

# DESK AND DERRICK CLUB OF THE WESTBANK



**JULY 2014**

Volume 38      Issue 5

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Desk and Derrick Club of the Westbank  
P. O. Box 2875  
Gretna, LA 70054-2875  
Editor: Angie Duplessis



**THE POWER OF THE PYRAMIDS**  
Participation, Preserve, Positivity

## Westbank Club President's Message

Dear Members,

**Well half of 2014 is almost gone, where is the time going. We tend to get lazy during the summer but I hope not for Desk & Derrick. We need to start writing articles for our bulletin, take pictures for our web page, plan field trips and seminars and get the Desk & Derrick word out there.**

**I am pleased to announce our 4 Scholarship recipients: Caitlin Mitchell (attending LSU), Kyle Bergeron (attending LSU), Earl Anthony Kaiser IV (attending Tulane) and Brooke Yuspeh (attending Tulane). Some of them are previous recipients and I know all of them have persevered to where they are now. Desk & Derrick and especially their sponsors and family are very proud of them.**

**ADDC Convention in Lafayette will be here before we know it. The packets are available on the Westbank & ADDC websites. We hope to have a good turn out from the Westbank Club.**

**A reminder that there is no July Meeting (no we are not lazy) we need to re-charge our batteries so we can go full steam for Desk and Derrick.**

**Susan**

***I am Summer, come to lure you away from your computer... come dance on my fresh grass, dig your toes into my beaches. ~Oriana Green, @NatureSpirits***



July 2014

Change can be a scary word and is often thought of as taking on risk, but change is about becoming different or new. In fact, change is sometimes associated with connecting the dots between old and new but change isn't about coming up with something that has never been conceived, but rather about connecting two ideas in a new way.

This year, the ADDC Board has worked diligently on connecting the dots between holding on to what is valuable and true and offering members what they want based on survey results. It reminds of a quote by Tony Robbins, a renowned life coach author, who said "By changing nothing, nothing changes." We are constantly growing and changing!

As members, clubs and regions, we must attempt to connect the dots, continually growing and changing in new ways. Because we are divided into clubs and regions, we separate our knowledge bases. Without a mixing of knowledge, new connections are often more difficult. This is the reason that companies like Google structure their building in a way that encourages interactions between different sectors of their organization which normally wouldn't interact.

There are four ways the Association can encourage these connections:

- 1) Continue to Learn: The more we learn the more potential connections we create. Adding knowledge is like adding more dots to potentially connect. For members to build their knowledge base they can attend club meetings regularly; write an article for their newsletter, the ADDC Insight or DDJ; view one of the online webinars we offer; or attend region meetings and convention.
- 2) Employ the Know-How: In order to utilize the new knowledge, application is important. It is not just about what new knowledge we can add but how we can connect that knowledge to our existing clubs and communities. What separates vibrant organizations from the rest is that they connect new knowledge to their existing experiences to build new connections that didn't exist before. Next time a member writes an article or attends a region meeting, members could discuss how those new ideas apply to their club. How about discussing these new bits of knowledge with your employer? Why not volunteer to serve on as a region committee representative?
- 3) Relate the Knowledge: The connections in #2 happen all the time. The problem is we often don't recognize and save them. Keep track of your knowledge! Whenever you acquire knowledge or have a new experience, document it! Connections don't happen all the time and they don't always happen in the office. They can occur at home, in the car, at a club meeting or talking to a friend. Any new knowledge you added to your base could be potential new dots to be connected to old ideas, but this sometimes takes time to recognize. Capture this knowledge by writing an article for the DDJ, Insight or club newsletter. Attend convention and learn something new!

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4) Make Connections: When we connect our internal knowledge with other members in our organization through regular club meeting attendance and interaction, there is far more potential for connections and new ideas. By learning and connecting to what other members are working on we increase the opportunity to develop new ideas in our own clubs and regions.

