

Rainbow over Big Bend, National Park Service

PBS-SEPM NEWSLETTER

March 2021

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Springing out of Winter

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KEY DATES For March 2021 and April 2021

MARCH 2021

- **4: SPE-COSG Luncheon, The Petroleum Club,** 11:30am-1pm, Chad Senters, Parenting Strategies for Underperforming Children, [RSVP](#)
- **15: WTGS Luncheon, Virtual,** 11:30 am-1pm, Mike Party, The Permian Basin: What is it's Future
- **16: PBS-SEPM Luncheon, Bush Convention Center & Virtual,** 11:30am-1pm, Casey Mitchell, From College Student to Starting an Oil Company: A Journey from Nothing to Success in the Modern Oil Field?
- **23: SPWLA-PB Luncheon, Virtual,** 11:45am-1pm, Ali Tinni, Electrical Properties of Shales

APRIL 2021

- **1: SPE-COSG Luncheon, The Petroleum Club,** 11:30am-1pm, TBD
- **13: WTGS Luncheon, Virtual,** 11:30 am-1pm, TBD
- **20: PBS-SEPM Luncheon, Bush Convention Center & Virtual,** 11:30am-1pm, Zane Jobe, Progradational Slope Architecture and Carbonate-Siliclastic Sediment Partitioning in the Outcropping Bone Spring Formation
- **27: SPWLA-PB Luncheon, Virtual,** 11:45am-1pm, Alberto Ortiz, Petro-physical Evaluation of the Vaca Muerta Formation in the Last 5 Years of Unconventional Shale Play Development (YPF)

President's Column

Well, after the remarks I made last month, real winter came to see us, and with a vengeance! The winter as a whole may have been pretty mild this year, but the week in the middle of February hit Texas and surrounding states very hard. The worst part, of course, was the terrible performance of our ERCOT (Electric Reliability Council of Texas) electricity grid. Aftershocks from the abysmal mismanagement will be felt for quite a while. As I write this letter, 5 of 15 ERCOT Board Members have resigned, and two Texas Congressional investigations are going on. LinkedIn has been abuzz with various organizations chiming in, and many people pointing fingers. Some of the less informed are actually blaming a lack of renewables as the cause. (In case you are unaware, wind generators froze up and were unable to produce, while clouds and ice/snow shut down solar panels.) ERCOT irresponsibly sent power to buildings in downtowns that were closed (the event occurred on a weekend, with a minor national holiday the next day, so many of these offices would not be open the next day, anyway). The people who had electricity shut off for an extended period due to mechanical issues continued to be without power as part of a "rolling blackout" for more than 48 hours, while others that had electricity shut off for "15-45 minutes" did not get their power back on until the temperatures came back up, 33 or more hours later.

Because of these power problems, we had to postpone the February luncheon for ten days, and convert it to an on-line only event (with a few people meeting together at Midland Energy Library, near the PBS-SEPM Office). Thank you to Dr. Shane Prochnow for working with us to get the February event rescheduled, and to those who were able to join us.

We should now be back on track for an interesting and diverse series of presentations for the spring. Casey Mitchell will be our March speaker, and will take us on a whirlwind tour of going from college student to independent operator. April will see Dr. Jane Zobe of Colorado School of Mines fill us in on the latest research his students and colleagues are doing on outcrops of the Bone Spring Formation! May wraps up our spring series with Dr. Carol A. Hill (author of our #1 selling book, Publication #96-39, Geology of the Delaware Basin...) talking about her latest publication, which sums up 22 years of research in the Grand Canyon. Carol will be signing both books at our luncheon, which will make for a wonderful luncheon and also a memorable Annual Meeting. Additionally, one of her Grand Canyon co-authors may be available to autograph the book, as well, so be sure to sign up early for the Annual Meeting!

In addition to our regular events, Dr. Rebecca Dodge will fill us in on her "Texas is Art" Exhibit, which will be at the Sibley Nature Center for a three-month tour. This beautiful series (the Board was privileged with a sneak peak at the exhibit) showcases satellite imagery of the state. Calendars of the exhibit will be for sale, as well. Proceeds go toward fellowships for students studying remote sensing, (find the article below to get more information).

Stay safe. See you at the meetings!

