



Delta Section

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 34 No. 1

September 2017



## REGISTER ONLINE:

<http://connect.spe.org/delta/home>

## LOCATIONS:

**South Shore:** Superdome Holiday Inn  
330 Loyola Ave  
New Orleans, LA 70112

**North Shore:** Chevron  
100 Northpark Blvd  
Covington, LA 70433

**Computer:** Computer Access Only  
Attend from your home  
or office

Southshore - \$25  
Northshore - \$15  
Computer Only - \$5

**Please remember:** All attendants must be pre-registered to attend the North Shore meeting in the Chevron office.

For questions or comments,  
please contact:

**Howard Duhon**

[hduhon@gateinc.com](mailto:hduhon@gateinc.com)

Programs Chairperson 2017-18

## October General Meeting Tuesday • October 10, 2017

11:15 am - 1:00 pm

## Louisiana Coastal Protection

Discussion will include subsidence, erosion, sea level rise and what we are doing to protect and restore the coast.

### SPEAKERS:

**Justin R. Ehrenwerth**  
The Water Institute of the Gulf

**Chris McLindon**  
Upstream Exploration, LLC

### MODERATOR:

**Michael Waguespack**  
Waldemar S. Nelson and Company



# 2017-2018 SPE Delta Section OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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	Charlie Mayne	W&T Offshore	504.210.8172	<a href="mailto:cmayne@wtoffshore.com">cmayne@wtoffshore.com</a>
	Phil Moses	Consultant	504.616.6511	<a href="mailto:pamoses1@uno.edu">pamoses1@uno.edu</a>
	Tony Richards	Consultant	504.481.5711	<a href="mailto:southcascade@cox.net">southcascade@cox.net</a>
	Matt Wandstrat	LLOG Exploration	985.801.4300	<a href="mailto:mattw@llog.com">mattw@llog.com</a>

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Delta Section

## Our Mission

*To collect, disseminate, and exchange technical knowledge concerning the exploration, development and production of oil and gas resources and related technologies for the public benefit; and to provide opportunities for professionals to enhance their technical and professional competence.*

# SPE: ON THE HORIZON

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 16 ..... Energy Day - Louisiana Children's Museum  
 Sept 19 ..... Beer Tasting Social - Cooter Browns, New Orleans, LA  
 Sept. 22 ..... API Golf Tournament - Covington Country Club  
 Sept. 28-29 ..... AADE New Orleans Chapter Sporting Clays Tournament - Covey Rise Lodge, Husser, LA  
 Sept. 30 ..... STEM Fest

### OCTOBER

- Oct. 8-11 ..... ASCE Annual Convention - New Orleans, LA  
 Oct. 9-11 ..... ATCE - San Antonio, TX  
 Oct. 21 ..... Strike For STEM - Rock-n-Bowl, New Orleans  
 Oct. 27-29 ..... National World War II Museum's Air, Sea and Land Festival

### NOVEMBER

- Nov. 10 ..... Golf Tournament (LSU/Arkansas weekend)

### JANUARY

- TBA ..... SPEI Facilities & Operations Technical Director (Hisham Saadawi)

### FEBRUARY

- Feb. 7-9 ..... SPE International Conference and Exhibition on Formation Damage Control - Lafayette, LA

### MARCH

- Mar. 14 ..... Pierre Ramondenc: Coiled Tubing Real-Time Monitoring: A New Era of Well Intervention & Workover Optimization

### APRIL

- Apr. 17-18 ..... SPE/IADC Managed Pressure Drilling and Underbalanced Operations Conference and Exhibition - New Orleans, LA

### MAY

- TBA ..... LSU PE Symposium  
 May 5 ..... R. Scot Buell: Waterflood Design and Operational Best Practices

### **To Core Element's STEM colleagues, educators, friends and STEM camp family members,**

Today we posted the first of two stories about Core Element's Hands-On STEM Coding Camp and teacher professional development on Facebook. The video, produced by Hoss Communications, focuses on our first ever coding camp and professional development workshops that helped area teachers prepare for the new Student Science Standards. I, personally, could not be more proud of the teachers, students and Core Element staff that participated in these STEM education activities. Kudos to the teachers that took time out of their summer vacation to participate in our workshops and to the parents that chose to give their children tools to develop skills for a better future by attending our summer camp.

