# DESK AND DERRICK DATELINE

# **Field Trip!**

Where: Dry Fork Prod.

Waggoner Lease When: October 9, 2021

rk Prod. ner Lease 9, 2021

We will be going to an active drill site in Waggoner Pasture where Spruiell Drilling, Inc. will be drilling an oil well.

See inside for more details!

# **Industry Appreciation Luncheon**



October 20, 2021 11:45 am

# Oil & Gas: Good, Bad & Fake News

Speaker: Cye Wagner—Chairman of the Board Texas Alliance of Energy Producers Invite your friends & co-workers! Find more details inside.

# Mark your calendars!



October, 2021 Volume 70, Issue 10

INSIDE THIS ISS	SUE
Board of Directors	2
President's Letter— Nichole Harney	3-4
ADDC President's Le	etter-
Evelyn Green	5-6
Central Region	
Kay McKinley	7-8
FIELD TRIP	9
IAL Invitation	10
IAL Invitation	10 15-16
September Mtg	15-16 19-25
September Mtg Alex Mills Proposed Slate of Of	15-16 19-25 ficer



# **Club Purpose**

The purpose of the club 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.

# **Club Motto**

Greater Knowledge–Greater Service

# **Official Colors**

Black and Gold

# 2021 Board of Directors

President—Nichole Harney Vice President—Casie Mass Secretary—Jessica Cain Treasurer—Lauren Martin

One Year Director—Barbara Franklin Two Year Director—Jordan Jackson Immediate Past President—Diana Walker Parliamentarian— Rena Shaffer



#### From the Editor:

There is so much happening in our club! Our seminar to the power plant was a POWER-ful experience! We learned so much about how they generate power to supply ERCOT and understanding more about our natural gas industry.

On October 2, We had a seminar to a local drilling rig. Stuart Felty—our presenter gave us a hands-on lesson in drilling and mud logging.

Field Trip News: Jordan Burgess-Moss has a awesome field trip planned for October 9th. She will take us to a drill site on the Waggoner Lease. Sign up now—you don't want to miss it.

Don't forget the Industry Appreciation Luncheon on October 20! Cye Wagner, Chairman of the Board, Texas Alliance of ergy Producers is our guest speaker. Please invite your friends and co-workers to join us as Ms. Wagner presents: Oil & Gas: The Good, Bad and Fake News!

Goodness Gracious! Our calendar is literally bursting with so many things going on! Sign up now, you don't want to miss out!

Ok, so since we had our seminar to the power plant and learned all about turning natural gas into electricity. I thought we would stay in that lane! Here are some interesting facts about natural gas.

Here is your "Did you Know?" .....

\* Natural gas is a fossil fuel that is odorless and colorless. However, I know you have smelled natural gas before, you know...that rotten egg smell? It is because they add a gas to the gas. Mercaptan is a colorless gas with an unpleasant smel that is added to natural gas for safety reasons.

\* The first-time natural gas was discovered, it was an actual flame seeping from the ground that was ignited by lightning. Native Americans were found lighting gasses that were seeping into Lake Erie.

\* The first natural gas pipelines were made out of bamboo. Today, it we were to connect all of the natural gas pipelinesit would stretch to the moon and back almost three times!

\* As for America, Colonel Edwin Drake dug the first well 69 feet in Pennsylvania to find natural gas and oil. To put into perspective, todays wells can be 30,000 feet deep.

I have included more natural gas facts on Page 33. Hope you find them interesting! Stay Awesome! Sheila McGaughey



Association of Desk & Derrick Clubs

Desk and Derrick Club of Wichita Falls

2021 Board Nichole Harney President 716-5100

Casie Mass Vice President 716-5100

Jessica Cain Secretary 631-1597

Lauren Martin Treasurer 723-5585

Barbara Franklin One Year Director 613-3600

Jordan Jackson Two Year Director 716-5100

Diana Walker Immediate Past President 716-5344

Rena Shaffer Parliamentarian 234-3307 October 2021

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!** I can't believe it is already October. This year is just flying by. I hope you have your pumpkins, hay bales and candy ready for all the little ghouls and goblins that will be knocking on your doors saying, "Trick or Treat".

Our Education Committee has been busy these past couple of weeks. They scheduled two very informative hands-on seminars. The first seminar was to a local power generation facility. We got to see firsthand how the power source is watched and controlled.

We had another great seminar that was put together by the Education Committee. Things did change, as we had planned to visit Burkburnett, Texas to experience the history of "Boomtown". Stuart Felty was scheduled to present the seminar but was needed at a drilling rig that he was overseeing in Clay County, Texas. So in exchange for not being able to meet us in Burkburnett, Mr. Felty offered to show us around a working drilling rig from the platform of the rig seeing a pipe connection, and all the way to the trailer where samples of rock cuttings were being studied. What a great seminar! Thank You Education Committee!

As you all know, the Annual Convention for 2021 was canceled due to Hurricane Ida. ADDC held a virtual meeting on September 25 to handle all the business and voting that needed to take place. The AIMEE winners were also announced. I know that is what everyone has been waiting for so here they are... get your noise makers ready.....

Best Large Bulletin – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Shelia McGaughey – October 2020

Best Industry Article – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Barbara Pappas – "Texas 811 Pipeline Safety HVAC & H2s Workshop

Best Industry Seminar – 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Rena Shaffer – "Mud Man" – Speaker Cecil Duke

Best D&D Program – They missed this category so I've requested the winners.

Congratulations to you three! You all did an outstanding job!

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Kacie Turner, Chairman, and members Tracy Flynn and Barbara Pappas, presented the Board with the Proposed 2022 Slate of Officers. The Board approved it to be presented to the Membership. This vote will take place on November 17, 2021. The Proposed 2022 Slate of Officers is as follows:

> President – Nichole Harney Vice President – Sheila McGaughey Treasurer – Jordan Burgess-Moss Secretary – Lauren Martin 1 Year Director – Jordan Jackson 2 Year Director – Vickie Young Immediate Past President – Diana Walker Parliamentarian – President's Choice

Thank you for stepping up to these positions for 2022. Please note nominations can be made from the floor.

Our Industry Appreciation Luncheon is October 20 so remember to invite your co-workers, bosses, and friends. Cye Wagner, Chairman of the Board for the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers, will be our speaker. Her program is titled "Oil and Gas - Good, Bad and Fake News". Please make your reservation with Rena Shaffer at rena@eagleog.com. Hope to see you all there.

Stay Well and Safe! *Nichole Harney* 



#### **Board of Directors**

PRESIDENT Evelyn Green GBC Minerals, Ltd

PRESIDENT ELECT Philana Thompson Merrion Oil & Gas Corp

SECRETARY Connie Bass New Tex Trucking

TREASURER **Barbara Pappas** Cobra Oil & Gas Corp.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Keith Atkins Murphy USA Inc.

PARLIAMENTARIAN Sheryl Minear

CENTRAL REGION DIRECTOR Kay McKinley

NORTHEAST REGION DIRECTOR Cindy Krebs Range Resources

SOUTHEAST REGION DIRECTOR Margie Steed

WEST REGION DIRECTOR Heather Woods Souder, Miller & Assoc. Kay McKinley Central Region Director Route 1, Box 12 Hooker, OK 73945 (620) 629.3878 maeciesmaemie@gmail.com

October 1, 2021

Fall you all! One of my favorite seasons. You can just smell it in the air. It is 60 degrees in the Oklahoma panhandle this morning. No more 100-degree days in the forecast. Soup and sweater weather is here! Leaves are turning, football is in full swing, and can you believe it, Hobby Lobby, Wal-Mart and others are already stocked to the hilt with Christmas decor. I miss the days where we took time to celebrate each month and its events without rushing on to the next. Pretty soon, seems like we'll figure out we've rushed through life without truly enjoying each day and season. Take time to enjoy "trick or treat" and Thanksgiving as well.

