

MIDDLE EAST REGION PRESIDENT

Sa'id Al-Hajri



The Council's Second Year (July 2014-June 2015)

Happy Eid to all AAPG Middle East Members! The first year for the current AAPG Middle East Council has already elapsed, and the second year has begun. Although in reality and technically speaking it only means that the planet Earth has completed one full rotation around the sun, but socially, morally, culturally and individually, ... this time of the year represents for most of us a time to break for summer holidays; a recess when a movie of last year's events is played in our minds. It is a time when we raise an important question; "What have we accomplished in our first year as a council?"

As far as the AAPG Middle East is concerned, I can sum it up by saying that last year was a progressive and far-reaching one. To name only a few of the achievements, I can mention hosting AAPG president Lee Krystinik and AAPG Executive Director David Curtiss before the IPTC Doha in January 2014. With them, we toured the region addressing affiliated societies and going out to some of the world's quality geological field trips such as the Rubab al Khali and the Abu Dhabi Sabkah. During Geo 2014, we were honored by the visit of AAPG President-Elect Randi Martinsen who gave a few speeches during Geo 2014.

Geo 2014 was a great success, with more than 3,798 geoscientists attending the conference, 220+ papers presented and 731 exhibitors. We greatly appreciate the efforts of the Executive Committee of the conference and its dedicated chairman, Ibraheem Assaad, executive director of exploration organization in Saudi Aramco. Prior to Geo 2014 we held a very competitive Imperial Barrel Award competition, and the winners were recognized in a lively dinner meeting hosted by AAPG Middle East.

We also held in May 2014 another successful conference, the Lebanon International Petroleum and Exhibition (LIPE) and the Northern Arabia Conference. It was the first time AAPG Middle East Region handled this prestigious conference in Beirut, as it was the result of an invitation by the Ministry of Energy and Water of Lebanon.

During the past year we have organized quality and successful technical workshops. Many of these workshops received high praise by local and international operators, universities and service companies. We have made sure that these workshops were relevant to the countries in which they were held. These workshops included:

- ▶ AAPG/SEG Exploration of Subsalt Structures in Rift Basins, 7-9 October 2013 in the Dead Sea, Jordan
- ▶ AAPG/EAGE Tight Reservoirs Workshop, 28-30 October 2013 in Abu Dhabi, UAE

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- ▶ Geosciences Workforce: Attraction & Retention, 14-16 April 2014 in Abu Dhabi, UAE
- ▶ Producing the Last Drop: Capitalizing on People & Technology, 28-30 April 2014 in Muscat, Oman
- ▶ AAPG/SPE E&P Data Management workshop, 9-11 June 2014 in Istanbul, Turkey
- ▶ Effective Training for the Young Upstream Generation, 16-18 June 2014 in Manama, Bahrain
- ▶ EAGE/SPE/AAPG Shale Gas workshop, 22-24 September 2014 in Dubai, UAE
- ▶ Stratigraphic Traps of the Middle East, 20-22 October 2014 in Muscat, Oman

We also held several successful joint administrative and strategic joint meetings with sister organizations such as the SEG. These meetings explored venues for possible collaborations between the two societies. One fruit of the collaboration between our global offices is the new publication of Interpretation – a journal that every explorationist should read.

As part of our outreach program, we visited several universities and companies in the region. This resulted in a stronger engagement from the students, faculty members and companies' executives. During the year, we visited Kuwait University, Kuwait Oil Company, Al Ain University, Petroleum Institute, Adma Oil Company, Sultan Qaboos University, PDO and Herriot Watt University.

The AAPG Leadership Summit was held in August that brought together AAPG leaders in one conference room. The emphasis was how to move from functional leadership to strategic leadership and therefore positively impacting AAPG on the long term end. During the Summit, young professionals

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came up with numerous suggestions and improvements. Our young professionals (Aisha Blushi and Marwa Alkalaf), and students representatives (Duaa Aljadi and Ruaa Fadul) have done a marvelous job in this meeting and left behind a lasting impression in Utah with geologists from all over the world.

