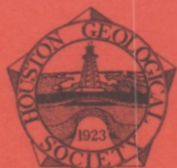


THE



BULLETIN

THE BULLETIN OF THE HOUSTON GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Office—234 Esperson Bldg.—Houston, Texas 77002—CA 3-9309

VOLUME 14

JUNE, 1972

NUMBER 10

THIS MONTH

LADIES NIGHT MEETING

TIME: Monday, June 12, 1972
Cocktail Hour 5:00 to 6:00 P.M.
Dinner Hour 6:00 to 7:00 P.M.

COST: Dinner \$5.50 each
Drinks FREE

PLACE: Houston Club, 10th Floor, Houston Club Building

SPEAKER: William A. Heck

SUBJECT: "Generic and Specific Groupings of Petroleum Prospects"

(For reservations send in the enclosed card or call 223-9309.)

HOUSTON GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

1971 — 1972

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LADIES NIGHT SPECIAL MEETING

"Generic and Specific Groupings of Petroleum Prospects"

by William A. Heck

"Generic and Specific Groupings of Petroleum Prospects" is the most valuable and definitive work known to the profession in prospect evaluation. It may fall somewhat short of Agricola's DeRe Metallica and Habitat of Oil in comprehensiveness, lacking 2,500,000 words, but its conciseness is its greatest strength. It enables even novices and some housewives to instantaneously evaluate any oil deal.

Fourteen holotypes are presented in such form as to permit microsecond cataloguing of submittals with immediate mental conclusions read out in Go-NoGo lights brighter than the Marquees for a Raquel Welch movie.

Most data presented to the industry contains disclaimers denying any responsibility should the data prove faulty. The data presented here is under such precise scientific documentation as to rank with Kepler's or Newton's laws as to irrevocability.

Data as valuable as this is rarely thrust into the public domain gratis, but the magnanimous altruism is the only known weakness of the author.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA -

Mr. William A. Heck's biographical data is necessarily brief because his accomplishments are few, and he prefers the speech to be longer than the introduction. He graduated from Lehigh University in 1948 with a BA in Geology and from 1948 to 1952 did Coal Studies in Kentucky and Reef Studies in Scurry County, Texas with the United States Geological Survey.

He has been a practicing (sic) geologist in West Texas since 1952 and is employed by Stoltz, Wagner and Brown as a Petroleum Geologist. In his various wanderings, he has gotten a look at Arabian and Taiwan geology.



Last Known Picture
W. A. HECK

THE SOCIETY SAYS "THANK YOU"

On behalf of all the members of the Houston Geological Society, we extend a very warm thanks to the following companies who have very generously contributed toward the success of this year's entertainment functions:

THE ANALYSTS

BANK OF THE SOUTHWEST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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NEWS OF MEMBERS:

HERSCHEL M. GLASGOW and RICHARD B. POTTER, previously with Houston Natural Gas Production Company, have formed an oil and gas exploration partnership, Glasgow & Potter. Their new offices are located at 422 Capital National Bank Bldg., telephone 227-4086.

DICK MILLER, has resigned from Union Texas Petroleum Company to take a new position with GEOMAP Company as a petroleum consultant. His phone is 524-7471.

REAVES JACKSON, formerly with Colorado Oil Company, has joined the staff of Michel T. Halbouty oil and gas interests. Telephone 622-1130.

LARRY L. JONES has been named Vice President-Exploration of Dixel Resources Inc. He joined Dixel as Manager of Exploration in November, 1971. Dixel offices are at 943 The Main Building, Telephone - 224-1577.

EMILE GUERIN, JR. has joined Index Geophysical Surveys Corporation as Vice President and Supervisor of Domestic Operations. Index is a subsidiary of Sterling Electronics Corporation, 4201 Southwest Freeway, Telephone 623-6600.

THE SOCIETY WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

Charles M. Boenig	Pennzoil-United
Roy A. Bauer	Humble Oil & Refining Company
Bruce M. Brady	Gulf Sulphur Company
Jon D. Champeny	Esso Exploration, Incorporated
Ronald D. DeRudder	Texaco, Incorporated
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Nelson C. Steenland	Geophysical Exploration Corporation
Robert D. Walker	Pennzoil-United
Craig Weisinger	Gulf Oil Corporation
Karl L. Wehmeyer, Jr.	Self-Employed
Doyle G. Whitaker	Hamilton Bros. Oil Company
Les Wilcox	Belco Petroleum Corporation

ELECTION RESULTS

1972 - 1973 Officers

The Ballot Committee submits the following names as the results of the 1972-1973 election. Our congratulations to these men who will be officially installed in office at the Ladies Night Special Meeting this month.

