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LASPE Honored

Long Beach City's First District Council Member **Bonnie Lowenthal** honored LASPE with a **Certificate of Appreciation** for their dedication to the kindergarten children of International Elementary School at the council's April meeting.

Ms. Lowenthal gave a brief narrative of LASPE involvement with Long Beach Public Schools, especially our co-ordination of the Easter Egg Hunt that occurs annually at Drake Park in Long Beach.

The appreciation is aptly entitled "Unsung Heros". Ed Santiago accepted on behalf of the section.

A message from the Chair

Dear Fellow SPE member,

Our big event in May is the **Annual Golf Tournament**. It will be held on Friday, May 20, 2005, at Los Serranos Country Club in Chino Hills. This fun-filled event starts with a BBQ lunch at 11 a.m. hosted by Weatherford. The tournament itself begins at 1 p.m., and is followed by a banquet, which includes raffle and silent auction.

The golf tournament is our Section's biggest fundraiser. Its proceeds fund scholarships, student section support, and many of our community outreach programs. So, be sure to join us on May 20. No matter what the level of your golf game is, you are guaranteed to have fun. Moreover, you will get the satisfaction of having supported your Section's outreach programs.

For more details on the golf tournament, please see the article devoted to it elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Fracturing Short Course

Earlier this year, Continuing Education Chair Scott McGurk conducted a survey of LASPE members to prioritize topics for short courses. In this survey, Fracture Technology came up as the number one choice of the respondents. Therefore, Scott is planning a one-day class on Fracture Technology on June 3 at the Long Beach Petroleum Club. Details are given on page 6 of this newsletter. This information will also be posted on the LASPE website, www.laspe.org.

New Section Officer Position: Young Professionals Liaison

The SPE Board of Directors has approved the establishment of a new section position of Young Professionals Liaison to be responsible for representing the perspectives and interests of young oil & gas professionals (35 years or under with less than 10 years of experience in the industry) and involving young professionals in section program and activities. The person filling this position can be of any age.

This is an important position for the future of our Section and for SPE as a whole. If you are interested in filling this position, please contact me via email at the address given below.

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A message from the Chair - continued

Dr. Pat Shuler Elected Vice Chair

On April 12, 2005, the LASPE Board elected Pat Shuler Vice Chairperson of the Board to fill the vacancy created by John Yu's move to Bakersfield. The Board also elected Pat to be its nominee for Board Chairperson for 2005-2006.

Larry Gilpin Replaces Thais McComb as Newsletter Editor

As most of you know, Thais McComb has been the editor of the LASPE Monthly Newsletter for a long time. Because of increased demands on her time, Thais is unable to continue in this role. Publishing a quality newsletter takes a lot of hard work and time, and Thais has done a superb job with our Newsletter. On behalf of the Section, I thank Thais for her dedicated service as the Newsletter Editor.

Larry Gilpin, who does an excellent job of managing our website, will also become the new Newsletter Editor. We believe that with Larry performing both these functions, our communications effort will become more streamlined and efficient. We are thankful to Larry for agreeing to take on this additional responsibility.

Sincerely,

Raj Upadhyay
2004-2005 LASPE Chairperson
upadhyayraj@hotmail.com

2005 SPE Charity Golf Classic - Annual Tournament & BBQ

Golf Tournament Filling Fast!

This year's Charity Golf Classic and Silent Auction is filling fast says Tournament Chair Mark Shemaria. "We have over twice as many confirmed foursomes at this time as we did last year." **There is room for more foursomes but hurry; we fully expect to be sold out early this year.** The tournament is Friday May 20th and the 72 foursomes will compete at Los Serranos Country Club in Chino Hills, a really great golf venue. If you only attend one tournament a year this is the one to be at!

The Tournament is scramble format with a shotgun start at 1 in the afternoon. There is a BBQ starting at 11:00 AM sponsored by Weatherford Completion & Production Systems and pre-tournament events. This year also continues the *Company Cup Challenge* with the best teams from companies going head-to-head to win the prized cup and the honors of displaying it at their office for the next year!