In many cultures and countries, the month of January represents a new beginning as we set goals and try to keep New Year's resolutions. Many nations celebrate the New Year with fireworks and parties with friends and family. Many of us reflect on the events of the past year and resolve to make the New Year a better one. We commit to improve our lives and the lives of those around us. Our fiscal year in AAPG starts in July, so let's not forget to include AAPG in those plans. We can resolve to:

- ▶ Attend affiliated societies dinner meetings more regularly, and speak on behalf of AAPG in these meetings.
- ▶ Participate in AAPG workshops, field trips and other activities.
- ▶ Take roles in sub-committees for organizing events such as GTWs, and Geo meetings.
- ▶ Be an active member by renewing your AAPG membership, by encouraging others to join to realize the AAPG membership benefits, and by participating actively.
- ▶ Run for office and be a member of the Executive Committee for the ME Council.
- ▶ Help in recruiting new members and invite friends to AAPG Middle East activities.
- ▶ Be a public relation champion for AAPG and spread its news.

The word enthusiasm comes from the Greek words theos and en and literally means "God within." It is a fire, a flame, a passion within you. Real enthusiasm is not something you have one day

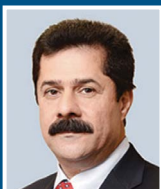
and not the next. Rather it is something you have all the time. Are you fired up with enthusiasm for life, generally, and for AAPG in particular?

This enthusiasm should be complemented with good balance between work, professional interests, family and leisure.

Failing to create this balance in our lives could ultimately bring dramatic consequences into our lives and, therefore, we could miss enjoying the many opportunities available for us out there. One golden rule of life: Take care of yourself first so that you can then take care of others. For us to contribute more value to AAPG Middle East, we need first to create the above-mentioned balance in our lives and to take care of ourselves and our loved ones.

The struggle to achieve a work-leisure balance is one of the biggest challenges of modern life. It is about how you organize your work and time. "It is about working smarter than harder," said Alexander Jones of the Work Foundation. In rapidly growing organizations such as the AAPG, workload tends to outpace the headcount. This could have direct impact on the health of the individuals and their families. I therefore urge all members to take time to create balance in your lives so you can become valued AAPG members. I wish you all a happy and fruitful year to come.

Middle East Regional Council Members (2013-15)



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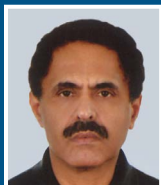


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STUDENT ACTIVITY

Young Professionals and Student Activities

By Anwar Al-Beaiji and Aisha Al-Bulushi

After five successful years leading the AAPG-MER YPSS team Anwar Al-Beaiji hands over YPSS chairing to Aisha Al-Bulushi. Aisha has a background in geophysics from Sultan Qaboos University in Oman and received her master's degree in petroleum geophysics from Imperial College London. Currently she is working for Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) as a reservoir characterization geophysicist.

Aisha's involvement with AAPG began when she was a student at SQU and played an active role in the AAPG Student Chapter from 2006 to 2010. She also participated in the first Middle East Region's Imperial Barrel Award competition in 2010.

This year AAPG-MER YPSS team has executed some successful events during the 11th Middle East Geosciences Conference and Exhibition (GEO 2014-Bahrain). The program included:

1. The fifth Imperial Barrel Award – Middle East Region Competition. This year five universities participated from Oman, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq (for the first time). The competition was followed by an awards ceremony at the Intercontinental Regency Hotel, Bahrain. Prominent industry leaders, AAPG President Randi Martinsen, AAPG Executive Director David Curtiss and past IBA participants attended the ceremony. Sponsors and judges have been recognized and the winner was announced to be Sultan Qaboos University, Oman.
2. Two short courses were organized for students – a technical course, "Fundamentals of Oil and Gas," and a professional course, "Interview Skills and CV Writing."

3. A Meet and Greet event, allowing students and Young Professionals (YPs) the chance to communicate with some industry leaders/representatives.

AAPG-MER has sent two YP and two student representatives from the region to attend AAPG Young Professional's Leadership Summit, Student Chapter Summit and AAPG Leadership Days at Snowbird Resort, in Salt Lake City, Utah. During this students and YPs learned about student liaisons' roles and responsibilities toward students and the benefits students gain from retaining their AAPG membership after graduation. YPs also have brainstormed to suggest what extra benefits AAPG can provide to attract YPs and students. In addition YPs and students enjoyed a field trip to Albion basin and star gazing at night of a super moon. A talk on "Moving from a Functional Leader to a Strategic Leader" was presented by Jay Barney, president professor of strategic management, University of Utah.

