GIROT and COLLINS RECOGNIZED BY ADDC CLUB FOR SERVICE TO LOCAL OIL & GAS INDUSTRY
by Ryan L Masterson, 2017 Tri-State Club President

John Girot, Warren Service Company, Carmi, Illinois, was recently honored for his volunteer service to support the fundraising efforts of the Tri-State Desk and Derrick Club, a Region II chapter of the international Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs (ADDC).

Girot was presented with a plaque and engraved pilsner glasses for several years of tirelessly and humbly grilling hundreds of pork loins for the Club’s annual fundraiser. The presentation was made by Emily VanHaaften, vice president of the Club and an employee with CountryMark Refinery & Logistics, Mt. Vernon, In. Girot’s generosity has also been honored in the past by the Illinois Oil and Gas Association (IOGA) as “Service Person of the Year”.

Ever the humble gentleman, Girot was quick to praise Bill Collins who retired after 36 years of service with CountryMark as a Crude Oil Purchaser. Collins helped VanHaaften re-establish the Tri-State Desk and Derrick club in 2012 and began the pork loin fundraising tradition in 2013. He also received the Indiana Oil and Gas Association (INOAGA) “Hall of Fame” award in 2016.

Collins’ and Girot’s dedication to the oil and gas industry in the Illinois Basin and to the ADDC, spans almost 40 years. VanHaaften stated, “John and Bill are two of the most selfless men I have ever met, and they care dearly about the energy industry and the associations that are a part of it.”

The ADDC was founded in 1949 and is comprised of approximately 2,500 women and men employed in or affiliated with the energy and allied industries throughout the United States and Canada. The Tri-State organization is one of 49 clubs within seven regions.

The 67th annual national ADDC Convention will be held September 18 – 22, 2018 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Evansville, Indiana.
Good things come to those who don't wait.

Register now at the early bird rate and save up to $120 on your NAPE Summit Week registration. We're turning 25 this February, so we're going all out to make this NAPE Summit the biggest and best yet! Your registration gains you access to:

• 11,000+ industry leaders and decision makers looking to make a deal
• 800+ exhibit booths showcasing prospects, services, products and more
• The Icebreaker – our renowned networking event to kick off the expo
• NAPE Theaters featuring Prospect and Capital/Service Provider Previews
• NEW! Job Fair open to attendees and exhibitors
• NEW! NAPE Friday Brunch on the show floor
• NEW! Anniversary surprises like a Ford F-150 giveaway! And cake!

Summer NAPE 2018
Happy New Year! The 2018 ADDC board is excited to serve our membership this year.

As you will notice, we are not staying with the formal format of our letters, including the Regional Directors. We have decided to spice things up and have Regional Directors mention events, member profiles or any upcoming events in the area. Keep members aware of what is happening in the Region. We hope you will enjoy the change, as we really wanted to express more of our members and club activities. If you have information to share, please reach out to your Regional Director, we would like to hear from you.

The final mail votes are in, and both proposals have been passed by 2/3 vote. In 2019 the regional realignment will be implemented, and the position of Vice President eliminated. The 2018 board will help lead you through the changes and implantation in 2018. Budget and Planning will be taking place in Tulsa, Oklahoma January 19th and 20th, 2018. We will also be hearing from the audit committee and planning our upcoming year and future years as well. My mandate is to reach a zero budget this year, and the restructuring will also help the longevity of this great Association.

The current Board for this year are: Carrie Harmon, Region I; Beth Etzkorn, Region II; Carol Schiavone, Region III; Sue Weaver, Region IV; Andrea McGarrah, Region V; Casi Nicholas, Region VI; Tracy Fillmore, Region VII; Wendy Sparks, Treasurer; Evelyn Green, Secretary & Executive Assistant; Keith Atkins, Vice President; Terry Ligon, President Elect; Maggi Franks, Immediate Past President; and Marilyn Carter, Parliamentarian

I would also like to thank all the committee chairmen for stepping up this year as well. We have a dynamic team. Wayne Ammons will be filling the position of ADO Manager and Webmaster.

I am challenging membership to think outside the box. What do I mean by that? Is there some way you can promote our Association? Is there a way you can help on a committee? Volunteer for an event? Step up? The more hands to help, lightens the load. Please know that I am reachable at any time with questions, comments or concerns you wish to express. That is my commitment this year!

I wish everyone a Happy New Year! Thank you for allowing me to serve as your 2018 ADDC President.

Christina Forth
I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends. I am very excited to welcome 2018 and my year as Region I Director!

Even though the year is just beginning, I have already started visiting the clubs in Region I. My goal is to attend meetings of all seven clubs prior to our region meeting in May. In November, I attended Tuscarawas Valley’s meeting in Canton, Ohio. It was great to be there while they voted for their 2018 slate of officers. I learned about the past, present and future equipment used by land agents when speakers from Dominion Energy gave a presentation after dinner and the business meeting. November was a busy month as I was also invited to join Oil Heritage in Titusville, Pennsylvania. We had dinner and the business meeting at the Tarbell House. Marilyn Black gave a presentation about the benefits of the Petroleum History Institute and a tour of the house which had been completely restored. Oil Heritage had put a notification in the local paper opening this event to the public. It turns out that a past ADDC member from 40 years prior lives in Titusville and attended the event. Members from both of these clubs were very welcoming. I am looking forward to visiting the other five clubs in the coming months.

The Region Directors are making a change to their monthly letters this year. We will continue to provide updates throughout the year, but are also letting our members have a voice. We want to spotlight the members and clubs that are ADDC! My motto is: Stronger Voices; Stronger Organization! I decided for my first letter, I would spotlight the 2018 Presidents of Region I. Questions I posed were: 1) If you are a president for the first time – what made you decide to step up and volunteer? 2) If you are president for a multiple term – why did you volunteer again? 3) What are your hopes for your club in 2018? 4) What is it like to charter a club? 5) What does ADDC and your club mean to you? Here are their responses:

Angel Perry – Tuscarawas Valley

“After being involved with the club for 10 years, I thought that becoming president should be the next step. I have been vice president for the last two years and Sherri has been so helpful. I am hoping to continue where she left off and see where this year will take us. I am hoping to increase membership even with the downturn of the field. We are hoping to get more speakers and broaden our knowledge of the field, without limitations. With the increased membership, I am hoping to get more involved with the club. Currently, we have the same few people volunteering and we are hopeful that we will find ways to make our membership more active.”