Everyone has potential great ideas. For the benefit of your clubs, region and the Association, take advantage of all learning opportunities, provide time to connect the pieces of knowledge, harvest and store the knowledge, or network with others. So next time you are asked to serve on a committee, make a presentation, or write an article, seize the moment!

Convention is just around the corner (less than 3 months away) and the Lafayette Club is working very hard to finalize the arrangements. I truly hope many of you will be able to take advantage of the opportunities that are available.

Remember, the registration fee will be \$250 after July 15<sup>th</sup>, so why not take advantage of the lower rate before then and get it in by the earlier deadline. The extra money could pay for one of the many exciting seminars being offered.

The next survey has been published. Please take the opportunity to participate! The survey is located at <http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/addc/addc-summer-2014-membership-survey/>. It should take less than 15 minutes to complete and we are aiming for 100% participation from our membership! The 2014 Board truly appreciates your feedback and concerns and we will bring them up for discussion at the Pre-Convention Board meeting.

I know many clubs take the summer off and so I wish each of you a great summer. Happy Canada Day on July 1<sup>st</sup> to our Canadian members and Happy Independence Day on July 4<sup>th</sup> to our American members. Also, enjoy your vacation if that is in your plans and travel safe.

Linda Rodgers

Upcoming events:

2014 ADDC Convention – September 24-28

# Region III Director's Newsletter



- CONNECT
- ENGAGE
- COLLABORATE
- LEARN

Sharon Blackwell  
Region III Director  
blackwell288@yahoo.com

July, 2014

Dear Region III Members,

I hope this letter finds everyone healthy and enjoying your summer.

Based upon the program reports I have been receiving from all of the Region III clubs, it looks like you are enjoying a great time of educational field trips, seminars and community service, not to mention your monthly meeting programs.

The ADDC Convention is quickly approaching- a little more than two months Lafayette will be rolling out the red carpet for D & D with Livin-Lovin-Lafayette. The registration application can be found on the ADDC website.

I hope you have all had the opportunity to look at and read the ADDC Insight. If you have not been able to read it please go to the website and take a few minutes to learn what is happening association wide. You will love the publication.

**VOLUNTEER-** I ask each of you to go to the website and look at the committees and their duties. Lori Landry has asked for volunteers for 2015 and I am sure with the talent we have in Region III that there are a lot of members that would knock it out of the park. If you do not want chair a committee think about being your Regional Representative.

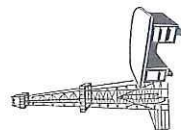
**ADO HAS MOVED: The new address is:**

Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs  
5321 S Sherician Rd. Suite 24  
Tulsa, Ok 74145

Till Next Month,

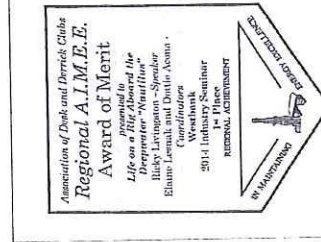
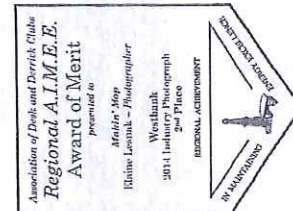
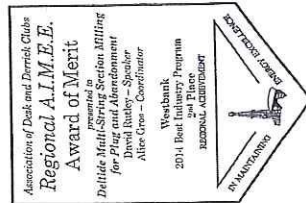
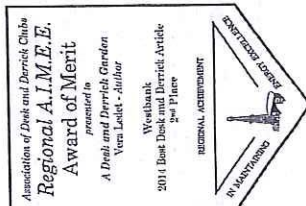
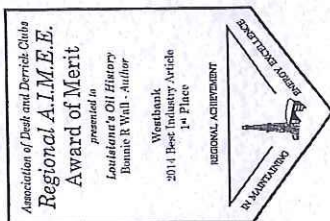
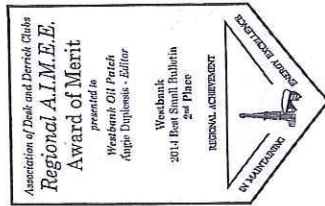
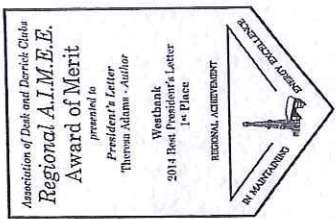
*Sharon Blackwell*

