

## *Petroleum Museum Hall of Fame Collection*

This collection is comprised of institutional documents created and maintained during the life of the museum's hall of fame. Documents include correspondence, scripts, transcripts, notes, biographies, contracts, budgets, photographs and videos covering the hall of fame election process, candidates and honorees, and induction dinner from 1968 through the present.

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	The Petroleum Museum
<b>Title:</b>	Petroleum Hall of Fame Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1968- Present and undated
<b>Abstract:</b>	This collection is comprised of correspondence, notes, budgets, scripts, videos and photographs covering: the creation of the Petroleum Hall of Fame and its procedures, the nomination process and election process, communication between honorees and museum officials, and the logistics of the induction ceremony including the celebration, video/AV presentation, biographies of honorees, press for the event and the brunch.
<b>Quantity:</b>	16 linear feet plus AV pieces
<b>Identification:</b>	Petroleum Hall of Fame Collection (institutional documents)
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#">The Permian Basin Petroleum Museum</a>

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### Biographical Sketch

See individual honoree and candidate listings at end of inventory

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### Scope and Content

This collection is made up of institutional documents gathered from various departments at the end of each Hall of Fame cycle. The hall of fame process takes two years to complete. Even years have committee correspondence and yearbooks covering the nomination and election process for the hall of fame. Odd years cover committee correspondence between the honorees and museum, as well as copies of documents needed to plan a large induction ceremony for 200-800 people, including correspondence to participants, contracts with caterers and other vendors, biographies of the honorees, scripts for the ceremony and speeches, copies of invitations and programs, scripts for the AV presentation, photographs of the ceremony, press releases and clippings of the event, budgets, correspondence to/from participants, and planning documents and photos of the Friday Brunch.

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## **Restrictions**

### **Restrictions regarding access**

Due to the confidential nature of the Hall of Fame process, contact information and budget information in these files, the planning documents and nominee files are only open for museum personnel to study. However, individual non-confidential documents can be used in the archives at the archivist's discretion. These documents will be pulled individually from the files. Under no circumstances will entire files be checked out to the public.

The Honoree files in this collection are open to research and can be checked out for use in the Archives Center reading room, with the exception of the Sid Richardson file, which requires previous written permission from the Sid Richardson Foundation before a researcher can view the file. Researchers must obtain their own permission from the foundation prior to requesting the file.

Photographs in this collection are copyrighted. Permission from The Petroleum Museum or copyright holder must be obtained before the archives will allow any reproductions.

Library and Archive materials must be used in the library reading room. Prior appointment is preferred but not absolutely necessary.

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## **Index Terms**

The subject headings used by the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library are derived from the Library of Congress and/or locally developed.

### **Subjects:**

**Hall of Fame**  
**Petroleum**  
**The Petroleum Museum**

See honorees and candidate listing for further subject headings

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## **Related Material**

President George H. W. Bush Collection  
President George W. Bush Collection  
S. D. Myres Collection  
George T. Abell Collection  
Berte Haigh Collection  
Related oral history and video information will be listed at the end of each honoree's listing.

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## Do Not Cite

### Administrative Information

#### **Preferred Initial Citation:**

Petroleum Hall of Fame Collection, The Petroleum Museum Archives and Library Center, 1500 Interstate 20 West, Midland Texas 79701.

#### **Preferred Subsequent Citations:**

Petroleum Hall of Fame Collection, The Petroleum Museum.

#### **Provenance:**

This collection is an open collection of documents gathered by staff and board members involved in the Hall of Fame process from 1968 through the present day of the Petroleum Museum and Hall of Fame. This collection will be added to every year.

The collection is organized by year with the following subject headings used for each folder:

- Year Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected
- Year Hall of Fame: Committee
- Year Hall of Fame: Year Book (Committee Notebook)
- Year Hall of Fame: Dinner
- Year Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity
- Year Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony
- Year Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation
- Year Hall of Fame: Brunch

Within each folder objects are arranged chronologically and on occasion by Honoree with undated material placed in order by best guess of the processor, or placed at the back of the file. Excessive duplicate material was discarded.

Honoree and Candidate files are arranged alphabetically. Within each file objects will be arranged chronologically. Most of these files are unprocessed.

#### **Processed By:**

Archives Staff Ongoing Project

Original Inventory and Arrangement by: Amy Hooker June 1, 2005

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### Additional Sources

*See each year inventory for list of additional sources.*

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**Collection Inventory**

**1968**

Honoree: Frank T. Pickrell  
Date: April 30, 1968  
Location & Price: Midland Country Club \$7.00  
Maser of Ceremonies: Bill Kerr  
Benediction:  
Speaker: Frank Prickrell – History of the Santa Rita #1  
AV:  
Attendees: approximately 250

**Folders:**

**1968 Hall of Fame: Committee – 4/22/1968 – 12/11/1968 & undated**

-Letter scheduling board meeting before the Hall of Fame ceremony with an invitation to members to attend the ceremony -citation from board for Pickrell -short bio of Pickrell -letter to Petroleum Pioneers informing them of the Hall of Fame ceremony as well as the museum and its collections requesting help obtaining more objects and volunteers -letter from George Abell with suggestions on how to set up the Hall of Fame and continue to induct honorees-committee correspondence covering: members and their contact info, meeting times and nominations with short criteria requirements attached -Houston Harte letter bowing our of committee, -letter asking committee members to gather research on nominees -letter from Abell suggesting portrait and citation requirements for honorees with attached diagrams -committee correspondence identifying progress, date to turn in research and list of nominees with corresponding researcher -bio of Frank Pickrell

**Nominations in file**

Mike Benedum, Ben Belt, A M Hagan, Houston Harte, R W Patterson, J C Trees, T S Hogan, Haymon Krupp, Wallace Pratt, Van S Welch, Carl Cromwell, Frank Kelly, Sid Richardson, Arland Irvin Innes with biography, Raiford H Burton with short biography, Raymond B Kelly, Fredrick Henry Lahee with obituary, E A Landreth

**1968 Hall of Fame: Dinner – 4/29/1968 – 3/5/1969 & undated**

-Invitation to dinner (one with RSVP card filled out) -bundle of papers with RSVP/regrets for dinner -telegrams to Mr. Pickrell from colleagues -head table diagram -transcript of William Kerr's (Master of Ceremonies) and Houston Harte's remarks at ceremony -transcript of program after Pickrell's speech -correspondence bundle with letter thanking Mr. Harte for participation in ceremony and correspondence about identifying and copying photos of the ceremony -thank you letters to William Kerr, Midland Country Club, Fred Pickrell, H B Fuqua and Calvin Clements -thank you letters from Fred and Frank Pickrell -request from George Abell for Pickrell to complete an oral interview with Clayton Williams, Sr. on how the Santa Rita #1 was drilled -transfer record for Pickrell's portrait

**1968 Hall of Fame: Pres Releases & Publicity – 4/24/1968 – 7/1968**

-Clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram, San Angelo Standard Times, Odessa American, Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, El Paso Times and Drill Bit Magazine

**Do Not Cite**

**1968 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-8 X 10 Black and white photos with some identification

**1969**

Honorees:	Ben C Belt	Haymon Krupp
	Raiford Burton	Wallace E Pratt
	Hiram Dow	Sid W Richardson
	L P Garrett	James T Robison
	T S Hogan	Robert W Russell
	Eugene Holman	Van S Welch

Date: December 3, 1969

Location & Price: Midland Country Club \$7.00

Master of Ceremonies: Maurice Bullock

Benediction: Reverend Weldon Butler

Speaker: Wallace E Pratt 'Petroleum Pioneers in the Permian Basin'

AV:

Attendees: 285-300

**Folders:**

**1968 Hall of Fame: Committee 1 – 1/23/1969 – 5/29/1969**

-Honoree recommendation to board -letter arranging for Pickrell portrait -letters discussing the number and location of induction ceremonies for the year -packet from Desk & Derrick Club conveying wish to help with Hall of Fame and history of their club -list of honorees and their profession -notes and letters on arranging the Hall of Fame dinners in Artesia and San Angelo - list of honoree's contact and family info -packet with recommendations for notifying the people who knew the honorees or helped with their files and copies of the letters sent to them and the honorees -correspondence with honorees and their families -thank you letters from honoree's and their families

**1969 Hall of Fame: Committee 2 – 6/3/1969 – 12/19/1969**

-Notification letters to honorees and their families -thank you letters to honoree's "researchers" - letter by Kerr with Hall of Fame committee roster and suggestions for the nomination and election processes -letters to/from honorees and their family to the committee discussing their nomination -letters discussing the date for the dinner, portraits for display in the museum - committee report to the board about the induction ceremonies -packet with letter to Bullock about the ceremony, honorees and their families, contact info, transcripts on the induction remarks and copies of the citations of the honorees -copy of a Petroleum Museum fact sheet - letter starting the 1970 Hall of Fame process

**Nominations in file**

Horace Cook, Henry Cook, William Howard Irvin, H C Irvin, L W Sandusky, Sam a Sloan, Steve S Owens, Lockhart brothers and Frank H Kelly

## Do Not Cite

### **1969 Hall of Fame: Dinner 1 – 5/9/1969 – 1/6/1969 & undated**

-Invitation -ticket -invitation letter with newsletter -correspondence to/from honorees and their family -honoree's contact info -notification letters to honorees of their induction with an invitation to the ceremony -letter discussing obtaining honoree's portraits and diploma covers for the certificates -list of people the museum will comp for the dinner -the "Worlds of Wallace Pratt" article -list of flights to midland with prices -invitation lists -correspondence securing Wallace Pratt as a speaker -copy of honoree citations with editing suggestions -invitation to board to attend ceremony -RSVP/regrets for ceremony

### **1969 Hall of Fame: Dinner 2 – 11/6/1969 – 12/3/1969 & undated**

-RSVP/regrets for dinner -memo covering possible venues to sell dinner tickets with attachment about the museum exhibits and what subjects they should cover -correspondence and lists covering expenses and travel/accommodation arrangements for honorees and their families - thank you letter to Pratt for being the speaker -revised set of citations -revision suggestions for citations -letter to Bullock explaining procedures for presenting citations to honorees, a list of honorees and their family who are attending, contact info for the honorees and copies of the honoree's citations.

### **1969 Hall of Fame: Dinner 3 12/4/1969 – 1/20/1970 & undated**

-Copy (2) of Wallace Pratt's speech, copy of citations -transcript of George Abell's introduction of Wallace Pratt -identification sheet for Hall of Fame dinner audio tape -letters complimenting ceremony from attendees and honorees -list of photos ordered -thank you letters to volunteers --- -letter to Pickrell informing him of the dinner

### **1969 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 6/3/1969 – 1/29/1970 & undated**

-Correspondence about press releases -copies of the releases with revision suggestions -clippings from Drill bit, Odessa American, San Angelo Standard Times, El Paso Times and The Oil Daily

### **1969 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

8 X 10 and 5 X 7 black and white photos of the ceremony

## 1970

Honorees:	Michael L Benedum	Houston Harte
	Carl G Cromwell	Joseph C Trees

Date: November 4, 1970

Location & Price: Ranchland Hills Country Club \$6.00

Master of Ceremonies: Hamilton E. McRae

Benediction: Reverend Timothy W Guthrie

Speaker: Judge Leo Brewster

AV:

Attendees: approximately 250

### **Folders:**

**1970 Hall of Fame: Committee – 2/17/1970 – 1/25/1971 & undated**

## **Do Not Cite**

-Letters and correspondence covering: the San Angelo dinner for Benedum, Cromwell, Trees and Harte, the fund drive for starting the Petroleum Museum, requests for information on the nominees, and a call for nominees for the new Hall of Fame after the 1969 San Angelo induction ceremony – letters to honorees and their families notifying them of the induction dinner date and the change of venue to Midland –background information on Benedum, Trees, Houston Harte and Cromwell –lists of possible new candidates –biographical sketch of Ralph Lowe –Board decisions on how to run the Hall of Fame and how many people they should elect per cycle - letters and correspondence to/from: committee, board and honorees about when to have the dinners, how the committees and nomination process should work , planning exhibits for the museum, a preliminary criteria for nominating someone to the Hall of Fame, nomination letters for candidates with a list of possible candidates for Hall of Fame and their addresses.

### **1970 Hall of Fame: Dinner 1 - 1/3/1970 – 10/1970 & undated**

-program –tickets –notes on logistics of the dinner i.e. flowers, menu, tickets, number of attendees –invitation letters to the honorees and their families –notes and letters on setting up the San Angelo dinner, the delay of the dinner from May to later in the year and finally moving the dinner to Midland –letters trying to find a speaker for the event and finally choosing Jude Leo Brewster for the speaker –letters to the families inviting them to the dinner with an information sheet attached to tell them what to expect at the dinner

### **1970 Hall of Fame: Dinner 2 – 10/1/1970 – 11/18/1970 & undated**

-RSVP/regrets letters to the dinner –Invitation letters to the board, past honorees, etc –letter from Homer Fort to Hamilto McRae with details of the dinner and suggested text for his opening statement, unveiling of Tom Lovell’s Coronado’s Expedition painting and an introduction of the evening’s speaker Judge Leo Brewster –letter from Senator Jennings Randolph with a statement to read at the dinner about Michael Benedum –travel arrangements for the honorees and speaker –citations for the honorees –copy of John Butler’s “museum update” remarks for the dinner – thank you letters to the evening’s participants –correspondence to/from the attendees –fold out diagram of the head table –notes on the dinner arrangements, catering, flowers etc with a final expense tally for the dinner attached –correspondence securing photographs of the ceremony – fact sheet for the audio recording made of the ceremony –list of the paintings shown at the dinner –seating arrangements and boutonniere list for head table and honorees

### **1970 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity - 7/27/1970 – 11/6/1970 & undated**

-press releases for the event and the unveiling of Tom Lovell’s Coronado’s Expedition -clippings from the San Angelo Standard Times, Odessa American, Midland Reporter Telegram and the El Paso Times

### **1970 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

5 X 7 black and white photos from the museum, San Angelo Standard Times, Drill Bit Magazine, Midland Reporter Telegram and Rubin’s Studio

## **1971**

### **Folders:**

#### **1971 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected**

-memos suggesting criteria for nomination and election process

## Do Not Cite

### **1971 Hall of Fame: Committee – 1/3/1971 – 12/17/1971 & undated**

-committee roster –ballot –committee report to board with the candidate list and recommendation for an election process –letters appointing people to the committee and a discussion of the dates for future meetings –committee and board minutes –list of nominees forwarded and nominees from the past Hall of Fame –letters to nominators telling them the status of their Hall of Fame candidate –letters about the election –report to the board

### **Committee Folder 1 - 1/3/1977 – 11/12/1971 & undated**

### **Committee Folder 2 – 11/17/1971 – 12/17/1971 & undated**

### **Nominations in file**

Hobard and Howard Hughes with biography, Neil Wills, Morgan J Davis with an extensive biography, HB “Babe” Fuqua with biography, Prentice F Brown, Albert A Mattei and C J Davidson with biography and articles included.

### **1971 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-list of nominees to the Hall of Fame – Various breakdowns of their information: by year, name, number of times they have been through the process, home town and profession

### **1972**

Honorees:	George T Abell	Arthur M Lockhart
	Berte R Haigh	Dean E ‘Cap’ Lounsbery
	Oliver C ‘Kip’ Harper	Hazen P ‘Cap’ Slagel
	Herbert C Irvin	Samuel A Sloan
	Edward A Landreth	

Date: May 3, 1972

Location & Price: Midland Country Club \$6.00

Master of Ceremonies: Kenny M Jastrow

Benediction: Father Ben Verbrugge

Speaker: Dr. Sherman A Wengerd ‘Oil Men, Geologists, and Roughnecks – Do we all Belong in a Museum?’

AV:

Attendees:

### **Folders:**

### **1972 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected 3/5/1972-7/10/1972 & undated**

-committee correspondence about adopting criteria for nominating someone to the Hall of Fame –minutes of a special executive committee meeting about adopting the Hall of Fame criteria – letter requesting criteria for a nomination

### **1972 Hall of Fame: Committee – 1/4/1972 – 12/18/1972 & undated**

-notification letters to honorees –list of current honorees –committee correspondence about meeting times and dates and appointment of new members with names and contact information – list of nominees not elected to the Hall of Fame (one with notations from the staff) –



## Do Not Cite

correspondence calling for a committee meeting –nomination letters with supporting documentation

### Nominations in file

Paul Kayser with biography, Al Buchanan, J C Maxwell, Frank H Kelley with biography and articles, Fred Truner Jr. with biography, Jimmy Charlton, Horace and Henry Cook with biography, C J Red Davidson, Jim Vaughn, Ralph Lowe, Charles E Beyer, A M ‘Jack’ Hagan, Neil Wills, W L Sandusky with biography, Morgan J Davis, S S ‘Steve’ Owen with biography, Wilbur J Thomson, Robert Patteson, Emmet Vincent Headlee with biography, Jim Camp

### 1972 Hall of Fame: Dinner – 2/10/1972 – 5/20/1975 & undated

-programs and tickets –letters to/from guests and honorees about the celebration and ordering photos of the honorees –letters setting the date of the dinner for May 3, 1972 at Midland Country Club and requesting Dr. Sherman Wengerd as the speaker of the even with an attached itinerary of the event –bios of the honorees and a note on the museum’s progress –invitation letters to the dinner –RSVP’s/regrets, ticket orders –letters discussing the groundbreaking ceremony for the museum on May 3, 1972 in conjunction with the dinner –letter asking Father John Skoloski to speak at the dinner –copy of a newsletter covering the groundbreaking and Hall of Fame ceremony –program for the dinner with a copy of the opening remarks and citations for the honorees –seating arrangements –Invitation list of the honorees –menu with annotations –budget –complimentary ticket count –thank you letters to participants in the ceremony –thank you letters from the honorees and guests

### Dinner Folder 1 – 2/10/1972 – 4/18/1972 & undated

### Dinner Folder 2 – 4/18/1972 – 5/20/1975 & undated

### 1972 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity

-press release about the Hall of Fame ceremony and the museum’s groundbreaking –Clippings from The Mid-America Oil & Gas Reporter, El Paso Times, Fort Worth Star Telegram, San Angelo Standard Times, Midland Reporter Telegram, Odessa American, and the Permian Basin Preview

### 1972 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony

-5 X 7 black and white photos of the ceremony

## 1973

Honorees:	Charles E Beyer	Howard R Hughes, Sr.
	Jim Camp, MD	Paul Kayser
	Caven J ‘Red’ Davidson	Frank H Kelley
	Morgan J Davis	Ralph F Lowe
	Herbert B Fuqua	

Date: September 27, 1973

Location & Price: Midland Country Club \$10.00

Master of Ceremonies: Emil C Rassman

## **Do Not Cite**

Benediction: Reverend Bob Currie  
Speaker: Morgan J Davis 'Response for the Class'  
AV:  
Attendees:

### **1973 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected 11/1/1973**

-copy of current Hall of Fame nomination criteria

### **1973 Hall of Fame: Committee – 2/5/1973 – 6/26/1973 & undated**

-committee roster –letter about the new board members and officers –correspondence scheduling committee meetings with procedures for voting and electing nominees –minutes and reports of the committee –ballots and vote register for the candidates –lists of nominees –ballots from the committee (sealed) –memo about the new museum plans –letter from the chairman (Berte Haigh) with a summary of the year's activities for the committee

### **Nominations in the file**

Ralph F Lowe with biography, C J 'Red' Davidson, A C Mattei, Jim Camp MD

### **1973 Hall of Fame: Dinner 5/18/1973 – 12/4/1973 & undated**

-program and tickets from the dinner –telegrams from William P Hobby Lieutenant Governor of Texas and George Mahon in honor of the Hall of Fame dinner –letter to Governor Ronald Reagan inviting to him to speak at the dinner with his response –letters ordering portraits from studios and honorees –letter asking Morgan Davis to be the speaker at the dinner –letter to President Nixon requesting a telegram for the induction –telegrams sent for the Hall of Fame dinner: Congressman George Mahan, Governor Briscoe, Lt. Governor Hobby –letters inviting attendees with RSVP's/regrets –dinner itinerary for volunteers –letter from Richard Nixon commemorating the Hall of Fame and Oil (9/20/1973) –notes on table arrangements and flowers –transcripts of remarks and opening statements –thank yous and ticket confirmations for the dinner –telegram from Governor Dolph Briscoe

### **1973 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity - 5/31/1973 – 10/1973 & undated**

-clippings from the El Paso Herald Post, Midland Reporter Telegram, Houston, El Paso Times, Odessa American, Permian Basin Preview and the Fort Worth Star

### **1973 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-5 X 7 black and white photos

## **1974**

### **1974 Hall of Fame: Committee – 1/4/1974 – 12/31/1974**

- letters about committee meetings, lists of nominees and committee roster –compliment letter from Wallace Pratt on Dr. Myer's book in his letter nominating Floyd C Dodson –letter discussing moving the Hall of Fame Dinner to 1975 to hold it in conjunction with the dedication of the museum –ballot tally for nominees –committee chair letter calling for votes –official notification to board of new honorees with ballots –list of honorees and contact info

**Do Not Cite**

**1974 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

-press release about new Hall of Fame honorees

**1975**

Honorees:	John P Butler	George B McCamey
	Ronald K Deford, Ph. D	Robert W Patterson
	Floyd C Dodson	Neville G Penrose
	Arthur M 'Jack' Hagan	Fred Turner, Jr.
	Ray V Hennen	Wilbur A Yeager, Sr.
	Joseph C Maxwell	

Date: October 21, 1975

Location & Price: Midland Country Club \$12.50

Master of Ceremonies: Emil C Rassman

Benediction: Dr. Robert B Smith

Speaker: Ronald K Deford 'The way it was'

AV:

Attendees:

**Folders:**

**1975 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedure to be elected**

-list of 1975 Hall of Fame nomination criteria

**1975 Hall of Fame: Committee 1/3/1975 – 12/11/1975 & undated**

-short biographies of the honorees –list of Hall of Fame honoree survivors living in the Permian Basin –letters discussing transferring the Hall of Fame files and biographies of honorees to Homer Fort at the museum –Hall of Fame pamphlet (Jan 1975) –submission of honorees to board –letter discussing methods used in selection of Hall of Fame honorees

**Nominations in the file**

Dora Roberts with biography, John William 'Skipper' Thomas

**1975 Hall of Fame: Dinner – 1/10/1975 – 12/11/1975 & undated**

-copies of program and tickets –seating and table arrangements –notification letters to honorees and their families –letters about finding portraits for honorees –letters discussing moving the Hall of Fame ceremony to October to separate it from the museum opening –mailing list for invitations –confidential monthly newsletter/update on museum –correspondence about a preview reception at the museum for honorees –thank you letters from honorees and attendees –RSVPs for dinner –letter from President Gerald Ford –congratulations on the Hall of Fame and museum opening letter/telegram from Governor Dolph Briscoe –copy of John Butler's remarks at the ceremony –master copy of the program –airline schedule for guests –memo about the budget

**1975 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

-clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram, Fort Worth Star Telegram, American Oil & Gas Reporter and the Midlander

**Do Not Cite**

**1975 Hall of Fame: Certificate Design**

-letters to vendors ordering supplies –letters to people about the design of the certificate with mock ups of the certificate attached –copy of the museum Hall of Fame seal –copies of blank certificates and filled out ones –hand drawn mock ups of the certificate

**1976 - 1977**

**Folders:**

**1977 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected**

-new set of Hall of Fame nomination criteria

**1976-1977 Hall of Fame: Committee - 11/10/1976 – 1/25/1978 & undated**

-committee roster –list of nominees –handwritten note on Hall of Fame procedure such as how many honorees will be elected per period, balloting procedures, how many cycles a nominee will be held until they are removed from active consideration –correspondence scheduling the next hall of fame dinner on October 27, 1977 at the Hilton –correspondence postponing the dinner to a later date –minutes of committee minutes –notes discussing limitation of honorees to four per election period and removing names from the active consideration files after three election cycles –agenda for museum board meeting with an attached museum fiscal report

**1978**

**Folders:**

**1978 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected - 2/10/1978 – 11/7/1978 & undated**

-numerous drafts of the new Hall of Fame criteria

**1978 Hall of Fame: Committee – 1/27/1978 – 10/9/1978 & undated**

-documents showing change in by-laws to reflect the length of cycles a nominee will be reviewed before they are removed from active consideration and the ability of the committee to disqualify a candidate who does not have adequate documentation, limitation of four honorees or teams per election cycle –letter with a ballot and a description of the voting procedures –letter renominating the 1977 Hall of Fame committee members –committee correspondence with returned ballots –draft of museum and Hall of Fame pamphlet –minutes of the board meeting where the Hall of Fame honorees are presented with hand written notes, a copy of the bylaws and articles of incorporation attached

**Nominations in the file**

Henry Black with biography, William G Jenson, Kresten R Jenson, E G Rodman Sr. with biography (moved to Hall of Fame file)

**1979**

Honorees:	E. Russell Lloyd	Charles L Rowan
	Ernest W Marland	William G Skelly
	Arch H Rowan	

## Do Not Cite

Date: February 2, 1979  
Location & Price: Midland Hilton \$11.00  
Master of Ceremonies: Maurice R Bullock  
Benediction: Dr. Daniel G Vestal  
Speaker: Senator Harrison H Schmitt  
AV: "Album"  
Attendees:

### **Folders:**

#### **1979 Hall of Fame: Dinner 1 - 9/7/1978 – 1/30/1979 & undated**

-program, ticket and table tents from event –notification letters to honorees and their families – letters from the honorees and their families to the museum –copy of Richard Fulton Inc catalog of speakers –list of appointments to the dinner planning committee –letters to honorees and their families about their guests, travel arrangements, portraits and itineraries –letter discussing speakers –letter inviting Senator Schmitt to be the speaker at the dinner –invitation letters to various people –Congressman Harold Runnels letter accepting our invitation to introduce our speaker at the dinner with a short biographical sketch of the congressman –letter to the board and museum members inviting them to the dinner –letters and memos to the honorees for photos and information for the AV presentation –Senator Schmitt's photograph and biography in an envelope

#### **1979 Hall of Fame: Dinner 2 - 2/2/1979 – 6/29/1979 & undated**

-hotel bills and honorees expenses –"Petroleum Museum – A Progress Report" transcript of speech given at dinner –reservation form for the Hilton Ball Room with the menu, reception arrangements and table layout included –invitations to "celebrity" guests –Honorees addresses – ticket confirmations –list of press attending event –list of complementary tickets and reservations –letter to honorees and board with the itinerary for the dinner and ticket prices –template for the dinner ticket –instructions for hostesses with a table map –letter discussing private plane reservation for Senator Schmitt –copy of a speech about the Hall of Fame and the dinner participants –briefing information for the master of ceremonies –copy of Senator Schmitt's speech –copy of the citations/biographies of the honorees –thank you letters from participants

