



ALL CONVENTION LUNCHEON
Monday, May 17, 2010, 12:00 – 1:30 PM
Speaker: John Lorenz, President AAPG
Cost: \$25 per person

**“THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN GEOSCIENCE
AND THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY”**

Advances in geoscience have been critical to maintaining the viability of the oil and gas industry. One of the better measures of this is the success rate of oil and gas wells: the percentage of drilled wells that turn into producers has remained constant over the years even though the largest plays and “easy oil” were found early on. The success rate of wildcat wells has never been less than about 15%, and in fact has improved in the last 10-15 years, suggesting that advances in geoscience are allowing us to become more efficient. Unfortunately, geoscience alone cannot maintain production levels since no-one can produce what is no longer there, and the ratio of energy expended to energy recovered for these same wells has decreased.

AAPG was founded and continues to exist for the benefit of its member geoscientists. Over 80% of AAPG members work for industry, thus what benefits our members indirectly benefits industry. Many companies recognize this and have been generous in support of various AAPG programs. However, AAPG is not a lobbying group for the industry. Rather, the primary purpose of AAPG is to foster and disseminate the historical and leading-edge geoscience that allows members to do their jobs efficiently and effectively.

BIOGRAPHY

I earned my undergraduate degree, majoring in geology in anthropology, from Oberlin College in 1972, after which I went to Morocco to teach English and learn Arabic with the Peace Corps. While in Morocco I hooked up with a group of geologists from the University of South Carolina, and did a MSc on a Moroccan Triassic rift basin. I worked for the USGS in Louisiana and New Mexico from 1975 to 1977, then returned to school, working on the Nubian Sandstone in Libya and Cretaceous strata in Montana and earned a PhD from Princeton University in 1981. I joined Sandia National Laboratories in 1981 to be the geologist for the low-permeability natural-gas reservoir investigation called the Multiwell Experiment in the Piceance basin of Colorado. I worked for Sandia Labs from 1981 to 2007, doing fractured-reservoir studies in exotic places such as Alaska, Algeria, and Texas. During that time I served as the AAPG Elected Editor from 2001-2004. I left Sandia in March of 2007 and have been consulting in reservoir characterization for the oil and gas industry. I currently serve as the 2009-2010 AAPG President.