



# Regional Update

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## Petroleum Technology Transfer Council (PTTC) South Midcontinent Region

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## PTTC Makes Changes, But Services Remain

*Charles J. Mankin*

Several important changes will occur in the PTTC program for the South Midcontinent Region this year. Some of these have been dictated by policy changes at the national level, and some are the result of program activities within the region. The PTTC Board of Directors instituted a policy to reduce the level of activity at the regions' resource centers and terminated the creation of new satellite resource centers. Also, funding has been decreased slightly for this year.

The rationale provided for the reduction in activity at resource centers and the elimination of new satellite resource centers is the perceived lack of interest that operators have shown in the use of these facilities. The funds freed from these reductions are to be used to provide more workshops and other outreach programs.

With the completion of the fluvial-dominated-deltaic-reservoir play-based workshops, we will develop a new series for presentation during the year. These will include a workshop on the principles of waterflooding and a play-based workshop on another depositional system. Also, we will increase the information available on our web site and provide more frequent newsletters.

The reduction in support for the resource center will have no effect on users of this facility. We have removed the Core and Sample Library, the Well-Log Library, and the Youngblood Energy Library from the PTTC program. However, the Survey will continue to support these activities, and operators and other interested parties will continue to have access to them. We just will not report the usage of those facilities as a part of the PTTC effort.

A technical library is being developed at our Rock Creek facility as a joint venture with the Marginal Wells Commission and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission. That library will contain the technical materials developed and obtained from other sources and from the IOGCC, the Marginal Wells Commission, and the Survey. Materials in this techni-

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## OGS Participates in MWC Trade Fair

The OGS will participate in the Marginal Wells Commission's Oil and Gas Trade Fair scheduled for December 11, in Enid. The Survey, as the Lead Organization for the PTTC South Midcontinent Region, will hold a half-day workshop on the Natural Resources Information System (NRIS), a series of databases that hold well information, production records, and other petroleum data for Oklahoma. The session will show users how the system works and help them determine the best ways to access and manipulate the data for their particular needs. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission also will present information on tax incentives for oil and gas operators.

The MWC Trade Fair is aimed at letting Oklahoma operators extend the life of low-volume wells by buying, selling, or trading wells at the fair. It will be held at the Garfield County Fairgrounds in Enid from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is no admission charge, but the OGS would appreciate hearing from those who are interested in the NRIS session for an approximate number of participants. Please call 405/325-3031 or 800/330-3996, or for more information check the OGS web site on the internet at: <http://www.ou.edu/special/ogs-pttc/>.

### **Last FDD Workshop on Bartlesville Play: Mankin Asks for Suggestions for Next Series**

The last Fluvial-Dominated Deltaic Workshop meeting series was held October 29 in Tulsa, October 30 in Bartlesville, and November 12 in Norman. The subject for this workshop was the Bartlesville Play. As one of the oldest and largest of the FDD reservoirs in Oklahoma, it was an appropriate end for the series.

But now the question is—What should be the topic for the next series of reservoir studies? Dr. Mankin would like your input, and asks you to call, write, fax, or e-mail him ([cjmankin@ou.edu](mailto:cjmankin@ou.edu)).

"The FDD project assisted several thousand operators in Oklahoma because it gave them practical ways to improve production from existing leases or to reduce operating costs," Mankin said. "We need to hear from the operators to know what reservoirs they would most like to see us examine next in upcoming workshops and publications.

As had been true with the entire FDD series, the last workshops on the Bartlesville FDD reservoirs were popular, with approximately 200 people attending.

"The Bartlesville isn't a play on its deathbed," Andrews says. "In the last 20 years there has been a good deal of exploration and development south of Osage County, and a lot of interest in secondary recovery for the older areas. This is still an active play."

If you missed this last workshop, the accompanying publication, Special Publication 97-6, is available from the OGS for \$6.

### **Fax-On-Demand System Taken Off Line**

The PTTC Fax-On-Demand system has been taken off-line due to low usage of the system. For almost instant information about PTTC, the web page remains on-line at:

[<http://www.ou.edu/special/ogs-pttc>](http://www.ou.edu/special/ogs-pttc).

## meetings

### **Abstract Deadline December 1 For South-Central GSA in March**

The OGS and the School of Geology and Geophysics are making plans for the South Central Section Meeting of GSA, March 23–24, 1998, in Norman. There is still time to submit an abstract for sessions and symposia. For more information, contact Judson Ahern, School of Geology and Geophysics, 100 E. Boyd St., Suite 810, Norman OK 73019-0628; phone 405/325-3521.

Some of the scheduled symposia include: Geologic Mapping; Climatic Signals in Paleozoic Strata of the Mid-Continent; Near-Surface Geophysics; Rock Mechanics and Fractured Reservoirs; Mid-Continent Basement Character; Geoscience Information; and Pennsylvanian–Permian Boundary—New Biostratigraphic and Sequence Stratigraphic Data.

### **April Workshop in Norman Covers Pennsylvanian, Permian**

The title for the eleventh annual spring workshop hosted by the OGS is *Pennsylvanian and Permian Geology and Petroleum in the Southern Midcontinent*, with the meeting slated for April 7–8, 1998, in Norman.

Although the deadline is near, papers are still being accepted by Kenneth S. Johnson (405/325-3031; fax 405/325-7069), chair of the meeting. Papers should be surface or subsurface studies dealing with the geologic setting, depositional environments, or structural and diagenetic history of the strata and reservoirs. Other topics might include reservoir characterization, engineering factors that influence accumulation or production, and specific field studies.

