



# BULLETIN

Volume 83 Number 1

January—February 2008

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Honorary Member Profiles:

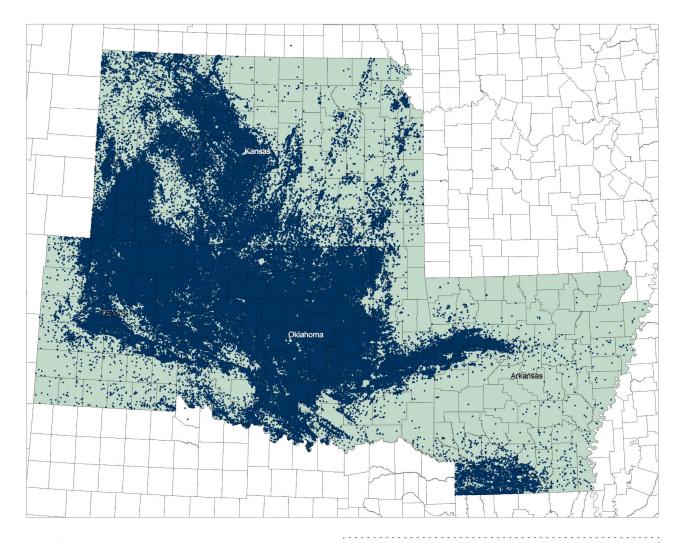
Don Beauchamp

Debra FitzGerald

Meet The New 2008 KGS Board of Directors

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#### ON THE COVER:

The Hutchinson Salt is a member of the Lower Permian Sumner Group. This approximately 36 cubic feet (3x3x4 feet) piece is the largest single piece of the re-crystallized salt excavated. This type of salt formed shortly after deposition and is the only type that has inclusions of water bubbles which are "time capsules" of Permian water.

Photo taken by field trip participant, David Hale, from Wichita Falls, Texas

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

The Kansas Geological Society Bulletin, which is published bimonthly both in hard-copy and electronic format, seeks short papers dealing with any aspect of Kansas geology, including petroleum geology, studies of producing oil or gas fields, and outcrop or conceptual studies. Maximum printed length of papers is 5 pages as they appear in the Bulletin, including text, references, figures and/or tables, and figure/table captions. Inquiries regarding manuscripts should be sent to Technical Editor Dr. Sal Mazzullo at <a href="mailto:salvatore.mazzullo@wichita.edu">salvatore.mazzullo@wichita.edu</a>, whose mailing address is Department of Geology, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas 67260. Specific guidelines for manuscript submission appear in each issue of the Bulletin, which can also be accessed on-line at the Kansas Geological Society web site at <a href="http://www.kgslibrary.com">http://www.kgslibrary.com</a>

# **SOCIETY Technical Meetings**

#### Spring 2008

#### Please Note: Most Tech Talks Will Be On Tuesdays This Spring

Jan. 15—Dr. James Aber, Emporia State University, "Physiography"

Jan. 22—Dr. Jim Puckette, Oklahoma State,

Jan. 29—Dr. Tony Walton's Petroleum Class , University of Kansas

Feb. 11—MONDAY—Joe Struckel, Edmond, OK

Feb. 19—Ernie Morrison, "Sand Arroyo Field, Stanton, CO

Feb. 26—Oil & Gas Taxation—H & R Block

Mar. 11—Don Whitmore, "Fate & Identification of Oil-brine Contamination in Different Hydrogeologic Settings"

Mar. 18—TBA

Mar. 25—Lynn Watney, "Geo-Engineering Modeling of Shallow Upper Penn. Sandstones Associated with Recovery of Low BTU gas in Chase County"

Apr. 15—TBA

Apr. 22—AAPG Convention in San Antonio, TX

Apr. 29—TBA

May 13—Susan Nissen

May 20—TBA

May 27—TBA

#### Attention!

#### **Location for Technical Meetings**

All KGS technical presentations are held at 12:30 p.m. at the Wichita Bar Association, located at 225 N. Market, ground floor conference room, unless otherwise noted.

Note: For those geologists who need 30 points to renew their licenses, there will be a sign-in sheet at each presentation and also a certificate of attendance.

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**Bulletin** committee members and PhD's in Paleontology are prohibited from entering.

