

highlights

All events will be held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center unless otherwise noted.

forums and special sessions

Forum: Basin and Play Evaluation and Risk Analysis (AAPG)

Date: Monday, April 21
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Location: Room 214 A/B
Co-Chairs: R. Riese and G. McMaster

This forum will address the spectrum of risk and uncertainty analyses that correspond to all phases of exploration and production. These include resource evaluation methods, play evaluations, individual prospect evaluations, portfolio management and optimization and reserves reporting – stochastic versus deterministic techniques. Industry leaders in each of these categories have been invited to share and discuss their latest thinking on these topics.

SEPM Research Symposium: Paleoclimate: Implications for Stratigraphic Interpretation and Modern Climate Change

Date: Monday, April 21
Time: 1:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Room 213
Co-Chairs: H. R. Lane and M. Perlmutter

The geologic record provides us the only possible means to understand natural climate variability. Paleoclimate research involves a broad community of geoscientists and climate modelers. Using both established and newly developing proxies coupled with increasingly advanced analytical techniques, we are beginning to mine the Earth's paleoclimate record at a high temporal resolution, gaining insight on air and oceanic temperatures, annual precipitation patterns, storminess, seasonality and wind strength/direction at scales ranging from annual to seasonal.

This symposium is a two-part session that will discuss (1) the impact that paleoclimate studies can have on a refined and predictive understanding of lithology, stratigraphy, basin architecture and resources and (2) the context and perspective that paleoclimate research can have for present and future climate change.

Forum: Economics of Natural Gas and Alternative Energy (EMD/AAPG)

Date: Monday, April 21
Time: 1:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Room 217 A
Co-Chairs: M. M. Foss and J. Platt

The price of natural gas is a benchmark for determining the competitiveness of alternative energy sources, the price of electricity and the economic ranking of various electricity generation technologies. It is also critical to the profitability of conventional and

unconventional gas prospects. The presentations in this session will address the critical factors shaping the natural gas market outlook over the intermediate term, escalation in costs of exploration and production and the way these factors affect the financial performance of specific projects.

Market scenarios will weigh the effects of changing production (recently increasing at today's astonishing rig counts), declining Canadian imports, soon-to-surge LNG and increasing use of natural gas for power generation (the only and rapidly, growing sector). One of the most significant considerations is the prospect of unexpectedly

Michel T. Halbouty Lecture

The Michel T. Halbouty lecture series is an ongoing special event at the AAPG Annual Convention and Exhibition. Lecture topics are designed to focus either on wildcat exploration in any part of the world where major discoveries might contribute significantly to petroleum reserves, or space exploration where astrogeological knowledge would further mankind's ability to develop resources on earth and in the solar system.

Distinguishing Successful Wildcatters: How Your Company Can Be Among the Best

Date: Monday, April 21
Time: 5:10 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Location: Room 217 B/C
Chair: G. L. Ames III



Ray L. Hunt (pictured left) knows a few things about wildcatting, having a high tolerance for risk and having been in the business for nearly 50 years. During that time he has come to appreciate a certain set of values that have contributed to his success and distinguished his companies from mediocre counterparts.

The correct Corporate Culture, Differentiation, Adaptability, Agility and taking a Contrarian position are five such corporate attributes that will lead to greater success and longevity in a rapidly changing global energy environment. Mr. Hunt will discuss these and other characteristics of a successful wildcatter in an interactive session that will no doubt conjure a lot of creativity and rumination.

Ray Hunt is a Dallas businessman whose association with Hunt Oil Company began in 1958 as a summer employee in the oil fields. He graduated from Southern Methodist University in 1965 with a degree in economics and now serves as chairman of the board, president and CEO of Hunt Consolidated, Inc. and CEO of Hunt Oil Company and other related companies.

