

ASSOCIATION OF  
DESK AND DERRICK  
CLUBS

The



THE DESK AND DERRICK CLUB OF HOUSTON Volume 57 Issue 5

## May Program Notice

Date: May 14, 2008

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: Doubletree Guest Suites – Galleria  
5353 Westheimer Road, Houston TX 713-961-9000

### "60 Minutes - Dubai Inc. (October 14, 2007)"

Dubai is a Middle East success story, an island of stability and prosperity in a region torn by conflict. In less than a decade, Dubai has gone from desert to metropolis, with \$300 billion worth of construction projects including luxury hotels and some of the world's tallest buildings. It is all the vision of one endlessly ambitious man: Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, who gives Steve Kroft a tour of his extraordinary and expanding sheikdom.

## Houston Club President's Letter

May 2008

Hello fellow members!  
As I write this letter I am just one week away from boarding a ship, saying Bon Voyage, and sailing the inside passage of Alaska! Although the trip was booked several months back and I thought I had plenty of time to get ready, I now find myself feeling a bit antsy about making sure I have enough time indeed.

The same thing is happening with our Club. We began this year with lots of ideas and now we're already into the fifth month! This also means we're five months closer to the 2010 Convention. General Arrangements Chairman, Pat Cook has done a great job of keeping us up to date with the preliminary arrangements. Rest assured that we'll all soon be getting to put the plans into action.

I'm quite pleased and excited at the number of new member inquiries I've received over the past month. Hopefully everyone I've been in contact with will elect to join our wonderful organization! It's always a pleasure to welcome new members and expand our potential of new ideas and guest speakers. Let's all continue to spread the word about Desk and Derrick!

I'm looking forward to



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## Upcoming Events

**57th ANNUAL ADDC CONVENTION**  
September 14 - 20, 2008  
Midland, Texas  
Hosted by the  
Desk and Derrick Clubs of  
Region V

**Region IV Townhall**  
August 2, 2008 (tentative)  
Beaumont, Texas

## Houston Club President's Letter (cont.)

seeing everyone at the membership meeting. Until then, keep up the good work on building those bridges of education!

*Karol*



Ann Mathis and Karol Durham  
Ann receives her 40 Year  
Achievement Certificate

## ADDC President's Letter

May 2008

Dear Fellow Members:

By the time you read this letter, all of the Regional Meetings will be history or close to it. After working with the Regional Directors this year, I know they all did an outstanding job. I personally want to thank them for the numerous hours they spent in preparation for these meetings. I would be remiss if I did not thank the host clubs as well. It takes both working as a team to accomplish an outstanding meeting.

While I was in Illinois for the Region II Meeting, I met with Dr. Kay Zellmer who will be developing the lesson plans that will complement our Energy Activity Books. It was a very informative meeting and I am looking forward to working with her on this project.

One item that each attendee received during the Regional Meetings was the 2009 ADDC Committee Volunteer Form. Please consider serving or chairing a committee next year. The Association's goal of education goes beyond programs, field trips and seminars; it also offers you the opportunity to develop your leadership skills and volunteering for a committee is a good starting point.

In March, the Nominating Committee posted its letter regarding nominations for 2009 ADDC Officers. Club Presidents, please take time to discuss this information during a meeting. The deadline for submitting nominees is Friday, May 30, 2008. I know we have a number of qualified mem-



bers who can competently serve the Association as an officer.

Now that the Regional Meetings have been completed, it is time to turn our attention to the 2008 ADDC Convention. Information about the convention is posted on the ADDC Web site. There are a number of field trips and seminars being offered and the biggest problem I foresee is trying to decide what to attend.

Until next month -

*Sheryl*



## A Conversation about Desk and Derrick

By: Patricia Cook

Members attending the 2008 Region IV Meeting in Graham, Texas had an opportunity on Thursday evening to enjoy a hamburger dinner catered by the Wildcatter Ranch and participate in a conversation about Desk and Derrick. A request had been sent to each of the clubs in Region IV to provide a minimum of three questions from their members. This gave members the opportunity to submit questions that they had not been able to find the answer to previously. Below are the questions asked and the answers that were provided. Some questions don't have one answer, but the members attending the seminar offered suggestions.