For more information on golf, sponsorship, raffle and auction prize donations or helping out with the tournament please contact:

Tournament Chair Mark Shemaria at (562) 495-9392 or mark.shemaria@tidelandsoil.com or
Visit the LA Basin SPE's web site at www.laspe.org.

The Next Petroleum Technology Forum - May 10, 2005

LASPE Forum: May 10, 2005

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: \$15.00, students are our guests.



Mike Utt

THE OFFSHORE INDUSTRY – Middle-aged, but still learning.

The first platform out of the sight of land was installed in the Gulf of Mexico by Kerr-McGee on September 9, 1947. The water depth was 18 feet. That event is generally regarded as the start of the offshore oil and gas industry. In over five decades since then, the industry has grown remarkably. There are now over 4,000 offshore platforms in the world, and the deepest production comes from more than 7,000 feet below the surface of the ocean. Exploration drilling recently raised the world's record to over 10,000 feet of water depth.

The safe, reliable, profitable production of hydrocarbons from beneath the ocean requires a combination of technologies that have been developed as the industry has moved to ever-deeper water. Meteorology, oceanography, naval architecture, structural dynamics, fatigue, corrosion, communication, instrumentation, development of synthetic structural materials, remotely operated vehicles – these are some of the sciences and technologies that have developed to support the offshore industry. The offshore industry has developed remarkable tools, such as jack-up drilling rigs, semi-submersibles, and dynamically positioned drill ships. The general public and the news media remain remarkably ignorant of the technical achievements of the industry. The difference between a fixed production platform and a deep water mobile offshore drilling unit often is unrecognized in a news item.

There are now over 130 floating production systems in operation around the world, and it is expected that number will grow rapidly over the next decade. The continuing development of technology to make floating production systems in deep water safe, reliable and profitable is the continuing challenge of the offshore industry.

Mike Utt was born a few months before the offshore industry. He joined Union Oil of California in the mid-1970's as an Ocean Engineer. At the time, Union's Deep Water Technology team was focused on the problems of building production platforms for over 600 feet of water. Over the past few years, Mike worked as a team member on the Unocal's first floating production system, a tension-leg platform in 3,350 feet of water near the east coast of Borneo. Mike will review the history, technology, and challenges of the offshore industry in its middle age.

FSEA Thanks LA SPE

A letter from John Halbur

The local FSEA would like to express our thanks to the SPE LA Basin Section for their continued generous support of our FSEA chapter at Mabel Paine Elementary. We've been busy learning about science in spite of the difficulties introduced by the flooding of the school and subsequent move into temporary quarters at Esperanza High School. One parent/mentor, Dean Koutzoukis, has been instrumental in making this work - he carts the supplies and half finished projects back and forth between home and school since we don't have storage space at the temporary school site.

So far this year we've built electric motors, extracted "oil" out of a "coke bottle" reservoir," sailed "land yachts", constructed straw towers, floated foil boats, and worked a "crime scene" as forensic scientists. Currently we are building soda bottle water rockets (we'll be shooting some of them off this Thursday at 3:30 if you want to stop by and watch).

The students (as well as us mentors) have learned a lot about oil exploration and production this year. The presentation you and Raj gave last fall was a great lead in to the petroleum recovery project. In addition, the grant that SPE LA gave to Mary Jacobs allowed us to take a field trip to Black Sands' oil field in Brea. There we got to see and learn about a small (4 megawatt) natural gas powered generator, pump jacks, a tar seep, and a crude oil tank farm.

I'm still having fun teaching the students and plan to do so again next year. As always, you and any of the SPE LA members are encouraged to stop by any time and join the fun.