I want to say "Congratulations" to Evelyn Green, Madame President, of the Desk and Derrick Association 2021 for a very successful 2021 ADDC Convention Virtual Conference on September 25th, 2021. And hats off to my fellow board members and the entire association as we pulled together "through it all" to make this happen. Yes, I know and feel the disappointment from not being able to meet in person and have a grand ole time in New Orleans. I am disappointed for Evelyn that she did not get to fulfill her dream that she had since 1979 of standing behind the podium and banging the gavel and leading us in person. We all wish that could have happened for her, because, this was "her year"! I am disappointed for the GAC Committee and clubs that spent endless hours preparing for our arrival with meals, seminars, field trips that had been planned, that are now cancelled, and put away in file folders, hopefully to be revived again in the future. I am disappointed, but I am thankful for our members and association. However, I am so proud of how we responded to the circumstances and with grace and patience met on September 25th, saw smiling faces from all over the US and Canada on our computer screens to conduct the business at hand! ADDC - I feel we certainly lived up to "make a difference - be the difference". Evie - you rocked!!!

The amendments, and the amendment to the amendment were passed, new board members elected, and a vote by mail ballot on the proposed amendment to allow student membership for \$15 was approved to be sent out to the clubs. Congratulations to our 2022 Board Members! Philana Thompson and her 2022 board will continue to lead through what I hope and pray is a year where we can get together in person. What a celebration that will be!

Finally for the events of Business meeting, the AIMEE awards were announced. I want to say "Yipee and congratulations" to the Central Region club. We cleaned up on AIMEE Awards! Shout out to Tulsa for 1<sup>st</sup> place in Best President's letter, Best Industry Program; Wichita Falls for winning 1<sup>st</sup> place in Best Industry Seminar, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Best Industry Article, and third place in Best Large Bulletin. Enid took third in Best Small Bulletin. Results have been sent to the Club Presidents and I hope each club will share these and celebrate! The Best Desk and Derrick program was inadvertently left off the list of winners, and we will share that information when we get it, but we're certainly rooting for Natalie Bright, Jordan Capagna Jackson and Diana Walker for their Installation of New Officers entry from Wichita Falls!

In closing, I was shocked and saddened to see the passing of fellow member, Evelyn Smith this past week. She was so kind, friendly and outgoing and a dedicated member of Desk and Derrick. We grieve her passing with her family and the Oklahoma City Club who have lost one of their dedicated workers, but more importantly a dear friend. Evelyn certainly made a difference and was a difference in so many of our lives. As I stated in the beginning of my letter, time is so precious. Never waste an opportunity to make a difference in someone's life.

Kay McKinley



#### **Board of Directors**

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PRESIDENT ELECT Philana Thompson Merrion Oil & Gas Corp

SECRETARY Connie Bass New Tex Trucking

TREASURER Barbara Pappas Cobra Oil & Gas Corp.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Keith Atkins Murphy USA Inc.

PARLIAMENTARIAN Sheryl Minear, RP Silver Oil & Gas Inc.

CENTRAL REGION DIRECTOR Kay McKinley

NORTHEAST REGION DIRECTOR Cindy Krebs

SOUTHEAST REGION DIRECTOR Margie Steed

WEST REGION DIRECTOR Heather Woods Souder, Miller & Assoc. Evelyn Green 2021 ADDC President P.O. Box 17289 San Antonio, Texas 78217 Cell: 210-863-7437 Home: 210-695-8215 evelyn@gbcminerals.com

#### October 2021

How did it get to be October already! It is so hard to imagine that this year is almost over and before long Christmas will be arriving. Time does indeed fly!

September was a month that we really don't want to happen again. We were getting ready for our 2021 ADDC Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. Members of the Southeast Region were working hard to ensure that we all had a great time – finally being able to get together for an "in-person" after nearly two years.

But alas, other plans were in store for us! First, Hurricane Ida and then Nicholas decided to head straight for New Orleans, just before convention was to begin. The Board had to make the decision to cancel the Convention. This was indeed a hard decision to come to, but it was the only decision that we could make – we had to put the safety of the Membership first and foremost.

The Crown Astor Hotel was wonderful to work with. They are working on refunding the deposit that the Association made and completely released us of all obligations under the contract. Since I had visited the Hotel, I can tell you that it is a beautiful hotel and the staff is wonderful. If you get to New Orleans, at least go by and see this amazing hotel.

With the Convention cancelled, business of the Association needed to still take place. On Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> a Virtual Convention Business Meeting was held. We had 30 clubs represented on the call. There were approximately 60 members logged into the call, with some clubs having several members together for the meeting.

The Election of Officers was held and it is my honor to introduce the 2022 ADDC Board of Directors: Philana Thompson, President Barbara Pappas, President-Elect Wendy Sparks, Secretary Heather Woods, Treasurer Sam Thomas, Northeast Region Director Jamie Sabata, Central Region Director Kathy Martin, Southeast Region Director Ingrid Burton, West Region Director And, I will serve as the Immediate Past President

Congratulations to each of you. You will continue to move our Association forward in 2022.

September 2021 President's Letter (continued from page 1)

All of the proposed Amendments passed. Please read the Rules Committee Report from the Convention. There is one (1) item that was presented to the Clubs on the meeting. There will be a mail ballot taken on a proposal for a Student Membership item, regarding the cost of such Membership. Club Presidents are asked to bring this before their Membership and to be voted on as a Club.

The First Place Winners in the AIMEE Awards were announced on the call. Club Presidents were sent a list of all of the entries in each category and a list of the Winners! It wasn't the same as being able to present these well-deserved awards for the hard work that you, the Members, put into our Association. By sharing your knowledge with other members at meetings, seminars, having or possibly hosting a field trip, the name of the Association of Desk and Derrick continues to be acknowledged.

Now, we will look forward to being in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for our 2022 Annual Convention. I am anticipating a great time, returning to Pittsburgh for another convention.

With the new Board announced, Philana Thompson is looking for volunteers for Region Representatives for various Committees in 2022. Contact Philana and she will be able to tell you what committees, Standing and Special that might still need your help. This is a great way to get more involved within the Association and learn about each committee.

The 2021 Board of Directors continues to serve you for the next three (3) months. If there is something that You, need or want to have brought before the Board and/or the membership, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Board. We are here to serve each of you.

I want to thank you to each of you that were a part of our Virtual Convention Business Meeting. I appreciate you giving of your time on a Saturday to accomplish what we needed to handle. It was a "new" way of having a Convention and I hope we never have to do this again. That being said, we knew it could be done – just one step at a time. Seeing so many beautiful smiling faces made my job much easier. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Many hugs to all of you and thank you,

Evelyn

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention." Oscar Wilde

# FIELD TRIP!!!

#### WHEN: October 9, 2021

WHERE: DRY FORK PRODUCTION CO., LLC's Waggoner Lease, Harrold, Texas WHAT: We will be going to an active drill site in Waggoner Pasture where Spruiell Drilling, Inc. Will be drilling an oil well.

Please make plans to join us for a field trip to the rig on the W.T. Waggoner Ranch in Wilbarger County, Texas this Saturday at 1:30 pm. We will meet for lunch at 11:00 am at Casa Manana downtown and we will carpool from there to the well location where Pete Owens, with Dry Fork Production will be explaining the ins and outs of what is going during our visit.

Dry Fork and Spruiell Drilling is not requiring hard hats since we will not physically be on the rig but suggested if you prefer you may bring one, but please wear closed-toed shoes.

Please RSVP by Friday the 8th at noon, if you plan to attend by reaching out to Jordan Burgess-Moss at: (940) 781-8008 or by email at: <u>oilreportsbyjodan@gail.com</u> If you do not care to join us for lunch, but would like to go on the field trip, please meet us behind Casa Manana building in the parking lot, no later than 1:00 pm. I will have a cooler with bottled water for everyone as well. Hope to see you there!



You are cordially invited to attend The Desk and Derrick Club of Wichita Falls

#### Industry Appreciation Luncheon

Celebrating our Seventieth Anniversary and Featuring our Keynote Speaker

## Cye Wagner

Chairman of the Board Texas Alliance of Energy Producers

**Topic:** Oil and Gas: Good, Bad, & Fake News

#### Wednesday, October 20, 2021

The Forum 2120 Speedway, Wichita Falls, TX 76308

Lunch will be served at 11:45 AM Meeting will begin at 12:00 noon

*Cost: \$18, pre-paid reservation Deadline: Thursday, October 14 by 4 pm* 

*Please make checks payable to: Desk and Derrick Club of Wichita Falls* 

Please email your RSVP and remit payment to: Rena Shaffer 2525 Kell Blvd., Suite 510 Wichita Falls, TX 76308-1061 rena@eagleog.com 940-234-3307



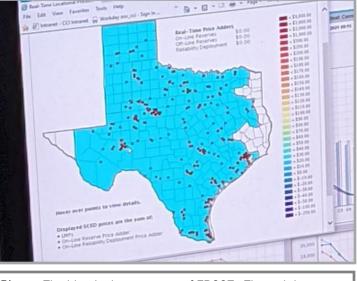
Author's note: To protect the security and confidentiality of this company, the company name and the names of the employees have been omitted.