We hope you will go to the Core Element Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Core4KidsNOLA/> to view the video, then **like and share the video with your friends to introduce Core Element to your network.** With your help, we can bring attention to Core Element's work to nurture student interest in STEM and provide K-12 science and math teachers with the training, content, resources and support they need to provide meaningful, hands-on STEM learning for students in the classroom.

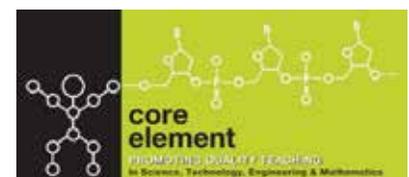
Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership!

Best,

**Jan M Brennan**

Core Element, Executive Director • 504.280.5710

*Promoting Quality Teaching in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics*





## from *THE CHAIR...*



Hello!

I want to welcome you to the SPE Delta Section's 2017-2018 active session. Once again I am honored to represent you as the Section Chair. I am privileged to be associated with the volunteers who make up this section's board and officer ranks. I spent last year as the Section Chair and I witnessed numerous remarkable and impactful activities our section supports. As promised last year, I give you my personal commitment this year to support efforts such as PIPE (Petroleum Industry Promoting Education), STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), scholarship fundraising, the Deepwater Technical Symposium, continuing education workshops, and affiliated student chapter involvement.

This session we have some new faces as well as many returning ones we are all familiar with. Continuing to serve on committees and board positions are some of our past section chairs and our thanks to them. We can always use additional help so if you have the desire to help others please give us a call and we will find a spot for you. There are so many functions and activities we support, so I guarantee you can get involved.

This upcoming year should prove to be rewarding and engaging for our membership. The board members and officers have great plans for the general meetings. Several meeting presenters have been identified to include two SPE Distinguished lecturers and the topics will cover a wide spectrum again. We will participate in fundraising activities for

the local area Children's Museums and scholarship funds. And once again we intend to host the annual SPE Golf Tournament in the spring and the next Deepwater Technical Symposium next summer.

The section successfully hosted the Deepwater Technical Symposium this past August. The turnout this year was larger than last year and spirits were high. I attended one of the days and spoke with multiple attendees and presenters. The presentations were informative and the rooms were packed. And I want to thank the service companies and colleges who provided exhibits, sponsorships and volunteers.

A reminder to all members who are in transition during this difficult industry environment, SPEI will waive your membership dues. Please contact SPEI at [service.org@spe.org](mailto:service.org@spe.org) for more information. Additionally, we will offer a more affordable meeting registration fee for those who are in between employments.

To close, thank you for being members of this chapter and by doing such you continue to support the beneficial activities of the Delta Section. Let us know if you need any assistance so we can better serve you. I look forward to a great year and the many rewarding experiences ahead of us.

