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Executive Corner
By Mark Davidson – DGS Vice President/President Elect

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Monthly Luncheon

November 19th
3DSS Call for Papers Due Date

December 9th
DGS Annual Meeting and Holiday Party

March 23rd
27th 3D Seismic Symposium
Looking Forward: Where Geophysics is (Might Be?) Headed

2020 and 2021 have been unusual for our industry, even for an industry accustomed to volatility. Often, I’ve heard colleagues expressing, “better times might be coming if oil were just $60…, $80…,” or some other amount. However, as I write this column, oil has been steadily in the low to mid-$80 range; yet optimism for the future of our industry is still guarded.

Why? The current political climate, the emergence of a desire for a “Green” energy model, and the shifting attitudes towards energy companies in general are just a few reasons. The future of the oil and gas industry as a career seems rife with uncertainty.

Denver has just finished the 2021 IMAGE conference. Though many of us were able to attend, either in person or virtually, the conference enjoyed a muted attendance; around 2500 attended in-person with another 3100 registered online. This is both encouraging and a little disappointing – on one hand it’s the first national SEG/AAPG conference and the first annual meeting for either society since the initial lockdown, but it appears many could not attend for a variety of reasons ranging from inaccessible visas to companies restricting in-person attendance.

On the other, 2500 in-person attendees were able to meet with their peers, exchange ideas and network. Universally, I heard positive comments on the ability to resume one-on-one networking and interactions. Unfortunately, there were also many comments about the poor outlook for our industry.

Geophysics as a Career

Is this a reflection of the future of our industry? Geophysics as a career has always been a chameleon of sorts – adapting to the ever-changing climate of technological advances, changes in business philosophies, exploration and development budgets, oil price, and so on. The Oil and Gas industry has employed the lion’s share of geophysicists in past. Many of us have been subjected to voluntary or unvoluntary changes to our employment over the past years, particularly during the latter half of the 2010’s. Whether it stems from corporate consolidations, restructuring, or voluntary career changes, few are left untouched by career changes. Some have left industry and geophysics altogether to pursue other opportunities or look for “more stable” careers.

For those who remain, as we face the current realities of our industry and the general sentiment towards fossil fuels, it’s natural to begin investigating what other opportunities exist in the “new” energy economy. “Green” energy opportunities, such as solar, wind, and geothermal, for example, exist. Often, these companies are
reluctant to consider those with an oil background for employment, regardless of the fact that we are highly qualified to perform the work they require. Breaking those boundaries is not a straightforward problem with a singular answer. Often, we are forced to reinvent ourselves to leverage these new opportunities.

Other opportunities present themselves in significantly modifying or changing the established business models. One such example is utilizing flare or waste produced gas for “bitcoin mining”. While one might be dismissive of such an activity as a trend, it is one example of outside the box thinking that has been leveraged by industry personnel to pivot to a new business opportunity.

**The Role of a Local Society**

So, what can a local society like DGS do for its members? At a minimum, it provides a community to further our mutual interests, build professional relationships, and foster learning and new perspectives. This is perhaps more salient than ever.

DGS is now actively planning the 2022 3DSS. Our hope is to maintain the character and improve on the past successes and continue to be a quality technical resource for our chosen career. Further down the line, we have luncheons, (hopefully) in-person training courses, as well as social activities such as the Golf Tournament.

You, as members, are critical to the success of DGS’s agenda – volunteer to help with one of our activities either on the participation side or the organizing side (3DSS, Monthly Luncheons, Golf Tournament, Student Bowl, the Holiday Party...there are many opportunities!). Stay active in the society and help recruit those not active or a member in the society, whether they’re new to industry or have let membership lapse. And most importantly, keep an open mind, keep learning and expanding your vision of what a career in Geophysics means today and what it might look like tomorrow.

**Save the Date**

**The 2021 DGS Annual Meeting and Holiday Party**

**Ellie Caulkins Opera House**

**Thursday**

**December 9, 2021**

**11:00am to 1:30pm**

**(Tentative)**

Watch for additional details coming soon!

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**2022 Executive Committee Voting Results**

Results are final from the 2022 Executive Committee voting.

Many thanks to the candidates and all who participated in voting.

