

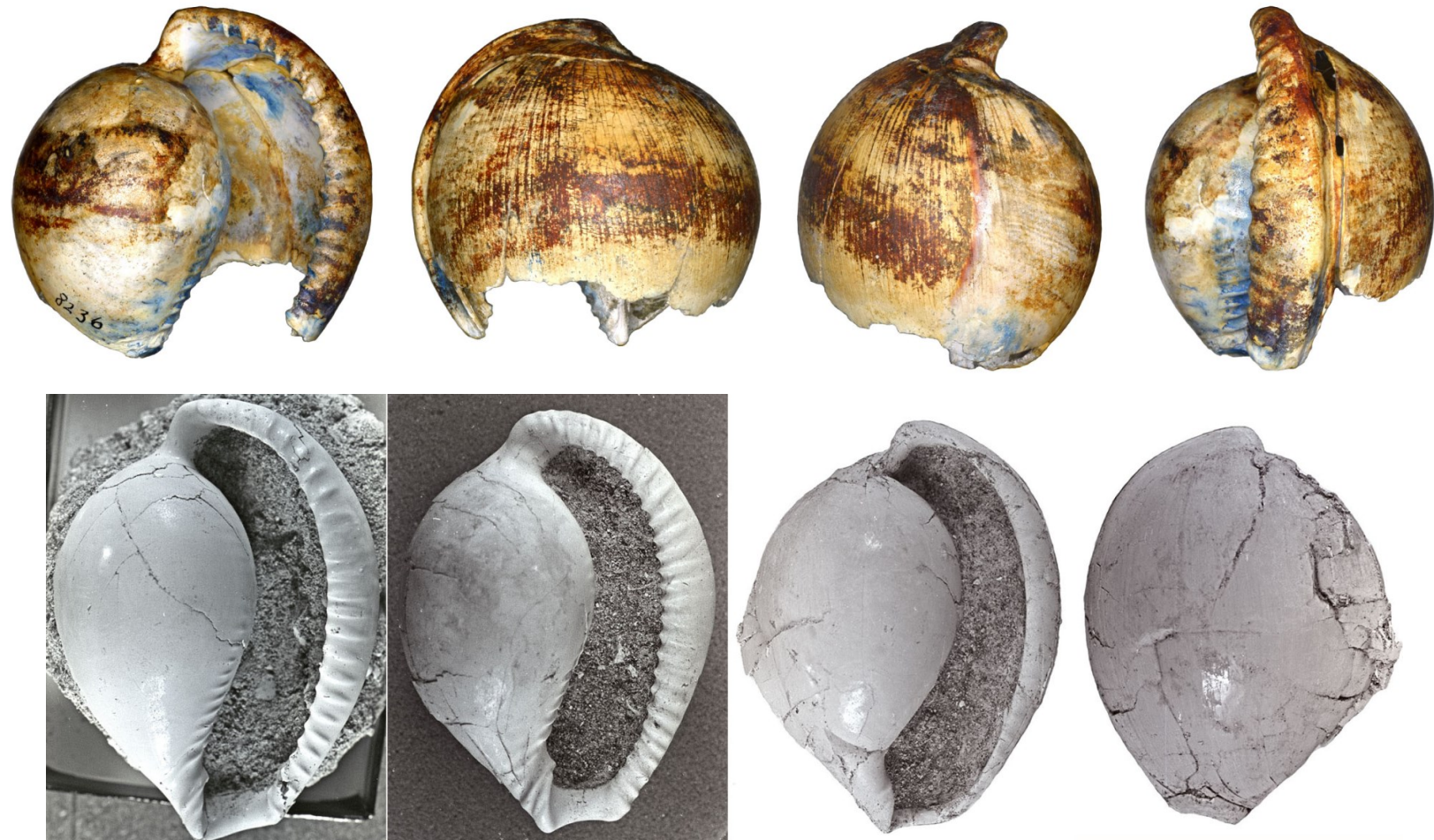
MISSISSIPPI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