Sincerely,

**Daniel A. Durey**

***Your 2017-2018 SPE Delta Section Chair***

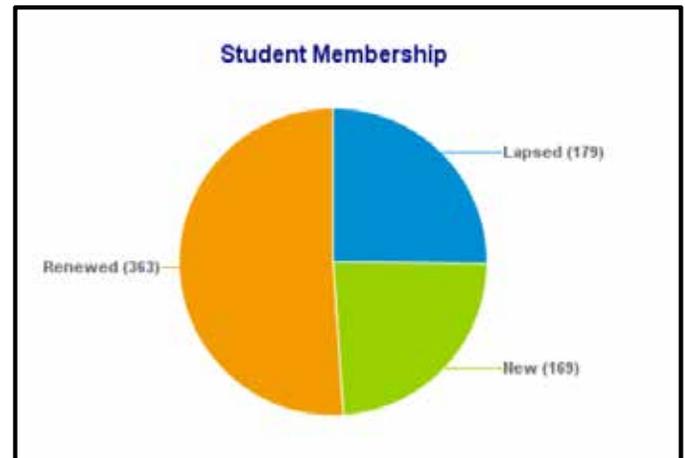
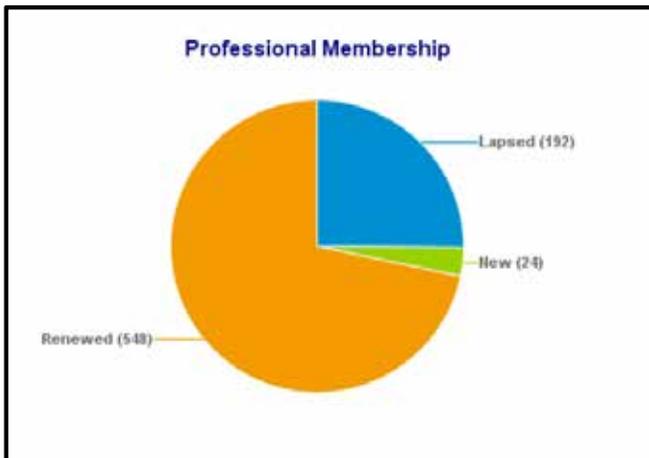
# SPE-Delta Membership Report

Submitted by Angie Gobert (Membership Chairperson)

As of September 2017



Total Full Members	764
New Members	24
Unpaid Members	192
Total Student Members	711



Student Chapters	Total Current Members	New	Renewed
Florida State University	40	21	19
Louisiana State University	419	107	312
Nicholls State University	68	38	30
*Students Without a Student Chapter	5	3	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>363</b>

## Memory Isn't What It Used To Be

Howard Duhon, P.E.

This article first appeared in *Oil and Gas Magazine* in Sept 2017: <https://www.spe.org/en/ogf/ogf-article-detail/?art=2675>

I was listening to a discussion on CNN a few weeks ago and one of the panelists made a list of things that Ronald Reagan is remembered for. Among the things he listed were “smaller government” and “debt reduction”. These are very peculiar things to remember about Reagan – in fact government spending increased 3% during Reagan’s term and the US deficit increased 3 fold (both unprecedented in peace-time). How could a knowledgeable political reporter remember such important facts so incorrectly?

Just a couple of weeks ago, a friend of mine who is very familiar with the Macondo incident was describing the incident to a mutual friend and he made a mistake on a key factual point. Since I know that he knows a lot about the incident, I assumed that he had simply misspoken. I pointed out the error, fully expecting him to thank me and correct himself, but he persisted.

Both of us were equally sure of our version of the events. For my purpose here, it doesn’t matter which of us was correct. I want to talk about memory. We both read the same reports and, a few years later, have different memories. At least one of us remembered it wrong. And the reporter discussing Reagan was clearly wrong – we can check his facts.

Our memories work pretty well, but not flawlessly. There has been a lot of research on memory in the last few years. A result of this research - **memory is not what it used to be**.

The material in this article is taken mainly from a book I just finished reading; Bart Ehrman’s *Jesus Before the Gospels*. Ehrman applies the science of memory to evaluate memories of early Christians. I’m not going to start a religious discussion, though Ehrman’s conclusions are very interesting. I’m going to focus on the science of memory that Ehrman presents in the book.

### Memory is not a Recording Device - Memory is Created

Perhaps the most surprising insight from research is that memory is not so much stored as it is created! When we see a note-worthy event we do store some information, obviously. But what we store are the ‘gist’. Pretty much everything else we add later.

A very tall man pulls a gun in a crowded square, yells something about oppressed people somewhere, and runs away. Tomorrow and maybe forever, you will remember the gist of the event – tall man, gun, yell, ran away. But everything else is malleable. If you hear someone mention that the man was black – you may ‘remember’ him black even if he wasn’t. Someone else mentions that he was wearing blue jeans and gray coat and you dress him thusly in your ‘memory’.