In February 2021, we had a severe energy shut down in the State of Texas. We had a massive snowstorm move into the region, dumping 8" of snow on Wichita Falls with temperatures falling into single digits, leaving most of the homes in our area without power for 3 days, some even longer. It was called "snowmageddon". A total of 193 generating units in Texas faltered, leading to rolling blackouts affecting 3.2 million customers. ERCOT— Electric Reliability Council of Texas represents about 90 percent of the state's electric load. As an independent system operator for the region, ERCOT schedules power on an electric grid that connects more than 45,500 miles of transmission lines and 570+ generation units. It was later determined that ERCOT allotted too much of the energy grid to solar and wind. The massive storm created the perfect trifecta: it froze the wind turbines; the sun did not shine enough for the snow-covered solar panels; natural gas froze in the lines that would normally feed the power plants, or it just wasn't available; this created the massive blackout.

How did it all happen? Our inquisitive minds wanted to know. We wanted to learn more about what happened, why and what precautions were being made to prevent this from happening again. So, on September 11, 2021 we planned a seminar to a power plant. The employees of the plant graciously agreed to give us a tour and answer all of our questions. There were seven of us in attendance: Jordan Jackson, Sheila McGaughey, Carla Morrow, Rena Shaffer, Doris Sterling, Diana Walker and Vickie Young.

This plant was opened in the late 1980's. They are a generation facility using GE gas combustion turbines with associated heat recovery steam generators and an ABB steam generator. They supply power into the ERCOT market during periods of peak demand and/or volatility. They are Black Start capable, which is one that can start its own power without any support from the grid in the event of a major system collapse or a system-wide blackout. There are only a few Black Start power plants strategically placed across Texas. Each unit will fire up independently of an outside power source. This means from a complete shutdown they can generate power in approximately 30 minutes. If a black out occurs, contracted Black Start facilities would jump-start a neighboring power plant to begin repowering the grid. It is like dominoes, they would start one plant, then that plant would start another, and so on until everyone's system is restarted. Black Start plants are held to the highest standards and regularly tested. All ERCOT registered facilities complete a notarized affidavit for the Winter and Summer seasons each year to attest that their equipment and personnel are compliant with their documented plans and ready to supply electricity if needed.

The facility is staffed 24/7-365. There is always someone at the facility ready to begin start up if conditions warrant. The reason they could not operate in February was the natural gas was just not available. Anything can warrant a demand for power, for example: if the wind is not blowing, cloudy days, or higher than expected load, then they may need to be called to start up. They also told us that as an example--it could be 110 degrees in the south pulling the grid down, they would start and add more power. In the State of Texas, there are over 150 wind farms, 17 solar farms, 2 nuclear power plants, a few hydroelectric plants and numerous gas plants.



**Photo:** The blue is the coverage of ERCOT. The red dots are the energy sources: wind farms, solar farms, gas powered, hydroelectric and nuclear plants. **Photo courtesy of:** Jordan Jackson

How does it work? Natural gas is used to fuel the three gas turbines, each of these turbines turn a generator that produces approximately 20 Megawatts of electricity. The exhaust from the gas turbine can be vented to the atmosphere or diverted to go through a heat recovery steam generator where it can produce steam to run a fourth generator. The gas

turbines are the land base equivalent of the core engine that is on a DC-10 airplane.

We were very grateful for the tour and learned the importance of natural gas as an energy source. We learned the importance of power plants, it is so much more than just flipping a light switch. I wouldn't be writing these words now—and you wouldn't be reading them if not for electricity. In fact, pretty much everything in our daily lives is derived from electricity—lights, computers, cell phone chargers, electric vehicles and everything in between comes from power generation plants. So, needless to say—this seminar was "electrifying"!

I am amazed with everything I've learned over the years being in Desk and Derrick. *Greater Knowledge*—*Greater Service* is



Photo: Jet engine turbine.

a most deserving motto for our club. This seminar was definitely a "power-ful" learning experience, so I say "*Thank you* to the staff of the power plant and *Thank You* to the Desk and Derrick Club of Wichita Falls"!



Jordan Jackson and Vickie Young



Rena looking at a jet engine.



Jet engine housing, boilers, steam stack.



Carla Morrow, Rena Shaffer, Vickie Young and Jordan Jackson



Diana Walker, Sheila McGaughey, Jordan Jackson, Vickie Young and Doris Sterling



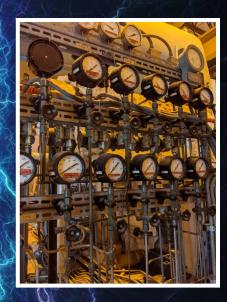
Rena Shaffer, Diana Walker, Carle Morrow, Vickie Young, Doris Sterling and Jondan Jackson













Thank you Rena, Vickie and Jordan for the awesome pictures!



Thank You to all the employees of the power plant for an "electrifying" seminar!

#### COMMITTEE ROUND UP

By Casie Mass

#### It's that time of year again and like every year, we need your help to keep our club rolling.

#### Each year, we ask that our members get involved and join a committee.

Committees include:

Budget & Finance Committee – This responsible for preparing the annual club budget.

**Bulletin Committee** - is responsible for publishing of the official club bulletin and distributing to members monthly. The bulletin contains monthly meeting information, information on new members, field trips etc., and recaps past monthly meetings.

By-Laws Committee - is responsible studying the Club Bylaws and considers any and all possible changes.

**Education Committee** - encourages and trains members to speak before groups on issues affecting the energy industry; like MOLU, Region 9 and Back to School.

Field Trip Committee - plans and supervises trips to fun, educational destinations for the membership.

General Arrangements Committee - makes all necessary arrangements for monthly meeting, like place, catering & menus, and table arrangements.

**Golf Tournament Committee** - is responsible for planning the Annual D&D Golf Tournament. Such as, obtaining the location, sponsors, teams, volunteers, etc. for the successful outcome of the annual tournament.

**Membership Committee** – is responsible for the growth of our club, by increasing and maintaining memberships, and providing applications form for new members.

**Program Committee** - provides the program presentations for each month such as the speaker, as well as arranges the invocation and introduction of the speakers.

**Scrapbook Committee** – is responsible for capturing club members pictures and recording stories of the club's activity. This club works alongside the Bulletin Committee.

**Social Media Committee** - is responsible for the club's social presence. Currently managing the clubs Facebook account, providing information on the club's current events and monthly meetings.

Tally Committee - is responsible for tallying of votes.

**Nominations Committee** - is responsible for nominating the next years board members. Positions such as President, Vice President, Secretary Treasurer, 1 & 2 Year Director.

Please think about joining a committee, as each committee plays a vital role to our club's future.

Cecil Duke and Kacie Turner

Tracy Flynn, Stephanie Jones, Jordan Jackson and Vickie Young

# Kacie Turner

Casie Mass, Diana Walker

and Nichole Harney

# Committee Roundup

Casie Mass, Nichole Harney and Diana Walker

Desk and Derrick BINGO

Barbara Pappas and Rena Shaffer

## DRILLING 101: Going with the Flow!

Seminar–October 2, 2021–Felty Operating Co., Inc.

Stuart Felty—Presenter Submitted by: Sheila McGaughey













There is one thing that you can count on in the oil and gas industry—plans change. It is just the nature of the industry. So, over the years we have learned that when plans change, you adapt, adjust and as they say, just go with flow.