Hunt is a member of the board of directors of the American Petroleum Institute and serves on its Policy Committee. In 1988, he was elected an All-American Wildcatter by the national organization of the same name, followed in 1989 by the John Rogers Award (given by the Southwestern Legal Foundation - "for distinguished service to the petroleum industry and civic institutions"). Additionally, he received the Public Service Award of the Society of Petroleum Engineers, the Distinguished Service Award for the Texas Oil and Gas Association, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the North Texas Energy Council and in 2007, the Distinguished Service and Leadership Award of the 25-Year Club of the Petroleum Industry.

Hunt has received two awards that his father, H. L. Hunt, had previously received. In 1992, he was elected to the Texas Business Hall of Fame (an honor which Hunt's father had posthumously received in 1986) and in 2005, he received the Chief Roughneck Award (an award which his father received in 1966) which recognized "the one individual whose accomplishments and character best represent the highest ideals of the oil and gas industry."

He also currently serves as a member of the executive committee of the board of trustees of Southern Methodist University, the board of trustees of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C., the executive committee of the Southwestern Medical Foundation in Dallas, the board of trustees of The Cooper Institute and several other boards.

With respect to government service, in October 2001 and again in January 2006, Hunt was appointed by President George W. Bush to the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board in Washington, D.C. He was also appointed to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas in 1998 and served as its chairman for four years until rotating off of the board on December 31, 2006. Additionally, he is currently a member of the National Petroleum Council and served as its chairman from June 1991 to July 1994.

Mr. Hunt is also the recipient of numerous awards for his good works including "the Order of Marib," given by the government of the Republic of Yemen (Hunt is the only non-Yemeni ever to be so designated) and the 2000 Woodrow Wilson Center for International Studies Award for Corporate Citizenship.

greater gas requirements for power generation resulting from delays and withdrawals of coal-fired power plants. Insight into escalation of finding and development costs and when they may subside, is also sought.

Case studies will summarize the production outlook and examine the economics of production for the Barnett and similar shales and for coalbed methane. A case study will also describe Canadian drilling and production, as well as the consequences of cutbacks in drilling in response to high costs. Speakers may also address the timetable and economic impacts of clean coal technologies for power production, responding to heightened calls for CO₂ sequestration, in addition to assessing the implications of deferrals in plans to tap Arctic gas.

Forum: Discovery Thinking (AAPG/DPA/HOPG)

Date: Monday, April 21
Time: 1:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Room 217 B/C
Co-Chairs: C. Sternbach and T. Beaumont

This forum is the inaugural session of the AAPG 100th Anniversary Committee's program recognizing "100 Who Made a Difference." The forum will present six invited speakers: Marlan Downey, Bob Gunn, Alfredo Guzman, Dudley Hughes, Herbert Hunt and Clayton Williams.

Each is a legendary veteran of the petroleum industry. They are all renowned for their success in exploring for and finding hydrocarbon reserves. Each speaker overcame great challenges and thrived in both business and geological aspects of our profession. Topics to be discussed will include philosophy of exploration, lessons learned from remarkable careers, professional insights and some colorful anecdotes. As technology advances and a new wave of young geoscientists enter our profession, we see continued interest in forums such as this to discuss the personal side of success and what has been called the "art of exploration."

Forum: Impact of Policy and Labor on the Geosciences (DPA/AAPG)

Date: Tuesday, April 22
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Location: Room 210
Co-Chair: G. L. Ames III and T. Ewing

It is clear that our industry is being challenged in many new ways. With growing energy demand and a shrinking labor force, we are encountering a host of issues that will have a lasting impact on our profession and, possibly, our nation's energy security. This forum will not only review energy policy and workforce issues but will endeavor to address the abstruse association between the two subject areas.

In August 2007, the U.S. President signed a bill, the "America Competes Act," as a measure to attract students to the math and sciences. Although it will be years before any impact is known, it is clear that the new policy does not address petroleum workforce issues. This comes at a time when university geoscience programs have substantial monetary resources and the initiative to expand their student offerings; however, they are finding it difficult to recruit candidates that want a world class education. This forum will investigate some of the contributions that the federal government, academic institutions and the private sector can make towards strengthening the workforce.