Mike Raines

PBS-SEPM President 2020-2021



PBS-SEPM Luncheon Talk – March 16, 2021

Casey Mitchell

**Wellsite Geologist at Suttles Logging, Inc
President, Tiki Oil & Gas, LLC**

“From College Student to Starting an Oil Company: A Journey from Nothing to Success in the Modern Oil Field?”

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 - [Bush Conventional Center & Virtual](#), 11:30 a.m.

~Will be available virtually through [GoToMeeting](#).~

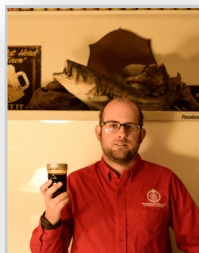
Abstract / Biography

After spending years trying to figure out what direction my career path would take, a desire to solve complex problems and puzzles led me to west Texas. Bringing the drive of a construction powerhouse, and venturing from Texas Tech to the far mountains of Big Bend's Sul Ross, I built a following by attending conferences, building up the Geology Club, and publishing research. All in the hope to attract employers. All was well, interest was garnered by several majors and supermajors! Everything was great.....then 2014 happened. All hope of getting my feet on the ground running came to a screeching halt.

Trudging forward, and bouncing around from a micro independent with serious financial problems while completing a thesis, and retuning to west Texas to work wellsite geology, things were fairly stagnant and a little boring. I reluctantly decided to form an entity, with zero plan for it. Fast forward six months, I was signing the transfer paperwork on my first “producing” (it did at one point) oil lease. Having almost zero funding, a little ingenuity and elbow grease, brought about the beginning of a strange and unexpected journey. Learning the production side of the industry, and some engineering, coupled with sabotage, interesting characters, epic failure, and moderate success has been a true experience one can only have in the world of small oil.

The hope to expand had always been at the forefront of my mind. Always searching the orphan well list, the oil well classifieds (they exist), and digging through deeds and old lease records for the next project. Bring the covid disaster, and worst drop in oil prices in all of history, the day before having my second load of oil hauled. Companies everywhere are bleeding cash left and right, and letting go of leases like hot potatoes that were immersed in magma. A pair of leases for an awfully low price popped on the radar, begin round two! Pulling records, well logs, asking questions, searching for funding, etc. brought about the unimaginable, and the potential success unthought of even a month before. Due to the nature of this acquisition, most of the information about my new Permian Basin assets cannot be released just yet. I will say one thing though, ALWAYS run a GR-N-CCL before perforating you wells, you cannot afford to miss all of your stacked pay zones.

So far this has been quite a ride, I hope my story can inspire those that have been brought down by the current events, or perhaps cheer you up with some of the craziness that comes with starting your own oil company with almost zero money.





Volunteer with PBS-SEPM!



If you are interested in volunteering with PBS-SEPM,
below are the Board Positions and Committees

Board Positions

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Core Location
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Distinguished Lecturer Series

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One Day Field Trip Young
Professionals Field Trip
Lunch Arrangements
Luncheon Program
Speaker Award
Publications

Please email us at info@pbs-sepm.org to get more details about the position
or committee.

Texas as Art 2021

PBS-SEPM would like to showcase Rebecca L. Dodge and her talents to create beautiful art pieces of West Texas landscapes paired with insights regarding the wildlife management, Texas State Parks, and Permian geology. This is known as her “Texas as Art 2021” art show. The “Texas as Art 2021” show displays satellite imagery depicting West Texas landscapes that focus on themes of the natural eco-regions and the organization that helps manage, conserve, and restore these natural areas, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Rebecca Dodge hopes these images will engage people and inspire them to understand the importance of managing our resources, exploring the land we live on, and learning more about the remediation efforts.

She had proposed this idea to [USGS](#) in June of 2020, and was granted the funds by TexasView and its parent organization [AmericaView](#) in July 2020 and began downloading the satellite images in September 2020. Her technique consisted of perusing the large Landsat images and selecting sections within those large maps that would highlight the natural eco-region diversity and human presence. Once satisfied with the selected sections, she began playing with visible and infrared light spectrums to enhance the textures of each image. The changes in intensity, hue, and saturation within Adobe Photoshop allowed her to create 14 remarkable art pieces that we West Texans can not only appreciate with our eyes, but also our hearts, as we call this place our home.