#### STOECKINGER COLLECTION

Bill Stoeckinger is one of the foremost geologists working southeast Kansas and northeast Oklahoma.

He is a pioneer in coalbed methane exploration and development in these areas. Mr. Stoeckinger is retiring and has donated his working files, maps and publications to the Kansas Geological Foundation.

Because this is a unique body of data, the Foundation will keep it together as a collection rather than pulling out logs and integrating them into library files.

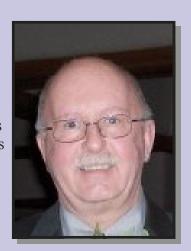
Mr. Stoeckinger wishes that his many interpretive maps, based on a considerable amount of work, be made available to geologists active in that area. It will take several weeks to organize the collection so that many geologists can efficiently use it for research.

The STOECKINGER COLLECTION will be a valuable addition to the resources held by the Foundation and the Society. Both organizations are deeply grateful to Bill Stoeckinger for his generous donation.

#### **President's Letter**

Dear Members,

I would like to thank the membership for their confidence in electing me. It is a privilege and honor to serve our membership. An exciting year lies ahead. A few changes have taken place within the board; Lynn Watney is the new Vice President/President-elect; Beth Isern comes in as our new Secretary and Steve Frankamp is our newest Director. Chuck Brewer and Kent Crisler will be my advisors. Please welcome back Rick Saenger as our Treasurer and Robert Stolzle and Phil Knighton as Directors. It is my pleasure to work with this talented group.



On Friday January 25, we will hold our annual Kansas Geological Society Banquet. Please join us as we enjoy an evening of food and fun. At this years banquet Don Beauchamp and Debbie FitzGerald will become Honorary Members; this award is well deserved.

As we go into the New Year we have many events to look forward to. Bob Cowdery has already lined up some great talks for the New Year and we can be assured of being entertained, educated and still have points added to our certification.

As the Bob Walters digital library and our ever steady paper library continue to make a profit I look forward to a prosperous and exciting 2008.

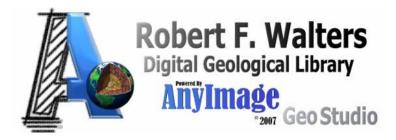
Respectfully submitted,

**Ernie Morrison** 

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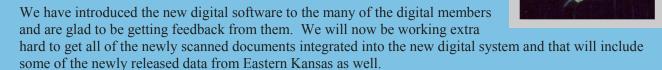
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# From The Manager

Dear Members,

Another year is underway and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the newly elected board members and wish Ernie Morrison and his board of directors the best of directing! For me, it is always a delight to work with the board members and to be able to count on them for guidance.



This year the Society is honoring two individuals at our Banquet, Don Beauchamp and Debra FitzGerald. Both have given so very much to this Society & Library and I hope everyone who can, will come to the Banquet to show them our appreciation. The Banquet will be held on the last Friday in January, the 25th at the Petroleum Club. Please see the Honorary Profiles that Bob Cowdery has written on these two outstanding KGS members.

The library remains very busy with orders for paper data, even though the digital library is being used by 165 people now. The girls in the back of the library are also getting the backlog from the KCC copied and into our files and system. It amazes me how much they get done each day and still process all of the orders that are coming in. Many of you who frequent the Library know that Lois Stewart, formerly with the Kansas Geological Survey, has agreed to work part-time for us and she is a welcomed addition to our library family and to our efforts to get data in the files and on-line for your access.

I look forward to 2008 and all of the yearly activities of the Society and hope for another busy year as we all enjoy this "boom" time in the industry. Please remember that if you have any concerns or ideas, I would love to hear from you.

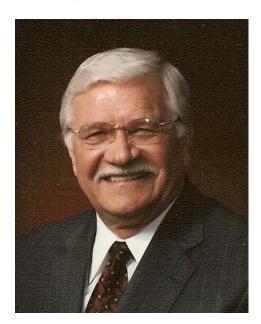
Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Radford

Manager

# **Honorary Member Profile** —

#### Don Beauchamp



The Kansas Geological Society is honoring one of its members who since 1966 has been involved in many of the activities of the Society culminating in his election to President in 1985. He has continued to remain active since that time including the Presidency of the Kansas Geological Foundation in 2000. This was the year that the Foundation approved the Walters Digital Library.

