

July, 2001

www.api-delta.org



The APInion

15th Annual Teacher Excellence Award Luncheon



The April 25 Luncheon for the API 2000-2001 Teaching Excellence Program was a very special occasion for the API Delta Chapter. This recent annual event gave API the opportunity to honor an outstanding group of teachers, their administrators, and principals in the Greater New Orleans Area and surrounding parishes.

Opening remarks by API's Delta Chapter Chairman, Benjamin J. Waring, cited the work of the organization on behalf of education in our community. Mr. Waring noted that education is a vital part of our industry's livelihood. Cathy Vaughn, API Board Member and former teacher in Jefferson Parish who is responsible for the Teacher Award Program and API exhibits at the Louisiana Children's Museum and "Super Science Saturday", also made introductions and presented awards to the teachers. Ms. Vaughn applauded the virtues of the greater metropolitan area teachers and the importance of their work to the children they teach in the community at large and to the API.

The speaker for the occasion was John Borkowski, a noted education lawyer with the firm of Hogan & Hartson. He was introduced by Dwight Paulsen, API Board member. Borkowski's presentation, entitled "The End of School Desegregation?," discussed two topics. The first topic was whether the era mandatory court ordered desegregation is coming to an end and the opportunities thus presented to school districts contemplating the end of federal court jurisdiction. The second topic was the recent legal challenges to voluntary desegregation.

In determining whether to end school desegregation cases, courts look at three factors: whether there has been compliance with the desegregation orders, whether the vestiges of the dual system have been remedied, and whether the school board has demonstrated a commitment to the constitutional rights of all students. Schools have been relieved from ongoing supervision when compliant.

— continued, page 9

**Wednesday
August 22, 2001**

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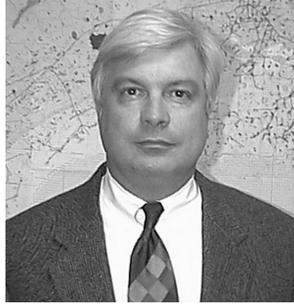
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\$25.00 per person
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RSVP by August 17, 2001 to:
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waring@ocsbbs.com or Dwight
Paulsen: dcpaulsen@edgla.com

THE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Summer Update — Summer greetings from the API-Delta Chapter! The temperature is rising but it doesn't seem nearly as hot as it was last year this time. The humidity has been lower and June was a lot cooler thanks to more frequent rainfall that was virtually non-existent last year. Our hearts go out to our Houston brethren who suffered through the Flood of 2001 caused by Tropical Storm Allison. We here in New Orleans know first-hand what Houston has had to deal with! Your API-Delta Board took June off due to schedule conflicts but our respite was short. As you'll see later, our sponsor guru, immediate Past Chairman Bart Walker has been hard at work, adding significantly to our already impressive list of sponsors!



First off, we're excited to announce the details on our upcoming Technical Luncheon scheduled for August 22, 2001 at the Fairmont Hotel in New Orleans:

August 22, 2001 API-Delta Technical Presentation — Coming up on August 22nd, the same day as the OCS Western Gulf Lease Sale, the Delta Chapter will sponsor its yearly Technical Luncheon at the Fairmont Hotel's Blue Room featuring a presentation by Chevron's Scott McLeod. Mr. McLeod, who was featured in the May 2001 issue of *Offshore Magazine*, will address the audience on the rigors and challenges involved in drilling the Poseidon Prospect well on Mississippi Canyon Area, Block 727 to a depth of 29,680 feet TVD (True Vertical Depth). Please contact me at 733-3117 or e-mail me at waring@ocsbbs.com if you wish to attend.

The following is a short recap of our past events:

Super Science Saturday — Thanks to the efforts of our indefatigable Director, Cathy Vaughn, this is an API yearly event that highlights our favorite charity, the Louisiana Children's Museum. This year's theme was "Dinosaurs" and indeed, the New Orleans Geologic Society (NOGS) helped tremendously with their volunteers and booths featuring fossils and dinosaur bones from southern Wyoming (from the Red Desert and your Chairman's antelope hunting stomping grounds). NOGS members even handed out free authentic fossils to the children in attendance (and some adults, also!). If you were lucky enough to attend this function, you realize now that the Childrens Museum is one of the great organizations in this city dedicated to our children's development. Some pictures from the event can be found on pages 6 and 7.

