



THE STAR

THIRD QUARTER 2008

<i>OEC News</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Hall of Fame Inductees</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Ocean Star News</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Education Outreach</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	<i>12</i>

Ocean Star Gala rescheduled for January 10

The *Ocean Star* Gala has been postponed due to Hurricane Ike. As a result, this year's event has been rescheduled for Saturday, January 10, 2009, at the Westin Galleria Hotel.

The evening will begin with the Offshore Pioneer Induction Ceremony and Reception, followed by the Gala Reception, then dinner and dancing. **Bob Scott** and **Hugh Elkins**, Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee, will once again be Masters of Ceremony for the Pioneer Induction Ceremony. Schlumberger Chairman and CEO Andrew Gould is this year's Pinnacle Award Recipient. The Chairman's Award will also be presented at the Gala.



Noble Energy's Chuck Davidson next Executive Speaker

Charles D. (Chuck) Davidson, Chairman, President and CEO of Noble Energy, will be 2009's first speaker in OEC's Executive Speaker Series on January 29. **Robert A. (Bob) Deason**, President and CEO of J. Ray McDermott, was the final Executive Speaker of 2008 when he spoke about Integrated Capabilities in October.



Chuck Davidson

The Executive Speaker Series is held quarterly at the Petroleum Club and begins at 11:30 a.m. Dates for the remaining 2009 speakers are April 23, July 30 and Oct. 29. Future speakers will be announced when they are available.

The luncheons are \$50 per person or \$500 for a table of 10. Sponsorships are available for the 2009 luncheons. Sponsors receive a premium table for 10, admittance for two persons to the VIP reception with the speakers prior to each luncheon, and recognition on event signage, the OEC website and in *The Star*.

Sponsors for the 2008 Executive Speaker Series are **Apache Corporation, BJ Services, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Devon Energy, FMC Technologies, J. Ray McDermott, Schlumberger, Shell and Stone Energy.**

For additional information about becoming a sponsor, contact Offshore Energy Center at 281-679-8040.

Davidson has more than 35 years of experience in the energy industry.

OEC's Third Annual Salute to Interns held this summer

Houston's Minute Maid Park was the venue for OEC's Third Annual Salute to Interns on July 22. The Salute to Interns featured an afternoon of industry and motivational guest speakers including audience participation activities designed to educate and entertain

Continued on page 3

Continued on page 3



Robert J. (Bob) Brown



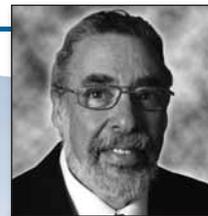
Beldon E. Fox, Sr.



Edward E. (Ed) Horton

2008 Industry Pioneers and Pioneering Technologies

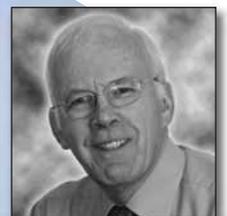
Continued on page 2



Philip D. Rabinowitz



Bill E. Stallworth



Sir Ian Wood

Introducing the 2008 Industry Pioneers

(Continued from page 1)



Robert J. (Bob) Brown

During his 57-year career, R. J. Brown was known for his innovations that made marine pipelining more efficient and much safer. Among these were the development of a third-generation vessel capable of double-joining 40-ft sections and a retractable stern ramp to improve the efficiency of pipe lay operations. In the Arctic, he built a 2D modeling system for development of the installation methods and procedures and a remote diverless connection system.

Brown pre-assembled 10-mile long pipelines, then bottom-towed them into position offshore. He designed and built plows for trenching and burial of subsea pipelines. Later, he applied his engineering skill to design installation techniques for pipelines in 8,000-ft of water. One of Brown's key accomplishments was the use of a highly accurate 3-D physical model for training contractors' personnel by demonstrating the hazards during installation of large complex systems with many risers and mooring lines. He is presently Director of R J Brown Deepwater, a Technip Company.