#### **1979 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

-press release list –clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram, Basinweek and Drill Bit

#### **1979 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-photos of participants with some identification

#### **1979 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation – 3/21/1979 & undated**

-correspondence –detailed script and reading script –music list –story board –slides from presentation

## 1980

**Do Not Cite**

**Folders:**

**1980 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected – 6/9/1980 – 7/20/1980 & undated**

-criteria request letters –proposed criteria for Hall of Fame nomination

**1980 Hall of Fame: Committee 1/8/1980 – 10/3/1980 & undated**

-memo to file stating that committee members should be recruited and then they elect their own chair, the chair will be the only publicly announced member of the committee with the rest of the members remaining confidential –letter stating that nomination letters would go through the museum staff first before being passed to the committee –letter adopting the criteria for nomination, biannual schedule for the Hall of Fame election and induction process –letter instituting the criteria and the cut off date for nominations –letter with proposed changes to the Hall of Fame section of the By-laws –lists of honorees and nominees –ballot sheet –meeting reminders –letters to people who nominated a candidate telling them if their candidate was elected or not

**1980 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

-clipping from the Midland Reporter Telegram

**1981**

Honorees:           Jesse C Barnes, Sr.           Charles V ‘Cap’ Lyman  
                          N Ford Chapman, Jr.       Stanley C Moore

Date: May 6, 1981

Location & Price: Green Tree Country Club \$15.00

Master of Ceremonies: Maurice R Bullock

Benediction: Reverend Edwards

Speaker: H E Chiles

AV: ‘Four’ AV recollection

Attendees: 459

**Folders:**

**1981 Hall of Fame: Dinner 1/15/1981 – 5/20/1981 & undated**

-program and tickets (reserved and general seating) –letters discussing obtaining honorees portraits –list of honorees and family with contact info –RSVPs for ceremony and travel arrangements –invitation letter to board members –copy of budget and bills for ceremony –letters to Mr. Chiles inviting him to speak at the dinner –invitations to local dignitaries –copy of the menu –copy of the inscriptions on the Hall of Fame plaques –ticket designs –reservation lists –blueprint –table layouts and seating arrangements

**1981 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-photos of the dinner with identification

**1981 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation – 4/18/1981**

-script for presentation – story board

## Do Not Cite

### 1982

#### Folders:

##### **1982 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests 3/15/ 1981 – 10/25/1982**

-letters and phone messages requesting nomination criteria for candidates

##### **1982 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-sample letters to honorees –compiled lists of honorees and nominees broken down by date, number of times considered –list of former candidates –template for biography needed for nomination –memo instituting the yearbook and detailing what goes inside

##### **1982 Hall of Fame: Committee - 4/13/1982 – 11/3/1982 & undated**

-portrait orders –committee roster –short history of the Hall of Fame –letter scheduling committee meetings –Hall of Fame book proposal –Ballot (blank) –letter recommending honorees to board –letters notifying honorees with certified mail receipt attached –sample letter informing people that their candidate did not get elected –letter from Hogan suggesting that the Hall of Fame be terminated –letter in support of continuing the Hall of Fame –board meeting minutes

#### Nominations in file

Haskell C Conder with biography

##### **1982 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity 5/9/1982 – 12/9/1982 & undated**

-memo to file on how to handle PR with the Midland Reporter Telegram –press releases

### 1983

Honorees:	Robert O Anderson	William D Noel
	Prentice F Brown	Earl G Rodman, Sr.
	Erle P Haliburton	

Date: May 5, 1983

Location & Price: Green Tree Country Club \$25.00

Master of Ceremonies: Maurice R Bullock

Benediction: Pastor Donald V Hafemann

Speaker: Dr. Peter T Flawn 'Excellence'

AV: 'Look into Time'

Attendees: 440

#### Folders

##### **1983 Hall of Fame: Dinner 12/3/1982 – 5/17/1982 & undated**

-program, ticket and table assignment slip –letters to honorees and their families discussing the dinner and their travel arrangements –letters trying to procure portraits, photos of the ceremony and photos for the AV presentation –table reservations and seating arrangements –short biographies of honorees –arrangements with Hilton for rooms –sample invitation letters to members, board, friends and honoree's guests –correspondence to/from speaker for event –head table seating diagram –menu-hand written and typed attendee list with table assignments –

## **Do Not Cite**

address lists for honoree's guests –budget sheets with receipts attached –hostess list and instructions for ceremony –letters recapping the dinner

### **1983 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 12/7/1982 – 6/1983 & undated**

-press release –clippings from the Museum Memo, Midland Reporter Telegram and the Landman

### **1983 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-5 X 7 photos with identifications on the back -8 X 10 photos

### **1983 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation**

-script –story board

## **1984**

### **Folders:**

#### **1984 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected – 4/9/1984 – 10/23/1984 & undated**

-list of requests and letters –current nomination criteria

#### **1984 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-articles of incorporation –by laws –nomination criteria –essentials of a biography –list of candidates and breakdown by year, names and number of times considered

#### **1984 Hall of Fame: Committee 6/6/1984 – 9/19/1985**

-sample letter to people nominating someone to the Hall of Fame –committee roster –blank ballot –meeting reminders –roster of living Hall of Fame honorees

### **Nominations in file**

Lee Jones, Jr. with biography

#### **1984 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity 4/27/1984 – 2/1985**

-clippings from the Museum Memo, Midland Reporter Telegram, Odessa American –press release

## **1985**

Honorees:	Horace M Bayer	Levi Smith
	Claude W Brown	Charles D Vertrees

Date: April 25, 1985

Location & Price: Green Tree Country Club \$50.00

Master of Ceremonies: Ted M Kerr

Benediction: Dr. John F Anderson

Speaker:

AV: “All our Yesterdays”

Attendees: limited to 350 -278 attended



## **Do Not Cite**

### **Folders:**

#### **1985 Hall of Fame: Dinner – 1/10/1984 – 10/31/1985 & undated**

-ticket to reception, program, RSVP and table assignment card –mock up of program –honorees and their families addresses –sample letter advising honorees and their families of their election and the itinerary for dinner –table diagrams –letters procuring honorees portraits –sample invitation letters to board, members, friends and honoree’s guests –packet delineating responsibilities for Hall of Fame with staff members assigned to each task with a budget for the event -large mock up of the program –Ed Rowland’s remarks –thank you letter from Claude Brown for the honor –‘Hall of Fame Wrap Up 1985’ –bills for event –notes on flower arrangements –seating arrangements –address list

#### **1985 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 12/4/1984 – 4/26/1985 & undated**

-press releases –clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram

#### **1985 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-for the first time photos were taken with the family gathered around the Hall of Fame plaque – numbered photos with identification information on note cards

#### **1985 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation 1**

-copies of the script –slides –correspondence with reproduction company about the slides

#### **1985 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation 2**

-correspondence with slide companies –how to create a story board pamphlet, examples of slides used in program with ordering information

## **1986**

### **Folders:**

#### **1986 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected 4/23/1986 – 6/21/1986 & undated**

-letters requesting criteria –memo to staff about the election process and criteria

#### **1986 Hall of Fame: Committee – 1/2/1986 – 2/3/1987 & undated**

-memo to director about the procedures for the Hall of Fame committee and publicity –letter discussing setting the deadline for sending in criteria –invitation to join the committee –letter scheduling committee meetings –notification letters to honorees –notification letter to board telling them of the new Hall of Fame honorees –letter from M O Boring Jr. thanking the board for his father’s honor –committee roster –letter concerning honoree’s portraits

#### **1986 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-lists of honorees and nominees with short biographies compiled in different manners

#### **1986 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

-press release –clipping from the Midland Reporter Telegram

**Do Not Cite**

**1987**

Honorees: Mac O Boring, Sr. John J Redfern, Jr.  
Fred T Hogan Clayton W Williams, Sr.

Date: May 12, 1987

Location & Price: Holiday Inn Country Villa Convention Center \$50.00

Master of Ceremonies: Ted M Kerr

Benediction: Reverend Russell Richel

Speaker:

AV: 'Visions'

Attendees: 384

**Folders:**

**1987 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected 7/16/1987 – 11/6/1987**

-request letters for nomination criteria

**1987 Hall of Fame: Dinner 1 – 12/10/1986 – 4/29/1987 & undated**

-program –letters to/from honorees –menu –RSVPs for dinner –honorees invitation lists –hand written to do list for Hall of Fame Dinner –list of attendees with table assignments –contract with Holiday Inn

**1987 Hall of Fame: Dinner 2 – 5/12/1987 – mostly undated**

-list of ministers for past dinners –various to do lists for event –table chart –seating arrangements –list of paid reservations –guest lists

**1987 Hall of Fame: Dinner 3 – 5/6/1987 – 11/18/1987 & undated**

-list of honoree's guests and family –biographies of honorees –mock up of program –wrap up letter to Holiday Inn –photo orders –summary and critique of dinner

**1987 Hall of Fame Press Releases & Publicity 4/27/1986 – 6/1987 & undated**

-press releases –clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram, Museum Memo and the Business Journal of West Texas

**1987 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation**

-script

**1988**

**Folders:**

**1988 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected – 3/8/1988 – 6/6/1988**

-request letters for nomination criteria

**1988 Hall of Fame: Committee – 8/22/1988 – 11/14/1988 & undated**

-committee correspondence discussing balloting procedures –timeline for committee activities – letters to committee members scheduling meetings, votes, thank you notes etc –committee roster –letter to the board about the new honorees –list of nominees with a list of sponsors/nominators –

**Do Not Cite**

letters to sponsors about the status of their candidates –letter about the Permian – A Continuing Saga book attached to the honoree’s guest list

**Nominations in file**

W L Wentland

**1988 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-copies of notebook given to committee members with the following items: creed, articles of incorporation, by-laws, alphabetical list of honorees, list of honorees by induction year, former candidates list, consolidated list of nominees, nominees considered twice, nominees considered once, nominees for the first time, honorees by home town and list of the professions represented by the honorees

**1988 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 2/25/1988 – 11/2/1988**

-two press releases –clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram and San Angelo Standard Times

**1989**

Honorees:	Preston C Coleman, M.D.	Sam Weiner
	Virgil Elisha Cottingham	Ted Weiner
	John E Mabee	Stanley Weiner
	Guy R Mabee	Charles Weiner
	Joseph Guy Mabee	

Date: April 27, 1989

Location & Price: Green Tree Country Club \$50.00

Master of Ceremonies: Ted M Kerr

Benediction: Father Jon S Stasney

Speaker:

AV: ‘Memories’

Attendees:

**Folders:**

**1989 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected 1/16/1989 -3/27/1989**

-request letters for nomination criteria

**1989 Hall of Fame: Committee – 11/1/1988 – 11/10/1989 & undated**

-notification letter to Stanley Weiner –Hall of Fame policies –list of nominating committee members and ballot

**1989 Hall of Fame: Dinner 1– 12/9/1988 – 5/2/1989**

-invitation, program, tickets and table assignment ticket –letters to honorees and their families about the ceremony and their guest lists –list of attendees –RSVPs for event –honoree guest lists –memo to employees about Hall of Fame night –list of potential sites for the Hall of Fame with menus and charges –budget sheet –handwritten review sheet

**Do Not Cite**

**1989 Hall of Fame: Dinner 2**

-notes on Weiner family –correspondence with the family about the election and induction dinner –notes on the Mabee family with correspondence with the Mabees about the election and dinner –notes on the Cottingham family with correspondence about the election and induction dinner –notes on the Coleman family with correspondence about the election and induction dinner

**1989 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity 2/26/1989 – 5/2/1989**

-press release –copy of Midland Reporter Telegram clipping

**1989 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-color photographs of the ceremony

**1990**

**Folders:**

**1990 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected 5/23/1990**

-request letter for nomination criteria

**1990 Hall of Fame: Committee – 3/29/1990 – 10/30/1990 & undated**

-letters to committee about the slate of honorees –committee roster –board minutes from 10/30/1990

**1990 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-copies of notebook given to committee members with the following items: creed, articles of incorporation, by-laws, alphabetical list of honorees, list of honorees by induction year, former candidates list, consolidated list of nominees, nominees considered twice, nominees considered once, nominees for the first time, honorees by home town and list of the professions represented by the honorees

**1991**

Honorees:	President George H W Bush	Edith Whatley McKanna
	Halbert P Bybee, Ph. D	Frank Phillips

Date: April 25, 1991

Location & Price: Midland Hilton \$60.00

Master of Ceremonies: Ted M Kerr

Benediction: Reverend Ray Bristol

Speaker:

AV: ‘Footprints in Time’

Attendees:

**Folders:**

**1991 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected 3/10/1991 – 3/20/1992**

-request letters for nomination criteria

## **Do Not Cite**

### **1991 Hall of Fame: Dinner – 1/18/1991 – 5/21/1991 & undated**

-invitation and program –detailed program of events –sponsor list –various lists of attendees with or without table assignments –letter to Phillips Petroleum Company about the arrangements for the induction dinner –schedule of evening events –notes on flower arrangements –list of honorees guests –catering lists with menu and beverage choices –budget and income sheet –staff assignments for dinner arrangements-wrap up of dinner and recommendations for next dinner –table layouts –final table assignment

### **1991 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity 3/20/1991 – 4/14/1991**

-press release –clipping from Midland Reporter Telegram

### **1991 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-4 X 5 color photos of the ceremony

### **1991 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation**

-memo about amount of time staff needs for production time –photo credits –script

## **1992**

### **1992 Hall of Fame: Committee 2/5/1991 – 10/29/1992**

-committee roster –schedule for election –correspondence covering committee membership, meeting times and voting – short biography of Schlumberger –list of honorees selected with biographies –planning time table with deadlines –contact list for honorees and their families

### **1992 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-copies of notebook given to committee members with the following items: creed, articles of incorporation, by-laws, alphabetical list of honorees, list of honorees by induction year, former candidates list, consolidated list of nominees, nominees considered twice, nominees considered once, nominees for the first time, honorees by home town and list of the professions represented by the honorees

### **1992 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

-press releases –clippings from the Museum Memo

## **1993**

Honorees:            Claud E Aikman            John J Kovach  
                         Vaughn C Maley            Martin Yates, Jr.

Date: April 22, 1993

Location & Price: Midland Hilton \$60.00

Master of Ceremonies: Ted M Kerr

Benediction: Reverend Marshall Mason

Speaker:

AV: ‘Legends in Silver’

Attendees:

## **Do Not Cite**

### **Folders:**

#### **1993 Hall of Fame: Dinner 1 – 1/13/1993 – 7/29/1993 & undated**

-invitation and program –coordination sheet with staff assignments and expense list –letters to honoree and their families about the induction –sponsor letter –receipts from vendors –letters with dinner and portrait schedule –inscriptions from the honoree’s portrait plaques –RSVP lists –list of flowers and who gets them –evening agenda –table assignments –citations for honorees –budget –Hilton folder with catering arrangements, bar and table arrangements –wrap up notes

#### **1993 Hall of Fame: Dinner 2**

-mailing and RSVP list –example letters for various Hall of Fame correspondence –table layout –final budget

#### **1993 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

-copy of a Museum Memo article

#### **1993 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-4 X 5 color photos

#### **1993 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation**

-script for video

#### **1993 Hall of Fame: Brunch**

-invitation to brunch

## **1994**

### **Folders:**

#### **1994 Hall of Fame: Committee – 2/8/1994 – 9/12/1994 & undated**

--board minutes –committee correspondence about members, voting and committee roster –correspondence with George H W bush about attending the 1995 ceremony –notification letters to honorees and their families –recommendation of honorees to board

#### **1994 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-copies of notebook given to committee members with the following items: creed, articles of incorporation, by-laws, alphabetical list of honorees, list of honorees by induction year, former candidates list, consolidated list of nominees, nominees considered twice, nominees considered once, nominees for the first time, honorees by home town and list of the professions represented by the honorees

#### **1994 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity 7/14/1994 – 10/20/1994**

-press release –clipping from the Midland Reporter Telegram

## **1995**

Honorees:	Mac O Boring, Jr.	Paul O Sill
	J Hugh Liedtke	Fred A Wemple, Jr.

**Do Not Cite**

William C Liedtke, Jr.

Date: April 19, 1995

Location & Price: Midland Center \$75.00

Master of Ceremonies: Ted M Kerr

Benediction: Maurice R Bullock

Speaker:

AV: 'Oil! Barons & Builders'

Attendees:

**Folders:**

**1995 Hall of Fame: Dinner 1 – 2/9/1995 – 4/19/1995 & undated**

-invitation, brunch invitation and program –timeline –sponsor letter –proofs for invitation –list of flowers and where they go –place cards

**1995 Hall of Fame: Dinner 2 – 10/13/1994**

-honoree's correspondence about the election and dinner stapled to short biographies –detailed budget with invoices

**1995 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 10/14/1994 – 4/17/1995**

-press releases –clippings from the Museum Memo and Midland Reporter Telegram

**1995 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-4 X 5 color photos

**1995 Hall of Fame: Brunch**

-invitations

**1996**

**Folders:**

**1996 Hall of Fame: Committee – 8/5/1996 – 12/4/1996 & undated**

Organized by honoree –correspondence between museum and honorees and their families about the election –thank you notes –lists of family members with contact information – correspondence about honoree's portraits

**1996 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-copies of notebook given to committee members with the following items: creed, articles of incorporation, by-laws, alphabetical list of honorees, list of honorees by induction year, former candidates list, consolidated list of nominees, nominees considered twice, nominees considered once, nominees for the first time, honorees by home town and list of the professions represented by the honorees

**1996 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

-press releases –clipping from the Midland Reporter Telegram

## Do Not Cite

### 1997

Honorees:            Carlton E Beal            B J 'Joe' Pevehouse  
                         L Decker Dawson        Allan K 'Moose' Trobaugh  
                         Joseph I O'Neill, Jr.

Date: April 30, 1997

Location & Price: Midland Center \$75.00

Master of Ceremonies: A J 'Tony' Best

Benediction: Robert C Leibrock

Speaker:

AV: 'Shining Stars of the Permian Basin'

Attendees:

#### **Folders:**

##### **1997 Hall of Fame: Dinner**

-invitation and programs -notes on dinner, flower arrangements and brunch –citations for plaques  
–contact information for honorees –staff duty assignments –staff meeting summaries –menu –  
budget sheet –notes on meetings

##### **1997 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

4 X 5 color photographs

##### **1997 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation 2/24/1997 – 4/20/1997 & undated**

- script –biography of Beal and Trobaugh –transcript of interview with L Decker Dawson –photo  
credit page

##### **1997 Hall of Fame: Brunch**

-invitation –photos of brunch

### 1998

#### **Folders:**

##### **1998 Hall of Fame: Committee – 2/6/1998 – 11/23/1998**

-committee roster –committee correspondence about yearbooks, thank yous for nominations,  
suggestions for future Hall of Fame elections, meeting agendas, times and voting –notification  
letters to honorees with reply from W A Moncrief, Jr. –support letters from C T McLaughlin

##### **1998 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-copies of notebook given to committee members with the following items: creed, articles of  
incorporation, by-laws, alphabetical list of honorees, list of honorees by induction year, former  
candidates list, consolidated list of nominees, nominees considered twice, nominees considered  
once, nominees for the first time, honorees by home town and list of the professions represented  
by the honorees



## **Do Not Cite**

### **1998 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity 2/5/1998 – 11/18/1998 & undated**

-press releases to various media –list of media with contact info –edit copies of releases –clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram and M Magazine

## **1999**

Honorees:            Jack E Brown                                 Wm A ‘Tex’ Moncrief, Jr  
                           J Clarence Karcher, Ph.D                     Cyril ‘Cy’ Wagner  
                           William A ‘Monty’ Moncrief

Date: April 8, 1999

Location & Price: Midland Center \$75.00

Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Tulsi Dyal Singh

Benediction: Reverend Stockton Williams

Speaker:

AV: ‘Treasures of the Industry’

Attendees:

### **Folders:**

#### **1999 Hall of Fame: Dinner – 1/6/1999 – 4/14/1999 & undated**

-invitation and program –contact information for honorees –letters to honorees with schedule for dinner and questions for video biographies –correspondence setting up interviews with honorees and their families –compiled list of honorees and their families with addresses –copies of honoree’s program and portrait biographies –letters to honorees with detailed dinner agenda and portrait schedule –packet with honorees citations from the Lieutenant Governor –letter of thanks to honorees with video offer –detailed script/agenda for dinner –reprint list of honorees survivors contact information –annotated sponsor list

#### **1999 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 4/1/1999 – 4/12/1999 & undated**

-press releases –clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram and Odessa American

#### **1999 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-4 X 5 color photographs

#### **1999 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation – 3/22/1999 & undated**

-working scripts broken down by honoree

#### **1999 Hall of Fame: Brunch**

-4 X 6 color photos of the brunch

## **2000**

### **Folders:**

#### **2000 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected**

-nomination criteria for Hall of Fame

## **Do Not Cite**

### **2000 Hall of Fame: Committee – 3/3/2000 -8/16/2000 & undated**

-correspondence about members, meetings and yearbooks –committee roster –honoree nomination to board

### **2000 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-copies of notebook given to committee members with the following items: creed, articles of incorporation, by-laws, alphabetical list of honorees, list of honorees by induction year, former candidates list, consolidated list of nominees, nominees considered twice, nominees considered once, nominees for the first time, honorees by home town and list of the professions represented by the honorees (2 copies one missing the consolidated list)

### **2000 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity 3/21/2000 – 8/18/2000 & undated**

-press release –clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram

## **2001**

Honorees:           Richard S Brooks           William ‘Bill’ Collyns  
                          Rufe S Bynum, Jr.       George R Gibson, Ph.D.

Date: April 19, 2001

Location & Price: Midland Center \$75.00

Master of Ceremonies: Ken Burgess

Benediction: Reverend Jim Houston-Hencken

Speaker:

AV: ‘Spotlight on the Honorees’

Attendees: approximately 340

### **Folders:**

#### **2001 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected 11/19/2001**

-criteria request letter –diskette with nomination criteria file

#### **2001 Hall of Fame: Dinner – 1/5/2001 – 4/4/2001 & undated**

-invitation and program –sample letter to honorees about the induction dinner –permission letter from Sam Hollis for Gibson portrait use –bi lines and citations for honorees –honoree contact information –sponsorship opportunity sheet –table arrangement –honoree’s guest list –duty/task list –final expense ledger – updated address lists for honorees and their family members

#### **2001 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 1/26/2001 – 4/16/2001 & undated**

-email about Harts E&P Hall of Fame edition –clipping from the Midland Reporter Telegram – three copies of the Harts E&P Hall of Fame edition

#### **2001 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-4 X 5 color photographs of the ceremony with negatives

#### **2001 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation**

-annotated script for video divided up by honoree –photo credit page

## Do Not Cite

### **2001 Hall of Fame: Brunch**

-photographs of brunch

## 2002

### **Folders:**

#### **2002 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected 2/21/2002 – 6/7/2002 & undated**

-request letters and responses for Hall of Fame criteria –copy of 2002 nomination criteria

#### **2002 Hall of Fame: Committee -4/3/2002 – 11/20/2002 & undated**

-committee roster –committee correspondence about meetings, research and notebooks and balloting –nomination letters –sample letters to honorees about induction –meeting agendas –ballots

#### **2002 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-copies of notebook given to committee members with the following items: creed, articles of incorporation, by-laws, alphabetical list of honorees, list of honorees by induction year, former candidates list, consolidated list of nominees, nominees considered twice, nominees considered once, nominees for the first time, honorees by home town and list of the professions represented by the honorees

-Arlen Edgar's yearbook with annotations on revising the criteria and candidates with copies of committee correspondence –second yearbook copy with minor annotations –diskette with yearbook computer files

#### **2002 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 1/31/2001 – 2/1/2002 & undated**

-press releases about committee chair, nominations and announcement of new honorees –list of media for submitting press releases –

## 2003

Honorees:            Todd Aaron                                Francis H 'Mac' McGuigan  
                         Benjamin Bates Alexander    Joe G Roper  
                         Thomas C 'Tom' Brown

Date: April 3, 2003

Location & Price: Midland Center \$100.00

Master of Ceremonies: Paul Morris

Benediction: Ronnie White

Speaker: Donald L Evans U S Secretary of Commerce

AV: 'Footsteps from the Past'

Attendees: 600

### **Folders:**

#### **2003 Hall of Fame: Dinner 4/3/2003 – 4/4/2004 & undated**

## Do Not Cite

-invitation and program –sponsorship opportunity flyer –honoree family tree –table arrangement chart –attendee list –sponsor leaflet –honoree parking pass –Lois Harrington wrap up notes –copies of photos used in photo loop shown during cocktail hour –copy of Donald Evan’s speech –George H W Bush letter –budgets for flowers, decorations and printing –detailed budgets –diploma cover for McGuigan (just behind file)

### **2003 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 4/4/2003 & undated**

-press release announcing Donald Evans as speaker –Midland Reporter Telegram clippings featuring Donald Evans and the honorees

### **2003 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-CD Rom copy of photos

### **2003 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation**

-script for video

### **2003 Hall of Fame: Brunch**

-copy of guest register

## 2004

### **Folders:**

#### **2004 Hall of Fame: Committee – 6/18/2004 – 12/30/2004 & undated**

-committee correspondence covering meeting times, meeting agendas, top ten candidate list and committee roster –nomination letter for Al Hurtle Meadows –announcement to board of 2005 honorees –various drafts of honoree notification letters –biographies of the honorees –honoree’s contact information –bid request for photography and invitations –sponsor letter –letters to honorees with ceremony information –letter to past honorees informing them of the new ‘class’ of honorees –copy of board agenda

#### **2004 Hall of Fame: Yearbook**

-copies of notebook given to committee members with the following items: creed, articles of incorporation, by-laws, alphabetical list of honorees, list of honorees by induction year, former candidates list, consolidated list of nominees, nominees considered twice, nominees considered once, nominees for the first time, honorees by home town and list of the professions represented by the honorees

#### **2004 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity – 5/21/2004**

-two press releases about the nomination process

## 2005

Honorees:	C Fred Chambers	Harvey E Yates
	William D Kennedy	John A Yates
	Myra Brown Robinson	Martin ‘Bitsy’ Yates III
	Clayton W Williams, Jr.	S P Yates

## **Do Not Cite**

Date: April 14, 2005  
Location & Price: Midland Center \$100.00  
Master of Ceremonies: Tim Thompson  
Benediction: Reverend Flynn V Long, Jr.  
Speaker:  
AV: 'Oil Legends & Pioneers'  
Attendees: 795-810

### **Folders:**

#### **2005 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected**

-requests for criteria

#### **2005 Hall of Fame: Dinner 1 – 7/1/2004 – 3/31/2005**

-invitation and program –copy of Midland Center contract –copy of original proposed budget – correspondence about bids for budgeted expenses –bid request for caterer –projected budgets with revenue and expenses –invoice from Fitz Co –letter to Chambers family about dinner and portrait schedule –security summary –long and short biographies of honorees (some with editing annotations) –citation letters from Governor Perry and George W Bush –citations from state for honorees

#### **2005 Hall of Fame: Dinner 2 – 4/13/2005 – 4/20/2005 & undated**

-email to board with table assignments –catering bid with final price, menu and possible menu selections –day of set up schedule for employees –photos of flowers, table set up, table tents and various decorations for the event –color coded table diagram with an individual attendee list attached –copy of program agenda –address list for hand written thank you notes from the Director –thank you letter to the caterer –wrap up notes –time line with various tasks –sponsor information –honoree contact information and biographies

#### **2005 Hall of Fame: Dinner 3**

-“how to” book compiled by Jane Phares with explanations and examples of how to handle each aspect of the Hall of Fame: general information, PR, notification letters, sponsors, invitations/reservations, print (program etc) info, arrangements (flowers, catering etc) photographer, video/portraits

#### **2005 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity 4/14/2005 – 4/17/2005**

-press release with honorees biographies –clippings from the Midland Reporter Telegram and Big Spring Herald

#### **2005 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

-CD Rom with digital photos of event

#### **2005 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation 4/13/2005 & undated**

-invoice for video production –copy of final script

#### **2005 Hall of Fame: Brunch – 4/4/2005 & undated**

## Do Not Cite

-copy of setup and menu for brunch –list of photos used for decoration and their decorative labels –photos of set up and brunch

### 2007

Honorees: Donald Evans Algur “Al” Hurtle Meadows Robert L. Parker  
Team of Samuel H. Marshall, William “Bill” Williams & Donald Winston

Date: April 26, 2007

Location & Price: Midland Center

Master of Ceremonies: Steve Castle

Benediction: Dr. Tim Walker, First United Methodist

Speaker: none

AV: “Survivor”

Attendees: 650

#### **Folders:**

**2006 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected**

**2006 Hall of Fame: Committee**

**2006 Hall of Fame: Year Book (Committee Notebook)**

- list of honorees; - list of nominees

**2007 Hall of Fame: Dinner**

- invitation and program; - sponsorship letter; - photograph schedule; - event schedules and timelines; - notification letters to honorees; - sponsorship list and seating chart

**2007 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

- List of newspapers; - press release; - article in Permian Basin Oil Report, dated March 4, 2007

**2007 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

**2007 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation**

- 1 DVD of program; - script and supporting research

**2007 Hall of Fame: Brunch**

### 2009

Honorees: President George W. Bush James C. Henry Johnny R. Warren  
Team of C. O. Ted Collins, Jr. and Herbert Earl Ware, Jr.