— continued, CHAIRMAN, page 3

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CHAIRMAN (continued from page 2)

Teachers' Awards Luncheon the Best Yet — Once again, Cathy Vaughn, with help from Vice Chairman Dwight Paulsen and others, made this an event to remember. In late April, 23 teachers from six parishes were honored for their contributions to the children of the New Orleans metropolitan area. John Borkowski, a partner in the Washington, D.C. based law firm of Hogan & Hartson, addressed current issues on school desegregation and gave us all a lot to think about. The Chapter's Directors subsequently handed out cash awards to each winning teacher at School Board meetings throughout the New Orleans area. Many thanks to Cathy for another well done job!

Welcome to our new Chapter and Website Sponsors! — Thanks to the efforts of immediate past President, Bart Walker, we have 7 new sponsors, bringing our total to 21. The 7 additions are **Audubon Engineering, Project Specialists, Liskow & Lewis, National Oilwell, Ruelco, Petronyx, LLC, and Superior Energy Services.** Please help us to thank these generous companies and all of our perennial sponsors who make our website and other Chapter activities possible!

Other news and an update on upcoming events:

October 12, 2001 API-Delta Golf Tournament — This is API-Delta's major fund raising event that is always a fantastic networking opportunity for the New Orleans oil and gas community. The tournament serves to support the recognition of scholastic excellence displayed by teachers in the greater New Orleans area. This year, your entry fee gets you your cart, green fees, mulligans, great food and drinks throughout the course, your membership dues paid for 2002, and a swanky new golf shirt! We still need hole and corporate sponsors so please contact Leo Kerner at 836-1395 and for

registration and information, please call Bob Freeman at 525-2487 or log on to the chapter's home page at www.api.delta.org.

November 13, 2001 Greater New Orleans Energy Industry Associations' Luncheon — This is our big gathering of the year and if you're involved in the energy business in the New Orleans, it is a must to attend. This year, we are privileged to have the highly acclaimed speaker Ronald Oligney address the New Orleans energy community on *The Color of Oil*, a book recently written by him and fellow author Michael Economides. Oligney is Adjunct Professor and director of engineering research development at the University of Houston. Previously, Oligney has held a number of technical and executive positions within the Texas A&M University System, including Adjunct Professor of Petroleum Engineering; Assistant Director of the Texas Engineering Experiment Station; Director of the Aerospace Vehicle Systems Institute and Principal and Founding Director of the Global Petroleum Research Institute. Copies of *The Color of Oil* will be available for purchase at the presentation. Please call me at 733-3117 or email me at waring@ocsbbs.com if you would like to obtain one at a cost of \$19.95 each, plus shipping and handling.

Greater New Orleans Industry wide Oil & Gas Directory — This is an idea that has surfaced once again from our friends at SIPES-NO. We are in the process of establishing a common database template for an industry directory that could be used by the 14 societies to maintain their membership directories. The goal is to maintain a complete directory on a site acceptable to all societies. Using a format that has proved extremely successful for the offshore GOM landman community, work is underway to build such a membership directory for the NOGS website. PLANO has also pledged to work on an

electronic directory. I feel that once all societies use and maintain a common database format, we could accomplish our goal.

The Greater New Orleans Energy Association Welcomes New Member — Please help me in welcoming a new member to the Greater New Orleans Energy Industry Association, the National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE), bringing to 14 our New Orleans members.

Finally, I am pleased to report industry use of our website www.api.delta.org continues to grow. The site provides information on careers in the oil and gas business and access to the directors, websites and calendars for the many New Orleans area oil and gas associations. Once again, many thanks to our loyal sponsors who make the website possible! We are proud we can provide assistance to the entire New Orleans oil and gas community and I thank those members of the API board and the boards of the other societies that continue to support our efforts. In early September, the 14 New Orleans associations comprising the Greater New Orleans Energy Industry Association will once again meet to discuss issues of mutual interest. We encourage member participation. If you have questions, ideas, or suggestions please make your voice heard. Your involvement makes the difference!

*Benjamin J. Waring, JD, CPL
Chairman*



API Comments on Administration's Energy Plan

Letter API sent to President Bush after announcing his Administration's proposed energy plan. Letter is by Red Cavaney, President and CEO of API.

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1220 L Street, Northwest
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202-682-8100

Red Cavaney
President and CEO

May 17, 2001

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President;

On behalf of the 500 members of the American Petroleum Institute (API), I applaud your leadership and commitment to the development and implementation of a long term energy strategy that will ensure ample supplies of reliable, affordable energy to continue the economic growth so vital to our nation's future.

The comprehensive plan you announced today, coupled with your leadership in helping the American people understand the importance of available energy, is appropriately balanced with its focus on conservation and energy efficiency, energy production and distribution, and reliance of free markets.