Quote of Month: "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn." Benjamin Franklin



ASSOCIATION OF  
DESK AND DERRICK  
CLUBS

# Congratulations!



2015 ADDC SLATE OF CANDIDATES



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PRESIDENT ELECT



**MAGGI FRANKS**  
VICE PRESIDENT



**TERRY LIGON**  
SECRETARY



**MARK LOCH**  
SECRETARY



**CHRISTINA FORTH-MATTHEWS**  
TREASURER



**BARBARA ANN PAPPAS**  
TREASURER

Angie Duplessis  
Nominating Committee  
1802 Farmington Place  
Gretna, LA 70056  
(504) 656-3221 O  
(504) 656-3000 F  
(504) 367-9202 H  
[adupless1@ps66.com](mailto:adupless1@ps66.com) (o)

June 9, 2014

To: All Club Presidents

From: 2014 ADDC Nominating Committee

Re: Nominations for 2015 ADDC Officers

The ADDC Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following candidates for 2015 ADDC Officers:

<i>President-Elect</i>	<i>Connie Harrison</i>	<i>San Antonio Club</i>	<i>Region IV</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Maggi Franks</i>	<i>West Virginia Club</i>	<i>Region I</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Terry Ligon</i> <i>Mark Loch</i>	<i>Graham Club</i> <i>Red Earth Club</i>	<i>Region IV</i> <i>Region VI</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Christina Forth-Matthews</i> <i>Barbara Pappas</i>	<i>Edmonton Club</i> <i>Wichita Falls Club</i>	<i>Region VII</i> <i>Region V</i>

The Slate of Candidates will be officially presented and voted on at the 2014 Convention in Lafayette, LA.

The Candidates' Qualification and Goals are included in this mailing to the Club Presidents and will also be located on the ADDC website; Members Tab, Monthly Committee Letters.

The Presentation of Candidates and Candidates' Caucus will be held during the Open Forum.

Sincerely,

Angie Duplessis  
2014 ADDC Nominating Committee Chairman

Cc: Melodee Guerrero  
Audra Horton  
Anna Lewis-McBeth  
Jan Starnes  
Betty Wejda



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## WHAT DESK &amp; DERRICK MEANS TO ME

As I began to put my thoughts down on paper to write this article, my mind drifted back to my introduction of Desk & Derrick.

I was working for a company in the Harvey Oil Center called Texas General Petroleum for about 4 months when a lady walked into my office and introduced herself as the Office Manager of the Petroleum Club. Her name was Beverly Clarke and she also happened to be a member of the Westbank Desk & Derrick Club. She invited me to be her guest at the following monthly meeting and I have never regretted accepting her invitation.

In March of 1981 I walked through the door of the Petroleum Club to attend my first meeting of this "Desk & Derrick Club" not really knowing what to expect and wondering exactly where or how I would find the time to squeeze something else into my already busy life as a working mother with four children.

I was met by the friendly faces of the officers and Board of Directors of the club and with my sponsor at my side, was introduced to many members of the club. Much to my surprise I met an old friend from High School days, June Chiasson and also other members whom I had met socially at other functions and soon began to feel at ease and thinking - "Hey, this may turn out to be an enjoyable experience". Little did I realize at the time how true that thought would become.

As the meeting began, I listened to the President, Billie Chiasson, talk about Association News, Regional News, and news about the various events that the local club was involved in. My mind tried to absorb as much as possible, I took some notes, so that I could ask questions about things I did not understand. We had a very informative industry speaker that night, and before I knew it, the meeting was over. I had gotten so absorbed in what was going on that I never realized it was after 9 P.M. After the meeting, various members came over to me and expressed their hopes that I would join this club.