Cindy Krebs – Three Rivers

“My hope is that we are able to get members to give tours of their facilities and provide insight to the work they perform in the industry. ADDC is all about learning what types of services are out there for our industry.”
David Hotchkiss – Oil Heritage

In being president for a 2nd term “Our fledgling club needs leadership to grow and to become established. The hope for 2018 is to increase our membership by recruiting, in part from the rolls of other regional energy organizations. These are venues for people who share an interest in energy and related industries.”

Jennifer Smith – Penn York Oil and Gas

“I am president again after 10 years, because no one else would step up and the club needs to continue to thrive. I hope to see new members and “out of the park” speakers and programs for 2018. I have been a member of Desk and Derrick for 12 years now and to be part of the core of the club and participating in all that we do in the community is very rewarding. We had 38 members this year, but only about 20 attend a meeting and only about 10-12 of them volunteer. I would like to see that change. But I am sure that is with all clubs or organizations.”

Kathy Tawney – West Virginia

“I believe this will be the 3rd time, 2 terms each that I will be president. I believe in this organization and what we do – educate! I want to work to get members involved. I think this is the struggle for every club every year. I believe activity is picking up in the NE and hopefully that will help. I have chartered two clubs…it is so much fun! If we could bottle that enthusiasm and redistribute occasionally, that would be wonderful! Members of ADDC are extended family, we teach each other, we support each other and occasionally we disagree with each other!”

Penney Gerdeman – Buckeye Desk and Derrick

“We have a big year in 2018 since we are hosting the Region I meeting in May! My hope for the Buckeye Club is that we gain some new members; that we have a successful region meeting with a lot of attendees; and that we continue to keep all of our members (current and new members alike) active and engaged in promoting energy education and the mission of the ADDC.”

I would like to thank the 2018 presidents of Region I for taking the time to have their voices heard.

I would also like to spotlight fundraising ideas that prove to be very beneficial to our clubs. The goal is to let these events be known so others within the organization could also benefit from them. This month I would like to spotlight Buckeye’s Date Night Basket. This was first introduced in 2017 and raised over $500 for a 2018 scholarship. The members of Buckeye included items like a restaurant gift card, movie passes, Speedway gas card and more. Everything needed for the perfect date!

Until next time, let your voices be heard!

Carrie
RE: Sponsorship Opportunities for Regional Desk and Derrick Meeting

The Buckeye Desk and Derrick Club is proud to be hosting the Region I Meeting in Findlay, OH, May 17-19, 2018. In addition to the business meetings, we have outings planned to showcase oil, wind and solar energy with field trips to Marathon Petroleum Corporation, One Energy and the Marathon Petroleum Corporation Energy & Transportation Annex at the Hancock Historical Museum.

The Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs (ADDC), an international non-profit organization is a premier provider of energy education and professional development of individuals actively employed in, affiliated with, or retired from the petroleum, energy and allied industries as well as individuals interested in increasing their knowledge about these industries.

ADDC has clubs and members across the United States and Canada. Region I includes the memberships from Clubs in New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. The purpose of the ADDC is “to educate its members, the general public as well as the companies and global communities the members serve about these industries. The Association’s motto is “Greater Knowledge — Greater Service.”

The Buckeye Desk and Derrick Club invites you to consider a sponsorship opportunity. The attached donation form offers options to support the Region I Meeting at several different levels. All sponsors will be recognized in the meeting program. We ask that your donations be mailed by January 31, 2017. I can be contacted either by phone 419-421-2722 or email jlhammond@marathonpetroleum.com if you have any questions.

The Buckeye Desk and Derrick Club qualifies as a non-profit organization under IRS Code 501(c)(6). Contributions or gifts may be deductible as a trade or business expense, rather than a charitable donation.

Thank you for supporting Buckeye Desk and Derrick Club and our Region I Meeting.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hammond
Chairman
Sponsorship Committee

Contributions may be sent to:
Buckeye Desk and Derrick Club
Region I Meeting
539 South Main Street, Room: M-04-104
Findlay, OH 45840
**Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs**

**Sponsorship Form for Region I Meeting**

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**Recognition for sponsorship, as it will appear in the program**

- Name of Company or Individual
- Contact Name
- Contact Information (Address/Phone/Fax/Email)

**Your contribution will help us at our Region I Meeting!**

Please complete and return this form to

Buckeye Desk and Derrick Club  
Region I Meeting  
539 South Main Street, Room: M-04-104  
Findlay, OH 45840
I am excited to be your Year 2018 Region II Director. I look forward to renewing friendships and getting to know more members in Region II this year. We are a small region with only three clubs, but we have some awesome members! I would like to congratulate the new Region II Club Presidents and Officers. I am looking forward to working with you. I would also like to thank Jan Bell, Immediate Past Region II Director, for being so supportive and answering my many questions.

When I attended convention last September, the Region Directors met with our ADDC President, Christina Forth, and decided to try something new with our monthly letters. We decided to spotlight a member within our Region each month. I gave thoughtful consideration and decided to spotlight “C.J. Mayhew” from the Tri-State Desk and Derrick Club.

C.J. Mayhew has been a member of Desk and Derrick for thirty-seven years. She has served as a past president and has held the club scrapbook position for several years. She has a very fun loving personality. She very rarely missed a meeting and always had her camera with her. She is always ready to lend a hand and one of her many talents is selling tickets at various oil and gas events in the area. When I spoke with her, she said “I always look forward to attending the events each year and selling tickets.” “I have had a lot of fun getting to know people and they will call you back when you contact them!” I asked her what she felt she had gained through her membership in Desk and Derrick, and she said “It was the education and the contacts she had made - plus the fun!” C.J. recently retired from Mayhew Oil and Gas, LLC. Besides taking pictures, she loves to spend time riding her quarter horses in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and attending horse shows in the area. We appreciate all your hard work and dedication to ADDC and the Tri-State Club, C.J.!

If you know of a member in your club who has done something special and needs to be recognized, please send me an email. I am also your contact between the Region II Clubs and the ADDC Board. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Happy New Year,

Beth Etzkorn

Strength doesn’t come from what you can do. Strength comes from overcoming the things you thought you couldn’t. ~Rikki Rogers
December 10, 2017

RE: Sponsorship Opportunities – Annual ADDC Region II Meetings

The members of the Bay Area Desk and Derrick Club are so excited to be hosting the 61st Annual Region II Meeting, April 26 to 28, 2018. Region II represents the Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs (ADDC) in the mid-west with clubs in Michigan, Illinois and Indiana. This year, for the first time, we will be inviting everyone to experience Gaylord, Michigan.

Gaylord has so much to offer and not just because of the quaint Alpine Village Theme. While striving to make this event an outstanding educational opportunity for all attendees, we hope to include field trips to the Pigeon River to boast about the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and visit the Elmira Wolverine Plant. Because Gaylord is centrally located we may trek up to Mackinaw City for the Enbridge Line 5 Tour. Plus, we will have the Certification Class to continue the courses required for college degrees.