*e***BULLETIN**

Volume 72

No. 6

February 2024



REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR A MS CLASS VI STORAGE PROGRAM
David Snodgrass, RPG, MSOGB

THE SHELL FROM MARS
Dr. David Dockery III, RPG

MONTHLY QUIZ
Steve Walkinshaw



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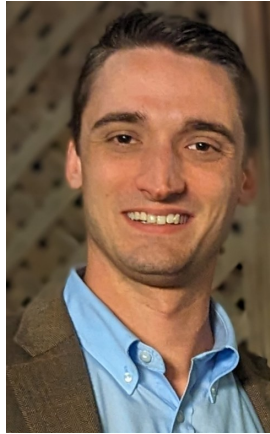
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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear MGS Members,

We hope the first month of 2024 treated you well. As we step into February, our monthly gatherings at the **River Hills Club in Jackson** are back in full swing. We have some exciting events lined up:

February 14: Join us as **David Snodgrass** delves into the intricacies of the **Regulatory Framework for an MS Class VI CO2 Storage Program**.

March 13: Mark your calendars for a captivating talk by **SPE Distinguished Lecturer Francois-Xavier Dubost**.

Additionally, we're thrilled to announce the **Mississippi Geological Society's Spring Fling social event**. On **April 28, 2024**, we'll gather at the **Fertile Ground Beer Co.** for an evening of camaraderie and networking. Your presence would be greatly appreciated.

As always, we appreciate your support. Remember, our society's true value lies in the collective strength of our members.

Warm regards,

Jonathan R. Leard, RPG

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2023-2024 MGS MEETING SCHEDULE

When	What/Who	Where
September 13	Chad Winter - FC&E Engineering	River Hills - 11:30am
October 11	Tim Palmer	River Hills - 11:30am
November 8	Rawdon Seager	River Hills - 11:30am
December 13	Paul Parrish - MDEQ	River Hills - 11:30am
January	Cancelled	River Hills - 11:30am
February 14	David Snodgrass, MSOGB	River Hills – 11:30am
March 13	TBD	River Hills – 11:30am
April 10	TBD	River Hills - 11:30am
April 28	Spring Fling	Fertile Ground Beer Co.

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Joe McDuff

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TBD



FEBRUARY SPEAKER

DAVID SNODGRASS, RPG



Regulatory Framework for a MS Class VI CO₂ Storage Program
(Draft)

David Snodgrass, Geologist Team Lead/UIC Coordinator
Mississippi State Oil & Gas Board

Wednesday February 14, 2024

11:30 Lunch / 12:00 Discussion

The River Hills Club
Jackson, MS

Biography:

David Snodgrass received his Master's Science degree from Mississippi State University, Department of Geosciences, in 1998. He is a Registered Professional Geologist and is currently the UIC Coordinator and Lead Geologist at the Mississippi State Oil & Gas Board. He started his career with Veritas, DGC, working both acquisition and processing phases of off-shore seismic data. Prior to joining the Mississippi State Oil & Gas Board, he worked for various engineering firms as a Geologist doing contract work for Conoco-Phillips, BP, Marathon and other large and small oil companies throughout the US.



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**If you have any questions please contact
Ginger Trochesset or Paul Parrish**

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2024 Spring Fling

Hosted by the Mississippi Geological Society

When: Sunday April 28th 2:00-5:00 P.M.

Where: Fertile Ground Beer Co.

800 Manship St Suite 100, Jackson, MS 39202

Price: \$10 Dollar Admission (Students Free)

You are invited to the Mississippi Geological Society Spring Fling. It will be held on Sunday, April 28, 2024 at the Fertile Ground Beer Company in the Belhaven Neighborhood. The Spring Fling will last from 2pm-5pm and will include the full lineup of Fertile Ground brews and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Admission is \$10 and a membership renewal for the membership year beginning on June 1, 2024 and running through May 30, 2025 will be discounted to \$10 if renewed at the Spring Fling. As usual student entry is free. You do not have to be 21 to be in the brewery, but valid id will be required to enjoy a frosty beverage.