The AAPG-MER YPSS team continues in establishing new/ re-activating previous student chapters, and this year Abdullah Al-Kandari from Kuwait YPSS team has successfully re-activated AAPG-Kuwait Student Chapter at Kuwait University. The target is to activate/ form more student chapters in the near future and we aim at establishing YPSS committees in each Middle East country as well.

We believe that young professionals are the prospective future leaders because we believe in your talent – and through AAPG you will find the chance to develop your skills and achieve your goals.

EVENTS

AAPG Geosciences Technology Workshop Stratigraphic Traps of the Middle East



The AAPG Geosciences Technology Workshop "Stratigraphic Traps of the Middle East" was held at the beautiful Shangri-La's Bar Al Jissah Resort & Spa in Muscat, Oman in October. With close to 120 attendees from 35 different companies and 13 countries, this was a highly anticipated event being the first dedicated workshop to stratigraphic traps in over 10 years.

Dedicated to sharing knowledge, ideas, and workflows pertaining to exploration for stratigraphically trapped hydrocarbon accumulations in the Middle East, the workshop had a strong emphasis on case studies focusing on both carbonates and clastics, in order to help explorationists in their searches for these types of subtle traps.

As in other parts of the world, in the Middle East most structural traps already have been discovered which is why current exploration activities are increasingly aimed at finding more subtle trapping styles, such as pinch-outs, lenses, unconformity traps and reefs.

The workshop started with an inspiring inaugural keynote by Intisaar Al Kindy, PDO's vice president of exploration, followed by a technical keynote covering global developments by Paul Binns.

Technical sessions included:

- ▶ Global Carbonate and Clastic Case Histories
- ▶ Role of Petroleum System Analysis, Fairway Mapping and Geologic/Stratigraphic Framework in Stratigraphic Traps Exploration and Development

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- ▶ Middle East Carbonate Case Histories
- ▶ Middle East Clastic Case Histories
- ▶ Future Exploration Opportunities
- ▶ Enabling Technologies for Stratigraphic Trap Prediction

The first five sessions featured a number of talks followed by interactive breakout sessions allowing for in-depth discussions of the topics at hand; the final session concluded with a panel session for follow-up discussions.

The three-day workshop was very well attended and was considered to be very successful. The breakout sessions were very lively with many ideas and concepts being discussed. The ability of the attendees to openly voice ideas and questions furthered the overall understanding of stratigraphic play concepts currently being considered and explored for in the Middle East. The approach to this workshop including the

breakout sessions, luncheons and icebreaker reception fostered greater participation, interaction and the sharing of knowledge. It is hoped that this knowledge and newly formed acquaintances will help develop and accelerate cooperative efforts in order to find and develop stratigraphic traps in the Middle East.

The deliberate exploration of stratigraphic traps is becoming the cornerstone of exploration departments of many oil and gas companies operating in the Middle East. It is hoped that with the success of this "Stratigraphic Traps of the Middle East" workshop in the future more of these workshops will be organized to facilitate the sharing new ideas, discoveries and play concepts.

Don Williams, Saudi Aramco
Friso Veenstra, TNO

Stratigraphic Traps of the Middle East GTW Technical Committee Members:

Abdel Fattah Bakhiet (chairman), Saudi Aramco
Ahmed Taher (co-chair), ADNOC
Mark Doyle (co-chair), PDO

Nawaf Al Salim, KOC
Donald Williams, Saudi Aramco
Friso Veenstra, TNO



Distinguished Lecturer Tour: 2014 August, Middle East



Terry Engelder

Developed in 1941, the Distinguished Lecture Program continues to be AAPG's oldest and most prestigious program. Funded in part by the AAPG Foundation, the program offers outstanding lectures by speakers who are respected scientific leaders in their disciplines of petroleum geology. Anyone can attend the lectures, which are hosted by AAPG affiliated geological societies or university departments.

Terry Engelder, professor of geosciences at Penn State, was the Distinguished Lecturer in the Middle East Region and toured five locations in the Middle East during the month of October 2014.