**Your newly elected DGS Executive Committee Officers are:**

**Vice President-President Elect:**

Jeff Zawila

**Secretary:**

Andrew Keene

**Treasurer:**

Jess Vahling

**Editor:**

Xan Davidson

Please join the current Executive Committee in congratulating our newly elected officers.
2022 3D Seismic Symposium

The annual DGS 3D Seismic Symposium is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23, 2022!

Please plan to join friends and colleagues as the 3DSS committee is planning for an in-person event.

Things to know:

Call for Papers
A call for papers went out a couple of weeks ago and the committee is eagerly awaiting your abstract submission!

Please find the abstract submission form at:

3DSS-Speaker-Commitment-Form-2022


No color-illustrated, multipage abstract required! Give the committee an idea of the focus of your presentation in a pair of paragraphs and an optional figure.

Deadline for abstracts is Friday, November 19, 2021.

2020 3DSS Attendee Registrations Carry into 2022
Did you know that your 2020 3DSS registration carried forward into 2021 and will carry forward into our 2022 event! What a deal!

If you registered in 2021, you will need to register for 2022 separately. Stay tune for details on 2022 registrations.

Exhibitors and Sponsors
Additionally, both exhibitors and sponsorship from 2020 and 2021 exhibitors will roll into 2022! More information is forthcoming regarding 2022 exhibitors and sponsorship opportunities.
27th 3D Seismic Symposium
THANK YOU SPONSORS!

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Student Bowl

Scott Cook – Student Outreach Committee Volunteer

2021 was another challenging year for geophysicists, but we managed to get the supposed-to-be-annual Rocky Mountain Challenge Bowl back on track! In a coordinated effort with SEG student outreach (thanks Kathryn Elkins), we held it at the SEG/IMAGE convention on October 28th in Denver. Two audience teams mixed it up with the seven student teams for a super-heated opening round. Our DGS president did us proud! Joel Scott and his partner actually outscored the students and the other audience team (sorry to sound so shocked, Joel) – beating them to the punch on questions like: “How many solar masses does it take to sustain a state of supernova?” Round 2 turned more serious as only student teams were allowed to compete, with the top 3 of 7 teams moving on to the final round.

Adam Mattsen and William Sessums (Team “Kurt” in honor of Dr. Marfurt) of University of Houston were the overall winners, taking home $400 in credit from the SEG Bookstore. Perhaps surprisingly in this “digital age”, both were quite excited with their winnings and knew exactly which paper textbooks they wanted. Teresa Langenkamp of CSU and Alejandro Jaimes of CSM (Team “Rockies Geos” – reference to “Rocky’s Autos”??) took second overall, making them the highest scoring local team and the Rocky Mountain district representatives at the International Bowl on October 23rd. Fawz Naim and Tobi Ore of Ohio State (Team “Explorers”) came in the quite respectable 3rd place ranking.

Thanks to all the teams and audience participants who came out this year to make this an exciting bowl. We also would like to thank our sponsors, without whom we could never pull something like this off, although some of them did not survive the recent flurry of mergers, but here goes (in no particular order): Great Western Oil and Gas, Resource Energy, High Point Resources, Dawson Geophysical, Lario Oil and Gas, EOG Resources, Camino Natural Resources, Integrated Geophysical Interpretation, and Tricon. Also, a big thanks to our volunteers (also no particular order):

71st Annual DGS Golf Tournament

Brian Pleumer – Golf Tournament Organizer

The 71st annual DGS golf tournament was held on August 26th at the Raccoon Creek Golf Course, in Littleton, CO. The tournament was a success – a beautiful course, the weather cooperated, and volunteers dug in and helped the event go through! Thanks to all the volunteers and the 92 golfers who participated in the event!

**Contest Hole Winners:**

- Women’s Closest to Pin:  Mindy Stone
- Men’s Closest to Pin:  Dan Donoho
- Women’s Long Drive:  Rachel Friedman
- Men’s Long Drive:  Andrew Welshhans
- Long Putt (Anyone):  Scott Hoenmans

**Overall Winners**

John and Alex Beury, Erick Erwin, and Dan Behringer

*The team shot a 58 (14 under par)!*
71st Annual DGS Golf Tournament

THANK YOU SPONSORS!
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Epoch Estate Wines

Cascade Financial Management, Inc.
The Importance of Correcting for TOC to Reduce Uncertainty in Pore Pressure Prediction

Jakob Heller, Ikon Science, Houston, TX, USA

Pore pressure prediction in shales undergoing compaction, including both mechanical and chemical processes, is customarily related to the mechanism referred to disequilibrium compaction. However, even when this mechanism is established and the normal compaction trend in sonic velocity, as a proxy for shale porosity, is well constrained, the pore pressure prediction may be in error because of the lithological variation in shale composition. Presence of solid organic matter in excess amounts in shale formations is an example of these lithological effects, causing marked overprediction of pore pressure even in thermally immature mudrocks. This necessitates implementation of bulk density and sonic velocity log corrections in organic-rich shales prior to performing standard pore pressure prediction workflows.