Thank you for your continued support of the Mississippi Geological Society.



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MONTHLY POST

Dr. David Dockery III RPG

THE SHELL FROM MARS

David T. Dockery III, RPG

My first experience with the “shell from Mars” was around 1970 when I excavated one from an exposure of the Late Eocene Moodys Branch Formation in Jackson, Mississippi. It was a large globose fist-sized cowrie shell unlike any I’d seen before. Unfortunately, the anterior end of the shell had been eroded away when I found it. Before I published the molluscan fauna of the Moodys Branch Formation in 1977, an American expert on recent cypraeids (cowrie shells) placed the fossil cowrie as a new species of *Notoluponia* despite the fact that this genus was endemic to the Miocene of southern Australia. Based on his recommendation, I named the species *Notoluponia ampla*, *ampla* referring to the expansive aperture. The holotype of this species is shown in four views in Figure 1. The apertures of three additional specimens are shown in Figure 2.



Figure 1. *Sphaerocypraea jacksonensis* (Johnson, 1899). Holotype of *Notoluponia ampla* Dockery, 1977, pl. 6, fig. 6, PRI 8235, incomplete height 55.0 mm, width 65 mm.

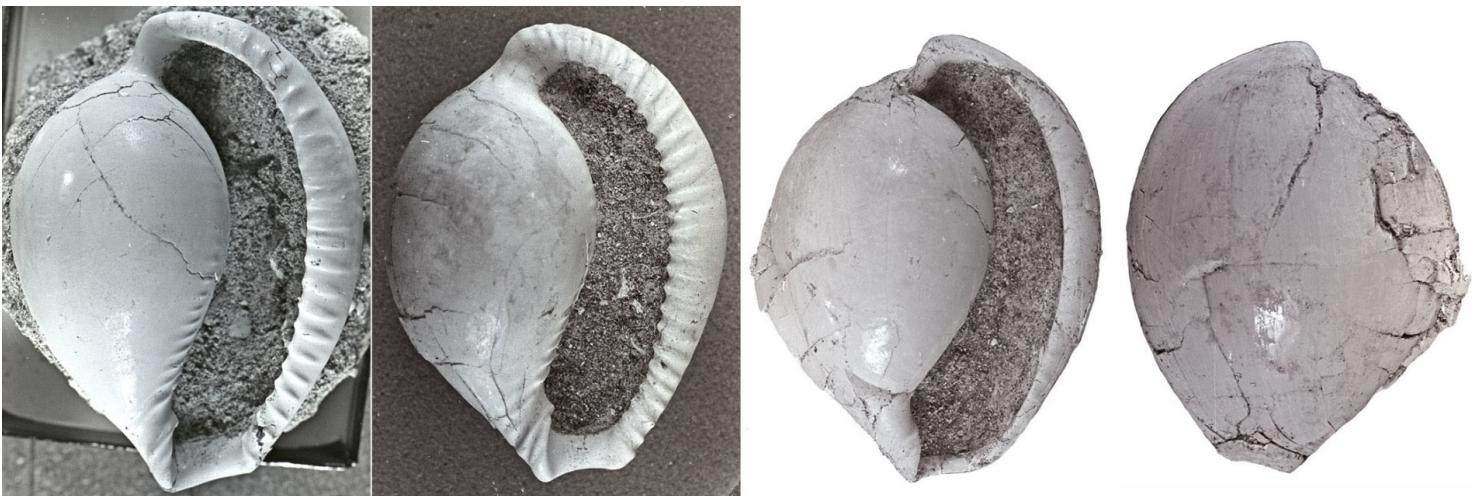


Figure 2. Apertural views of two adult specimens of *Sphaerocypraea jacksonensis* and two view of a juvenile specimen lacking apertural teeth. First specimen from left has a height of 86 mm and a width of 63 mm. The juvenile has a height of 83 mm and a width of 63 mm (as laterally compressed).



