

### LOS ANGELES BASIN SPE SECTION NEWSLETTER

March 2006

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# A message from the Chair

Dear Fellow SPE members.

I would like to thank sincerely the 2007 SPE President-Elect AbdulJaleel Al-Khalifa who joined us for a special luncheon meeting at the Long Beach Petroleum Club on February 1. This was an excellent and rare opportunity to interact personally with a SPE President. He reviewed his plans and goals for the SPE; in particular, his presentation, "Multiplying the Potential of People, Technology and Resources." focused on maximizing the human resources to meet the future challenges for our industry. We appreciated his thought provoking views about how he intends to guide the SPE through new challenges posed by international growth.

In addition to that special event, we were honored to have a Distinguished Lecturer, Gerrit Nitters, come in February and present to the LA Basin Section a timely technical presentation concerning new well stimulation technologies. Please mark your calendars and join us for the next regular meeting scheduled for March 14 where we will hear from Bob Visser on the important environmental issue of controlling ocean oil spills. In particular, he will offer a fascinating case study of the Prestige Tanker Oil Recovery project. We hope you can join us then.

Sincerely,

Pat Shuler LASPE Chairperson 2005-2006 pjshuler@peer.caltech.edu

## Petroleum Technology Forum - March 14, 2006

#### LASPE Forum: March 14, 2006

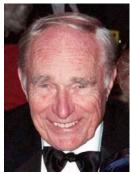
Long Beach Petroleum Club 3636 Linden Avenue Long Beach, CA

90807

Registration: 11:30 AM Buffet Lunch: 12:00 noon Presentation: 12:20 – 1:00 PM

Cost: \$20.00, students are our guests.

The March Monthly Petroleum Technology Forum meets Tuesday on March 14, 2006 at the Long Beach Petroleum Club. Bob Visser of Belmar Engineering and Management Services will discuss the recovery of oil from the tanker Prestige, which sank in deep water off the northwestern coast of Spain. A complete abstract and bio is provided below.



Robert C. Visser Belmar Engineering



#### Abstract:

The oil tanker Prestige sank off Spain's north-western coast on November 19, 2002 after unsuccessful attempts by Smit International, a Dutch salvage company to rescue the ship. The Bahamas-flagged Prestige began spilling oil on November 13<sup>th</sup> after running into trouble during a violent storm. The disaster led to the spillage of fuel oil near one of Spain's richest fisheries. Both Portugal and Spain had barred salvagers from towing the ship to any of their ports to protect their fishing and tourism industries from further damage.

Bob will discuss the ingenious methods used to recover more than 100,000 barrels of oil from the sunken Prestige tanker wreck in 12,000 feet of water 150 miles offshore the northwestern coast of Spain.

#### **Biography**:

Robert C. Visser is a private consultant in Redondo Beach, California with over forty years experience in offshore oil and gas field development. Most of his current activities involve new development projects offshore Alaska, both offshore in Cook Inlet and in the Beaufort Sea. Prior to forming Belmar Engineering he was with Shell Oil Company where he was involved in offshore development, transportation and production operations in the Gulf of Mexico, Cook Inlet, Alaska, the Gulf of Alaska, offshore California, offshore Canada, and in the Far East. He holds an MS degree in civil engineering from Delft Technological University in the Netherlands. He is the author of several published papers dealing with offshore technology and operations and holds a number of patents.

LASPE Forum Committee:

Brandy Fellers, 562-624-3237 <u>brandy\_fellers@oxy.com</u>, Rick Finken 562-570-3961, <u>richard\_finken@longbeach.gov</u>

## **Board and Forum Report**

# Board and Forum Report, February 1st and 7th, 2006

The Board held its regular monthly meeting on February 1, 2006 at the Long Beach Petroleum Club. Chairperson Pat Shuler called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM. Highlights follow:

- The Board approved recommended nominations for the Western Region Technical Excellence Award and SPE's John Franklin Carl awards/
- Rod Kane advised the website is up to date as to scholarship applications and procedures.
- Scott McGurk reported he is considering three topics for the next short course: Understanding Southern California Turbidites, Petrophysics of Shaly Sands and The Value of Reservoir Modeling.
- Mark Shemaria reported the Golf Tournament planning is on track. This year's tournament will be held a Los Serranos CC in Chino Hills on May 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The 2007 Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition will be held in Anaheim in the Fall. Mark Shemaria is planning to hold a golf tournament in conjunction with the ATCE as an additional fundraiser for LASPE.



Following the Board meeting, there was a special presentation by 2007 SPE President Elect Jaleel Al-Khaifa. Dr. Khalifa reviewed the history of the industry and the impact of technology on it. As technology is the result of personal effort, the talk's title "The People Imperative" also reviewed the role and importance of personal developmet in the future of our industry.

Dr. Al Khalifa is shown here after his talk with Ghazi Al-Qahtani, President of Pi Epsilon Tau at USC.

And in the background, Dexter Yuen of Union Bank of California chats with Alex Reid of State Lands.