### Collective Memory

If you are a Christian, you have a ‘memory’ of Jesus even though you never met him. Similarly, Muslims have a distinct memory of Mohammed. (Apply this to whichever religious or political leader from the past that you revere.)

How can we have memories of people we have never met? We remember them because things have been handed down through generations. Some of them written in texts. Some of them passed down through word-of-mouth. Much of it from the mouth of your mother probably.

Psychologists distinguish between two types of memory. Episodic memories are of things that we personally experience. Semantic memories are of information about the world that we learned by a means other than direct experience. Indeed, most of what we know (remember) is semantic – it did not happen to us. We read about it, heard about it from a friend, saw a documentary film, etc.

### Memory is a Social Creation

Collective memories clearly are social creations. Your social group leads you to remember these things. Many of them you first heard sitting on your mother’s lap. Some researchers argue that all memories are social creations. I won’t argue that point except to note that Bill O’Reilly, in his book *Killing Jesus*, suggests that Jesus was for smaller government and lower taxes. Talk about a socially constructed memory!

Socially created memories change with the social circumstances and vary between social groups. For readers in the USA, your memories of Ronald Reagan and Barack Obama are largely determined by your political party affiliation. Your memories are not all ‘true’. They are social fabrications that may bear some relationship to truth. They are the memories that work in your social group.

## Not a Snapshot

Returning to the way I started this discussion – memory is not a snapshot as if taken by a camera. When we experience something, bits and pieces of the memory are stored in different parts of the brain. When we ‘recall’ the memory, we gather up the stored pieces. But there are things missing. To create a whole memory we unconsciously fill in the blanks; often with analogous recollections from similar experiences. And there is no way to know which parts of the memory are true and which are not.

## Eyewitness Testimony

If there is no scientific evidence, the most valuable kind of testimony in a legal trial is eyewitness testimony. But how accurate is eyewitness memory? Not very accurate it turns out.

This should be clear based on the description of memory above. If we only accurately store gist memories and the details are malleable, then important incriminating details will often be wrong.

In October 1992 a plane struck an 11 story building while trying to make an emergency landing at Schipol Airport (Amsterdam). The news coverage was intense for several days. Ten months later researchers asked hundreds of university professors and students if they had seen the film of the crash. Over half said that they had seen the film and were able to provide many exact details of what they saw.

But there was no film! And no way for any of them to have memories of the details they provided!

How is that possible? These ‘eyewitnesses’ created a memory so vivid of what had to have happened that they ‘remembered’ seeing it and they provided details that only an eyewitness could have known - all of it fabricated.

## No Relationship Between Confidence in a Memory and its Truth

Until recently, most psychologists believed that memories of highly unexpected, highly emotional, highly consequential events actually were stored accurately in the brain; so-called ‘flash-bulb memories’. As accurate as if you’d taken a picture.

Because people remember these events so emphatically and in such detail, they feel like they must be true. But recent research shows that we are not actually any better at remembering highly vivid events.

## We Remember the Gist and Not Much Else

In the Watergate investigation John Dean reported in detail a conversation he had in the Oval Office

with Richard Nixon. It was later learned that the conversation was taped. When the tapes were made public, Dean’s testimony was checked against the truth.

Both Dean’s testimony and the conversation captured on the tapes were highly incriminating to both Nixon and Dean (the gist). But Dean got all of the details wrong – even though he was highly confident on every point. He remembered the gist, but filled in the rest.

## Memory-History

Historians and Sociologists study peoples by studying what they remember about their group’s past (collective memories). History is written by the winners. But both the winners and the losers maintain a memory of what happened and pass that memory on to future generations. The memories are not necessarily true, as we have seen, but they can tell us a lot about what is important to the group doing the remembering.

It is obviously individuals who carry these memories. But the memories are constructed based on the society we are part of in order to achieve the current goals of that society.

The story of Masada is an interesting case. The story in wide circulation among Israeli Jews today is that several hundred Jews fought to the end against Roman occupation and then committed suicide rather than allow themselves to be captured. The story resonates with Israelis today because they are surrounded by hostile forces.