On my way home that night, I started to feel that I had found something very much to my liking; an organization that offered me, Vera Pichoff Ledet, wife, working mother, a chance to grow as an individual and to re-establish parts of my personality that I felt had become overwhelmed by these responsibilities. Seeing June Chiasson again, my thoughts drifted back to my High School days thinking about how I always found time to do the things I enjoyed; lettering in all sports, being a cheerleader and on the tumbling team, plus maintaining an A average.

Yes, I had forgotten how much fun it was to be part of a group of ladies, sharing problems and common working goals; of the desires to improve my skills, and of satisfying that longing deep within to find something just for ME. I certainly felt that Desk & Derrick could help me learn more about this industry that I had just started to work in for the first time. Yes, that first meeting gave me a glimpse of opportunities that were there if I would have the courage to reach for them.

Shortly after the meeting, I was called by the Orientation Chairman, Gail Murray, who extended an invitation for me to join her and her committee at her home to learn more about the organization. What a night that was. I brought my notes hoping that some of those question marks in my mind could be answered. Not only were those questions and more answered, I really knew I had found that extra "something" I wanted in my life. I was so enthused about Desk & Derrick, I quickly turned in my application and checked for membership that night. There were three other prospective members there that night, and three of us became members, with two of us serving as your President; Lee Poche in 1986 and myself in 1987.

That first meeting and orientation program was the foundation that established my overwhelming interest in Desk & Derrick. So here I am, eight years later, and still growing. The opportunities of growth have led me on a path that I never thought possible. First, I chaired the membership committee, then became treasurer, followed by corresponding secretary, 2nd. Vice President, First Vice President, then in 1987 President. Working on various committees during those years, gave me an opportunity to get to know different members and their potential for greater involvement. Along the way I've met and treasured the friendship of all of you. The field trips, seminars, regionals, and conventions have led me to friends beyond our own club.

Growth, you bet! Everywhere I turn, I find more opportunities to grow. Do I dare to take advantage of them? You better believe I do. Desk & Derrick has taught me that extra added confidence I needed to excel as a person. It's given me the confident ability to share with others some of the opportunities I've enjoyed since becoming a member in 1981. What does Desk & Derrick mean to me? Well I think my husband said it best not too long ago; he said now that the four children have grown and are out on their own, he really enjoys seeing me as if I were that young gal he met in High School many years ago; full of life and confident about the future and whatever it brings. Thank you Beverly Clarke for introducing me to Desk & Derrick and all the benefits it has brought me.

Vera Ledet

## 24 Years – Can I Last Three More?

By Judi Adams

**June 18, 1990** – that was the day I started my career at Shell Exploration and Production Co. (at that time we were called Shell Offshore Inc.) as a data clerk. My first assignment was with a special studies group: The Turbidite Task Force. This was a team of high-performing petrophysicists, geologists, and geophysicists looking at Gulf of Mexico turbidite placement in relation to possible hydrocarbon reserves. Over the next several years, my job duties varied, and included loading huge magnetic tapes onto a reader so the well log data could be transferred to Shell's computers, learning about Petrophysics and well logs, and data collection from various sources within (and external to) the company. This required learning to use three different computer platforms: MS DOS, Unix; and Apple/Mac. Fortunately, Shell was very good about providing the necessary training, although during the first few years, we had shared computers in central location rooms and an "email" program called PROFS; we didn't get individual computers – PCs or workstations – and e-mail accounts for several years after I started.

In the early- to mid-90s, my job assignment changed, when the task force completed its duties, for which we received recognition at a banquet held in Houston, along with a plethora of other teams that were doing landmark work on exploration and technology to advance the company's standing in the energy industry.

The new assignment had me learning to create synthetic seismograms, developing and using standard industry parameters and creating canned macros so the seismograms would be done using consistent geophysical guidelines.