Date: April 23, 2009

Location & Price: Midland Center

Master of Ceremonies: Roy Williamson

Benediction: Steve Shore

Speaker: none

**Do Not Cite**

AV: Midland: Land of Leaders  
Attendees: over 900

**Folders:**

**2008 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected**

- Procedures and criteria; - essentials of a biography; - requests and nominations

**2008 Hall of Fame: Committee**

- correspondence among chairperson and committee members

**2008 Hall of Fame: Year Book (Committee Notebook)**

**2009 Hall of Fame: Dinner**

- invitation and program; - sponsorship letter; - table set-up

**2009 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

- letter dated July 11, 2008 requesting nominations; - press release dated January 23, 2009; - articles from Midland Reporter-Telegram

**2009 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

- prints and images on CD

**2009 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation**

- 1 DVD of program; - honoree portraits (prints & on CD)

**2009 Hall of Fame: Brunch**

- article from Midland Reporter-Telegram

**2011**

Honorees: I. Jon Brumley Sam G. Gibbs, Ph.D  
William D. Kleine Team of Mack C. Chase and John R. Gray

Date: April 14, 2011

Location & Price: Midland Center

Master of Ceremonies: Roy C. Williamson

Benediction: Dr. Randel Everett

Speaker: none

AV: Crossroads

Attendees: over 600

**Folders:**

**2011 Hall of Fame: Criteria Requests & Procedures to be elected**

**2011 Hall of Fame: Committee**

-notes and matrices

**Do Not Cite**

**2011 Hall of Fame: Year Book (Committee Notebook)**

**2011 Hall of Fame: Dinner**

-sponsorship letter; - invitation and program; - photography schedule; - letter from George W. Bush dated April 14, 2011

**2011 Hall of Fame: Press Releases & Publicity**

**2011 Hall of Fame: Photos of Ceremony**

**2011 Hall of Fame: AV/Video Presentation**

- 1 DVD and 1 Blu-ray of program; - prints and images on CD of inductee portraits

**2011 Hall of Fame: Brunch**



## **Individual Honoree/Nominee Files**

### **Todd Aaron 2003-**

Todd Aaron was born Dec. 11, 1911, in Pawhuska, Okla., to a physician-oriented family. His father was a doctor and his mother was the daughter of a doctor. But Aaron traveled another road, studying commerce at Northwestern University in Illinois. After college graduation, he started employment at Sears and Roebuck's mail order division in Chicago and eventually found his way Oklahoma where he worked for Gulf Oil Corp., Phillips Petroleum Co., and National Bank of Tulsa.

While in Oklahoma, he met Dorothy Woodall and the two married Jan. 1, 1942, after Aaron had been called into active duty. Before that, he already had relocated to Odessa for a job as a shooter's helper and salesman with Rock Glycerin Co. During World War II, Aaron was stationed aboard the USS Bladen, which participated in the invasion and occupation of Iwo Jima and Okinawa and in landing of occupation forces in Japan. He was discharged from the Navy in 1946, and the couple and their infant son, Todd II, returned to Odessa and the Rock Glycerin firm.

In 1947, Todd started his own oil well drilling business engaging in contract drilling and workover operations throughout West Texas and New Mexico. By 1950, the family, which now included son Bill, moved to Midland along with the company, Todd Aaron Drilling Company. Aaron found a niche for his cable tool drilling rigs during the Spraberry boom southeast of Midland. Operators wanted to protect the upper and lower Spraberry formations from contamination. After drilling 7,000 feet, the operations were completed with a cable tool rig in a process called "tailing in."

Aaron kept his cable tool rigs busy throughout the Permian Basin for the next 35 years. Long after others had abandoned the equipment for modern rigs, Aaron held on to his. During the 1980s boom, he stayed busy drilling surface holes for operators who were having to wait a year for a rotary rig.

Over the years, Aaron -- a quiet, humble man and also a private pilot -- contributed to the community. Memberships include Rotary International, Scottish and York Rite Mason and Shriner, Midland Need to Read, YMCA and Chamber of Commerce. In 2001 he was honored by the Permian Basin Petroleum Association as its Top Hand.

Although he never studied medicine, Aaron left a legacy in that field. In 2000, he and his late wife Dorothy underwrote the cost for construction of the Dorothy and Todd Aaron Medical Science Building at Midland College.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Todd Aaron 2003 (2 tapes)

Video: DVD 2003 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Building a Future with Footprints from the Past"

## **Do Not Cite**

### **George T Abell 1972**

George T Abell refers to himself as an oil and gas producer. His colleagues know him as one of the most successful wildcatters and producers in the Permian Basin. His friends know him as a man of both compassion and humility, a modest but firm leader, and a man who loves this land, its people and its history.

He was born in Wakeeney, Kansas in 1900, and after graduation from what was then Colorado A&M College, he walked over much of Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, New Mexico and West Texas mapping structures, scouting rocks and qualifying himself as a geologist.

Beginning in 1930 he went into the oil business on his own, and there followed a series of events built mainly on hard work and a dedicated belief that great things can be accomplished only if reasonable risks are taken. He made discoveries or participated in the development of the Abell, Gomez, Pecos Valley, South Ward, Shipley and other Permian Basin fields, as well as in the Grapeland Gas Field in East Texas. He accepted failures – and there were some – with a grin, and he saw his successes as creating an obligation to return to this land benefits commensurate with its yield.

This process of plowing back has gone on so long and so quietly that much of it is not known and will never be known. It has involved not only the giving of funds but the giving of self. Midland's Memorial Hospital is there, in part, because of what he did; and if anyone is, he is the father of the petroleum museum to be built here. A hundred more causes like them might be named, but since he violates every mistaken notion of what Texas oil men are supposed to be – including having a due supply of modesty – these need not be listed here.

His accomplishments, in a business way, have been substantial, but they are overshadowed by the quality and character of the man himself. It is enough to say that he, in a very special way, has earned the honor which his colleagues pay him on this occasion.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: George T. Abell 3/9/1975, 9/24/1971 Abell, Haigh & Vertrees (3 tapes) 2/2/1971

Recording of 1972 Hall of Fame dinner on Magnetic Tape (2 reels) Dr. S A Wengerd speaker

### **Claud E Aikman 1993**

Claud Edwin Aikman was born in Stillwater, Indian Territory. After earning degrees in chemistry and geology from the University of Oklahoma, he spent nine years as a self-employed pharmacist. During this time he traded in oil and gas royalties and assembled drilling units for development of the Oklahoma Field.

Claud entered the oil business full-time in 1930 when he moved to San Angelo to join George Morgan in forming Cardinal Oil. Cardinal pursued drilling activities in the Howard-Glasscock, Yates, Toborg and the White and Baker fields. The Company operated over 150 Wells and maintained substantial lease camps in Iraan and McCamey.

## **Do Not Cite**

In 1939 the two gentlemen formed Cooper Gas. They discovered the Page Field – producing gas from a Strawn age reef. This was the first Pennsylvanian reef production on the eastern shelf. The result was hundreds of wildcat wells discovering significant reserves in the Basin.

In 1945, after selling Cardinal Oil to Helmerich and Payne and Panhandle Refining, the two men operated as Morgan-Aikman, Ltd. and conducted numerous exploratory and drilling ventures on the Basin's eastern shelf. In 1953 Claud with his son William opened a Midland office and in 1957 added an office in Amarillo with his son Robert.

While Aikman was president of the West Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association, he made many important contributions to the entire petroleum industry. At the beginning of World War II the price of West Texas crude was significantly lower than that of East Texas crude. That, combined with smaller purchases from West Texas fields, seriously hurt further exploration. Aikman personally and successfully led the fight with the state of Texas and Washington, D.C., for reasonable and fair pricing and production levels. Aikman negotiated the first "Gas Production Loan" in this part of the country and he helped defeat serious proposals to nationalize the U.S. oil industry.

One of Texas' early oil explorers, Claud Aikman remained active until his death in 1991.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Claude Aikman 10/18/1975

Videos: 1993 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **Benjamin Bates Alexander 2003**

Benjamin Bates Alexander used his ingenuity and innate business sense to turn a small oil well servicing company into a firm renown throughout the Permian Basin. Born Oct. 31, 1920, in Guymon, Okla., and raised in Lubbock, Alexander attended Texas Tech University for a year. He left school to help his father with the family grocery store at Eunice, N.M. He then served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1944 and returned to New Mexico where he expanded the grocery business to Hobbs, Jal and Seminole.

He married Gerry Ann Dunham in 1942, and the couple had two children: Lee Ann Alexander and the late Russell Bates Alexander.

In 1952, he entered the oil industry in Hobbs, starting DA&S Oil Well Servicing with two rigs. The company eventually expanded to 52 rigs and 250 employees and when he retired in 1986, it was the largest independent well servicing company in the Permian Basin with operations in Hobbs, Eunice, Andrews and Midland. Through DA&S, Alexander built a reputation for contributing a stable, experienced and qualified workforce to the Permian Basin and for providing a service at a fair price to his customers. As a result, the Permian Basin was known for some of the lowest well servicing costs in the nation.

He believed in investing in his employees by providing benefits and the latest technology. His company was among the first to offer insurance, savings plans and retirement to oilfield hands.

## **Do Not Cite**

Alexander expanded his business holdings into DASCO Land Corp. and DASCO Energy Corporation, which involved cattle, lease interests in oil wells and land for development.

But Alexander's interests and involvements weren't confined to the business world. Politics and philanthropy formed the other sides of the triangle of his life. Through his involvement in the Democratic Party in New Mexico, Alexander helped shape the outcome of several political issues. He led the fight to establish New Mexico Junior College at Hobbs and helped to reform the Workers' Compensation law.

On the philanthropic side, Alexander was a founder of United Way of Lea County and a longtime supporter of NMJC and College of the Southwest.

Memberships include Permian Basin Petroleum Association, National Petroleum Council, New Mexico Oil and Gas Association, Independent Petroleum Association of America. He has been named Citizen of the Year more than once in Hobbs, and in 2000 he was selected Person of the Century by the Hobbs newspaper. He received the PBPA Top Hand Award, and the NMJC Student Center is named after Alexander.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Ben Alexander 1/27/2003 (3 tapes)

Video: DVD 2003 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Building a Future with Footprints from the Past"

### **Robert O Anderson 1983**

Roswell, New Mexico

A Chicagoan by birth, Robert O. Anderson graduated from the University of Chicago in 1939. Using a \$50,000 "grubstake" he bought the Malco refineries in southeastern New Mexico and later the Wilshire Oil Company, a west coast company. His wildcatting record was distinguished by an incredible run of luck – all bad. Some 200 dry holes were drilled in various places before the discovery well of the great Empire-Abo field in New Mexico brought Anderson and what became Hondo Oil and Gas Company into Atlantic Refining.

Moving into the more rarified levels of corporate management, he became chairman of Atlantic's board and its chief executive officer and then orchestrated the merger of Atlantic with Richfield Oil, Sinclair Oil and later with Anaconda. He remains chairman of the Atlantic Richfield board.

He presided over ARCO's discovery of the great Prudhoe Bay field, the Alaskan venture that made "North Slope" a part of the American vocabulary.

Anderson's pioneering in southeastern New Mexico and his distinguished leadership of Atlantic Richfield would be enough to earn Hall of Fame consideration for him. More, his imaginative and generous philanthropies, with their special emphasis on the needs of the human mind and

## **Do Not Cite**

spirit make this Roswellian rancher and entrepreneur an especially good and appreciated neighbor.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interview: 80-31 (accession number), Recording of 1983 induction dinner Peter Flawn Speaker

### **Jesse C Barnes, Sr. 1981**

J C Barnes was one of those self-disciplined people who did well in several fields before finding one in which his talents and interests could truly grow.

Born in Alabama, he mastered first the insurance business and then, in Arizona, hotel management. In 1936, however, he journeyed to East Texas to learn the oil business and a year later was in Midland to begin an illustrious career as an oil explorer and producer.

In 1938 he drilled an important well extending the Keystone Field in Winkler County, and subsequently joined with Russell Conkling in helping define the TXL Field in Ector County.

After World War II he became known as a pioneer and advocate of deeper drilling. He opened up the Emperor Deep Field in the Permian Basin and portions of the Anadarko Basin in Oklahoma.

He was a dedicated member of the Masonic Lodge for much of his life, and reached the 32<sup>nd</sup> degree. He gave generously of his time to numerous civic and public causes, and was active in his church.

J C Barnes died in Fort Myers, Florida, in 1975, at the age of 83.

His memory remains alive and fresh today, as one of those exceptional people who did exceptional things when the nation and the times called for them.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1981 Hall of Fame induction ceremony

### **Horace M. Bayer 1985**

Horace McDonald Bayer's induction into the Hall of Fame culminates a career with Gulf Oil Corporation that spanned nearly four decades in which he rose from surface geologist to vice-president.

Born in LaCrosse, Wisconsin in 1900, he served his country in World War I and, in 1924, he graduated from Oklahoma University with a B.A. degree in geology. He then joined Gulf Oil, that same year, as a surface geologist in Eastland, Texas and began mapping much of West Texas. He was promoted to zone geologist in 1927 because of his administrative abilities. Bayer transferred that same year to Midland. "Rusty" as he was known by all, was promoted to head

## **Do Not Cite**

the geological department, supervising Gulf's geological activities in its early development in the Permian Basin.

Bayer moved to Fort Worth in 1944, as Chief Geologist of Gulf's Fort Worth Division and in late 1953 he was promoted to Vice President of Gulf in charge of the Fort Worth Production Division that had, by that time, expanded to include all of New Mexico, in addition to its Texas region. During his vice presidency, this division yielded over one-third of Gulf's national oil and gas production. The Permian Basin held most of that production.

His name is synonymous with Gulf's discovery wells in Ector County's Goldsmith field, Winkler County's Keystone field and Andrews County's Triple N field. The first Ellenburger discovery in the true Delaware Basin was Gulf's well that opened the Worsham-Bayer Ellenburger gas field in northeastern Reeves County. "Rusty" Bayer at an earlier time mapped the subsurface feature upon which the well was drilled.

A dominant figure in the industry with outstanding executive abilities, Horace M Bayer believed the Permian Basin was an extraordinarily great oil and gas province in the southwest. He was an aggressive wildcatter, promoting Gulf's domestic exploration and production, channeling that corporation's budget into the Basin's oil and gas fields.

He retired from Gulf in 1960 and died in Fort Worth, Texas in 1975.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony "All our Yesterdays" (2 tapes)

### **Carlton E Beal 1997**

In 1954, the consulting firm of Beal, Trobaugh and Associates (BTA) was formed. A one room office located in the basement of Midland's Crawford Hotel served as the company's first office for a partnership that spanned nearly twenty years.

Carlton Evans Beal was born in Los Angeles, California in 1914. The son of a geologist and discoverer of the Kettleman Hills field in California, Carlton was born into the oil business. He received his master's degree in petroleum engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June of 1937. As WWII broke out, Carlton was employed by Richfield Oil Company. Because his job was considered part of an essential industry by the government, he was put on loan by his employer and became a member of the Engineering Committee for the Petroleum Association for War under the Interior Department for the western states. After spending four years handling data on oil reserves, Carlton decided to operate as an independent consultant, drilling his own wells.

Allen K. "Moose" Trobaugh was born in October, 1919 in Springfield Georgia. His college education began at Clemson College in 1937. WWII interrupted his plans and Moose joined the U.S. Army Air corps. He was awarded several honors during WWII including the Distinguished

## **Do Not Cite**

Flying Cross and the Silver Star. Following the war, Moose continued his education at the University of Southern California, receiving his degree in 1948 in petroleum engineering.

It was during this time that Carlton Beal and Allen K. “Moose” Trobaugh met. “Moose” was an “A” student of Carlton Beal’s at the University of Southern California after the war. Beal recruited Trobaugh for his new oil company. He needed a “bright young man” who was “not afraid to work”. The alliance between them eventually spawned the successful oil company of BTA, formed in 1964. Their partnership was perfect for each other: Carlton handled the land and geology and Moose did the drilling and field operations. Nearly 1500 wells have been drilled by BTA. Its loyal investors recognize that their successful track record of low risk drilling operations is due to the strength of their basic geology and geological analysis. Although Trobaugh left BTA in 1965, the two men participated in drilling operations until Trobaugh’s death in 1984. Carlton Beal continued to successfully steer BTA until his death in 1994. Both Carlton Beal and Moose Trobaugh lived lives of achievement in the petroleum industry and were especially involved in the interests of Midland and its youth.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Mrs. Keleen Beal 2/15/1997

Video: 1997 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner “Stars over Midland”

### **Ben C. Belt 1969**

Ben C Belt was born April 9, 1889, in Marshall, Missouri, and was graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in geology in 1910. Most of his working life was spent with Gulf Oil Corporation. He became a vice president of the company in 1950 with his offices in Houston, retired in 1955, and died in 1962.

These bare facts, however, make no mention of the keen perception which in 1925 and 1926 brought him to an understanding of some of the key features of the Permian Basin’s geology. He based his convictions on the little data then available and on his experiences in Mexico and elsewhere.

Ben Belt not only believed in the Basin as an oil province but with L P Garrett developed major proposals for Gulf Oil. As a result, that company took a very large land position on what became the Central Basin Platform. As the rightness of Ben Belt’s ideas were proved under the bit, Gulf became an oil producer of very large size and a constructive and leading factor in this portion of the industry. The Yates, Goldsmith, and McElroy fields were developed under his direction.

Ben Belt served his adopted city of Houston as a leader in civic enterprises, but it is predominantly for his vision of the Basin’s oil future that we honor him this evening.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape



### **Michael L Benedum 1970**

The lives of Michael L Benedum and Joseph C Trees were so intertwined that we here found it difficult to separate their accomplishments. We therefore cite them in the way they saw themselves – as partners and fellow adventurers in the great game of oil discovery. Both men were products of the West Virginia oil boom of the 1890's. Mr. Trees was an operating man, an engineer and an expert in drilling. Mr. Benedum had a flair for finances and for assessing risks. Their talents were different and their personalities were different, yet they worked smoothly together throughout their lifetimes and each was willing to let the other go it alone if he so chose. Their partnership lasted until Mr. Trees died in 1943. Mr. Benedum died in 1959 at the age of ninety. He had then become a legendary figure, mixing in the early days of the industry into the computer age of today.

During all of those eventful years, Benedum and Trees found more new oil in more new places than anyone can imagine. They found major fields in Illinois for the first time. They discovered the Caddo Lake Field in Louisiana and Mr. Trees himself developed ways to overcome the tremendous gas pressures that were found there. There followed an unparalleled series of petroleum finds all over the world. They together found oil in Canada, Colombia, Mexico, Romania, Texas, Venezuela and elsewhere. Whoever it was that coined the word “wildcatter” was bound to have had them in mind.

Together or separately, and under different company names, they did great things in the Permian Basin at times when no one knew whether this area was to be a freakish flash in the oil pan or be one of the large producing areas of the world. In 1926, an answer came once and for all. Before then, there was a belief that the Pecos River probably marked the western limits of petroleum deposits in Texas. It took courage to present the arguments that brought a series of wildcats into Pecos County and into the area now known as Iraan. Wells were drilled in a venture with what is now Marathon Oil Company. Those wells were dry. Even more courage was required to order the rig moved onto the Yates ranch, a full sixty miles from the nearest production in Bit Lake. But this move and that well established the existence of oil in tremendous quantities. The Yates field remains a star in the Texas Oil crown and is one of the greatest fields ever found in the United States. Much more could be said of Mr. Benedum and Mr. Trees and of the great influence they had on the petroleum industry, not only in this region, but in other places as well. It is thought to be enough to see them as representing a special breed of men who grouped their way through uncertainty to find oil. The nation and the world needed oil in great amounts. Without the independent explorers such as Mr. Trees and Mr. Benedum – men who were willing to risk everything to meet that need – we would all be the poorer. If we do not see their like again – and we all hope that we do – then the petroleum industry will have lost forever a bit of its soul.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording 1970 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Judge Brewster speaker on Magnetic Tape



**Charles E. Beyer 1973**

Charles E. Beyer of Arlington, Texas, comes from that group of oil executives who have seen civic duty as part and parcel of their corporate duty. This bright tradition of service earned friendship for their employers as well as for themselves. It is more difficult today, but it is no less important.

Charles Beyer is now 88 years old. He was born February 12, 1885, at St. Louis, Missouri. Beginning in 1907 he lived through and survived some of the toughest years in the Mexican oil boom – first, as a tool dresser, then as a clerk and paymaster, and later as an attorney-in-fact if not in law.

He broke off his Mexican years to study geology and Spanish at U.C.L.A. in Los Angeles, but he was shanghaied back into the oil business by his old friend from Mexico days, Levi Smith. Smith and Beyer had worked together for Penn-Mex, the Benedum-Trees company in Mexico. Now Smith was involved in west Texas with Big Lake Oil Company, the Benedum-Trees company.

So Charlie Beyer went to Texon in 1925 and returned in 1929, this time as assistant to his old friend. In 1932 he became Vice President and General Manager for big Lake and remained there until his retirement in 1950.

Charles Beyer had the biggest job in Texon, but it was the way he did it that earned his selection to the Hall of Fame. He worked to make this frontier town livable. He was at times the chief law enforcement officer and other times the garbage collector. Baseball, the Boy Scouts – whatever would add zest and character he was for. He refused to be the town's father; he never refused to be its friend.

Wherever he went, at Texon and at other places far and near, he had the respect and liking of those who knew him well and those who knew him only by reputation.

The finest managers are, more often than not, those who make profits and make friends with equal skill. Charles Beyer has done both. He mixed character and compassion with good business sense in such a way that hundreds of us regard him as an exceptional man who did an exceptional job. He is one of the best of the pioneers.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Collections: Recording of 1973 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Morgan J Davis speaker on Magnetic Tape

**Mac O. Boring, Sr. 1987**

Mac O. Boring, Sr. led the way in the development of the Permian Basin's oil reserves in the twenties and thirties and in making Gulf Oil (now a part of Chevron) a major force in exploration and development in the area.

## **Do Not Cite**

Mac was born in Louisiana in 1890, growing up to join the oilfields and work in cable tool rigs in Wyoming and Texas. He joined Gulf, first as a driller and then as head of its new land department in San Angelo. Gulf soon transferred him to open a Midland office and then promoted him to be in charge of all West Texas exploration and production.

From his Fort Worth office, Mac was personally responsible for or supervised the leasing of ranch after ranch in the Basin. Many of his leases developed into major oilfields. In 1933 – 35, he drilled the 12,786 foot deep McElroy 103, the deepest well in the world at that time. Many of the drilling innovations he pioneered in this well became standard practice in the industry.

Mac Boring was noted as a teacher of men. Many of his subordinates moved up to fill the highest positions in the Gulf hierarchy.

In 1945 Mac retired to help his son, Mac Jr., in managing Dixilyn Drilling Co., as it grew from one rig to deep-well and off-shore operations across the globe.

Mac O. Boring Sr. died in 1966, but his influence and leadership are visible across the Basin.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Video: 87-39 1987 Petroleum Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **Mac O. Boring, Jr. 1995**

Mac O. Boring, Jr. began his oil field career as a laborer digging ditches. He eventually built a multi-million dollar enterprise that included production, contract drilling, gasoline plants, mining, offshore drilling and banking.

He was born in 1915 at Shreveport, Louisiana. He graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1937, with a B.S. degree in petroleum engineering. He was hired by MBK Drilling Company of Tulsa as production superintendent and later transferred to Odessa, Texas, where he developed most of the Foster Pool west of the city along with drilling numerous other producers in the region.