It stands to reason that U.S. domestic energy policy would seek to nurture the responsible capture of our domestic petroleum supply; however, most of today's legislative proposals seek to punish instead. This forum will also discuss the complexities and the key principles that should be part of a sustainable energy policy.

Forum: Future of Unconventional Resource Plays (EMD/AAPG)

Date: Tuesday, April 22
Time: 1:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Room 217 A
Chair: A. R. Scott

Over the past 30 years, unconventional resources were transformed from a novelty into a significant contribution towards worldwide energy reserves. The emergence of coalbed methane and shale gas plays as viable exploration targets has significantly added to the energy mix, and emerging secondary and tertiary recovery technologies may further add to the reserve base.

With oil prices hovering around record highs, the abundance of oil sands and shale in North America make them attractive exploration targets that could significantly impact oil supplies. Future unconventional resources that have yet to be tapped include gas hydrates derived from deepwater sources and arctic regions. This forum will review the importance of unconventional resources in the present and for the future and will discuss the technologies required to exploit these resources.

Embracing Diversity in a Global Workforce: How Do We Respond to Age, Gender and Global Cultural Differences?

Date: Tuesday, April 22
Time: 5:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Location: Room 210
Host: AAPG Professional Women in Earth Sciences (PROWESS) Committee and the Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG)

The cultural mix of the petroleum industry is changing. With increasing frequency, people of different generations, genders and/or national origins will find themselves working together. How do we respond to these differences? Do we view cultural differences as a hindrance to getting the job done or do we see cultural diversity as an opportunity for incorporating other viewpoints and insights into our work?

This seminar is designed to help participants understand some of the cultural differences we face in the workplace and provide ideas for making the most of both our similarities and differences to work together more effectively. A panel of three speakers from academia, industry and government, will provide their perspectives on the topics of age, gender and global

cultural diversity. They will present overviews of issues, opportunities and challenges related to the diverse environment in which we live and work. Following the presentations, there will be time for questions, answers and discussion among the seminar participants. Refreshments will be provided.

AAPG Interactive Forum on Global Climate Change (DEG/AAPG/EMD/SEPM)

Date: Wednesday, April 23
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Location: Room 217 B/C
Co-Chairs: J. R. Levine and J. M. Armentrout

The general goal of the climate change forum will be to provide a venue where information relating to global climate change can be presented and discussed in a scientifically objective setting. A panel of recognized experts will present talks on selected topics of particular interest to AAPG members, with time provided after each for dialog among the panelists and for audience members to ask questions, exchange information and voice concerns. Topics being considered for discussion include the history of and current patterns for global temperature, sea level and first-order climate drivers. The focus will be on hard data, methodologies of data collection and the resultant interpretations as currently understood by the global scientific community. This promises to be a lively and informative event.

special events

Opening Session and Awards Ceremony

Date: Sunday, April 20
Time: 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Lila Cockrell Theatre
Fee: Included with convention registration

Start your San Antonio experience in style by being part of a very special opening session that promises to be among the most memorable in AAPG meeting history. The Annual Convention's official Opening Session, designed to whet our appetites, challenge our thinking and honor the best people of AAPG, will be held in the Lila Cockrell Theatre adjacent to the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. Arrive a few minutes early and enjoy a colorful multimedia presentation that not only captures the geological and scenic beauty of San Antonio but also



2006 Opening Session and Awards Ceremony
 Photo courtesy of Gary Barchfeld

reflects the historic significance of San Antonio and the region to the industry.

General Chair Gene Ames III will be the master of ceremonies for the fast-moving one-hour program that will welcome attendees and help introduce the meeting's theme, "Deliver the Conventional; Pursue the Unconventional." The session also will feature the presidential address by AAPG President Will Green, who will offer a fresh perspective of our industry and profession. Following Will's talk comes the session's showcase: The AAPG awards ceremony, when the Association's best and brightest are recognized for their contributions to AAPG, the profession, the industry and the world.