Our original seminar was set, and we were all looking forward to it. We were going to learn the history of the 1918 Boom Town in Burkburnett, Texas. Stuart Felty – Co-owner of the Felty Outdoor Museum was going to show us all the different types of machinery of the early 1900's used to drill and maintain a well. But he is also a third-generation oil operator and was drilling a well in Clay County, Texas. As you know, once you start the process of drilling, it does not stop, not even for the ladies of the Wichita Falls Desk and Derrick Club. Plans change — go with the flow. Mr. Felty gave us two options. Option #1—reschedule; or Option #2—spend the day with him on the rig. So, Nichole Harney, Barbara Pappas, Rena Shaffer, and I jumped at the chance to spend the morning on the rig. We loaded up bright and early on a Saturday morning to head to the drill-site. It didn't matter to us that it had stormed all night and we knew we would be ankle deep in mud—we were on our way. (Good thing this girl has a F150 4x4, what can I say, I'm a true Texas girl—born and bred).

When we arrived at the site, the drilling rig was one what we were all too familiar with, it was the Lindemann Drilling Co. Rig #4 out of Archer City. The Lindemann family have always been big supporters of our club and Jennifer Lindemann is a long-standing member. The location is the W.E. Williams No. 2 located in Clay County. The rig was already down to about 4,750 feet in the Ellenberger zone when we arrived. He said that they would hit the Strawn zone at about 4,800 feet.

The first thing that he explained to us was that they had to file a Groundwater Protection Determination (Form GW-2), which states the base of usable-quality groundwater and additional isolation zones that should be protected for a well or multiple wells within a specified area. Since the majority of the water we drink comes from underground freshwater reservoirs, one of the most important considerations in drilling a well is protecting any freshwater areas. Therefore, the string of surface casing bottom must properly extend below the freshwater zones. The surface hole must be drilled to a depth deep enough for it to pass through any loose material you may encounter until the stable rock is encountered and the surface pipe is set. The freshwater zone on this well is set at 150 feet.

Next, Mr. Felty took us up to the rig control room. We say various logs being run to show the rate of penetration depth. They explained to us that every foot makes a mark that shows how fast the rig is drilling and the depth of the drill string.

He explained to us that they were using aluminum drill pipe on this well. Aluminum drill pipe can extend the capacity for deeper and longer wells when using a standard rig. Aluminum pipe has low specific weight with high strength. It is corrosion resistant in H2S and CO2 environments. Each section of pipe is added to the drilling string as the bit makes its way deeper and deeper into the ground. Sections of pipe are raised and lowered by using an elevator. The downhole measurements, relayed back to the control room, document the dimensions of every single section of pipe used in the well.

He showed us the BOP, (pronounced B-O-P, not Bop), which stands for Blow Out Preventor. It is a specialized valve used to seal, control, and monitor oil and gas wells to prevent blowouts, which is the uncontrolled release of crude oil or natural gas from a well during drilling operations. BOPs are critically important to the safety of the crew, the rig, and the wellbore.

The drill bit they were using is a PDC (Polycrystalline Diamond Cutting). This bit is capable of grinding rock and is more durable than a tri-cone bit. They are also used for core samples and designed to excavate the hole by shearing the formation. They drill very quickly in soft to moderately hard formations like sand, shale, clay, and siltstone. This bit has jets which force the mud through the jets, keeping the pressure down at the bit face. They are very expensive, costing around \$20,000.00, but they are leasing this one from Lindemann Drilling.

Mr. Felty then explained the mud circulation system. Mud pressure must be kept greater then the borehole formation pressure to prevent oil and gas escaping into the well while being drilled. Reserve pits need to be dug alongside the rig so cuttings, material and used mud can be properly disposed of. Additives for the drilling mud were stored on location. Drilling mud is pumped down the hollow drill pipe to the drill bit, where it exits the pipe and then is flushed back up the borehole to the surface. Examining rock chips extracted from the mud is known as mud logging, So, off we go the doghouse, there we met Ben Herd. Mr. herd took the sample cuttings and showed us how to test them under a black light (ultraviolet light). If crude oil is present, the black light will cause the sample to glow. The ability to do mud logging and real time cuttings analysis provides immediate data on the rocks being penetrated and eliminates the need to pull the drill string out of the borehole. They were bringing in cutting samples every 10 feet for observation.

This is as far as we got with our drilling lesson. Mr. Felty invited us back to observe the completion process, but sadly we were not able to make it. But maybe we can do the next well. He also assured us that we were still on for the Boom Town history lesson anytime we were ready.

Plans change. That's a part of life. Just go with flow....you never know what great adventure awaits. For us, we got to experience a hands-on drilling experience and study the properties of cutting samples. This was an awesome seminar that truly exemplifies the Greater Knowledge—Greater Service motto.

**Sidenote**: I talked to Mr. Felty later in the week. They found porosity at 5,200 feet. They set POP (Pump Out Plug) and cemented the well. He is hoping it will be a good well.

Pictured: Nichole Harney, Rena Shaffer, Stuart Felty, Sheila McGaughey and Barbara Pappas



#### September 9, 2021

# EIA forecasts increased demand for petroleum

#### By Alex Mills

Even though roughly 10% of the crude oil and natural gas production in the U.S. has been lost during the past two weeks because of damage caused by Hurricane Ida, continued growth in demand is expected in the U.S. as the economy expands.

The Energy Information Administration at the U.S. Department of Energy expects the gross domestic product (GDP) to grow by 6% this year. Economic expansion in the U.S. and globally will create more demand for petroleum. EIA estimates demand for petroleum and liquid fuels increased in August 5.7 million barrels per day (b/d) globally to 98.4 million b/d.

Although consumption is expected to increase, EIA forecasts prices will remain flat around \$71 per barrel for Brent crude oil.

Retail gasoline prices in the U.S. averaged \$3.16 per gallon in August. "We forecast that retail gasoline prices will average \$3.14 per gallon in September before falling to \$2.91 per gallon on average in the fourth quarter of 2021," EIA stated.

Natural gas spot prices, on the other hand, have escalated this summer averaging \$4.07 per million British thermal units (mmBtu) in August, according to EIA.

"Steadily rising natural gas prices over the past year primarily reflects growth in liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports, rising domestic natural gas consumption for sectors other than electric power, and relatively flat natural gas production," EIA stated.

"We expect the Henry Hub spot price will average \$4 mmBtu in fourth quarter 2021 as the factors that drove prices higher during August lessen. Forecast Henry Hub prices this winter reached a monthly average peak of \$4.25 mmBtu in January and generally decline through 2022, averaging \$3.47 mmBtu for the year amid rising U.S. natural gas production and slowing growth in LNG exports," EIA said.

Approximately 80% of oil and natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico remains shut in two weeks after Hurricane Ida.

Damage was extensive throughout the industry from production platforms to pipelines to refineries. About 1.5 million barrels per day of oil production, or 84%, remains shut, while another 1.8 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas output, or 81%, was offline, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement said.

#### September 9, 2021 (Continued)

Reuters reported a total of 99 oil and gas production platforms remain evacuated on Wednesday, down from the 288 originally evacuated.

Five refineries in Louisiana remained shut on Monday, accounting for about 1 million barrels-per-day of refinery capacity, or about 6% of the total U.S. operable refining capacity, the Department of Energy said.

All three refineries in the Baton Rouge area and one near New Orleans have begun to restart, accounting for 1.3 million bpd of refining capacity, DOE said. However, the refiners will not produce at full rates for several days.

The U.S. Coast Guard said on Monday it was investigating numerous oil spills in and along the U.S. Gulf of Mexico in the wake of the storm.

The Associated Press first reported Wednesday aerial photos showed an oil slick spreading about 2 miles south of Port Fourchon, Louisiana. A broken pipe in relatively shallow water, at about 34 feet of depth, is suspected to be the primary cause. -30-

Alex Mills is the former President of the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers.



#### September 16, 2021

## Many changes proposed in electric grid in Texas

#### By Alex Mills

The winter storm that swept through Texas in February reaffirmed the absolute necessity for a safe and reliable energy supply for Texans. The extreme cold weather, coupled with ice and snow, lasted for weeks causing black outs across the state. The energy industry and the regulatory agencies overseeing the production and distribution of electricity failed to meet the needs of consumers during this critical time.