Mac married Angel Van Horn in 1940. He served with the U.S. Navy from 1942-44 during World War II.

In November, 1945, he and his father founded the Dixilyn Drilling Company and began business with one National 75 rig. The next 10 years saw Dixilyn expand its operations to Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and New Mexico. Then in 1956 Dixilyn made its first move into off-shore exploration placing drilling rigs on permanent self-contained platforms. Dixilyn was now in the Gulf of Mexico, off the Nigerian coast and in the North Sea off Denmark and Scotland. It became the first Odessa firm listed on the American Stock Exchange.

By 1957 Dixilyn began construction of an innovative, mobile offshore rig that cost \$4.5 million. This self-contained rig was highly successful and constantly in demand. Mac's expertise was established and recognized by companies that hired his drilling services.

## **Do Not Cite**

Mac was an original investor, founder and board member of Odessa's Texas commerce bank. In 1955 he joined Earl Rodman, "Bill" Noel and others in organizing the American Bank of Commerce. He still serves the Texas commerce Bank board as an advisory director.

In the late sixties Mac drilled the discovery well in the Wolfcamp pay zone on Ector county's Fasken lease. The Railroad Commission of Texas named the new field the "Mac Boring Field."

Mac Boring is noted not only for his hard work and entrepreneurial skills in the petroleum industry, but also as a great community and regional leader. His positions on numerous educational, historical and cultural boards in Odessa, the Permian basin and beyond only add to the justification of honoring him as a member of the Petroleum Hall of Fame.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Mac O Boring, Jr.(2 tapes) 3/4/1986

Video: 1995 Petroleum Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **Richard S. Brooks 2001**

Richard S Brooks, one of the most respected attorneys of the Permian Basin, received the reputation because of his ethical standards as a lawyer and his knowledge of the oil business. He was born September 24, 1910 in Austin, Texas. He attended the University of Texas, receiving his undergraduate degree in 1931 and his masters in 1933. He served as Assistant Attorney General following his graduation from the University of Texas Law School in 1937. He moved to Midland in 1941 to join the law firm of Whitaker, Turpin, and Perkins. Brooks was assigned as local counsel for Humble Oil (now ExxonMobil). Eventually his career focused on the business of interests and accounts of David Fasken and his stepmother, Inez Fasken, of San Francisco. They owned a large parcel of land in Andrews, Ector, Midland and Martin counties, known as the C-Ranch.

Over time, Brooks became legal advisor, general manager, and developer for the Faskens, overseeing their vast property. He had the vision to recognize the potential for oil and gas development of the C-Ranch and followed through in remarkably creative ways. He became a legend for his "tough, but fair" dealings. He took a land-rich, cash-poor entity and built it into one of the foremost independent oil, gas and ranching operations in the Permian basin. Brooks' reputation as an excellent and fair negotiator followed him throughout his career.

Brooks served as director of the First National Bank and was a longtime member of the Midland Rotary Club.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Richard T Brooks 2/26/2001

Video: 2001 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Spotlight on..."

## **Do Not Cite**

### **Claude W. Brown 1985**

Banker, public-spirited businessman and successful oil man – all these describe Claude Wilson Brown of McCamey, Texas who is eminently qualified for the honor given him. He has devoted a lifetime to serving his nation, his state and the Permian Basin.

Claude W. Brown was born 1904 at Talpa, Texas. He was raised in Ballinger where he graduated from high school in 1922. He first worked with the J. K Hughes Oil Company at Mexia, then in the Currie, Wortham and Corsicana oil fields and later in Brown County. Hughes sold out in 1928, but Brown pooled his financial resources with an early associate, bought a new cable tool rig and began contracting. He had married, in 1926, Christine McGowan and they had one daughter, Claudyne, born 1931 in Coleman, Texas here he had moved to work. The Great Depression had just hit, Brown lost his rig. He was wiped out. Determined to stay in the oil business he dealt in second-hand equipment. Moving to McCamey in 1935, he opened the Brown Pipe and Supply Company and by 1938 he owned six supply stores in west Texas and New Mexico. Later he bought salvage wells in the McCamey field and deepened them to better pay zones.

In 1951 he and his geologist son-in-law, Ed W. Thorp, organized the Brown & Thorp Oil Company and brought in the discovery well of the Brown & Thorp field at Girvin in Pecos County, Texas. In 1955 they negotiated for 125 wells, drilled five more wells and sold the deal for one million dollars profit.

As the controlling stockholder of McCamey's Security State Bank, he is Chairman of the Board of Directors.

In 1966 he was Director on the National Board of the Petroleum and Gas Unit of the National Defense Executive Reserve, a board that is to guide and control the nation's petroleum industry in the event of a national emergency. He served a six-year term on the Texas State Industrial Committee, appointed by Governor John Connally.

Claude W Brown is a promoter of education, especially at McMurry College in Abilene, Texas where he received an honorary Doctorate's degree.

Claude W. Brown earned this honor – his induction to the Petroleum Hall of Fame

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Claude W Brown 12/10/1969, 1985, Recording of the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony "All our Yesterdays" (2 tapes)

### **Jack E Brown 1999**

On April Fool's Day, 1962, two men pooled their financial resources, which came to not much more than \$0, and formed a partnership that has lasted 37 years and evolved into one of the most successful independent oil and gas companies in the country. Through their talent and sheer determination, Cy Wagner and Jack Brown have transformed a one-rig company into the multi-faceted corporation known as Wagner & Brown, Ltd.

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Jack E. Brown was born August 16, 1925, in Brownsville, and graduated from high school in San Antonio. As a young boy, he started his career selling magazine subscriptions, then advanced to working as a newspaper carrier for The San Antonio Express-News. He served with the U.S. Army during World War II, and after graduating from Texas A&M University with degrees in petroleum and mechanical engineering, he started a job with Drilling & Exploration Co. His resume includes positions with Bridwell Oil Co., in Alice and with Texaco in Venezuela. When he returned to the States, Brown came to Midland and signed on with J. E. Jones Drilling Co., where he was to meet Cy Wagner.

Cyril Wagner, Jr., was born February 15, 1934 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and grew up there. He graduated with a degree in geology from the University of Oklahoma and went to Midland for his first job with Amerado Petroleum, where he worked as scout and geologist and developed his talents as an oil finder. Later, he joined J E Jones Drilling and met Jack Brown.

With Wagner as the geologist on wells, and Brown as the engineer, the duo found they worked well together. Wagner eventually suggested the two become independents along with Deane Stoltz as landman. They started with a “popcorn drilling rig” built by Brown and the company deepened wells in the Clearfork, going down to the Spraberry Trent. Then Wagner saw a chance in the New Mexico Bagley Field to re-enter wells and put them in production. Led by Brown’s problem-solving engineering, the company developed the Burro Pipeline and completed 60 wells. Eventually, Stoltz left to run another company, leaving Wagner & Brown to pursue other endeavors. They successfully developed the highlight Field and Muddy Play in the Powder River Basin of Wyoming, and the largest drilling program ever of the Conger (Penn.) Field in Sterling and Glasscock Counties. Wagner & Brown, Ltd. is the operator of more than 600 wells in the area that have produced more than 11 million barrels of oil and 265 billion cubic feet of gas. Wagner and Brown have been recognized by their peers for their accomplishments, and received the Top Han Award from the Permian Basin petroleum Association. The duo has made significant contributions to their respective universities and to the numerous philanthropic and educational endeavors in the Permian Basin. Texas A7M University is the home of the Jack E. Brown Chair in Engineering. Wagner has received the University of Oklahoma’s Distinguished Service Award, and OU established the Lissa and Cy Wagner Professorship in Geology and Geophysics. It has been said that these two men “epitomize the entrepreneurial spirit, dedication, and perseverance that are hallmarks of truly great industry leaders.”

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Jack E Brown 2/3/1999 (2 tapes)

Video: 1999 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **Prentice F. Brown 1983**

Prentice F. Brown was one of those visionaries who saw the unseen, not in the heavens but in the dry dirt of West Texas. His mind’s eyes detected unfound oil in a way that brought him the good-natured envy of fellow geologists who knew a professional when they met one.

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Born in Colorado and a graduate of the School of Mines at Golden, Brown worked briefly for a Denver consulting firm, then for Honolulu Oil. The finds at Big Lake and those of the Yates and Hendricks fields moved the California-based Honolulu into West Texas in August, 1926. Brown moved with it, and from Midland began a crash subsurface mapping project. The discoveries that resulted included the Harper Field, the Parker Field in Andrews County, Bennett-Wasson Field, the Dugan or Slaughter Field and other notable successes. The Prentice Field southwest of Lubbock was named for him.

He became a vice president of Honolulu and a director, but poor health led to his retirement. Subsequently he took up a career as an independent in Lubbock, making still more wells of great significance to the Basin.

Honolulu's properties later became parts of other companies; they still benefit from many of Prentice Brown's insights. He died in 1974, but his memory is still fresh and alive among this gifted man's many friends.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1983 induction dinner Peter Flawn Speaker, Prentice F Brown (2 tapes) 1/6/1983

### **Thomas C. "Tom" Brown 2003**

Starting with one rig in 1955, an oil field salesman and a roughneck transformed their company into one of the most successful independent oil companies in the nation and one of the largest drilling companies in Texas.

When Tom Brown and Joe Roper formed their partnership neither envisioned the scope of what would become Tom Brown Drilling and, today, TMBR Sharp Drilling Co.

Joe Greer Roper was born July 15, 1928, in Henrietta. After graduating from Midway High School and attending one semester at Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, Roper headed into the field as a roughneck. He served in the U.S. Army from 1941-1945.

Thomas Clark Brown was born Jan. 11, 1927, in Bowling Green, Ohio. After graduating from high school, he joined the Navy in 1944. After his discharge, Brown attended Tulane University. He left after his junior year for a job with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Akron. In 1949, he transferred to Wichita Falls, where he met the man who would become his lifelong friend.

Brown, managing the Goodyear distributorship, also was selling rubber goods to Halliburton and Smith bits on commission. He called on a Jack Grace Drilling Company rig in late 1953 to sell bits and there he met the morning tour driller -- Joe Roper. The driller ran one of Tom's bits and it made a record run.

In 1955, Brown found backers for him and Doyle Scarber to purchase a trailer-mounted drilling rig. Roper was hired as daylight driller. Brown eventually bought out Scarber, and Roper took

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over supervision of all operations for the firm now known as Tom Brown Drilling Company. Headquarters were moved to Midland in late 1957.

By 1959, the company's rig fleet had grown to four, although none was paid off. Roper wrote a check and became half owner of the company. Growth continued and by 1969 it became one of the first companies in the Permian Basin to be publicly traded. When the company expanded into oil and gas exploration and production, the name was changed to Tom Brown, Inc. During the mid-1970s, the firm extended its holdings to the Rocky Mountains with a discovery well in Wyoming.

After the economic bust of the 1980s, the company was restructured and the drilling operations spun off as TMBR Drilling Co. Brown was chief executive officer of Tom Brown, Inc., while Roper served as CEO of TMBR Sharp. Tom Brown, Inc. became solely an exploration and production company. At one time with a rig count of 52, TMBR Drilling was one of the largest drilling companies. Roper ran TMBR/Sharp Drilling until his death Jan. 26, 2001.

Over the years, the company brought millions of dollars and hundreds of jobs to the Permian Basin. Today, the firm is one of the state's leading independent oil companies with 130 million cubic feet per day of gas production and 5,600 barrels per day of oil production.

Brown married Sammie Angela in 1989. He has two children, Thomas C. Brown, Jr., and Nancy Spadafora. His numerous memberships include Independent Petroleum Association of America, International Association of Drilling Contractors, All American Wildcatters, Midland College Board of Trustees, United Way, West Texas Rehabilitation Center, West Texas Boys Ranch and Texas Research League. He has received the Texas Railroad Commission Pioneer Award and Hearst Newspapers Lifetime Achievement Award.

Roper married Julia Johnson, who died in 1989. He died in January 2001. They have four children: Judy Kathleen Roper Davis, Joe Mark Roper, Patricia Ann Roper Elledge and Jeanie Elisabeth Roper Cornelius.

Among his memberships are International Association of Drilling Contractors and Permian Basin Oil Show Board of Directors. In 2000, he also was honored with the Hearst Newspapers Lifetime Achievement Award.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Tom Brown 2003 (2 tapes), Regina Neill (Tom Brown's Secretary) 2003

Video: DVD 2003 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Building a Future with Footprints from the Past"

### **I. Jon Brumley 2011**

I. Jon Brumley was raised in Austin, Texas and graduated from the University of Texas in 1961. He received an MBA degree from the Wharton Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania.



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Brumley began his energy career with Southland Royalty Company as a risk analyst in 1967 and became its President in 1974. When that company was sold in 1985 to Burlington Northern Railroad, Brumley co-founded XTO Energy in 1986 to focus on the acquisition and development of long-lived oil and gas properties. XTO created the Cross Timbers Royalty Trust by carving out non-operated producing properties and selling one half the shares in the public market and distributing the other half to the original investors. Both the company and the trust are listed on the NYSE. Soon after XTO Energy went public in 1993, Brumley accepted the position of Chairman and CEO of MESA, Inc. in 1996. MESA merged with Parker Parsley to become Pioneer Natural Resources Company.

In 1998, Brumley resigned from Pioneer as Executive Chairman and, with his son and other partners, co-founded Encore Acquisition Company, which went public in 2001. Most recently, Encore Acquisition Company was sold to Denbury Resources. Over the course of his career, Brumley has listed eight companies on the New York Stock Exchange and was a founder in all but two.

Brumley also devotes time to other philanthropic ventures. He was instrumental in merging Fort Worth's two children's hospitals. In 1980, Brumley served as chairman of a committee to oversee the elimination of the mandated Fort Worth Independent School District busing court order. Appointed by Governor Mark White, he also served as chair to the Texas State Board of Education in 1984. The charge of this appointed Board was to make sweeping changes in education, including establish extensive student and teacher testing programs, a teacher appraisal system, and improved programs for at-risk, gifted, disadvantaged and minority students, among others.

Together with his wife Becky, Brumley founded the Red Oak Foundation in 1991. The foundation initially provided four year scholarships to students planning to become public school teachers in Texas. In 1997, that mission expanded to spread the benefits of books to disadvantaged children, laying a foundation for reading readiness and involving parents. Today Brumley serves as a member of the M.D. Anderson Board of Advisors, the McCombs Advisory Board, the Littlefield Society, and the Chancellors Council.

### **Raiford H. Burton 1969**

Raiford Harold Burton was a native of Magnolia, Arkansas, but we here in Midland think of him as a beloved fellow citizen.

He was born October 7, 1907 and attended Southern State College. In the late 1920's he became interested in the new field of geophysics and later helped pioneer its use in the Basin.

Leaving Amerada Petroleum in 1946, Burt first entered the LP gas business. But his heart was with oil exploration, so a short time later he organized Burton Geophysical and later Burton Exploration Company. The company was responsible for many notable discoveries, including the Headlee Field which has been the subject of a ripple of press interest lately. Burt's masterful



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leadership of this enterprise, coupled with his own intimate knowledge of oil exploration techniques, gave the company a nationally recognized place in the industry.

Raiford Burton died in 1962, leaving behind him not only a secure place in the science he served but a reputation for community service, for leadership in his church, for interest in young people, and for good character and high dedication.

We honor him for his professional contributions in the field of geophysics and for the impact of his personal life which remains an inspiration to us all.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **President George H. W. Bush 1991**

George Herbert Walker Bush, a co-founder and director of Zapata Petroleum Corporation, branched out in 1954 to form Zapata Offshore Company to develop off-shore drilling equipment. Bush became that company's president. The Zapata Off-Shore Company became an independent company in 1959. He served as Chairman of the Board of Zapata Offshore Company from 1964 until 1966.

The commitment of Zapata's first CEO to seek public office led to the sale of his stock to new investors. Bush entered the political ring in 1964. He served in numerous elected offices and appointments of international concern. In 1971 he was appointed U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations by President Richard Nixon. He was Chairman of the Republican National Committee, 1973-1974. President Gerald Ford appointed him Chief, United States Liaison Office in China in 1974-1975. He was next appointed by President Ford as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, 1976-1977.

In 1979 he became a nominee for the U.S. presidency and lost to Ronald Reagan, who selected Bush as his running mate. He served as vice President, 1981-1988.

In November, 1988 he was elected President of the United States and was inaugurated as the 41<sup>st</sup> president, January 20, 1989.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: George H W Bush 11/13/1981

Video: 1991 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Footprints in Time", 88-29 George Bush's Visit

### **President George W. Bush 2009**

President George Walker Bush was born in New Haven, Connecticut, on July 6, 1946, but grew up in Midland and Houston, Texas. He received a History degree from Yale University in 1968 and then served as an F-102 fighter pilot in the Texas Air National Guard. After receiving a

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MBA from Harvard Business School, Bush moved to Midland, Texas, to begin a career in the energy business.

He started as a landman and later formed his own independent company, Arbusto Energy, which later merged with Spectrum Energy. In 1980, he then turned to working on his father's political campaign. Bush then moved to Dallas and became the general partner of the Texas Rangers baseball team.

In 1994, Bush was elected Governor of Texas and was re-elected to the position in 1998. Two years into his second term, in 2000, he was elected President of the United States and was re-elected to that position in 2004.

According to nominator Joseph O'Neill, Bush "personifies that criteria as expressed in the charter of the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum Hall of Fame, 'to honor those persons who have made outstanding contributions to the development of the petroleum industry or who have served as worthy examples of service, strength of character and achievement for the inspiration and education of present and future generations.'"

### **John P. Butler 1975**

John P. Butler of Midland has had an extraordinary career as a banker, but equally as extraordinary has been the way in which he has gathered the affection and respect of West Texans to himself.

Under his leadership and with the help of many friends, The First National Bank of Midland has built one of the most effective oil and gas departments in Texas and New Mexico. In earlier days it was the one financial institution in the area here the risk-takers of oil could find like-minded men in a bank. In 1953 he was named president of the bank, and in 1963 chairman of its board. This year, in 1975, he was named honorary chairman.

His record of public service extends over almost the entire range of civic and cultural pursuits. In none of these organizations was he a figurehead. His time was spent freely on their behalf, and his talent for leadership and for seeking out the best talents around him showed in all.

He was the first chairman of the Permian Basin petroleum Museum's Board of Executors and, along with George T. Abell, brought to its creation a wisdom, diligence and fidelity which eventually made it real.

John Butler was born in Mount Calm, Texas, which after years of growth now has 363 people. A debt is owed Mount Calm by all of us. It has done its part, through John Butler, in making a vast country more prosperous and livable, and through him it speaks of good will toward all men.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame induction dinner on Magnetic Tape

**Halbert P. Bybee, Ph.D. 1991**

Dr. Halbert Pleasant Bybee played a vital part in the exploitation of the oil-rich lands of West Texas. The discovery well in the vast University domain in West Texas was the Santa Rita No.1 of the Bit Lake Field in Reagan County, in 1923; it was regarded as the first major discovery of the Permian Basin.

This increasing oil activity caused the Texas Legislature to create the Board for Lease of University Lands. The University also established its Lands division to handle its two-million acres in its Permanent Fund. Bybee was named Geologist-in-Charge in June, 1929. He was responsible for the establishment of policies which led to the eventual drilling of over 10,000 oil and gas wells. Due largely to his efforts the Permanent University Fund has grown to such proportions as to help make The University of Texas system one of the most financially sound university institutions in the world. Many people contributed to this achievement, but none more than Bybee. He also was instrumental in the organization of the West Texas Geological society in 1926 and served as its president in 1927.

Bybee served as Chairman of the Department of Geology at The University of Texas. Ill health forced him to relinquish his post as Geologist-in-Charge of university Lands in 1954, but he remained as a consultant and as a professor until his death in 1957.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Robert W Bybee (2 tapes) 2/2/1991

Video: 1991 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Footprints in Time"

**Rufe S. Bynum, Jr. 2001**

Rufe S. Bynum, Jr. developed the procedure for analyzing cores "on site" which saved a company hours in deciding the "next step" decisions on a well. He was born in San Antonio April 21, 1915. He worked his way through Texas A&M University, graduating in 1938 with a degree in petroleum engineering. Following graduation, he began work for Core Laboratories, Inc., a little known company in Entralia, Ill. Bynum was transferred to Shreveport, LA and stayed there until 1941 when he was called up for service in World War II. Upon discharge, Bynum rejoined Core Lab in 1946 and in 1949 was transferred to Midland to establish the company's Mid-Continent Division Headquarters.

During the ensuing years, Bynum built Core Lab into the preeminent core analysis company in the world and aided clients in finding millions of barrels of oil and gas in the Permian Basin and throughout the world. It was his insistence that facilitated the development of the methodology to run a gamma log over a length of oilfield ore brought to the surface to analyze, match and correlate with the downhole log data. He also developed a new and innovative "whole core method", shortening the data turnaround time from weeks to hours. It was under Bynum's direction that Core Lab began its legendary industry seminars. Upon retirement from Core Lab he and his two sons formed Bynum Oil Company.

Bynum's World War II service earned him a Bronze star for his meritorious service against the enemy in the South Pacific. Bynum's civic involvement included campaign chair of the

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American Cancer society, service on the boards of Midland Community Theater and The Petroleum Museum. He received the distinguished Service Award in 1984 from the West Texas Geological Society.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: William C Bynum 2/28/2001 (2 tapes)

Video: 2001 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner “Spotlight on...”

### **Jim Camp, M.D. 1973**

Dr. Jim Camp of Pecos, Texas, poured 63 years of his life into the practice of medicine. He took healing to the distant ranch and later added the rhythms of the drilling rig as an accompaniment to his work. His service spanned the horse-and-buggy and jet eras, and covered both calomel and penicillin. Wherever men worked, and wherever their women and children waited for them, Dr. Jim was known.

He was born in Tennessee and attended the University of Tennessee’s College of Medicine. In 1900 he came to Pecos. When his buggy couldn’t make so long a trip, he would swing aboard the T & P to visit a patient. He was the first to remove an appendix in the Trans-Pecos region. He literally pioneered medicine in a huge area where miles were many and people few.

The advent of the oil boom brought thousands piling into Dr. Jim’s home base. He took it in stride. He was calm, reassuring, and deliberate. When Sid Richardson told him he wanted good medical care for his people, Dr. Jim took them on even though Sid didn’t have the money to pay him. He was that kind of man.

Dr. Jim certainly saved hundreds and probably thousands of lives. More importantly, perhaps, people knew that aid was there if they needed it.

He helped create the modern Pecos school system while on the school board. He served his church and was a dedicated Mason, was a charter member of the Rotary Club in Pecos, and made a successful effort to form the Six county Medical Society for Reeves, Ward, Winkler, Loving, Culberson and Hudspeth counties. In 1950 the Texas Medical Society named him “Doctor of the Year.”

Dr. Camp died in 1964. His medical colleagues have since paid him the great tribute of reconstructing his office in the museum at Pecos.

The world of Dr. Jim Camp was a bigger world than the petroleum industry even though the oil people benefited hugely from his life and works. He was great in the same way Shakespeare once defined greatness, in these words: “he was gentle – and the elements so mixed up in him that nature might stand up and say to all the world –this was a man.”

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Collections: Interview with Dr. Jim Camp on Magnetic Tape, Recording of 1973

Hall of Fame induction ceremony Morgan J Davis speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **C. Fred Chambers 2005**

Along with his business partner and friend, William D. Kennedy, C. Fred Chambers formed C&K Petroleum, an independent active in West Texas, Rockies, South Texas, Gulf Coast and Offshore GOM. At the end of 1980, C&K drilled 87 wells, 39 explorative wells and 48 development wells and reported proved reserves of 48 billion cubic feet of gas and 5 million barrels of oil.

C. Fred Chambers was born in Dallas, Texas on March 22, 1918. He graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in Austin. Upon graduation, he served in the U.S. Navy before setting his sights on the oil business.

In 1959, the Chambers & Kennedy opened an exploration office in Houston, which soon became the company's headquarters. C&K Petroleum, Inc. was active in all the Permian Basin's major plays and also drilled wells in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Gulf Coast, Mid-Continent, Rocky Mountains and Western Canada. Their activity led to many field discoveries, including the Hamon and Toro gas fields and the Mestena Grande Field.

In 1966, Chambers and Kennedy formed a Canadian corporation with J.M.C. Ritchie of New York. The company named Ritchie Oil C&K was headquartered in Alberta, Canada. They also formed C&K Nederland Company to acquire and operate an oil and gas concession from the Dutch government.

In August 1970, the two men exchanged their partnership assets for common stock in C&K Petroleum, Inc., and the company went public one year later. It was listed on the American Stock Exchange in November 1972 and sold to Alaska Interstate in October 1980.

After the sale of C&K Petroleum, Inc., Chambers formed Chambers Exploration with his two sons, Charlie and Bill. Chambers entered the political world when he served as campaign manager and later finance chairman for George H.W. Bush when he ran for Congress and the Senate.

His civic and professional involvement included St. Ann's Catholic School, National Petroleum Council, Texas Bar Association, All American Wildcatters Association, Independent Petroleum Association of America and the University of Texas Development Board. Chambers died November 13, 1989, leaving a legacy of determination, tenacity, family and friendship.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Collections: Charles Chambers 2/27/2005

### **N. Ford Chapman, Jr. 1981**

People such as Ford Chapman have kept alive the art and lore of cable-tool drilling for oil. In his case, he has not only shown mastery over an ancient skill but coupled it with important discoveries in the Permian Basin and elsewhere.

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A notebook kept by Chapman in his youth shows sketches of various tools and objects around cable-tool rigs. Subsequently, he would look these up in catalogs to see how they were used. After a good many “downs” and some notable “ups” he made himself into one of the best-known cable-tool drilling contractors in the southwest.

He has drilled many wells for himself, and has found important fields in Reeves and Culberson counties and elsewhere.

He has always been an enthusiastic backer of civic projects, especially those aimed at making this region more livable for children and youth. Schreiner Military Institute at Kerrville has honored him as a distinguished alumnus. Further, the Petroleum Museum itself has benefited from his leadership and help since its beginning in 1967.

