

LUNCHEON MEETING—MARCH 26, 1986

BILLY S. FLOWERS—Biographical Sketch



Billy S. Flowers is former President of Shell Offshore Inc., the New Orleans-based subsidiary of Shell Oil Company. He retired July 1, 1985 after more than 35 years of Shell Companies Service.

Billy Flowers served three times in the New Orleans area during his Shell Companies career, the most recent of which was a 10-year span beginning in 1975. During that period he was very active in civic, com-

munity and industry affairs, serving—among other—on Boards of the New Orleans Symphony, the YMCA, and The Chamber of Commerce, both for New Orleans and the River Region. He is past Chairman of the Louisiana Division of the Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association and continued to serve on the Board of Directors until he retired.

Flowers holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in mathematics and physics from Texas Christian University. Having joined Shell Oil's exploration geophysical training program in the Houston Area in 1949, he was assigned positions of increasing responsibility in the Midland and New Orleans areas, becoming Division Geophysicist in New Orleans in 1958. Following an assignment in New York, he returned to New Orleans as Division Exploration Manager.

He became Exploration Manager of the New Orleans Area in 1967, and Director of Exploration research, Shell Development Company, in 1969. He was appointed General Manager, Geophysics in Head Office Exploration in 1973, returning to New Orleans in 1975 as General Manager - Exploration. He was elected Vice President of Shell's Eastern E&P Operations in 1980, and was elected President of Shell Offshore Inc. in 1984.

He and his wife, Peggy, make their retirement home in Tyler, Texas.

CORSAIR TREND - EXPLORATION FOR DEEP GEOPRESSURED GAS, MIDDLE MIOCENE, OFFSHORE TEXAS

The Corsair Trend is a geopressured gas play located offshore Texas. *Bigennerina humblei* sands are the primary objective along the trend where deep geopressured accumulations are trapped in large anticlinal rolls into the basinward-dipping Corsair fault system. Improved seismic data, more favorable economics for deep gas, and reaction to a key discovery all led to deeper exploration and ultimate success in the trend.

Sand distribution suggests a major deltaic system was located in the central Corsair area during the Middle Miocene. Sedimentary loading by the delta was at least in part responsible for the formation of the fault and the trend's characteristic structural style. Petrographic studies indicate reservoir quality is dependent both on this original depositional environment and also diagenesis.

Total estimated proven reserves for the trend are greater than 2 TCF. The largest field to date is Shell's Picaroon Field where estimated reserves exceed 500 BCF of gas in a corrosive, hard geopressured, high temperature environment. Here, a 3D seismic survey has resolved structural and stratigraphic details and allowed optimum field development.