The Texas Legislature began holding hearings calling in leaders of the three regulatory agencies to testify. Laws were passed, and the regulatory agencies are proposing new regulations and rules. The Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates the natural gas and oil industry, published this week a proposed rule that requires operators of natural gas wells and facilities to either accept designation as critical status or ask for an exemption. Many gas wells were not designated as critical status during the February storm and electricity to the wells was shut off by the electric provider during the curtailment so that that electricity could be used for facilities designated as critical status.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) has proposed new rules requiring generators of electricity to report all forced outages and notify ERCOT twice each year that it has completed weatherization preparation to protect the electric grid during winter and summer. Overall, ERCOT lists on its web page 60 actions it hopes to accomplish, which includes adding shortterm solar forecasts.

The recent surge in solar and wind production creates new issues, also. Even though natural gas is the leading energy source to produce electricity in Texas (46%), renewables are second with 29% and expected to increase in the near future.

#### September 16, 2021 (continued)

A recent study by Garrett Golding at the Federal Reserve Bank Dallas said solar capacity is expected to quadruple by 2024.

"Renewable power's growing presence generally decreases wholesale electricity prices on sunny and windy days and causes thermal power plants (natural gas and coal) to experience more hours offline," Golding said. "This has reduced the economic incentive to build and properly maintain thermal power plants.

"This trend will only intensify as renewable capacity grows. It is now an open question if this market structure will encourage enough investment in dispatchable capacity in the future, which will be critical for periods when solar and wind resources are unavailable," he said. Natural gas has become the most common "dispatchable" source.

With little investment taking place in new thermal generation, does the design of Texas' electricity market provide enough incentive to develop capacity for future power needs? Golding asks.

"Increased use of battery storage and demand-response programs incentives utilities pay customers for voluntary, scheduled reductions in energy consumption—as well as new gas power generation may all be required for Texas consumers to enjoy reliable electricity in the future," Golding said.

"Texas is approaching the limits of the current generating mix, if it has not already reached them," he said. "The grid is increasingly reliant on intermittent renewable generation as questions arise about how much thermal capacity is actually available to cover unexpected shortfalls—all while electricity demand increases."



-30-

#### September 30, 2021

#### The cost and pain of government mandated energy changes

#### By Alex Mills

Crude oil and natural gas prices have recovered from the historic collapse in global demand last year because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

This week Brent crude oil, which is traded on the international exchange, exceeded \$80 per barrel, while West Texas intermediate traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange reached \$75.

Natural gas futures prices surpassed \$4 per thousand cubic feet (mcf) in July and \$5 in September.

The rise in price and a more positive outlook for demand has made investment in oil and gas companies more desirable. Energy has been in the dog house with many investors for several years, but on Tuesday energy was the only sector that increased while the entire market dropped some 400 points.

The optimism about the future of oil and gas comes as analysts expect supplies to remain tight while demand appears to improve through the remainder of 2021.

The major oil exporting countries, which include the 13 countries that are members of OPEC and Russia (one of the three largest oil producers), will be meeting soon to discuss current economic conditions and each country's oil production quota.

In the U.S., which was the largest oil producing nation last year at 13 million barrels per day, production has declined to 11 million barrels per day by July this year. However, several hurricanes passed through the Gulf of Mexico causing the temporary shutin of offshore platforms. Roughly an average of 1 million barrels per day was lost during September.

Governments across the globe – especially those in Europe and the U.S. – have reacted negatively to the rise in prices because higher prices will deter the likelihood implementation of many programs.

In the U.S., President Biden has asked OPEC to increase supplies hoping increased supplies from OPEC would soften gasoline prices. However, he has not requested more production from domestic producers. Actually, his administration has proposed actions that would decrease U.S. oil production.

In Greece, the prime minister pledged to grant a power subsidy to all households aimed at covering most of the expected price spike in power bills. Spain will cap consumers' energy bills. The Netherlands will issue refunds to pay for energy costs.

All of these actions come as politicians attempt to mitigate the dramatic increase in costs of implementing anti-fossil fuel programs.

#### September 30, 2021 (continued)

The European Union (EU) adopted in July a goal of reaching zero emissions by 2050. The green package must be approved by each country, but political leaders believe that rising costs to consumers negatively impact efforts to adopt such massive changes.

The cost of such great changes will be painful to everyone, even in the U.S. which became a net -exporter of petroleum products in 2019.

Biden's National Security Advisor Jack Sullivan again issued a statement Wednesday requesting OPEC to increase production. Again no mention of U.S. oil production. U.S. Sen. John Cornyn of Texas replied: "It's pretty simple: If the President is suddenly worried about rising gas prices, he needs to stop killing our own energy production here on American soil."

-30-

Alex Mills is the former President of the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers.



### New energy platforms create changes for producers and consumers

#### By Alex Mills

Global energy issues heated up this week as crude oil and natural gas prices rose, a government study predicted further increases in energy consumption globally, OPEC meeting concludes without the production increases requested by Washington, and members of Congress blast the Biden administration's energy plan.

International crude oil prices surpassed \$80 per barrel for Brent crude (West Texas Intermediate reached \$77 by mid-week), and natural gas prices in Europe reached \$25 per thousand cubic feet (\$6.31 on the NYMEX).

Since January, demand for fossil fuels has increased while supplies have dwindled.

OPEC+, which includes 10 OPEC members and some non-members countries, met on Monday and decided to increase its production by 400,000 barrels per day. The new, totalproduction limit is 39,694,000 barrels per day, or about 40% of the world's oil production. Saudi Arabia and Russia have the highest quotas of 9.9 million barrels per day each, or about half of the total quotas.

U.S. Rep. August Pfluger (R-TX) said in a speech to other House members the Biden administration, which had asked OPEC+ for a larger production increase, "has put the United States on the path toward an energy crisis comparable to the current crisis in Europe, where multiple countries are experiencing industry-wide shutdowns and preparing for cataclysmic blackouts due to their failed policies and reliance on Russian gas,"

The turmoil in Europe began with a colder-than-normal winter, which depleted natural gas inventories causing prices to rise as demand out stripped supplies. Europe has tried to use as much wind and solar energy as possible, but they have failed to meet consumer needs.

The Energy Information Administration at the U.S. Department of Energy released an analysis on Wednesday stating international production and consumption of oil, natural gas and renewable will increase because of population and economic growth. Renewables (wind and solar) will be the primary new source for electricity, but because of reliability issues natural gas and coal play an important role in support of grid reliability.

Wind and solar energy have increased market share in recent years, but both sources are not available all the time and they are difficult to store. This has caused problems for electric utilities that must provide a reliable power source 365 days a year and 24 hours a day.

As the EIA study predicts, petroleum and natural gas consumption will continue to grow through 2050.

The EU and President Biden have vowed a "net zero" emission economy by 2050, which will require the complete transformation of the global energy system. Changes to energy usage are complicated and full of unintended consequences.

The problems encountered in Europe – supply shortage and higher prices – are problems policymakers and energy providers in the U.S. will need to avoid. -30-

# Sth Annual Industry Appreciation Banquet

Tuesday, Oct 12th, 2021

6:30 PM

The Red Brick Rose Formerly Coke Bottling plant 1040 4th Street, Graham TX 76450

Graham Desk and Derrick Club

Meal Cost: \$25.00 RSVP to: Connie Bass <u>ck.bass@hotmail.com</u> or (940) 389-0110

# ARE YOU A PIECE of the puzzle?



I've always enjoyed working jigsaw puzzles. I can remember sitting for hours working on a puzzle.

Sometimes, being so content on finishing a section of the puzzle that I would actually lose track of time.

Our club often feels like we are working on a giant jigsaw puzzle, We have so many interlocking pieces that need to all fit together. Our different committees can be compared to a puzzle, strange analogy, I'll admit it, but let me "piece" this together for you. Imagine we have all these pieces scattered across the table—those are our Board of Directors, Committees and members. They all need to fit together.

Usually when you begin a puzzle, you need to search for all the straight edges first, this is your framework. Our Board of Directors serves as the framework of our club. A framework is important in so many aspects of life. Beginning with the framework provides the support you need to gain overall perspective. Without the proper framework, anything you construct will be unstable and subject to collapse. We have a written outline on how our framework should come together—this is our Bylaws.

Our Committees—which is you—our members, are all the pieces scattered and grouped by colors/patterns. But as each member starts adding a few pieces here and there, the pieces slowly come together, and voila—our picture begins to reveal itself.