Beldon E. Fox, Sr.

Beldon E. Fox, Sr., owner of Red Fox Industries in New Iberia, Louisiana, was responsible for solving one of the offshore industry's most pressing and unique problems of the 1970s: handling sewerage from all offshore manned rigs, platforms, workboats etc. Under an EPA order, all such facilities had to be provided with a Marine Sanitation Device (sewer treatment equipment) under threat of having to shut-in operations. At the time, no such equipment existed and even experts in the field deemed the problem insolvable. The Red Fox Unit developed by Fox and his team became the industry standard and for many years was the only device that met Coast Guard requirements. At one point, over 3,000 installations were in service worldwide with the company ultimately serving 85% of the U.S. market and a large share of the overseas market.



Edward E. (Ed) Horton

Edward E. (Ed) Horton, currently president and board member of Horton Deepwater Development Systems, is the inventor of both the Spar and Tension Leg Platform drilling and production units, the two standard deepwater concepts that represent the vast majority of deepwater floating oil and gas facilities in service today.

Over the past 30 years, more than 2 billion barrels of oil have been produced through facilities that incorporate his patents. By year-end 2008, 17 production spars will be in operation, 16 in the Gulf of Mexico and one off Malaysia. Horton is a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and the National Academy of Engineering, and has been previously honored for his accomplishments by the Offshore Technology Conference, the National Academy of Science and SPE.



Philip D. Rabinowitz

Dr. Philip D. Rabinowitz is a Professor of Geology & Geophysics and Oceanography, and holder of the D. B. Harris Endowed Chair in Geophysics at Texas A&M University. His scientific studies focused on evolution of continental margins, plate tectonics, mapping of the deep ocean floor and ocean technology.

He has spent several years aboard scientific research vessels in the course of his research. He has been Chief Scientist on more than 15 expeditions, including those operated by Columbia University, University of Capetown, the Deep-Sea Drilling Project, and the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP).

Dr. Rabinowitz had a pivotal role in the formation of and bringing the ODP to Texas A&M University in 1983 and served as its inaugural Director. At the time, this program, was the largest and most prestigious basic international research program for the earth and ocean sciences.

For all his work as Director, the National Science Foundation presented ODP a Meritorious Service Award, the first of its kind ever awarded.



Bill E. Stallworth

Bill Stallworth began a long career with Brown & Root after graduating from Texas A&M University, principally working on offshore platforms and submarine pipelines.

Starting in 1957 with large diameter concrete coated pipelines in Venezuela's Lake Maracaibo, he established concrete pipe coating yards in Brazil and Abu Dhabi. He started his North Sea career as Project Manager for the Ekofisk platforms and then became Project Director for BP's Forties Field platform program. He then assumed responsibility for Brown & Root's Eastern Hemisphere marine operations and eventually for all of Brown & Root's worldwide marine engineering and construction operations.

He left Brown & Root in 1986 and formed Stallworth Interests Inc. He became a General Partner in Stallworth Frankhouser & Associates in 1993. In 1997, he helped form TransCoastal Marine Services and served as its Chairman and CEO through 1998.



Sir Ian Wood

When oil was discovered in the central North Sea in 1969, Aberdeen became the operational and supply base for the U.K. hydrocarbon industry.

Ian Wood joined the Aberdeen-based family business John Wood & Son after graduation from Aberdeen University in 1964. Under his leadership, John Wood Group PLC was created and became the United Kingdom's largest energy services company, with market-leading positions in the U.K., U.S. and globally. Ian has been instrumental in taking best-practice solutions from the U.K. and the U.S. to the rest of the world, and Wood Group now operates in 46 countries with over 27,000 people.

Sir Ian played an important part in promoting British industry in the energy sector by serving in many positions. Among these were Joint Chairman of the Oil & Gas Leadership Team, a member of PILOT (a joint government oil & gas industry initiative), Chairman of Scottish Enterprise Board and Chairman of the British Trade International Oil & Gas Export Board.