All her information about eco-regions is sourced from the [Texas Wildlife and Parks Department](#), which has pages of information for each State Park. This information paired with the selected Landsat images, makes learning more accessible and fun for not only scientists, but also the people who live here too. Rebecca Dodge has also created education materials for the elementary, middle, and high school students to make learning about the eco-regions around them more approachable. These materials include a scavenger hunt of matching eco regions / land forms with a set of clues, identifying depositional environments, and mapping dendritic drainage patterns.

She plans to take the art pieces throughout Texas stopping at each of the 13 institutions within the TexasView Remote Sensing Consortium. For those who are in Midland, please contact Michael Nickell at the [Sibley Nature Center](#) (1307 E. Wadley, Midland, Texas 79705) via email, michael@sibleynature.org, to set up an appointment for a viewing of up to ten people. Virtual tours for groups of any size can be scheduled via email at rebecca.dodge@msutexas.edu. It is free for all and can be a wonderful way to learn more about the landscape and eco-region we call home.

The [Fa Fa Gallery](#) on Andrews Highway is providing prints of these art pieces and calendars with a different piece marking each month. Please reach out to Jeff Neely at the Fa Fa Gallery if you would like to purchase either of these items. All profits received from the calendar sales will be donated to the TexasView organization into their Texas Art Fund. This fund will provide sponsorship to students who attend any of the 13 TexasView partner institutions (including UTPB and Texas Tech) and who need grants for their geospatial / geoscience application projects.

Rebecca L. Dodge plans to further develop this project by adding satellite imagery of the rest Texas' landscapes. She also hopes to start on another project to highlight the historic oilfields of the Permian Basin in collaboration with the Petroleum Museum.

Alexis Iwasiw
PBS-SEPM Secretary 2020-2021



PBS-SEPM Luncheon Talk – April 20, 2021

Zane Jobe

**Research Professor at Colorado School of Mines
Chevron Center of Research Excellence (CoRE)**

“Progradational Slope Architecture and Carbonate-Siliclastic Sediment Partitioning in the Outcropping Bone Spring Formation: Implications for Reservoir Heterogeneity in the Delaware Basin”

Wylie Walker, Rick Sarg, Lesli Wood

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 - [Bush Conventional Center & Virtual](#), 11:30 a.m.

~Will be available virtually through [GoToMeeting](#).~

Abstract

Sediment transport and partitioning are important for understanding slope-building processes in mixed carbonate-siliciclastic sediment routing systems. The Bone Spring Formation, Delaware Basin, west Texas is a mixed carbonate-siliciclastic system that has been extensively studied in its basal extent, but poorly constrained at its proximal, upper slope segment. In this study, we constrain the stratigraphic architecture of the proximal Bone Spring outcrops in Guadalupe Mountains National Park in order to delineate the dynamics of carbonate and siliciclastic sediment delivery to the basin. These upper-slope deposits are composed predominantly of fine-grained carbonate slope facies interbedded at various scales with terrigenous hemipelagic and sediment gravity flow deposits. We identify ten slope-building clinothem that vary from siliciclastic-rich to carbonate-rich; each clinothem is truncated by slope detachment surfaces that record large-scale mass-wasting of the shelf margin. X-ray fluorescence data indicates that slope detachment surfaces contain a higher-than-normal proportion of terrigenous siliciclastic sediment, suggesting failure is triggered by accommodation or sediment supply changes at the shelf margin. Furthermore, a well-exposed siliciclastic-rich clinothem, identified here as the 1st Bone Spring Sand, provides evidence that carbonate and terrigenous sediment were deposited contemporaneously, suggesting both autogenic and allogenic processes influenced the Bone Spring Fm. stratigraphy. This mixing of lithologies at multiple scales and the prevalence of mass-wasting act as a primary control on the stacking patterns of siliciclastic and carbonate lithologies on not only the Bone Spring margin, but also in the distal portion of the Delaware Basin.

Biography

Zane Jobe is a research professor at Colorado School of Mines and the Director of the Chevron Center of Research Excellence (CoRE) - <http://core.mines.edu/>. Prior to Mines, Zane spent 6 years in the Clastics Research Team at Shell Oil Company. His research interests aim to better understand the stratigraphic architecture, scaling relationships, and sediment budgets for clastic depositional systems, with an emphasis on submarine environments. Zane also manages the “Earth Resource Data Science” program at Mines (<https://online.mines.edu/er/>), which focuses on applied data science and machine-learning using python and subsurface datasets. Zane also enjoys cycling and hunting and thinks that copious amounts of yard work can be cathartic. Zane received a B.S. in Geology from the University of Texas at Arlington in 2004, and a Ph.D. in Geology from Stanford University in 2010 (advisor - Don Lowe).