MONTHLY POST

Dr. David Dockery III RPG

The baffling genus *Sphaerocypraea* was involved in a more recent tale of molluscan intrigue as told by Peter Dance, an author on recent seashells, in the December 2007 issue of the *American Conchologist*. Dance recounted his conversation in 2005 with Bruno Briano, a diver and shell dealer from Savona on the Italian Riviera. Briano told of a couple of strange shells he received from a Somalian fisherman in 1993. These shells had been dredged up by a Russian trawler operating somewhere near the coast of Somalia at a depth of 100 meters. Dance quoted Briano's words, concerning his thoughts when he first saw one of the shells: "It was like a shell from Mars. A shell dreams are made of, a shell beyond imagining. I could not believe my eyes, it was so extraordinary. It made my heart beat faster." Though Briano was not an authority on mollusks, he hurriedly published his two shells as a new genus and species, *Chimaeria incomparabilis* Briano, 1993. One of Briano's two shells was selected as the type specimen of the species and placed in the French Natural History Museum in Paris. The holotype and another specimen are shown in Figure 3.

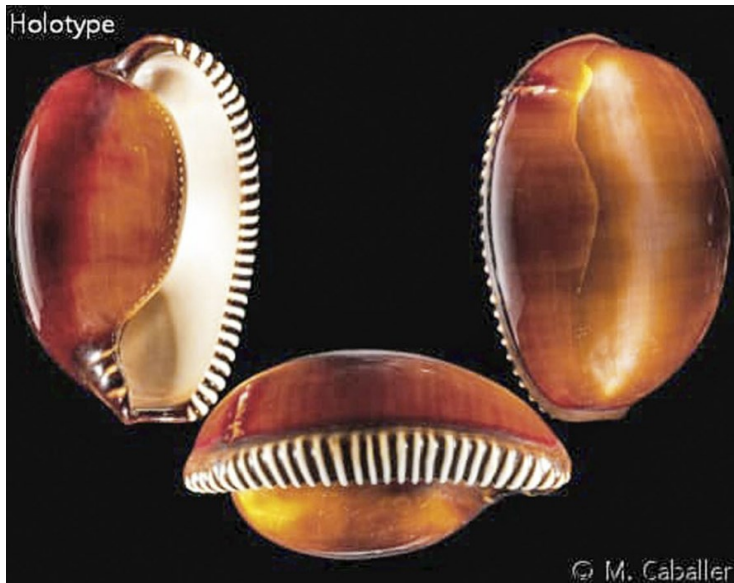


Figure 3. Two specimens of *Sphaerocypraea incomparabilis* (Briano, 1993). The specimen at left is the holotype of *Chimaeria incomparabilis* Briano, 1993, as photographed by Guido Poppe. The specimen on the right is the one that was stolen from the American Museum of Natural History (picture from the September 2008 issue of *American Conchologist*, v. 36, no. 3, p. 23).



MONTHLY POST

Dr. David Dockery III RPG

Before Briano acquired his strange shells, another shell dealer, Donald Dan, traveled to Moscow in 1991 during the time of the Cold War to see a shell rumored to exist among various Russian shell collections that could neither be clearly identified as a *Cypraea*, *Ovula*, nor *Marginella*. As Dan told the story in the September 2008 issue of *American Conchologist*, he traded for one shell and paid for another shell of this strange new species. When he showed the shells to Luc Dolin in Paris, Dolin instantly identified them as belonging to the supposedly extinct genus *Sphaerocypraea*. Dolin explained, "It is truly a living fossil." With Dan's permission, Dolin immediately made drawings of the shells for the U.S. National Museum and began a scientific description of the new species. Dolin's manuscript, with Gary Rosenberg of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia as coauthor, was entitled "*Sphaerocypraea neotenica* n. sp., a Northeastern Indian Ocean Relict." About a month after the manuscript had been reviewed by referees for publication, Dolin and Rosenberg had the misfortune of discovering Briano's 1993 publication in which the new species was both named and misidentified (Briano's new genus *Chimaeria* was later placed as a synonym of *Sphaerocypraea*). Dolin's drawings were published in Dolin and Ledon, 2002, *Geodiversitas*, volume 24, number 2, pages 329-347, figure 4 C-D.