Sign up for in-person or virtual attendance on the DGS website: [denvergeo.org](http://denvergeo.org).
Please contact us if you would like to have your company logo, business card, articles of interest, or any other relevant information published

office@denvergeo.org

We are here to serve and keep the geophysical community up to date

Do you want to network, drive the course of the society, or just get involved? Consider volunteering today to help with an upcoming event or create an event that sparks your interest. This can be a social event or a technical special interest group (SIG).

Volunteer to Help with an Upcoming Planned Event

Annual Meeting and Holiday Party- December 9, 2021- Filled

3D Seismic Symposium- March 23, 2022

Contact the DGS with your ideas

office@denvergeo.org

The following pages are Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, published in the Record as required by the Denver Geophysical Society By-Laws.
DGS February 2021 Minutes

Call to order 4:10 pm

Attendees: Joel, Mark, Kent, Romina, Janel, Morgan, Angie

Minutes approved

Revenue: $1900 from membership, $82 from January lunch reservations. Total $2029.
Expenses: Insurance, golf, accounting, overhead totaling $11,612.
1099s were went out to Ray and Kyrie.
We still need to get our deposit money back from the City from the 2020 3DSS deposits. We will set up a separate bank account to hold that money for the 2022 3DSS.
Financials approved.

SEG: We will get $5000 and a free booth. Joel and Janel sit on the SEG Annual Meeting committee. They need our help to identify session chairs.

The Record: plan to release 1st week of March. Joel wrote article and Sissy is trying to find a technical article. Will add something about the 3DSS and SEG.

3DSS: 25 available unemployed slots (free if a member). Student admission is free if they are a member. We will have prerecorded intros and talks. We need one or more MCs to operate behind scenes, but probably won't talk a lot. Continue to promote the event on LinkedIn.

Golf: Brian has agreed to chair again this year and Matt Romero is interested in helping. Venue: Raccoon Creek. We have a copy of the contract. $1000 down. $132.50 is our cost and the Board recommends having entry fee set at $150.

Committees Reports:
Looking for volunteers for the following committees: Membership, Speakers, Golf, 3DSS. Will put out a blast for volunteers in LI and the Record.
Nomination Committee: deadline for finding folks to go on the ballot is July. Angie, Damon, and Morgan are that committee.

Awards: Nancy House, Stewart Wright, and Angie. Deadline before the party

Adjourn: 5:25
DGS March 2021 Minutes

Call to order: 8:34 am

Minutes approved.

Treasurer: Began March with $69,523; ended with $71,874 in the bank account. Paypal began March with $53; ended with $1823. Cash on hand unchanged. Revenue: $3862 total ($972 membership, luncheons $59. 3DSS sponsors $2444, 3DSS ticket $389) Expenses: golf venue rental $1000, overhead $513. Leaving $2301 profit this month, but a loss YTD. Report approved.

Training: After we get a handle on our monthly burn rate, we would like to start offering training options. Ideally would like to offer a free class to members. Discussed trying to schedule something right after SEG.

3DSS: Committee + Joel & Mark are doing a dry run.

Golf: Contract is signed and deposit is paid. Registration and Sponsorship website is built and will go live on 3/22. SEG will advertise their tournament during ours.

SEG: Joel and Janel are on the annual meeting committee. Joel is in charge of the monitors for the session rooms. Janel is chair of the Applied Science Education Program.

Annual meeting & holiday party: Have 2

rd Thursday in December as preferred. We hope we will be able to have it in person. Joel is checking with the city about whether we have it reserved/can get that date. The plan is to have a scaled back version compared to recent years-- no band, no comedian; mostly lunch, drinks, and silent auction. Need to find a volunteer to help organize it. Will put up a volunteer interest survey to find volunteers for this and other committees.

Membership: Have a number of volunteers. Plan to meet soon.

Nominations/Awards: Haven’t met yet

Social media: We have more followers on LinkedIn than GSH.