Don's story commences in 1936 with his birth in Guide Rock, Nebraska. Don attended grade school and high school in Lindsborg, Kansas graduating in 1954 from Lindsborg High School.

For a period after high school Don worked in construction, but he had been exposed to the "oil patch" working summers in the Lindsborg Pool and made the decision to become a geologist. He enrolled at Wichita University in 1954 and while there took every course that Dr. Calvin Noah taught, and in doing so was well prepared by the time he graduated to work in the oil industry and join his profession. In Dr. Noah's classes they learned how to plot drilling time, spot well locations, make sample logs, contour maps, learn the stratigraphy of road cuts and with that knowledge prepare cross sections, read electric logs etc.

Among Don's classmates at Wichita University were: Jene Darmstetter, Bill Hamm, Byron Hummon, Roger McCoy, Jerry Langrehr, Arden Ratzlaff, Bill Ree and Eldon Schierling. Don was fortunate in obtaining employment while in school with Walters Drilling Company, as a geo-tech. In the summers he worked for the company as a roughneck. When he graduated in 1959, Walters and his partner, Fred James, created a job for him sitting on wells and this furthered his education and prepared him for a great future in the business. That same

year, he married Billy Brown; to that union were born Toni Renee Beauchamp, Jeffrey Scot Beauchamp, and B. Craig Beauchamp.

In 1971 he joined Okmar Oil Company and Beren Corporation as Vice President and Exploration manager and remained with the company for 15 years. This was a period of "boom" in the oil industry and some years the companies drilled as many as 160 wells out of the Wichita office. Don remembers good times at Beren with Douglas Bendell, Charles Spradlin, Max Houston, Tyler Sanders, John James, Judd Hipps, Kent Crisler, Steve Dixon, John Rose, Bill Harrison and others.

Don married Linda S. Bailey in 1976 under a willow tree next to the pond in their yard at the residence near Cheney, Kansas where they still reside. Don and Linda celebrated their 31<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary on July 24, 2007. To that union he has a step-son, Troy D. Bailey and step-daughter, Brenda A. Corey. He also has grandchildren: Sydnee Beauchamp, Jordan Beauchamp, Shane Corey, and Conor Corey.

Don picked a downturn in the business to become an Independent in January 1986, and remained an Independent until 1990. During that period he and his college buddy, Byron Hummon put together a number of drilling deals, particularly in Kansas and Nebraska.

In late 1990 he was offered a position with Pickrell Drilling Company, where in 1993, after Jay McNeil resigned, he became Exploration Manager. At Pickrell he worked with Jay McNeil, Larry Richardson, Bill Romig, Bill Klaver, Kent Crisler, Steve Dillard and Jack Gurley. He resigned from Pickrell in 2000 to join Abercrombie Energy, LLC as Vice-President of Exploration. There he enjoys working with owners Steve Frankamp and Mark Galyon.

Don feels that he has been fortunate to work for some bosses whose names read like a who's who of the oil industry in Kansas: namely Dr. Robert Walters, Robert Beren, Carl Sebits and Albert Abercrombie.

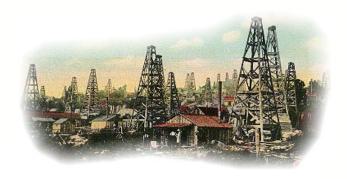
He has a great record of activity in a number of organizations: Wichita State University Geo Advisory Board, Vice- Chairman; Wichita Petroleum Club, Secretary and First Vice-President; AAPG Delegate to the House of Delegates from the KGS: and SIPES, Most Active Company Committee Chairman.

Don's avocation has been the raising of dogs and their participation in Field Trials. He is currently serving as President of the National Red Setter Field Trial Club and is also the current President of Region 17 Amateur Field Trial Club. In July 2007, Don was inducted into the Kansas Field Trial Hall of Fame. Don was also one of the

top ten in the vote tally this past summer for the National Field Trial Hall of Fame.

He reached seventy one years old this past fall and claims he is going to slow down even though he now owns 3 horses and eleven dogs. It is obvious from his involvement in such a myriad of activities that this is probably not the case.

It was said when his profile was prepared approximately a year ago that his story was not complete and with his receiving this high honor the statement was proven to be true, and the statement that we will hear more about Don in the future is undoubtedly true also.