Dan sold the two specimens studied by Dolin to a collector who agreed to donate them, along with a collection of other shells, to the American Museum of Natural History in New York. To appraise this collection, the American Museum selected an appraiser who was a shell dealer from Florida. The appraiser found the new species too tempting and pocketed one of the shells. He then advertised the shell for sale over an internet web site and sold it for \$12,000 to Guido Poppe, a well-known shell dealer in Belgium. Poppe, unaware that the shell was stolen, resold it for \$20,000 to an Indonesian shell collector in Jakarta. In 1997, the theft of a "remarkable and rare seashell" made news on both sides of the Atlantic. The Florida shell dealer was arrested for having committed a federal offense, and Poppe was detained by U.S. authorities when he passed through Los Angeles. Eventually, the Indonesian collector was reimbursed and returned the stolen shell.

The return of a rare stolen shell to the American Museum would be a happy ending to this story if not for the misfortunes of those who admired or coveted the "shell from Mars." Dan gave an account of these events in *American Conchologist* as noted above. Bruno Briano, who named the new species, had an extensive stock of specimen shells stolen from a shell exhibition in Italy. Thieves then broke into his house and stole additional shells. Briano's remaining stock of shells was buried in mud when a mountain stream overflowed its banks and flowed into his home. Briano's young son convinced him to sell his "unlucky" *Sphaerocypraea* specimen, which he did to a Japanese collector. Shortly afterwards, the collector's family suffered disastrous results from the Kobe earthquake, which occurred on January 17, 1995. The Indonesian collector who paid \$20,000 for the specimen sold by Poppe moved his communication-cable business to an impressive new building in Jakarta. Shortly afterwards, the building was destroyed during the Jakarta riots of May 1998. When Dan agreed to write the story of the stolen shell, he was frustrated in his search for a picture of the specimen. A Belgian shell enthusiast from Ghent, Yves Teryn, agreed to send Dan a picture of the shell he took at the Lutry, Switzerland, Shell Show in 1993. Sadly, the day after the picture was sent by email, Teryn's computer crashed and the image and five years of research notes were lost.