But the truth about Masada may not be as heroic as the current memory. Rebels took Masada from a Roman garrison, brought the captured weapons to Jerusalem, and started the war with Rome. Then they retreated back to the fortress at Masada. They also raided nearby villages for supplies. There is no evidence that they ever again fought the Romans even as the Romans were assaulting their fortress.

Interestingly, until recently Jews did not appear have a collective memory of Masada at all. The story is not in any of their sacred or historical texts. The memory was created by recently published stories.

## Memory and Politics

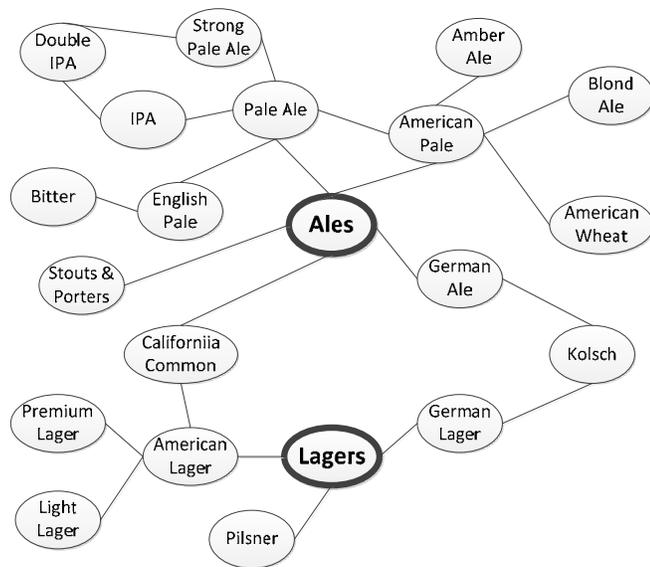
Our inability (or unwillingness) to remember accurately may now be the Achilles heel of western democracy. We now have a spate of politicians all over the western world scoring political points with lies and fabricated news. A lie can become a memory as easily as the truth can.



## SPE DELTA BEER TASTING SERIES

(The Engineering Geek Version of Beer Tasting)

Few people attend SPE Delta Technical meetings. This year we are trying a couple of different things to get more involvement, including this beer tasting series.



Once a month we'll meet to sample 8 beers, eat finger food, and network.

**The Geek Factor:** We'll discuss and try multiple styles. You will rate every beer you try. We will use your ratings to construct a mathematical model of your beer preference and then use that model to predict your favorite beer in the bar, and bring you a sample of that beer.

If you attend enough tasting, we'll have a large amount of data by the end of the season and the model may be pretty close. (The modeling will take some work so we may not pull it off for the first tasting.)

We'll also invite brewers occasionally share brewing insight.

**Something for Everyone:** NA and Gluten Free Beers and Wine available

### Southshore

**Tuesday Sept 19** (Subsequently on the First Tuesday of the Month)

**Cooter Browns**, 509 S. Carrollton, in the Back Bar

6:00 to 8:00 PM

\$25

Register at: <http://connect.spe.org/delta/events/upcomingevents>

**Northshore** TBD, We could use a volunteer to manage similar beer tastings on the Northshore. To volunteer contact Howard Duhon at [hduhon@gateinc.com](mailto:hduhon@gateinc.com)



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

## Fueling Victory in WWII: Production & Use of Oil in WWII

The National WWII Museum in New Orleans is a remarkable place. It contains snippets of oil's role in winning the war, but not much of that story.

Armies, navies, air forces consume vast quantities of resources. Oil - lots of it - was required to make the victory possible.

SPE Delta is launching a study to develop the story of fuel, oil in particular, in winning WWII.

We are looking for volunteers willing to dive-in and research this piece of

history to tell the story of how much was needed, where it came from, how it was found, produced, refined, conserved, transported, and fought over, how it affected military strategy and about the people who made it all happen.

We hope that eventually the story we develop will be presented in the National WWII Museum.