Permian Basin Section-SEPM ROZ Core Workshop & Field Trip



Friday April 16 (8 AM-2 PM), Bush Convention Center, Midland, Texas
Saturday-Sunday April 17th-18th, 2021 – Field Trip, New Mexico

Registration Form

PBS-SEPM is Hosting a Two-Part Residual Oil Zone (ROZ) Core Workshop and Field Trip

The ROZ Core Workshop will begin at 8 AM in the Ballroom at the Bush Convention Center. Light pastry options will be available for breakfast. We will have a total of 5 cores available:

- Goldsmith San Andres Unit #1-335A (Main Pay), XTO, Ector - Goldsmith San Andres Unit # 1-9-WC (ROZ), XTO, Ector
- Goldsmith-Landreth San Andres Unit 190, Kinder Morgan, Ector - Hanford San Andres Unit #501, Faskin, Gaines
- Shafter Silver District, Ross Mine Formation, Marfa Basin (*Faults, Hydrothermal Silver, and Oil*), Pecos (2 Cores)
- Cleveland # A-601, Riley Permian, Yoakum - Miss Kitty # 669-704, Riley Permian, Yoakum

Lunch at the Bush Convention Center will be included. The workshop will end at 2 PM. Field trip attendees will board SUVs to head to the Stevens Hotel in Carlsbad, New Mexico. Friday evening will include a group dinner along with an overview of the outcrop stops. Saturday begins at 6 AM (MT) with breakfast at the hotel and a 7 AM departure to Laurel Canyon west of Carlsbad. Box Lunch is provided (both days). Saturday stops end at Stone Canyon. Everyone is free to decide their individual plans for dinner. Sunday morning's schedule is identical to Saturday, with stops starting at Cloudcroft, then moving to Northern Ruidoso before heading east. Sunday's stops will include the present day lower San Andres recharge area west of Roswell, which has well developed karst. The trip will end with a return to Midland, arriving around 6 PM at the Bush Center.

If you are interested in sponsoring this event, either for the food, supplies, transportation, or student sponsorship, please send an email to info@pbs-sepm.org with your name, company, contact information, and amount you would like to contribute.

If you are interested in driving one of the 5 SUVs on this trip, please send an email to info@pbs-sepm.org with a copy of your Driver's License, Insurance Information, and a few notes of previous experience driving off road in SUVs.

Field trip attendance is limited to 35 registrants, on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Core Workshop and Field Trip give you a chance to see:

- The ROZ interval (and its oil saturation variations with depth)
- Lower San Andres Limestones below the ROZ
- Pay Zones in the Horizontal San Andres Play*
- San Andres meteoric water recharge area
- Impact of Meteoric water-sweep (on fluids and rock)
- Maturity enhancements in clastics exposed to volcanics
- Diagenesis related to volcanic hydrothermal waters
- Stratigraphic and depositional styles of the San Andres
- Karst/ collapse breccia in San Andres in outcrops
- Two newly slabbled silver mine cores, never before described

* Yoakum is the most active area, with 250 wells since 2014, producing 300,000 BOPD. Riley's cores are in the heart of the play.

Registration Fees

Core and Field Trip:	PBS-SEPM Members \$425 ()	Non-Members \$460 ()	** Students \$325 ()
Workshop Only:	PBS-SEPM Members \$250 ()	Non-Members \$285 ()	** Students \$125 ()
Field Trip Only:	PBS-SEPM Members \$350 ()	Non-Members \$385 ()	** Students \$200 ()

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Payment: check, cash, or online with credit card

Make checks payable to PBS-SEPM & send order form to: PBS-SEPM, 2900 Front St., Midland, Texas 79701

To purchase online, go to <https://www.pbs-sepm.org/events-1/roz-core-workshop-and-fieldtrip> and pay by card

** - Student rate is limited to full time students who are not employed full time

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Purchase your 2021-2022 Annual Dues now (\$25) and become a member in good standing this year, too!

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Please visit our website, www.pbs-sepm.org, to find our membership form, or reach out via email to info@pbs-sepm.org to speak to a board member. Pay by check made out to PBS-SEPM and send to our physical address – 2900 West Front St, Midland, Texas 70701 – call (432) 279-1360 to make a credit card payment – or pay online via the website.





