



# ON THE ROCKS



## A Newsletter of the Michigan Basin Geological Society

2007-2008 Number 1

[www.mbgs.org](http://www.mbgs.org)

August 2007

## EVENTS

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MBGS EXECUTIVE MEMBER COMMITTEE 2007-2008:**

Please join us in welcoming the 2007-2008 MBGS officers!

President – Mark Nida  
Vice President - E Z Manos  
Secretary - Jennifer Jennings  
Treasurer – Tom Hoane  
Business Manager – Tom Godbold  
Past President – Bob Reynolds  
Newsletter Editor – Arlene M. Anderson-Vincent

**September 10, 2007:** MBGS Meeting will be combined with the SPE meeting. The speaker is Neil Dunlop from Energy Scitech Ltd. See detailed information below.

### **Tentative upcoming field trip:**

Baraboo – with Robb Gillespie, postponed due to conflict with Eastern Section AAPG Meeting, more information to come.

### **Future field trips:**

Yellowstone National Park 2008

Copper Country Michigan

Please let us know if you have interest in attending these field trips, or if you have ideas for other field trip locations.

### **New Venue for Upcoming Meetings**

Due to the closing of the Coyote Creek, the May meeting was held at the Delhi Café, at 4625 Willoughby Rd, Holt. The new facility met our needs, so at this time, future meetings will be scheduled for the Dephi Café.

See the following link for map:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=l&hl=en&q=Delhi+Cafe&near=Holt+MI&layer=&ie=UTF8&om=1&z=13&ll=42.658328,-84.533443&spn=0.061353,0.101967>

### **Request for feedback**

Comments? Questions? Concerns? Please contact [Mark Nida](mailto:Mark Nida) at 517-241-6136 or at [nidam@michigan.gov](mailto:nidam@michigan.gov) or talk to any of the executives at an upcoming meeting.

### **Announcements**

Do you have an announcement, news or editorial comment you'd like to share with the Michigan Basin Geological Society membership? Please send an email to Arlene Anderson-Vincent at [aanderson@pirnie.com](mailto:aanderson@pirnie.com) for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

## **2006-2007 MBGS Officers**

The Executive Committee meeting minutes are available on our website at [www.mbgs.org](http://www.mbgs.org)

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## **MEETING CANCELLATION POLICY**

Monthly meetings will be automatically cancelled whenever the National Weather Service issues a "Storm Warning" for the Lansing area. If driving conditions are poor but a "Warning" has not been issued please contact any member of the Executive Committee for the status of the meeting.

## **MICHIGAN BASIN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS**

**Historical CD #1: Nine out-of-print publications from 1949 through 1965 and 1998**, Devonian to Silurian Rock Fieldtrips to MI, WI, IL and Ontario, 2000, \$15

**Historical CD #2: Four out-of-print publications from 1947, 1959, 1983 and 1991**, Northern Devonian and UP Fieldtrips in MI, 2001, \$15

**Historical CD #3: Six out-of-print publications from 1948, 1952, 1990 - 1995**, Northern Devonian and UP Fieldtrips in MI, 2001, \$15

**Historical CD #4: Six out-of-print publications from 1957, 1958, 1961, 1967, 1968 and 1970**, Northern LP and UP Fieldtrips in MI, 2004, \$15

**Historical CD #5: Five out-of-print publications from 1971, 1989, 2001**, Southern LP, MI and Ohio Fieldtrips and **Oil & Gas Fields Vol. 1 & 2, 1969 & 1992**, 2006, \$50

**(NEW) Historical CD #6: Six out-of-print publications from 1946, 1953, 1963, 1966, 1978 & 1987** plus the Richfield Challenge, 1952 & Tom Knapp's MS Thesis, 2007 \$15.

**\*\*Special Price\*\* - Historical CDs #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 & #6 for \$85**

**NE Lower Peninsula Geological Field Conference**, 2004, T. Black, M. Wollensak, 133 pp., illus., maps. On CD \$10

**Stratigraphic Lexicon for Michigan**, 2001, prepared by MBGS and published by DEQ, 56 pp., chart, \$2.65 picked up or \$4 mailed, Can be ordered from MBGS or Office of Geological Survey of the DEQ

Price Includes postage, handling and any applicable sales tax. Orders for publications should be prepaid in U.S. Funds and addressed to: MBGS - Publications, P O Box 18074, Lansing MI 48901-8074

# **SPE – MBGS Meeting**

**Monday September 10, 2007**

**NEW LOCATION: Delhi Cafe**  
**4625 Willoughby Road**  
**Holt, MI 48842**  
**517-694-8655**

5:00 to 6:00 PM – Social Hour  
6:00 PM – Dinner  
Presentation after Dinner  
Cost (includes dinner): \$25.00 (Students \$15.00)

**Topic: Predicting Field Performance - Thriving on Uncertainty**  
**Neil Dunlop**  
**Energy Scitech Ltd**

SPE Dinner Meeting Reservation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Fee Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Will Pay at Door: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **SPE** and return to Allison Schwager by September 7.

Allison Schwager  
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**Society of Petroleum Engineers  
Distinguished Lecturer 2007-08 Lecture Season**



**Predicting Field Performance - Thriving on Uncertainty**

**Neil Dunlop**  
Energy Scitech Ltd

**Abstract:**

Making predictions was always part of the art of management. Now that we can readily predict multiple views of future performance it is easy to become concerned that the results will simply complicate decision making. Clearly the physical plant installed has a specific design and capacity but during the planning process good use can be made of an understanding of the range of possible future behaviour. Widespread access to detailed physical models and low cost high speed computing makes it possible to harness measures of uncertainty to the task of improving field development decisions of all types. Divestment or acquisition decisions are strongly affected, well location decisions can be improved and plant modifications or well workovers better chosen in scope and timing.

As oil and gas resources are increasingly recovered from reservoirs whose behaviour has considerable uncertainty, the need to measure that uncertainty and educate ourselves in ways to make use of the measurements is increasing. It is now possible to combine new approaches to history matching and multiple predictions into measures of uncertainty for less than the cost of obtaining a simple single history match five years ago. When uncertainty is quantified, both understanding and economic outcomes can be improved, eventually making more hydrocarbons accessible by lowering cost.

The talk will illustrate the difficulties and pitfalls that can arise when history matching and prediction are performed deterministically using practical examples. An approach that avoids some of the major difficulties of current history matching practice will be discussed and illustrated, showing how it integrates into the process of corporate decision making under uncertainty.

**Biography:**

Neil Dunlop has over 32 years diverse experience in the international upstream oil & gas industry in consulting and the implementation of high technology. He is a Director at Energy Scitech, a member of the Roxar group, and a consultant conducting reservoir studies. Currently he works with clients worldwide, extending their use of simulation through the application of statistical techniques for history matching fields and predicting performance under uncertainty. Previously, he was for many years with SSI, conducting, delivering and managing multi-disciplinary studies of major oil and gas fields from reservoir characterization through to economic planning and 4D surveillance. Neil has an MSc in Petroleum Engineering from Imperial College and MA in Chemical Engineering from Cambridge University. He is a member of SPE, EI, PESGB and EAGE.

Map link for the Delhi Café

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=l&hl=en&q=Delhi+Cafe&near=Holt+MI&layer=&ie=UTF8&om=1&z=13&ll=42.658328,-84.533443&spn=0.061353,0.101967>