He was awarded the CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire) in 1982 and a Knighthood by HRH Queen Elizabeth II in 1994.

Pioneering Technologies to be recognized at the Hall of Fame induction ceremony are:

Health, Safety & Environment: API 14C

Ken Arnold, Larry Smith, API – American Petroleum Institute, Shell

Production Technology: Coiled Tubing

Cicero C. Brown, Joe Brown, Charles Corley, Bill Hansen, Harry Pistole, Jim Rike, Al Vitter, Brown Oil Tools (*now Baker Hughes*), Chevron, Humble Oil & Refining co. (*now ExxonMobil*)

Drilling Technology: Heavy Weight Drill Pipe

Glenn Chance, Sam Crews, Drilco (*now Smith International*)

Science & Technology: Mohole - Phase I

Willard Bascom, Robert Bauer, Walter H. Munk, Global Marine (*now GlobalSantaFe Transocean*), National Science Foundation

OEC News

OEC's Third Annual Salute to Interns, continued from page 1

the interns. Approximately 200 interns registered for the 2008 Salute. **Dave Dunlap**, Executive Vice President and COO of BJ Services, and **Steve Nance**, former President of Peoples Energy, participated for the third year as MCs.

Companies with interns attending included **BJ Services, BP, Cabot, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Devon, El Paso, FMC Technologies, Halliburton, J. Ray McDermott, Marathon, Noble Energy, Sanchez Energy, Schlumberger** and **Shell**.



The event began at noon with opening remarks by OEC Executive Director **Sandra Mourton** followed by a luncheon and then the general session from 1:00-4:00 p.m. During the general session, the interns heard industry leaders speak about the importance of solving the nation's energy crisis and their responsibilities as future leaders of the industry.

Speakers during the general session included **Bevin Van Gilder**, Operations Advisor, GOM for Chevron about the Importance of Human Energy in Shaping our Energy Future; **John Jensen**, Vice President of Strategy & Engineering, El Paso Corp. presented Career Paths and Tips for Achieving a Successful Career; **Angela Blanchard**, President and CEO of Neighborhood Centers, Inc., who made a presentation on Paths for Leadership and Community Responsibility; and **Robert Strong**, the comedy magician who discussed the Magic of Teamwork. Drawings for door prizes were held between the various presentations.

Following the General Session, interns attended several break out sessions with top industry professionals from 4:00-5:30. The break out sessions featured **Libby Cheney**, Vice President, Corporate Support, Americas for Shell, who discussed Your Dream Job; **Mike Garding**, Vice President of Personnel, North America for Schlumberger, who discussed the Energy Outlook; **Helen O'Connor**, Director of Global University Affairs for Halliburton on Career Path Focus; and the Comedy Magician who presented Juggling – Priorities and Balance in Your Life.



Industry Salute to Interns co-hosts Steve Nance, former President of Peoples Energy, and Dave Dunlap, Executive Vice President and COO of BJ Services, participated for the third year as MCs of the event.

From 5:30-7:00 p.m., interns attended a reception where they had the opportunity to meet with industry representatives and members of oil and gas professional organizations, with additional prize drawings held. Exhibitors included **IADC, Oilfield Christian Fellowship** and **SPE**.

Finally, the interns and guests enjoyed watching the Houston Astros take on the Pittsburgh Pirates.

The Industry Salute to Interns provides an excellent opportunity for companies to reward their summer interns. It also provides interns with the opportunity to listen to oil and gas industry executives and motivational speakers. OEC was delighted with the results of this year's salute and appreciates the sponsors of the event and the guest speakers for their contributions.

Next Executive Speaker, continued from page 1

Prior to joining Noble Energy, Davidson was Chairman, President and CEO of Vastar Resources, Inc., which merged with BP in 2000. He was a member of the original executive team that formed Vastar in 1994. Prior to the formation of Vastar, he held various engineering, operations and executive positions at ARCO.

