Westchase Hilton • 9999 Westheimer Social 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$25 Preregistered members; \$30 non-members & walk-ups

The HGS prefers that you make your reservations on-line through the HGS website at www.hgs.org. If you have no Internet access, you can e-mail 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 Dinner Meeting

by Adam M. Seitchik (speaker) and Timothy Powell Devon Energy Houston

Lower Tertiary Deposition in Walker Ridge, Gulf of Mexico: An Example of Sedimentary Distribution in an Unrestricted Basin

Deltas supplied

sediments...from shelf

margins located over

300 miles away.

Prior to the Cascade discovery, the presence of a thick, aerially extensive Wilcox sand interval extending into the Walker Ridge Area was not known. The Cascade No. 1 well, originally targeted as a Miocene test, penetrated a substantial section of hydrocarbon-bearing sands in the Wilcox section. Further drilling in Walker Ridge and Keathley Canyon areas confirmed a

pervasive depositional system of amalgamated sheet sands and opened a new exploration trend in a mature basin.

Provenance studies and regional geologic interpretation indicate multiple sediment sources from the north and northwest, specifically the Rockdale and Holly Springs deltas. These deltas supplied sediments to the Walker

Ridge fold belt from shelf margins located over 300 miles away. Deepwater sedimentation may have occurred as a result of punctuated catastrophic events, continuously sourced sand systems, or a combination of the two. This sedimentation had minimal influence on underlying salt, with paleo-reconstructions supporting Lower and Middle Miocene structural growth.

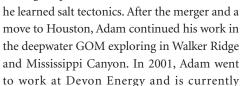
Isopach maps of the Lower Tertiary section in the Walker Ridge fold belt show relatively minor thickness variations indicating subtle structures with low relief during Wilcox deposition. Thus the robust Walker Ridge fold belt of today caused little impediment to deposition at Wilcox time. In addition, mapping Lower Tertiary salt truncations in the Walker Ridge area identifies no significant barriers that could obstruct sedimentation. As a result, deposition during Wilcox time occurred in an unrestricted basin, facilitating thick sheet sand accumulations across the Walker Ridge area.

Biographical Sketches

ADAM SEITCHIK is a geophysicist with Devon Energy's Gulf Division in Houston, Texas, and has worked in the oil industry for 9 years. He earned his BA in geology from Denison University and MS from the University of Alabama, focusing on seismic

sequence stratigraphy. Adam began his career with Mobil, working the Gulf of Mexico shelf, with projects ranging from exploration to AVO analysis, inversion and neural networks. Prior to the merger between

Mobil and Exxon, Adam moved to Mobil's deepwater Gulf group where



focusing his exploration efforts on the Lower Tertiary section in Walker Ridge and Keathley Canyon.

TIM POWELL is exploration supervisor for Devon's Gulf Division Regional Team, located in Houston, Texas. He received his BS degree in geology from Texas A&M University in 1979 and has worked in the oil industry for 26 years. Tim specializes in sequence stratigraphic interpretation and has worked several regional projects as a geologist/geophysicist for Pennzoil/



PennzEnergy (which merged into Devon) on numerous exploration and exploitation projects throughout the onshore United States and offshore Gulf of Mexico. He is an experienced project supervisor and is currently supervising Devon's regional efforts in the Gulf of Mexico. A major project involves interpretation of the entire Gulf Coast Basin, from Jurassic through Miocene, from deepwater to shelf areas. Unraveling the Wilcox depositional systems from updip production to the recent downdip deepwater discoveries is one of the primary focus areas of the regional team.

