



PBS-SEPM NEWSLETTER



September-October 2011

PBS-SEPM 2011-2012

Sept 13-WTGS Luncheon Mtg, 11:30 am,

Midland Center.

Speaker: Dr. R. Paul Philp,

ConocoPhillips School of Geology & Geophysics,

Univ. Okla, Norman.

Topic: The Added Value Benefits of incorporating Geochemistry into Shale Gas and other Exploration and Production Activities.”

Sept 20, PBS-SEPM Luncheon Mtg, 11:30 am, Midland Center.

Speaker: J. Michael Party, P.G., Vice-President of Exploration, Reliance Energy, inc,

Topic: “Shale Plays—An Overview”

Sept. 28—30, 2011 WTGS Fall Symposium, Midland Center, Midland TX. “Hidden Treasures in Our Own Backyard”, See WTGS website at www.wtgs.org for more details.

Oct 01—04, 2011 Mid-Continent Section Meeting AAPG, Oklahoma City, OK, ‘Exploiting Known R Reserves as a Bridge to the Future’.

Oct 18, PBS-SEPM TBA

Nov 11-13, 2011 PBS-SEPM Field Trip Paleozoic Mound Stratigraphy, Sacramento Mtns: Implications for Reservoir Characterization. See p. 7-9 for more information.

J. Michael Party — PBS-SEPM Luncheon Speaker

— Tuesday, September 20, 2011 —

—11:30 am, Midland Center, Midland, TX—

RSVP by 3 pm Monday, Sept 19: 432-683-1573 or email: <wtgs@wtgs.org>

“ US Shale Overview”

Abstract:



This talk gives a general overview of several gas and oil shale plays in the US, highlighting some of their geological, political, and economical aspects. In the time allotted for this talk we will look into the many Shale Plays, discussing their uniqueness as well as characteristics that seem to carry from basin to basin.

Cross sections from selected plays across the United States will enable the listener to have a rudimentary understanding of these complicated plays.

Bio—PBS-SEPM Speaker—September 20, 2011

Mr. Michael Party has over 30 years experience in the oil and gas industry. He graduated from the University of Missouri-Rolla in 1978 with a BS degree in Geology/Geophysics and was awarded an Honorary Professional Degree in 1994. He started his career with Cities Services here in Midland. In late 1981 he joined Wagner & Brown and served as Exploration Manager for 9 years before accepting the position of Vice President Exploration for Reliance Energy Inc.

He has served as President of the Southwest Section of the AAPG, Secretary of AAPG, and President of the Division of Professional Affairs within the AAPG. He also served as President of the West Texas Geological Society and the Permian Basin Section of SEPM.



President's Column

David M. Thomas III



I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and is getting ready for the final stretch of the year. We have certainly been fortunate with the strong economic recovery, due to high oil prices and the increasing rig count, in the Permian Basin. We have all learned our lessons and know to enjoy it while it lasts. Now if gas prices would cooperate, it would be the perfect storm.

The extreme temperatures, severe drought, and fires we are suffering in the Permian Basin, have made for a very uncomfortable summer. The fires were also responsible for having to reschedule the Sacramento Mountains Field trip to be led by Xavier Jansen. It is now scheduled for November 11-13, 2011. There are a few spots left for those of you who might have an interest but had a scheduling conflict with the original date.

When thinking of the drought, I like to remind myself of the Reinhold Niebuhr quote "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference." The drought is something we cannot change but monitoring and rationing our water use is something we

can change and need the courage to request others do also.

It also brings to mind the ongoing discussions regarding adding the dunes sagebrush lizard as an Endangered Species. As members of the scientific community, each of us has the responsibility to see that these types of decisions are made with valid scientific reasoning, not because of political motivation against an industry. A passive position could limit the strong economic recovery mentioned above, as an undetermined amount of land would be off limits to ranching and oil and gas operations.

Most of us are environmentalists by nature, extremely sensitive to limiting our footprint when conducting our jobs, and desire to restore the earth to its prior condition upon the termination of operations. We certainly do not want to disturb the habitat of an endangered species. At the same time we need to have the courage to challenge listings that are not based on scientific fact due to limited investigation. We must not allow intentional misuse of the Endangered Species Act.

Regarding the PBS-SEPM, we cannot change the fact that our current membership is

becoming more mature. But we can prevent our organization from becoming an endangered species by expanding the habitat to include the new generation of scientists that are moving into the basin. If you know of someone in your company or a casual acquaintance, have the courage to invite them to join PBS-SEPM.

In closing I would like to give my very special thanks to our immediate past president, Teri McGuigan who, over the last two years of my participation as an executive board member, has given an enormous amount of her time and energy to this organization. She was the driver behind the core workshop, field trips, luncheon speakers and whatever else needed attention. If you see her at a meeting or pass her on the street, have the courage to reach out and thank her for all she has done over the last several years, and the work she continues to do.