PRESIDENT:

JOHN AMORUSO - Independent Geologist

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

BEN SORRELL - The Superior Oil Company

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT:

SABIN W. MARSHALL - Texas Gas Transmission Corp.

SECRETARY:

HOMER E. OLIVIER - Getty Oil Company

TREASURER:

ANTHONY RESO - Tenneco Oil Company

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMEN:

RUFUS J. LeBLANC - Shell Development Company
EDWARD G. LIPP - Crown Central Petroleum Corp.

GOLF TOURNAMENT and BINGO PARTY:

In spite of the somewhat damp weather on May 12th, the hardy golfers of the Houston Geological Society proved once again that neither rain nor mud nor submerged golf balls can keep them from completing their appointed 18 holes! The duffers had a good excuse for high scores and the pros proved they were just that by turning in low scores in spite of all the adversity. Jeff Morris won the punch bowl trophy for his performance. The bingo party that night was also a great success. The food was excellent and the bingo lively.

Jim Enyeart, our entertainment chairman, is to be congratulated for this enjoyable day of fellowship. We are also indebted to all those companies that donated willingly and generously to our entertainment fund. This fund helps to support the golf tournament, bingo party, Ladies Night, shrimp peel and several of the other functions throughout the year.

A list of the companies which contributed to the entertainment fund appears on page 3 of this issue. We thank them for helping us and hope that you will support them.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

JOHN ROBERT SUMAN

It is with regret and a deep sense of loss that the Houston Geological Society records with this resolution the death on January 5, 1972, of John Robert Suman, geologist, engineer, and executive, whose business leadership and many contributions to petroleum technology helped shape the modern oil industry.

John Suman -- "the father of petroleum engineering" -- was one of the men who, in the early years after Spindletop, recognized the crucial importance of a scientific and orderly approach to the production of oil. Through developments in which he was a prime mover, oilmen learned new conservation techniques and practices which continue to redound to the benefit of the entire nation.

Born April 9, 1890, at Daleville, Indiana, he attended the University of Southern California and the University of California, and graduated in 1912 summa cum laude, with a degree in mining engineering. On December 16, 1912, Mr. Suman married Miss Beatrice Mowers and their two sons, John Robert Suman, Jr., and Richard Harlan Suman, both have successful careers in the oil industry. Mr. Suman was never forgetful of the part his devoted wife played in providing the loyalty, confidence and encouragement to meet the many challenges of his eventful life.

Mr. Suman entered the petroleum industry in 1912 at Houston, Texas, as an assistant geologist with the Rio Bravo Oil Company (Southern Pacific Railroad). One year later he was promoted to chief engineer for the company. It was this assignment that shaped his career. His interest in applying engineering and scientific knowledge to the production of petroleum continued throughout his long and colorful life.

He left Rio Bravo Oil Company to become superintendent of the Roxana Petroleum Corporation's (Shell) operations in Texas and Louisiana. Two years later he returned to the Rio Bravo Oil Company as assistant to the vice president and general manager. During the next eight years he became known to the oil industry as an engineer and executive of outstanding ability.

In 1927 he joined Humble Oil & Refining Company as a director in charge of production operations for the company outside of the Gulf Coast area; and for the last 11 of his 17 years with that company, he served as director and vice president in charge of all of Humble's production operations. During that time Humble trebled its production of crude oil and became the nation's largest oil producer. From 1945 until his retirement a decade later, he was a vice president and director of Standard Oil Company (New Jersey).

In 1921 his book "Petroleum Production Methods" was published. It was used as a text book at the University of Pittsburg and as a reference book at the University of California. This book was one of the many contributions he made to his chosen profession. During his long and brilliant career, John Suman won deserved recognition as one of the world's top authorities on the production of crude oil. He played a key role in the development of the modern rotary drilling rig, the unitized drawworks, and in directing the engineering and research efforts of Humble which led to significant

advances in reservoir engineering.

Perhaps the most dramatic and important contribution Mr. Suman made to the oil industry involved directional drilling. In 1933 a blowout occurred in the Conroe Field which resulted in a crater and the uncontrolled flow of about 7,000 barrels of oil daily. There were only two choices; one to let the offset wells produce an equal amount of oil, which would have resulted in rapid and wasteful depletion of the reservoir energy and resulting loss of millions of barrels of oil; or in some manner control and shut in the well. Mr. Suman conceived the idea of drilling a directional well to the producing sand and then flooding the sand with water and drilling mud. After prolonged negotiations with the owners of the cratered well and with the assistance of the Railroad Commission, the Humble Oil & Refining Company assumed responsibility for killing the cratered well. Needless to say there were many in the oil industry who were skeptical. As we all know, the venture was a success and this idea of Mr. Suman's has provided the industry one of the most effective ways of controlling wild oil and gas wells.