Because travelling and speakers can be costly, we must appeal to you for your generous support. We are grateful for all the financial donations and membership our employers and like industries have helped with in the past and hope that you will consider making this Meeting a memorable event for those visiting for the first time. All sponsors will be recognized in the meeting’s printed program.

The Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs (ADDC) is an international non-profit organization. We are a premier provider of energy education and professional development for individuals actively employed in, affiliated with, or retired from the petroleum, energy and allied industries as well as individuals interested in increasing their knowledge about these industries. Our motto is “Greater Knowledge – Greater Service”.

ADDC qualifies as a non-profit organization under IRS Code 501(c)(6) and under IT-496 R paragraph 149(1)(I) of the Canadian Income Tax Act. Contributions or gifts may be deductible as a trade or business expense rather than as a charitable donation.

Contributions may be sent to:
2018 Region II Meeting Fund,
c/o Betty Wajda, General Arrangements Chairperson,
888 Shaggy Bark Court, Gaylord, MI 49735

A Sponsorship Form is attached for your convenience. Any questions or concerns contact Betty Wajda at bwajda@alphacomm.net or 989-370-0522.

Thank you for considering sponsorship of the 61st Annual ADDC Region II Meeting.
Sponsorship Donation Form

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Recognition for sponsorship as it will appear in the program and signage:

Name of Company or Individual

Address

Phone/Fax/E-mail

Contact

Please make check payable to 2018 Region II Meeting Fund.

Please complete and return to:

Region II Meeting Fund
c/o Betty Wajda
888 Shaggy Bark Court
Gaylord, MI 49735
Dear Region III Members:

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EACH OF YOU! I sincerely hope when you made your New Year’s Resolutions, you included Desk and Derrick as a priority – striving to attend monthly meetings, field trips and seminars that are planned for your educational and social benefit. I know I did. A good way to put that resolution to work is to include your reservation to attend your Region III Meeting to be held April 4th-8th, 2018, in Metairie, Louisiana. Johanna Lae of the New Orleans Club and GAC for 2018 Region is ready, willing and able with any questions you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact her, myself or any of the New Orleans’ members.

I would like to take this opportunity to express Region III’s sincere APPRCIATION and a THANK YOU to Claudia Prather, Region III Director 2017 for doing an exceptional job of keeping us informed timely so we knew what matters were coming to fruition and which were involved in ongoing discussions.

CONGRATULATIONS to all incoming Region III Presidents for joining the Krewe of Desk and Derrick by taking on the duties and responsibilities that the office of President carries. They are: Judy Buckley, Baton Rouge; Eugenia Palculict, El Dorado; Kathy Martin, Lafayette; Jessica Wade, Laurel; Charlotte Ratcliff, Morgan City; Kathy Gowland, New Orleans; Sheryl Cole, Red River and Angie Duplessis, Westbank. We have many challenges ahead of us but with determination and dedication we will keep this organization that we believe in and care about so much “afloat”.

Please, don’t be afraid to ask questions – I promise if I don’t know the answer I will address your concerns and questions with the 2018 ADDC Board. As your Region III Director I am the liaison between the clubs and members of your Region and the ADDC Board. They too are ready, willing and eager to be able to help us as a group to get the job done.

The Region III Program Chairman is Lois Folse of the Baton Rouge Club so please let this serve as a reminder that your club program report is due within seven days of your monthly meeting. Let’s make her job easier by getting your reports in timely.

HAVE A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!!

Carol Schiavone
January 2018

Happy New Year to each one of you – I do hope that you had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends. I am proud and excited to be serving as the 2018 Region IV Director.

A great big “Thank You” to Evelyn Green for being an exceptional Region IV Director for 2017. Your leadership and valued friendship to all the members of Region IV has been and continues to be a valued asset. It will be a hard act to follow this year!

Region IV is fortunate to have the following members serve their respective clubs as President for 2018:

Dorothy Jordan - Corpus Christi
Sharon Figueroa - Dallas
Helen Lovato - Fort Worth
Sonya Edwards - Graham
Donna Altomari - Houston
Pat Blanford - Lone Star
Melinda Montgomery - North Harris/Montgomery Counties
Kathy Johnson - San Antonio
Cindy Miller - Victoria

I look forward to an exciting year. The 2018 Region IV Meeting is scheduled for April 18 - 21, 2018 at the Wildcatter Ranch, “The Resort Ranch on the Texas Range”, in Graham, TX, so mark your calendars now. The Graham Club is working hard to ensure it is a Regional Meeting you won’t forget! Look for more details, in the near future.

As you know, the 2018 ADDC Convention will be held in Evansville, IN, September 19-22, 2018 at the Doubletree by Hilton, $129 single/Double and $149 triple/quad. Region I is working diligently to put this together collectively with our 2018 President Christina Forth to make this ADDC Convention, one you won’t want to miss.

I will be attending the ADDC Budget and Planning Meeting January 19-20, 2018 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. As your 2018 Region IV Director – I am here to represent you. So, if there are any concerns that you, the Member of this Association, want or feels that it should be brought before the Board, please let me know.

Remember that when or if you need me – I am here for you. I am easy to reach by phone, e-mail or text. No matter how insignificant you think your question or concern is – contact me and I will work, to the best of my ability, to get an answer for you. Thank you for this incredible opportunity, that we will be on, together this year.

Sue

“To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe.” – Anatole France
Member Interview
Shacie Murray

Introduction:
I’m Shacie Murray, I joined the Farmington Desk and Derrick Club in 2014. I graduated from the University of North Dakota with a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering and I’m a production engineer at Merrion Oil and Gas.

Greatest D&D Moment:
There are many! One of my favorite memories was at my first Industry Appreciation Banquet. I was asked to give a short speech before the main speaker took over. Although very nervous, I got up and gave my speech about how things come full circle. When I attended San Juan College I received the D&D scholarship, a couple of years later I started working at Merrion and was asked to join the club. Therefore, everything came full circle as I am now a member helping raise money for the scholarship that once put me through school. That was a special moment for me where I was able to thank the club for helping me as a student and thank my company for supporting me as a Desk and Derrick member.

Biggest D&D goal:
Win an AIMEE at convention for a picture.
This one didn’t win, this one didn’t win . . . third time is a charm!