### Membership Questions

*I had never heard of Desk and Derrick until I was invited to a meeting. Why isn't it highly publicized or why isn't the name been recognized if it's been around for more than 50 years?*

*Working in recruiting, about 4 years at ExxonMobil, I thought I would have recognized hearing about Desk and Derrick, but I had never heard of it.*

*What is the public view of Desk and Derrick? How can we change it to be more recognized as a professional organization?*

This question was thrown open to the members attending to make suggestions to those attending on how to get our name out. Some suggestions were to do community service projects in the community as a club; to advertise in local and national publications; and to participate with other industry organizations in events.

*What can Desk and Derrick do for the male members?*

My immediate answer is, the same things we can do for the female members:

- Provide networking opportunities.
- Provide educational opportunities through monthly meeting programs, seminars, and field trips.
- Provide leadership opportunities through committee membership, chairmanship, serving on the board of directors in ever increasing levels of responsibility.

That being said, we need to ask ourselves what do we do in our local clubs, at the regional level, and the Association level to make sure that our male members feel comfortable in their participation?

When was the last time you examined how your monthly meetings were conducted? We use the term professional all the time when we talk about how we want to be perceived. I've come to realize as I traveled across the country over the past few years that professional means different things to each of us, just as business attire means different things depending on where you are standing.

*What are the percentages of retired members vs. active members in ADDC?*

14.19% - Members who are currently employed but have retired from the industry don't always indicate that they are retired. This number is arrived at from lists where members have actually indicated that they are retired.

*Has there ever been a membership revoked?*

To my knowledge, we have never revoked a member's membership.

(continued on page 7)



## Region IV Director's Letter

May 2008

*"It's all part of the adventure."*

Memories are still fresh in my mind of all that took place at our Region meeting in Graham. I'll say it again...the Graham Club did an outstanding job of hosting the event. We learned, we shared, and we laughed. Do you remember all that you heard at the field trips, seminars and business meeting? Do you remember the laughter and good times at the Friday night networking social where 32 first-timers were introduced? Do you remember the cheers from the crowd when a winner was announced at the awards luncheon? And what about the cheers for our Presidents and keynote speaker at the banquet? Make sure to share the experience with a club member who couldn't be there with us.

In case you haven't heard yet, it's my pleasure to announce that the newly elected 2009 Region IV Director-Elect is Lois Roberts from the Fort Worth Club. Congratulations Lois! We all stand behind you in support as you begin your new journey.

Members, what can you do to support Lois? It's not too early to start looking at the list of available positions for Region IV Representatives. Regina Garner, ADDC President-Elect and Lois would both like to hear from you. These positions offer a great opportunity to challenge yourself and learn more about the Association. The form is located on the ADDC website or you can contact your Club President as they each received copies of this form at the Region meeting.

So what other opportunities exist to challenge yourself and reap rewards for your hard work? For all those camera "bugs" out there, try submitting one of your best photos in the Winning Image Photo Contest (WIPC). The deadline is August 1<sup>st</sup>.

And what about writing an article or report for your club's bulletin? You can become a winner in

next year's contest just like the following clubs who won this year. Six of ten clubs participated and all were winners. Those clubs that won a 1<sup>st</sup> place award are now on their way to competing for an AIMEE at convention. They include Dallas with 4 wins, Fort Worth and Victoria with 2 wins each, and Graham with 1 win. Congratulations to all winners. Go Region IV.

And don't forget that the Nickle's Energy Group of Calgary is looking for nominees for Energy Person of the Year. Each club can nominate up to 3 people. One winner will be selected from Canada and one winner from the U.S. What a wonderful way to recognize a member who not only works hard for Desk and Derrick but also serves their community and family. Don't pass up this opportunity to showcase your club members.

All of these opportunities provide membership with a variety of ways to grow personally and professionally. Education is never ending.

Until next month, start a new adventure and embrace the challenge of it,

Melinda



## April Meeting Review—Geochemistry

### By Judi Adams

What is geochemistry and why is important to exploration? We learned a good bit about this little-known discipline at the April meeting from speaker Andy Bishop, Senior Geochemist with Shell International Exploration and Production.

According to our speaker, geochemistry is the study of the chemical composition of Earth, the other planets and the cosmos. Important topics related to geochemistry include the origin of life, radioisotope dating, and climate change. Specific petroleum geochemistry studies naturally occurring hydrocarbons (oil and gas) and the source rocks from which they are generated.