Suman helped organize the Houston Geological Society and served as its first president. He was an active and influential member of both the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers. In 1943 when the AIME awarded him the Anthony F. Lucas gold medal, he was described as the individual who, more than any other, was responsible for improved efficiency in oil production through modern engineering and technical methods. In 1958 he was awarded the John Fritz medal, the highest honor the four national engineering societies can give. His citation is particularly descriptive of John Robert Suman and reads: "PIONEER IN THE APPLICATION OF ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES TO THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, AND CONSERVATION OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS; AUTHOR; INDUSTRIAL STATESMAN; AND ONE WHO TAKES A KEEN INTEREST AND REAL PLEASURE IN INSPIRING MEN TO MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR TALENTS."

His innovative mind and qualities of leadership were evidenced on many occasions in his technical writings and on public platforms as a spokesman for the cause of conservation. He also had a warm understanding of people and their problems, and he was a shining example and inspiration to the many young geologists and engineers with whom he came in contact.

The Houston Geological Society is saddened by the loss of this outstanding member of the petroleum industry and extends to all members of his family its sincere condolences.

--- Carl E. Reistle, Jr.

May 1, 1972

NEWS FROM OTHER SOCIETIES

News From AAPG:

TULSA, Okla. - In the midst of a gas shortage which has affected consumers in many areas and alarmed Washington over a prospective shortage of all forms of energy, the development of new oil and gas fields fell off sharply in 1971.

There were only 4,462 wildcat wells drilled in the United States in 1971 in attempts to discover new oil or gas fields -- a decrease of 12 percent compared with 1970 and the lowest number of new-field wildcats since 1949.

Of these 4,462 wildcats, only 434 were completed as producers, for a success of 9.7 percent. The number of new fields was a decrease of 11.9 percent below 1970's total of 493 new fields. The new fields discovered 569 million barrels of oil and 5 trillion feet of natural gas, a decrease of 28.7 percent in liquids and 7 percent in gas compared with 1970 discoveries.

The figures were released here by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, which has compiled such data annually. They were compiled by the Committee on Statistics of Drilling in cooperation with the American Petroleum Institute. Commenting on the report, Dr. Sherman A. Wengerd, president of AAPG, said:

"This decline in the search for more oil and gas in the face of soaring requirements and an acknowledged energy gap is tragic and represents a danger signal for American consumers. It presages a much more serious pinch on everyone who uses gas or electricity, drives a car, or uses any form of transportation.

"The problem is not that all petroleum resources of the U.S. have been discovered," Wengerd said. "Geologists know, and many studies have confirmed, that we have large quantities of oil and gas yet to be discovered. The problem is that most of the easily found fields have been discovered. The undiscovered ones are deeper, less accessible, and more thoroughly hidden by complex geology.

"The oil and gas are there but the incentive to find them is not. Government policies which have held down the wellhead prices make it unattractive to take the greater risks and drill the deeper prospects."

As an example, Wengerd cited a part of the report showing that the average depth for all wells drilled in the U.S. was 4,701 feet in 1971, which is 133 feet shallower than the 1970 average. New-field wildcats of 1971 were also shallower, having an average depth of 5,924 feet, which is 30 feet shallower than the 1970 average. This is a reversal of the continued and rather steady increase in average depth of new wells for the past 25 years.

The percentage of all exploratory wells that were successful in finding oil or gas was 15.72 in 1971. This percentage is about 1 percent lower than success of 1970, but it is higher than the 14.56 percent low point of 1968.

"This success rate shows that the oil and gas are down there if we will only drill

enough wells to find them," Wengerd said. "Historically, new-field wildcat drilling has resulted in 10 to 11 percent success. This year the success was 9.73 percent, which is identical with the success of 1970; this is 1.2 percent higher than 1968 but lower than all other years as far back as 1946".

Totaling all types of wells -- exploratory, development, and service -- the U.S. drilled 24,300 miles of hole in 27,300 wells, the AAPG compilation showed. Compared with 1970, the decrease in total number of wells was 7.4 percent, and the decrease in total footage drilled was 9.9 percent.