#### Here is a list of our Standing Committees:

**Budget & Finance:** Study and propose possible plans if extra funds are needed by the Club, be responsible for preparing annual Club budget, direct the activities of all fund-raising projects, and work closely with other Committees, Board and President.

**Bulletin:** Publish official club publication, containing monthly meeting notices, information on new members, news and reports on programs, field trips and specials; be responsible for distribution to members and work closely with other committees.

By-Laws: Shall study Club Bylaws and consider all possible changes, prior to the Board's consideration,

after which the recommended changes are presented to the membership for vote. Provide membership with ADDC and Club Bylaws.

**Education:** Encourage and train members of the Desk and Derrick Club to speak before civic and other groups on pertinent urgent issues affecting the energy industry, thus helping to fulfill the purpose of our organization by expanding our horizons of service; to further prepare members for assuming leadership roles; to enhance personal growth and development of individual members through seminars without the prerequisite of becoming public speakers. Also, be responsible for coordinating scholarship guidelines with Midwestern State University and for possible Continuing Education courses.



**Field Trip:** Plan and supervise field trips, check costs for transportation, food or other expenses. Have clear and concise instructions ready on—date, time, place for meeting, if special transportation is to be used and secure releases of liability for all field trip attendees. Give Bulletin and Program Committees reports for release and publication, and work closely with other committees as necessary. Be sure members are contacted regarding field trip and keep a record of those attending, if only a limited number may attend, be sure to keep a record, so others may have an opportunity later. All person(s) attending any Club sponsored field trip shall be required to sign a release of liability.

**General Arrangements:** Make all necessary arrangements for monthly meeting place, plan menus and seating arrangements, check with President regarding special arrangements needed for each meeting. Plan parties, picnics, and entertainment for social hour, plan game or party participation for socials held during club hours, encourage member participation in making friends during social hours at regular meetings or special occasions.

**Golf Tournament:** Responsible for obtaining the location, sponsors, teams, volunteers and anything else deemed necessary to the successful outcome of the annual tournament. Committee will work closely with the President and Treasurer on arrangements and money.

**Membership:** Try to increase and maintain membership level, and provide application form for prospective members. Advise all Committee Chairman, the Club President and the Board of Directors of names and addresses of new members. Be responsible for securing and distributing annual membership list. Applications for membership, together with dues in the amount specified in Article XI, to be turned over to the Treasurer who will present same to the Board of Directors. Be responsible for taking reservations for monthly meetings. See that guests are entertained while waiting for program to start. Meet and greet members and guests, see that new members are introduced to others present, maintain registry or record book for meeting attendance, prepare badges for identification for members and see that they are used. Work closely with Program Committee, providing Board of Directors and program participants with reservation list. Work with Program Committee to coordinate opportunities to promote and/or solicit new members.

**Program:** Provide program presentations for regular or special meetings, plan program topics for the year, arrange of invocation or any entertainment, arrange proper introduction of speakers, and secure gift or recognition for speakers, as directed by Club President or Board. Advise Bulletin Committee of speaker, subject of talks and publicity material. Contact and submit material to local papers; work closely with Board and President on releases, prepare releases for trade journals in area; check with speaker in obtaining a copy of speech and/or the company involved before direct quotations are used; prepare releases for the ADDC official publication; arrange for special photographs when requested by President; work closely with Bulletin and Field Trip Committees, and clear any news releases with Club President. Program reports (PRGM1) shall be submitted to the ADDC Program Committee Central Region representative on a monthly basis within ten (10) days after the program has been presented.

**Scrapbook:** Shall take and keep pictures and stories of the Club activities in Club scrapbook, shall contact Committees and members for possible materials, shall display scrapbook at meetings and on field trips for scrapbook purposes.

**Social Media:** Shall be responsible for social media accounts. Effective January 2020 will establish a Facebook account to provide information on the meeting location, speaker, title of program, reservations contact, as well as field trip, seminar, and other club activities. The current Social Media Chairman and Club President will be Administrators of the account. The Chairman will be responsible for posting to the Facebook page with approval from the Club President.

It takes all of these committees combined, working close with the President, to complete our big picture. When working on a jigsaw puzzle, I always keep the box lid within reach. Periodically, I stop and study the picture on the lid so I can assess where I am in the process and remind myself what the finished puzzle should look like—this is all the members that have been in the club for awhile. Our "seasoned or experienced" members are always willing to pitch-in, offer advice, or just be a sounding board to bounce ideas off of. *We are a TEAM, you are never alone!* 

Desk and Derrick is a very unique puzzle that is waiting to be solved. Don't be afraid to hold a position, because it's the best way to experience the club fully. It can be a scary process holding a position, but there are committee members with many years of experience to guide and direct you. As individuals, we have so many sides that make up who we are, but when we all come together, WOW, there is nothing that we can't accomplish! The completed puzzle is an amazing picture!

If you have never served on a committee and are thinking about giving it a try—Challenge yourself! Sure, you will probably make some mistakes along the way (it's all about learning where the pieces go), but the determination will keep you persistent and help you win the challenge, Plus, you never know, you could be that one piece that the club needs to finish the picture.

And always remember that you are a wonderful human being with many sides of you, just like a puzzle piece! We are all "works in progress" and every now and again you are going to have that one darn puzzle piece that you just can't seem to get to fit—that's when you rely on a more "seasoned" member to guide you! Let's finish the puzzle together, just think of everything that we will learn along the way!



It's always the *small* pieces that make the *big* picture!

we're all pieces of Desk and Derrick. Just be the piece you are so you're doing your part to complete the big picture.

Desk and Derrick Club of Wichita Falls

# Proposed Slate of Officers 2022

President: Nichole Harney Vice President: Sheila McGaughey Treasurer: Jordan Burgess-Moss Secretary: Lauren Martin 1 Year Director: Jordan Jackson 2 Year Director: Vickie Young Immediate Past President: Diana Walker Parliamentarian: President's Choice

In accordance with Article X, Section 2 and Section 3 of the Desk and Derrick Club of Wichita Falls bylaws, "Officers and Directors shall be elected at the November meeting and a majority of all votes cast, quorum being present, shall constitute an election."

Therefore, the Nominating Committee consisting of Chairman, Kacie Turner and members: Barbara Pappas and Tracy Flynn put forth the following slate of officers for the membership's consideration for the year 2022.

Respectfully submitted, Kacie Turner, Chair Barbara Pappas and Tracy Flynn October 6, 2021

Please attend the November Membership meeting in order to participate in this election.

#### I will do more

I will do more than belong, I will participate.

- I will do more than believe, I will practice.
- I will do more than forgive, I will forget.
- I will do more than teach, I will inspire.
- I will do more than care, I will help.

I will do more than be fair, I will be kind.

I will do more than dream, I will work.

I will do more than give, I will serve. - Unknown

Rena read this at our September Meeting. Thanks Rena!!

More Facts about Natural Gas.... Continued from Page 2

\* In the world, there are over 23 million vehicles that run on natural gas.

\* Did you know that normal everyday items are made out of natural gas? Such as sunglasses, deodorant, cell phones, carpet, and heart valves just to name a few.

\* When burned, natural gas produces less than half of CO2 emissions that coal does.

\* In Las Vegas, a volcano erupts in front of the MGM Mirage Hotel every hour in the evening. Guess what it is fueled by? Not only natural gas but pina colada scented!

\* Jobs! Most of us can relate to this one. In America, there are about four million people employed in the natural gas industry! WOW!

\* Two of the most common uses in the U.S. include Transportation and Electricity generation. It's a clean energy source.

Hopefully, you learned something new on this one. It is always fun for me to learn something new and get educated about our industry. There is so much to learn!



## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

MEMBERSHIP MTG OCTOBER 20 BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 2

Nominating Committee 2021

Kacie Turner–Chairman

Tracy Flynn and Barbara Pappas– Members



Susan Van Huss	10/01
Stephanie Jones	10/02
Pat Hensley	10/17
Diana Walker	10/24
Jo Ann Baker	10/25
Amber Koch	10/29



Our Sincerest Sympathy to Geneva Wood—on the passing of her brother—Mike Holcomb, age 68.