April 2005 Board and Forum Report - April 12, 2005

Thirteen board members and chairpersons attended the regular Board meeting on April 12, 2005 at the Long Beach Petroleum Club. Highlights of the meeting follow:

- Chairperson Raj Upadhyay congratulated and thanked all who helped make the 50th Anniversary celebration successful.
- Treasurer Vivian Bust reported that total net income for the section for reporting year April 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005 was \$17,010.
- SPEi has established a Young Professional Liaison position. Raj Upadhyay will contact key LA Basin producers for their nominees.
- The Board approved Sam Sarem's proposal that Scott Hara fill the Board position open as a result of John Yu's move to Bakersfield, the Board approved Sam Sarem's proposal that Pat Shuler replace John as Vice Chairperson. The Board also appointed Scott Hara to fill the open Board position.
- Mark Shemaria reported Charity Golf Tournament planning is going very well. The tournament committee is projecting a sold-out event. There will be new activities, notably a Silent Auction supported by the Board that should add to net revenues.
- Thais McComb will be stepping down as newsletter editor. The Board noted the great job she has done in improving the layout and content. Vivian Bust volunteered to contact our webmaster, Larry Gilpin, to take over this position.
- For Continuing Education, Scott McGurk outlined his planning for a one-day short course by Pinnacle Technologies entitled "Basic Concepts of Hydraulic Technologies." The course charge would be around \$100. The Board concurred with Scott's plans and requested that the class be scheduled at an early date.
- Scott Hara reported that student activities at the recent Western Regional Meeting in Irvine went very well and that the students were very appreciative of planning done on their behalf. Scott also mentioned AAPG will be holding their national convention in Long Beach in 2007. He reported that Don Clarke (AAPG) is interested in having LASPE participate in this event and that Eve Sprunt stated she would support it.
- Dan Dudak noted that judges are needed for three upcoming Science Fairs: the Los Angeles County Fair April 21 and 22, the Orange County Fair on April 27 and the California State Science Fair May 23 and 24. These are great events and volunteers are encouraged to join in.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

The Forum followed the Board Meeting:

Dr. George Stosur reviewed promising new technologies to tap the world's abundant unconventional hydrocarbon resources in the form of heavy oil, tar sands, coal-bed methane, gas in ultra-tight formations and natural gas hydrates. He also addressed the ever-increasing public concern about the environment and the perceived issue of global climate change from carbon dioxide emissions. The earth's many interglacial episodes and sharp temperature oscillations provide background for the global warming issue.



Continuing Education – June 3 "Basic Concepts of Hydraulic Fracturing"

"Basic Concepts of Hydraulic Fracturing"

A One-Day Continuing Education Class on June 3, 2005 - 8AM to 5PM

Registration at 7:30AM
Long Beach Petroleum Club
3636 Linden Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90807

Presented by Leen Weijers of Pinnacle
Technologies
\$100 for members, \$150 for non-members
Snacks and Lunch included

RSVP to Scott McGurk by May 13, SMCGURK@PLAINSXP.COM, 323-298-2232

The Next – LACES MEETING MAY 9

LACES Dinner Meeting MAY 9, 2005

Michael J. McGuire, a water and wastewater expert and Vice-President of Malcolm Pirnie, Inc., will present a talk entitled "Emerging Contaminants: Technical and Institutional Challenges" at the Energy Resource Center, Multi Purpose Room, 9240 E. Firestone Boulevard in Downey (5 blocks east of Lakewood, on south side of Firestone).

Board of Directors Pre-Meeting 5:30 p.m. All Welcome!
Check-In/Social 5:45 p.m.
Program 6:00 p.m.
Cost: \$20

RSVP to Ed Arends (562) 496-2568 / ejarends@earthlink.net (public welcome).

FSEA Event Invitation

Once again FSEA will be holding the annual FSEA Rocket Competition on Saturday, May 14, 2005. It will be held at the Tustin High School field.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. with rocket launching beginning at 9:00 a.m. and continuing till noon. Mark your calendar and hold the date.

For more information, please contact:
Sheryl France-Moran
FSEA VP of Operations
8441 Monroe Ave.
Stanton, CA 90680
sfm@fsea.org
www.fsea.org

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 <http://www.spe.org/mbrservices/index.cfm>

We appreciate your feedback. Send your comments/suggestions/contributions to Thais McComb, Editor: larry@4thforge.com

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send an email to larry@4thforge.com

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www.laspe.org**