In almost all geographical areas of the U.S. the 1971 data show a decline in drilling activity from 1970, the committee reported. In most categories this trend is a continuation of a decline extending for 16 or more years. In the case of exploratory drilling the decline represents a continuation of a downward trend since 1956. The 6,922 exploratory wells drilled in 1971 is the lowest number drilled annually since 1947.

The total of 6,922 exploratory wells -- new-field and other categories -- is 771 wells fewer than for 1970, a 10 percent decrease. Footage drilled, 40,387,969 feet, represents a decrease of 10.8 percent.

Similar decreases were reported in the total number of exploratory dry holes, number of new-field wildcats, and number of new-field dry holes. Nearly all states and producing areas showed a decline in all types of wells drilled.

Details of the drilling statistics for the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, with breakdowns for each area subdivision, will be published in the July issue of the AAPG Bulletin, along with comments on geological conditions in each area by local geologists who collected the statistics.

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HOUSTON GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY VOLUNTEERS
at
OFFSHORE TECHNOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

As the AAPG part of this year's Offshore Technological Conference, eight members of the Houston Geological Society served as the registration committee. These men worked a minimum of two full days each during the three-day conference, and our thanks to them for a job well done.

Those serving on the committee were:

- Chairman: B. C. Phillips - Phillips Petroleum Company
- Vice Chairman: L. D. Troth - Phillips Petroleum Company
- C. C. Bratt - Phillips Petroleum Company
- Hal H. Bybee - Continental Oil Company
- Donald H. Cummings - Getty Oil Company
- James F. Hayes - Independent
- Wayne V. Jones, II - Union Texas Petroleum Corp.
- W. A. Tiller, Jr. - Sun Oil Company

IN MEMORIAM

HORACE NELSON GOODELL (1915 - 1971)

Horace Nelson Goodell, 56, of 13225 West 15th Drive, Golden, Colorado, died on November 22, 1971. He is survived by his widow, Geraldine Alice Goodell, a son and a daughter, and two grandchildren. He was a member of the Episcopal Church.

Hank, as he was known by his friends, had been active up to the time of his death from an unexpected heart attack.

Hank was born in Corydon, Iowa, on February 6, 1915. He graduated in June, 1933 from Fort Collins High School at Fort Collins, Colorado. He received the Degree of Geological Engineer from Colorado School of Mines at Golden, Colorado in May, 1942 and graduated with honors. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps Reserve in May, 1943, and became Officer in charge of the Tactical Radar School of the Marine Corps at Camp LeJune, North Carolina, and had served as Radar Officer, 155 mm. Gun Battalion in the Southwest Pacific from April, 1944 to January, 1945.

Hank was a member of the Houston Geological Society, Houston, Texas, and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. He worked during his college years and in 1945 he was Associate Geologist for Union Oil Company on projects in Wyoming, Colorado and Utah, and was its Division Geologist from 1948 until 1952 when he was advanced to Chief Geologist of the Rocky Mountain Division. From May, 1952 to September, 1953, he had the position of Chief Geologist for Cyprus Petroleum Corporation in Los Angeles activating programs in Southeast Texas, West Texas, Kansas and the Rocky Mountain provinces. He resigned to enter independent practice in the Rocky Mountain Area. A year later he rejoined the Cyprus Mines Corporation organizing and managing from Houston its oil and gas exploration activities which were then centered almost exclusively in the Louisiana and Texas Gulf Coast. In May, 1960, he resigned again, this time to form and manage Goodell Petroleum Company, a partnership, continuing exploration activities in the Texas Gulf Coast and Southeastern Louisiana areas using a small closely knit team of experienced oil finders. He continued his activities as an independent oil operator from 1967 to 1969 when he elected to return to college to work for Doctor of Science degree. Hank's decision to resume studies was spurred by his interest in computer programming of geological problems in which he became quite deeply involved. However, his curriculum at Colorado School of Mines where he was enrolled was directed toward teaching to ultimately afford others the benefit of his training and knowledge. A room has been dedicated at "Mines" in his memoriam.

Hank was a man known and respected for his professional ability and dedication to better methods of finding oil. He exhibited honesty and integrity in all of his endeavors.

Hank Goodell will be missed by all of his friends and many associates who admired him as a competent petroleum geologist and as a loving husband, father and grandfather.

-- Gene Austin and
J. A. Leshner

From Sydney, Australia, Pauline and John Inkster sent a card telling about the first part of their trip. Tahiti was their first stop so they could spend a few days adjusting to the time change. Pauline found it hot but very much what she expected in appearance and weather. The myriads of "sheep, sheep, sheep" in New Zealand seemed to impress her most during the eleven days there.