Our thoughts and prayers are with *Rhonda Steinberger*—whose sister Debbie Hoff, age 67, passed away on September 24, 2021. She was the aunt to *Chelsie Steinberger*-*Ingram* and sister to *Jennifer Lindemann*.

Sincerest Sympathy to all.



Sending lots of prayers and hugs to Geneva Wood—who had surgery on her ankle on September 28, 2021. Take Care Friend!



Barbara Pappas was elected as the ADDC President Elect. for 2022

# Congratulations Barbara!!!

You will do an awesome job!!



Sending Lots of Hugs and Prayers to **Betty Wilson** 

She had surgery on both knees on September 29. Get Well Friend!



Laissez les bons temps rouler. Let the good times roll.

Seated: Nichole Harney—President; Diana Walker— Alternate; Standing—Rena Shaffer, Barbara Pappas and Sheila McGaughey ADDC Convention was scheduled for New Orleans, but Hurricane Ida had other plans.

So, we held a virtual meeting in Wichita Falls.





# **ADDC** Convention **"Virtual Meeting"**

September 25, 2021



# Laissez les bons temps rouler. Let the good times roll.

**Best Industry Seminar** 

leans

Way to go **1st Place** Renal "Mud Man" Cecil Duke – Vernon College—Speaker September, 2020 Author/Co-Ordinator: Rena Shaffer

# **Best Industry Article**

2nd Place Texas 811 Pipeline Safety GVAC and H2S Workshop October, 2020 Author: Barbara Pappas Congratulations Barbara!

# **Best Large Bulletin**

**3rd Place** 

October 2020 Issue

Sheila McGaughey—Editor



# OCTOBER

# Oilfields of Dreams—Gassers, Oilers and Drillers Baseball

Company town players made it to the Big Leagues – and the Hall of Fame.

The first pitcher ever inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1936 worked in oilfields as a teenager and began his career on an oil town baseball team in California.

As baseball became America's favorite pastime in the early 20th century, many new oil patch boom

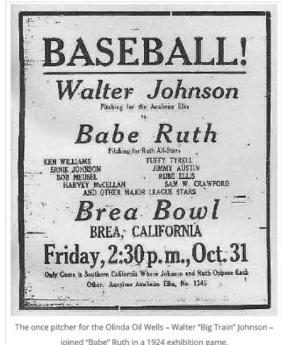
towns fielded their own teams—with names that reflected their communities' enthusiasm and often, their livelihood.

#### Oilfield of Dreams

In Texas, the Corsicana Oil Citys made baseball history in 1902 with a 51 to 3 drubbing of the Texarkana Casketmakers. Oil Citys catcher Jay Justin Clarke hit eight home runs in eight at bats during the game—still an unbroken baseball record.

In 1922, the Wichita Falls minor league team lost its opportunity for a 25th consecutive victory when the league determined the team had "doctored the baseball." The Wichita Falls ballpark caught fire in June—during a game—and burned to the ground. It was a memorable season.

In Oklahoma oilfields, the Okmulgee Drillers for the first time in baseball history had two players who combined to hit 100 home runs in a single season of 160 games. First baseman Wilbur "Country" Davis and center fielder Cecil "Stormy" Davis accomplished their home run record in 1924, although their team faded away by 1927.





The Tulsa Oilers were the strongest team in the Western League for a decade, winning the pennant in 1920, '22, '27, '28 and '29. The name continues in the Central Hockey League's Tulsa Oilers. The Tulsa Drillers, a AA affiliate of the Colorado Rockies, a Major League club, play in downtown Tulsa.

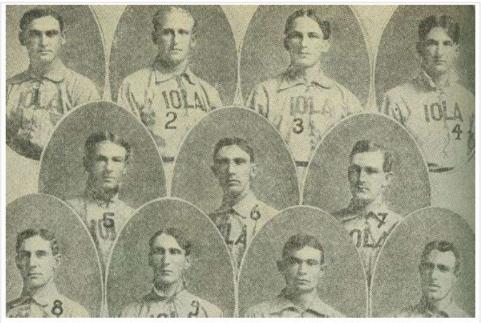
In baseball's first official night game, the Independence Kansas Producers, lost to Muskogee Chiefs 13 to 3 on April 28, 1930. The game was played under portable lights supplied by the Negro National League's famed Kansas City Monarchs.

The Independence Producers were one of the 96 teams in the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, now known as Minor League Baseball.

#### Iola Gasbags and Borger Gassers

Thanks to mid-continent oil and natural gas discoveries, in just nine years beginning in 1895, lola, Kansas, grew from a town of 1,567 to a city of more than 11,000. Gas wells lighted the way.

However, the Iola Gasbags reportedly adopted their team name not for the resource, but after becoming known as braggers in the Missouri State League. "They traveled to these other cities, and they'd be bragging that they were the champions, so people started giving them the nickname Gasbags," reported baseball historian Tim Hagerty in a July 2012 National Public Radio Interview.



From a booming town in Kansas thanks to natural gas, the Iola Gasbags are pictured in 1904. Photo courtesy National Baseball Hall of Fame Library.

In 1903, the players renamed themselves the lola Gaslighters—but had a change of heart and reverted to the original name the following season.

"They said, 'You know what? Yeah, we are, We're the Gasbags.'" added Hagerty, author of *Root for the Home Team: Minor League Baseball's Most Off-the-Wall Names and the Stories Behind Them.* "I think the state of Kansas may take the prize for the most terrific names— the Wichita Wingnuts, the Wichita Izzies, the Hutchinson Salt Packers....and the Iola Gasbags."

In the Texas Panhandle, the Borger Gassers disappeared after the 1955 season, despite Gordon Nell hitting a record-setting 49 homers in 1947. Team owners blamed television and air-conditioning for reducing minor league baseball attendance and profitability.

In Beaumont, Texas, site of the great Spindletop oil discovery of 1901, minor league baseball lasted for decades under several names. The first name, the Beaumont Oil Gushers of the South Texas League, was fielded in 1903. By the 1904 season the team was known as the Millionaires and then the Oilers before becoming the Beaumont Exporters in 1920.



Although many thought the name should be changed to the Refiners, reflecting the city's industry, for the 1950 season the team was briefly known as the Roughnecks.

Beaumont's last AA Texas League team was the Golden Gators, which folded in 1986. Another team in the Texas League, the Shreveport Gassers, on May 8, 1918, played 20 innings against

the Fort Worth Panthers before the game was finally declared a tie at one to one.

#### Walter "Big Train" Johnson and Olinda Oil Wells

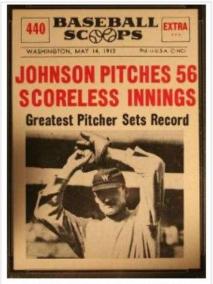
In 1894, the Union Oil Company of Santa Paula purchased 1,200 acres in northern Orange County for oil development. Four years later the first oil well, Olinda No. 1, came in and created the oil boom town.

Perhaps baseball's greatest product from the oilfield was a young man who was a roustabout in the small oil town of Olinda, California. Walter "Big Train" Johnson would earn national renown as the greatest pitcher of his time.

Around the turn of the century, Olinda Oil Wells baseball players began making a name for themselves among the semi-pro teams of the Los Angeles area. By 1903 the Orange County team was sharing newly built Athletic Park in Anaheim, "two hours south Olinda by horse and buggy," notes one historian. Youngster Walter Johnson rooted for the local team, the Oil Wells.

Today, tourists visit the Olinda Oil Museum and Trail. The historic Orange County site includes Olinda Oil Well No. 1 of 1898, the oil company field office and a jack-line pump building.

Johnson, originally from Humboldt, Kansas, moved to the thriving oil



A 1961 baseball card notes headline of the former California oilfield roustabout's amazing 1913 pitching record, which lasted until Don Drysdale pitched 58 scoreless innings in 1968.

town east of Brea with his family when he was 14. He attended Fullerton Union High School and played baseball there while working in the nearby oilfields. His high school pitching began making headlines, including a 1905 15-inning game against rival Santa Ana High School where he struck out 27.

By 17, Johnson was playing his oil town baseball team, the Olinda Oil Wells, as its ace pitcher. He shared in each game's income of \$25, according to Henry Thomas in *Walter Johnson: Baseball's Big Train,* "Not a bad split for nine players considering that a roustabout in the oilfields started a \$1.50 a day," Thomas noted in his book. Johnson finished with a winning season and soon moved on to the minor leagues.

