MEETING

DINNER MEETING—DECEMBER 14, 1987

THOMAS E. EWING—Biographical Sketch

Thomas E. "Tom" Ewing is a geologist, geophysicist and President of Frontera Exploration Services, Inc., a geoscience consulting firm.

Tom received his B.A. in Geology from Colorado College in 1975, his M.S. in Geoscience from New Mexico Tech in 1977, and his Ph.D. in Geology from the University of British Columbia in 1980. From 1980 to 1984, he was Research Associate at the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology. There he published papers on growth-fault styles, seismic interpretation and sedimentary geology in the Gulf Coast Basin, as well as co-authoring the *Atlas of Major Texas Oil Reservoirs* and compiling the *Tectonic Map of Texas* (in press). He has also written a chapter on tectonic features of the Gulf of Mexico for the *Geology of North America* book series, and compiled a tectonic map of the Gulf of Mexico basin for that series.

He left the Bureau at the end of 1984 to form Frontera Exploration Services, a geological and geophysical consult-

(Dewitt Wilcox). Other major systems of growth faults occur over shale ridges (Zapata Wilcox). Localized growth faulting also occurs along the margins of salt-or shale-withdrawal basins, or as compactional faulting related to shale ridges.

Factors that control structural styles must include: the nature of the pre-progradation substrate, presence of salt- or shale-related bathymetric features of the paleocontinental slope, the rate and spatial variance of sediment loading of the shelf margin, and the relative excess of sedimentation over subsidence. Presence of thick mud sequences in the substrate favors shale-ridge development and glide-fault systems. Slope features localize the trend of faulting and may concentrate it over the slip-face of the slope feature. The spatial variance of sedimentation may determine the geometry of faulting, and also initiate salt or shale movement. The relative excess of sedimentation over subsidence determines the magnitude and timing of the fault systems by determining the overall extent of shelf-margin progradation.