



Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists

Houston Chapter Newsletter

• April 2008 •

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April SIPES Luncheon Meeting

Case History: Minden Field Redevelopment, Rusk County, Texas

Speaker: Gary Griffith, El Paso Exploration



Date: Thurs, April 17
Time: Social 11:15 am
Lunch 11:45 am
Place: Petroleum Club
800 Bell St.
Houston, TX

Texas Licensed Geoscientists,
a SIPES Lunch talk counts toward the 15
Professional Development Hours required
annually to maintain your license.

Hospitality Sponsor

PATHFINDER[®]

Abstract

Minden Field is located in Rusk County, Texas, on the west flank of the Sabine Uplift. Historical production has been predominantly from the Rodessa, Pettet and Hosston Formations. Escalating gas prices and new fracture technology have recently made the Cotton Valley Sands economically viable.

In 2005, El Paso purchased properties in Minden Field. This allowed El Paso to re-enter East Texas with a low risk/low cost development program targeting Cotton Valley Sands. Since taking over operations, El Paso was presented with a series of challenges that had to be worked through to make Minden Field a successful acquisition. These challenges included regulatory issues, keeping ahead of an aggressive three-rig drilling program, unexpected loss of drilling rigs, and increasing development costs.

The Minden Field Redevelopment will be presented beginning with a regional perspective through El Paso's success in meeting these challenges. ♦

Professional Biography

Gary Griffith graduated from Wichita State University with a BS and MS in Geology. He has 30 years of prospecting experience with

April Meeting cont'd on page 2

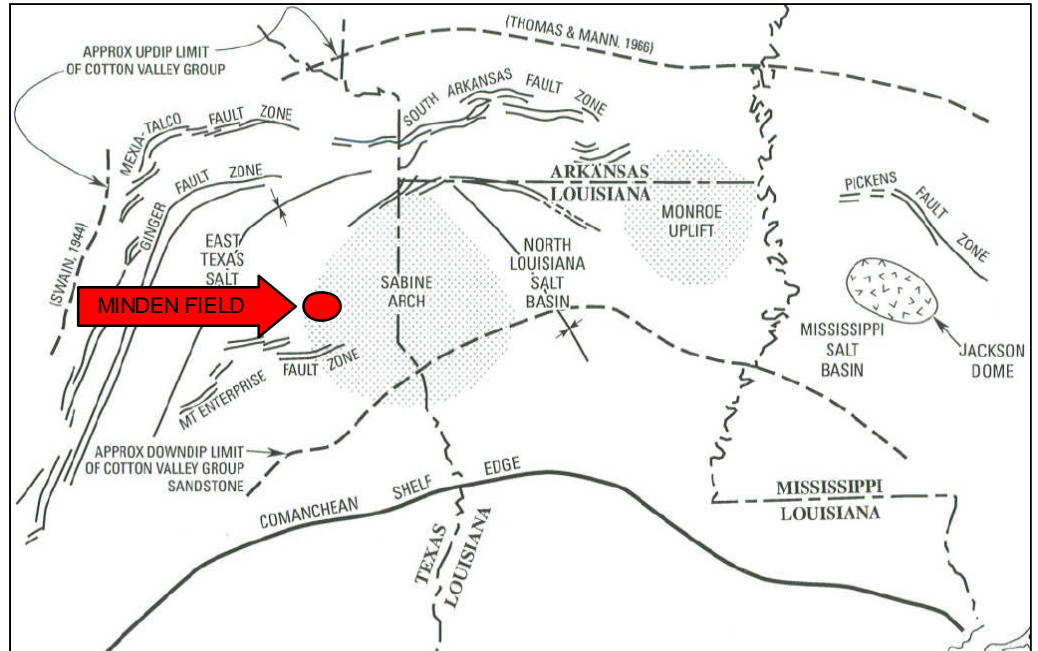
Members and Affiliates who register by **12:00 Noon, Tuesday April 15**, pay only \$30. Guests, non-members, late registrations, or at-the-door pay \$35. **No-shows will be billed.** Call, fax, or e-mail your reservation to Mrs. B.K. Buongiorno at the SIPES address above. You can sign up for SIPES Meetings online at www.sipes-houston.org, but payment is still required by regular mail or at the door.



April Meeting Cont'd

various companies, including Texas Oil and Gas, Marathon Oil Company, Sonat, and El Paso. He is currently a Senior Staff Geologist with El Paso Exploration and Production working in the ArkLaTex and MAFla areas. ♦

"El Paso was presented with a series of challenges that had to be worked through to make Minden Field a successful acquisition"



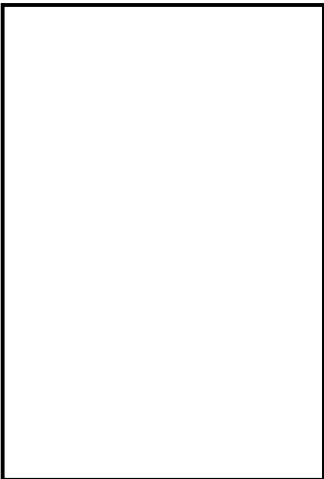
March Chapter Board of Directors Meeting

The following are some of the items discussed at the Chapter Board Meeting on March 20, 2008:

- Ms. Janie Scheulke, a volunteer with the Houston Geological Society's "Maps in Schools" program presented the Board with the format and procedures that the HGS uses in this program in order to help streamline the SIPES-Houston's efforts.
- Mark Gregg (Chmn. Elect) reported that preparations are well underway for the 2008 Fall Social

- Robert Hickman (Cont. Ed.) also reported that preparations are underway for the 2008 Continuing Education Seminar which is planned for late September.

Jim Grubb (Membership.) presented a membership application for Martin Cassidy which was reviewed and approved for submission to SIPES National.



March Luncheon Meeting

by Glen Pankonien

photos by Phil Martin and Paul Britt



New Members

No new SIPES member received certificate at the March Luncheon.





Letter from the Technical Program Chairman



Member Announcements

Send any news or announcements to B.K. Buongiorno
bkspee@aol.com, call 713-651-1639, or fax 713-951-9659.

Upcoming SIPES Events

- Mon, May 12** **SIPES 45th Annual Meeting;** through Thursday May 15, *New Orleans, Louisiana.*
- Thu, May 22** **SIPES Luncheon;** *"Recent Exploration Success at Bayou Postilion Field, South Louisiana"*, Chris Chaffin
- Thu, Jun 19** **SIPES Luncheon;** *"Buying and Selling ORRI and WI's"*, Mark Roach
- Thu, Sep 25** **Houston Chapter Continuing Education Seminar;** *-subject to be announced-*

Upcoming HGS Events *

- Mon, Apr 14** **General Dinner;** *"The Double Edged Sword: The Impact of the Interaction between Salt and Sediment on Sub-salt Exploration Risk in Deep Water; From Mahogany to Jack"*
- Tue, Apr 15** **Environmental & Eng Dinner;** *"Elementary School Students Grow Crystals in Space"*
- Mon, Apr 28** **International & N. American Joint Dinner;** *"From Greenhouse to Icehouse – The Azolla Trigger Implications for Climate Change and Arctic Petroleum Source Rocks"*
- Wed, Apr 30** **HGS General Luncheon;** *"The Great Pliocene Salt Squirt – Mechanics of Folding along the Down-dip Limit of Salt, Gulf of Mexico"*

** See HGS Bulletin or go to www.hgs.org for meeting details, times and location*



EDIT PAGE, DELETE BEFORE PRINTING

Changes

Paul Babcock's phone no. – done

Glen's last name on column byline - done