In the face of recent calls for non-market "fixes" to the recent increase in gasoline prices, your commitment to free markets will clearly benefit the consumer. Wholesale gasoline prices have been falling since May 4 and are historically always followed by a decrease in retail prices. In fact, recent news reports indicate this to be the case in St. Louis and Milwaukee, cities particularly impacted by this spring and last summer's tight gasoline supplies. After five straight weeks of record U.S. refinery output, gasoline and crude oil inventories are above year-ago levels. These important indicators add confidence that consumers will be able to count on ample gasoline availability this summer.

Your energy plan addresses, among other important matters, realistic solutions to today's imbalances between demand and the availability of much needed petroleum products. While refiners are doing all they can to meet demand, their ability to support growing demand is at risk absent implementation of many of your proposals, especially those facilitating capacity expansion.

Your emphasis on increasing domestic production of crude oil and natural gas, as well as diversifying our sources of supply within the international marketplace, is particularly welcome. U.S. consumers benefit when their suppliers have options for sourcing from a wider range of choices in today's globalized economy. Improved access is vital.

While the U.S. oil and natural gas industry has made dramatic gains in conservation and energy efficiency, we are committed to aggressively continue those gains. Your vision is important in conservation, as Americans can be expected to respond to your active leadership.

As the U.S. oil and natural gas industry and as active members of the Alliance for Energy & Economic Growth—a broad-based, national coalition of energy users, producers and providers committed to the harmonizing economic growth, energy and the environment—we are committed to working with you and your Administration, Members of Congress and elected officials in state and local government. It is imperative that our nation realizes the co-existing goals of available energy to fuel continued economic growth and appropriate safeguards to ensure continued environmental improvements.

Sincerely,



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Delta  Chapter

GOLF TOURNAMENT

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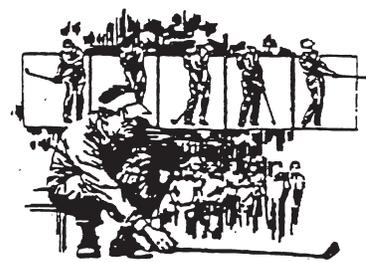
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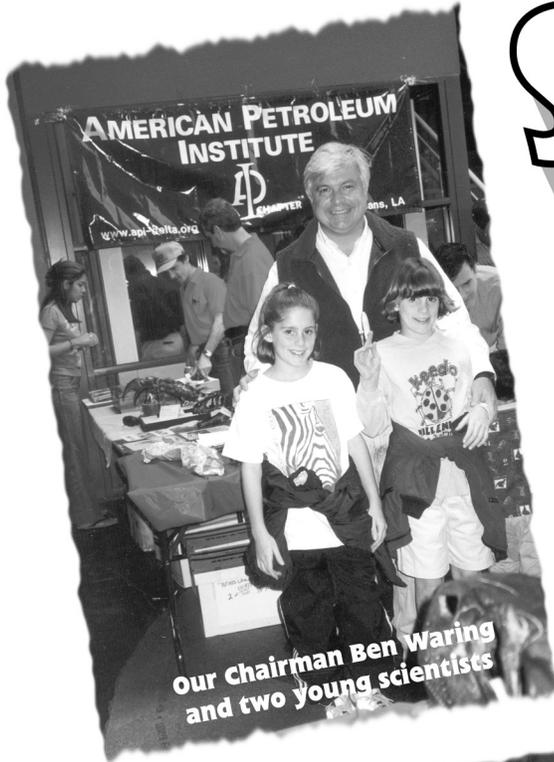
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Send checks early to get a good tee time!
Registration & Information:
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SCIENCE



**our chairman Ben Waring
and two young scientists**



"DAD, LET ME EXPLAIN!"



DINOSAUR LOVER



BIG KID HAVING FUN



DESK & DERRICK'S VOLUNTEERS



A GREAT AUDIENCE

SATURDAY



DINOSAURS ARE A BIG HIT

Our March 31st Super Science Saturday was another huge success. More than seven hundred children, teachers, and their relatives attended this event sponsored by API Delta Chapter.

Our guests were treated to fourteen exhibits, including an impressive variety of fossils. We also had video presentations in the Museum's theater. The Prehistoric Life and Dinosaurs videos were big hits. Thanks to our members for making this event possible. Many of these children would not be able to attend this event without API sponsorship. We are proud to bring this quality exhibition to our community and will continue to support the Children's Museum.

Thanks to all our volunteers and, notably, Desk & Derrick's Carol Shiavone, Kathy Gowland, Darlene Adams and Kathy Denley for generously donating their time and effort.