Davidson holds a Bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Purdue University and a Master's degree in management from the University of Texas at Dallas. He is a member of SPE and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. He also is the current chairman of the IPAA's Offshore Committee, a member of the National Petroleum Council and a member of the board of the Gas Technology Institute. Davidson also is the current chairman of the Sam Houston Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the board for the Society for the Performing Arts and is an OEC board member and past *Ocean Star* Gala Chairman.

UHY LLP providing audit services to OEC

Thanks to **Tom Elder**, C.P.A., Partner, UHY LLP, for donating its auditing services to the Offshore Energy Center for the fourth consecutive year. **Lorena Montenegro, Jian Casey** and **Erika Myers** performed the audit in September. OEC appreciates their continued support.

Ocean Star News

Ocean Star and its employees survive Hurricane Ike in different ways

Galveston took a direct hit from Hurricane Ike in September, causing some flooding and wind damage to the entire island and severely damaged areas of Bolivar Peninsula such as Crystal Beach and essentially wiping the community of Gilchrist off the map. Hurricane Ike also damaged the *Ocean Star* museum and education center, including damaged windows and some water ingress inside the facility. The *Ocean Star* structure itself sustained minimal damage, although the helicopter on its rooftop was blown onto its side and sustained damage.

However, the *Ocean Star's* gift shop is destroyed, having been turned into a "see-through" building by Ike. The gift shop was housed in a portable building and served as the museum's welcome center. It included the gift shop manager's offices, storage facilities and communications wiring for the entire complex, including telephones and computers. Gift shop and *Ocean Star* employees worked to transfer all of the merchandise into the museum for safe keeping before they evacuated the island themselves (see below for the hurricane adventures of several *Ocean Star* and gift shop employees).



All that remains of the *Ocean Star* gift shop is a shell. All of the merchandise was transferred to the rig prior to the hurricane.



The helicopter on display atop the *Ocean Star* was turned on its side by Hurricane Ike's winds.

Only the front wall and one side wall of the gift shop survived. Standing in front of the building, looking through where the front doors once stood, one can see the *Ocean Star*. Everything that was once inside the building that wasn't stored in the museum is now gone. The gift shop building was 20 ft x 34 ft. Due to provisions in the *Ocean Star's* lease of the pier, a similar size building will have to replace the original gift shop.

Currently, there still was no electricity at the museum and it was unclear when the museum would be able to reopen although we hope to reopen the museum by mid-November. As part of OEC's Vision 2016 campaign, a renovation program, developed before the storm, includes overall repairs to the rig museum itself.

Several companies have donated funds earmarked for the renovation. Among the companies providing donations to the program are the **Sanford Foundation** on behalf of **Oil & Gas Rental Services**, **Global Santa Fe** (prior to its merger with Transocean), and an OEC board member who wishes to remain anonymous. **Rowan Companies** has committed to provide in-kind donations to the renovation effort.

All of Ocean Star employees are safe, trying to return to normal

Most of the *Ocean Star's* employees live on Galveston Island, which was devastated by Hurricane Ike, while one lived at Crystal Beach on Bolivar Peninsula, which had the most severe damage. Hurricane preparations were already underway at the museum when Galveston's Mayor ordered a mandatory evacuation on Thursday morning, September 11. Staff finished the preparations and everyone left the island. Some evacuated to north Houston, others to as far away as San Antonio or toward Dallas. Thankfully, no one was injured, and everyone has a home to return to, although their homes all received varying amounts of damage, depending upon where in the area they lived. The 17 ft high Galveston seawall functioned as it was intended when built, preventing high waves and storm surge from crashing over it and slamming into buildings. However, due to the hurricane's circulation, most of the surge that covered the island came from the north from Galveston Bay, and flooded the east and west ends of the island

that are not protected by a seawall. As a result, homes and businesses closer to the Strand area received the most water damage, with numerous stores on the strand reporting as much as 8 ft of water and higher.

