Can you keep up with technology?

AADE Lafayette Chapter members,

Our seventh general meeting for the 2009-2010 fiscal year will be held March 15 at the Petroleum Club in Lafayette.

This month’s distinguished speaker will be Nicole Baird, Vice President of Well Performance Improvement for Shell.

The topic for discussion for this month will be “Creating Top Quartile Performance in Wells: Being the Best & Growing the Business.”

Technological innovation and development: Can we keep up?

How many times have we purchased the latest and greatest new electronic devices at top dollar, only to return three to six months later and find that particular model is in the outdated clearance isle?

Every day in the computer industry, can you keep up with technology?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
Nicole Baird currently holds the position of Vice President, Wells Performance Improvement for Shell. In this capacity, she has the responsibility for global strategies associated with Shell’s Real-Time Operations Centers, rDtL (revitalized Drilling the Limit) Performance Implementation & Execution, as well as development of Wells IMIT portfolio to ensure efficiency of both engineering staff and operations.

In her career, she also has served as a Drilling & Completion Engineer, Deepwater Drilling Engineer, Rig Supervisor/Company Representative and Shallow Hazards Coordinator.

Geographical locations she has worked in include numerous U.S.-based locations, both onshore and offshore; offshore West Africa; and her current role provides assistance/remit to Shell’s operations around the globe.

She earned a bachelor’s degree of Science in Chemical Engineering from the University of Southern California and a Master in Business Administration from Tulane University. She has long been an active member of AADE, serving as the 2009 National Technical Conference & Exhibition Chairperson, as well as a past President of the New Orleans Chapter of AADE.

Nicole Baird will share her insights on creating top quartile performance in well and much more at 11:30 a.m. March 15 at the Petroleum Club. 

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there is a new technology or modification to existing technology that continues to shrink and speed up the devices we use.

How many of you can remember the big bag cell phones?

And now, cell phones are the same size as a credit card and take pictures, email, surf the web, and oh yeah, let’s not forget, they make calls as well.

So what does technological innovation mean for the oil and gas industry?

Technological innovation and development has allowed oil companies to find, drill and produce oil and gas in areas once deemed impossible.

A few of the most recently publicized technological advancements in the drilling environment are managed pressure drilling, expandable liner technology and dual gradient drilling.

MPD applications have sparked a ray of hope and interest in areas that were once labeled “un-drillable” because of severely depleted sands and wellbore instability.

Expandable liner technology has allowed the production of deeper HTHP zones that were unable to be reached by standard casing practices.

Dual gradient drilling technology in deepwater has allowed shallow casing strings to be pushed and set deeper, reducing the total number of casing strings, which ultimately reduces cost.

But, these advancements in new emerging technology come at a greater cost to the industry than initially anticipated.

MPD, expandable liners, and dual gradient drilling have now open the door to a wider acceptance of water depths, well depths, pressures and temperatures that were never thought possible by service provider equipment specialist.

Now, service providers are being challenged to provide equipment that can withstand the drilling environment that is now capable of being reached. Drilling contractors are being faced with a critical question: “Are we building the rigs with the features that operators require now and will they be able to handle the advances in technology in the coming decades?”

In the January/February 2010 issue of Drilling Contractor, 11 industry leaders were asked to express their hopes, plans and concerns for 2010 and beyond. To read more on technological advances in drilling and completions and what’s ahead in the future, I highly recommend the article titled, “Critical issues in drilling and completions.”

View the article online at http://drillingcontractor.org/features/critical-issues-in-drilling-and-completions-4066.

Until next month.
CHAPTER NOTES

- AADE Lafayette Chapter Sporting Clays Tournament will be held on March 26 and 27 at the Cajun Elite Shooting Complex Jennings, La. Contact Jeffery Svendson at jsvenndson@al-llc.com for more details.

- Board member nominations are now open. If you have a person that you would like to nominate for the AADE Board, please email me at JonathonBoudreaux@chevron.com.

AADE Sporting Clays Tournament
Set March 26-27

The Lafayette Chapter of the American Association of Drilling Engineers will hold its 17th annual Scholarship Sporting Clays Tournament on March 26-27.

This year’s event will be held Friday and Saturday at Cajun Elite Shooting Complex in Jennings.

Proceeds from the event will help fund oil industry scholarships at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Louisiana State University and Nichols State University.

Shooters must provide their own shells (2 ¾, 3 dram max., 7 ½, 8 or 9 shot only) for the sporting clays event. You must be at the club-house at least 30 minutes prior to your flight. Friday registration is recommended, especially for Saturday morning shooters.

This year’s side events will include 5-Stand, Long Bird and Team Rapid Fire Flurry. We will be selling mulligans this year.

Registration will begin on Friday at 8 a.m.

Door prizes will be given and several shotguns will be raffled Saturday evening at the awards ceremony.

If you purchase a chance on a raffle gun, you do not need to be present to win.

SPECIAL ROOM RATES AVAILABLE

Hampton Inn and Suites will offer special room rates to Sporting Clays Shoot participants from March 25-27. A standard room rate of $89 and $109 suite rates will be available for participants. For details, call 337-824-2699 or visit www.jenningssuites.hamptoninn.com.
LSU SENIOR SAYS THANK YOU

My name is Victor Jordan, and I am a Senior in Petroleum Engineering at LSU. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the AADE scholarship that I have received for the Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 semesters. The scholarship has greatly helped with paying tuition, housing rent, school supplies, and the many other things that are necessary to the college student. It has also enabled me to cut my work hours in half, allowing me to concentrate more on school.