This is likely to be a multi-year effort. Our first goal will likely to be development of a short documentary video.



Delta Section

**If you would like to be involved,  
please contact **Howard Duhon** at  
[hduhon@gateinc.com](mailto:hduhon@gateinc.com).**

# 2017 SPE at LSU Annual Golf Tournament

Copper Mill Golf Club  
2100 Coppermill Blvd  
Zachary, LA 70791

Join us for a four-man scramble before our Fighting Tigers take on the Arkansas Razorbacks in football. This tournament is our chapter's primary fundraiser for the school year. Thanks to your support, we achieve our goals of developing our members personally, academically, and professionally. Below are our suggested sponsorship amounts, however we will gladly recognize any contribution your company can provide.

## Gold Sponsor - \$2,500

- Company name incorporated into our tournament title
- 3 teams (6 company reps paired with 6 students)
- Large company logo on Tournament Banners, Materials, and Apparel
- Complimentary breakfast and lunch

## Silver Sponsor - \$1,750

- 2 teams (4 company reps paired with 4 students)
- Regular size company logo on tournament banners, materials, and apparel
- Complimentary breakfast and lunch

## Bronze Sponsor - \$1,000

- 1 team (2 company reps paired with 2 students)
- Small size company logo on tournament banners, materials, and apparel
- Complimentary breakfast and lunch

## Hole Sponsorship - \$150

- Company sign at tee box

## Entry for Non-sponsors - \$250 per team

- For any industry professionals who wish to participate and are not a part of sponsoring company's team.
- Can register as individual or team (Max 2 per team – Paired with 2 students)
- Complimentary breakfast and lunch

## Registration Information

To register, please contact:

Abdul Homran (President)  
ahomra1@lsu.edu

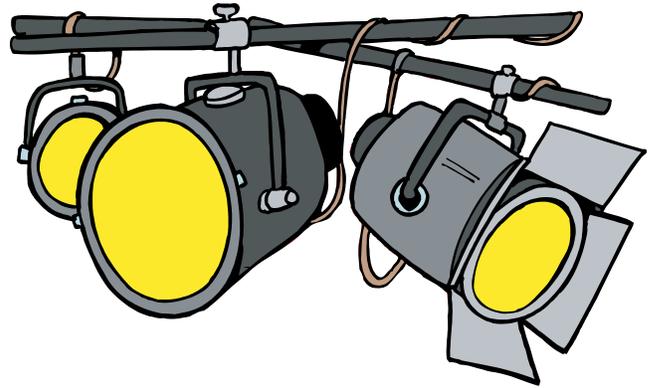
Jason Fogarty (Golf Tournament Director)  
jfogar3@lsu.edu

Drumil Parekh (Treasurer)  
dparek2@lsu.edu

We will get back to you with all registration information and the complete tournament schedule.



**Delta Section**



## Spotlight on Young Professionals

Do you know a young professional who deserves to be put in the Spotlight? If so, suggest them (or yourself) to be featured in the “Spotlight on Young Professionals.” Help us identify worthy young professionals by submitting your story today for a chance to be featured in The Way Ahead™.

*Learn more at <http://www.spe.org/members/yps.php>*



**Volunteering Looks Good on You.**  
Engage Support Contribute

## Become a Mentor through SPE’s eMentoring Program

eMentoring gives SPE members a way to contribute to the E&P industry by sharing industry insights and practical career advice with young professionals, or by helping university students with academic and career direction. Young professionals also have the unique opportunity to serve as mentors to students.

Join the program today by going to <http://www.spe.org/ementoring/>

## Dues Waiver

SPE offers a dues waiver for renewing members who have lost their jobs due to the industry downturn and other circumstances. To qualify, submit a written request by either postal mail or email to [service@spe.org](mailto:service@spe.org)

## Out of Work?

Check out the Members in Transition Toolkit at <http://www.spe.org/members/transition/>. Learn how to optimize your job search, develop your network, enhance your skills, and thrive in a downturn.