



## A message from the Chair

Dear Fellow SPE Members,

**Continuing Education** is at the heart of what SPE is all about. During 2004-2005, the LASPE Board made a commitment to strengthen our Section's program in this area by deciding to sponsor short courses on topics of interest to members. As a follow-up to this decision, Continuing Education Chairperson Scott McGurk has scheduled a one-day class on **Basic Concepts of Hydraulic Fracturing** on Friday, June 3. The class will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Long Beach Petroleum Club, located at 3636 Linden Avenue in Long Beach. Onsite registration will begin at 7:30 A.M. Scott plans to organize two more short courses during 2005.

**LASPE Supports Science Fairs** - Under the direction of Science Fairs Chairperson Dan Dudak, our Section has long been a supporter of science fairs held in Southern California. Once again, this year we supported the Los Angeles Science Fair (held on April 21-22), the Long Beach Science Fair (April 23), the Orange County Science and Engineering Fair (April 27) and California State Science Fair (May 23-24). LA SPE support consisted of providing judges, and awarding prizes to the winners.

**Golf Fundraiser a Huge Success** - The Annual SPE Golf Tournament was held last Friday, May 20, at The Los Serranos Country Club in Chino Hills. With nearly three hundred people participating, the event was a resounding success. The golf tournament is our Section's major fundraiser. Its proceeds fund many of our programs, such as scholarships, support of Science Fairs, and various community outreach programs aimed at getting young students interested in science.

On behalf of the members, I thank Tournament Chairman Mark Shemaria and members of the 2005 SPE Golf Tournament Committee for the splendid job they did of organizing this important yet fun event. We are also thankful to all the participants as well as corporate sponsors of this event for their generous and valuable support.

Sincerely,

Raj Upadhyay  
Chairperson, SPE Los Angeles Basin Section  
upadhvavrai@hotmail.com

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**Continuing Education  
Basic Concepts Hydraulic Fracturing**

**Basic Concepts of Hydraulic Fracturing**

**June 3, 2005 8AM-5PM, 7:30AM Registration**

**Long Beach Petroleum Club, 3636 Linden Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807**

**\$100 for SPE Members, \$150 for Non-members**

**Payment on class day by check/cash preferred**

**Course CD, snacks, lunch included**

**RSVP to Scott McGurk 323-298-2232 or [SMCGURK@PLAINSXP.COM](mailto:SMCGURK@PLAINSXP.COM)**

**Outline of Major Areas of Instruction**

**Brief Introduction to Hydraulic Fracturing**

**Fracture Growth Physics and Modeling**

**Candidate Selection and Fracture Design Considerations**

**Fracture Pressure Analysis – Concepts, Applications and Benefits**

**Download Complete Outline as MS Word document from LA SPE Website at**

**<http://www.laspe.org/fracclass.doc>**

**Instructor – Dr. Leen Weijers**



Dr. Leen Weijers is the manager of Pinnacle's commercial software development of which the flagship product is FracproPT. He has a strong theoretical and hands-on rock mechanics background from his PhD work, entitled "The Near-Wellbore Geometry of Hydraulic Fractures Induced from Deviated and Horizontal Wells", at Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands. Leen has engineered hundreds of fracture treatments around the world and has pioneered advancements in fracture application, particularly in the area of near-wellbore tortuosity and premature screen-out problems. Leen was awarded with The Chevron Way Award in 1998 for his involvement in propped stimulation of several horizontal wells in the Lost Hills Field, California. Leen has authored several industry courses and publications, and is now working on "calibration" of fracture growth models with various direct fracture diagnostics.

## The Next Petroleum Technology Forum - June 14, 2005

### **LASPE Forum: June 14, 2005**

Long Beach Petroleum Club  
3636 Linden Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90807  
Registration: 11:30 AM  
Buffet Lunch: 12:00 noon  
Presentation: 12:20 – 1:00 PM  
Cost: \$15.00, students are our guests.



**Dr. George V. Chilingar**

## **Global Warming – Should the USA Sign the Kyoto Protocol?**

**Presenter: Dr. George V. Chilingar**

Dr. Chilingar will discuss the sources, avenues of migration and the amounts of naturally produced carbon dioxide and methane (green house gasses) and long-term changes in the earth's climate. He will demonstrate that the human contribution to green house gasses is negligible in comparison with the contribution from other sources.