What do you want D&D to be:
I want D&D to be a place of quality education and a platform for the promotion, defense, and advancement of the energy industry. Educating members in the production and consumption of energy and providing the necessary tools for them to confidently speak for the industry. I want the best for D&D and I believe that we can create it.
What will you do to create that D&D:
Starting with my club, I actively seek out the most educational speakers and trips then I communicate those ideas with the board.
Change is in the air and that was very apparent at Convention in San Antonio. I’m excited to see change that will start making a real difference for the association. I would like to see more solutions and less change for the sake of changing. For example, how can the association make money separately from membership? My idea (and I’m probably not the first one to think this) is to make an app for the abbreviator. I saw on the membership poll that the board is looking into an app for something, I’m not sure what but I have high hopes. What else could be a possible income stream for the association that is not directly sourced from the members? For the association, I don’t know exactly what I will do, I don’t have all the answers but I will keep asking important questions.

Other thoughts:
While our club was discussing the proposed bylaws before convention one member had a genius idea. She said that instead of completely changing the emblem, we should just update it. So, I think it would be fun to have a contest. Here is the first draft of my possible entry.
Hello Region VI!
Happy New Year! I hope this letter finds you well and excitedly awaiting a fantastic year for ADDC! I am honored to be serving as your 2018 Region Director and cannot wait to see what we can achieve together. Take the time to check out the left column to familiarize yourself with the Presidents of Region VI for 2018.
Go ahead and save the date for the Region VI Meeting scheduled for April 26-28 in Wichita!
The first of the changes you will see this year is the RD letters. Instead of the regular letter you have seen, we will be focusing on a member each month. I hope by doing this, you will get to know members throughout your region. If you would like to nominate someone, be sure to reach out to me! I am going to start January by telling you a little bit about myself!

Name: Casi Nichols
Current City: Ringwood, OK
Home Club: Enid, OK
Office(s) Serving: Region VI Director, ADDC Contest Chair
Year Joined ADDC: 2009

Current Job: Owner/Safety/Admin at Spur Services LLC, Realtor at E-Towne Realty, Owner at Dirt Road Threads Boutique, but most importantly a wife and a mom.

A little bit about you: I was born and raised in Weatherford, OK. In 2003, I graduated high school and moved to Alva, OK where I attended NWOSU and met my future husband. In 2006, I graduated college and a week later married Charles. We moved to Enid, OK where I began working at Complete Energy. I spent the next 9 ½ years learning many different aspects of the oilfield from the safety department perspective. The last 5 years of my career with Complete, I served as a field safety coordinator. The best part of this position was interacting with the field employees and seeing day to day operations up close. In 2017, I left Complete Energy to focus on my family and other career options. The last 11 ½ years were spent finding my soulmate, creating our beautiful family and creating my niche in life. My world revolves around my husband, my daughter Bailey and my son Hudson.

Fun Fact: My daughter attended her first Region VI meeting in Bartlesville in 2011 at the age of 1 month.

Goals for 2018: My goals for 2018 are many, but in a phrase “to take on 2018 like a Boss”. This to me entails becoming the best RD I can be and serving my Region, help to unite and integrate the new ADDC changes, building my businesses, and be more involved with my family.

Leave us with a quote or a bit of advice: “Be stubborn about your goals, but flexible about your methods.”
In keeping with change for the coming year we as Regional Directors are tasked with profiling someone from our region each month. I am not the most persuasive or efficient communicator, so bear with me as I highlight Naomi Reid – 2018 Alberta Foothills Desk and Derrick Club President.

Naomi has a passion for this organization that is almost equal to the amount of love she has for her family and friends. As we have struggled through the last year with dwindling numbers and a lack of hands to lighten the load, Naomi has opened the meetings to all members via Skye or a phone number to call into, for the out of town participation in Membership Meetings or Board Meetings. It is inspiring to see Naomi come back from a Regional or Convention meeting energized with new ideas to improve the club and enhance the experience. She has graciously agreed to carry the torch for another year as President of the ABFDDC.

For some back ground on Naomi she joined Suncor in 2004, she is based in Calgary and provides executive support to the Vice President and the Government Relations team. In the 13 years she has been with Suncor she has been in several other departments providing administrative support for Drilling, Logistics and Completions, Supply Chain Management, Field Logistics and Accounts Payable (for a short time).

Outside of work Naomi continues to be an active member of and on the board of directors to the Alberta Foothills Desk and Derrick Club. In her spare time she likes cheering on her husband as he plays ice hockey and scorekeeping for his men’s fastball team. Other activities include travelling - by plane, cruise ship or camping in their holiday trailer. Most important she loves spending time with her husband and year old son and extended family – playing card games, going to the zoo or just staying home.

It is energizing to see Naomi come to the Club with a positive attitude and belief we can achieve great things. Thank you, Naomi!

Tracy Fillmore - Energize
2018 Region VII Director
2017 Board of Directors
Joyce Nolly, President
Lea Ann Spurlock, Vice President
Elaine Nguyen, Secretary
Linda Donham, Treasurer
Jayna Hobby, Director
Reta Perdue, Director
Jamye Ball, Past President
ADDC President, Maggi Franks
Region V Director, Joan Cartwright

Gold filled boxes = Members who got others Member to join

Desk and Derrick Club of Midland
Chartered 1951

60 Members
Happy New Year!

Where does the time go? I cannot believe we are at the beginning of 2018. As each year passes, time seems to fly by so much more quickly than the year before. I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas—celebrating the true reason for the season—and a safe New Year’s celebration, with family and friends. Now is the time to delve into a great year!

The Association Distribution Office (ADO) will be moved from Oklahoma City to Jane Lew, West Virginia, January 22 - 28, with reopening scheduled for Monday, January 29. Your forthcoming patience during the move and the setting up of the office is greatly appreciated.

Once the new ADO postal address is published, I will start updating all forms and applicable webpages on the Association and regional websites in order to alleviate any confusion going forward. The ADO main phone number will remain (405) 543-3464. Once I have updated all forms and applicable webpages, I will provide an update to you via another early-2018 Business Manager newsletter. Again, your forthcoming patience during the transition is greatly appreciated. As an aid and safety net, a postal forwarding order will be invoked this month to ensure any postal mailings are redirected to the correct final destination.

We are looking for 2018 membership renewals and other annual forms and submissions. Could you please gather and submit your 2018 membership renewals, following the instructions that Mark included in his October email message that contained your club’s 2018 membership renewal forms. For any clubs that have not yet done so, could you please submit your New Club Officers Form (ADO31) and your 2018 club meeting schedule.

Now that we have the housekeeping issues out of the way, I want to encourage each of you to make plans to attend your regional meeting and our 67th Annual ADDC Convention and Educational Conference being held in Evansville, Indiana, in September. Keep a lookout for plenty of information from the ADO—as well as information on the ADDC website—regarding the 2018 Convention and Educational Conference.

