



LOS ANGELES BASIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

July 2004

▶ A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

View from the Chair...

July and August are quiet months for LASPE. The next official event and meeting will not be until September 14 – the regular monthly Petroleum Technology Forum at the LB Pet Club. Until then, this newsletter will serve to bridge the gap. Here is an update of your Section's summer and upcoming activities.

Chairperson and Board nominations: LASPE's program year runs from October through September. Starting with the new program year, the office of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and three board positions will be open. The nominating chair, Sam Sarem, offered candidates for these positions. The board approved the following nominees at the June meeting:

Chairperson: Raj Upadhyay,
Consultant
Current board member and secretary

Vice-Chairperson: John Yu
CA State Lands Commission, Long Beach
Current board member

Director (2004-2005): Pat Shuler,
CalTech Power, Environmental and
Energy Research Center, Covina CA.

Director (2004- 2007): Scott McGurk,
Plains Exploration, Inglewood CA

Director (2004- 2007): Alan Spivak,
Plains Exploration, Inglewood CA

In accordance with our by-laws, official notification will be made to LASPE's membership before August 15, 2004 completed with pertinent biographical details for each nominee.

Golf Tournament: The Annual Charity Golf Tournament Fundraiser held at Los Serranos CC on June 18th was an incredible success thanks to Mark Shemaria and his hardworking crew. The net proceeds were over \$26,000. These funds will be use to expand our scholarship program, our community outreach program, the support of student chapters at USC and CSULB, etc. Please take a look at our website at

www.laspe.org for photos of the golf tournament and other LASPE activities.

Participate in next year's plans: All members are welcome to attend board meetings and contribute to the discussion. These meeting last about an hour and are convened before the monthly Forum. The next meeting will be held on September 14, 2004 at 10:00 AM at the LB PetClub. Discussion items will include future Forum topics, the WRM 2005 to be held at the end of March 2005 in Irvine, CA, etc.

Scholarship awards: The Forum on September 14 will also see the awarding of undergraduate and graduate scholarships to ten deserving students at CSULB and at USC.

Website: Larry Gilpin is our Webmaster and has put in a lot of effort to improve and keep www.laspe.org up to date and fresh. Take a look. There is new information including two job postings, reports on this year's COMET program, scholarship winners, the golf tournament and community outreach activities.

Have a great summer and see you in September.

Rick Finken, 2003-04 Chairperson

▶ COMET PROGRAM

2004

COMET (California Oil Mentoring and Entrepreneurial Training) is a one-week program covering the full range of energy topics from basic terminology, energy units, sources and reserves of energy to future needs. The focus is on fossil fuels with a full discussion of geology, drilling, primary and enhanced oil recovery and economic issues. Alternate energy sources are covered with nearly a full day devoted to their review. Students gain a working knowledge with these topics by solving problems and presenting them to the class in teams.

Applicants to the COMET program are high school students, typically 50/50 men/women, who have just completed their junior year. They are motivated by

their keen interest in math and science. Class participants also include high school math and science teachers with an interest in energy issues. Students are chosen based on academic achievement in math and science and the reasons they are interested in attending the program as expressed in a short essay submitted in the application.

Fifteen students and two high school science teachers participated in this year's COMET program at USC. Two of the students will be attending college in the fall. All students are high achievers – this year's average GPA was nearly 4.0!

COMET 2004 was coordinated through the West Coast PTTC, funded and supported by Companies, government agencies, LASPE and SJVSPE. Nineteen instructors taught students and teachers in a lecture hall environment at USC from June 21 to June 25, 2004. Seven of the instructors were college professors, with the remainder being industry experts. There was a field trip to THUMS and a tour of an alternate fuel (rubbish and off-spec natural gas) electric generation plant operated by the City of Long Beach.

The week ended Friday afternoon with presentations, awards and the final group photo of students, teachers and organization team.



Here is the Friday afternoon group photo: Pictured left to right are (back row) Jennifer Leung, Jose Rodriguez, Nam Nguyen, Shuyi Ma, Edwin Yau, Raz Melen, James Tuttle and Arun Gupta. Front Row: Scott Hara, Rick Finken, Melisa Vasquez, James Lee, Ricardo Flores, Terri Osborne, Tulani Watkins, Iraj Ershaghi, Olivia Tiet, Sirian Wang, Melissa Pittman and Frank Valenzuela. One student, Tyler Phan, had to leave before the final group shot was taken.

▶ GOLF TOURNAMENT

STORY

The Annual SPE Golf Tournament at the Los Serranos Country Club on June 18 was a real success. 280 fun-loving golfers and plenty of volunteers all had a great time.



It was a perfect day that started out with steak

sandwiches, drinks and munchies generously supplied by Tracie Breedlove and her hard working crew from Weatherford. This same bunch also sponsored an SPE BBQ just before Easter at their Rancho Dominguez yard.

The tournament got going around 1:00 PM. There was an excellent banquet in the evening with a terrific assortment of prizes raffled off to happy winners. Thanks to everyone who made this a success – participants and volunteers alike.



The Tournament Chairman Mark Shemaria and friends are shown on the course.

Mark and his crew put together a wonderful event. The tournament netted over \$26,000 for LASPE's continuing support of its community outreach programs, teacher education and scholarships.

