**Monday, September 27, 2010**

Westchase Hilton • 9999 Westheimer
Social Hour 5:30–6:30 p.m.
Dinner 6:30–7:30 p.m.

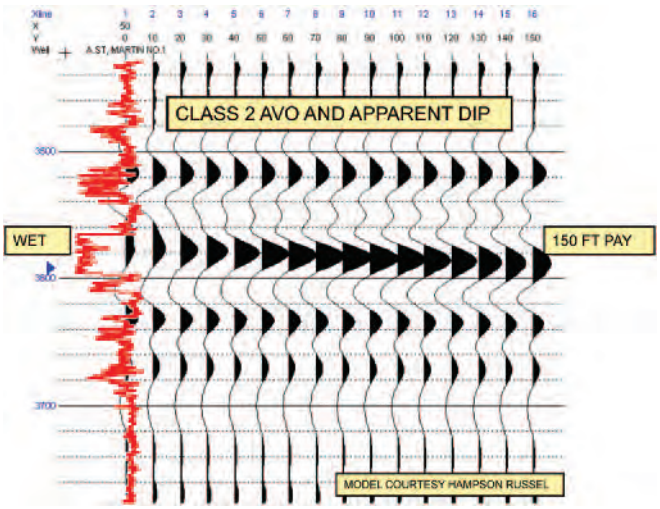
**Cost: $28 Preregistered members; $35 non-members & walk-ups**

**To guarantee a seat, you must pre-register on the HGS website and pre-pay with a credit card.**
**Pre-registration without payment will not be accepted.**
**You may still walk up and pay at the door, if extra seats are available.**

# HGS North American Dinner Meeting

# South Louisiana – Today and Tomorrow

*Donald W. Frye and*
*Gar C. Willis*




Over the past decade there have been many Miocene *Cristellaria I* and *Cibicides opima* discoveries resulting from integration of detailed geology and advanced geophysical techniques. These discoveries, typically in a depth range of 13,000 to 15,000 ft, are in a geopressured environment, have excellent productive capabilities, high liquid content, and can pay out in a few months. Many are so-called AVO class 2 anomalies with a complete phase reversal from wet sand to pay. This phase reversal complicates the interpretation due to the effect on apparent dip and that observed amplitudes can vary, with tuning providing the highest amplitudes in the 70 to 110 ft. pay thickness range

In the same general area there have been a number of deeper discoveries. These are typically in excess of 18,000 ft. but still have excellent sand quality and have proven capability. An example is the UPR/Cabot Etouffee Field find that has produced 25 MM bbl and over 100 Bcfg from a few hundred acres. A large recent discovery at 15,000 ft. is in Contango's Eugene Island Block 10 with 150 ft. of pay in the first well. With additional wells, this field is now producing well over 100 MM cfg/d. McMoran's Flatrock production in South Marsh Island blocks 212/217 has six successful wells as of late 2009 with more than 250 ft. of pay in some of the wells. Production is over 200 MM cfg/d. The McMoran Davy Jones discovery at 29,000 ft. adds a new dimension to the hunt. The production capability of the ultra-deep pays is unproven, but there is ample evidence for excellent sand quality below 20,000 ft.

The authors will discuss a number of the discoveries with the techniques and procedures used and will present a view of future exploration in the area going into even deeper targets, where there are a large number of untested structures. ■

## Biographical Sketches

**Don Frye** and partner **Gar Willis** have been working the South Louisiana Miocene for the last 12 years, concentrating on Terrebonne and St. Mary Parishes.

**Mr. Frye** graduated from the University of Texas with a B.S. in geology, but he has worked primarily as a geophysicist. His early experience was with Conoco in the Rocky Mountains and Ponca City, Oklahoma, and Seiscom Delta as area manager in London, and VP in Singapore and Houston. He later joined Houston Oil & Minerals and was Geophysical Manager when the company merged with Tenneco. He was Manager of Geophysical Data processing when Tenneco sold off their oil and gas interests. Since that time he has been generating prospects along the Gulf Coast. Mr. Frye is a member of AAPG and SEG. He has served as treasurer and President of the Geophysical Society of Houston and as First Vice President of the SEG.

**Gar C. Willis** has a B.A. in Geology from San Diego State and an M. A. from the University of California. Mr. Willis first joined Shell Oil Company where he worked a variety of projects, both domestic and international. After Shell he concentrated on exploration in the Gulf Coast Tertiary with Pend Oreille Oil & Gas and Realm Resources. In 1992 he became an independent consultant and in 1998 teamed with Frye to generate prospects exploring the Middle and Lower Miocene of South Louisiana.

The Frye-Willis team has generated prospects for Cabot Oil & Gas and Palace Exploration and currently is with Magnum Producing.