Loyal to his hundreds of friends, a man proud of his country and of his industry, Ford Chapman has accomplished much and stands for much that is lastingly good.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: N. Ford Chapman 11/8/1978, 4/19/1979 (2 tapes), 7/13/1982 (2 tapes), 6/20/1984, 7/5/1984 (2 tapes), 7/11/1984 (2 tapes) 8/28/1984 (2 tapes), 9/11/1984 (2 tapes), 9/21/1984, 9/25/1984 (2 tapes) 10/2/1984 (2 tapes) 5/9/1985 (3 tapes), Recording of 1981 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Video: 82-33 Ford Chapman Oil Field

### **Mack C. Chase 2011**

Born in 1931, and raised in Artesia, New Mexico, Mack Chase served the U.S. Army as an A & E mechanic. He started in the oil and gas industry working for his father and brother George. By 1968, he had established his own business, Mack Chase, Inc., operating eighteen to twenty-one rigs.

Together Chase and Gray formed Marbob, named after their wives, in 1974, which offered pumping services and well servicing in Eddy County, New Mexico. Initially, Marbob purchased wells or leases with marginal production, reworked the wells and produced them. As the company grew, they began their own drilling and development program. As the first to discover the productive capacity of the Yeso Trend in Southeast New Mexico, Chase and Gray were the pioneers of the field that would become the largest oil producer in New Mexico. By 1991, Marbob properties were producing about 3,000 barrels per day.

Soon after, Chase put his assets into a new company, Mack Energy Corporation, while Gray retained his assets with Marbob Energy Corporation. They then went on to build their respective companies, with combined production approaching 20,000 barrels per day.

Today, Mack Energy, with close to 800 employees, has many business pursuits from oil and gas production to farming and ranching. In 2007, Chase sold a large property to Concho Resources, and today remains one of its largest shareholders.

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Together, Chase and Gray have also done much for others, with Artesia, New Mexico, a principal beneficiary, from its schools and athletic fields to downtown renovations to the health-care facilities. Through the Chase Foundation, Chase provides college scholarships to every qualified graduate of Artesia High School as well as children of employees. For the past four years, Chase also hosts wounded soldiers at his NX-Bar Ranch in Wyoming, providing the severely injured veterans the chance to enjoy the ranch and hunt despite physical handicaps.

### **Preston C. Coleman, M.D. 1989**

Dr. Preston Chiles Coleman, a native of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, received his M.D. degree from Louisville Medical School. In 1883 he moved to Colorado City as a horse-and-buggy practitioner.

Education, religion and medicine were his chief concerns. Because of his persistence in helping establish it, Coleman is referred to as the “Father of Texas Tech University”; he was a Trustee, 1906 – 31, of Austin College (Sherman); Trustee of the Colorado City School District.

He was a Texas & Pacific Railroad surgeon; President of the Texas Medical Association; a fellow, American College of Surgeons; an elder in his church; Moderator, 1930, Texas Presbyterian synod; and vice President for Life, West Texas Chamber of Commerce.

Coleman is known for his efforts, starting in 1916, in Mitchell County, in furthering the discovery of commercial oil production in the Permian basin. He was, among other things, a link in the series of transactions that led to the first commercial well in the Permian Basin, opening the Westbrook field, in 1920. In acting as an agent for the people of the community, he neither expected nor received personal profit; he recognized the importance of the petroleum industry to Colorado City and Mitchell County. Coleman died in 1932.

### **C. O. Ted Collins, Jr. 2011**

C.O. Ted Collins, Jr. and Herbert Earl Ware, Jr. both graduated from the University of Oklahoma: Collins in 1959 with a B.S. in Geological Engineering and Ware in 1954 with a B.S. and a M.S. in Geology. They both had brief careers with major oil companies before becoming partners in 1969 with American Quasar. Running exploration from Midland, Texas, their partnership flourished by finding or developing several Deep Delaware fields.

In 1982, Collins was named President of HNG Oil Company in Midland while Ware elected to go independent and manage their partnership’s interest. The two men invested in numerous wells by independents across the Permian Basin and Rocky Mountain regions.

In 1988, Collins and Ware reunited to form Collins & Ware, Inc. Within twelve years, the company grew into one with over 1 TCF of proven reserves, over 100 employees and assets of over \$500 Million. Operating over 500 wells in the Permian Basin, South Texas and Rocky Mountains, Collins & Ware utilized 3-D seismic as an exploration tool. Collins currently is still active in the oil and gas industry, sitting on the boards of Encore, Energy Transfer and others.



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He was also awarded the American Association of Professional Landmen 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award.

### **William “Bill” Collyns 2001**

William H. “Bill” Collyns has been called by many the unofficial ambassador for Midland, Texas. Through his efforts Midland became a headquarters city for the Oil industry, growing from a small farming town into a city. Collyns was born November 11, 1908 in San Angelo, Texas. His newspaper connection began at an early age – he had a paper route, was the ad manager of his high school newspaper, and also worked at the *San Angelo Evening Standard*. In 1927 he moved to McCamey, where he worked days as a geological draftsman for Humble Oil and Refining co. (now Exxon Mobil), and nights as sports editor for *McCamey Weekly News*.

In 1935, when Humble moved its headquarters to Midland, Collyns moved too. One year later, Collyns joined the Midland Chamber of commerce, where, as chamber director, he coordinated the city’s effort in relocating oil companies to Midland. As manager of the chamber for the next 10 years, Collyns worked to promote better roads and a transportation system, pushing the development of a much needed infrastructure. He also spearheaded the effort to bring Continental Airlines to Midland.

Following service in World War II, Collyns was named editor of the *Midland Reporter Telegram*, a position he held for 34 years. During his tenure with the newspaper, he initiated the oil and gas section and put the news coverage of the oil and gas industry on the front page.

In 1997 Collyns was named “Pioneer of the Year” by the Permian Basin Pioneer Association. Collyns is especially proud of his charter membership of The Petroleum Museum and his First Presbyterian Church community.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: 8/16/1976, 4/19/1990, 6/22/1994, 2/14/2001 (2 tapes)

Video: 2001 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner “Spotlight on...”

### **Virgil Elisha Cottingham 1989**

Virgil E. “Cottie” Cottingham, a graduate of the School of Petroleum Geology, University of Oklahoma, worked in Oklahoma oil fields until 1922 when he joined Empire Gas & Fuel (Cities Service – now OXY) to work in Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. He opened the Empire office in San Angelo in 1924. In 1925 he was employed by the San Angelo branch of Roxana (Shell Oil) as District Geologist. Cottingham joined the Exploration Company of Texas in 1926. He headed the engineering consulting firm of Cottingham & Briscoe.

From 1931 to 1939, he served the Texas Railroad Commission as chief Petroleum engineer of the Oil & Gas division, which was active in the study of reservoir control.



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He left the Railroad commission to serve as Chairman of the North Basin Pools Engineering Committee, which published reports covering West Texas and southeast New Mexico. Cottingham was chairman until his death in 1958.

Cottingham was a charter member and Vice President of the West Texas Geological Society. He was a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Mrs. Virgil E Cottingham 3/23/1989

### **Carl G. Cromwell 1970**

Carl G. Cromwell has been dead for many years, but the recurring and vivid memories of him have brought him into recognition from within the Permian Basin. He was an oil well driller and was one who had been brought up by his father to be such, starting in the oil fields of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Mr. Cromwell has been selected to receive the honor being conferred because he in fact represents the corps of drillers who have always been willing to move to where oil or gas was to be found. Those men seldom knew where home actually was, but they always remained ready to do their job, no matter where or when. They developed an expertness in drilling that has brought our nation into world leadership in the industry.

Mr. Cromwell was a colorful man, one who was large and who liked fast cars and airplanes. He dressed smartly, talked well and was not afraid to venture. He was a fighter and one willing to continue the work he had started. His stick-to-itiveness is indicated by the almost two years of work he devoted to the drilling of the Santa Rita well near Big Lake and the bringing of that well into production. It then took such an amount of time to drill a little over three thousand feet of hole. He brought supplies a great distance over bumpy roads. He hauled the water that he, his wife and daughter had for use in the shack that provided the only shelter that they had. He had the continuing problems of getting help. Helpful cowboys from nearby ranches assisted toward bringing the well to the bottom of the hole and into what became a grate discovery.

Carl G. Cromwell, and other drillers like him, was a man who tested his skills and experience against the reluctant earth of our wide area. We honor what he and his counterparts have accomplished by the presentation we officially make to Mr. Cromwell's daughter, his wife being dead.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Carlene Peavy (Cromwell) 1/8/1983 (2 tapes), Recording of 1970 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Judge Brewster speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Caven J. "Red" Davidson 1973**

C. J. Davidson of Fort Worth carries the nickname of "Red" among oil people, but he also carries a reputation as one of the best of the wildcatting bred. He has shown, over a long career, qualities of daring, resourcefulness, and study that have marked most of the successful oil explorers.

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Red Davidson was born in Frio County, Texas, and attended Texas A & M College before taking up Navy service during World War I. He saw the oil business first during the great Ranger and Desdemona booms. He was a tool-dresser, bank teller, bookkeeper, and student of the oil business all the while. In 1927 he began cable tool drilling, much of it for others, and some for himself. Later he began use of rotary tools, but to this day he loves the “whump-whump” noise of the old type rigs.

Red Davidson believed in charting, and every well, whatever its kind, went on his maps. By 1932 he and others had become aware of trend possibilities in the Permian Basin. He moved into the Cummins Ranch in north Ector County and watched his first wildcat come in. It was only big enough to whet his appetite. There was more charting, and then – in 1935 – he took a leap into the unknown. That well, drilled with Honolulu Oil in Yoakum County, was 15 miles from the nearest dry hole, which tells a good deal about the man. The well discovered the Bennett Ranch Field, which in turn was eventually linked with the great Wasson Field. It can be said that Red Davidson, as much as any man, was responsible for the development of oil and gas in the north part of the Permian Basin.

There followed many other successful tries, in company with his brother, H. W. Davidson of Midland. But if you ask Red how he did it, he will reply “dumb luck”. And that, too, tells something of the man.

He has given strong leadership to industry organizations. He has aided a host of worthy causes throughout the state. He has the respect and friendship of other leaders in his community. But more than these, he has given an example to his fellows in the oil industry and outside of it of what American can offer and of what it needs.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: CJ ‘Red’ Davidson 3/19/1971, Recording of the 1973 Hall of Fame induction dinner on Magnetic Tape Morgan J Davis speaker

### **Morgan J. Davis 1973**

Morgan J. Davis of Houston comes to us in three roles, all played brilliantly. He has been an outstanding geologist. He headed one of the world’s great oil companies. And he has been a tremendous civic asset to his community.

He was born in Anson, Texas, attended Texas Christian University and was graduated from The University of Texas in 1925 with a degree in geology. Almost at once he joined Humble Oil and Refining Company at Roswell, New Mexico, working there as a geologist for four years. He then was dispatched to Java and Sumatra where he led geological exploration work in these East Indies islands. He was returned to Roswell in 1934 as district geologist, remained for two years, and then moved to the Gulf Coast as division geologist.

In successive years Morgan Davis moved into management of Humble’s Exploration Department, was made vice president and then executive vice president, and – finally – was

## **Do Not Cite**

named Humble's president in 1957. Here he headed what was labeled the southwestern affiliate of Standard of New Jersey. It actually was the well-spring from which Jersey Standard drew its world-wide exploration and producing organization. It was a major marketer, refiner, and carrier as well.

In 1960 the Humble name was carried over to the new national company that took over all of Jersey's domestic interests. Morgan Davis was named its president. He retired in 1963 as its chairman and chief executive officer.

Wallace Pratt and others who know geological talent think of Morgan Davis as a superb geologist, gifted with ESP. His work at Roswell and later in the management of Humble's exploration work were factors in the company's assuming a major position in the Basin. Many more of his friends know him as an incisive and fine executive.

His civic activities in Houston and in the nation range over an enormous spread of interests including charitable work, oceanography, philosophy, geography, and – last, but not least – history. It can be said that Morgan Davis not only is a student and lover of history, but in America's industrial story he has helped make it.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Morgan J Davis & Berte Haigh 10/7/1970, Recording of the 1973 Hall of Fame induction dinner on Magnetic Tape Morgan J Davis speaker

### **L. Decker Dawson 1997**

Decker Dawson, founder and president of Dawson Geophysical Company, is a second generation petroleum pioneer. Decker was born in 1920 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He attended the University of Tulsa's Engineering School from 1937 – 1939 and graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1941 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. Decker began his first geophysical work after graduation laying electrical devices that record sound waves induced by explosive charges. He worked his way up to crew chief for Magnolia Petroleum Company, now Mobil.

After serving in the U.S. Naval Reserve during WWII, Decker resumed his geophysical career. Instead of returning to Magnolia, he went to work for a small, new company, Republic Exploration, as Party Chief and Supervisor. He was in charge of the field crew, drilling holes and shooting dynamite into the hole. Decker left Republic Exploration to start Dawson Geophysical Company.

Dawson Geophysical Company was launched in 1952 and incorporated in 1957. The Midland office opened in 1960 and a second office opened in Denver, Colorado in 1980. The company operates on the edge of technology, gathering, processing and interpreting 3-D seismic data throughout West Texas and Eastern New Mexico. From a one crew operation, Dawson Geophysical has grown to a company employing over 300 people. Dawson's company is an excellent example of using the latest technological developments to their fullest potential.

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Decker has been recognized as a leader in the geophysical field in numerous ways. He has served as President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists. He is a past president and honorary life member of the Permian Basin Geophysical Society. Also recognized internationally, Dawson is a past Chairman of the board and an honorary life member of the International Association of Geophysical Contractors and a member of the European Association of Exploration Geophysicists.

As the industry advances to the next era of technology, Dawson Geophysical continues to emerge as a leader. From the dynamite of the 40's to the 1990's state-of-the-art 3-D technology, the company works to develop and employ new and better methods of reserves. Today, with over 300 employees, Dawson continues to lead his company as it contributes to the advancement of the industry. His strong commitment to the company and its people may truly be the secret to the success of this company over the past 45 years.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: L Decker Dawson 2/24/1997

Video: 1997 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Stars over Midland"

### **Ronald K. DeFord, Ph.D. 1975**

Ronald K. DeFord of Austin has had two separate and outstanding careers: as a highly distinguished geologist in the Permian Basin, and as an innovative and respected professor of Geology at the University of Texas at Austin. He also served a short term as an associate professor of English at his alma mater.

He was born in California and received two degrees from the Colorado School of Mines, in 1921 and in 1922. During the 10-year period of 1923 – 1933 he did pioneering work in the Permian Basin and other areas as a geologist for the Midwest Refining Company; he joined Argo Oil Corporation in 1933, soon becoming Chief Geologist and establishing an office in Midland. He came to know both the surface and sub-surface geology in Colorado, Utah, Kansas, Wyoming, New Mexico and Texas, and was instrumental in the location of the discovery well of the Hobbs field, and others.

While working out of Midland he was a leader on many geologic field trips sponsored by the West Texas Geological Society, of which he is a past-president and an honorary life member.

The quality of his mind and his basic interest in communicating his knowledge and broadening his experience led him into the science teaching field in 1948. At the University of Texas at Austin he earned further distinction as a professor of Geology and as departmental graduate advisor.

He traveled widely in the Soviet Union, and has attended several international geologic conferences. He has been given high geologic honors in countries other than our own.

He has received high honor awards from four other professional societies and from his alma mater. In 1968 he was awarded the title of Professor Extraordinario de la Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico.

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But Ronald's life has not been devoted exclusively to science; he also has a deep recognition of his responsibilities as a citizen. He has an intense interest in cultural activities; he was a founding father of the Midland Community Theater, was the first president of that organization and served on its Board of Governors until he moved to Austin.

Ronald K. DeFord is, in short, a leader and luminary in the world of geology and in other worlds. He has given inspiration along with perspiration to his profession and as a leader and a giver he is recognized here.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame induction dinner on Magnetic Tape

### **Floyd C Dodson 1975**

Floyd C. Dodson of San Angelo, Texas, was one of the true geological pioneers of the Permian Basin. He was, at the same time, a man of such high character and possessed of so much courage that he was liked as much as he was respected.

As a boy, living near Eden, Texas, he suffered the loss of one arm in a hunting accident. It never deterred him. His career in geology and his participation in sports were carried forward vigorously thereafter.

He attended the University of Texas at Austin and in 1920 earned his degree in geology. This was three years before the Santa Rita No.1, and very few wells had been drilled in the whole of the Permian Basin. Nonetheless he studied geology of Regan and adjoining counties and believed in the oil and gas potentiality of the area. He met Rupert Ricker, an attorney who had acquired a large number of exploration permits on the University of Texas lands, and confirmed Ricker's belief in the geologic theory of Dr. Johann Udden relative to such lands, and it was here that the Santa Rita No. 1 well was drilled a very few years later.

He joined with Rupert Ricker as a partner and they established offices in San Angelo. Their firm became one of the largest and most active in the Basin, representing 10 large companies and doing studies in 14 Basin counties. Their recommendations had profound effects on the later rapid development of the Basin's petroleum resources.

Floyd was a trainer of geologists. He hired young geology graduates from the University of Texas to do field mapping, a number of whom developed into well known, some famous, members of the profession.

He died in January, 1949, at the too-early age of 53.

The museum's files contain many letters from his associates. All speak of him, his professional talents, his character and other attributes with warmth and high regard. His is a lasting memorial in the hearts and minds of men.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Lena (Mrs. Floyd C.) Dodson 5/1/1972, Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Magnetic Tape

**Hiram M. Dow 1969**

The legal profession has contributed far more to the orderly development of the oil and gas industry than generally is recognized. One of the finest examples of this happy relationship was Hiram M. Dow, whose mind and energies helped create New Mexico's comprehensive oil conservation acts.

Hiram Dow was born in Cotulla, Texas, April 21, 1885, but lived virtually all his life in Eddy county and Roswell, New Mexico. He received his law degree from Washington and Lee, and later practiced in Roswell. In 1937 and in 1938 he served as Lieutenant Governor of the state.

Hiram Dow's great contributions to the oil and gas industry came through the law-making process. He was instrumental in formulating and having passed by the New Mexico Legislature the 1929 and 1930 laws that permitted the Commissioner of Public Lands to approve prorationing and well spacing agreements. Later, he assisted in obtaining interpretations of those laws by the New Mexico courts. He aided in the formation of the Oil Compact Commission and represented New Mexico on the Commission for a full 22 years, until 1958.

Mr. Dow died in March of 1969.

He contributed notably to the betterment of his home community of Roswell. But we remember him for his leadership in conserving the natural resources of his adopted state.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

**Donald L. Evans 2007**

Donald L. Evans was born in Houston, Texas on July 25, 1946. He graduated from the University of Texas with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1969 and his master's degree in Business in 1973.

Evans moved to Midland in 1975 to work for Tom Brown, Inc. Within four years he had become president of the company. With oil prices reaching \$40 a barrel in the late 1970's, Tom Brown, Inc. grew to a \$2.5 billion market cap company with over 1200 employees. The oil and gas company specialized in contract drilling and oil field services.

In 1985, Evans was elected CEO of Tom Brown, Inc and in early 1986 oil prices plummeted to \$10 a barrel. He was faced with the challenges of restructuring the company for survival. He focused the company's vision on the Rocky Mountain region, accumulating vast amounts of natural gas reserves and massive acreage position. During the harsh economic environment of



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the 1980's, Evans not only kept Tom Brown, Inc. afloat, but helped the company expand its interests to Wyoming, Colorado and Utah. When Evans resigned in 2000 and headed to Washington D.C., Tom Brown, Inc. had grown into a \$2 billion company and controlled more than 1.8 million net acres. Tom Brown, Inc. has also repaid all debt, 100 cents on the dollar. Named the 34th Secretary of Commerce in 2000 by George W. Bush, Evans oversaw a diverse cabinet agency and a \$5 billion budget. He was a key member of President Bush's economic team, advising the President on many issues, including trade, business concerns, energy policy and overall U.S. economic policy.

Don Evans is a self-described optimist who believes the highest calling in life is serving others. As a result, he has been very active in community service over the years. In 1995, he was appointed by Governor Bush to the Board of Regents of the University of Texas; he was elected Chairman of the Board in February 1997 and served two consecutive terms. He was a board member of the Scleroderma Research Foundation for eight years and a driving force behind Native Vision, a program that provides services to about 10,000 Native American children. He has been involved with the United Way for many years, serving as Campaign Chair in 1981 and President in 1989. He has been named Jaycees Man of the Year.

In December 2001, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the University of South Carolina. In September 2002, he was awarded a Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Texas. In November 2002, he was inducted into the University of Texas Red McCombs School of Business Hall of Fame.

### **Herbert B. Fuqua 1973**

H. B. Fuqua's election to our Hall stems from a distinguished career in oil joined later to a career in banking. In one way or another he managed, financed, or inspired no fewer than 15 field discoveries and 23 major extensions in the Permian Basin, and the true figures would be considerably larger.

"Baba" Fuqua was born in Indian Territory and was graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a geology degree. He was employed by Gulf Production Company at Wichita Falls in 1922, moved to San Angelo in 1923, and to Fort Worth in 1926. His later career with Gulf was in Houston, where he headed its southwestern operations.

Beginning in 1922 he shared in Gulf's geological studies of the Permian Basin and later took a dominant role in urging Gulf's leasing and drilling activities during the 1920's and 1930's. The tremendous place earned by Gulf in the Basin was in good part due to his vision and persistence.

In 1949 he resigned from Gulf to become board chairman and chief executive officer of Texas Pacific Coal and Oil Company in Fort Worth. The company had a tremendous discovery record during his tenure. While leading this fine company, he became a director of Fort Worth National Bank and was elected chairman of the bank's board in 1952. After Texas Pacific's assets were sold in 1963, he turned full attention to the banking business.

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Under his prodding and with his inspiration, Fort Worth National aggressively sought to finance oil ventures. The bank made more and \$250 million in such loans during his active service as chairman, more than half of it to people in the Permian Basin. A great many fields and fortunes were found because his great bank took the larger view of this area's future.

Beyond this fine business career, Babe Fuqua has put the best of his talents and innumerable hours into serving community causes in Fort Worth.

Among many other contributions to his state and nation, he staunchly advocated conservation of oil and gas and protection of fresh water supplies from salt water pollution. Indeed, the list of his fine deeds is as long as the shadow of Babe Fuqua himself on the past, present, and future of the Permian Basin.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Collections: Recording of 1973 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Morgan J Davis speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Lovic P. Garrett 1969**

An innovator and outstanding executive, Lovic Pierce Garrett was born in LaGrange, Georgia, October 27, 1880. When he was 12 years old he came to DeLeon in Comanche County, Texas, with his family. He studied geology at the University of Texas, graduated in 1902, and went then with the old Rio Bravo Oil company. By 1908 he had been enlisted in Gulf Oil's Houston organization. He was named president of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists in 1931. He was serving as a Gulf vice president at the time of his death in 1943.

Mr. Garrett introduced seismologists from Germany into this country. He was instrumental in persuading Gulf to drill what became the first commercial oil well producing through a salt dome overhang. In 1924 he added torsion balance and seismograph parties to Gulf's exploration department and pioneered an application of these methods outside the Gulf Coast.

He worked closely with Ben Belt and others in developing a major position for Gulf in the Permian Basin and in arranging for Gulf's necessary financial support for the venture.

We honor L. P. Garrett for his ability to detect the significant and good in exploration technology, to adopt it, and to apply his great organizational skills to its use.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Dr. Sam G. Gibbs 2011**

Born on June 16, 1932, in Lufkin, Texas, Dr. Sam Gibbs attended both Stephen F. Austin State College and Texas A&M University, obtaining a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering. Soon after starting with Shell Oil, Gibbs was drafted into the U.S. Army, defending a command base



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in Alaska. After his return to Shell, he later utilized his G.I. Bill benefits to earn his M.S. degree in mathematics from Texas A&M University in 1960. Gibbs was then assigned to Shell's Research Facility in Houston, Texas, and while there, he earned his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Rice University in 1968.

Early on, Gibbs recognized the need for improvements in sucker rod pumping technology. He developed, and Shell patented, a mathematical method for analyzing rod pumping operations using the wave equation, which would be a lynch-pin for Dr. Gibbs' professional career. Gibbs left Shell in 1969 and soon started Nabla Corporation. In 1971, Shell granted Gibbs and his partner Ken Nolen a license to use the wave equation technology to offer pumping well diagnostic services to the oil industry. From the company's inception, Gibbs focused it on developing and offering the very latest artificial lift technology to the oil industry worldwide through research, teaching, and inventions developed in the Permian Basin. One such invention is the SAM™ Well Manager (named after Dr. Gibbs), which is reportedly the most popular pump off control (POC) in the world today. Gibbs and Nolen also developed the first on-site diagnostic computer to calculate real time parameters of and determine any problems with a pumping unit and its down-hole equipment.

Since Nabla was sold to Lufkin Industries in 1997, Gibbs has been active as a consultant, speaker, inventor, and published writer. Gibbs has shared his knowledge and technology by writing more than 24 technical papers and wrote an engineering textbook on sucker rod pumping, entitled Rod Pumping – Modern Methods of Design, Diagnosis and Surveillance (soon to be published). He is a life-long advocate for math and science as a career and regularly makes presentations to schoolchildren.

With an unquestionable moral character, ethics and integrity, Dr. Gibbs gives extensively to the community and area colleges and is very active in the First Baptist Church of Midland, serving as outreach leader, deacon, and committee member, among others. He has also been a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers, Permian Basin Section, for over 40 years. SPE, both locally and internationally, has recognized Gibbs for his service on various committees and other awards, including the Hall of Fame Award (Permian Basin Section – 1992) and Production Engineering Award (SPE International – 2001).

### **George R. Gibson, Ph.D. 2001**

George Randall Gibson is honored with an international reputation as a very successful domestic and foreign geological consultant. Born in New York State in 1905, Gibson moved to Oklahoma with his family when he was a young boy. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in geology in 1930 and his Ph.D. in geology in 1934 from the University of Minnesota. Following graduation, Gibson played professional football and taught geology at Carlton College in Minnesota. In 1938 he left the academia world and began working as a geologist with Sacony-vacuum Oil Company in Egypt. This work was interrupted by the breakout of World War II.

In 1941 Gibson was hired by Magnolia Petroleum Company (later Mobil) and sent to Midland for two weeks. He never left. From 1943-48, Gibson worked as district geologist for the Richfield Oil Company (BP Arco), and then as exploration supervisor for Seaboard Oil

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Corporation (Texaco) until 1952. He then struck out on his own and for the past fifty years has worked as a geological consultant in such diverse areas as the Philippines, New Zealand, Turkey, Egypt, South Africa and Lesotho, as well as the Permian Basin and the Rocky Mountain states.