PBS-SEPM
Young Professional & Intern Field Trip
Save the Date
June 4th - 6th, 2021



Designed for Engineers, Geologists, and Landmen

A three day long multi-disciplined field trip in the **Guadalupe Mountains** for geology, engineering and land young professionals, interns, and new hires.

The intention is to educate participants in combining outcrop data with industry exploration and production techniques in a multi-disciplined environment.

- Participants will have opportunity to observe world-class outcrops of shelf to basin deposits that are direct analogues to producing fields in the Permian Basin.
- Lectures covering geology of west Texas, carbonates, sequence stratigraphy, quick and simple log and engineering calculations and land practices.
- Classroom exercises on general land practices, sequence stratigraphy, log correlation, water saturation determination, seismic interpretation and production analysis.

Participants will leave Midland, TX on Friday, June 4, and travel to Carlsbad, NM, where they will stay at the Stevens Inn for both Friday and Saturday night. In the evening of Sunday, June 6, all will return to Midland, TX.

~More information to come as well as our registration flyer. Also, reach out to [Robert Campbell](#) for questions.~



PBS-SEPM Publications



PBS-SEPM PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHT



“Big Bend Field Trip Structural Types, and Hydrocarbons: Folds, Faults, & Fractures”

1998

[\\$21.88 Members](#) [\\$26.25 Non-Members](#)

Day I: Midland, Sheffield-Sanderson, Marathon, Lajitas

The Downie-Goldwire Shear Zone; Geology of the Marathon Uplift;
Structural styles in the western domain of the Marathon Basin

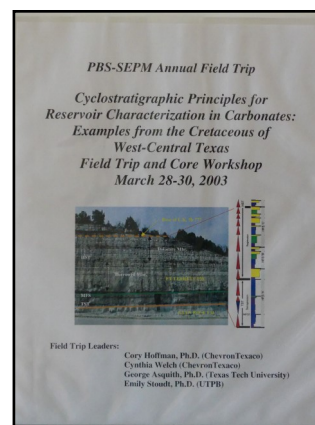
Day II: Lajitas, Terlingua, Persimmon Gap in Big Bend National Park

Superposed deformation in the Santiago and northern Del Carmen Mtns;
Ouachita Facies and Cretaceous cover deformed in a Laramide overthrust;
A Laramide-age push-up block: The structures and formation of the Terlingua-Solitario structural block;

A mathematical model of push-up block formation; Paleostress field trajectories;
In-situ stress & hydraulic fracture orientation; Laramide paleostress trajectories from syololites

Day III: Lajitas, Boquillas Area, Marathon, Fort Stockton, Midland

Dead Horse Graben: A West Texas Accommodation Zone



Entire PBS-SEPM publication library (1955 – 2007)

There is a fully searchable Table of Contents—find a topic or author just by typing in the word(s). All publications are in Adobe PDF with all major articles being bookmarked, and all the figures are linked in the text for quick reference. Those areas that are off limits to geologists like the Glass Mountains or Sierra Diablos have been written up in these publications. Numerous out-of-print publications and figures and/or plates not published in the original guidebooks are now available in this library.

DVD I - Symposiums & Guidebooks (1955-1989)

Member- **\$125.00** plus 8.25% tax and \$5.00 shipping and handling

Non-Member- **\$150.00** plus 8.25% tax and \$5.00 shipping and handling

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DVD III - Core Workshops (82, 83, 85, 98) & Special Publications (A, 88-28, 96-39, 84)

Member- **\$125.00** plus 8.25% tax and \$5.00 shipping and handling

Non-Member- **\$150.00** plus 8.25% tax and \$5.00 shipping and handling

Entire Set of three DVDs

Member Price **\$275.00** plus 8.25% tax and \$5.00 shipping and handling

Non-Member Price **\$300.00** plus 8.25% tax and \$5.00 shipping and handling

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Make checks payable to PBS-SEPM & send order form to: PBS-SEPM, 2900 Front St, Midland, TX, 79701
To purchase online, click [HERE](#) and pay with credit card