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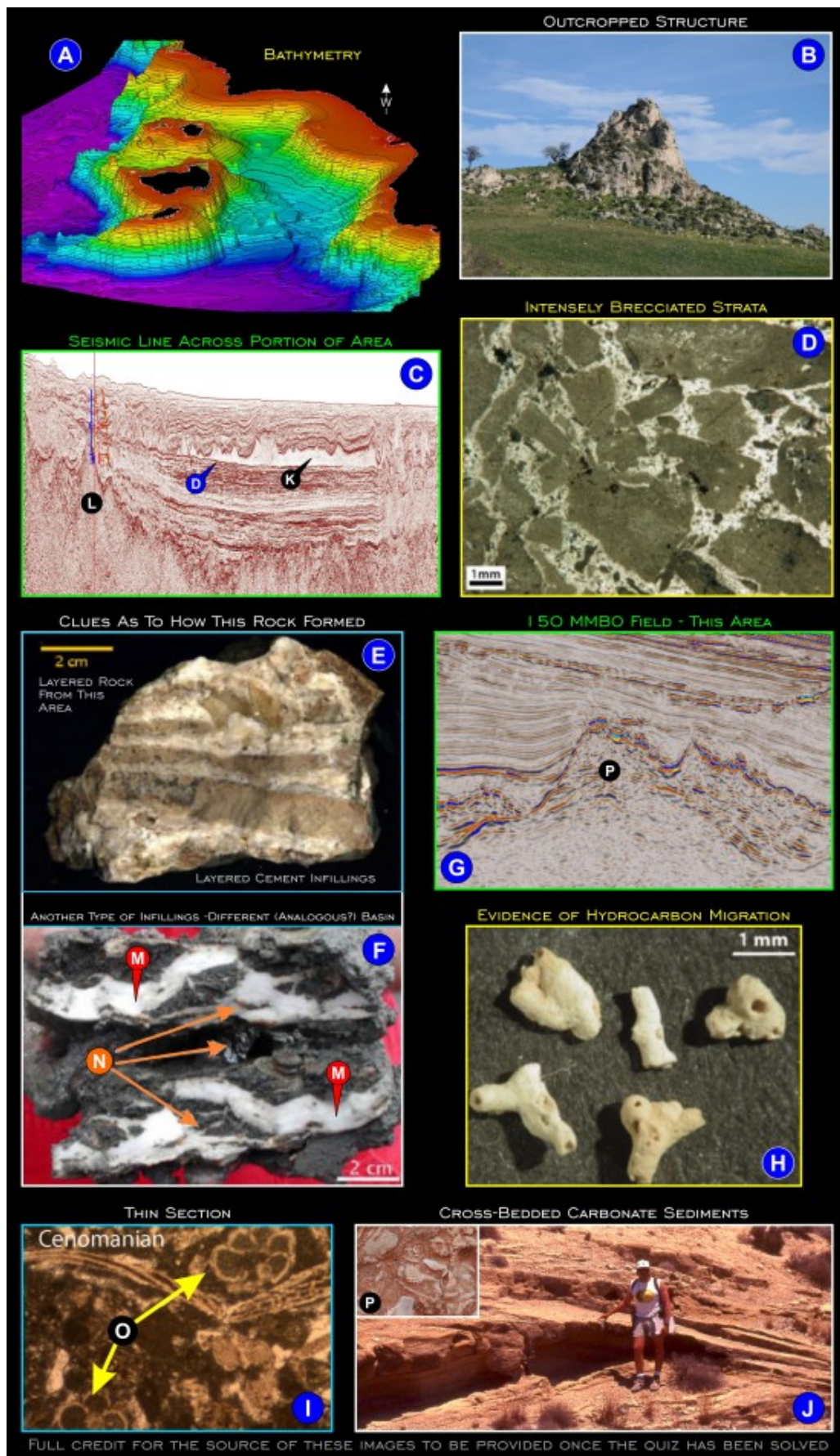
\$1.689





MONTHLY POST

Steve Walkinshaw





MONTHLY POST

Steve Walkinshaw

Oil patch quiz time. This lightly-explored area is highly prospective, especially in its deep-water sector. A prominent trough, surrounded by thrust belts, is the oldest Cenozoic basin here; several other basins are interconnected with this basin.

Exploration in this trough area began in 1968. A number of oilfields were subsequently discovered; a seismic line across one of the largest is shown ("G").

Deepwater discoveries made in another contiguous sector suggest similar large accumulations could be found here.

Questions...

Part 1: What general area am I referring to?

Part 2: What's the name of the trough I am referring to?

Part 3: What's the (a) name and (b) age of the formation labeled "K" in "C"?

Part 4: Strata encountered beneath "K" are often found to be heavily brecciated ("D"). Why?

Part 5: What formed the structure shown in "B"?

Part 6: What field is shown in "G"?

Part 7: What is the lithology of its reservoir ("P")?

Part 8: What is labeled "M" in "F"?

Part 9: What is labeled "N" in "F"?

Part 10: What are shown in "H"?

Part 11: What is labeled "O" in "I"?

Part 12: What is the name used to describe the formation "P" shown in "J"?

Bonus:

Part 13: What are the two source rocks in this area?

Part 14: Name the three islands shown in "A". What are they collectively called?



GEOLOGY POST

ARTICLES, PAPERS or NEWS?

ATTENTION!!!!!! Industry, Professors and Students:

I am looking for more content from the industry and our schools.