Gibson was named an Outstanding Alum at the University of Minnesota, where he and his wife, Orpha, endowed the George and Orpha Gibson Chair in Hydrology. Among the many professional awards he has received are the Permian Basin Petroleum Association's "Top Hand" Award, the AAPG's Monroe G. Cheney Science Award and the John Emory Adams Distinguished Service Award. He has authored numerous publications and been involved with many civic organizations. Gibson is also recognized by the National Football League as the oldest living professional football veteran.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: George Gibson 2/16/2001 (2 tapes)

Video: 2001 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Spotlight on..."

### **John R. Gray 2011**

Both Mack Chase and John R. "Johnny" Gray with modest educations began their careers as contract pumpers. In the 1950s, Johnny Gray worked as a drilling superintendent for C. H. Mahres Drilling. His work ethic as a driller established his reputation throughout the region. After moving to Eddy County, New Mexico, Gray was soon hired by National Drilling Company as a company pumper. He then established Gray Pumping Service which grew from a one-man operation to thirty employees pumping wells in three counties.

Together Chase and Gray formed Marbob, named after their wives, in 1974, which offered pumping services and well servicing in Eddy County, New Mexico. Initially, Marbob purchased wells or leases with marginal production, reworked the wells and produced them. As the company grew, they began their own drilling and development program. As the first to discover the productive capacity of the Yeso Trend in Southeast New Mexico, Chase and Gray were the pioneers of the field that would become the largest oil producer in New Mexico. By 1991, Marbob properties were producing about 3,000 barrels per day.

Soon after, Chase put his assets into a new company, Mack Energy Corporation, while Gray retained his assets with Marbob Energy Corporation. They then went onto build their respective companies, with combined production approaching 20,000 barrels per day. Gray passed away in 2001.

Until recently, Marbob continued as a wholly-family owned business with fifty employees, including Johnny C. Gray as President and Douglas R. Chandler as Vice President. Marbob was purchased by Concho in 2010. The combined value of the sales was more than \$2 billion.

Together, Chase and Gray have also done much for others, with Artesia, New Mexico, a principal beneficiary, from its schools and athletic fields to downtown renovations to the health-care facilities.

**Arthur M. “Jack” Hagan 1975**

We recognize and honor these two distinguished geologists as a team for together they were responsible, as much as anyone, for two vastly important occurrences in the Permian Basin petroleum history.

For 10 long months during 1923 and 1924 Arthur M. Hagan – widely known as “Jack” Hagan – working under instructions from Ray V. Hennen, chief geologist for the Transcontinental Oil Company, led a geological survey party over a span of land – 20 miles wide and a hundred miles long – that extended from Emerson in Terrell County to Stiles in Reagan County.

At the conclusion of this assignment in April, 1924, he reported to his chief that one area, later known as Yates, was the most definite structural feature they had encountered, with a surface closure in excess of 100 feet. He urged that a test well be drilled and recommended a location. Ray Hennen, having faith in Jack and his work, passed the recommendation on to Mike Benedum, the great wildcatter and president of Transcontinental. Mr. Benedum, with faith in both men, worked out an agreement under which Transcontinental joined with the Mid-Kansas Oil Company in the drilling of the Ira G. Yates No. 1. The location of this well, controlled by terrain conditions, was within 200 feet of Jack Hagan’s recommended site. Completed on December 13, 1926, it was the discovery well of the great Yates field, at that time the most prolific shallow depth oil field in the world.

Two years earlier, Jack Hagan, under a work assignment from Ray Hennen, had selected and recommended to Mike Benedum the sixteen sections of land involved in the transaction between Mr. Benedum and Frank Pickrell – the activator of Santa Rita No. 1 – that resulted in the formation of the Bit Lake Oil Company and the development of the Big Lake field. This was the first oil and gas producing area on the University of Texas lands.

Both men pursued independent and distinguished careers subsequent to the Yates discovery. Hennen, a native of West Virginia, died in San Antonio in 1958. Hagan, a Pennsylvanian, died in San Angelo, Texas in 1957. The two men worked together a comparatively short time, yet their mutual cooperation and faith, coupled with extraordinary skills, put great events into motion and led to the honor here paid them.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame induction dinner on Magnetic Tape

**Berte R. Haigh 1972**

For most men the living of 82 years is achievement enough. But Berte R. Haigh has crowded into his lifetime so much accomplishment, sheer energy, and joy in living that it seems far too short.

He was born in Los Angeles, which is a distinction in itself. He had five months of high school yet somehow qualified for a degree in mining engineering and geology from what is now the University of Texas at El Paso in 1925 when he was 35 years old. In between he did farm work,

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peddled gasoline, worked as a garage mechanic, raced automobiles, and saw military service on the Mexican border and in France.

Berte Haigh took on his profession with the zing of a hammer hitting a rock. He practiced for two years, then went on the faculty of UTEP for six years as an assistant professor of geology and later of geology and engineering. In 1934 he transferred to the University of Texas Lands system as staff geologist and later was promoted to become Geologist in Charge in Midland.

In the lands system he was the right man in the right place at the right time. He developed or assisted in developing many oil and gas leasing techniques later adopted by many public agencies in this country and in foreign nations. During his tenure and in part because of his selfless dedication to serving the people of his state, the endowment of the University of Texas grew by more than \$500 million. He constantly stimulated exploration of UT lands, and pushed for the adoption for new techniques for secondary recovery.

Berte remains a consulting geologist with the Lands System even though he theoretically retired ten years ago. He has served as president of the West Texas Geological Society, is writing a history of the University Lands, is known to more geologists in this country than can be counted, and continues to amaze us all.

Few men can point to a great university system and count the bricks their work helped buy. Berte Haigh can do it, and the number of bricks is very great indeed. We are proud to honor him here.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Abell, Haigh & Vertrees (3 tapes) 2/2/1971, Berte R Haigh 8/14/1979 (2 tapes), 9/24/1985, 7/6/1982, Morgan J. Davis & Berte Haigh 10/7/1970  
Recording of 1972 Hall of Fame dinner on Magnetic Tape (2 reels) Dr. S A Wengerd speaker

### **Erle P. Halliburton 1983**

Tennessee born, Erle P. Halliburton might have been Alger's prototype. He left home at the age of 14 to work and support his widowed mother and five brothers and sisters. He spent five years in the pre-World War I U. S. Navy, taking up study of engineering and hydraulics. In 1916 he joined the Perkins Cementing Company in California, and from then on the diagnosis and care of wells became his lifelong career.

Halliburton's entrance into the cementing business came under the name of New Method Oil Well Cementing Company. In 1920 the firm was reorganized as Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Company – now the Halliburton Company – and it then proceeded to make technical innovations that still are recognized as among the major accomplishments of the industry. Halliburton not only pushed the technological barriers forward, however. Its crews, taking their cue from a first-class management mentality, hauled and pushed their equipment everywhere, from Algeria to Zanzibar and to all the geography in between.

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A man gifted with high leadership talent, civic-minded, a philanthropist, Erle P. Hlliburton's achievements were Algeresque in their move from the humble to the international. They reached not only into the Permian Basin but everywhere men tried and still try to get energy from the reluctant earth.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1983 induction dinner Peter Flawn Speaker

### **Oliver C. "Kip" Harper 1972**

O. C. Harper's election to the Hall of Fame rests on a number of accomplishments, but it was extraordinarily difficult to get facts out of him. He is not inclined to take credit for any of his many achievements, and when it is pressed upon him he immediately tries to share it with others.

Even so, his is a remarkable story. He was born in Chicago in 1897 and majored in geology at the University of Chicago. He flew for the United States Air Corps in World War I and then took up geology as a profession with what is now Cities Service in Kansas and Oklahoma. In 1922 he went to work for Gulf Production Company at Sweetwater. At that time there was a little, but only a little, production in the Westbrook Field of Mitchell County. The sub-surface configuration of the Permian Basin was almost entirely unknown, and it remained so even after the Santa Rita discovery at Texon in 1923.

Using what was learned from these wells, together with a scattering of dry holes Gulf had drilled, "Kip" Harper and a colleague, Ernest Closuit, began the task of attempting to solve the Basin's geological mysteries. It was Harper in 1924 who put he finishing touches on one of the most significant pieces of geological evaluation ever seen in the United States: the recognition and delineation of the Central Basin Platform. Many oil fields, with a total yield in the hundreds of millions of barrels, have resulted from this discovery.

Later, as an independent, O. C. Harper continued to learn more about the earth and to test his beliefs. He was responsible for the Harper and Foster fields, for interesting Amon Carter in drilling the Wasson Field discovery well, and for at least six other field discoveries. He is another in that great line of geologists turned independent who learned from their failures and helped make the Basin one of the premier oil provinces in the world.

O.C. Harper is a successful man as the world measures such things, but he is also a man who carries success lightly and who values the respect, admiration, and warm regard given him by his many friends. His selection is another case of the honor finding the man.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Recording of 1972 Hall of Fame dinner on Magnetic Tape (2 reels) Dr. S A Wengerd speaker

### **Houston Harte 1970**

A newspaper publisher is hereby inducted into the petroleum industry Hall of Fame. Houston Harte, who has gathered more honors than some can count, deserves the honor being bestowed

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as much as any driller, geologist or producer. A prompting reason for his selection has been his pioneer and continuing reporting on the petroleum industry. Beginning with a Mitchell County discovery during a mid-summer of the early 1920's, that reporting extended into subsequent coverage commemorating a Westbrook barbecue following a first railroad shipment of oil from that county. Enthusiasts of the past no doubt thought that his reporting was climaxed when the Santa Rita discovery in Reagan County was publicly proclaimed almost fifty years ago. Since those days, he and his colleagues on the San Angelo standard – now the Standard Times – have disseminated honest, objective, through news about a great industry in a fashion that every other paper in the petroleum producing areas can probably envy. He and those working with him since then referred to beginning times, have sifted out the promotional chaff – when they could recognize it – and they have brought vital news of oil and gas to oil men and to the public in a manner that brings tremendous credit on the one who conceived and began the work and who has encouraged it over the many following years. We pay tribute to those on the San Angelo newspaper, as well as to Houston Harte. We expect that he joins with us in that tribute to those who have worked with him, as well as for him.

There is still another reason for Mr. Harte's selection and a reason that we do not ask him to share with others. He has abundantly poured his talents into the Herculean task of building the western portion of a great state. He has pled its cause before the rest of the country, all the while persuading, even browbeating his fellow countrymen toward dreaming dreams as large as his own and encouraging them to work with him while aspiring for an even bigger future for this area of his. With it all, he has kept a toe of his foot dug deeply into the past. He has continued to know that the drum beats of history can make the march toward a future more certain and better directed. Truly, he has chronicled the state's and the industry's great past.

Houston Harte's service to his community, to our state, the Permian area and his profession have enlightened many and inspired more. The petroleum industry has been helped, not only from the flow of information he has created and stimulated, but also because the Permian Basin in all parts of it is a better place in which to live and in which to work because of what he has done.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Houston Harte 9/24/1970 (2 tapes), Recording of 1970 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Judge Brewster speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Ray V. Hennen 1975**

We recognize and honor these two distinguished geologists as a team for together they were responsible, as much as anyone, for two vastly important occurrences in the Permian Basin petroleum history.

For 10 long months during 1923 and 1924 Arthur M. Hagan – widely known as “Jack” Hagan – working under instructions from Ray V. Hennen, chief geologist for the Transcontinental Oil Company, led a geological survey party over a span of land – 20 miles wide and a hundred miles long – that extended from Emerson in Terrell County to Stiles in Reagan County.



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At the conclusion of this assignment in April, 1924, he reported to his chief that one area, later known as Yates, was the most definite structural feature they had encountered, with a surface closure in excess of 100 feet. He urged that a test well be drilled and recommended a location. Ray Hennen, having faith in Jack and his work, passed the recommendation on to Mike Benedum, the great wildcatter and president of Transcontinental. Mr. Benedum, with faith in both men, worked out an agreement under which Transcontinental joined with the Mid-Kansas Oil Company in the drilling of the Ira G. Yates No. 1. The location of this well, controlled by terrain conditions, was within 200 feet of Jack Hagan's recommended site. Completed on December 13, 1926, it was the discovery well of the great Yates field, at that time the most prolific shallow depth oil field in the world.

Two years earlier, Jack Hagan, under a work assignment from Ray Hennen, had selected and recommended to Mike Benedum the sixteen sections of land involved in the transaction between Mr. Benedum and Frank Pickrell – the activator of Santa Rita No. 1 – that resulted in the formation of the Bit Lake Oil Company and the development of the Big Lake field. This was the first oil and gas producing area on the University of Texas lands.

Both men pursued independent and distinguished careers subsequent to the Yates discovery. Hennen, a native of West Virginia, died in San Antonio in 1958. Hagan, a Pennsylvanian, died in San Angelo, Texas in 1957. The two men worked together a comparatively short time, yet their mutual cooperation and faith, coupled with extraordinary skills, put great events into motion and led to the honor here paid them.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame induction dinner on Magnetic Tape

### **James C. "Jim" Henry 2009**

Born in 1934 in Colombia to American parents, James C. "Jim" Henry grew up in Marion, Kentucky. He paid for his own education at the University of Oklahoma, earning a degree in Petroleum Engineering in 1957. He then served for two years in the Air Force, researching liquid hydrogen at the Jet Propulsion laboratory in Dayton, Ohio.

After working for Humble Oil and Refining Company as an engineer in the computing group and for Skelly Oil Company as a reservoir engineer, Henry co-founded H&L Consultants in 1969 with Bob Landenberger. A few years later, they formed Henry & Landenberger, Inc. as independent operators, drilling their first well in August 1971. The firm concentrated on exploration, drilling and production in the Permian Basin with primary emphasis on the Spraberry formation.

By 1977, Henry bought out Landenberger, renaming the company Henry Petroleum Corporation. In 1983, Henry Petroleum Corporation had 24 employees and had drilled 34 wells, costing \$17,000,000.00 to drill and complete. A few years later, Henry turned over the day-to-day running of the company to Dennis Johnson so that he would have more time to devote to philanthropic organizations such as United Way and Casa de Amigos.

### **Fred T. Hogan 1987**

Fred T. Hogan is honored not only as an oilman but as a Midland civic leader.

Fred was born in Montana in 1901. He started in the oilfields with his own trucking company, then teamed up with his father, T. S. Hogan (also in the Petroleum Hall of Fame), in drilling for oil. After exploring in Montana, Colorado and New Mexico, the Hogans moved to Texas. Fred came to Midland as an oil scout when the West Texas oil industry was just beginning.

Fred, with a sharp eye for good prospects, worked with his father to broker the sale of two major ranches, the McElroy and the Hendrick. He also assisted his father with the construction of the petroleum Building, which helped establish Midland as the center for West Texas oil development.

Later, Fred teamed up with L. H. Choate to discover new oilfields and then moved out on his own, remaining in the oil business for many years.

Fred served as Midland's mayor pro-tem for many years and as mayor in 1946-47. His proudest accomplishment was the return of the Midland Army airfield, with its equipment and improvements, back to Midland after World War II. This led to the development of the Midland Regional Airport, a major factor in the Basin's growth. Fred also directed the purchase, for its water supply, of what is now known as Hogan Park.

### **Supporting Media Collections**

Oral History Interviews: Fred T Hogan 6/23/1970

Video: 87-39 1987 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **Thomas S. Hogan 1969**

Thomas Stephen Hogan, as much as or more than any other man, foresaw the oil future of the Permian Basin. Yet he was born near Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin in 1872, spent most of his early life in Montana, had only a few years in midland, and spent the remainder of his life in Lubbock and California. He died in 1957.

An attorney, T. S. Hogan became Secretary of the State of Montana in 1896 and in 1914 was elected to the State Senate. In later years he held Federal offices in Washington. He was, in addition, a rancher and investor.

We honor him, however, for his years in Midland. It was here in the late 'twenties and early 'thirties that he foresaw the migration of oil operations and companies into this area. He talked about the future of Midland and of its neighboring cities to all who would listen. He participated in the sale of the McElroy Ranch properties to Franco-Wyoming and in other significant transactions. And finally he invested a large part of his own means in what we now call the Shell building, an ambitious attempt to establish oil company offices in the area. The prosperity brought to Midland and its neighbors by the later arrival of the companies vindicated his vision in full.



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We could describe his many other contributions to the Basin's development. But we remember him best for what he dreamed and what he gave in support of that dream.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

Video: 2001-26 Petroleum Building

### **Eugene Holman 1969**

Let me say at the beginning that Eugene Holman was a product of Monahans, Texas, and not Midland or Odessa or New York. Our friends from Monahans can remain in their seats, put their placards away, and refrain from demonstrating.

Gene Holman was 67 years old when he died in 1962. His early lifetime covered graduation from what is now Hardin-Simmons University, the gaining of a master's degree in geology, and joining of the Humble Oil organization in 1919. He was among the talented young geologists tutored in Humble by Wallace Pratt. He had an inspiring rise within the world's largest oil company – Standard of New Jersey. He played a key role in development of Jersey's large Venezuelan production. Ultimately he became board chairman and chief executive officer.

Eugene Holman thought of himself as a professional geologist. He contributed many technical papers and remained deeply interested in oil exploration throughout his career.

But he also thought of himself as a westerner. He returned to the Permian Basin each year, kept in close touch with his family friends, and in his own life and qualities reflected the open hospitality and practical good sense of his upbringing.

We honor Gene Holman for combining high professional skills with managerial talent, and for retaining throughout a distinguished career the qualities of character learned here among us.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Howard R. Hughes, Sr. 1973**

In comparison with such inventions as the telephone, the electric light, the automobile, and the airplane, so earthy an invention as the rock bit seems small indeed. Yet the rock bit, conceived by Howard R. Hughes Sr., made possible these others and many more. As the Age of Energy dawned, it was the rock bit which moved the Permian Basin into a new era and the whole of the world as well.

Howard Robard Hughes was born in Keokuk, Iowa, in 1869. After studying law at Harvard and the University of Iowa, he practiced at Keokuk. Shortly thereafter, however, he entered the lead and zinc mining business at Joplin, Missouri. It was while there that he heard of the huge

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discovery at Spindletop, near Beaumont. He made his way to Texas, took some leases, and found some oil.

While in the Beaumont-Louisiana area, Howard Hughes began experimenting with rotary drills. Rotary drilling had already come along, but it used the old-type “fishtail” bit shaped like a turning chisel. It worked poorly in rock. In 1908 he and Walter Sharp, a business associate, first modeled a bit made up of two cone-shaped toothed cutters. By 1914 it had been used in 11 states and 13 foreign countries. The Hughes Tool Company was formed in Houston and later became wholly owned by Mr. Hughes.

Improvements on the basic design came along in Mr. Hughes’ own workshop. Each opened new depth horizons or increased the speed of drilling. Meantime, he poured imagination into the work of merchandising the bits to the oil industry, depending mainly on new ideas of service to make a hard-to-please industry like his bit and like his company.

His untimely death in 1924 robbed the industry and the nation of one of its finest minds. In subsequent years, however, the company made the bit available day and night around the world. It is no disservice to Hughes’ good competitors to acknowledge the tremendous contribution made by the company’s founder and the traditions he established. The entire servicing industry has, in a sense, modeled its conduct after the standards set by the senior Hughes and his firm.

Here, in this place, we recognize one of the greatest of America’s inventors: Howard R. Hughes.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Recording 1973 Hall of Fame Dinner on Magnetic Tape Morgan J Davis speaker

Video: Howard Hughes – Discovery Channel, 96-2 “The Man, The Icon, The Mystery Howard Hughes”, “Time Traveler” Howard Hughes

### **Herbert C. Irvin 1972**

The election of Herbert C. Irvin of Oklahoma City to the Hall of Fame was intended to honor not only this pioneer driller but his father, William Howard Irvin, who is deceased and his brother, William Irvin, Jr., of Denver.

As with many men well-known and well-liked in the oil fields, William Howard Irvin, father of the honoree, picked up a nickname: “vinegar Bill.” He was born in the first Capital of Oil, Titusville, Pennsylvania, in 1871. By 1910 he and another noted driller had formed a partnership to drill for oil in Oklahoma. By 1916, when the oil tide was beginning to move west of Fort Worth, he was in Breckenridge Field of Texas. And in 1920 he contracted to drill five miles west of Colorado City. By then his two sons, Bert and Bill, were sharing in the drilling. Their well was dry, but it was only the third to be drilled in Mitchell County.

The father and the two sons worked on many exploratory wells drilled by Steve Owen and Sam Sloan including the big well that opened up the Dora Roberts Ranch near Big Spring. Bert Irvin also was involved on the Owen-Sloan well that found the Chalk field in Howard County and on many others in Scurry and other West Texas counties.

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Bert Irvin and his father and brother knew what it was to sweat while beating out a bit on a 100-degree day. Their cranky old machines took every bit of loving care they could give them and sometimes repaid them by just sitting there in ornery silence. It took obstinate, determined men to overcome those mechanical mules we call “cable too rigs.” A great deal of the oil found in the Permian Basin came out of the work of the Irvins and men like them. With what they had they did remarkable things.

In 1927 Herbert C. Irvin returned to Oklahoma City and left the drilling business to join forces with a savings and loan association. We hope it gives him pleasure to know that we here remember a career that ended so long ago. It is not, I might say, because our memories are so good, but because his shadow and those of men like him remain on the West Texas land.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Recording of 1972 Hall of Fame dinner on Magnetic Tape (2 reels) Dr. S A Wengerd speaker

### **J. Clarence Karcher, Ph. D. 1999**

J. Clarence Karcher gave the petroleum industry the “eyes” to see beneath the earth’s surface and changed forever the methods of searching for oil. Known as the Father of the Reflection Seismograph, Karcher was born April 15, 1894, in Dale, Indiana, and at the age of 5 moved with his father and brother to a farm near Hennessey, OK. He graduated in 1912 from Hennessey high School and entered the University of Oklahoma that fall. He graduated in 1916 with a degree in physics and with the highest grades of any student. Fro graduate school, he chose the University of Pennsylvania and accepted the Tyndale Fellowship in Physics.

During his first year, he became interested in the “measurement of the wave length of individual lines in the x-ray spectrum.” During March 1917, he spent three weeks at the Thomas Edison laboratory in Orange, N.J., and often talked with the famous inventor. It was Edison’s advise that Karcher followed throughout his career: “Without perseverance and persistence, little can be accomplished in any endeavor.”

During World War I, he was sent to France as a Technical attaché to the U.S. Embassy in Paris, and spent eight months in the field studying various artillery problems, including the observation of sound ranging units. After he returned to the university to finish his degree, Karcher began to study the use of seismic waves in relation to geology. Working with colleagues on a farm three miles north of Oklahoma City, Karcher in June 1921 successfully obtained definite reflection events on the seismic records. The electromagnetic detector Karcher designed and built is on display in the Museum of History and Technology at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.

Everette DeGolyer, vice president of Amerada Petroleum, learned of Karcher’s experiments and met the young inventor. The two formed Geophysical Research Corp., with Karcher as vice president. GRC was contracted by Gulf Oil to conduct reflection seismic surveys, which identified over 100 salt domes.

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In 1930, Karcher sold his interest in GRC and organized Geophysical Service, Inc., the first independent company to provide reflection seismograph services. It became the foremost geophysical contracting company in the world. After 1940, the reflection seismograph went world-wide, and by 1960 GSI had more than 1,000 crews. Karcher eventually left GSI and formed Comanche Corporation, which acquired leases in Borden and Howard counties. Seaboard used Comanche's seismic data and drilled a discovery well in the prolific Velamoor Field in Howard County. Karcher later formed Concho Petroleum.

Karcher died in Dallas on July 13, 1978 at the age of 84. He was recognized for his achievements by receiving the Anthony F. Lucas Gold Medal from the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, and an honorary degree from Southern Methodist University. In 1974, he was honored with a Distinguished Service Citation from the University of Oklahoma for his contributions to the School of Geology and Geophysics. He also established and endowed the Karcher Symposium on Energy and the Chemical Sciences at OU.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Video: 1999 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner, 99- Karcher at Lides Plantation, Coronado Discovery Well

### **Paul Kayser 1973**

Paul Kayser of Houston was born on a farm near Tyler and was graduated from Baylor University. He studied law through a correspondence course from the University of Texas, and practiced law in Houston through 1929.

In 1928 Paul Kayser saw something that very few men of his age saw. In those days natural gas was like the ugly sister of the best-looking girl in town. Nobody wanted her around, but she came along anyway. Paul Kayser saw what she might become given patient, loving care. He founded El Paso Natural Gas Company and, as its president, began the tedious job of finding markets for the gas nobody wanted.

There are three memorable things about this effort. When the conservation of gas was forced on the industry, El Paso provided markets and prevented massive shutdowns of wells. Secondly, its markets in California and Arizona managed their air pollution problems far better as a result of having this clean fuel available. And finally, it opened up new uses for gas as a raw material for chemicals in the Permian Basin.

It so happened, therefore, that Paul Kayser's vision was a case of seeing the need before it was there, and of moving forcefully and persistently to bring gas supplies and gas markets together.

Paul Kayser served continuously as the executive head of El Paso Natural Gas from 1928 until 1965 as board chairman and chief executive officer. His work and the company's work during this long tenure created jobs, income, and new enterprises in the Permian basin as well as major benefits for the nation at large.

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The list of his leadership posts in the oil and gas industries is a long one. He has lent his managerial talents to the Texas Research League, the University of Texas Engineering Foundation, and numerous other volunteer efforts.

Paul Kayser is, therefore, a conservationist in the broader and better sense. He has helped conserve energy supplies, the talents and efforts of people around him, the prosperity of this area, and the future of this state and nation. And, in truth, he took the broom from Cinderella's hands and made her a belle at the Energy Ball.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Collections: Recording of 1973 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Morgan J Davis speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Frank H. Kelley 1973**

Frank H. Kelley of Colorado City is the first landman to be elected to our Hall of Fame. Ten years after his death he remains perhaps the best known and best liked of all that fine corps of landmen who have done so much to develop the Permian Basin and all other parts of the nation's oil areas.

A native of Washington County, Indiana, Kelley attended Indiana University, Indiana State, and Columbia University. He served in the Navy during World War I, wrote text books for the Navy, and finally stepped off a train at Colorado City during the early days of the Basin's oil boom. He once said he thought the stop was either Midland or Odessa, but this joke didn't conceal his life-long love for Colorado City.

Frank Kelley, as a division staff landman, served Magnolia Petroleum Company and its successor company, Mobil Oil, for 38 years until his retirement in 1963. It was a loose kind of employment, in which Frank Kelley sometimes exercised more authority than his bosses. He could and did commit vast sums of money, and when the amounts got too much for even Frank to bite he was not above talking like a Dutch uncle to some of those above him. Magnolia's tremendous position in Mitchell and Scurry counties came about as a result of Frank Kelley's having earned magnolia's utmost confidence over the years. It is no accident that the Kelley-Snyder field, one of the greatest, was named for him.