The island was literally closed for weeks before the city allowed evacuated residents to return, and then only to view their homes and businesses and then leave in a few hours. OEC staff were unsuccessful in gaining entry during the failed "look and leave" and the first time anyone made it across the causeway was September 24, 13 days after the evacuation was called. It was even longer before residents of the Bolivar Peninsula communities could return.

Following are the experiences of several of the *Ocean Star's* employees as they evacuated to cities as far away from Galveston as San Antonio and Boerne, and what they encountered when they returned.

Margi Peterson, *Ocean Star* Gift Shop Manager, lived in Crystal Beach on Bolivar

Peninsula. All of the houses in Crystal Beach and other communities on Bolivar are built on stilts that elevate the living area of the house essentially to the second floor level, with a garage and storage area at the street level. Even so, Margi said, some houses received water damage to the living area.

"Crystal Beach looks like a bomb went off at a garage sale," Margi said. "There are piles of rubble everywhere."

"The storm surge made it up to the fourth step of our staircase that goes to our deck," she said, "so it rose about 4 ft."

"We were very fortunate," Margi continued. "Most of the houses still standing had water in them. Our home sits on top of a ridge that is higher than everyone else, which is probably what saved our property."

Margi and her husband, who works in Port Arthur, evacuated Wednesday (Sept. 10) prior to Hurricane Ike, traveling to her mother's home in north Houston. Crystal Beach residents were not allowed to return the city until Sept. 26.

OEC's Third Annual Salute to Interns, *continued from page 1*

"We found our house on the news," Margi explained. "For about three days I thought it was blown away and then a friend called and said he had seen our house in a satellite photograph. It appeared to be still standing but there was a strange building in my yard."

When Margi and her husband finally were able to return to view their property, it turned out that someone's house had been blown off its stilts and washed into their front yard. "It's actually an old derelict house that washed into our yard," Margi said. "I have no idea whose it is but I have a feeling they're not going to be back for it so we are going to have to figure out how to get rid of it."

While there was no damage to the living area, Margi lost the items that were downstairs,

Crystal Beach looks like a bomb went off at a garage sale.

including a hot tub, riding lawnmowers and a car. The windows and doors in the living area were covered with aluminum panels. When they finally returned, her fish were still alive and her plants were still blooming.

Margi and her husband have moved temporarily to Beaumont. At this point Margi says she's not sure they will live in Crystal Beach again. "All of the commercial businesses have been destroyed," she said. "It is going to take a very long time before it's a community again."

Lisa Lisinicchia, *Ocean Star* Operations Director, lives in the East End of Galveston near the Stewart Beach and UTMB. She, her husband and six-week-old baby evacuated the island shortly after mandatory evacuations were announced the Thursday prior to Hurricane Ike, Sept. 11, driving to Cypress northwest of Houston. After a few days it became obvious they would not be able to return home, and they relocated to her parents' house in Fairfield, Texas. She was unable to return to the island to view her house until Sept. 24.

"What struck me the most when driving onto the island the first time is that all of the trees on Broadway are brown from the salt water," Lisa said. "Nothing is green - all the foliage looks covered in mud."

Her house fared fairly well, with all of the damage confined to the lower storage and garage

level. "Our living area is upstairs because it is an elevated cottage that was built shortly after the 1900 storm," Lisa said. "The area below was our garage and had been partially finished into an extra bedroom, bathroom and workspace. That part of our home took on about 4 ft of water."

Lisa lost appliances, camping and beach equipment, furniture, photographs and a new Nissan Versa. The water line was about half way up the car's windows. "It's one giant soggy mess of cardboard and mold," she said. "When we get power we are going to hire someone to clean the downstairs area. The carpet and sheetrock all have to come out."

There also were piles of debris on the street that appears to have washed up with the surge, and a large electrical or telephone pole in her front yard with tree debris piled around it.