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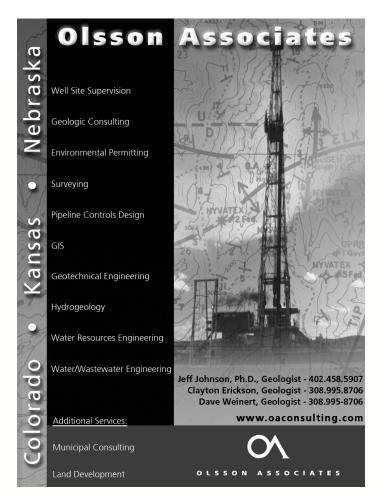
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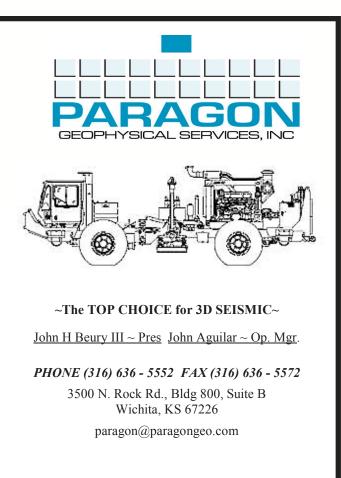
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## **Honorary Member Profile** —

#### Debra FitzGerald



Honorary membership needs to be added to the long list of accomplishments of which being the first woman President of the Kansas Geological Society is but one of many.

Debra was born in Wichita to Marilyn (Bonham) Messinger and R.D. "Gus" Messinger. She has three brothers: Frank who lives in Nashville and sells timeshares and develops commercial real estate; Bob, currently a leasebroker in Wichita, and Brad, residing in Kansas City, Plant Manager of a fiberglass manufacturer.

She attended Booth Grade School, Curtis and Coleman Jr. High Schools, and Heights High School. Due in part to the fact that her father was a geologist and she grew up around the "oil patch", she elected to study geology at Wichita State University. Debra graduated from WSU in 1981. Among her classmates were: Sandra Askey, Sherry Heathman, Lynn Gates, Tim Hellman, Steve Frankamp, Steve Davis, Roger Boeken, Tim Pierce, Ted Jochems, Rene Hustead, Danny Dilts, Martha Albright, Bob O'Dell, and Debbie Wilcox. While at WSU, she believes she was fortunate in having some great professors including Dr. John Gries, Dr. Gundersen, Dr. Bob Berg and Dr. Tasch.

In 1981, she married Brian J. FitzGerald. Brian is a musician who has worked for KWCH and KSN, but for the last 25 years has owned FitzGerald Advertising. Debra and Brian have two children: daughter Bevin, who recently returned from Tokyo where she attended classes through an exchange program at WSU and Jack who is a sophomore at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

Following graduation, Debra worked for F & M Oil Co. and while employed there worked with her father, Gus Messinger, Gene Falkowski, Loren Avis, Ron Schrader, and Phil Askey.

Debra then went to work for Hartman Oil in 1988. After her employment with Hartman she became a Consulting Geologist and continues in that capacity today. In her career, Debra has been influenced most by her Dad and his partner, Gene Falkowski. While she was employed at F & M, she trained under Gene. She found him to be a stickler for checking "dope". He would give her a list of sources that had to be checked at the library for every well on a map and also suggested areas that needed a 36" x 36" island plat. When this was accomplished he would suggest several horizons to contour.

Currently her Dad is her greatest influence and she works with him on generating prospects. There is another segment of geologists who have influenced Debbie and that is the group of geologists that still come downtown and have allowed Debbie to join their "lunch bunch". When this group meets for lunch primarily at the Piccadilly, topics range from the latest production of a new well to a well drilled on Farmer Joe's in 1955 that had a great show in the Mississippi but was plugged. Members of the group are: Gus Messinger, Arden Ratzlaff, Marvin Frankamp, George Mueller, Jay McNeil, Havey Gough, Bill Shepherd, and sometimes Bill Romig and Larry Richardson. They are occasionally joined by a "guest geologist".