A much larger assortment of pictures is available on www.laspe.org for your viewing pleasure.

Next year's tournament has been booked - May 20, 2005 at the Los Serranos Country Club. See you then.

Scholarships were awarded to two High School students who will be attending college this coming fall at the June 8th Forum at the Petroleum Club. The LASPE Board of Directors initially approved \$500 awards to two worthy candidates for high scholarships. Sempra Utilities contacted our Scholarship Chairman with the generous offer of a \$1,000 for scholarship award to a candidate nominated by us. This allowed an increase in the overall award, to the benefit of our recipients.



John Yu and Khalid Aziz, our Forum distinguished speaker, are pictured with *Bounlay Bounleuth*, high school scholarship recipient of a \$1,000 award from the Sempra Utilities. She will attend the University of California at Santa Barbara to study Chemical Engineering in the fall. In the summer of 2003, Bounlay completed a high school internship with the City of Long Beach Department of Oil Properties.



Rachael Leeson was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Los Angeles Section and is shown here with John Yu and Khalid Aziz. Rachael will attend the University of California at Irvine in the fall to pursue an engineering curriculum.

Congratulations to both of our winners!

Position Available - THUMS (posted 6/30/04)

Thums Long Beach Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Occidental Oil and Gas Corporation, the leading oil producer in the Wilmington Field and the 4th largest oil field in the U.S. has job opportunities for Reservoir Engineers. Thums is located in Long Beach, California, a community that offers high quality, family lifestyle with an abundance of recreational activities and excellent schools.

Essential Job Duties

Develop short and long-term reservoir management and development plans for assigned pool(s). Conduct pool performance reviews and studies. Manage waterflood performance, including voidage and subsidence management, for pools. Perform thorough technical and economic evaluations of development opportunities and present to Unit management and partners for approval. Maintain working knowledge of wellwork operations and provide reservoir support as needed. Support Unit forecasting and Business Plan processes.

Required Qualifications (list in order of priority)

1. BS in Petroleum Engineering or related discipline.
2. Minimum 4 years experience in petroleum engineering environment.
3. Good interpersonal and communication skills.
4. Waterflood reservoir management experience.
5. Proven track record of strong technical evaluations and recommendations.
6. Working knowledge of reservoir engineering technical concepts and tools.
7. Basic understanding of economic principles and PEEP software

Thums, an equal opportunity employer, provides an outstanding compensation and benefits package. Please send resume with salary histories to:

Thums Long Beach Company
P.O. Box 2900
Long Beach, CA 90801-2900
Attn: Cathy Randle
or e-mail: Cathy_Randle@oxy.com

Paper Proposal Deadline: 30 August 2004

Message from the Chairperson

The 30 March - 1 April 2005 edition of the **SPE Western Regional Meeting** promises to be a memorable one. We are abandoning the common venues where we normally hold the meeting and will hold this meeting at Disneyland! Not quite, but the Irvine Hyatt was chosen for its convenient proximity to the John Wayne Airport, Disneyland, Newport Beach, and the large South Coast Plaza shopping mall as well as many other entertainment and educational sites in Southern California. Add that to the always-great technical program, and you have a must-attend entry on your calendar.

Please consider participating in the all-important technical program by presenting a paper at the conference. The program will be only as good as you make it. The WRM is a general interest forum with papers on a wide variety of topics; the theme of the conference this year is "Diverse Challenges Out West."

Here is a short list of possible topics to help stir your thoughts:

Reservoir Engineering
Thermal Recovery
Methods
Water Flooding
Computer Modeling
Reservoir Management
Heat Management

Production
Engineering
Formation Testing
Well Workovers
Sand Control
Cased-Hole Logging
Well Design
Well Testing
New Life for Old
Reservoirs

Operations
Workover Practices
Well Testing
Stimulation
Artificial Lift
Steam and Water Injection
H₂S, Scale, and Corrosion
Abatement

Drilling/Completions
Extended-
Reach/Horizontal
Wells
Coiled-Tubing
Applications
Slimhole Drilling
Sidetracks
Drilling Fluid
Advances
Perforating
Fracturing
Open Hole Logging

Facilities
Automation/Instrumentation
Pipelines
Steam
Generation/Cogeneration
Energy Conservation
Oil/Water/Gas Treatment

Safety,
Environment, and
Regulatory Issues
Safety
Oil Spill Technology
Permitting
Waste Management
Urban Environment
Abandonment

Management
Risk Assessment
Organizational Structure
R&D Services
Recruiting, Training, and
Development
Consultant Issues
Economics
Career
Management/Survival
Strategies
Risk of Expanding
Overseas

Case Histories
Always valuable and
informative papers

Please consider submitting a proposal on one of these or any other topic that you feel would be beneficial to your fellow SPE members.

Sincerely,

Jeff Jones
Program Committee Chairperson

Paper Proposal Deadline: 30 August 2004

Please notify SPE Headquarters directly with change of address: P.O. Box 833836, Richardson, TX 75083 or

www.spe.org Tel: (800) 456-6863 Fax: (972) 952-9435

E-mail address for newsletter information:
newsletter@laspe.org