For those of you who have volunteered for a club or Association committee—or are considering doing so—it will be a great experience! You will reap valuable information that will help you in your personal and career development, and you will help move our organization forward in a most positive way.

The 2018 ADDC Board of Directors will meet later this month for the annual Budget and Planning Meeting, when The Board will discuss strategies and set a budget for the year. Be on the lookout for updates on what decisions are made and what to expect for 2018 from the ADDC Board of Directors.

I am looking forward to continuing working with each and every one of you—our membership—in 2018. Should you ever require information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am here to help!

A blessed and most prosperous New Year to all!

Sincerely,

Wayne Ammons
Business Manager
Greetings 2018 Presidents:

With yet another year behind us we now look towards the year ahead in hopes that we can build an even better and productive ADDC. Congratulations to all of you for stepping up as president of your local club for 2018.

This is my second year serving as programs committee chairman. It is my feeling that the first year was just a training experience for me. I had been a representative for Region IV the year before but had no idea what a challenge it would be to take over the Chairman reigns. Each club faces the challenge of presenting nine educational programs during the year. What I would like to stress is that the classifications are for the programs and not the actual meeting. At least six of the programs must be energy or energy related presentations whether it is an outside speaker or someone within the club. The other three programs can consist of an ADDC orientation and two socio-economic or professional self-development programs.

You may wonder why it is necessary to monitor each clubs reports. The Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs has an exemption from paying U.S. Federal Income Tax because our primary purpose is education. To retain this tax-exempt status, each club is required to file a Program Report to verify that we are in compliance with the tax law and our ADDC Bylaws requiring nine educational programs per year. The Program Reports will be kept as a permanent record in case we are ever audited by the IRS.

The PROG1 (Program Report Form) has been recently updated and will be provided to you via email to be forwarded to the person within your club responsible for preparing and submitting the report each month. The Meeting Schedule is on the first tab and must be completed and submitted to your Programs Regional Representative no later than January 31st, 2018.

The PROG1 form should be completed and submitted to your Programs Regional Representative no later than seven days after your meeting. The Representatives will then in turn forward to me to complete the monthly submission to the Board contact and ADDC Webmaster. I will also include some user friendly information on using this report. It makes it much easier if you can simply update the form each month and submit it via email. The report must be submitted each month whether you have a meeting or not by simply putting a check by NO MEETING. If you need any help filling out this form please contact either your representative or myself.

Region representatives for 2018 are as follows:

Region | Representative | Email Address
--- | --- | ---
I | Angelo Albanese | aalbanes@rangeresources.com
II | Jan Bell | jbell@aenergy.net
III | Lois Folse | lcfolse@cox.net
IV | Connie Bass | connie.bass@btt-group.com
V | Diana Walker | dwalker@sjoc.net
VI | Michele Burgard | michelle.burgard@dvn.com
VII | Submit reports to Connie Bass | connie.bass@btt-group.com

Thank you in advance for your help in making this a learning year for ADDC in 2018.

Connie Bass
December 30, 2017

TO: All Club Presidents  
FROM: 2018 Rules Committee  
SUBJECT: Updated Bylaws, Standing Rules, and General Information

In accordance with Standing Rules, 16. Approved amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules shall be distributed by January 1 following each convention.

Therefore, the updated version of the ADDC Bylaws, Standing Rules, General Information, and Code of Ethics reflecting amendments passed at 2017 ADDC Convention is attached and is available on the ADDC website, Members Only section: Guidelines. Bylaws amendments are effective January 1, 2018.

Please ensure your club’s Bylaws, Standing Rules, General Information, and Code of Ethics reflect any relevant change; for example, if your club’s Bylaws include amount of dues to be paid, they should be updated to include the new ADDC dues amount. Changes made to a club’s Bylaws, Standing Rules, General Information, and Code of Ethics due only to ADDC Bylaws and Standing Rules amendments do not require review by the ADDC Club Bylaws Review Committee.

Judi Adams  
2018 Rules Committee Chair

Copy: Christina Forth, ADDC President  
Terry Ligon, ADDC President Elect  
Marilyn Carter, ADDC Parliamentarian  
ADO Manager  
2018 Rules Committee
Dear Friends and fellow members,

I am pleased to announce that we have an election.

Out of 49 clubs we received 47 ballots. I would like to explain the process so that there is no confusion. The ballots were received by Sheryl Minear. She in turn sent them to Donna Altomari, the chair of the Registrar committee. Donna distributed the ballots to the committee who reviewed and counted the ballots. Donna then sent a Teller report to me. The ballots will be sent to Keith Atkins, 2017 ADDC Secretary, to be held for 30 days in case any questions arise.

The results are:

**Proposed Amendment #1 – Region Realignment**

- Total Votes: 47
- Votes For: 34
- Votes Against: 12
- Abstentions: 1

**Proposed Amendment #2 – Elimination of Vice President position on ADDC Board of Directors**

- Total Votes: 47
- Votes For: 35
- Votes Against: 12
- Abstentions: 0

Please remember that neither of these amendments will take effect until January 1, 2019. During 2018 we will make preparations to make this transition as seamless as possible.

This was a great turn out, and I’d like to thank all the clubs for taking time to participate in this mail vote.

Please feel free to contact me, or any of the Board of Directors with any questions or concerns.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Happy Holidays!

Maggi Franks
2017 ADDC President
### TELLER’S REPORT
2017 Authorized Mail Vote

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Submitted by Registrar Committee
Donna Altomari, Chairman

Total Number of Votes Required to Approve the Amendment: 2/3 of votes cast

Note: An abstention does not count as a vote cast
It is with great sadness that I write this [message] to all of you. Our beloved Gaynelle has gone on to greener pastures and will be our guardian angel. Gaynelle passed away yesterday, December 20th at 3:00 am. She had been taken by ambulance to the hospital around midnight and was diagnosed with pneumonia and her lungs were filled with fluid. She lost consciousness and died. Chuck, her son, and his wife, Tracie were at the hospital with Gaynelle when she passed away.

Please share this with anyone you know who would have known Gaynelle. Gaynelle's memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 30th, 2017 at 10:00 am at the Heights Funeral Home, 1317 Heights Blvd, Houston, TX 77008.

Gaynelle was a member of the Spring Branch Memorial Desk and Derrick Club from 1978 and joined the North Harris/Montgomery Counties Desk and Derrick Club when the SBM Desk and Derrick Club disbanded. Gaynelle joined Desk and Derrick in 1978, she celebrated 39 years this year. She was looking forward to renewing in 2018 to mark her 40th year.