Our Hoist Away Exhibit was a favorite with the children



ENTHUSIASTIC VOLUNTEER



Ben Waring of API and Tom Bergeon, NOGS Chairman

National Energy Strategy Web Site Launched

API has launched a web site providing information on the major components needed for an effective, comprehensive national energy strategy. The site includes sections on the need for increased production, improved infrastructure, energy conservation, new technology and other issues. It can be accessed by going to API's web site at www.api.org and clicking on the national energy strategy icon.

Contact: Jim Twyman, Issues Management and Industry Reputation, 202-682-8263 or twymanj@api.org.

API's Red Cavaney Speaks in New Orleans

To keep Congress on track, the oil industry needs states to help convince US policy makers that a comprehensive energy strategy is needed, the president of the American Petroleum Institute told state energy officials recently.

"I hope you will join us in helping to persuade people to set aside partisanship to work together for energy solutions," Red Cavaney told an Energy Council meeting in New Orleans, La., June 29.

Cavaney noted that although industry is consistently cleared by investigations of alleged overcharges, it is still fighting off such accusations. "Help for the consumer will come from the search for solutions, not replaying the blame game," Cavaney said. Indeed, a recent Harris Poll found 87% of the US public believes oil companies are overcharging consumers with high gasoline prices this summer. A plurality, 42%, said the industry is "mainly to blame" for increased fuel prices. Another 30% blamed the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and other foreign oil producers, while 21% blamed government, said officials of Harris Interactive, Rochester, NY, which conducts those polls.

(OGJ Online)

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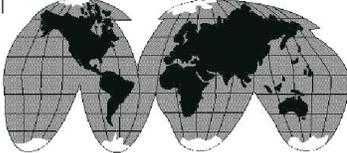


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TEACHERS AWARDS

Continued From Page 1

Another question being raised in the courts is whether school districts voluntarily can take race-conscious measures to promote diverse school enrollments since there is no consistent jurisprudence among the lower federal courts, and the issue begs for the Supreme Court to intervene.

Borkowski suggested that the better view of this issue is found in a case out of Seattle's school district. There a court upheld a school's action to promote diversity in its student body because of the educational benefits to be gained by all races in a diverse school.

Borkowski also noted that many school districts may be able to create diverse student populations in race neutral ways. For example, some school districts assign students based on socio-economic backgrounds. Leadership must come from the school boards, administration, teachers and parents who must promote the value of diversity. Public education can be a place where we can move forward into a multi-cultural millennium with an appreciation for diversity, tolerance and equality.

Mr. Waring closed the luncheon with thanks to Mr. Borkowski for his remarks, to Cathy Vaughn for her effort on behalf of API and to the Holiday Inn for the flowers in honor for our outstanding teachers.

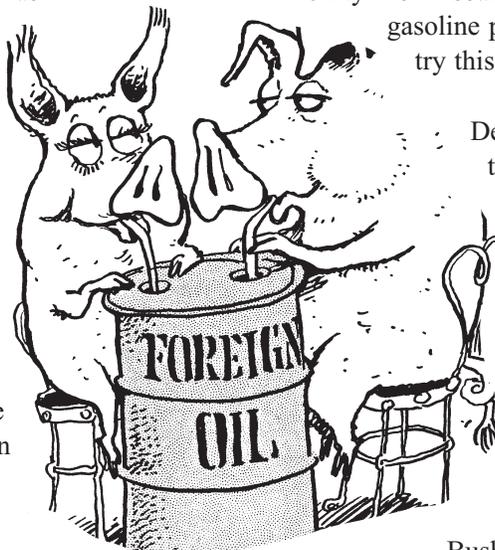
ABRAHAM SAYS U.S. WILL NOT BEG OPEC FOR MORE OIL

Washington — The Bush administration will not go “begging the OPEC countries or anybody else to increase oil production as long as the United States has untapped reserves that could ease an energy pinch,” Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham said recently.

Making the case for oil drilling in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Abraham said no one should be surprised that OPEC countries recently chose to cut output to keep prices high.

“They have decided to put their own interests first, and I think that's something the American people need to recognize,” Abraham told Fox News Sunday. “We are not going to take the approach of begging the OPEC countries or anybody else with respect to oil production.”

Abraham's comments come amid concern about power shortages and blackouts in California, as well as the possibility of soaring electricity and gasoline prices across the country this summer.



Democrats argue that there are other ways to improve the country's energy efficiency than drilling in the Arctic refuge and that fuel should not come at the expense of the environment.