This year's award segment will feature a posthumous celebration of the life and accomplishments of Fred F. Meissner, this year's recipient of the Sidney Powers



Fred F. Meissner

Memorial Medal – AAPG's highest honor. Meissner, an honored exploration geologist, college professor, consultant and a pioneer of the concept that methane gas could be extracted from coalbeds, died just weeks after he was notified of being this year's Powers medalist. He is only the second posthumous recipient of the Powers Award, the first being Meissner's

friend and colleague, Norman H. Foster in 1999.

Also being honored will be past AAPG president James A. Gibbs, who will receive the Michel T. Halbouty Outstanding Leadership Award, which recognizes those who have provided excellence in Association leadership. Other award recipients include:

- Honorary Membership – George Eynon, Donald W. Lewis, Peter M. Lloyd, Ernest A. Mancini, Stephen A. Sonnenberg and Jack C. Threet
- Outstanding Explorer Award – Dudley J. Hughes
- Distinguished Service Award – Katharine Lee Avary, John (Jack) D. Edwards, Barry A. Goldstein and Douglas C. Peters
- Grover E. Murray Distinguished Educator Award – Robert S. Gray and S. George Pemberton
- Special Award – Nikolai V. Lopatin and Steven L. Veal
- Public Service Award – Ashton F. Embry and Douglas C. Ratcliff
- Pioneer Award – Leonard Frank Brown Jr.
- Wallace E. Pratt Memorial Award (recognizing the authors of the best AAPG BULLETIN article published each calendar year) – Graham R. Davies and Langhorne B. Smith Jr.
- Robert H. Dott Sr. Memorial Award (recognizing the authors/editors of the best special publication dealing with geology published by the Association) – P. M. (Mitch) Harris and L. J. (Jim) Weber
- George C. Matson Award (recognizing the best oral presentation at the AAPG Annual Convention in Long Beach) – Cathy L. Farmer. Her co-authors were D. H. Phillips, R. H. Benthien, D. V. Dailey, B. W. Horn, D. G. Derbecker and K.L. Hargrove
- J. C. "Cam" Sproule Memorial Award (recognizing

younger authors of papers applicable to petroleum geology) – Alejandro Escalona

- Jules Braunstein Memorial Award (recognizing the best poster presentation at the AAPG Convention in Long Beach) – Jose I. Guzman, Rod Sloan, Shengyu Wu, Shaoqing Sun
- Geosciences in the Media Award (recognizing notable journalistic achievement in any medium that contributes to public understanding of geology, energy resources or the technology of oil and gas exploration) – Tyler Priest

After the ceremony, join your colleagues and friends in the exhibition hall for the annual Icebreaker Reception. You WILL be ready for the San Antonio experience!

Icebreaker Reception

Date: Sunday, April 20
Time: 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Location: Exhibition Hall
Fee: Included with convention registration

Meet your friends and colleagues from around the world at our traditional Icebreaker to celebrate the opening of the exhibition hall. This combination social/business event is an excellent opportunity for you to view the exhibits while enjoying food and drink dispersed at stations throughout the hall.

Refreshment Breaks

Date: Monday, April 21 – Wednesday, April 23
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (Monday – Wednesday)
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Monday and Tuesday)
Location: Exhibition Hall

Stretch your legs during refreshment breaks in the exhibition hall. Enjoy complimentary beverages while visiting exhibitors and poster presenters.

Career Program

Meet prospective employers and employees at the Career Center! Find out how to strike out on your own and be an independent geologist! All this and more is in the 2008 Career Program.

Career Center

Monday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Location Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center

The Career Center offers a variety of tools and special events for attendees to connect to employment opportunities. Bring your résumé to the Career Center where volunteers will assist you in posting it to the AAPG web site for maximum industry exposure and on the bulletin boards within the room. Your confidentiality will be respected.