For more information on Engelder go to: http://archives.aapg.org/education/dist_lect/2013-2014/engelder.cfm.



Comprehensive Technical Program Gave Istanbul ICE World-Class Status

By Vern Stefanic, *EXPLORER* Managing Editor

A world-class conference was set in one of the world's great cities this fall as AAPG for the first time held its annual International Conference and Exhibition (ICE) in Istanbul, Turkey.

About 1,400 participants attended and enthusiastically applauded the meeting's technical program, which centered on the theme "The Spirit Between Continents: Energy Geoscience in a Changing World."

The meeting started with a standing-room-only plenary session that addressed "Technical Innovation and Collaboration – Keys to Affordable Energy," moderated by Adif Zulkifli and AAPG Honorary member Pinar Yilmaz.

Other highlights of the technical program included special memorial sessions that honored the work and legacy of acclaimed geoscientists Peter Ziegler (regional tectonics) and Dave Roberts (exploration in frontier areas), plus specific sessions on:

- ▶ Complex geology and tectonics of the Tethyan orogenic belt.
- ▶ Hydrocarbon potential of the Alpine-Himalayan basins.
- ▶ Unconventional potential of Turkey.
- ▶ Geology of the Mediterranean, Arabian platform, Arctic and Black Sea.
- ▶ Seismic data on key basins across the Black Sea and Turkey that illustrate the importance of the region to the oil and gas industry.

Adding to the excitement surrounding the Istanbul technical program – a theme that attracted a record-breaking 820 abstracts – was the eleventh installment of the Discovery Thinking Forum, an initiative of the AAPG 100th Anniversary Committee that recognizes "100 Who Made a Difference" in exploration.

Forum speakers in Istanbul included:

- ▶ Vachaspati Kothari, who spoke of the discovery and geology of India's Barmer Basin.
- ▶ Pascale Neff, who spoke of Yemen's Habban field play.
- ▶ Uzma Ghulam, who spoke of the Mabrouk deep gas discovery in Oman.
- ▶ Tony Hayward, who attracted a lot of media attention for his talk on exploration in northern Iraq.

The conference got off to an exciting start with an opening session led by ICE general chair Volkan S. Ediger and featuring remarks from ICE organizers – including AAPG Middle East



Region President Sa'id Al-Hajri, who said "on behalf of the AAPG Middle East Region, we are proud to be joining with the AAPG European Region to serve as co-hosts for this historic conference.

"I should note here that Turkey is official part of the AAPG European Region, even though it is geologically Middle Eastern in character," he said, and then joked "This is

not a mistake, because, in plate tectonic terms, Turkey chose to escape toward Europe along the two Anatolian faults when Arabia collided with Eurasia."

But then Hajri once again turned serious, praising the conference's technical session – "the essence of this conference," he said – that was possible "only through the efforts of many talented, dedicated people who worked hard to bring it to life ... ably led by AAPG Honorary member Pinar Yilmaz, Yucel Yilmaz and Abdulkader Afifi.

"We are proud to have been part of the efforts to make it all possible," he said.

AAPG President Randi Martinsen said the gathering offered "the latest and best of cutting edge geoscience, technology and business opportunities, all under one impressive roof."

Martinsen also spoke of AAPG's continued globalization, citing data and demographics that add up to non-U.S. members now comprising more than 40 percent of AAPG's total membership.

"But you don't need to know all of the statistics to support the reality of AAPG's global outreach – all you need to do is look around this room, and around this conference over the next three days," Martinsen said. "Look at the diversity that we now represent, both demographically and in terms of our disciplines.

"And that's a big reason why I'm proud to be here, as AAPG president, participating in a meeting that is yet one more step in our efforts to continue making our place in the world – and, importantly, to have the world continue to be a growing influence in the story of AAPG," she said.

"We are embracing change – and that dynamic is, after all, a two-way street. AAPG's focus is on 'science' and people," she continued. "We know if we find and promote the best science that 'people' will come to AAPG. And they, in turn, bring to the Association new knowledge, new perspective, new energy, new results, all of which keep AAPG an indispensable part of geoscientist's career."

AAPG's next ICE will be held Sept. 13-16, in Melbourne, Australia.