David M. Thomas III
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PERMIAN BASIN SECTION SEPM

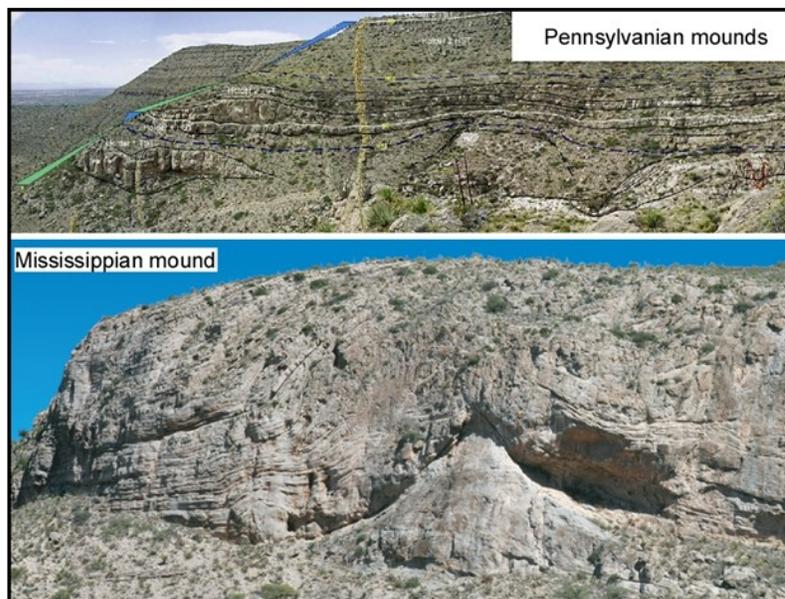
FALL FIELD TRIP

November 11th – 13th, 2011

Registrations must be received by October 28th, 2011, 5:00 p.m. in PBS-SEPM office
Paleozoic mounds stratigraphic architecture in the Sacramento Mountains:
implication for reservoir characterizations

Dr. Xavier Janson

*Reservoir Characterization Research Laboratory
 Bureau of Economic Geology
 University Of Texas at Austin*



This two day trip will use the unique suite of carbonate outcrops in Sacramento Mountains to illustrate reservoir-scale stratal architecture and methodologies for interpreting these carbonate mounds geometries from contained facies. Two different platform style of mounds development will be visited. The Mississippian mounds grew on a wide low angle ramp below wave base and are dominated by aphotic to oligophotic biota, whereas the Virgilian algal mounds are dominated by euphotic biota that depends on light to grow and has a result are controlled not only by the hydrodynamic regime but also the water depth (accommodation). We will draw comparison with the subsurface data from the Horseshoe Atoll and in the Fort Worth Basin where these two types of mounds are present or at least suspected whenever possible. We will contrast the two stratigraphic architectures and discuss the applicability of these outcrop and outcrop-derived conceptual model to the isolated platform case in Horseshoe Atoll and Forth Worth Basin.

Day 1: Mississippian outer-ramp deposits and associated mud mounds

Mississippian Lake Valley mid- and outer-ramp deposits and buildups are well displayed across the west-facing wall of the Sacramento Mountains for some 12 miles in an

approximate dip orientation. We will examine mound geometries, flank beds, and crinoidal gravity flows at three locations along the Lake Valley ramp. The most updip locality will consist of small mound complexes, followed by larger mounds complexes and large lobate crinoidal rudstone deposits in Alamo Canyon downdip. Finally, we will then examine the famous Muleshoe mud mound in a more downdip position along the ramp profile. These exposures will give us the opportunity to compare stages of mound growth—including lenticular, aggradational, and laterally accreting along the updip to downdip accommodation profile of the Lake Valley ramp—with the phylloid-algal mound we'll see the next day in the Pennsylvanian. We will also examine the stratal geometries of outer-ramp crinoidal turbidite lobes. We will discuss similarities and differences between phylloid-algal and crinoid mounds and try to make some generalization about other skeletal-mound systems, such as Cretaceous rudist mounds.

Day 2: Mixed siliciclastic Upper Carboniferous shelf in Dry Canyon: icehouse cyclicity and mound-dominated margin architecture

The Dry Canyon area of the Sacramento Mountains is a classic exposure of complex icehouse-mixed-siliciclastic-carbonate strata deposited in shallow-water-shelf, shelf-margin, and slope settings. The narrow shelf exposed in Dry Canyon will allow us to contrast facies distribution and proportion, stratal geometries, and cycle architecture between the shelf interior and the shelf margin. We will examine stratal geometries and cycle boundaries typical of high-amplitude, sea-level changes found in icehouse conditions. We will observe variations of phylloid-algal mound size, shape, and distribution in three dimensions and between two distinct stratigraphic intervals. We will examine and discuss the influence of antecedent topography and differential compaction on facies/cycle architecture and, ultimately, reservoir quality.



Xavier Janson received his Ph.D. from the University of Miami in 2002, where he was a student in the Comparative Sedimentology Laboratory. He received a D.E.A. degree (equivalent to an M.Sc.) from the Institut Français du Pétrole. He joined the Reservoir Characterization Research Laboratory at the Bureau of Economic Geology of the Jackson School of Geosciences at the University of Texas at Austin in 2002, where his current research involves building three-dimensional (3-D) geocellular models and 3-D synthetic seismic models from outcrop study to help reservoir characterization and seismic interpretation.