She will be missed but she can breathe again.

Below is Gaynelle's obituary as printed in the Houston Chronicle

Gaynelle Pierce
1941-2017

Gaynelle Pierce, of Houston, Texas, passed away early Wednesday morning, December 20th.

Gaynelle was born in 1941 in Dallas, but grew up in Houston, where she attended Reagan High School where she met her husband Charlie and best friends for life, Pat and Buddy Aden. The foursome regularly traveled and shared their lives together Friday for over 60 years.

Gaynelle was one of the early career women, working fulltime, starting in the early 1960s. Early in her career she worked for large corporations as an Executive Assistant, and spent that last 25 years working in the energy industry until her retirement from Baker Hughes as Human Resources Analyst. Gaynelle was an active member of Desk & Derrick Club for over 25 years, served as the President and in recognition of her service was named member for life. Additionally, she had her own business, working as a Mary Kay beauty consultant for many years.

Gaynelle loved traveling. With her beloved husband, Charlie, she travelled to almost every state in the union visiting presidential monuments and libraries. They also traveled to Thailand, Egypt, and countries throughout Europe. She journeyed to China and took several cruises with friends. She kept in touch with friends from all parts of her life and received great joy from the relationships she had with her grandchildren. She was very creative and loved sharing her creations, including quilting, embroidery, jewelry and other fun items. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law Charles and Tracie Pierce; her daughter and son-in-law, Jill & Coburn Williams, as well as her four loving grandchildren – Zachary & Alexandra Pierce, Taylor & Nicholas Williams. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, December 30 at 10:00 a.m. at Heights Funeral Home 1317 Heights Blvd, Houston, TX 77008.

Please keep Gaynelle's family in your thoughts and prayers.
Building Local Desk and Derrick Club Membership Growth
(Sharing one important aspect of the Midland Club Success Story)

by Stuart Mussler

Stuart Mussler
Stakeholders Relations Director
ConocoPhillips – Houston, TX
Desk and Derrick Club Member
Midland, TX

Premise: Midland D&D club experienced high growth in membership in 2016 and 2017 when club president Joyce Nolly (a ConocoPhillips employee) sought out and made affiliation with her company’s Stakeholder Relations Director.

Working together, the club’s notoriety grew, it began new activities and it simply got dressed up and started looking better and offering more. The club, of course, did a lot of other things very well over the past two years, but this is the area I want to focus on today. I am here to tell you the Midland story from my perspective – a person who learned about it from the outside, recognized the value, and began supporting Desk & Derrick on behalf of my company. The particular tactics such as, how individual new members were found, and then reached out to? That will have to be part of a different discussion.

As you listen, you are likely to have questions like, what specific factors did new members see that persuaded them to join, etc….. perhaps all that can be explored in depth another time. Today I want to focus on helping you find resources inside your own companies who can help ensure the viability of your local club with financial and other forms of support. In other words, how to share your Desk & Derrick experience with your employer more. And how that can be mutually beneficial.

The Midland success story:

The Midland club currently has 57 members, with 32 new members since January. We have 22 companies represented. The age of our members ranges from 25 to 84; a very diverse group. Yes, even the renowned Permian basin was not immune to adverse industry conditions these past few years.

With a profoundly non-diversified economy, the Midland club was hit hard by the stinging economic downturn, and I’ll bet your club was affected too. There were retirements. People leaving the industry, and leaving west Texas all together. At the start of 2016 things were looking down, and in desperate need of defibrillation.

Fast forward to September 2017. Club growth this year is +128%.

Here is my objective today: So that you might be able to achieve growth for your club….

• I’d like to give you examples of how Joyce and I worked together to find win/win solutions that (a) benefited the reputational value of the sponsoring company, ConocoPhillips, while (b) building local D&D club growth by creating new avenues to expose the club to more industry professionals, taking on new activities, (i.e. answer the question, what is in it for me?).
Here are some quick examples: ConocoPhillips agreed to pay for meals at monthly Brown Bag Luncheons; made a commitment to take the annual Region V Meeting to a new level of professionalism. (the Region meeting was hosted in April, 2016). That’s just a couple, but more to come.

First, I’d like to explain the purpose of Stakeholder Relations – who are they what do they do for oil and gas producers. You are all familiar with specific external stakeholders whom your company, and perhaps you, deal with. You have communication professionals to handle media inquiries. The media – that’s an external stakeholder group. Then you have various levels of Regulatory reporting going on. And for that, your company has specialized folks who speak the language of oil and gas regulation. That’s another external audience. How about state or federal government affairs? This is another example of a targeted set of external stakeholders who we, as companies or as an industry, have an obligation to inform, influence, listen to, and work with. There are a handful more, but in my case, Stakeholder Relations is most commonly targeting local relationships. Local means inside our specific areas of operations where we are already producing, or we plan to produce. Local stakeholders might be elected county or city officials, it might mean peer companies, perhaps individual opinion leaders or others. There are lots of ways to look at it, but look at it you must, and then decide who you wish to influence, and how to go about that.

SR professionals are probably already inside your companies, but you may not know how to leverage what they do. Whether they are called by different names, someone in your company is engaged in the business of local community relations, overseeing charitable giving, enhancing your company’s reputation for hiring, or handling relationships with local elected officials, etc. All of those things can be elevated – for your company, if they get more involved, and for your D&D club - by working together with your companies to help ensure the viability of your club.

What I learned. A viable Desk & Derrick club in any particular petroleum basin (region of oil and gas production) is good for that region. Why is that so? I think you will find the D&D Association and reputable oil and gas companies have shared values in common.

The concepts of sustainable development include things like social responsibility, corporate citizenship, service to the community, and also -- educating folks about the soundness of modern energy production and its far-reaching benefit to civilization.

Let’s start right there. Here is an excerpt from D&D mission statement: “Desk & Derrick is an industry leader in promoting positive education of the petroleum, energy, and allied industries.” That sounds familiar to my goals. Stakeholder relations practitioners seek the same positive image of our industry. Find out who in your company is working in this space. Get in front of them. Make specific asks. And when you do, speak their language.

Here is what I mean: Seek out and read your company’s annual sustainability report. If you are in a technical role, or even if you aren’t, some of the language of Sustainability and Social Responsibility might be new to you. You will find commitments to: educating stakeholders about sound environmental practices, a lot about safety, a commitment to the communities where you operate, a desire to create long-lived relationships with suppliers and other stakeholders in order to do what? Sustain your businesses. Exactly.