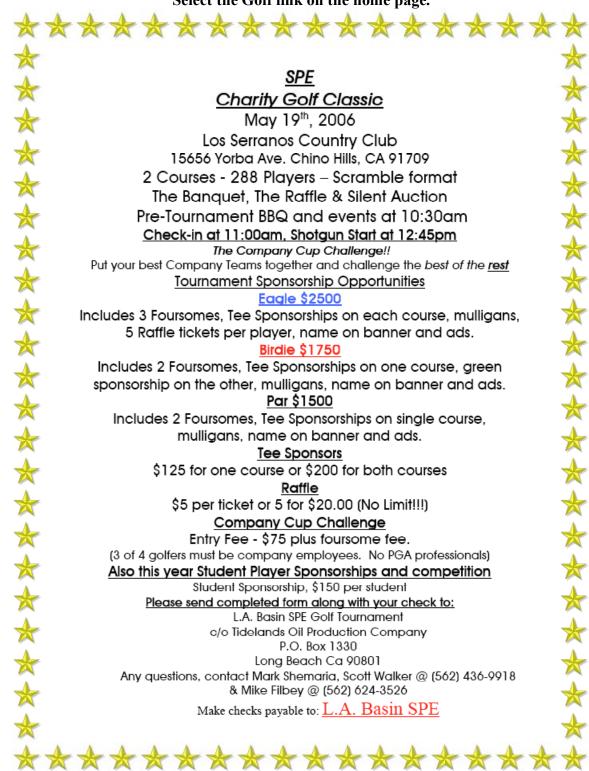
The following week on February 7<sup>th</sup>, Distinguished Lecturer, Gerrit Nitters flew in from Holland to present his views on well stimulation. He reviewed the development progress and importance of well stimulation and spoke of the challenges facing stimulation candidated here in the LA Basin and discussed new and unusual techniques, such as high intensity well bore acoustic vibration.



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## Starting March 6<sup>th</sup> you can order Charity Golf Classic tickets/entry options **ONLINE** Securely with PayPal through the section website WWW.LASPE.ORG

Select the Golf link on the home page.



#### **POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

#### **PXP - Plains Exploration & Production Company**

#### **RESERVOIR ENGINEERS**

Exciting and challenging opportunities currently exist at growth oriented Plains Exploration & Production Company (PXP) in Bakersfield California for Reservoir Engineers. Degreed Petroleum Engineers with all levels of experience are needed. Candidates with significant experience are strongly encouraged to apply.

PXP's California assets include mature properties with long-lived reserves and significant development and exploitation opportunities. Year end 2004 reserves were 419 MMBOE of which approximately 90% are located in California with a 16 year R/P ratio. PXP averages 95% working interest in all asset areas and enjoys a very active drilling program with over 230 wells drilled during 2005.

As a Reservoir Engineer for PXP you will be involved in the evaluation of exploitation opportunities, estimating reserve potential and plan field development strategy. You will carry out field and reservoir studies, perform decline curve and other types of analyses and conduct steamflood and waterflood optimizations. You will be involved in evaluating exploitation opportunities, creating remedial opportunities and implementing secondary and tertiary recovery processes.

The successful candidate will enjoy a generous benefit package to include relocation for those who are eligible. To apply email your resume and cover letter to: <a href="mailto:bwalker@plainsxp.com">bwalker@plainsxp.com</a>.

**EOE** 

#### **PXP - PRODUCTION ENGINEER**

Exciting and challenging opportunities currently exist at growth oriented Plains Exploration & Production Company (PXP) for a Production Engineer at our Bakersfield, CA location. As a Production Engineer you will identify opportunities to improve production, monitor and identify opportunities to improve performance of thermal projects, identify equipment and procedures needed to implement new development or redevelopment projects, conduct technical studies including field reviews and supporting acquisition or disposition evaluations, and provide production, expense, capital and material estimates for budgeting and planning. Knowledge of remedial activities, artificial lift, thermal recovery, well stimulations and new well completions. B.S. Petroleum, Chemical, or Mechanical Engineering required. Five plus years work experience in oil and gas production preferred.

The successful candidate will enjoy a generous benefit package. To apply email your resume and cover letter to: <a href="mailto:bwalker@plainsxp.com">bwalker@plainsxp.com</a>.

EOE, M/F/D/V

## **Help Wanted! Volunteers Needed!!**

The 2006 SPE Charity Golf Tournament needs you! The date is set for a terrific 2006 tournament at Los Serranos CC on May 19, 2006. Tournament Chairman Mark Shemaria wants this year's event to be even better than last year's or the 2004 tournament. Volunteers are needed, golfer or not, to join the committee to help with logistics, arrangements and tournament play. Good times are guaranteed working with this enthusiastic group!

The Charity Golf Tournament is the major funding source for all LASPE activities, including a budgeted \$28,500 for scholarships, high school and university student support and local community outreach in 2006. Please help support your LA Basin SPE.



Call or email Mark at 562-495-9392, <a href="mark.shemaria@tidelandsoil.com">mark.shemaria@tidelandsoil.com</a> and \*\*\*\*\* Join the Team! \*\*\*\*\*

#### Los Angeles Basin Geologic Society Meetings

Informative monthly luncheon meetings of the LABGS are generally held on the 4th Thursday of the month at the Grand Conference Center in Long Beach. Upcoming meetings are:

March 23rd – Professor Lee Gerhard will speak on Global Warming

April 27th – Boris Zaprianoff will present "The Dead Sea and Noah's Flood: Recent Sub-sea Archeological Discoveries."

For additional details, check their website – **www.labgs.org** 

## LA SPE Scholarships Available!

See Criteria and Application details on our website

Due in March!

www.laspe.org/scholars hip/scholarship.html

Please notify SPE Headquarters directly with change of address: P.O. Box 833836, Richardson, TX 75083 Tel: (800) 456-6863 Fax: (972) 952-9435 or go to <a href="http://www.spe.org/mbrservices/index.cfm">http://www.spe.org/mbrservices/index.cfm</a>

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Visit our website at www.laspe.org





# 2006 Joint Meeting:

AAPG - Pacific Section GSA - Cordilleran Section SPE - Western Region

# North to Alaska: Geoscience, Technology, and Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska
Technical Sessions May 8-10, 2006
Theme Sessions, Workshops, Short Courses
Brooks Range Orogen Symposium
Pre- and Post-meeting Field Trips

Hosted by: Alaska Geological Society and Alaska Section, SPE Registration deadline April 1, 2006 For information or registration visit:

http://anchorage2006.com