Ed Henkel, *Ocean Star's* site manager, evacuated to Boerne, Texas northwest of San Antonio. He returned to Galveston Oct. 1 to view his house, which is on the seawall. "The only thing between the house and the Gulf is Seawall Boulevard," Ed explained. "It's a two story house built in 1911."

Before evacuating, he made arrangements with someone to take care of anything that might be breached at the house. "I had three windows blown out on the lower floor," Ed said, "and we lost a lot of roof shingles and on the east side of the house we lost 95% of the siding."

"That's also the side where the windows were broken," Ed continued, "but as far as structurally, everything else is sound."

Living right at the seawall, Ed's house is on perhaps the highest part of Galveston Island. As a result, the area was protected from the storm surge approaching from the north side of the island and from the Gulf by the seawall. "We didn't experience any damage from the surge," he said. "It was just driving wind and rain."

"I think we fared well."

Bessie Ramirez, an *Ocean Star* gift shop employee, evacuated Galveston for San Antonio on Thursday, Sept. 11 after helping prepare for the storm. Bessie wasn't able to re-enter Galveston until Sept. 29. "When I was able to check on my home it was a disaster. I live in a one-story house and there was at least a 3 ft waterline throughout the house but the mold and mildew is about halfway to the ceiling."

"Everything is ruined inside," Bessie continued. "A couple of things are salvageable like pictures hanging high that the mold hadn't reached yet."

Bessie said the roof looks fine and no trees fell on the house so structurally it appears to be in good condition. However, her car is ruined due to the storm surge. Bessie also went to view the *Ocean Star* and the gift shop when she arrived in Galveston. Her initial reaction: "Oh my good-

ness! I cannot believe it!"

"I see the rig," she said, "And it looks the same but I'm looking at it through the gift shop which normally blocks the view!"

Trina Claire, *Ocean Star's* Programs Manager, left Galveston on Thursday, Sept. 11 after helping with site preparations. She drove to her parents' house in Sugar Land to ride out the storm. "The drive took 3 ½ hours," Trina said. "Normally, it would take about an hour."

Trina and her family were considering evacuating to San Antonio but by the time they decided to leave traffic had worsened. "Rather than risk riding out the storm on the highway we decided to stay home," Trina explained.

Trina said that the most frightening part of the storm was that it hit at night, and that her neighborhood was pitch black when the power went out around 2:00 a.m. the Saturday morning of the storm. Her parents lost their fence and some rain gutters as well as a tree that was uprooted but luckily it didn't fall on the house.

When Trina was able to return to her Galveston home about two weeks later, she saw a

It is going to take a very long time before it's a community again.

water line about a foot into her apartment. "I live on the bottom floor of a house where the garage was converted into an apartment," she said. "There was mold on the floors which will need to be replaced and mold on the walls."

Fortunately, everyone remained safe and they are now in the process of repairing their homes. The island infrastructure is coming back, and most areas have restored electricity. Everyone has the challenge of reconnecting gas service and replacing damaged utilities, but the progress continues. Schools are back in session, grocery stores are open, and people are getting back into their houses. The storm debris is vanishing daily to be replaced by large garbage piles on every street as residents remove moldy sheetrock and ruined furniture. The city is doing a wonderful job of daily trash service, and even things we take for granted, like cable TV and internet service, are returning to normal.

Next step: getting the *Ocean Star* ready to reopen!

Education Outreach

Workshops temporarily moved to Shell's facilities in Houston

Due to the damage suffered to Galveston Island during Hurricane Ike, **Project E³: Expanding Energy Education** workshops on the *Ocean Star* have temporarily been relocated to Shell's Woodcreek facilities in Houston. Two workshops were held in October and two additional workshops are scheduled for November at the Shell facility. Attendees will be provided with passes to visit the *Ocean Star* when it reopens.