The Career Center will again host two "7-Minute Power Networking" events on Monday and Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. These 'speed networking' events streamline your job search through providing a series of seven minute one-on-one sessions linking employers and

future employees. Professionals and students seeking new employment are invited to participate. During each short session, participants meet, exchange basic information and if mutually desirable, plan for a future meeting.

Résumés or job openings may be posted on AAPG's web site (www.aapg.org) before the convention by following the Careers navigation buttons. They may also be sent to Lee Billingsley who will make them available in the Career Center.

Lee Billingsley, Career Program Chair
Phone: +1 210 490 4788 Ext. 104
Fax: +1 210 490 8837
Email: lbillingsley@abraxaspetroleum.com

Careers in the 21st Century

Date: Sunday, April 20
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
Instructor: Carol Snodgras (Collarini Energy Staffing, Houston, TX)
Fee: \$15
Limit: 70 persons

This course will review the new paradigms that impact each professional's career, whether a new graduate or an old hand. Over this one-half day class, we will explore how globalization, technological advances and emerging career types create opportunity for professionals to have satisfying, life-long careers. We will examine the individual's responsibility to manage a career by developing an image and reputation and structure of connectedness and learning to anticipate the uncertain future.

Convention registration is not required to participate in the workshop. Please check www.aapg.org for more details on workshop speakers and topics.

Sundowner

Date: Wednesday, April 23
Time: 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Location: Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
Fee: Included with convention registration

Everyone is invited to the convention's ending celebration, where you'll enjoy drinks, snacks and one last chat with friends and associates about the benefits and tools you gained from attendance.

Luncheons

See a full description of each luncheon on pages 49-50.

All-Convention Luncheon The Offshore Imperative: Shell Oil's Search for Petroleum in Postwar America

Date: Monday, April 21

History offers precedents and examples that may help assess the challenges faced by today's petroleum industry. In particular, the story of how Shell Oil Company turned the Gulf of Mexico into the most explored and developed offshore petroleum province in the world can provide a "usable past" for the oil and gas industry.



Dr. Tyler Priest

Tyler Priest, Ph.D., Clinical Professor and Director of Global Studies at the C. T. Bauer College of Business, University of Houston, will detail Shell Oil's ability to recognize and address the offshore imperative that has now spread to other companies and regions around the world.

Division of Professional Affairs Luncheon **Leading the New Energy Revolution**

Date: Tuesday, April 22



Elizabeth Ames Jones

Because of the confluence of increasing global energy demand, the pressures of public perception, the depletion of historic conventional reserves and the establishment of production from unconventional and previously inaccessible reservoirs, now is the time for the industry to show what it's really made of. What's going on in Texas can become a template

for positive change in national energy fundamentals and perceptions.

The Honorable Elizabeth Ames Jones, Texas Railroad Commissioner, will present her perspective, as a regulator and policymaker, on how we can all make a positive contribution to the new Energy Revolution and enhance America's energy security.

Division of Environmental Geosciences Luncheon **The Changing Debate on Global Warming**

Date: Wednesday, April 23



Dr. Eric J. Barron

Much of the past debate about global warming focused on whether or not it is occurring and, if it is, the causes. Dr. Eric J. Barron, Jackson School of Geosciences, The University of Texas at Austin, will discuss how the debate is changing substantially, to one that is focused more on the importance of climate change to society and the steps that should be taken to adapt or mitigate climate change effects.

Energy Minerals Division Luncheon **Will Coal Burn Brightly in the Future?**

Date: Wednesday, April 23



Dr. Robert B. Finkelman

The many misconceptions about coal harbored by the public and decision makers have hindered objective, dispassionate dialogue. Dr. Robert B. Finkelman will sort out fact from fallacy and examine evidence concerning the health and environmental effects of coal and coal combustion byproducts. Dr. Finkelman recently retired from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and is currently affiliated with The University of Texas at Dallas.

teacher program

AAPG invites K-12 science teachers to attend a geology field trip to Canyon Lake Gorge and to the dinosaur trackway at Heritage Museum of the Texas Hill Country. Professional development hours will be awarded for participation in this field trip.

