

13 April, 2010

RDRG 2010 - New Orleans, Louisiana

Reservoir Deformation Research Group Meeting

New Orleans, Louisiana

April 13, 2010 • 7:00 – 10:00 PM

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Current Chair Chris Zahm (UT-BEG) opened the meeting, along with vice-chair Tim Buddin (formerly Marathon) and more than 37 attendees. Chris solicited nominations for vice-chair in 2011. Alan Morris (Southwest Research) was nominated, and with no further nominations from the floor, Alan was unanimously elected. Chris opened the floor for announcements of upcoming meetings (Bob Krantz re: GSA and Stephen Laubach re: Geological Society of London meeting). In addition, two scholarship opportunities were highlighted including one from Midland Valley and the Stephen Laubach Grant for structural diagenesis research.

The highlighted research topic at the meeting was synsedimentary fractures in carbonates which form atectonically, but are often reactivated and become significant permeability features in carbonate reef margins such as the Caspian, Cretaceous Stuart City of the Gulf of Mexico, and the Guadalupian system. As is typical for the RDRG meeting, a divergence in format was chosen. Ned Frost from ConocoPhillips presented field photos and satellite imagery from the Canning Basin of Australia highlighting spectacular outcrop expressions of these early fracture systems. Eric Flodin and Wayne Narr of Chevron presented field photos from the Canning Basin and Guadalupe Mountains. In addition, Eric Flodin gave a brief talk highlighting the influence of early fractures on reservoir productivity within Karachaganak Field in Kazakhstan. Finally, Chris Zahm brought several feet of core from the Stuart City margin of south Texas. This core clearly illustrated an early fracture fill during the Cretaceous and the later Miocene age faults and fracture reoccupied the synsedimentary fractures.

Throughout the evening several other research group members visited the cores and outcrop photos.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 pm.