Kuwait University Visit

The College of Science at Kuwait University, represented by Head Master Gasim Mohamed AlHasan, has hosted the AAPG ME Region president Sa'id Al-Hajri as part of AAPG ME university visits.

During the meeting, they discussed areas of cooperation in the region and enhance the scientific level of the students and work to develop points of the shortage of research and scientific activities of the organization through communication with the AAPG organization in the United States of America.

Sa'id Al-Hajri gave a lecture to the students in the department of earth sciences and the environment in which he explained the importance of joining the AAPG organization and the Imperial

Barrel Award competition, which will benefit the student and graduate alike.

The representatives of the AAPG ME council also met with the executive vice president of gas exploration, Minahi Al Anzi, during their visit to the Kuwait Oil Company to discuss cooperation and to identify scientific disciplines needed by Kuwait. The importance of the AAPG to the company's oil sector staff and the students and graduates of the scientific section was apparent through the Region's representation in the conferences, providing input to decisions that may prove crucial to the interests of the countries of the Middle East.

LIPE

By Courtney Chadney

Almost like an urban legend, geologists talk of reserves off the Mediterranean coast that contain 850 million barrels of oil and 96 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

This forbidden jewel lies untouched due to the political deadlock that exists in Lebanon. Evidence in the form of 2-D and 3-D seismic data has reinforced the rumors, but nothing can be confirmed until licenses are granted to drill in the area.

Lebanon's newest natural gas reserve, along with the broad range of other geological attractions in the Middle East region, ranging from conventional to unconventional resources, carbonates to clastics, and structural to stratigraphic provided the AAPG with more than enough reasons to host their first ever conference in the region last May.

The 2014 LIPE and AAPG Northern Arabia Geoscience Conference and Exhibition was held in Beirut, Lebanon last May.

The LPA (Petroleum Administration Lebanon) had held similar successful events in the area, however by joining forces with AAPG's Middle East section, the two took the next step in enlarging that platform for government and industry delegates, consultants and academic researchers to exchange ideas and knowledge. The convention successfully tackled current trends and challenges in the upstream throughout the Northern Arabian Region.

Big Turnout and VIPs



Robert Kuchinski, president-elect for AAPG's Middle East Regional Council and member of the 2014 LIPE and AAPG Northern Arabia Geoscience Conference and Exhibition Technical Program Committee, described some of the highlights of the event.

He said feedback from attendees included compliments on the conference's very strong technical program led by Fadi Nader, "who did an excellent job in attracting very knowledgeable experts that understood the subsurface in the Mediterranean basin."

Participants also enjoyed the post-event field trip through Northern Lebanon, he added.

Kuchinski also expressed the committee's excitement about the large turnout from local Lebanese students, who not only were present at the event, but highly enthusiastic and active in the convention. Of the hundreds of total attendees from the region, 43 were Lebanese students.

One high point in particular, Kuchinski said, was the opening ceremony address delivered by Lebanese Minister of Energy and Water, Arthur Nazarian.

"Whenever you get the head of a government department to officially open the ceremony, it means a lot. If he didn't care or show up, the credibility would have been less, but he came because he felt it was important and his message needed to be heard," said Kuchinski.

Delayed Gratification

The minister's support was especially significant given the recent disappointing news in Lebanon that gas and oil licenses will be delayed until 2015.

This delay came as a consequence of two major political factions, the Sunni-led alliance and the Shiite coalition Hezbollah, not being able to come to an agreement on a presidential candidate.

Kuchinski said, "The industry is hoping the auction of licenses process will start again after the country has elected a new president," something they hope will happen in the not too distant future.

The area's complications increase the risk for oil companies wanting to explore there, making it a very challenging region for AAPG's Middle East chapter, he explained.

"Nevertheless, we did hold a successful event, but of course not as good as it could have been if the licenses had been awarded," said Kuchinski.

Despite the licensing issues, there were still representatives from 20 outside oil companies at the event, from Egypt, the United Kingdom, France, Denmark, Germany, Kuwait, Malaysia, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and the United States.

It may seem strange to some that AAPG would be hard at work in a place without oil production, but that's only a temporary state of affairs, as Kuchinski and other members are well aware of the potential lying beneath the surface.