New business: The Record is out. One of the contractors is interested in an “annual sponsorship”. We need to figure this out. Morgan is suggesting a contractor technical breakfast/happy hours – we set it up, they pay and do a presentation.

Adjourn: 9:35 am
DGS April 2021 Minutes

7:10 call to order

Minutes approved


Report approved.

Still need to get deposits back from City and Ellie Caulkins for cancelled 2020 3DSS. They have offered to allow us to get that back with no penalty. Will need to get estimates for 2022 3DSS.

3DSS: 25 responses to the survey that went out. The result was that people were mostly satisfied. Some folks were disappointed that we didn’t have commenting during the talks. A couple people volunteered for committee next year. The luncheon feedback indicated there was no clear preference for live or prerecorded.

Annual Meeting/Holiday Party: We couldn’t get the Loft (the Ballet reserved it, but we are on the waiting list), but got the basement area, and are first in line if the Ballet decides they don’t need it. The basement venue can handle 300 people, so we committed. The date will be the second Thursday of December (9th). 11-4 pm (expecting to be done by 2.) Lunch, food, business part of meeting, drinks, silent auction, door prizes. Should be less expensive for everyone than the big events of the recent past. Looking for volunteers; Janel will send out queries.

Monthly luncheons: Haven’t heard back from Wynkoop for when we can go back to in-person. Mark and Joel will contact them. Should send out a survey monkey Mark will write up questions (Janel will help). We are also exploring other venues, to be more central to downtown.

Training: No progress yet. Still waiting to see budget. Mark and Kent will work on this. Estimates $2500 instructor fee for a 1 day class.

The Record: Next publication the first week of June. Kent will write Executive Corner for that month. Sissy will help find a technical article. Maybe something from SEG on joint meeting.

Membership committee will meet in the next month.

Honors/Awards and Nominations: no new report

Adjourn: 8:05 pm
DGS May 2021 Minutes

5/16/21

Call to order: 10:06

Attending: Joel, Kent, Mark, Angie, Janel

Minutes approved.

Treasurers report: Bank account opened the month with $74,937 and ended with $79,199. Paypal began the month with $4228 and ended with $2750. Cash on hand has not changed, and will not until we meet in person again. Total revenue: $4728. Total expenses: $366. Net revenue: $4263. Report approved. Working on getting an annual budget figured out, to understand what the Society can do for members.

Old business: 3dSS: We still have deposits from the 2020 meeting paid to A/V company ($5000) and City of Denver and Kevin Taylor. We hope to get those back to make sure they don’t disappear before we can have the Symposium in person again

Holiday party 2021: We have a contract for the Studio Loft. (But we might still be in the basement—there was some confusion.) Total $8600 for 115 people. $35/person for lunch. Plus some hourly costs, as well. Decided to do a survey if people would be interested in holiday lunch. Need to find a volunteer to help plan/run this (Janel & Joel will reach out again).

3DSS 2022: March 23, 24, 25 on hold for The Loft right now, but are contemplating Feb 28, 29, 30.


Continuing education: leaning towards in person. Mid-late October. Guessing attendance would be 20-25. Costs depend on instructors. And we may be able to subsidize if we have the funds.

The Record: to be published June 1. Kent will write the exec corner and have it to her next week. We want a professional paper included in the future. Looking to ask the luncheon speaker or RCP. Want to publish the document 1x/quarter

Membership, Awards/Nomination Committees: no updates

Adjourn: 11:03
DGS June 2021 Minutes

6/27/21

Attending: Mark Davidson, Kent Campbell, Joel Scott, Janel Andersen, Angie Southcott

Call to order 3:32

Minutes approved. (Check typo)

Treasurer’s report: Began May with $79,199.73, ended with $86,279.91. Paypal: began the month with $2750.61, ended with $0. Cash on hand $160 (no change). Income categories: Membership $971.25, lunch: $32.13, golf sponsorship $2104, golf registration $4301.10. Total monthly expenses 328. Net revenue: $7080.18. Still working on calculating annual burn rate, but it seems that membership covers current overhead. We will need a good buffer for deposits, etc. But if we assume events are break-even, we are in good shape. Treasurer’s report approved. JDS bill needs approval.

Golf: 41 registrants so far. Mark will send out email blast reminding people to sign up.

Annual meeting/Holiday party: need to ask someone to help coordinate.