When Joyce Nolly approached me in Q1 2016, she explained the mission and purposes of the D&D club in ways that I could see value in. They were aligned with my objectives, and also aligned with the values my company.
When takes with it to Wall Street and everywhere else it goes. She spoke my language. She made the associations between my company’s values and those of D&D.

So how do you get to win/win. I sought to elevate the reputation of ConocoPhillips in the Permian Basin. OK, how? Well, lots of ways. But in this case, here is one that was given to me. Sometimes it works that way.

I learned that members of the D&D club in Midland already comprised some stakeholder groups I sought to reach (service companies, peer operators, individual opinion leaders locally, etc). And we knew we could get bigger and reach more of them. So, the lights were coming on.

Here are a few more shared-value statements from D&D’s Mission statement. I point these out to help you make connections with managers and others in your company who can help contribute to your Desk & Derrick experience, and in doing so, help themselves along the way. That was certainly my experience.

- **Commitment to training.** I wanted to see more of my company’s employees exposed to the cross-functional training you provide and things like the eye-opening filed trips you take in region or national meetings (refineries, gas plants, wind farms, the geology museum in Denver last year, etc).

- **Leadership.** “I am a positive servant mentor,” it says this in the D&D mission statement. I love that one. I could see the commitment the Midland club displayed for making their town a better place to live and I wanted to be a part of that, because I know my company has value there.

- **Integrity/Accountability** – “I walk my talk; I do what I say I will do. I follow through on my commitments.”
  - A couple of things for me to point out here. **#1, Have a plan. #2, walk your talk.** When Joyce approached me, she had a plan. So, have a vision and articulate it to the person you are wanting to help sponsor your club. Do it fearlessly. Perhaps that’s starting with your supervisor as well. And let him or her direct you.

Here’s what Joyce sat me down to say: “We want to invite D&D members to ConocoPhillips’ Midland office each month for lunch. We buy. We’re going to cultivate a new way to interact with one another and share professional development in a casual way.” And who is also winning here? My company. More and more people are coming into our Midland office each month to take part. Easy win.

- **We want to throw the best region meeting ever.** For starters, every Midland Club member registered for this meeting gets a new shirt...” And whose logo was on the shirt? You guessed it, ConocoPhillips.

- **The region meeting is going to feature a local news personality.** He’s going to help us play “Family Feud” to loosen things up... and by the way, bring a camera crew with him.” And what company got mentioned on the news as the sponsor? Easy win.

Here’s more of what Joyce said. “We envision an evening ice-breaker at the region meeting.” When I arrived, I was greeted by a banner saying, “ConocoPhillips and Desk & Derrick welcomes you to the Region V Meeting.”

- “We’re going to buy 500 D&D Energy Activity Books and take them out to educate kids in the community about our industry – and here’s the schedule for that” ...And Joyce and her team sure delivered on their commitment. Said. Did.
- “Everybody is going to get a new lapel pin to wear, and start feeling different about themselves while we are together.” The message on the lapel pin? What did it say? **You’re Essential.**

- “Members are going to take on new roles and be given opportunities to demonstrate their essentialness.” How good is that? Essentialness.

- “We’re going to host a golf tournament and raise more money to elevate the club.” What did golfers leave with? A COP water bottle, sleeve of balls, basket of golf goodies. I know those golf balls probably wound up in the water hazard, but they were good while they lasted.

Then What….Joyce and I agreed on a $5,000 budget for 2016. Joyce promised me a worksheet detailing every expenditure along the way. She delivered on her commitment. The first month in, I saw line items for each expense, a description and remaining balance. Impressive. Same thing the next month, and so on.

- That is some of my recollection of how things got started. Now, back to getting you prepared to tell your story, and why it is smart for your employer to participate financially in the viability of your local D&D club.

- Be assertive. That’s my recommendation, but couple that with the “serving” mentality that I often encounter within D&D: That is a common trait that is easily observed in a Desk and Derrick club. I respect this approach. Others will too. Assertive yet Serving …The two terms are more related than they sound at first.

- You can serve others, yet you can do it boldly. It does not mean passively hoping for the best. Where would Joyce have gotten with her vision for the Midland club if she was unwilling to take some chances. To win some battles, and to lose some. Yes, we have lost some.

- Just one moment on that point – In Midland we don’t think we are as respected as we should be by our local industry trade organization. We help them out quite a bit with large meeting logistics, for example, but the win/win aspect of that is something we are still trying to unlock. Even so, we’re not giving up there. So, take on the challenge of demonstrating your essentialness. Set up meetings inside your company to see where you get….And with whom your message will resonate. Make the associations that are good for their reputation to be a part of.

- And walk your walk. Set your course and be prepared to stick up for it. Don’t give away your standards. Here is more on that new word of ours – essentialness.

  What usually comes with growth of an organization? Well, one thing it means is that competing ideologies or visions for the organization sure can develop. Look at history. Look anywhere. Can well-meaning people disagree about the path of an organization? Of course. And this is really a topic for another session. But I just wanted to say I was privileged to watch the Midland D&D club hold true, remember the place they started their journey from, and not lose sight of the charter they had in mind for themselves from the beginning. Nice job. Growth and CHANGE are possible without making compromises you don’t want to make. Just remember the challenges are probably not going to be an “elective course,” so to speak, so be prepared.

- Participating in your local Desk and Derrick Association is good for your company. That is what we are talking about today. I could have written it, but this sentence is right out of the D&D mission statement too. Don’t overlook this! I have found it to be true.

Here is what Joyce and I found: Individual members may not have described D&D in detail to their
supervisors or to their peers at their company. If that is you, take the opportunity when you get back home to assert….. yes be assertive, to discuss what you do here with your supervisor. In time don’t be afraid to make an ask. A Specific ask. Think through how your company aligns its values with those of D&D and find those common objectives.

- So, there’s our take away point. Seek a sponsor within your company; and build that relationship.

There are benefits to your company and even to individuals. One of them may wind up standing where I stood last year. In front of you, receiving the Distinguished Non-Member Service Award in Denver. And now I am very proud to say I am a member.

- And then you can reach beyond your own company. This is especially for those of you who are in leadership positions in local clubs – like Joyce in Midland.

In your role as a club official, connect with other companies (like we did with targeting some of the large top 5 producers in the Permian Basin). Commonly, company management at those companies were unaware of all the good things their employees were already involved in with D&D. And were never asked to financially support Desk & Derrick. You have a good thing. Let it out. We encountered managers who said if they knew about it earlier, they would have supported earlier. In other words, the ask was never made.

Joyce secured one bigee, who saw more employees join and take on a role on the local board, in one case. They also donated financially. (typically, around $3k). That is not an unreasonable ask. But the important point is -- at some point -- you will have to make the ask or how can it happen.