Debra in addition to the previously mentioned presidency of the Kansas Geological Society has been involved in a great number of professional activities. She has been Secretary – Treasurer and Vice-President of the KGS and in 2007 was advisor to the Board. In addition she has served on the Membership Committee, Banquet Committee, Technical Program Committee, Chairman of Diamond Anniversary Committee, Library Committee, Distinguished Awards Committee and chaired the Nominating Committee. Her service to the AAPG has included serving on the Core Preservation Committee, Astrogeology Committee and AAPG Mid-Continent Convention Publicity and Sponsors. She recently received the AAPG's Mid-Continent Distinguished Service Award.

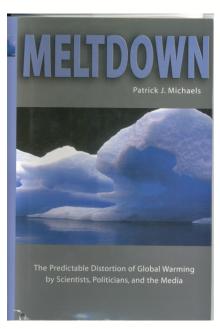
She doesn't have any doubt that if she had it to do over she would still be a Petroleum Geologist and for those younger geologists just entering the field she advises them to be "Geoputor", but also recommends that they befriend the older geologists as she has found this group to be excellent mentors.

After surviving Colon Cancer several years ago, she looks forward to continuing her successful career for a long time in the future.

## **Book Review** by Robert Stolzle

# "Meltdown — The Predictable Distortion of Global Warming by Scientists, Politicians, and the Media."

by Patrick J. Michaels
—research professor of environmental sciences at the University of Virginia.



This 271-page book takes to task the current "science" surrounding many of the studies associated with the current frenzy surrounding global warming. The author, a climatologist and professor of some standing, does not dispute the current increase in global temperatures, but he does make the case for natural and often local variation in temperature being the more likely cause than are man's activities. These limited studies are often extrapolated to cover the entire planet in the effort to "prove" that mankind is going to die of thirst in the desert unless the band-aid of choice is immediately applied to the problem. His understanding of the climate models, and his distrust of them, is as good as I have seen. I would recommend this book on that issue alone.

Some of the author's dissection of the various studies that have become the canon of the global warming alarmists is interesting, but can be slow reading. However, in the last couple of chapters the author does a great job of dissecting the flawed relationship between government (or industry) funding of current research and the scientific integrity of the researchers performing the studies and this alone is worth the \$24.95 price of the book.

As the author quotes another scientist, "Established paradigms have lives of their own. The vast majority of scientists, Kuhn notes, do not question them, but rather, spend their time supporting them. As he succinctly states, 'In science ...novelty emerges only with difficulty, manifested by resistance against a background provided by expectation.' "

Robert Stolzle

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# Kansas Geological Society's Annual Banquet



#### **Altamont Oil Seeps in Labette County, Kansas**

Michael Lichtenwalter\* & Collette Burke Wichita State University, Dept. of Geology \*mblichtenwalter@wichita.edu



Figure 1 – Oil staining in the Upper Amoret Limestone Member exposed in the Labette County Quarry.

The Pennsylvanian Altamont Limestone (Desmoinesian, Marmaton Group) locally is a prolific oil producer in central Kansas. Based on geological reports, it appears that reservoirs in the Altamont locally comprise porous reefs and biostromes constructed by the demosponge *Chaetetes*, or a local variation of that, that are associated with very porous carbonate sands. Any geological information pertaining to outcrop study of the Altamont can shed important light on potential reservoir occurrence in the subsurface. The following note is based on my thesis research on the Altamont exposed in southeastern Kansas. It describes a near-surface oil seep in the Altamont that is exposed in a quarry in Labette County (SE/4, Sec. 35, T33S, R18E).

The Altamont is exposed in outcrops, roadcuts and quarries in parts of Montgomery, Labette, Neosho, Bourbon, and Linn Counties in Kansas. It is composed of three members -- in ascending stratigraphic order: the Amoret Limestone, Lake Neosho Shale, and Worland Limestone. The Amoret Limestone generally is a light-gray, massive, lime wackestone to rudstone approximately 3 meters thick, and it contains abundant chaetetid colonies and phylloid

algae. The Lake Neosho Shale is a dark gray to black, clay-shale to phosphatic shale that varies from 1-3 meters thick. These rocks contain phosphatic concretions, tiny brachiopods, and fish teeth. The Worland Limestone is a gray, massive, dense, lime wackestone approximately three meters thick, and it contains some brachiopods and fusulinids. The Amoret is very porous, and is overlain by Lake Neosho Shale which acts as an overlying seal. Considering that this stratigraphy continues in the subsurface, the architecture of these units predisposes them to serving as potential reservoirs and seals for hydrocarbon entrapment.

