December 31st, 2021.

Membership \*  **General - \$ 160.00**

**Associate - \$ 160.00**

**Retired - \$ 80.00**

\*Prices shown include membership dues plus current late fees.

The official address of the SPEE website is [www.spee.org](http://www.spee.org). Please help us keep content interesting, relevant, and error free by providing website-related suggestions, comments or questions to our group email inbox, [info@spee.org](mailto:info@spee.org).

**Steve Gardner**  
Internet Committee Chair

**COMING SPRING 2021!**

**A New SPEE On-Line Technical Training Course**

***Production Forecasting in Unconventional Reservoirs***  
***An Update of SPEE Monograph 4***  
***Dr. W. John Lee - Texas A&M University***



Society of Petroleum  
Evaluation Engineers  
Monograph 4  
●  
Estimating Ultimate Recovery  
of Developed Wells  
in Low-Permeability Reservoirs  
2016  
Revised August 2016

This virtual short course will provide an update of selected topics from SPEE Monograph 4. The course will be presented in two four-hour sessions on successive days. The agenda will include the following topics:

- Multi-segment Arps production decline model
- Workflow for rate-transient analysis and forecasting
- Application of numerical models in production forecasting
- Well spacing
  - Interference
  - Parent-child issues
- Multi-phase flow

Registration details and course date coming soon.

# Welcome New Members

## Unaffiliated

**Casto, Michael (Wes)**      **Member No. 1038**  
President/Owner  
Casto Petroleum Engineering LLC  
P O Box 4045  
Marietta OH 45750  
wes@castope.com

## Denver Chapter

**Cavanaugh, Tanya**      **Member No. 1039**  
Advisor, Corporate Reserves  
Ovintiv  
370 17th St, Ste 1700  
Denver CO 80202  
Tanya.cavanaugh@ovintiv.com

## Houston Chapter

**Riseden, Connor**      **Member No. 1040**  
Vice President  
Netherland, Sewell & Associates Inc.  
1301 McKinney St, Ste 3200  
Houston TX 77020  
criseden@nsai-petro.com

## Latin America Chapter in Formation

**Status Upgrade Associate to Full Member**  
**Fondevila, Gaston**      **Member No. 1016**  
Engineering Manager  
Companias Asociadas Petroleras SA  
Av Cordoba 950 5 C  
Ciudad Autonoma de Buenos Aires C1054AAV Argentina  
Gaston.fondevila@grupocapsa.com.ar

## Oklahoma Chapter

**Status Upgrade Associate to Full Member**  
**Anderson, Aaron**      **Member No. 898**  
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## 60th ANNIVERSARY OF SPEE IN 2022

Members, 2022 is the 60th anniversary of SPEE. As such, we would like to publish a hardbound book commemorating the SPEE. Please help us by sending photos (include names, where and when the photos were taken), and any historical stories or biographies pertaining to SPEE to [historian@spee.org](mailto:historian@spee.org).

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## 1962 History Trivia

- Telstar was launched as the first working communications satellite.
- John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth, keeping the Space Race with the USSR about even.
- The light-emitting diode (LED) was invented by Nick Holonyak while working for General Electric.
- The first computer video game, Spacewar, was invented.
- The Philips Company of the Netherlands invented and released the first audio-cassette.
- A fallout shelter could be purchased for as little as \$100, allowing your family to eat radiation-free for up to two weeks. Models priced at \$5000 and even higher were also available.
- Decca Records A&R executive Dick Rowe turned down the Beatles for a record deal and reportedly told their manager, "Guitar groups are on the way out." He made up for the mistake by signing the Rolling Stones the following year.



**PLAN  
AHEAD**

**SPEE Annual Meetings**

**June 12-15, 2021 - Omni Grove Park Inn  
Asheville, North Carolina**

**June 13-16, 2022 - Meritage Resort  
Napa, California**

**June 18-21, 2023 - Gurney's Resort and Marina  
Newport, Rhode Island**