

LINDA R. STERNBACH

Star Creek Energy
Katy, Texas

Academic Degrees

1984 – M.S., Geology, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York
1981 – B.S., Geology, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York

Experience

2007–Present – Vice President, Star Creek Energy, Houston, Texas
2006–2007 – Senior Geophysical Advisor, Occidental Petroleum, Houston, Texas
2006 – Geophysicist, Anadarko Petroleum, The Woodlands, Texas
2002–2006 – Senior Geophysical Specialist, Kerr McGee Oil and Gas, Houston, Texas
1998–2002 – Senior Geophysical Advisor, Globex Energy, Houston, Texas
1994–1998 – Geoscientist, 3D Advantage, Houston, Texas
1984–1993 – Staff Geologist, ARCO Oil and Gas, Dallas and Houston, Texas

AAPG Activities

Joined AAPG in 2007
Member DPA, EMD
2023–Present, 2009–2015, 2004–2007 – Delegate, House of Delegates
2013–Present – Member, Astrogeology Committee
2020–2022 – Sections Vice President, Gulf Coast Section
2015–2018 – Co-chair, Playmaker Committee, DPA
2012–2013 – Chair, Website Committee, DPA
2009–2011 – Observer, Energy Economics and Technology Committee, EMD
2009–2011 – Observer, Renewable Energy Committee, EMD
2009–2011 – Observer, Oil Shale Committee, EMD
2009–2011 – Observer, Gas (Tight) Sands Committee, EMD
2005–2011, 1999–2002 - Member, Geophysical Integration Committee
2011 – Technical Program Chair, AAPG Annual Convention (Now IMAGE)
2005 – Member, Membership Survey Committee
2000–2004 – AAPG Mentor

Awards and Honors

2020 – Recipient, AAPG Honorary Member Award
2015 – Recipient, DPA Distinguished Service Award
2013 – Recipient, Distinguished Service Award
2011 – Recipient, AAPG Certificate of Merit

Other Affiliations and Service

2022–2023, 2015 - Technical Chair, Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies
2007–2008 – President, Houston Geological Society

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Why I Accepted the Invitation to be a Candidate for an AAPG Office

By Linda R. Sternbach

I am pleased to offer myself as a candidate for President-Elect of AAPG. I offer extensive volunteer leadership experience in AAPG overall, in AAPG Sections and Regions, and the Gulf Coast GCAGS Affiliated Societies.

I have been a “doer” for AAPG for more than 40 years. I joined AAPG as a graduate student in New York in the 1980s, then became a full active member in 1984 as an exploration geoscientist living in Texas. My key discussion topic is that AAPG must improve new member outreach and encourage lapsed members to rejoin.

I served on the AAPG Executive Committee as AAPG Vice President, Sections (2020–2022). During my term, I hosted monthly best-practices conference calls. I also wrote informative articles for the Explorer, showcasing Section meetings and emerging leaders, as many students and YPs first find AAPG through its Sections and Regions.

My technical, organizational, and professional skills have grown through leadership of AAPG and GCAGS committees. I was the Technical Program Chair for the AAPG Annual Convention (2011) and Technical Program Chair for three successful GCAGS GeoGulf conferences in Houston. I am a past president of the Houston Geological Society and a long-term member of DPA and the House of Delegates. I have more than 40 years of geoscience experience at large and small oil companies. My current role as Vice President of Star Creek Energy equips me to promote AAPG’s initiatives in fiscal management and improving relevance.

Here are some ideas I would champion:

1. **Membership Growth and Lapsed Member Reinstatement:** I would use personal contact, email, video, text, and social media to recruit new and former members. AAPG has many “customers” who visit IMAGE and could be new active or associate members but need encouragement to join the Society.
2. **“AAPG+.”** While we increase focus on AAPG’s core competencies, we will welcome energy additions, particularly geothermal and hydrogen resources. AAPG has a 100-year history of petroleum skills, and AAPG+ will add new subsurface skill sets.
3. **Technologically leveraged Communication:** AAPG should expand its use of social media and video content to inform members. AAPG Academy (a phrase I coined) is an example of how AAPG can leverage Zoom meetings to succeed with lectures and training.
4. **Visible Role Models:** AAPG should feature interviews with younger members in the Explorer to showcase that energy geoscience is complex, fascinating, and a worthwhile career for talented problem-solvers.
5. **Succession planning and mentoring opportunities:** We will expand opportunities for younger and experienced members to work side-by-side. There are many ways to mentor, including hosting “AAPG Leadership Days,” which would encourage future leaders to take active roles in DPA, EMD, DEG, and the House of Delegates.

If elected AAPG President-Elect, I will continue the ongoing efforts to shepherd the AAPG onto a sound financial track, enhance AAPG excellence, and grow membership in the Sections and the Regions. I hope you’ll support me in this election.