

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Petroleum Club • 800 Bell (downtown)  
Social 11:15 a.m., Lunch 11:45 a.m.

Cost: \$30 with advance reservations, \$35 for walk-ins, space available (\$15 for Emeritus and Honorary).

The HGS prefers that you make your reservations on-line through the HGS website at [www.hgs.org](http://www.hgs.org). If you have no Internet access, you can e-mail [reservations@hgs.org](mailto:reservations@hgs.org), or call the office at 713-463-9476 (include your name, e-mail address, meeting you are attending, phone number and membership ID#).

## HGS General Luncheon Meeting

by Pat Gratton  
AAPG President

Effective March 30th, the price of the HGS General Luncheon increased to \$30 and \$35 (\$15 for Emeritus and Honorary).

# Barnett Shale Play: Big and Getting Bigger

In an area centering in Ft. Worth, Texas, measuring only 100 miles long and about 50 miles wide, is one of the great resource plays in the world. The Mississippian Barnett Shale occurs at depths ranging from less than 5,000 ft to almost 9,000 ft in this part of the Ft. Worth Basin. Producing over 1 BCFGPD from approximately 4,000 wells, the play produces about 50% of all U.S. shale gas from about 10% of all U.S. shale gas wells.

The Barnett Shale play took 20 years to develop. It owes its economic success to the persistence of Mitchell Energy (which was acquired by Devon in 2002) and the utilization of DOE dollars.

This talk will review the general economic history of the Barnett Shale play and chronicle specific exploration approaches. Key ingredients for success are compiled, and the sometimes painful and difficult learning curve in the Barnett Shale play's development will be illustrated. ■

### Biographical Sketch

PATRICK J.F. GRATTON has been very active in a wide variety of leadership positions in professional organizations throughout his career, including HGS and SIPES, among others, and currently serves as President of the AAPG.



He received a BS (1955) and MS (1958) in geology from the University of New Mexico. He has over 40 years experience as a geologist, manager and independent oil operator and has published a number of papers on the geology and economics of oil exploration and production. Pat has specialized in geological and economic analyses throughout the southwestern United States and is widely considered an expert in the Barnett Shale.

He has been a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists since 1960. In 1993 AAPG/DPA awarded Gratton Life

Membership for his many contributions to the Division and its members. In 1998 AAPG presented him with the Distinguished Service Award followed by Honorary Membership in 2002. Gratton was Alternate Director for Texas (1993-97) to the national Petroleum Technology Transfer Council. He was also founder and officer of the Dallas (now North Texas) Energy Council 1987-93. Gratton is a member of the Houston Geological Society, Roswell Geological Society, New Mexico Geological Society, National Petroleum Council and Society of Exploration Geophysicists (Associate) in addition to those organizations previously cited.

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