Johnson's major league career began in 1907 in Washington, D.C., where he played his entire 21-year baseball career for the Washington Senators. The former oil patch roustabout remains major leagues baseball's all-time career leader in shutouts with 110, second in wins (417) and fourth in complete games (531).

In 1936, "Big Train" Johnson was inducted into baseball's newly created Hall of Fame with four others: Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Honus Wagner and Christy Mathewson. In 1924, Johnson returned to his California oil patch roots. On October 31, he and his former baseball teammates played an exhibition game in Brea against Babe Ruth and the Ruth All-Stars.

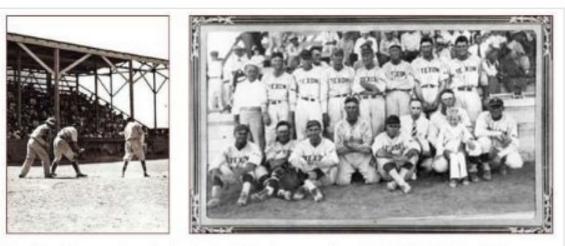
The Brea Museum & Historical Society today includes exhibits, rare photographs, and research facilities. There's also an on-going project recreating Brea in miniature.

#### **Texon Oilers of Permian Basin**

On May 28, 1923, a loud roar was heard when the Santa Rita No.1 well erupted in West Texas. People as far away as Fort Worth traveled to see the well. Near Big Lake, Texas, on arid land leased from the University of Texas, Texon Oil and Land Company made the discovery. The oilfield, about 4.5 square miles, revealed vast oil reserves in West Texas. Exploration spread into other areas of the Permian Basin, still one of the largest oil-producing regions in the United States.

Early Permian Basin discoveries created many boom towns, including Midland, which some would soon refer to as "Little Dallas." By 1924, Michael L. Benedum, a successful independent oilman from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and other successful independent producers—wildcatters—formed the Big Lake Oil Company. The new company established Texon, the first oil company town in the Permian Basin.

By the summer of 1925, a baseball field was ready for use. In 1926 a 500-seat grandstand completed the facility. "In 1929 the Big Lake Oil Company began a tradition of hosting a Labor Day barbeque for employees and



The first oil "company town" in the Permian Basin, Texon, was founded in 1924 by Big Lake Oil Company. The Texon Oilers won Permian Basin League championships in 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1939. Texon remains a tourist attraction – as a ghost town.

friends, highlighted by a baseball game", noted historian Jane Spraggins Wilson.

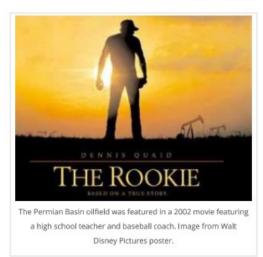
"Management consistently attempted to schedule well-known clubs, such as the Fort Worth Cats and the Halliburton Oilers of Oklahoma," added Wilson, who explained that during the Great Depression, "before good highways, television, and other diversions, the team was a source of community cohesiveness, entertainment and pride."

After the World War II, with its famous oilfield diminishing and the town losing population, aging Oilers left the game for good, Wilson reports. By the mid-1950's the Texon Oilers were but a memory.

#### Hollywood visits Oilfields

The 2002 movie "The Rookie" - filmed almost entirely in the Permian Basin of West Texas—featured a Reagan County High School teacher. Based on the "true life" of baseball pitcher Jimmy Morris, it tells the story of baseball coach, Morris (played by Dennis Quaid), who despite being in his mid-30s briefly makes it to the major leagues.

The movie—promoted with the phrase, "It's never too late to believe in your dreams" - opens with a flashback scene near Big Lake, the Santa Rita No. 1 drilling site.



As the well is being drilled, Catholic nuns are shown carrying a basket of rose petals to christen it for the Patron Saint of the Impossible—Santa Rita.



At the beginning of the 2002 movie "The Rookie," Catholic nuns christened the Santa Rita No. 1 cabletool rig. In reality, one of the well's owners climbed the derrick and threw rose petals given to him by Catholic investors.

"Much is made of the almost mythic importance of oil in Big Lake, with talk of the Santa Rita oil well," explains ESPN in the The Rookie in Reel Life.

#### Oilmen of Whiting, Indiana

In 1889, the Standard Oil Company began construction on its massive, 235-acre refinery in Whiting, Indiana. Today owned by BP, the Whiting refinery is the largest in the United States.

In 2012, Whiting fielded a baseball team. On June 3, the North-west Indiana Oilmen crushed the Southland Vikings 14-3 at Oil City Stadium in Standard Diamonds Park for the first win in franchise history. The Oilmen team became one of eight in the Midwest Collegiate League, a pre-minor baseball league.



Whiting has been home to the Northwest Indiana Oilmen since 2012.



Standard Oil's giant refinery in Whiting, Indiana, processed "sour crude" in the early 1900s. Now owned by BP, it is the largest U.S. refinery. The city of Whiting incorporated in 1903. "The name Oil City Stadium celebrates

Whiting's history as a refinery town tucked away in the Northwest corner of Indiana for over 120 years," noted team owner Don Popravak. "The BP Refinery, located just beyond they outfield fence is a constant reminder of the blue collar attitude Whiting was built on," he added.

# Desk and Derrick Club of Wichita Falls Membership Meeting October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The Forum, 2120 Speedway Avenue Please arrive early so that we may start the meeting shortly after noon.

Presiding:

Nichole Harney Cobra Oil & Gas Corp.

Invocation:

Shirley Birdwell Retired - Burk Royalty Co.

Introduction of Speaker:

Jo Ann Baker Texas Alliance of Energy Producers

Program:

Cye Wagner Chairman of the Board, Texas Alliance of Energy Producers

## "Oil and Gas: Good, Bad, & Fake News."

Reservations should be emailed to Rena Shaffer Email <u>rena@eagleog.com</u> or call 940-234-3307

Reservations Deadline – 4:00pm Thursday October 14th, 2021 Cost \$17.50

#### RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE

If you make a reservation and do not attend, you are still responsible for payment. (If paying by cash, please bring exact change.)

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Cye Wagner	preciation Lunc — Speaker ce of Energy Pr	5	TEXAS of Energy	Producers	1 Susan Van Huss	SEMINAR FELTY OUTDOOR MUSEUM Stephanie Jones
3	4	5 Board Meeting	6	7	8	9 FIELD TRIP Drill Site and Red River Valley Museum
10	11 Columbus Day	12	13	14 DEADLINE FOR MEMBERSHIP MEETING	15	16
17 Pat Hensley	18	19 Inc	20 Justry Appreciat Luncheon	21 ion	22	23
24 Diana Walker	25 Jo Ann Baker	26	27	28	29	30
					Amber Koch	



Life is always fluctuating. And just as the world outside us constantly changes, so can the way we view it. Make positive changes today and start living the positive life you've always imagined.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Board Meeting				
7 Fall Back 3 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	8	9	10	11 DEADLINE FOR MEMBERSHIP MEETING	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Lauren Martin		Membership Meeting			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
Give thanks with a grateful heart!				TH	ANN.	
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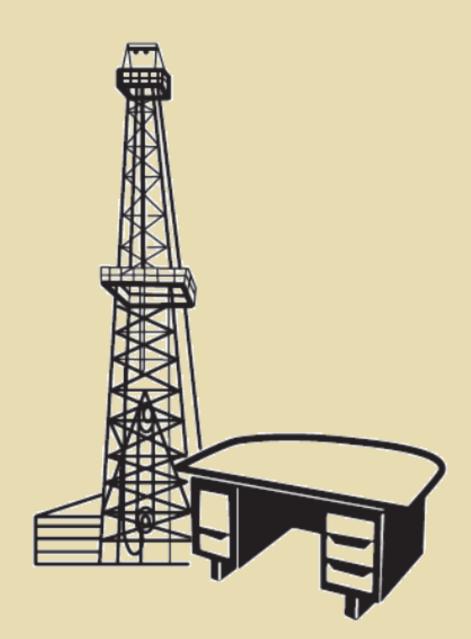
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