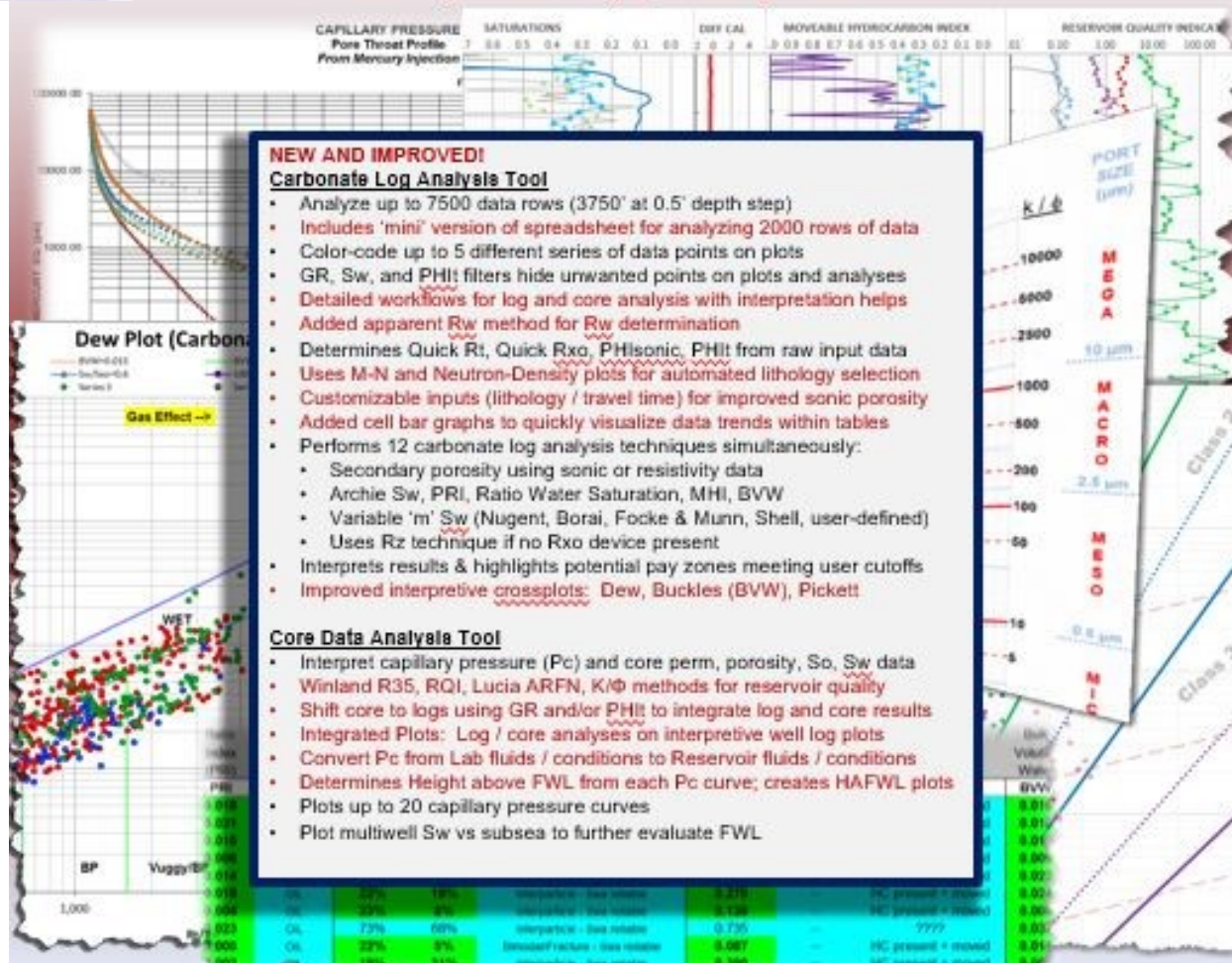
For additional information contact: PBS-SEPM office (432) 279-1360 or info@pbs-sepm.org.



Carbonate Log & Core Analysis Spreadsheet v. 5.0 By Cory L. Hoffman, Ph.D.

Major Upgrade (January 2020)! [Designed for Microsoft Excel 2013]

Carbonate Log analysis draws heavily upon teachings of George Asquith
Core Data analysis draws heavily upon teachings of Dan Hartmann



We would like to thank, [Fox Pest Control](#), a local Midland-Odessa Company, who have decided to sponsor with PBS-SEPM. They like to sponsor local organizations that are making a difference in their service area.