## **Rick Andrews Joins OGS Petroleum Geology Staff**

Richard D. Andrews has joined the staff of the Oklahoma Geological Survey as the newest petroleum geologist. Rick is known to many in the geological community through a series of presentations at recent workshops on Fluvial-Dominated Deltaic Reservoirs, and the publications that resulted from these sessions. Before coming to the Survey, he worked with the University of Oklahoma's Geo Information Systems since 1994. At GIS, he was project geologist and primary author of several FDD workshops, including the Morrow Play and many of the Cherokee Plays in Oklahoma, such as the Prue, Skinner, and Red Fork.

At the OGS, Rick continues to work on the FDD workshop series, as well as contributing to other projects related to petroleum. As the reservoir workshops continue, Andrews would like to incorporate seismic stratigraphy into the sessions, evaluate the relationship of depositional environments for both oil and gas reservoirs, and measure gamma-ray profiles of outcrops and relate them to subsurface electric logs.

He enjoys the contact with the public that working for a state agency demands, and uses insight from

these encounters to help him understand what areas are most in need of study in Oklahoma. His industry experience and willingness to apply this knowledge are the perfect match for a service-oriented agency such as the OGS.

Andrews received a B.S. in Geological Sciences in 1973, and an M.S. in 1976, both from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, then added an M.S. in Hydrogeology from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 1993. He began his geologic career with Union Energy in the minerals industry in Wyoming, then moved into petroleum exploration and development for UNOCAL, working in Wyoming, Colorado, and Oklahoma from 1981 to 1992. After the closing of the UNOCAL offices, he consulted in Oklahoma City for a short period before joining the staff of GIS.

His work in the petroleum industry in Oklahoma, and experience with the work and functions of a state geological survey through his participation in the FDD workshops have helped Rick begin making immediate contributions to Oklahoma geology in his new role with this State agency.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **December**

- 12/2-3** Underbalanced Drilling Short Course, Oklahoma City, \*OIPA
- 12/3-4** Coalbed Reservoir Gas-in-Place Analysis, Houston, \*GRI (303/623-0987, e-mail rgorka@netway.net)
- 12/4** \*OIPA Board Meeting, Tulsa
- 12/11** Petroleum Industry Trade Fair, Enid, \*MWC
- 12/11-12** Underbalanced Drilling Short Course, Houston, \*OIPA, GRI (303/623-0987, e-mail rgorka@netway.net)

### **1998**

#### **March**

- 3/23-24** South Central Section Meeting, GSA, Norman, OU, School of Geology, 405/325-3257, e-mail smooddy@ou.edu

#### **April**

- 4/7-8** Workshop: Pennsylvanian and Permian Geology and Petroleum in the Southern Midcontinent, Norman, \*OGS

#### **May**

- 5/3-7** Forum on Geology of Industrial Minerals, Norman, \*OGS

\*OGS=Oklahoma Geological Survey, 405/325-3031 or 800/330-3996

\*MWC=Marginal Wells Commission, 405/366-8688; 800-390-0460

\*OIPA=Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association, 405/942-2334

## ***MWC Lending Library to Expand***

Work began in October to expand and reorganize the Marginal Wells Commission's Lending Library into the Industry Library, which will be sponsored by the MWC, Oklahoma Geological Survey, and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission.

The project will enhance and expand the current library, and provide a diverse compilation of technical and historical materials designed to assist Oklahoma's oil and gas producers. The library will contain some 10,000 publication and technical manuals, hundreds of industry-created videos, and licensed software for public use.

Membership is free and users need only complete an application to be eligible to use the materials in-house, check out materials, or request materials through the mail.

Stop by 1218-B W. Rock Creek Road in Norman and check out the progress. The new library should be completed by early 1998. For more information, contact the MWC at 800/390-0460 or 405/366-8688.

## ***Meet Richard H. Chapman: Marginal Wells Commission Director***

Richard H. Chapman is the new Executive Director of the Oklahoma Commission on Marginally Producing Oil and Gas Wells (MWC), an agency created in 1992 to help preserve the State's more than 70,000 marginal wells.

Chapman is the immediate past chairman of the National Association of Royalty Owners, serving as chairman from 1994-1996. He was the director of the National Royalty Owner Institute from 1989-1994.

From 1985 until 1996 he served as vice-president of ENRG I, Inc. and DHS I, Inc., a system of land and mineral management companies headquartered in Oklahoma with operations in surrounding states. He is a Certified Minerals Manager.

Chapman is a Commissioner on the Oklahoma Commission on Natural Gas Policy, a member of the Oklahoma Land Title Association, an appointee to the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, and is a member of the National Association of Division Order Analysts.

As director of the MWC, he will be working closely with PTTC programs and projects. Stop by and meet him when you are in Norman—his offices are at 1218-B W. Rock Creek Road—and let him know what PTTC activities are most valuable to you.



*Richard H. Chapman*

## ***(PTTC Changes--cont.)***

cal library are available for examination in the reading room or, with a few exceptions, may be checked out for usage.

In response to requests from some operators, the Survey will make available our analytical facilities for water analyses. If you would like to have an analysis of the inorganic constituents in your produced water, we will be happy to provide a complimentary analysis of one sample from each operating lease. A set of instructions and collection bottles are available from the Survey on request. Also, we have been investigating programs that assess the compatibility of proposed injection water with formation water. While that process still seems steeped in alchemy, we may be able to provide some general guidance if you are considering a waterflood operation.

The elimination of satellite resource centers will pose a problem for the region. We were planning for the development of such centers in southern Arkansas and in Tulsa. The creation of the center in Tulsa would have provided access to NRIS, our computerized data base on oil and gas data in Oklahoma. We will now have to find another approach to addressing this identified need. Also, we will have to find another approach to addressing the needs of Arkansas operators.

While the changes will present some problems for us, we will make sure that your continued access to information and technical assistance through the program will continue unabated. We look forward to providing you with the information and service you need to continue the exploration for and development of oil and gas in the South Midcontinent Region.