He was more than a great landman, though. He headed The Texas Good Neighbor Commission. He directed the water program of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce for many years and served as the Chamber's president. He took on every tough civic task that Colorado City could find for him. He was a rancher and, on his own, a successful oil man. Frank Kelley was indeed a complete man. Perhaps no one has been trusted more completely by more people, in high places and in low, than was Frank Kelley. He died in 1963, but the warm memories still gather round his name.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Collections: Recording of 1973 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Morgan J Davis speaker on Magnetic Tape

**William D. Kennedy 2005**

Along with his business partner and friend, C. Fred Chambers, William D. Kennedy formed C&K Petroleum, Inc., an independent active in West Texas, Rockies, South Texas, Gulf Coast and Offshore GOM. At the end of 1980, C&K drilled 87 wells, 39 explorative wells and 48 development wells and reported proved reserves of 48 billion cubic feet of gas and 5 million barrels of oil.

William Duncan Kennedy was born Dec. 7, 1919, in Dallas and graduated from the University of Texas with a business degree. Upon graduation he served in the U.S. Navy.

In 1959, the Chambers & Kennedy opened an exploration office in Houston, which soon became the company's headquarters. C&K Petroleum, Inc. was active in all the Permian Basin's major plays and also drilled wells in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Gulf Coast, Mid-Continent, Rocky Mountains and Western Canada. Their activity led to many field discoveries, including the Hamon and Toro gas fields and the Mestena Grande Field.

In 1966, Chambers and Kennedy formed a Canadian corporation with J.M.C. Ritchie of New York. The company named Ritchie Oil C&K was headquartered in Alberta, Canada. They also formed C&K Nederland Company to acquire and operate an oil and gas concession from the Dutch government. In August 1970, the two men exchanged their partnership assets for common stock in C&K Petroleum, Inc., and the company went public one year later. It was listed on the American Stock Exchange in November 1972 and sold to Alaska Interstate in October 1980.

After the sale of C&K Petroleum, Inc., Kennedy remained active in the oil industry with his son, Duncan. It was said that "he never saw a deal he didn't like." He appreciated new technologies and often provided seed money for new ventures. He explored for oil and gas in all the major U.S. basins as well as in Australia and Russia. In his final months, Kennedy actively participated in a deep horizontal Montoya well in Ward County and worked hard to put together and promote a deep gas discovery in Loving County, which has been named the Bill Kennedy Field.

His civic and professional memberships included All American Wildcatters Association, Permian Basin Petroleum Association, Texas Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association and St. Ann's Catholic Church.

Kennedy was known for his moderation, honesty and unassuming approach in dealing with other people. Until the day before he died on June 11, 2002, it was said he sold deals, made deals and drilled deals.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Mrs. W. D. Kennedy 2-23-2005

**William D. "Bill" Kleine 2011**

Born in Missouri in 1928, William D. "Bill" Kleine attended Missouri Valley College, graduating cum laude in 1949 with a degree in Business Administration. After graduation, he



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joined Phillips Petroleum Company, mainly to play basketball with the famous “Phillips 66ers.” (He turned down offers from several professional basketball teams, including the New York Knickerbockers.) He then settled in Midland working in the crude oil support division for Phillips.

In 1956, Kleine joined Western Oil Transportation Company which later became The Permian Corporation, a crude oil marketing company, a new concept in the oil fields. Insightfully, Kleine developed a relationship between purchasing the oil in the field and building the contacts within the oil refineries, alleviating market concerns of Permian Basin independent oil companies. Under Kleine’s leadership as Vice-President of Marketing, the small local company with twenty-two trucks, transformed into a worldwide competitor. In the early 1960s, The Permian Corporation became the first Midland-based company to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange. When Kleine retired as President and Chief Executive Officer in 1989, The Permian Corporation operated over 600 trucks and 6,000 miles of pipeline, employing 2,000 people and doing business in 15 states.

After his retirement, he became involved in consulting and investments. During his lifetime, Kleine was active in many Midland organizations including the Junior Chamber of Commerce, High Sky Children’s Ranch Board of Governors, and Midland College Foundation Board. Serving on the Midland College Board of Trustees from 1980 through 2006, Kleine championed community college education for those in Midland and the surrounding Permian Basin. He was a long-time member of St. Ann’s Catholic Church, and even coached the 8th grade basketball teams. Admired both professionally and personally, he shared his expertise, experience, and wisdom with peers and friends as well as mentored those new to the oil business. Kleine also served on an advisory board at Notre Dame University and was a Trustee Emeritus at his alma mater Missouri Valley College at the time of his death in June 2010.

### **John J. Kovach 1993**

John J. Kovach entered America as a two-year-old emigrant from Germany. As a young man he went to work for Continental Supply Company, first as a clerk in Wichita Falls, then as a salesman in Breckenridge.

Johnny almost lost his new sales job by selling a drilling rig, on credit, to an unknown wildcatter. His bosses were not pleased, but the wildcatter was Carl Cromwell and his Santa Rita #1 well not only came in, but discovered the Bit Lake Oil Field.

A Big Lake store was opened and Johnny soon became top salesman. Demand was so brisk, equipment first sold right off the rail sidings. Later Johnny lived in the store, making himself available day or night. By the time he was 25, Johnny was the store manager.

Supply stores were more than just stores – they served as combination post offices, information centers and employment agencies. Johnny’s knowledge of equipment, his willingness to meet customer’s needs regardless of the work involved, and his regard for his fellow man made Johnny friends with most of the early West Texas pioneers and wildcatters.



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In 1933 Johnny was transferred first to Pyote and then to Odessa to manage stores. In 1946 he moved to Midland as continental's district salesman and drilling equipment specialist. He retired in 1965.

It takes more than just wildcatters, drillers and roughnecks to develop an oilfield. Somebody has to be there to supply the tools, rigs and equipment. Johnny was the "Dean of Oilfield Salesmen", a "supply man's supply man" who "delivered the goods and kept the rigs running, hot or cold, rain or shine, day or night".

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: John J Kovach 4/7/1993 (2 tapes)

Video: 1993 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **Haymon Krupp 1969**

Haymon Krupp of El Paso was one of that handful of visionary men who were brushed by fate in the form of a single oil well: Santa Rita No. 1. As most of us know, this well was drilled in 1923 at Big Lake, Texas and truly opened up West Texas and southeastern New Mexico to oil development.

Mr. Krupp at the time was already a successful merchant and manufacturer. He had come to El Paso in 1890 at the age of 16 and was nearing 50 years of life when the opportunity to lead and invest in the Santa Rita venture came to him. Nonetheless, he became president of Texon Oil and Land Company and undertook the task of handling the company's financial affairs. It was tough and difficult work, with highly uncertain prospects for success. It was Haymon Krupp's encouragement and his ability to find money for land and for drilling that made it possible for Frank Pickrell, Carl Cromwell, and others on the scene to transform the venture into one of the great oil success stories of our time.

Haymon Krupp had a sympathetic regard for people of all kinds. His philanthropies tended to be generous but quietly given. He was a civic leader in El Paso, and is warmly remembered there.

For his vision on the Santa Rita venture and the kind of man he was, we honor him.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Edward A. Landreth 1972**

Edward A. Landreth of Fort Worth was, on the one hand, an American free-enterpriser of the pure breed, and on the other was a servant of his community, of his industry, and of his fellow man. His death almost ten years ago removed one of the finest and best from the nation's oil industry, but it did not blot out a series of remarkable accomplishments.

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He was born in Springfield, Illinois, in 1891, but spent most of his youth in Joplin, Missouri, where he entered a family-owned mine machinery company. In 1919 he came to that early college of petroleum knowledge known as the Breckenridge Field with the vague idea of selling mining machinery. Instead he fell in love with the oil business and built there one of the earliest gasoline plants. In 1924 he sold this and other holdings, but was back in the producing end by 1926 when he drilled 60 wells before selling out to Phillips Petroleum. In 1927 he began a long career of oil discovery in the Permian Basin, and the fields he was associated with reads like and Oil Field Hall of Fame itself: Hendricks, Taylor-Link, Penwell, Hobbs, and others. He was also active along the Gulf Coast. As with most of us he knew defeat at times, but it never beat him.

Ed Landreth was one of the key men who joined in urging oil and gas conservation in Texas. His role in this vital matter earned him the Distinguished Service Award from Texas Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association in 1954.

People in Fort Worth knew him as a generous giver and unstoppable fund-raiser. Harris Hospital, Texas Christian University, the First Methodist Church, and the Worth Scout Ranch at Palo Pinto were among the institutions that extended their outreach and service through his service.

Hines Baker, president of Humble Oil, once called Edward Landreth a man who “has had the character to withstand both disaster and outstanding success.” Hardly a finer tribute could be paid, but a postscript might be added. All the energy he found beneath the earth could not match the energy with which he sought better and richer living for his neighbors.

### **Supporting Media Collections**

Recording of 1972 Hall of Fame dinner on Magnetic Tape (2 reels) Dr. S A Wengerd speaker

### **J. Hugh Liedtke 1995**

The Liedtke brothers were born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in the early twenties, served in the military during World War II, graduated from the University of Texas Law School and moved to Midland, Texas, to open their law firm, Liedtke & Liedtke in 1949.

As attorneys they formed oil and gas partnerships and invested in oil well royalties, buying whole groups of producing properties for Tulsa investors. In March, 1953, the brothers merged their firm with George H. w. Bush and John K. Overby who had formed the Bush-Overby Oil Development Company. The new company, Zapata petroleum named for the Mexican rebel Emiliano Zapata, spent \$850,000 of a \$1 million dollar investment in Coke County and drilled 137 wells. There were no dry holes!

Expansion continued, Zapata separated its onshore and offshore operations with the Liedtke brothers retaining the onshore work. The 1960 merger of West Texas Zapata Petroleum with South Penn Oil Company and Stetco Petroleum gave birth to Pennzoil. The Liedtkes moved to Houston and in 1968 a final merger between Pennzoil and United Gas Corporation completed the Pennzoil Company. Bill Liedtke served as president and Hugh as chairman and CEO.

## **Do Not Cite**

In 1977, Pennzoil Offshore Gas Operators, Inc., a subsidiary, spun off to become Pogo Producing Company. Bill Liedtke served as its chairman, director, CEO and president until he retired in 1991.

During the mid-eighties, Hugh successfully orchestrated the Pennzoil suit against Texaco in the \$11 billion dollar battle for Getty Oil. Although Pennzoil was awarded \$11.1 billion, Hugh Liedtke as chairman of Pennzoil took a \$3 billion dollar settlement.

In 1988 Hugh retired as CEO of Pennzoil Company, but retained the title of Chairman until his retirement in May, 1994.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: John Hugh Liedtke 2/21/1995

Video: 1995 Hall of Fame video of induction dinner

### **William C. Liedtke, Jr. 1995**

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### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Bessie (Mrs. William C.) Liedtke 2/21/1995

Video: 1995 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

**E. Russell Lloyd 1979**

E. Russell Lloyd, a native West Virginian, was born in 1882. A brilliant student, he earned a Rhodes scholarship. While studying at Oxford, he vacationed in the Alps and other European locations whose geological formations intrigued him. He took up serious study of geology. His subsequent career included work with the United States Geological Survey; with Sinclair Wyoming; at Roswell, New Mexico, with Roxana Oil; in Midland, with Superior Oil Company and as an independent geologist.

Lloyd's great contribution to Permian Basin oil development and to scientific knowledge generally took form over several years. He sensed that the Capitan Peak in southwestern New Mexico was part of a great reef system that formed the western boundary for a sedimentary basin we now call the Permian Basin. His studies of this reef system and of limestone problems in geological interpretations led to his becoming an internationally recognized authority in his field.

His distinguished colleague, John Emery Adams, once called him the foremost geologist in West Texas.

He served as associate editor of the American Association of petroleum Geologists Bulletin for many years. His death in 1955 ended the career but not the influence of a wise, kindly, man whose analytical mind brought untold benefits to this region and the nation.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1979 Hall of Fame induction ceremony

**Arthur M. Lockhart 1972**

Arthur M. Lockhart of Long Beach, California, departs from Hall of Fame tradition in that he is the first from the marketing end of the oil industry to be recognized by us. A further and perhaps more important distinction is that he and his five brothers formed and managed a company that proved vital to the development of the petroleum business in this region.

Rio Grande Oil Company was organized in El Paso in 1915 by Lloyd E. Lockhart and Arthur Lockhart. Subsequently and at various times Cecil, Herman, Leslie, and Lynn Lockhart joined the enterprise. It first sold gasoline and kerosene in El Paso, but later opened a refinery there. Expansion brought refineries at Phoenix and Los Angeles, marketing throughout the southwest, and, finally, discovery of major fields in California. Its assets eventually became part of what is now Atlantic Richfield.

Rio Grande's story is one of those in which highly motivated individuals crated a truly great enterprise from a shoestring.

We honor them here, however, for what the Lockharts did in and for the Permian Basin. In 1922 they opened the first pipe line in the Basin – 29 miles long – to move oil from the new wells in Mitchell County. There is good reason to think that they took delivery on two tank cars for oil from and even earlier well which apparently produced briefly in Mitchell County in 1917. If so, they shared in the very first commercial production from the Permian Basin.

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In the years immediately after 1922 they provided what was one of the very few outlets for Permian Basin oil as production levels began to move upward. Rio Grande thus stimulated the industry's growth in a significant and much needed way.

Arthur Lockhart was then predominantly a marketer but was also a corporate executive and director. Today he remains active as a processor of asphalt in Long Beach. His is a remarkable story, and Rio Grande Oil Company's story is equally unique. At a time when few believed in this area, he and his brothers saw new things arising and moved vigorously to help create what others could not conceive. His brothers are gone, but what they and Arthur Lockhart saw is with us still.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Recording of 1972 Hall of Fame dinner on Magnetic Tape (2 reels) Dr. S A Wengerd speaker

### **Dean E. "Cap" Lounsbury 1972**

Dean E. Lounsbury of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, was involved with rocks in the Permian Basin so long that he probably came to know every single one by name, rank, and serial number.

In 1919 Cap Lounsbury graduated from Cornell University in New York. He followed this with a year on the Cornell faculty, but left in 1920 to do geological work for Whitehall Petroleum Corporation in western Indian, Baluchistan, and Burma, which must be a story in its own right.

From 1922 to 1924 he did field work for Midwest Refining in the Panhandles of Oklahoma and Texas, in the Mountain States, and in the Permian Basin. In 1924 he became district geologist for Midwest at Abilene and held this position for two years. In December, 1926, he was named district geologist for Phillips Petroleum at San Angelo with responsibility for the West Texas and North Central Texas areas.

From this vantage point he began to do great things for Phillips, laying the foundation for much of the reserves that the company developed in the Basin. In 1933 he went to Bartlesville as assistant chief geologist, and was named chief geologist in 1937. From 1952 to 1962 he was technical assistant to the Vice President of the Land and Geological Department. Directly and indirectly, he thus shared in geological work in the Basin for 38 years.

One of the many major contributions he made was in the locating and drilling of Phillips' No. 1 Glenna, in 1952. This well opened up the deep Delaware and Valverde basins, a development that even today is a strong stimulant to the Basin's economy. He was also involved in acquiring large lease holdings for Phillips in the Goldsmith and Embar fields, and in many others.

Cap Lounsbury is one of those men who – because their judgments were trusted and because of recognized skills – were able to move large corporations into spending many hundreds of thousands of dollars in what have been lost causes but turned out to be very large reserves. He knows the Basin as few know it. It exists today because he and men like him gave it their best, and their best was very good indeed.

## **Do Not Cite**

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: D E 'Cap' Lounsberry 3/17/1971

Recording of 1972 Hall of Fame dinner on Magnetic Tape (2 reels) Dr. S A Wengerd speaker

### **Ralph F. Lowe 1973**

Ralph F. Lowe of Midland had a storybook career, right out of Alice in Oil-Land. Many have called him a business genius, but nothing in his early life would have called forth such a prophesy.

He was born in Lewis County, Missouri, and attended Westminster College at Fulton. He worked briefly for a hotel in Casper, Wyoming, joined Oil Well Supply, and began picking up a little knowledge of the oil business in Augusta, Kansas, and in Oklahoma. In 1927 he was working at Wink, Texas as a machinist. He became a shop foreman, and the successfully operated a service station here in Midland. He became a marketing consignee.

At that point all the threads began to weave together. He had picked up knowledge of machinery and of oil field costs, knew how to sell, and had made friends in the oil business. In 1940 he contracted to drill his first well on the Seth Campbell Lease in Winkler County. In 1941 he bought his own cable tool rig. By 1943 he had drilled 25 wells in Winkler.

From then on the quality of Ralph Lowe's business judgment and great energy showed itself. He was heavily involved in the great Fullerton play. He found extensions of the Denton and Gladiola fields in Lea County. His enterprise brought him a large participation in the Andrews county developments of the 1950's. He had major roles in the Coyanosa Field in Pecos County and in the Indian Basin field of Eddy County. He took out from the Permian Basin to drill successfully in Wyoming and elsewhere.

From 1940 until his death in 1965 he participated in no less than 500 wells in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and New Mexico. It was a phenomenal performance.

It took an exceptional man to build such a record. Ralph Lowe was quick to see opportunities and quick to seize them. He was courageous and industrious. Beyond these qualities, he was intensely loyal to his many friends, always fair, and impulsively generous. His word had the binding nature of a signed contract. His horizons were never limited and he left his stamp and memory on the Basin's oil history as few men have.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Collections: Recording of 1973 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Morgan J Davis speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Charles V. "Cap" Lyman 1981**

Charles Vernon Lyman, a native of Taylor, Texas, must, by any measure, be accounted one of the most successful wildcatters and producers ever to reach the Permian Basin. Indeed, his

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touch, which seemed almost magical to others, grew out of a finely-honed training in engineering plus an ability to see prospects in the flatlands and mesquite groves of Texas. Left fatherless when young, he attended the University of Virginia and also Sewanee. He served with distinction in World War I. Beginning in 1921 he was in the Texas oil business.

“Cap” Lyman was driven by over-flowing energy; and, partly as a result, he opened up important fields in Winkler and other West Texas counties as well as in South Texas. His wide-open personality, frequent laughter, and love of athletics and music brought him friendships throughout the nation. He was a generous giver to the YMCA in Midland, to West Texas Boys Ranch, and to numerous other causes. He was one of the truly early conservationists in the sense that he sought to save and use the tremendous amount of gas being produced from his own wells back at a time when flaring was the usual practice.

He died in 1977 at Phoenix at the age of 83. One who made good things happen, he is fondly remembered by the many who called him “friend”.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1981 Hall of Fame induction ceremony

### **Guy R. Mabee 1989**

John E. Mabee spent much of his younger years farming and ranching in Missouri, Idaho and Oklahoma. Mabee and his bride, Lottie E. Boren, were instrumental in the founding of Randlett, Oklahoma. In 1919 Mabee took a 20-acre lease near Burkburnett. His first two oil wells were gushers.

In 1920 he became a drilling contractor in Walters, Oklahoma, and grew to be one of the largest independent oil well drilling contractors in the Southwest. In 1932 Mabee and his brother-in-law, W.M. Pyle, purchased the 57,000-acre N.A. Ranch that extended across parts of Andrews and Martin Counties. John Mabee died in 1961.

Guy R. Mabee left the farm at Lockwood, Missouri during the Great Depression. Being mechanically inclined, he began working for his Uncle John. Guy purchased John Mabee’s company; it still operates as a production company with its main office Tulsa and a subsidiary in Midland.

Joseph Guy Mabee is the third generation Mabee oil man. He spent 15 years as a toolpusher – during the Snyder oil boom and the Spraberry boom.

Today Joe and his father, Guy, independently operate oil production companies in Midland.

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### **Vaughn C. Maley 1993**

Vaughn Carlton Maley started a career of continued excellence by earning one degree Summa cum Laude from Southwest Baptist Academy and a second one Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Texas. In 1927 he began his forty-four year career with Humble Oil.

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Vaughn's first assignment was as a field geologist in West Texas. During the following six years he made detailed surface maps of over thirteen Texas counties. In 1933 he was promoted to Division Subsurface Geologist.

In 1935 he moved to Midland and became Assistant Division Geologist. After a tour in Mississippi to set up operations in much of the Sough, Vaughn returned as Humble's Chief Division Geologist of West Texas and New Mexico. Vaughn remained in Midland until 1952 when he moved to Corpus Christi as Chief Geologist there.

During World War II he was assigned to assemble and develop figures for actual and potential oil production for West Texas. This data gathering and analysis experience served Vaughn well when he made a major move in 1956 to New York City with Standard Oil of New Jersey. His new job put him in charge of operations in Central and South America including Cuba, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. He also traveled to Iraq, Iran and Europe.

In 1964 Vaughn retired and returned to Midland. He has since served as a leader in numerous civic organizations and on many boards.

Vaughn Maley is remembered as a great oil finder. His geological work either found, or caused to be found, millions of barrels of oil in the Basin and elsewhere in the world. He helped develop the Basin into one of the nation's most prolific oil and gas regions, and helped make humble into the great company it became.

Mr. Maley will also be fondly remembered for the professional pride and loyalty which he instilled into those under him. His sterling character, friendly spirit and modestly earned him the title "gentlemen of the oil patch".

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Vaughn C Maley 1/29/1993 (2 tapes)

Video: 1993 Hall of Fame video of induction dinner

### **Ernest W. Marland 1979**

Ernest Whitworth Marland began life in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1879 and died at Ponca City, Oklahoma, in 1941. In those 67 years his live moved through waves of prosperity and loss.

Marland was graduated form the University of Michigan in 1898 with a law degree, took up work with Guffey and Galey, the pioneer oil firm, and began to teach himself geology. He found his first oil in West Virginia in 1906, made is first million, and lost it in the panic of 1907.

His intense drive took him into the Midwest looking for oil. He formed Marland Oil Company, which ultimately became one of the larger integrated oil companies. When it merged with Continental Oil Company in the late 9120's, Marland lost his leadership of the combined enterprise. Never a quitter, he took up a new career in politics, was elected to Congress and subsequently became governor of Oklahoma.

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Marland became tremendously interested in the Permian Basin in the middle 1920's, put surface mapping parties to work, and was instrumental in a number of major discoveries. Marland Oil was one of the most aggressive developers of the fields near Wink, Texas. He is honored here for this early recognition of the Basin's importance as an oil province and for two innovations that changed oil industry work here and elsewhere: the importation of the seismic methods of exploration in 1921 from Germany (an interest shared with Gulf Oil), and for forming what may have been the first oil company research organization.

Ernest W. Marland was many things to many people. To the oil industry he was a forceful, dynamic innovator of lasting effect.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1979 Hall of Fame induction ceremony

### **Samuel "Sam" Marshall 2007**

Samuel H. Marshall, the third of five children was born July 10, 1899 in Wisconsin. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a degree in geology and continued his studies in petroleum geology at Stanford University. He began working as a geologist in California for Getty Oil in 1925 during the state's early oil development. A major discovery in Artesia created interest in area and Getty sent Marshall to Roswell, New Mexico, where he and the Getty geologists discovered a new field, the Getty Pool.

Sam Marshall and Donald Winston met in Los Angeles in 1926. Winston, a plunger and eternal optimist, was a good balance to Marshall's natural conservatism. Both men's Christian upbringing, personal honesty and integrity gave them a reputation for intelligence and honesty in their dealings.

Marshall and Winston incorporated in 1928 and Marshall was elected president. Even before the first meeting of the company, Marshall and Winston were acquiring interests in promising areas, especially in the Permian Basin. The company also began accumulating mineral and royalty interests based on Marshall's geologic knowledge of the area.

Bill Marshall joined the Marshall and Winston team as its first full-time employee in 1958 when the company's interest shifted to North Dakota. Their first well was drilled where Bill recommended and in 1958 the Portal Field was opened. In 1967, Bill Marshall was elected president of Marshall and Winston and shifted the company's activities from royalty trading into active drilling. From an initial investment of \$60,000 in 1928, today Marshall and Winston operates in Texas, New Mexico, Alabama, North Dakota, Mississippi and Wyoming with interests in over 900 oil and gas wells and no debt.

Samuel Marshall collected southwestern art, donating many pieces to the Roswell Museum of Art. He also worked with water conservation agencies and was a director of the First National Bank of Roswell.

**William S. “Bill” Marshall 2007**

William “Bill” S. Marshall, the second of three children, was born October 8, 1929 in Los Angeles. He attended a country school near Roswell, then the New Mexico Military Institute, graduating in 1947. He graduated from Cornell University in 1951 with a degree in geology. Although he had offers of work in Venezuela, Libya and Madagascar, he enrolled in a master’s program at Columbia University. He graduated in 1954 and went to work for Schermerhorn Company in Hobbs, learning the industry from the ground up.

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Bill Marshall is committed to his community through his involvement with the Midland College Foundation, Museum of the Southwest, and First Presbyterian Church. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

**Joseph C. Maxwell 1975**

Joseph c. Maxwel of Fort Worth was born in Kentucky and, like many others, gained his first oil experience through the Prairie Oil and Gas Company in Kansas. He began as a landman, and, in time, began acquiring leases on his own account.

He was in the Ranger boom and probably took one of those characteristic beatings when it collapsed. He was among the earliest of he West Texas operators, taking leases in Howard County in 1921 after the Westbrook field was found.

He and his brother David were in south Texas when word of the Santa Rita discovery reached them in 1923. It triggered a life-long interest in West Texas’ oil potential. He almost managed to acquire the McElroy Ranch leases. The word “almost” is often an epitaph for oil careers but no so for Joseph Maxwell, for in 1926 he was a key figure in the discovery of the great Church-Fields-University portion of the now-called McElroy Field. His leases, mineral interests, and royalty interests were extensive in the area.

## **Do Not Cite**

His success, no longer an “almost” thing, led him into Crane, Ward, and Winkler counties, and Lea County, New Mexico. He became one of the outstanding independent producers of the southwest. In 1951 he was involved with the discovery of the 5-pay West Dollarhide Field.

Joe Maxwell was, in addition, one of the founders of the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association and, from his home in Fort Worth, gave silently but generously to many worthy causes. A list of his civic activities is long and distinctive.

As with many others, he was not deterred by difficulty. He had big dreams for himself and for the petroleum industry; and he gave them form and substance through dedicated work.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame induction dinner on Magnetic Tape

### **George B. McCamey 1975**

George B. McCamey of Fort Worth enjoyed the distinction of having a West Texas town named for him without ever having lived there. More than that, he drilled almost countless wildcat wells, many successful, in diverse parts of the nation.