By the late 90s, I had gotten a transfer to Administrative Services in a position of administrator of the building emergency action plan. In that assignment, I managed Shell's safety programs at the One Shell Square Building. This included everything from making annual presentations on the program to the staff to coordinating and teaching CPR/First Aid classes and supervising the contract security staff that handled our building access. Our team was a model for open workspace design, so we were in a cubicle design workspace, which worked well for us as we frequently interacted on building-wide issues and situations. We were also on the forefront of office ergonomics and I was part of the team that helped determine the furniture that was most ergonomic and economic for the staff and company. This was a challenging part of the job and included a trip in a chartered jet to the Herman Miller design facility in Zeeland, Michigan, where we toured the research offices where chairs like the Aeron was developed. I still have souvenirs of that trip: scale models of several pieces of the Eames designed furniture now considered collectibles.

In mid-2001, I returned to the technical side of the business, working with the Deepwater Gulf of Mexico teams as a petrophysical technician and general office clerk. By this time, data was being transferred on CDs instead of the huge magnetic tapes, and everyone had a PC on their desks. We still shared the high-end Unix workstations in a central location, though. And, we were using e-mail to a much greater extent than when I started in 1990. The team that I was now working on was part of Exploration operations and had been instrumental in the start of the Real Time Operations Center (RTOC). My connections made it possible for our Desk and Derrick club members to tour the RTOC and the SEPCove, which was a venue to display 3D subsea seismic graphics. The SEPCove has since become a standard exploration tool at most energy exploration companies.

2004 was a turning point for me at Shell – I transferred to a job as administrative assistant to the Deepwater Gulf of Mexico manager when his long-time assistant retired. This was a very challenging change for me, but the view from the 30<sup>th</sup> floor window overlooking the sunrise on the Mississippi River was worth any angst experienced learning the new job. Some of the things I had to do in this assignment included convincing my manager to start using his computer calendar for meeting planning and begin using PowerPoint slide show presentations at meetings instead of overhead transparencies. It was like trying to get Fred Flintstone to give up his dinosaur-driven crane for an internal combustion engine! But, I persevered! We learning new office skills like calendar and meeting management, event planning, timekeeping, and expense report submission were easy compared to getting that manager to give up his old ways. (That manager retired from Shell last October, after a very stellar career, as the Vice President of the department. I was still his part-time helper, providing coverage when his full-time assistant was out.)

In mid 2005, under new leadership, the Exploration department was being moved to Houston as our primary base. In late June, I closed on the sale of my home of 15 years in Marrero, and moved to my town house in Houston, 1.5 miles away from my new offices at Shell's Woodcreek campus. Then Katrina threatened the New Orleans area while I was visiting for the weekend, at the end of August. I was able to get back to Houston Sunday evening and reported to work Monday morning and began frantically fielding phone calls from dozens of staff who had evacuated and wanted to know where to go. The next couple of weeks were a blur, as we did our best to find office space and resources for the hundreds of displaced staff that worked with us – especially since Hurricane Rita came along before people were even sure they had any place to go! We were busting at the seams, with bull pen rooms of 20-25 staff in what had been training or conference rooms. Shell decided to build new offices on the Woodcreek site, and transferred our Exploration teams to temporary quarters at the Pennzoil Tower building in downtown Houston in October 2006, during construction. It was a relief to get the

staff back into individual offices over a year after being displaced from New Orleans and stuffed into cramped working quarters. The commute to the downtown office was a real challenge many days, as those of you who have ever been on the Houston freeway system can attest. But, there was so much positive about working downtown, including a wide array of restaurants, shops, and walking opportunities, especially in the tunnel system.

March 2008 found me packing offices and moving back to the Woodcreek site, into a brand new building. I worked with our management team on office allocation and coordinated the move along with a huge team in ioknamed the Space Cadets. There were times when I wondered if my fellow team members were from outer space, based on some of the plans for space usage and design. They had nothing to do with the way our explorationists worked. As the Gulf of Mexico Exploration Department administrative assistant, I had my hands full over the next five years. We had a constant turnover of staff, new hires, transfers, and retirees. And, there was always a new program or process that had to be implemented and rolled out to the staff members.