Through September, 620 elementary, middle school and high school teachers attended 38 Project E³ workshops with the potential impact on 41,000 students each year. The workshops included instruction on the Knowledge Box for grades 6-12, Playing with Petroleum for grades K-5 or workshops for teachers of gifted and talented students. OEC trained facilitators conducted nine workshops at **Stephen F. Austin State University** in Nacogdoches, TX, and several workshops in Louisiana.

OEC continues to receive rave reviews about the workshops. **Astra Zeno**, a teacher at Clifton Middle School in the Houston ISD, and **LaSherra Tyner-Hannibal**, a teacher at Houston

Gateway Academy, attended the Knowledge Box workshop on Oct. 4.

"This is an excellent workshop," Astra said.



Due to damage to the Ocean Star as a result of Hurricane Ike, OEC workshops have been temporarily moved to Shell's Woodcreek facility in Houston. Here, Lasherra Tyner-Hannibal, left, a teacher at Houston Gateway Academy, and Janet Reynolds, who teaches reading intervention at Royalwood Elementary in the Sheldon ISD, participate in one of the workshop's activities.

"The materials are applicable to so many subject areas."

"The workshop is very informative," said LaSherra. "I look forward to sharing this information with my students."

Project E³ workshops featuring the Knowledge Box are sponsored throughout the year by **Baker Hughes, Tidewater, Noble Energy, Superior Energy, and Chevron. Global Industries, BP, and FMC Technologies** sponsor the workshops featuring Playing with Petroleum. The gifted and talented workshops were sponsored by **ConocoPhillips**.

Currently, OEC has received 61 requests from trained teachers to use the Knowledge Box in their classrooms this school year and 85 requests for the Playing with Petroleum Kits. However, there currently are only 13 Kits available for use. OEC needs more Playing with Petroleum Kits to fulfill the requests. If you would like information about sponsoring additional Playing With Petroleum Kits, please contact **Peggy Cole** at 281-544-3388.

Facilitators' conference held aboard *Ocean Star*

Nineteen teachers and AADE members attended a facilitators' conference June 24-27 aboard the *Ocean Star*. Attendees included 11 teachers from the Houston area, two teachers from Missouri and one teacher from Arkansas. Five AADE members from the New Orleans chapter also attended the conference in order to assist in the expansion of the program in Louisiana.

The conference was sponsored by **Baker Hughes, Tidewater, Noble Energy, Superior Energy, Chevron, Global Industries, BP, and FMC Technologies**.

In addition to the conference, the group visited and toured a remotely operator vehicle (ROV) training facility and plant owned by Canyon Engineering. The attendees also were allowed to operate the ROV training simulator. The teachers also visited the Bureau of Economic Geology in Houston, a downhole core repository. The tour was conducted by Beverly Blakeney Dejarnett, Research Associate at the facility, who also described field trip opportunities for students.

OEC facilitators meet to expand the teacher's guidebook

A group of OEC facilitators met August 8 to develop ideas for the next 26 activities to be added to the PE³ teacher's guidebook. Attending the brainstorming session were **Dick Ghiselin**, OEC Education Committee (OECEC) board member, OEC Education Director **Doris Tomas**, OEC Executive Director **Sandra Mourton**, and OEC Development Director **Peggy Cole**. The facilitators included **Phil Burrow, Nina Corley, Joy Sloan, Melani Flowers, Loyce Monahan, Amber Meuth** and OEC Board member, **Dick Ghiselin**.

A total of 26 activities were selected for consideration. The committee will meet again in October following research into the potential new activities. Completion of this project is set for May 2009.



All of the staff members of the J. R. Harris Elementary School attended a GT energy workshop during a staff development day at the school.

Teachers at J. R. Harris Elementary are working on the Deep See activity from the Project E³: Expanding Energy Education Teacher's Guide. This activity is one of the favorites of the workshop and is always included in the Playing With Petroleum workshops. With this activity, students get an idea of what they would see through the window of a remotely operated vehicle (ROV).