Total cost for each person is $74.11, assuming 100 people. Would like to charge $75, but would mean we order extra food just in case and expect it to be covered unless we charged more.

Want to do a surveymonkey poll to see if there is even any interest in an in-person party.

Sponsors: drinks ($1600), banners, silent auction (need to chase down the company and understand costs).

Joel will contact the Ellie for contract.

Rocky Mountain Challenge bowl will be at the SEG this year. SEG will pay for venue, but they’ve asked DGS to pay for catering. International Bowl will be online. Joel has asked for an estimate. Happy hour? SEG/Scott Cook going to run this?? Joel will ask.

3DSS: March 22,23,24 reserved. (Challenge bowl evening of 22nd) Load in on first day and load out on third day. We’re 3rd in line for priority until we have a contract.

Monthly luncheons/training: still looking for October talk, but rest is covered. (Unless we skip due to SEG.) August speaker is based in Tulsa, so will be remote. Go live in September. No headway on training class. Need to look at room and talk about catering. Joel prefers round tables. Wynkoop new room isn’t great, so DERL sounds better for networking. Janel/Mark will work out who to talk to them.

The Record: Romina isn’t in attendance.
Committee:

Nominations/Awards: no update (nom due in July, award due in Sept)

Membership: We need to send out a surveymonkey about what people want from Society.

Adjourn: 4:20

DGS July 2021 Minutes

7/31/21

Call to order: 8:40am

Attending: Joel, Kent, Mark, Angie, Morgan

Minutes: Minutes from June not read. Will read at August meeting


Old business: 3dSS: We still have deposits from the 2020 meeting paid to A/V company ($5000) and City of Denver and Kevin Taylor. We hope to get those back to make sure they don’t disappear before we can have the Symposium in person again

Annual Meeting and Holiday party 2021: We have a contract for the Studio Loft/Basement depending on availability. Discussed making the event no cost to members and $50 to non-members.

3DSS 2022: March 23, 24, 25 is reserved for the Ellie. The symposium will be March 23rd.

Monthly luncheons: August scheduled; remote. Took July off. Sept planned.

Continuing education: leaning towards in person. Mid-late October. Guessing attendance would be 20-25. Costs depend on instructors. And we may be able to subsidize if we have the funds.

The Record: Record running late.

Membership, Awards Committees: no updates
Nominations Committee: Discussed candidate nominations for Vice President-President Elect and Treasurer. Morgan and Mark will reach out to the individuals for acceptance.

Adjourn: 9:30am

DGS August 2021 Minutes

8/17/2021

Attending: Joel Scott, Mark Davidson, Kent Campbell, Angie Southcott, Janel Andersen, Morgan Brown

Call to order: 4:10

Minutes approved.

Treasurers Report: Current Balance is $90,212. Bank account began last month with $86,106 and ended at $87,882. Paypal account began at $49 and ended at $0. Same $160 cash on hand, since we haven’t had an in-person talk. Revenue: membership $243, luncheon $0 (no talk), golf sponsorship $977, golf registration $1847. $3077 total revenue. Expenses: overhead $500, legal fees $844. Total expenses: $1384. $1693 total revenue. Report approved.

The Record: need to publish this month. Need to include the slate of candidates.

Luncheon: Should we do an in-person lunch in September? Janel suggests a surveymonkey to see if people are fine with that. Joel suggests a hybrid. We need to nail down a venue. Mark will check into DERL and Wynkoop.

Annual meeting (IMAGE): DGS can get a booth for a small fee. Looking for volunteers to staff it.

Holiday Party: Have contract in hand. Andrew Keene volunteered to help. We agreed to do the shorter event than what was done in recent years. Lunch, alcohol, auction, but no entertainment. Hope to make it free for members, nonmembers $75, but they get a free membership. Andrew and Joel will develop a budget and suggest costs.

3DSS kickoff: Met last week, to set up timelines/keynote speakers, etc. Will take a lot more volunteers without Kyrie this time. Joel spoke with AV company to transfer the deposit to next year.

Candidate suggestions: Jess Vahling, Jeff Zawila, Tanja Inks, Johnathan Fried, Neil Sarcofsky, Sandra Labrum, Amanda Bower, Jennifer Williams, Hemali, Dan,

Adjourn 5:17
DGS September 2021 Minutes

9/16/2021

Call to Order 4:35

There was no quorum.

Adjourn 5:00