The answer to the question posed by this month's speaker is negative because the effect of cuts in carbon dioxide will be negligible. These cuts, however, will result in the economic disaster for the developed countries (first of all for the USA) – huge economic losses and job cuts.

Dr. Chilingar is professor of civil and petroleum engineering at the University of Southern California. He is author of 45 books and 500 articles in the field of petroleum engineering and geology. Dr. Chilingar has received more than 100 medals and awards from various countries and organizations, including membership in the Russian Academy of Sciences. During his career, Dr. Chilingar was chief of the petroleum and chemicals laboratory at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton Ohio and senior advisor to the United Nations. He is the Director of the Dr. Ralph W. Gunnerman Energy and Environmental Laboratory at USC.

LASPE Forum Committee:

Maryam Davari, 213-225-5900x209, [mkashfi@breitburn.com](mailto:mkashfi@breitburn.com)

Brandy Fellers, 562-624-3237 [brandy\\_fellers@oxy.com](mailto:brandy_fellers@oxy.com)

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## California State Science Fair Report

Dan Dudak and Rick Finken judged projects on Tuesday May 24, 2005 at the California State Science Fair held at the California Science Center at Exposition Park. The place was really jammed with excellent projects and enthusiastic students. Dan had selected two-dozen project abstracts from the 859 entries. These entries are the best of the best from all the science fairs held in California. There is a Junior Division for middle school students and a Senior Division for High School students. Further review of each of the selected project abstracts narrowed the field and after talking with the students in the final cut, Dan and Rick selected four projects for LASPE's \$250 award of excellence.

Kirsten Barker of Santa Clara, Senior Division, presented her research titled "Persistent Holes in Non-Newtonian Fluids." This project involves shear-thinning and shear-thickening fluid behavior. Her motivation is the use of these types of fluids in body armor, but Dan mentioned applications in drilling and abandonment fluids.



In the Junior Division, LASPE presented three awards. The first to Peter Fettis of Monterey for "Pythagoras, Power and Pennies" – a project demonstrating vector analysis using a skateboard, a small electric fan and pennies for weight. The second award went to Evan Stanford of Santa Barbara for his project measuring the heat content of various fuels. This was a really clever use of common materials for a simple calorimeter.

His analysis included recognition of heat losses and recommendations for improvements. The final award went to Sunil Bodapati of Santa Clara for his project using sound to measure temperature. The impressive aspect of his work was the number of obstacles he had to overcome to develop the apparatus to complete his experiment and successfully measure the speed of sound over short distances and confirm established relationships of temperature vs. speed. Here are photos of each winner.





## 2005 Charity Golf Classic Tournament – Brief Report

### 2005 Charity Golf Classic a Great Success

All 288 golfers had a great day on May 20, 2005 at the Los Serranos course at LASPE's annual Charity Golf Classic. The proceeds of this 18-hole shotgun start tournament provide funding for LASPE's scholarships, continuing education programs, community outreach activities and to support SPE Student Chapters. LASPE supported these activities at a level of some \$19,000 in 2004-2005 and hope to increase outreach and funding in near future.

The Board of Directors thanks Mark Shemaria and the tournament committee for their great organization and great work. The pre-tournament activities, the actual tournament and the banquet and raffle were sensational. Everyone should plan on playing the tournament next year – again at Los Serranos and on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Here is a gallery of random photos for your viewing enjoyment. Look for more photos and a complete report in the July – August issue.





## 2005 Charity Golf Classic Tournament – More Photos





## International Elementary School – Career Day & Read-IN

### **READ-IN & Career Day at International Elementary**

The LA Basin Section supports the Long Beach Unified School District by participating in 8th Annual Career Day and Read-in held at the International Elementary School on Friday May 27th. Read-in volunteers and SPE members, Vivian Bust and Scott Hara, visited classrooms and answered questions from students about careers in the petroleum industry. Students wanted to know how we used reading, math and computer skills in our jobs. Emphasis was placed on going to college to earn a four-year degree and that through continuing education, learning never stops. Students learned about the Wilmington Oil Field geology and operations and how we use oil and natural gas in our daily lives. The volunteers read a favorite book to the students. After the read-in session, the volunteers and teachers gathered in the library for lunch to share experiences and to hear a few words by Principal Kimberly Baril.