Traveling to Melbourne and Canberra first, they thoroughly enjoyed Sydney, a city of beautiful beaches and beautiful homes. As Pauline writes, "but this city of Sydney is something again -- 2½ million people and I believe they were all on the street yesterday at noon!" The remainder of the itinerary included Indonesia, Hong Kong and Tokyo before returning to Houston, May 25.

Ruth and Bill Clark had a thrilling experience May 20th in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, a capital for the Cherokee Nation in the Indian Territory days before Oklahoma became a state. The Cherokee Nation and the Yorktown Association of the U.S. Navy were jointly presenting a statue of Bill's brother Jocko (Admiral J. J. Clark) for the museum grounds. Felix De Weldon, who did the statuary of the flag at Iwo Jima, was the sculptor, and Bill made the speech of appreciation for the Clark family.

After the ceremonies in Oklahoma, the Clarks were going to Jacksonville, Florida, for a grandson's graduation.

Virginia and Clark Edgecomb recently entertained the Danish parents of their American Field Service "daughter" from ten years ago, Kirsten now lives in Puerto Rico, where her parents were en route to see the new grandchild. The two sights in this country they enjoyed most seemed to be Niagara Falls and the Texas Hill Country near Kerrville.

"Derby Day" found Mary Belle and Kenley Clark in Louisville watching the run for the roses. They reported a most enjoyable trip through the bluegrass country with the dogwood in bloom. Meanwhile, back in Houston, all the rest of us peons were coping with long lines at the voting machines and crowded precinct conventions.

Gladys and Al Selig became great-grandparents on April 28th, just two days before Al's birthday. New mother, Bebe was fine, as was the nine-pound baby boy.

Charlie Cantrell is donating many hours these days to keeping the Pi Beta Phi Arrowcraft shop open on a permanent basis. She invites us all to come see the new shop just off San Felipe on Fountain View.

Denny Bartell, Dixie's husband, is a most unusual guy, and there should be more like him. When the new auxiliary officers were installed at the Junior League, it was Denny who surprised each of them -- and Dixie most of all -- with a lovely corsage and a personal note extending best wishes. Hope he still feels as charitable toward us 365 days and 365 thousand phone calls later.

Virginia Fluke, as president of the Houston Alpha Chi Omega

group, is a delegate to the sorority's national convention in Chicago. While she is gone, I hope George can keep up with the athletic schedules for himself and the boys.

European travelers recently included Mary Margaret and John Reed. Suzanne and Bill Howell took that beautiful train trip to Topolobampo and Los Mochis, Mexico, and found the Baxter Adams' on the same route.

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Had the weather man known the annual geologists' golf tournament, barbeque and bingo party was scheduled for May 12, he could have predicted rain without consulting the charts at all.

But can't keep a geologist in because of weather. Fred Smith, I thought, was most appropriately dressed as I couldn't tell whether he had been trout fishing or golfing until he got close enough to the clubhouse and I could tell his clubs from a flyrod. Someone thoughtfully provided a snorkel so we could go out on the course in search of lost golfers.

Thanks from the ladies go especially to Jim Enyeart, John Amoruso, Ed Heider, Bob Schrock and all their committee for the delicious barbeque and the great bingo prizes. Madrid Guest announced when she won her prize that it was a special day for Henry and herself -- their 35th wedding anniversary.

Peggy Hamric won a camera as a special award for having the worst bingo card, and Melody Berry got the grand prize TV set on "blackout" bingo.

Among the 60 stout hearted golfers to finish 18 holes, Jeff Morris received the Dresser Atlas punch bowl trophy. Reid Bitter shot a fantastic 73 to take first flight the second year in a row, followed by Sonny Gravel, Dave Sheridan and Bud Smith. Second flight winner was Roland Thies; third flight, D. C. Gilkinson; and Vail Kinsey repeated as fourth flight winner.

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As this is being printed, some 1600 letters are in the mail from Fran Burkhead's committee inviting all you ladies to join the auxiliary for 1972-1973. Gladys Sheridan is planning some great parties. So send in your \$5 dues right away and get your name in the year-book. It goes to press in July.

Next year's news for "On the Distaff Side" will go to Margery Phillips, (Mrs. B. C. Phillips). Call her at 781-1031 to tell about weddings, grandchildren, trips and all the exciting things you do this summer.

-- Sally Bybee for Pauline Inkster

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Space for Professional Cards of Members

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