Geology of Canyon Lake Gorge and Heritage Museum Dinosaur Tracks

Date: Saturday, May 3
Time: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Leader: Dr. Bill Ward
Fee: \$10
Includes: Transportation, refreshments, box lunch, guidebook and entry fees
Limit: 46 persons

This trip goes to the recently exposed fossiliferous, Cretaceous limestones in the Canyon Lake Gorge. Exposures of shell-bearing beds, dinosaur tracks and faults with structural deformation are viewed in the first half of the trip. A visit to the newly renovated Heritage Museum will show the tracks of an ancient dinosaur community.

Registration Information

- If paying by credit card, register online at <http://register.exgenex.com/AAPGteacher>
- If paying by check, download a registration form from www.aapg.org/sanantonio, then follow the links to the Teacher's Program and mail the form along with your check to:

AAPG Convention Department
Teacher Program
P.O. Box 979
Tulsa, OK 74101-0979

For more details, contact:
Bill Ward, Teacher Program Chair
Phone: +1 210 698 3421
Email: wckaw@aol.com

aapg center activities

AAPG/Datapages

Point. Click. Download. The world's largest upstream literature archive is at your fingertips. See the online AAPG Bulletin, Bulletin Archives (Free to AAPG members) and more than 500,000 published pages in our archives. Original CD- and DVD-based publications are available for demonstration.

Bookstore

See the latest books before you purchase. Buy on-site or order from home delivery. All books are priced at the AAPG member prices. More than a dozen new books have been released in the last 12 months.

Pick up your FREE 2008 Annual Abstracts CD ROM (with registration coupon). Extra copies are available for purchase.

Communications

(Explorer/Bulletin/www.aapg.org) Meet the Explorer editor and check out what's new on AAPG's web site.

Education/Distinguished Lecture

See the latest education programs AAPG is offering and meet the Education staff. You can pick up flyers for upcoming courses and Hedburg conferences and get more information about our "Training Partners" program.

Foundation

Stop by to meet the Foundation staff and learn about the many programs and projects sponsored by the Foundation.

Global Events

- **Annual Convention:** In 2009, the 94th annual meeting of the Association will take place in Denver, Colorado, June 7-10. Drop by the booth to pick up the Call for Abstracts.
- **International Conference and Exhibition:** October 26-29, 2008, Cape Town, South Africa will showcase hundreds of papers, a variety of exhibitors and 1,800+ attendees.
- **APPEX London:** AAPG's International Property and Prospect Expo includes upstream presentations on Northwest Europe, Africa, South America, the Middle East, Russia, Asia, India, China and Australia.
- **GEO 2008:** March 3-5, Bahrain, 8th Annual Middle East Geosciences Conference and Exhibition, Bahrain International Exhibition Centre.
- **GEO India 2008:** September 17-19, Expo XXI, Greater Noida, New Delhi. South Asia's Premier Geoscience Event

Member Plaza

The Member Plaza is the place to familiarize yourself with AAPG benefits and services and to meet the membership staff.

Member Plaza *continued*

- **Member Services:** Apply for membership, pay dues, change your address and purchase member jewelry. General Store: Purchase AAPG apparel and gifts for the kids. Proceeds benefit AAPG Student Chapters.
- **Divisions:** Division of Environmental Geosciences; Division of Professional Affairs (Specialty Certification for Petroleum Geologist, Petroleum Geophysicist and Coal Geologist); Energy Minerals Division.
- **Student Benefits and Visiting Geologist Program:** Mike Mlynek, student affairs coordinator, will be available to answer questions.
- **Sections and Regions:** Meet the Sections and Regions manager, Carol McGowen and liaison with House of Delegate members and AAPG affiliated societies.

Member Insurance Programs

Ask AAPG's insurance administrator your insurance questions.