Students Greeting Read-in Volunteers and Ms. DeeDee Masukawa's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class



## May 2005 Board and Forum Report - May 10, 2005

The May Board meeting was held at the Petroleum Club. Pat Shuler volunteered to take notes and prepare minutes. Seven members were present. Minutes of the April meeting and the Section's annual financial report were reviewed and approved. The annual financial statement covers the period from April 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005 and reported a net income of \$17,010 for the year. This excellent result is largely due to the 2004 Charity Golf Tournament.

Scott McGurk reported his Continuing Education plans for a one-day class titled "Basic Concepts of Hydraulic Fracturing" scheduled on June 3, 2005 at the Petroleum Club. Response to date has been slow and a reminder notice will be sent to the general membership.

Mark Shemaria reported that the 2005 Charity Golf Tournament has been filled. 72 foursomes will be teeing off at 1:00 PM at the North and South Courses at the Los Serranos CC in Chino Hills. This year's event will feature more than golf. There will be raffles, a silent auction sponsored by the Board, a free lunch and a banquet – open to non-golfers. Here is a picture of the Tournament Committee at their April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.



Vivian Bust advised that the PayPal system is in place for use at the Golf Tournament and for Frac Course sign-ups.

Rod Kane reported 15 scholarship applications this year, including four from member high school graduating seniors. Since there were no applications from CSULB, Rod will contact Jalaj Torabazdeh to determine if any students still wish to apply. The Board approved a motion to increase the high school scholarship budget by \$1,000 to \$2,000.

In miscellaneous business, the progress on the section annual report was reviewed, as was LASPE's participation in the California State Science Fair judging and the new Young Professional Liaison position.



Following the Board Meeting, the Monthly Petroleum Technology Forum featured Mike Utt's review of the birth and growth of the offshore oil industry and the challenges ahead. Mike's career began in 1974 with UNOCAL. He recently retired from the position of Manager, Deepwater Technology, in Unocal's Engineering & Construction organization.



## 53% Pass 2004 Petroleum PE Exam

NCEES and the State Engineering Boards released the 2004 Professional Engineering Exam results in February. Nationwide, the Petroleum Engineering Exam recorded a 53% pass rate. The estimated pass rates of a few other engineering disciplines were:

Chemical	56%	Agricultural	44%
Civil	47%	Industrial	50%
Electrical	50%	Fire Protection	41%
Environm'tal	55%	Metallurgical	51%
Mechanical	52%	Mining	60%
Structural	40%	Nuclear	41%

The Petroleum pass rates in 2004 for a few states:

Alaska	83%	Louisiana	86%
California	13%	Oklahoma	50%
Colorado	33%	Texas	67%

What are the requirements to take the Petroleum PE Exam? Today, California requires that you have:

1. An engineering, math or science degree.
2. Passed the Fundamentals, or EIT Exam.
3. At least four years of professional experience.

Interested? Contact the California State Engineering Board at (916) 263-2230 for more specifics and ask them to send you an application form. The application deadline to take this years PE Exam is about July 15, 2005. This year's test will be given on Friday, October 28, 2005.

Please notify SPE Headquarters directly with change of address: P.O. Box 833836, Richardson, TX 75083 Tel: (800) 456-6863 Fax: (972) 952-9435 or go to <http://www.spe.org/mbrservices/index.cfm>

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[www.iaspe.org](http://www.iaspe.org)

### *Continuing Education Course* PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION REVIEW COURSE FOR PETROLEUM ENGINEERING

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The Course covers most topics that are found on the State Board Petroleum Engineering Professional Examination.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:** Engineers who are planning on taking the PE Examination in Petroleum Engineering this fall. **INSTRUCTOR:** Bing Wines, PE

**LOS ANGELES COURSE** (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)  
Monday through Friday  
September 26 - 30, 2005

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