Education Outreach

MOLU featured at NEED conference in Galveston

More than 70 educators attended a three-day NEED conference held in Galveston in July that included a field trip to the *Ocean Star*. Through the collaboration of **Doris Tomas** and NEED Executive Director **Mary Spruill**, the Mobile Offshore Learning Unit (MOLU) was exhibited at the Galvez Hotel where the NEED conference was held. During the field trip to the *Ocean Star*, OEC Executive Director **Sandra Mourton** and an OEC facilitator showcased the Knowledge Box and Playing With Petroleum kit and recruited teachers for upcoming workshops as well as the next facilitators conference scheduled for June 2009.

Facilitators' conference to be rescheduled

A facilitators conference originally scheduled for Sept. 26-28 on the *Ocean Star* will be rescheduled due to Hurricane Ike. The conference will be held early next year.

Doris Richardson with IPAA initiated and acquired funding for an OEC facilitators' conference on the *Ocean Star*. Core Labs is funding the conference under the auspices of the IPAA Academy program. Teachers from Milby, Lamar and Westside High Schools will be trained as OEC facilitators. OEC board member and OEC Education Committee member **Dick Ghiselin** is tentatively scheduled to be the industry speaker.

The IPAA recently opened three academies for Petroleum Exploration, Production and Technology, which were developed by IPAA Education Center Director **Doris Richardson** and the Education Center Board of Directors chaired by **Galen Cobb**, OEC's Vice Chairman/Education Outreach. According to IPAA, the mission of the academies is to provide students cross-curricular advanced academic learning experiences in science, math, social studies, global energy business, English and the emerging technology concepts necessary to obtain careers in the petroleum industry.

Busy day for OEC facilitators

OEC conducted three concurrent workshops at three different locations on one day last August, including two at separate locations in Katy and one aboard the *Ocean Star*.

Wanda Fleming, Katy ISD Science Specialist, invited OEC to participate in its two-day staff development conference last August. OEC facilitators **Joy Sloan** and **Kirah Diaz** facilitated a six hour PE³ workshop at Seven Lakes High School that also focused on the Playing With Petroleum Kit. Additionally, **Lynn Paulsen** and **Melani Flowers** facilitated a workshop at the Taylor High School 9th Grade Center that focused on the Knowledge Box.

"We are excited that nearby school districts are taking advantage of our resources," said OEC Education Director **Doris Tomas**.



OEC's Mobile Offshore Learning Unit (MOLU) was displayed at Schlumberger's Sugar Land offices in July. Employees were encouraged to bring their children to participate in the MOLU's activities.



OEC's 2008 Fishing Invitational Tournament cancelled

This year's Invitational Fishing Tournament that was scheduled for Oct. 9-10 was cancelled as a result of Hurricane Ike in September. Unfortunately, the tournament will not be rescheduled. Please watch for upcoming announcements regarding the 2009 fishing tournament which is scheduled for Oct. 15-16 in Galveston.



OEC thanks this year's tournament sponsors and hosts for their support of the tournament and of OEC's programs. We look forward to having a 2009 tournament that hopefully will be unaffected by weather.

Several of the 2008 sponsors have generously elected to donate those funds to help rebuild the gift shop and for the renovation of the *Ocean Star*.

2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 10 **Ocean Star Gala**
Westin Galleria Hotel
Sandy Cazemier, Events Plus
713-686-4845
- March 2 **18th Annual Golf Tournament**
Champions/Cypress Golf Course
Contact OEC at 281-679-8040
- Oct 15-16 **2009 Fishing Invitational**
Galveston

THE STAR is a quarterly newsletter about the activities and educational programs of the Offshore Energy Center. Address your comments or questions to 200 N. Dairy Ashford, Suite 6220, Houston, TX 77079, 281/679-8040 or fax to 281/544-2441, or e-mail to ocestar@aol.com.

Jerry Greenberg, Editor

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