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"The energy problem in Lebanon and their ever-increasing public debt can disappear if oil and gas production can begin. AAPG would like to play a part in making this happen.

"Everyone's just waiting. When it happens, it will be a huge market expansion for AAPG's Middle East region," Kuchinski elaborated.

AAPG decided to host the event for a number of reasons, including the promise of large-scale hydrocarbon development in the Mediterranean basin and the strong ties they had already formed with the LPA (Petroleum Administration Lebanon).

"We see many opportunities to grow our membership and thus reach out to more geoscientists to offer the high quality of services that the AAPG is known for," said Kuchinski. "The fact that the largest oil companies in the world are either based or operate in our region means there is a real thirst for the most current knowledge relating to technology and geoscience."

For that reason, AAPG has a great deal to offer in the area: "We address the human challenges relating to career development and training. These are of particular importance as the economies of the countries where our members reside are recently developing or are developing," he said.

Kuchinski and his fellow committee members believe the region's opportunities outweigh any of the challenges of the area.

"We are committed to holding events in the northern part of the

Arabian plate. This area has some unique geology and resources that warrant further discussion with workshops and conferences. Rift basins (Dead Sea and Red Sea) and unconventional resources (oil shales) in Jordan are examples," he added.

AAPG's Middle East section has only been around since 2008, yet is already making a huge difference.

Political, cultural, religious, technological and scientific obstacles are present at extremes in this area, which makes Kuchinski's job a daily adventure.

"We don't talk about that stuff. We just carry on. It's an everyday part of life here and we just work through it," he said.

Kuchinski even went as far as to describe it as what makes the region so interesting and dynamic. He said he's proud that "in the midst of it all, AAPG is carving out its own space."

The Middle East chapter has plans to continue to form strong partnerships with oil companies, service companies, universities and their affiliate geological societies in the region. They also plan to visit many of those organizations in the coming years to grow the AAPG brand in the region. Some trips included addresses by the current AAPG President Randi Martinsen and other distinguished lecturers.

Through such efforts, they know they will attract more members, sponsorship and overall support for their events, thus strengthening the cause for Lebanese oil development.

Upcoming Events 2015

Date	Society	Type	Meeting	Location
March				
16 - 18	AAPG ME	Students Programme	Imperial Barrel Awards/Students & YP Summit	Muscat, Oman
23 - 25	AAPG ME	GTW	Siliciclastic Reservoirs of the Middle East	Kuwait
April				
5-18	AAPG		AAPG's Distinguished Lecturer Spring Middle East Tour	TBC
27-29	AAPG/EAGE	GTW	Hydrocarbon Seals of the Middle East	Manama, Bahrain
May				
11 - 13	AAPG/SEG	Workshop	SEG/AAPG Intrashelf Basins of the Middle East	Dubai, UAE
31 - 3	AAPG	Conference	ACE	Denver, Colorado
June				
8 - 10	AAPG ME	GTW	Source Rocks of the Middle East	Dead Sea, Jordan
22-24	AAPG ME	GTW	Exploring Mature Basins	Manama, Bahrain
October				
5 - 7	EAGE/AAPG	Workshop	EAGE/AAPG Tight Reservoirs in the Middle East	Abu Dhabi, UAE
November				
2 - 4	AAPG/SEG	Workshop	AAPG/SEG Advances in Subsurface Mapping	Doha, Qatar
23 - 25	AAPG ME	GTW	Carbonate Reservoirs of the Middle East	Abu Dhabi, UAE



Recent Publications From the Region

Monique Mettraux, et al., 2014: Neoproterozoic microbialites in outcrops of the Qarn Alam salt dome, central Oman, *GeoArabia*, v.19, no. 3, p. 17-76

John H. Powell, et al., 2014: Cambrian stratigraphy of Jordan, *GeoArabia*, v.19, no. 3, p.81-134

Mohammad Ali Hussein, et al., 2014: Eocene oil shales from Jordan - their petrography, carbon and oxygen stable isotopes, *GeoArabia*, v.19, no. 3, p.139-162

Robert E. Tubbs Jr., et al., 2014: Midyan Peninsula, northern Red Sea, Saudi Arabia: Seismic imaging and regional interpretation, *GeoArabia*, v.19, no. 3, p.165-184