Chaetetids, which are present in Kansas only in Marmaton-age rocks, are classified as demosponges, and the

secreted carbonate skeletons that strongly resemble those of corals. In Labette County, chaetetids constructed reefs and bioherms on the Cherokee Platform, which during the Middle Pennsylvanian was an area of relatively active tectonic subsidence (Voegeli, 1992). There are bounding structural highs in all directions -- the Bourbon Arch to the north, the Shelf Edge Rise to the south, the Nemaha Ridge to the west, and the Ozark Uplift to the east, which allowed for maximum chaetetid development in this area. Based on measured sections and lithologic analysis of chaetetid-bearing limestones in the Amoret, it appears that they lived in shallow tropical seas of moderate to high energy and normal-marine salinity conditions.

Among other exposures, the chaetetid-bearing Amoret Limestone is present in Labette County Quarry. It is approximately two meters thick, and prior to quarry excavation it was approximately five meters below surface. As elsewhere, this unit is bounded by a disconformity at the top and stylolites at the base. This unit seeps oil from porous chaetetids and surrounding matrix in the quarry (Figure 1). The chaetetid colonies are mostly saturated with dark brown to black live (but somewhat asphaltic) oil

that has a decent odor. The surrounding porous limestone matrix is a carbonate skeletal sand with spotty oil staining. The presence of this oil seep indicates past migration into this immediate area and stratigraphic unit. This occurrence of oil-staining chaetetid limestones therefore mimics those in some subsurface reservoirs in central and western Kansas.



Figure 2 – Oil stained chaetetid colony showing good saturation. Rock hammer is approximately 30 cm tall for scale.

#### **REFERENCES**

Voegeli, V.J., 1992, Paleoecology of chaetetids in the Amoret Limestone Member (Desmoinesian) in southeast Kansas: Unpublished M.S. thesis, Kansas State University, 287 p.

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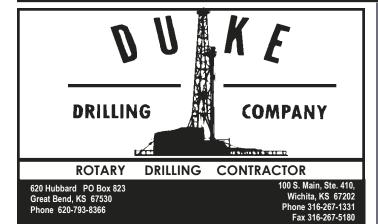
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# KGS Annual Banquet Friday Evening January 25th Petroleum Club Social Hour Begins at 5:30 PM

#### 

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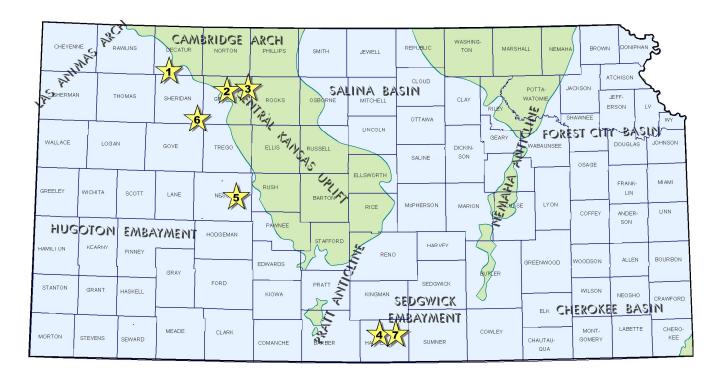
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# **Exploration Highlights**

#### By John H. Morrison, III Independent Oil & Gas Service



- 1. Murfin Drilling Company has discovered Lansing-Kansas City oil deposits at their Mumm Brothers #1-26, located in the NW/4 of section 26-T5s- R29W, about seven and one-quarter miles southwest of Dresden, Kansas. The Decatur County wildcat well was drilled to a total depth of 4220 ft. in August and completed at an undisclosed production rate in October '07. The new unnamed pool was found nearly two and one-quarter miles southeast of similar production in the Prairie Dog Creek East oil field
- 2. Nearly three-quarters mile southwest of known oil production in the Mount Edna Northwest Field, independent producer H & C Oil Operating, Inc. has discovered new oil reserves in the Lansing-Kansas City formation at the Morris Trust #9-1. The 3944 ft. deep well was completed for an undisclosed potential on October 1, 2007. Well site is located in the NW/4 of section 9- T7s- R23W, Graham County, approximately six and one-half miles northwest of Hill City, Kansas. The new field has not been named.
- 3. Lansing-Kansas City oil deposits have been discovered over one-half mile southwest of established oil production in the McFarland South

Field by Clipper Energy LLC. The 3770 ft. deep stepout and wildcat test, Cory #1, was placed on the pump in October at an undisclosed rate of production. Site is located in the NE/4 of section 8- T7s- R21W in Graham, about five miles north and three and one-quarter miles west of the town of Nicodemus, Kansas. Warren Drilling served as rotary contractor.