During the period from 2004 to 2013, I had no less than eight different managers/bosses and 10 different offices without changing my job. It seemed for a while that our offices had revolving doors! I was definitely a fixture in the department by 2013, but New Orleans was calling me home. So, in May 2013, I transferred to another job, this time as a data manager and engineer technician for a production team that coordinates Shell interests in non-operated (i.e., partner/competitor operated) ventures. In June, I moved back to the Westbank and started settling in to my new job, working back at One Shell Square, not far from some of my previous offices, and working with several folks that I had worked with on previous assignments as well as some new ones, taking the same Jefferson Transit buses to/from downtown New Orleans that I'd taken when I first started in 1990.

Now, with 24 years, numerous job assignments, accomplishments, and office locations, and a plethora of bosses under my belt, I have been reviewing my retirement options. Looks like I have to work for three more years – September 1, 2017 is my current target retirement date.

Next year, on this date, my 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be feted with a luncheon with my boss – whoever that may be at the time – and a few very close and dear Shell friends. We'll probably start planning my retirement party then, too.

Yes, I think I can hold on for another three years.



# BUNCO PARTY

**Date:** Saturday, August 9, 2014

**Doors Open:** 5:30 P.M.

**Games Begin:** 6:30 P.M.

**Place:** M-I SWACO Auditorium  
4300 Peter's Road, Harvey, LA



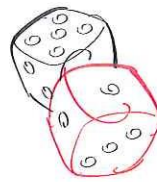
**\$20 advance per person**

**\$25 at the door**

Food provided after first break

Beer & Wine \$2

Water \$1



*All proceeds benefit the*

*Desk & Derrick Club of the Westbank Scholarship Fund*

For tickets contact:

Gaylen Guillory

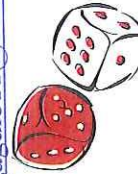
504-301-8809

[gagui811@cox.net](mailto:gagui811@cox.net)

Dottie Ancona

504-835-6610

[dancona@cox.net](mailto:dancona@cox.net)



# Save the Date

Bunco Party - MI – SWACO  
August 9, 2014

2014 ADDC Convention – Lafayette, LA  
Hilton Lafayette  
September 24-28, 2014

2015 Region III Meeting-Bossier-Shreveport, LA  
Hilton Garden-Homewood Suites  
March 26-28, 2015

2015 ADDC Convention – Lubbock, TX  
Overton Hotel  
September 16-20, 2015

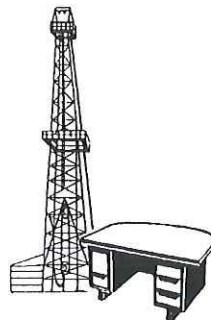
2016 ADDC Convention - Denver, CO  
Crowne Plaza  
September 21-24, 2016

# Happy Birthday

May  
5 Pam Lauckner

June  
13 Edna Guccione

July  
1 Minerva Hawkins  
2 JoAnn Brown  
4 Susan Miller  
26 Charlie Miller



**ASSOCIATION OF  
DESK AND DERRICK  
CLUBS**

## **MOTTO**

Greater Knowledge – Greater Service

## **CLUB PURPOSE**

The purpose of this 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.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Club is to enhance and foster a positive image to the global community by promoting the contribution of the petroleum, energy and allied industries through education by using all resources available.

## **OIL PATCH**

Is the official monthly publication of the Desk and Derrick Club of the Westbank. Articles or editorials posted in this newsletter represent the personal opinions of the authors and do not represent the views or opinions of the ADDC organization.

Monthly General membership Meeting held the fourth Wednesday of each month at  
Boomtown Casino  
4132 Peters Road, Harvey, LA 70058  
Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.

Visit our web site: <http://www.westbankdandd.org/>