Mohammed H. Al-Kindi and Pascal D. Richard, 2014: The main structural styles of the hydrocarbon reservoirs in Oman, Geological Society, London, Special Publications, v. 392:409-445, doi:10.1144/SP392.20

D.J.W. Cooper, et al., 2014: Structure of the northern Oman Mountains from the Semail Ophiolite to the Foreland Basin, Geological Society, London, Special Publications, v. 392:129-153, doi:10.1144/SP392.7

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Pascal Richard, et al., 2014, North Oman fault geometries in outcrops, analogues and subsurface, Geological Society, London, Special Publications, v. 392:447-460, doi:10.1144/SP392.21

R.J. Cowan, et al., 2014, Structure of the metamorphic sole to the Oman Ophiolite, Sumeini Window and Wadi Tayyin: implications for ophiolite obduction processes, Geological Society, London, Special Publications, v. 392:155-175, doi:10.1144/SP392.8

Hugh Rollinson, 2014, Plagiogranites from the mantle section of the Oman Ophiolite: models for early crustal evolution, Geological Society, London, Special Publications, v. 392:247-261, doi:10.1144/SP392.13

Iftikhar A. Abbasi, et al., 2014, Late Cretaceous Conglomerates of the Qahlah Formation, north Oman, Geological Society, London, Special Publications, v. 392:325-341, doi:10.1144/SP392.17

Nina E. Rantakokko, et al., 2014, Neoproterozoic evolution of the eastern Arabian basement based on a refined geochronology of the Marbat region, Sultanate of Oman, Geological Society, London, Special Publications, v. 392:107-127, doi:10.1144/SP392.6

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J. Koepke, et al., 2014, Partial melting of oceanic gabbro triggered by migrating water-rich fluids: a prime example from the Oman Ophiolite, Geological Society, London, Special Publications, v. 392:195-212, doi:10.1144/SP392.10

O. Salad Hersi, et al., 2014, Stratigraphic evolution and depositional system of Lower Cretaceous Qishn Formation, Dhofar, Oman, Geological Society, London, Special Publications, v. 392:303-323, doi:10.1144/SP392.16

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GeoPic from the Region



Photo courtesy of Robert S. Kuchinski. The photo shows a subsurface view of the fossiliferous and marly limestones of the Dammam formation (Middle Eocene) in a cavern in the center of Qatar. This cavern was formed by the collapse of the Dammam formation due to the dissolution of the gypsum beds in the underlying Rus formation (Early Eocene).

If you have any interesting photos you would like to share with the rest of the members, please email to Yasir Al Hajri (email: Yasir.Hajri@pdo.co.om).



AAPG
Middle East Region

Geosciences Technology Workshops 2015

Siliciclastic Reservoirs of the Middle East

23-25 March, 2015 • Kuwait City, Kuwait

This exciting workshop will focus on disseminating the latest ideas, information and processes pertaining to exploration and development of hydrocarbon bearing clastic reservoirs in the Middle East. The workshop will feature a number of case studies involving field and outcrop scale reservoir characterization as well as regional depositional models and their sequence stratigraphic framework. A Core Workshop will be included throughout the duration of the workshop.

Ahmed Al-Eidan, Manager Exploration Group for KOC (Kuwait Oil Company) as inaugural keynote speaker

Half Day Field Trip

Wednesday, 25 March 2015

The geological field excursion will take the participants to the following two locations:

- A. Exposures at Enjefa Beach, Salwa District, Kuwait
- B. Exposures at Jal Az-Zor, North Kuwait

Field Area A: The Enjefa Beach lies on the northwestern margin of the Arabian Gulf in Kuwait across the district of Salwa. Thin, about 10-12 feet thick, mixed siliciclastic-carbonate Holocene rocks are exposed along the North-South beach axis over about half a kilometer distance. Part of the exposure makes beach side cliff and the rest covers the present day intertidal area.

Field Area B: This geological field excursion will take the participants to North Kuwait to Jal Az-Zor area where an escarpment sharply rises above from the sea level. It underlies equivalent to Lower Fars Formation (Miocene age) or younger rocks.



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