Submissions can include anything from professional papers, thesis abstracts, job opportunities to pictures. Anything!!!!

If you have any information or news you would like to share with the Society **PLEASE** email them to the MGS Editor at:

mcaton13@yahoo.com

Thanks & Regards,

Matt Caton
Editor

GEO LINK POST

USGS TAPESTRY OF TIME AND TERRAIN <http://tapestry.usgs.gov> The CCGS is donating to all of the 5th and 6th grade schools in the Coastal Bend. Check it out—it is a spectacular map. You might want a framed one for your own office. The one in my office has glass and a metal frame, and it cost \$400 and it does not look as good as the ones we are giving to the schools. Call Owen 510-6224 if you want one for your office for \$150. Duncan, Mike, Chris, Dave, Bob Randy, Seb., Kevin, Ken, Craig, Patrick, Robert.

FREE TEXAS TOPO'S <http://www.tnris.state.tx.us/digital.htm> these are TIFF files from your state government that can be downloaded and printed. You can add them to SMT by converting them first in Globalmapper. Other digital data as well.

FREE NATIONAL TOPO'S [http://store.usgs.gov/b2c_usgs/b2c/start/\(xcm=r3standardpitrex_prd\)/.do](http://store.usgs.gov/b2c_usgs/b2c/start/(xcm=r3standardpitrex_prd)/.do) go to this webpage and look on the extreme right side to the box titled TOPO MAPS DOWNLOAD TOPO MAPS FREE.

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<http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html> Astronomy picture of the day — awesome. I click this page everyday.

<http://www.spacimaging.com/gallery/ioweek/iow.htm> Amazing satellite images. Check out the gallery.

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/seg/topo/globegal.shtml> More great maps to share with kids and students.

www.geo.org Don't forget we have our own web page.

<http://micro.magneet.fsu.edu/primer/java/scienceoptiscu/owersofl0/>

<http://asterweb.jpl.nasa.gov/galery/default.htm> Great satellite images of volcanoes

<http://terra.nasa.gov/gallery/> More here

www.ermapper.com They have a great free downloadable viewer for TIFF and other graphic files called ER Viewer.

www.drillinginfo.com This is an incredible (subscription) well and completion data service for independents. Can be demo'ed for free.

<http://terraserver.com/> Go here to download free aerial photo images that can be plotted under your digital land and well data. Images down to 1 meter resolution, searchable by Lat Long coordinate. Useful for resolving well location questions.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnmf/volcanocams/msh/> This is a live cam of Mt. St. Helens refreshed every 5 minutes. At the bottom are old videos of past eruptions in this cycle. It is worth a watch especially now.



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2023-2024

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(Note: Please contact Steve Walkinshaw at (601) 607-3227 or mail@visionexploration.com for details concerning placing your ad on the MGS web site.)

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1979-1980	Philip R. Reeves	2020-2023	David Snodgrass



MONTHLY POST

Steve Walkinshaw

Answers:

Part 1: What area am I referring to? Western Mediterranean

Part 2: What's the name of the trough I am referring to? Valencia Trough

Part 3: What's the (a) name and (b) age of the formation labeled "K" in "C"? (a) Messinian Evaporites, (b) Miocene

Part 4: Strata encountered beneath "K" are often found to be heavily brecciated ("D").

Why? the "removal" of ~1 km of seawater during the MES led to a catastrophic upward movement of overpressured fluids, brecciating the strata

Part 5: What formed the structure shown in "B"? a gas chimney

Part 6: What field is shown in "G"? Casablanca Field

Part 7: What is the lithology of its reservoir ("P")? karsted Mesozoic (LK) carbonates

Part 8: What is labeled "M" in "F"? gas hydrates

Part 9: What is labeled "N" in "F"? oil

Part 10: What are shown in "H"? micropipes

Part 11: What is labeled "O" in "I"? foraminifera

Part 12: What is the name used to describe the formation "P" shown in "J"? heterozoan carbonates