2011 PERMIAN BASIN SECTION SEPM FIELD TRIP

REGISTRATION FORM

November 11th thru November 13th, 2011

Registrations must be received by October 28th, 2011, 5:00 p.m. in PBS-SEPM office

Paleozoic mounds stratigraphic architecture in the Sacramento Mountains: implication for reservoir characterizations

Dr. Xavier Janson

*Reservoir Characterization Research Laboratory
Bureau of Economic Geology, University Of Texas at Austin*

The Permian Basin Section SEPM has scheduled its annual field trip to the Sacramento Mountains in New Mexico. Dr. Xavier Janson, Reservoir Characterization Research Laboratory, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin will lead the trip.

The participants will meet at 12:30 PM from the north parking lot of 3300 N. A St., Bldg #7 (Bldg. along Wadley, west of Gattis Pizza) and depart in vans by 1:00 PM CDT on Friday, November 11th, where we will take vans or personal vehicles to Cloudcroft, New Mexico (Please note that personal vehicles will not be used during the field exercises). There will be an icebreaker (cash bar) starting at 5:30 p.m. MDT at The Lodge Resort & Spa located at 601 Corona Place, Cloudcroft, New Mexico, with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. MDT. Dr. Janson will provide an overview of the field trip directly after dinner.

On Saturday, November 12th, the stops will be centered around Indian Well, Alamogordo, Alamo Canyon and Muleshoe. At the end of the day, the vans will return to Cloudcroft. Sunday, November 13th, will be spent in Dry Canyon and the vans will return to Cloudcroft at the end of the field trip. This two day trip will use the unique suite of carbonate outcrops in Sacramento Mountains to illustrate reservoir-scale stratal architecture and methodologies for interpreting these carbonate mounds geometries from contained facies. Two different platform style of mounds development will be visited. The Mississippian mounds grew on a wide low angle ramp below wave base and are dominated by aphotic to oligophotic biota, whereas the Virgilian algal mounds are dominated by euphotic biota that depends on light to grow and as a result are controlled not only by the hydrodynamic regime but also the water depth (accommodation). We will draw comparison with the subsurface data from the Horseshoe Atoll and in the Fort Worth Basin where these two types of mounds are present or at least suspected whenever possible. We will contrast the two stratigraphic architectures and discuss the applicability of these outcrop and outcrop-derived conceptual model to the isolated platform case in Horseshoe Atoll and Forth Worth Basin.

In addition to the incredible field trip, the costs include: round trip transportation in the vans, Friday night's dinner, two nights lodging, two breakfasts, two lunches, beverages in the field and the field trip guidebook. The trip will begin and end in Midland, Texas. Mark your calendars for a fantastic field trip to visit what may provide insights into your current or future plays. If you are unable to attend but would like a copy of the field guide, PBS-SEPM will make a guidebook available for sale on CD. **THE TRIP IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 26 REGISTRANTS.**

Cost (Please check your choice)

PBS-SEPM Member:	\$525.00 single ()	Non-Member:	\$575.00 single ()
	\$450.00 double ()	Non-Member:	\$500.00 double ()
Guidebook CD (only):	\$30.00 ()		

REGISTRATION FEE NON-REFUNDABLE AFTER October 28th, 2011

WILL TRAVEL WITH GROUP FROM MIDLAND _____ WILL MEET GROUP IN CLOUDCROFT _____

Name: _____

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Make checks payable to PBS-SEPM. Please send your registration information and payment to:

PBS-SEPM P.O. Box 1595, Midland, TX 79702

For additional information please contact: PBS-SEPM Office- (432) 683-1573, Robert Nail (432) 664-5486 or Teri McGuigan (432) 770-7099



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We're on the Web!
www.pbs-sepm.org

"Science is the great antidote to the poison of enthusiasm and superstition."

Adam Smith
(1723-1790)
Scottish Economist
1776

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. Our non-profit society relies upon the efforts of dedicated volunteers to serve the geological community—primarily through educational events. These events include monthly luncheon talks, core workshops, annual field trips, and special geological publications. Thanks to our Education Committee we are involved in MISD 5th grade geology presentations to interest elementary students in pursuing a career in geosciences. We would like to increase our exposure on college campuses—reaching out to future earth scientists through scholarships, discounted memberships, and offering full-time geology students the ability to participate in professional-grade field trips at little to no cost. If you would like to join PBS-SEPM, you may visit our website (www.pbs-sepm.org) to learn more about us, discover how to get involved and download a membership form.

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“There are grounds for cautious optimism that we may now be near the end of the search for the ultimate laws of Nature.”

Stephen W. Hawking, 1988.

A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to the Black Holes.

PBS-SEPM Executive Board (June, 2010—May, 2011)

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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? Just click on the e-mail above and drop us a note—your PBS-SEPM Executive Board would **LOVE** to hear from you!



"The difficulty lies, not in the new ideas, but in escaping the old ones, which ramify, for those brought up as most of us have been into every corner of our minds."

*John Maynard Keynes,
1987*

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Your logo will be on the website, in every newsletter, on the Power Point shown prior to every luncheon and in the calendar credits for one year June to May.



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