- And keep in mind, you aren’t reminding companies of anything they are obligated to do in the realm of social responsibility or sustainable practices – they don’t owe you, or anybody else, anything – you are merely learning how to speak their language and making a business case for your club. You are tying the benefits of your shared values together in a way that makes a sound business case.

I can tell you with my limited budget, I did not let Joyce off the hook for coming to me with a sound business case when this year began. Others will view it the same way. I have options. So, here’s how it works: you give me a supportable case and help me make a good decision with my company’s money.

- This year we are doing a few things differently (less) because we are not hosting a region meeting. Even so, the Midland club still has high value for monthly luncheons and we are continuing that. We added new quarterly recognition awards and we are assisting to get more members to this national meeting where we are today. Why do that? The importance of the national meeting came vividly into focus for me last year when I saw for myself the impressive agenda and all the coordination.

Honestly, I don’t know of anybody doing anything that comprehensive on an annual basis for their members. I walked in and saw all the options and was taken aback -- a front range geology field trip, DJ basin tour, you arranged wide open access to USGS Geology research center and the Ice Core Lab. Accredited continuing education down every hallway. And much more…. Think about all the things going on this year too.

- And to a large extent, it struck me last year all this was a bit of a hidden gem. A resource I didn’t know about.

- I didn’t know until I was told….. Am I making that point enough? Then I saw how the value spoke for itself, and I figured I’d be wise to get involved. So don’t keep secrets. Show off. Please, start showing off.
• So, back to where we started. The Midland club has **32 new members since January**. We have 22 companies that are represented. Club growth this year has been **+128%**. We are looking at a possible Energy Symposium next year – but you will have to ask Joyce for more information about that! And when you do, be careful or you will find yourself signed up to be a greeter or something.

• We are also trying to expand our scope with the state’s largest industry trade organization. That discussion has really yet to begin, as our idea was just recently generated at the NAPE conference in Houston with Mark last month where TXOGA and D&D were both exhibiting.

• **But the idea there is to....** Guess what, identify areas of **SHARED VALUES** and find out how we can go to work on things we and TXOGA both want to accomplish.

    Thank you!
    
    Stuart Mussler

“LIKE PIECES OF A PUZZLE, WE ALL ARE ESSENTIAL”
I just got back from vacation in Belize where gas cost ~$11 BZ/gallon which is ~$5.50 US/gallon. That got me thinking, how do gasoline prices compare around the world? Lo and behold the internet has the answer. First it is interesting to know that according to GlobalPetrolPrice.com, “The differences in prices across countries are due to the various taxes and subsidies for gasoline. All countries have access to the same petroleum prices of international markets but then decide to impose different taxes. As a result, the retail price of gasoline is different”.

Now, how does everyone compare . . . The cheapest gas is found in Venezuela, USA is 30th, and the most expensive gas is $7.68 in Hong Kong.

The cost at the pump doesn’t necessarily tell how affordable the fuel is in the country. OilPrice.com compared the gasoline cost to the countries average income to find where gas is most and least affordable.

Top 10 most affordable: Venezuela, Kuwait, USA, Luxembourg, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Australia, Canada, and Norway.

Top 10 least affordable: India, Pakistan, Philippines, Nigeria, Egypt, South Africa, Indonesia, Thailand, Turkey, and Bulgaria.

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**Gasoline prices, 11-Dec-2017**

* (U.S. Dollar)

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Source: GlobalPetrolPrices.com
SMS text messaging is now 25 years old!

by Patrick Devaney (https://twitter.com/PatrickDevaney)

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Season's Greetings.

No, I'm not offering you season's greetings just yet. Although I'm four doors into my cheese advent calendar and I've already watched *Die Hard*, I still have far too much work to do before I'll allow myself to feel all Christmassy.

What I'm referring to is the Season's Greetings that were sent via the first ever SMS text message on December 3, 1992. Telecommunications engineer Neil Papworth sent “Merry Christmas” to Vodafone Director, Richard Jarvis’ phone and the SMS was born. Although, in my eyes at least, Papworth might've been a little early in his festive cheer he sparked off what can accurately be described as a revolution in the way that people communicate and interact with each other.

Although SMS adoption was slow at first, by 1995 the average American was only sending 0.4 messages a month, growth slowly continued to grow. Before long the technology began to adapt to better accommodate the sending of SMS text messages and in 1999 the networks opened up to allow users from competitive networks to communicate with their own users via SMS. This led to the average US user sending 35 SMS messages every day by the year 2000.

Once SMS had established itself, it became almost second nature and in many ways, the preferred form of communication. It became the social norm to send people SMS messages rather than calling them. The number of messages being sent each year just kept growing and growing with a whopping 12.5 billion being sent every month in 2006, which grew to 45 billion a month being sent just a year later in 2007. By June 2017, there were 781 billion SMS messages flying around.

SMS provided a brand new way to communicate with your friends and family. The 160-character limit for each message in turn spurred the creation of a brand new vernacular that allowed for text-based representations of physical actions like laughing out loud or even certain facial expressions and emotions.

The SMS revolution has also left a wave of social good in its wake by bringing effective communication to previously cut-off regions. Even today, 25 years after the first ever SMS message was sent, new initiatives are still being created that utilize SMS to help people in remote regions. Huge strides have been made in the fight against malaria and other important social battles all through the power of that little beep beep – beep beep.

With such a huge history behind it, what future lies ahead for the SMS text message? Well unfortunately, it looks like its days may be numbered. As more and more regions become connected to the world wide web, internet messaging services like WhatsApp and Facebook Messenger will take over from the humble SMS. With no comparable charge or character limit users in the western world have already begun to migrate to the new internet-based messaging platforms.

Even if SMS does end up going the same way as Adobe Flash and MS Paint, it'll take a long long time before the messaging platform no longer exists and even after it has gone it's more modern messaging cousins will always owe a huge debt of gratitude to SMS.

What started off as “Merry Christmas” has become much more, and will keep changing and evolving the way we communicate with each other for many holidays to come

Happy Birthday, SMS.
MOTTO
Greater Knowledge—Greater Service

PURPOSE
The Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs (ADDC), an international non-profit organization, is a premier provider of energy education and professional development. ADDC’s purpose shall be to promote the education and professional development of individuals employed in or affiliated with the petroleum, energy and allied industries, and to educate the general public about these industries as well as the companies and global communities the members serve.

MISSION STATEMENT
Our mission is to enhance and foster a positive image to the global community by promoting the contribution of the petroleum, energy, and allied industries through education by using all resources available.

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