Abraham said the Bush administration will make the argument to OPEC elders that the supply and demand of the market should determine price, not cartel manipulations. Beyond that the United States will not supplicate.

“We should not expect OPEC to necessarily just do what the United States considers in its best interests. And I think that just argues for us to develop more energy resources here at home,” Abraham said.

— Source: Associated Press

House Committee Extends Controversial Law

The House Committee on International Relations voted to extend by 5 years a controversial law designed to punish foreign oil companies that invest over \$20 million/year in Iran or Libya. House Republican leaders have pledged to renew the law before it expires this August. An overwhelming majority of lawmakers from both parties, including Chairman Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) rejected a White House-backed amendment offered by Ron Paul (R-Tex.) to extend the law by only 2 years.

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AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE – DELTA CHAPTER 2000-2001 TEACHER EXCELLENCE AWARDS

For the fifteenth consecutive year, the Delta Chapter has recognized outstanding area teachers through the Teaching Excellence Award Program. The API-Delta Chapter Teaching Excellence Award is recognized as a coveted award. The Chapter continues to enjoy a place of distinction at School Board Meetings and Awards Nights, with our members being warmly received by the School Boards and Superintendents when the Teacher of the Year Awards are presented.

The Delta Chapter of API is committed to public education and, to that end, has chosen to recognize the untiring efforts of public school teachers who continue to deliver quality services to students with minimal compensation and inadequate resources. To date, the Delta Chapter has awarded over \$100,000 to new and veteran teachers in the New Orleans area. Following are the names of this year's award recipients and their school affiliations in the six metropolitan area parishes, including the names of the API-Delta Chapter members who presented the awards.

Jefferson Parish:

1 st place:	Octavio A. Hernandez	Grace King High School
2 nd place:	Elizabeth Rodriguez	Stella Worley Jr. High School
3 rd place:	Peggy J. Collins	Phoebe A. Hearst Elementary
Presented by:	Michael Del Papa and Carlos Guzman	

Orleans Parish:

1 st place:	Rhea Anderson White	Ronald E. McNair Elementary
2 nd place:	Gerard Michael Sears	Walter L. Cohen Senior High
3 rd place:	Glenda J. Simmons	Mildred Osborne School
New Teacher:	Deshaunta L. Kearns	Marion Abramson High School
Presented by:	Michael Del Papa	

Plaquemines Parish:

1 st place:	Robert Ray Becnel, Jr.	Belle Chasse High School
2 nd place:	Sybil B. Smith	Port Sulphur High School
3 rd place:	Elizabeth B. Dore'	Belle Chasse High School
New Teacher:	Marie Cecilia Swearengin	
Presented by:	Dwight Paulsen	

St. Bernard Parish:

1 st place:	Deborah Gaudet	Chalmette High School
2 nd place:	Monica Braud	Chalmette Middle School
3 rd place:	Brandy Alfonso Lafrance	Borgnemouth Elementary
New Teacher:	Angela M. Dimaggio	PGT Beauregard School
Presented by:	Kathy Gowland and Carol Schiavone	

St. Charles:

1 st place:	Barbara M. Forshag	E. J. Landry Sr. Middle School
2 nd place:	Robert Fisher	Destrehan High School
3 rd place:	Mary Beth Kugler Anderson	Mimosa Park Elementary
New Teacher:	Kristinia L. Gaude	J.B. Martin Middle School
Presented by:	Luis Banos and Michael Del Papa	

St. Tammany:

1 st place:	Lori Dewitt	Slidell High School
2 nd place:	Rebecca W. Charlet	Whispering Forest Elementary
3 rd place:	Marilou DeVille Robinson	Mandeville Middle School
New Teacher:	Lisa L. Galatas	Northshore High School
Presented by:	Dwight Paulsen and Mark Phillips	



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Facsimile: 504-733-6040
Digital Pager: 504-668-4251
E-mail: waring@ocsbbs.com
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API DELTA LUNCHEON

**Wednesday,
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2001**

**Fairmont Hotel – Blue
Room
11:30 a.m.**

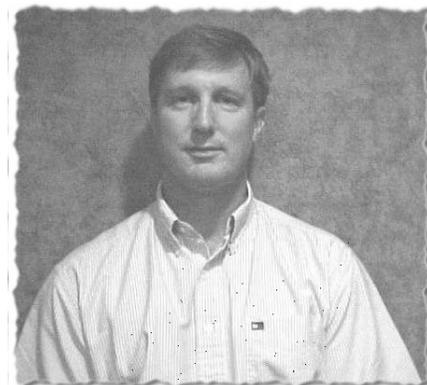
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