With the end of undergrad in clear sight, I begin to think of all the memories I’ve had throughout college. The football games, parties, the late nights of studying for tests, and the relief of finals being over for the semester; all enable me to relish in the delight I’ve had while attending LSU. These six years of college have been a wild ride, but I’ve enjoyed every bit of it. I decided to take on the Petroleum curriculum my second year of college, and since very few of my credit hours that I had attained my Freshman year counted towards my degree, it was inevitable that it was going to take me five solid years to complete the curriculum. After my TOPS scholarship expired after my fourth year, I began to think of how much of a financial strain it would put on me and my parents. I applied for the AADE scholarship both last year and this year, and with AADE’s generosity, I received the scholarship both years. I am humbly thankful for this generosity, because it has helped me in succeeding in the Petroleum curriculum. It allowed me worry much less about finances, and enabled me to concentrate on the main goal at hand, graduation. I will never forget this generosity, and hope one day that I will also be able to help a young student achieve his/her goals.

Again thank you for AADE scholarships and GEAUX TIGERS.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
PETROLEUM ENGINEERING
RIGHT CHOICE FOR LSU JUNIOR

My name is Alex Pines, and I am in my junior year in Petroleum Engineering. I would like to thank you for the scholarship you awarded me last semester. I changed my major to Petroleum Engineering summer 2008 after researching various engineering professions, and it has turned out to be one of the best decisions I have made. I am very interested in the Petroleum field and have learned a great deal during my studies thus far. I have been taking a heavy course load since I changed my major and have not had much time to work. Your scholarship award has assisted me greatly with my school and living expenses. It has allowed me to focus and excel in all of my courses. I have earned a 4.0 every semester since summer 2008 and have been on the Chancellor’s Honor Roll twice, including this past fall semester. Once again I would like to deeply thank you for your scholarship award.

Sincerely,
Alex Pines
 LSU STUDENT EXCITED ABOUT JOINING INDUSTRY PIONEERS

My name is James Keeton. I’m a Petroleum Engineering student at Louisiana State University. I received a scholarship for the fall 2009 semester, and I wanted to express my gratitude. Without scholarships like these I would not be able to attend college without taking out a vast array of student loans.

I personally can’t wait to graduate and enter the industry. I have had two internships so far; one in Bakersfield, California and one in Houston, Texas. I’ve learned so much so far and am looking forward to being saturated with information upon completion of my college career. Personally I enjoy most mechanical things. This is probably due to the fact that I was raised in my father’s motorcycle shop. It was there that I learned a mechanical sense, that when coupled with a good high school education, lead to a degree in engineering. I feel that this attributes to my interest in drilling sub-category of Petroleum Engineering. As a whole, I enjoy Petroleum Engineering simply because of the excitement of drilling thousands of feet into the earth. We are truly pioneers going places that no one has gone before.

Sincerely,

James A. Keeton Jr.

x James A. Keeton, Jr.
February 19, 2010

Ms. Sharon Moore, Treasurer
AADE Lafayette Chapter
P.O. Box 80023
Lafayette, LA 70598-0023

Dear Ms. Moore:

On behalf of the Craft & Hawkins Department of Petroleum Engineering, I want to extend our sincere appreciation for AADE Lafayette Chapter’s 2 gifts to the department this school year totaling $32,500. As noted on the check stub, the funds will be distributed to the following recipients this spring semester: Gavin Daniel Broussard, Francis Victor Jordan IV, James H. Graham, Alex Pines, James Allen Keeton, and Robert James Ingram. Also, it is my understanding from Fred Thurber that the Fall 2009 funds were distributed to the following recipients: Gavin Daniel Broussard, Francis Victor Jordan IV, James H. Graham, Alex Pines, James Allen Keeton, Robert James Ingram, and Gregory Michael Marsh.

With this recent contribution, we would like to honor you as a Platinum Supporter to the department during the Forever LSU campaign. Please anticipate our thank you gift to arrive sometime in March. We will make arrangements to send the gift through the mail or ask a representative from the LSU Foundation to deliver the gift, as scheduling permits.

As the campaign continues in its penultimate year, we are truly learning more about the giving spirit from our alumni and friends. In the past, the department has been very fortunate to have patrons such as you to assist us in achieving our goals of academic excellence. I am pleased to see this tradition continue. As opportunities to make improvements which benefit the department and its students arise, our support system has really begun to make a difference. Many goals, such as providing support to our exceptional undergraduate and graduate students, recruiting and retaining top faculty by offering competitive start-up packages, and upgrading facilities and equipment, have come closer to being achieved. The support you have given us is a key step in reaching these goals. I am pleased to see that our alumni and friends have not let us down. Thank you again for your support. Please share this correspondence with all organization members.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stephen O. Sears, Chair and
Holder of Longwell-Leonard Family Distinguished Professorship

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AADE board member Bruce Jordan, left, and Randy Andres of UL hold the sponsors sign that will be hung in the mud lab at UL. It was presented at the Feb. 22 AADE General Meeting. So far, AADE Lafayette Chapter has contributed more than $140,000. Other sponsors include Chevron, Halliburton, Teche Chapter API, Knight Oil Tools, AADE National Chapter, AADE New Orleans Chapter, Lafayette Oilman's Sporting Clays, International Association of Drilling Contractors and the Society of Petroleum Engineers.

**SPONSORS SIGN TO BE ON DISPLAY AT UL MUD LAB**

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