FOX

PEST CONTROL

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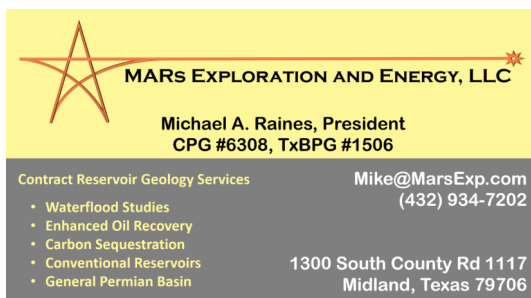
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Individual sponsors are advertised on the PBS-SEPM website and each newsletter. Cost is \$50/year. If you are interested in a sponsorship opportunity, please call PBS-SEPM for more details at (432) 279-1360 or email info@pbs-sepm.org.

Your card will be in every newsletter and on the PBS-SEPM Website for one year from August to May.

Your
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Basin.



Sponsorship Information (2020-2021)

Our non-profit society relies entirely upon the efforts of dedicated volunteers to serve the geological community—primarily through educational events. The PBS-SEPM hosts luncheon lectures, core workshops and field trips that are led by experts in their chosen areas of the geosciences. If you would like to sponsor the PBS-SEPM in anyway, we have various levels of commitment you can choose from.

Platinum: \$1500+: Company Logo for 2 years on YPFT field trip, core workshops, luncheon slides, newsletters, website, or new publications (from date of donation)

Gold: \$1000: Company logo for 1 year on the YPFT field trip (which includes guidebooks and other paraphernalia-stickers, pens/pencils, rite in the rain books), luncheon slides, newsletter, and website

Silver: \$700: Logo on the core workshop / one day field trip (which includes guidebooks), luncheon slides, newsletter, and website

Bronze: \$400: Will get their logo on all PBS-SEPM luncheons, newsletters, and the website.

Aluminum: \$250: Will get logo on all luncheons slides, and table tent for one luncheon date.

If you are interested in a sponsorship opportunity, please call PBS-SEPM for more details at (432) 279-1360 or e-mail info@pbs-sepm.org.

PBS-SEPM Executive Board (2020-2021)

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If you are interested in a sponsorship opportunity, please call PBS-SEPM for more details at (432) 279-1360 or e-mail info@pbs-sepm.org.

Do you have an idea for an interesting luncheon talk? Have a core workshop you'd like to present? Have some suggestions on how PBS-SEPM can better serve the geologic community? Send us an e-mail to share your idea, your PBS-SEPM Executive Board wants to hear from you!

PBS-SEPM is the Permian Basin Section of SEPM—the Society for Sedimentary Geology. However, you do not need to be a SEPM member or a geologist to join PBS-SEPM.

PBS-SEPM prides itself on its success in providing high caliber speakers as well as exceptional core workshops and field trips. PBS-SEPM also provides scholarships to graduating high school students in western Texas and New Mexico. These scholarships are on occasion, offered to college students that have declared their desire to pursue a degree in the geosciences. Through continued support from the industry, PBS-SEPM can continue to provide excellent educational opportunities for the oil and gas industry.

If you would like to join PBS-SEPM, you may visit our website to learn more about us, download a membership form, and learn how to get involved.

Scholarship and Distinguished Speaker Events (2020-2021)

Wendell J. Stewart Fund: so named for the famous sequence stratigrapher, was initially funded by the family, and then later through PBS-SEPM members who have contributed over the years. In the past, the scholarship was established to award high school students intending to pursue a college education in the geoscience field (declared major), and had evolved to include college students actively pursuing a geology degree when there were no other qualified candidates. Funding for this scholarship has waxed and waned over the years with the changes of the petroleum industry and because this scholarship is set up in such a manner that only the interest can be used to distribute funds, most scholarships in the last 30 years have been awarded through the PBS-SEPM main budget and not the scholarship fund.

We are proud to announce that we had two receivers for the Wendell J. Stewart Scholarship Fund in May 2020: Vanessa Armendariz, an undergraduate petroleum geologist at UTPB, and Heather Dudley, a paleontology graduate student at Sul Ross.

Robert Read Distinguished Lecturer Fund: was founded to honor a bright, young geologist who had been an active member of both PBS-SEPM and WTGS and was tragically killed by a drunk driver. Donations from various members of both societies contributed to a membership donation fund that both encourages our continuing education efforts by helping offset the cost of bringing in a distinguished lecturer, usually in geosciences, but not required.