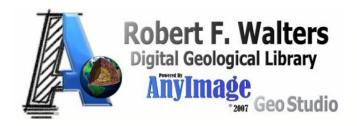
In other news, Clipper Energy LLC has established a new unnamed oil field in the SE/4 of section 28-T7s-R21W with the successful completion of their Berland #2. The Graham County wildcat well started producing oil from perforated Lansing-Kansas City formation on October 25, 2007. Warren Drilling was contracted to bottom the well at a total depth of 3700 ft. The new reserves were found at site located three-quarter miles west of the Nicodemus West oil field, which was discovered by Clippers predecessor, Great Eastern Energy & Development, in 2003. The new unnamed field lies one mile north and two miles west of Nicodemus, Kansas.

4. American Warrior, Inc. has discovered Mississippian oil and gas reserves nearly three-quarters mile northeast of the Crystal Springs Field which is located four miles

southwest of Harper, Kansas. The Burkholder #1-28, spotted in the NW/4 of section 28- T32s- R7W, started producing at an undisclosed rate on October 10, 2007. The Harper County infield wildcat well was drilled to a total depth of 4900 ft. by Duke Drilling tools. James F. Dilts served as wellsite geologist.

- 5. A new Mississippian oil field has been established in Ness County with the completion of the #1-36 Foos by Grand Mesa Operating Company. Located in the NE/4 of section 36- T18s- R22W, about one-half mile west of the Bazine, Kansas city limits, the well is on pump making an unknown amount of crude as of October 15, 2007. WW Drilling, LLC was contractor and drilled the well to a total depth of 4450 ft. The new field has not been named.
- 6. Lansing-Kansas City oil has been discovered by Ritchie Exploration, Inc. at the #1 Werth 15-B in Sheridan County. Spotted in the NW/4 of section 15- T10s- R26W, the unnamed pool opener was placed on pump on September 25, 2007 at an undisclosed rate. The 4110 ft. deep well was drilled nearly three-quarters mile northeast of the Fuller South Field, which has also produced LKC oil since 1981. The new field lies eight miles northeast of the town of Quinter, Kansas.
- 7. American Warrior, Inc. has discovered Mississippian oil and gas reserves nearly three-quarters mile northeast of the Crystal Springs Field in Harper County. The Burkholder #1-28, spotted in the NW/4 of section 28- T32s-R7W, started producing at an undisclosed rate on October 10, 2007. The well infield wildcat well was drilled to a total depth of 4900 ft. by Duke Drilling tools. James F. Dilts served as wellsite geologist. Field area is located four miles southwest of Harper, Kansas.

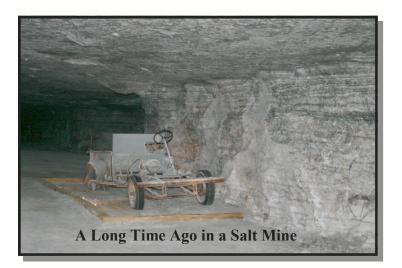




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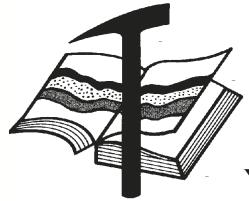


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The Kansas Geological Foundation was founded in March, 1989 as a not-for-profit corporation under the guidelines of section 501(c)(3) of the tax code to provide individuals and corporations the opportunity to further the science of geology. It is dedicated to providing charitable, scientific, literary and educational opportunities in the field of geology for the professional geologist as well as the general public.

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KGS BULLETIN January—February 2008

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	New Years Eve Library Closed	1 Library Closed	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 KGS Board	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Tech Talk	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Tech Talk	23	24	25 KGS Banquet	26
27	28	29 Tech Talk	30	31		

# February 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Tech Talk	12 KGS Board	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Tech Talk	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Tech Talk	27	28	29 Leap Year	