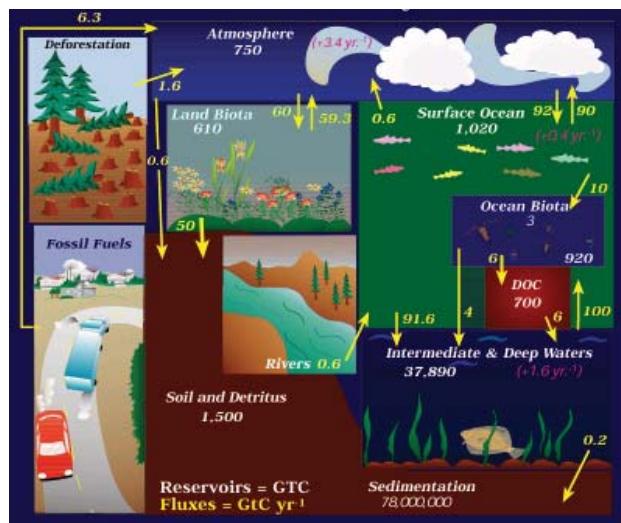
Andy used the text of our “Bit of Fun” energy activity book to explain the origins of oil and gas (“Long before the dinosaurs, oceans covered most of the earth. The oceans were filled with tiny sea animals and plants. As the plants and animals died, they sank to the ocean floor. Sand covered them and millions of years passed. The weight of the water and heat from the earth turned them into sandstone, limestone, and other types of sedimentary rock, and turned the organic matter into petroleum or natural gas.)

Primary sources of organic carbon include phytoplankton, zooplankton, algae, bacteria, land plants (>99%) and everything thing else that ever lived (<1%).

Source rock, a sediment with a sufficient amount of suitable organic matter to generate and expel commercial amounts of hydrocarbons, has been deposited sporadically over time and is related in part to long-term global and climatic variations. Over millions of years, the sediments are buried deeper and deeper. Eventually, the kerogen (a natural polymer formed soon after deposition by alteration of proteins, carbohydrates, and lipids—or fats) breaks down to form petroleum.

Basin modeling simulates the process of oil and gas generation using inputs from petroleum geochemistry. 3-D models offer possible scenarios to show how oil and gas may have migrated through the subsur-

face and show where economically viable reservoirs may be located. Depending on conditions of the geology, some oil may be reservoir for ~350-5 millions years.



For every ton of carbon used by ocean organisms to grow in a year, only about five pounds will be deposited as organic matter on the seafloor and most of the will be released back to the water column over years and decades as carbon dioxide and methane; as little as a few ounces will end up in source rock.

Natural hydrocarbon seeps and slicks are important evidence of existing petroleum systems. The biomarkers, chemical fossils, are used to interpret the age and environment of source rock deposition. Samples of slicks can be taken and analyzed. Finding these oil slicks in deeper water can help improve likelihood of finding reservoirs and reducing costs and time to produce.

Geochemistry is only one of the many disciplines used by explorationists in the search for hydrocarbons.



### **Use Energy Wisely on the Road**

Consumers can help improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save money at the pump by using gasoline more efficiently. API offers its recommendation for improving efficiency below in the form of answers to frequently asked questions.

#### ***Frequently asked questions on fuel efficiency***

**You can use energy more wisely if you remember CAMS – Combine trips, Accelerate smoothly, Maintain your vehicle, and Slow down.**

- **What’s the single best thing I can do to save gasoline?**

Combine trips. Plan well and be sensible about how much you drive. Conserve by avoiding unnecessary trips, combining errands, and carpooling.

- **When I am behind the wheel, how can I get more miles per gallon?**

Accelerate smoothly. Jack-rabbit starts consume twice the fuel as gradual starts. Also, pace your driving. Staying at a constant speed is better than continuously speeding up and slowing down. Slow down. The faster you drive, the more gasoline your car uses. Driving at 65 miles per hour instead of 55 miles per hour

reduces fuel economy by about two miles per gallon.

- **Besides changing driving habits, what can I do to improve vehicle fuel efficiency?**

Maintain your vehicle. Have your car tuned regularly and keep tires properly inflated. An engine tune-up can improve car fuel economy by an average of one mile per gallon; under-inflated tires can reduce it by that amount. Also, less use of your air conditioner can improve fuel economy by as much as two miles per gallon.

- **Does it make a difference what car I drive?**

More fuel-efficient vehicles can save gasoline. A highly fuel-efficient vehicle could potentially cut gasoline use in half or more. How much depends on the vehicle and driving habits and needs. If a less fuel-efficient car requires 20 gallons of gasoline a week compared with 10 gallons for a highly fuel-efficient vehicle, more than 500 gallons of gasoline could be saved annually.

- **What about ethanol?**

Ethanol, which is often blended in gasoline, contains less energy per gallon than gasoline. However, a 10-percent or less ethanol blend would have only a slight impact on fuel effi-

ciency. According to U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency fuel economy guidelines, E-85 (85 percent ethanol/15 percent gasoline blend) may reduce fuel efficiency by 26 percent.

- **Can I avoid fuel evaporation and loss by keeping my tank almost full?**

It shouldn't be a concern. Technical changes to vehicle fuel systems have virtually eliminated fuel evaporation losses.

- **Does it help to fill up in the morning when fuel is cool?**

Very little. While it's true that gasoline expands as it gets hotter (reducing the energy content in a given volume), the expansion is only about one percent for every 15 degrees F. Moreover, storage tanks at gasoline stations are buried several feet underground, helping to insulate fuel and keep temperature relatively constant. The benefits, if any, of filling up in the morning versus the evening would be hard to notice.

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## A Conversation about Desk and Derrick (continued from page 3)

*If the members of a club determine that another member and/or members are being detrimental to the success of the club (ex. their attitude or the way they handle business is un-professional), can the membership vote to remove these certain members from their club with or without board approval?*

Revoking the membership of a member is a most serious business and not to be undertaken lightly. The ADDC Bylaws cover the steps required to put a club on suspension, but do not go into detail on removing an individual member. If you want to look at the procedures for this, see Article V - Association Membership, Section 1(d) on page 2 of the ADDC Bylaws and Standing Rules. Since our clubs' bylaws do not generally cover this, your parliamentary authority will have to be used. Our parliamentary authority is the most current version of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

Remember that this action requires that the member be informed of the proposed action and has ample opportunity to present his/her side.

*Why can't a member run for Region Director if they are retired?*

Members who want to run for Regional Director or any Association office must be employed in the petroleum, energy, or allied industries according to the ADDC Bylaws. (Article IX - Nominations and Election of Officers, Section 1) This question has come up a number of times over the past few years and has been voted down by the membership.

*Can any member be an Alternate or Delegate at Convention that is not on the Board?*

Yes. Delegates and alternate delegates are selected according to local club guidelines. As an example, delegate for the Houston Club is designated to be the president, and the alternate delegate is the vice president, providing he or she is attending the ADDC Convention. If that isn't the case, an alternate is selected from those members who are attending convention.

*If you work in the industry part-time, can you be a member?*

Yes. According to Club General Information Section of the ADDC Bylaws, Section C 2 a (4), Persons employed part-time on a permanent basis are eligible for membership (example: Working 20 hours per week, 52 weeks per year, and carried on the company's payroll). Long-term temporary or contract employees may qualify for membership according to local circumstances. Self-employed applicants are eligible for membership provided that at least 51 percent of their working hours and employment contracts meet ADDC requirements.

*Is there an age limit to becoming a member?*

We don't have specific age requirements. However, since our requirements are that a potential member is employed in, affiliated with, or retired from the petroleum, energy, and allied industries; is a former Desk and Derrick member, or is enrolled in an accredited course of study with a declared major in the petroleum, energy, and allied industries. This limits membership to adults.

(Additional Q&A will be included in future issues.)



### DESK AND DERRICK CLUB OF BEAUMONT DESK AND DERRICK ORNAMENT

#### ORDER INFORMATION

**COST: \$25.00 per ornament which includes shipping/handling.**

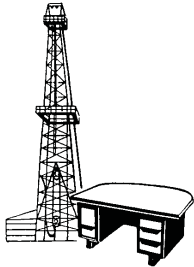
**For information or to order, please email Dora at [dorathecatsbcglobal.net](mailto:dorathecatsbcglobal.net).**



Welcome Back, Laura Davis!



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## The Desk and Derrick Club of Houston 2008 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

President	Karol Durham
Vice President	Pat Cook
Secretary	Alex Traxler
Treasurer	Joel Battle
Director	Patrice Kight
Director	Kelley Sebesta
Imm. Past President	Marie Wilkinson

**Committee Chairmen**

Audit/Tally	Judy Turner
Contact	Angela Hicks
Education	Judy Turner
Membership	LaDonna Hunsinger
Nominating	Judy Lile
Photography	Hedwiga Weatherford
Program	Pat Cook
Public Relations	Barbara Landrum
Publications	Judi Adams
Rules	Donna Altomari
Social	Nina Reyes

**Special Committees**

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2010 Convention	Pat Cook



Judi Adams  
and Andy  
Bishop, April  
Speaker