Born in Pennsylvania in 1882, he worked as a boy cleaning old oil wells, then began roustabouting and tool dressing. As a very young man he owned his own string of tools, and operated first in Bridgeport, Illinois.

The roster of states in which he helped pioneer the oil business sounds as though it were copied from an atlas: Illinois, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Utah, Montana, South Dakota, Kansas, Kentucky, New Mexico, and Texas.

In 1925 he began drilling the M. L. Baker No.1 in Upton County, four miles from the old Orient Railroad’s tracks. The Orient put in a switch for the convenience of the drillers and stationed a boxcar on it labeled McCAMEY. The town that grew up around the switch took the name. This pleased our honoree – and so did the crude that came from his venture there.

His properties were sold to Atlantic Refining Company in 1943, but he remained an active and highly respected wildcatter until his death in 1960. His connections with the oil business thus covered some 62 years, a phenomenally long time, full of accomplishment.

George McCamey had many philanthropies, including a quiet program for helping old and penniless drillers.

Through this quality of character and through his generous contributions toward providing the nation with energy, he earned a place in the memories of his contemporaries – and of us all.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Robert McCamey 2/8/1971, Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame ceremony on Magnetic Tape

## **Do Not Cite**

### **Francis H. “Mac’ McGuigan 2003**

The late Francis Henry “Mac” McGuigan, employing persistence and his keen sense for geology, discovered the Diamond-M Field in Scurry County in 1949 while district geologist and manager for Lion Oil Company. That field -- considered a “giant” -- has produced more than 220 million barrels of oil.

Born Sept. 30, 1905, in Washington, D.C., McGuigan graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1928 with a bachelor’s degree in petroleum geology. He was married in 1929 to Martha Fuller, who died in 1956. McGuigan then married Fern Green in 1957.

He got a taste of the oilfield while in high school, working for Roxana Oil Co. in Tulsa. After college graduation, McGuigan worked for Shell Oil Co. in San Angelo, Midland and Houston. In 1937, he switched to Lion Oil Co., which sent him to Owensboro, Ky., and Eldorado, Ark., before his assignment to Midland in 1941.

Lion Oil Co. had purchased an oil and gas lease covering the Diamond-M Ranch upon McGuigan’s recommendation years before the discovery, even though Scurry County was considered “dry hole country.” McGuigan properly interpreted the presence of a large limestone reef of Pennsylvania age containing a major oil accumulation. At that time, it was considered an imaginative idea since no fields of this type had been found near Scurry County.

The company agreed to have a gravimetric survey and a limited seismic survey made of the ranch. Finally, the company drilled the No. 2 J.T. McLaughlin discovery well, which was completed Jan. 6, 1949. The company eventually produced more than 40 million barrels from 143 wells.

McGuigan’s work later resulted in approval by the state Railroad Commission for a water injection program in the field. This procedure has significantly increased the recovery of oil from the Diamond-M Field and other similar fields.

In 1955 McGuigan left Lion Oil for a position as independent operator and executor of the P.D. Moore estate. By now, he and his wife were parents to a son, John Fuller McGuigan.

Memberships ranged from professional to civic. They include American Association of Petroleum Geologists, West Texas Geological Society, Midland City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, Midland Symphony Association and Midland Community Theatre. McGuigan died March 5, 1996, leaving behind a reputation for his scientific leadership and integrity.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: John & Fern McGuigan 2003

Video: DVD 2003 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner “Building a Future with Footprints from the Past”



**Edith Whatley McKanna 1991**

Edith Whatley McKanna, of Fluvanna, Texas, served as liaison officer for the Civil Air Patrol to the U.S. Army Corps during World War II. Serving as Captain, she took those years to firm up her plans about West Texas oil. Upon her return to West Texas, she organized the Imperial Oil Company for eastern interests. She took an active role in management, securing leases and visiting drilling sites. She maintained her flying skills. “If the deal was hot, you had to get there,” said Mrs. McKanna, the first Texas woman to solo her own plane.

She organized the Progressive Oil Company and was standing well ahead of other oil operators in the lease department when the Canyon Reef discovery well came in in late 1948.

McKanna was presented a scroll of distinction by Vice President Alben Barkley as one of The Southwest’s Most Distinguished Women in the field of petroleum. She received the first annual McLaughlin Award for outstanding contributions to the oil industry, presented by the Diamond M Foundation, Snyder, Texas. McKanna was a charter member of the Ranch Headquarter Association, named to original Scurry County Historical Commission, and board member of the Scurry County Museum Association. She was also a board member of Western Texas College.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Dane Whatley 3/27/1991

Video: 1991 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner “Footprints in Time”

**Algur Hurtle “Al” Meadows 2007**

Algur “Al” Hurtle Meadows was born in Georgia on April 24, 1899, the third of seven children. Meadows graduated from Vidalia Collegiate Institute in 1915. Meadows began his career as an accountant in 1921 with Standard Oil Company in Shreveport, La. Attending Centenary College at night, he earned his law degree in 1926. In the fall of 1928, he and a friend, Ralph G. Trippett founded a small loan company, the General Finance Company, which became the General American Finance System in 1930. Meadows fine-tuned the famed “ABC financing plan” for financing oil and gas ventures.

In 1936, a merger with petroleum expert J.W. Gilliland created General American Oil Company. The company moved its headquarters from Shreveport to Dallas in 1937 and focused on acquiring and developing properties and new fields in West Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. They bought large reserves in the ground allowing the company to survive the down-turn of the late 1930’s. Under the direction of Meadows, GAO became one of the nation’s largest independent oil companies. Meadows became president and major stockholder of the company in 1941. By 1948, the company had 400 wells producing 7,000 barrels of oil a day. Meadows was elected chairman of the board in 1950 and by 1958 the company had acquired 2,990 oil wells in fifteen states and Canada.

Meadows has always been known for his generosity to people both in business and the community. He instituted group insurance for employees of General American. At GAO, he implemented life insurance and major medical insurance. In the community he set the standard for charitable giving, both in money and in time. Programs in health, education, visual arts, and



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social services throughout Texas were benefited by Meadows generosity. He served on the board of directors of St. Mark's School, Presbyterian Hospital, Children's Medical Center, Hope College and the Wadley Research Center. He was a Mason and a member of the Dallas Citizens Council, University Park Council, the Dallas Art Association and the Dallas Symphony Association. He was also a member of the American Petroleum Institute and the Independent Petroleum Association of America.

His greatest legacy, however, was the creation of the Meadows Foundation. The Foundation is structured to always serve the residents of Texas and, since 1948, has distributed more than \$500 million to almost every county in Texas.

### **William A. "Monty" Moncrief 1999**

A partnership for life that involved mutual respect, trust and admiration describes the relationship between William A. "Monty" Moncrief and his son, William A. "Tex" Moncrief, Jr.. The elder Moncrief was born with an uncanny sense for the oil business. Son "Tex" learned the business from what he calls the best mentor in the world. Moncrief Oil Company is known for its prolific oil and gas discoveries in major fields; Monty credited part of it to luck and part to hard work.

William A. "Monty" Moncrief was born August 25, 1895, in Sulphur Springs, TX. His family moved first to Checotah, OK and then to Ponca City, OK where he graduated from high school. After serving in World War I, Monty returned to Ponca City and to a job in the accounting department with Marland Oil Company. He soon realized money was being made in the land department and became a scout. Monty worked his way up to executive vice president of Marland Oil Company by the time he was transferred to Fort Worth. In 1929, he left the company to join the ranks of independents. Moncrief's luck struck with the drilling of the Frank K. Lathrop No.1, a discovery well in the East Texas field. While he had his share of dry holes, Monty also seemed to have an innate sense for what would be a good prospect. Moncrief Oil played significant roles in the Conroe, Hastings, Cayuga and Rodessa fields. In 1946, a farmout from Humble on some land in the Cedar Lake Field in Gaines County resulted in nearly 50 producing wells. In 1949, Monty decided to drill in Scurry County and offered his golfing friends, Hollywood stars Bob Hope and Bing Crosby, a chance to partner with him. They jumped in. After one dry hole, Moncrief Oil drilled 28 straight wells which turned into the billion-barrel SACROC field. On May 21, 1986 Monty died in his office with his boots on and in the arms of son Tex.

William A. "Tex" Moncrief was born March 20, 1920, in Little Rock, Arkansas and grew up in Fort Worth. At the age of 10, he witnessed the Lathrop No. 1 coming in and told his mother, "I want to be an oilman." After graduating from University of Texas with a degree in petroleum engineering, and serving in World War II, Tex returned home to work with his father. Tex became his dad's constant ("we were like two peas in a pod"), and by the late Forties was making deals on his own. He struck his own incredible find in Wyoming's Madden Field, "a long-life field." Timing also played a role in 1973 when Tex and his father bid the highest price for gas acreage in the Permian Basin on leases in Winkler County. Soon after came the Arab oil embargo and the price of gas shot upward.

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The Moncrief name is associated with several areas of philanthropy, primarily in health and education. Monty set the precedent of donating money to hospitals in towns wherever his company was drilling. He donated to facilities such as Texas Christian University, All Saints Hospital, the Moncrief Radiation Center, Lene Pope Home and Country Day School and All Saints Episcopal School. Monty and Tex were major benefactors for TCU's Moncrief Hall. Monty was a member of nearly every professional oil organization and received numerous awards, including Distinguished Service Award from Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association. Tex has contributed to M. D. Anderson in Houston, the University of Texas Southwest Medical School in Dallas, and served as a regent on The University of Texas System. In 1998, he was named a Life Member of the M. D. Anderson Board of Visitors.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: W. A. Moncrief 2/19/1971 (2 tapes)

Video: 1999 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **Wm. A. "Tex" Moncrief, Jr. 1999**

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### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Tex. Moncrief 2/23/1999 (4 tapes)

Video: 1999 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **Stanley C. Moore 1981**

A writer once noted that Stanley Moore, while attending Rice University in 1937, flew on Sundays with the National Guard, took a correspondence course on becoming an officer, managed the Rice bookstore, worked at night for Houston's electric company, and courted his wife. He took a cut in pay when he got his first job with Hughes Tool as an engineer.

He has made a profession of listening to rig hand's complaints and suggestions. He has made a career of finding the technology that would solve their problems. In 1952 and 1953 he founded and named Drilco, a company that has been peculiarly responsive to the technical needs of the oilman. Stanley Moore imbued and inspired it with his own traits of service and hard work and then brought those same characteristics to the Smith International organization after Drilco became a part of Smith.

It has been said of him that ideas he brought to the industry have save it hundreds of millions of dollars.

He has been extremely generous to Rice University and to a very large number of non-profit organizations in Midland and elsewhere. He has given himself, his cheerful personality, and his wonderful enthusiasm to friends and associates throughout a marvelous life that merits far more tributes than can here be said.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1981 Hall of Fame induction ceremony

## **Do Not Cite**

### **William D. Noel 1983**

The unique and trusting partnership between these two men, never sealed by anything more than liking and handshakes, created enormous good for the city of Odessa and the Basin at large.

Bill Noel, after early wildcatting, bought into Earl Rodman's supply company, and the two of them began a successful career in oil exploration over the southwest. There followed a truly astonishing series of ventures.

The partners went into the gasoline plant business as Odessa Natural Gasoline Company. From this expanding enterprise the two of them launched the petrochemical complex in southeastern Odessa that created hundreds of jobs and pumped needed substance into the city's economic lifelines. It took some eight years to bring the first notion through the firming-up process that finally put the complex under construction in 1956. The plants made the Basin a factor in the petrochemical business.

Rodman and Noel branched into banking, ranching and a multitude of other enterprises, great and small. They spurred the area's symphony and a score or more of other civic organizations and have smoothed the living in West Texas.

Sometimes separately but more often together, these two changed the lives of many for the better. Earl Rodman is no longer with us, but the two of them – in the best of meanings – still are.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1983 induction dinner Peter Flawn Speaker, W D 'Bill' Noel 6/1975, 5/12/1980 (2 tapes)

### **Joseph I. O'Neill, Jr. 1997**

Joseph I. O'Neill, a leader in oil and gas exploration in Texas and New Mexico, was born in 1914 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The eldest of nine sons, he earned his way through Notre Dame, graduating in 1937. Joe married Catherine Mary Cummings in 1940. In 1949, after making two preliminary trips to Midland, Joseph decided to move his family to Midland where he would launch his new career with William P. Castleman, Jr. O'Neill borrowed \$5,000 and the two men set themselves up in business as lease brokers.

One of their initial buying orders sent them to Scurry County after the original Canyon Reef strike. As drilling activity increased, they used their profits to purchase leases for themselves. O'Neill and Castleman drilled their first well in June, 1949 and developed working interests in 35 wells in the Canyon Reef trend. The partnership was dissolved in December 1950 when Castleman moved to Dallas. Joseph continued to operate as an independent, participating in the drilling of more than 750 wells by 1976.

During his career, Joe conducted exploration activities in more than 23 Permian Basin counties. He was also a leader in oil and gas exploration in New Mexico with extensive interests in Lea,

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Eddy, Chaves and Roosevelt counties. Significant oil and gas interests were also developed in California, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Canada.

Joe gained wide respect for his reputation as a leader in the petroleum industry. He was elected the first president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association in 1962. He also served as a Trustee of The Petroleum Museum and led fundraising campaigns during the Museum's formative years.

Summing up Joe's life, a business associate wrote, "Throughout the boom and bust period of the oil business, Joe retained his stature, objectivity and sense of fairness to all." Joseph I O'Neill, Jr. died August 11, 1991.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Joe I O'Neill III 3/26/1997

Video: 1997 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Stars over Midland"

### **Robert L. Parker 2007**

Robert L. Parker was born July 13, 1923 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He graduated from the University of Texas in 1944 with a petroleum engineering degree. With WW II underway, Parker joined the Army after college, spending the rest of service in Germany. Once home, Parker went to work for his father's company, Parker Drilling as a roughneck, driller and toolpusher. He moved to Midland in 1948. Eighteen months later, he returned to Tulsa and in 1954, at the age of 31, he purchased Parker Drilling from his father.

Parker had created a successful niche for himself by the mid 1960's in the deep drilling market. While other companies headed offshore, Parker stayed on land, setting records for deep drilling. His company played a major role in the discovery and development of most of the deep gas fields in the Delaware Basin, while building a reputation for integrity.

Parker's company also pioneered helicopter transportable rig technology, patenting rig designs known as the Heli-Hoist, the TBA (transportable by anything), and the AT-2000 Series. Today, Parker operates 80% of all heli-rigs in the world. During the 1970's and 1980's, Parker Drilling developed improved technology for drilling in the rigid conditions of Alaska and the Arctic. Parker Drilling went public in 1969 on the over-the-counter market and moved to the New York Stock Exchange in 1975. The company acquired OIME, a research and engineering firm located between Midland and Odessa and evolved it into a research and manufacturing arm of the company.

The company marked several firsts in the 70's and 80's. In 1977, the world's largest rig was delivered to Kuwait, drilling the deepest test well to date in the Middle East. In 1980, Parker Drilling was the first American land drilling company to be awarded a contract in China. In 1981, the world's largest drilling rig, the Parker 201 was built for Exxon. And in 1991, the company announced Rig 245, an environmentally sensitive rig designed for use on Alaska's North Slope. Parker Drilling was also the first western company to be asked to work in the Soviet Union.

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In 1996, Parker Drilling ventured offshore in the Gulf of Mexico, Peru and Nigeria. The company recently designed an earthquake-proof rig, environmentally sensitive to the gray whales off the coast of Japan.

Parker was pulled into politics when he met Ronald Reagan and was asked to chair the U.S. Energy Policy Task Force. Parker hosted many meetings between government and industry leaders at his Kerrville ranch.

Over the years, Parker has been a member of numerous professional organizations, served on community boards and supported universities, museums, hospitals and the Methodist church. In 1979, he was selected as a University of Texas Distinguished Alumnus. He received the Gold Medal for Distinguished Achievement by the American Petroleum Institute in 1999 and the Waggener-Griffin Award in 2001. He was also awarded the God and Country Award from the Boy Scouts of America in 2001.

### **Robert W. Patterson 1975**

Robert W. Patterson scouted the Permian Basin as few did, so long and so well. He was also a landman, staff coordinator, and, finally, a banker, public relations officer and supporter of civic affairs. In all of these pursuits, he earned and kept the respect of innumerable people.

He came to Midland in October, 1926, when Gulf Oil first established its district office here. His task was to report on oil developments in the many thousands of square miles which encompassed the Basin. He had to know about leasing, prices paid for leases, and the logging records of wells being drilled and of formations encountered.

Somehow, in rickety Fords and noisy Dodges, Bob Patterson covered his country. He bounced over endless miles of poor roads, some of them driven at night. He stepped around rattlesnakes and knew how to count, through field glasses, the strings of pipe in a “tight hole” to learn at what depth a wildcat was drilling.

No man was better known, better liked, and more respected among the oil fraternity in the Basin. At a time when scouting combined a need to gather intelligence and to make competitors like it, he was among the best of a great group.

Some people think of corporations as huge masses of capital and people. People who knew Bob Patterson thought of Gulf Oil in quite a different way. He was “Mr. Gulf” and through him the company he represented was given a better, more personal, and higher reputation.

He retired from Gulf in 1959, and from Commercial Bank and Trust Company in 1964. His death occurred in 1964, leaving lasting memories of a good man and true.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame induction dinner on Magnetic Tape



## **Do Not Cite**

### **Neville G. Penrose 1975**

Neville G. Penrose of Fort Worth has been one of the most aggressive wildcatters of the Permian Basin. He first came to West Texas in 1928 and in 1932 started operating independently.

Possibly his most noted discovery, out of many, was the Cary No.1, drilled in 1935, in what became known as the Penrose Field. It was later consolidated with the Skelly Field.

However, he also found important fields in Andrews and Upton counties, Texas, the Drickey Queen Field in Chaves County, New Mexico, and the Brunson Ellenburger Field in Lea County, New Mexico.

A native of Philadelphia, Neville G. Penrose has lived in Fort Worth for many years. During that time his reputation as a successful entrepreneur and energy-seeker has grown steadily.

Equally as distinguished has been his service to his nation and the cause of international understanding. Years ago he became interested in improving and maintaining good relations between people of the United States and their fellowmen in Mexico and the Central and South American countries. He served as chairman of the Good Neighbor Commission, and through his personal means he has made notable gains in fostering people-to-people contacts with the Latin American nations.

It is typical of the man that he titled himself a “Grass Roots Diplomat” in a book he wrote.

Diplomat and wildcatter he certainly has been, but his distinguished career barley bespeaks the forceful and farsighted leadership and character he has brought to Texas and the petroleum industry over the years.

### **Supporting Media Collections**

Oral History Interviews: Nevill G Penrose 10/12/1970, Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Magnetic Tape

### **B. J. “Joe” Pevehouse 1997**

Joe Pevehouse, the son of a retired Shell oilman, was born during the wake of the oil boom in Ranger, Texas November, 1925. As founder of Adobe Oil Company, he exemplified the highest standards of excellence in dedication and leadership to both the oil industry and the community.

Joe was a part of the oil patch all of his life. Armed with a geology degree from Texas Tech University in 1948, he began his petroleum career as a geologist for Bay Petroleum. Joe joined Permian Corporation as vice-president of production in 1957. In April of 1960, he left Permian Corporation and organized the Adobe Oil Company, one of the most successful independent oil companies in the nation. Adobe Oil Company became Adobe Oil and Gas Corporation in 1973 when it went public. When a stock brokerage firm questioned why it should push Adobe stock instead of a major oil company, Joe explained, “because I can double the size of Adobe”. He did indeed double the size of the company the next year, proving Joe’s leadership capabilities.



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Joe led Adobe through the height of the oil boom of the 1980's and through the crash that followed. When other companies were rushing to get into the business, Joe ordered his company to cut spending, reduce debt and sell some of its producing properties. Adobe emerged from the shaken and shattered industry as a shining example of a leader's foresight. In 1985 Adobe Oil and Gas Corporation merged with Madison Resources of New York, an investment company wanting to expand into oil and gas operations, and became Adobe Resources Corporation. Today the corporation is engaged in oil and gas exploration, development and production, management of oil and gas properties, and natural gas processing. It also has interests in Africa, Ecuador and Canada.

Joe's accomplishments earned him numerous awards including United Way's Midland Alexis de Tocqueville Society award, the first award given by the Midland chapter for outstanding and dedicated service to his community. He also received the Cavazos award given by the Texas Tech Ex-Students Association for contributions to the Excellence of Texas Tech. Joe served on the Texas Tech Board of Regents from 1979 – 1985 and in 1986 gave one million dollars to establish and endow the Adobe Chair in geosciences. He was also honored by the Texas Legislature as a prominent leader in the Texas oil and gas industry. B.J. "Joe" Pevehouse died in June, 1992 in Houston, Texas.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Mrs. B J Pevehouse 2/3/1997

Video: 1997 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Stars over Midland"

### **Frank Phillips 1991**

Frank Phillips and his brother, L. E., began drilling for oil near Bartlesville, Oklahoma, in 1905. This venture led their way to a string of more than 80 producing wells. Frank and L. E. later branched out into banking by organizing the Citizens Bank and Trust Company.

With the onset of World War I, the Phillips brothers organized the Phillips Petroleum Company. In ten years Phillips expanded the production of oil, gas and natural gas. This facilitated the opening of natural gas liquid extraction plants in West Texas which helped make Phillips the world's largest producer of natural gas liquids by the late 1920's.

Phillips Petroleum's activities in Texas fields led to the drilling of three record depth wells in Texas (two in the Permian Basin); also, one record depth was reached in the North Sea.

Phillips was enthusiastically interested in the future of aviation. He supported early test flights which led to Phillips Petroleum Company's high-octane aviation gasoline program during World War II.

In recognition of his fair dealing and interest in their welfare during the Company's drilling activities on Osage Indian lands, Phillips was the only white man ever to be made an official Chief of the Osage tribe.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Video: 1991 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner “Footprints in Time”

**Frank T. Pickrell 1968**

Frank T. Pickrell, now of El Paso, was intimately associated with the Permian Basin’s legendary “Santa Rita” well. It was he who helped find the financing for it, he who hired Carl Cromwell as a driller for it, and he who found markets for its oil and for the oil that followed it, from nearby wells.

He was born in Ennis, Texas, in 1890, and was a successful businessman in El Paso before serving in Army Intelligence during World War I.

After the war, a chance encounter on a train with a former Army colleague led him toward his place in oil history. Rupert Ricker of San Angelo told him and Haymon Krupp of some exploration permits on University of Texas lands Ricker held in Reagan, Crockett, Upton, and Irion counties. Pickrell and Krupp, with others, acquired the permits and both met set out to raise additional funds. They were successful, and Pickrell took over the task of getting the first well drilled.

For perspective, this was the rankest of wildcats, far from supply bases, drilled on not much more than a shoestring. In 1923, this Santa Rita well – named for the patron saint “of the impossible and of desperate cases” – found oil. It was not the first oil well in the Basin, but it was the first to convince everyone that oil in quantity was to be found here. Ultimately, it was to create a fund for University of Texas development that would make the University one of the largest and best in the nation.

Frank Pickrell later admitted he did know what an oil well did or looked like at the time the Santa Rita was drilled.

Nevertheless, he and many of his colleagues associated with this famous well took fame from it. None deserves it more than Frank Pickrell, who saw what might come from the attempt, and who gave it his best and considerable talents. The myths and legends already gather around the Santa Rita. Frank Pickrell, the real man, is equally memorable.

**Supporting Media Collections**

Oral History Interviews: Frank T Pickrell 3/22/1968, 8/1968, 8/21/1969 (3 tapes), 12/17/1969, 9/2/1971 (4 tapes), Recording of 1968 Hall of Fame induction dinner (2 tapes)

Magnetic Tape Recordings: 1968 Hall of Fame induction ceremony, 82-5.1 Pickrell interview

**Wallace E. Pratt 1969**

Wallace Pratt’s modesty is so well known that I hesitate to say what I know should be said about him. He might well mount a Humble tiger and disappear in the direction of Tucson before we get to hear him.

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However, he was born in Phillipsburg, Kansas, in 1885 and received his bachelor's and master's degrees in geology from the University of Kansas. He became Humble Oil's first geologist in 1918. He was in charge of Humble's geological work until 1928. Subsequently he held management jobs in Humble. Later he became a director, member of the executive committee, and a vice president of Standard of Jersey. He retired in 1945.

It was largely under Wallace Pratt's leadership that the Humble Company became the very large factor in the Permian Basin that it is today. He did the original geologic work that led to the Bronte Field. The reef problem in the Guadalupe Mountains was attacked by Humble geologists under his active interest and encouragement.

It has been said that Wallace Pratt raised the profession of petroleum geology to an eminence and a dignity which it would not otherwise have attained. His many accomplishments on behalf of his company and his profession earn him our regard.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Wallace Pratt 3/18/1972 (2 tapes), Recording 1969 Hall of Fame induction dinner Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **John J. Redfern, Jr. 1987**

John J. Redfern Jr. is honored for his aggressive development in the exploration and royalty business and for his civic leadership.

John was born in New Jersey in 1912 (he later referred to himself as a "native Texan from New Jersey"). After graduating from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as an engineer, he decided that the oil business looked interesting so he moved first to Oklahoma to learn about the business, and then to Midland.

John first traded in royalties or served as a broker for larger oil deals, then formed a partnership with Harvey Herd. He later developed his own firms, Redfern Oil and Redfern Development and merged them with Flag Oil to form Flag-Redfern Oil. He later organized Pennant Oils Limited (Canada), merging it into Pennant-Puma Oils, Ltd.

John worked hard, not only for himself, but for his community and his industry. He testified before Congress on behalf of the oil industry, served on the hospital board for over two decades, was "Outstanding Young Man in Midland," the holder of an honorary doctorate from a and a Trustee of Rensselaer University, and held numerous other positions of responsibility and service.

John J. Redfern Jr. died in 1986 while on a business trip.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Video: 87-39 1987 Petroleum Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

**Sid W. Richardson 1969**

Sid Richardson was born in Athens, Texas, April 25, 1891. He attended what is now Hardin-Simmons University and Baylor, but left school to begin the career we recognize tonight.

Sid Richardson was at Ranger and Burkburnett, but made his first discovery in the Basin at the Keystone field in Winkler County in 1929. He was involved in the development of the Slaughter Field. Another milestone was the discovery of the Halley Field in Winkler County in 1956. He had close ties in Monahans and Kermit.

He undertook natural gasoline and carbon black ventures in West Texas, moved his wildcatting into Louisiana, acquired a refinery at Texas City, became interested in ranching, radio, and politics. He had a premier patent position in the development of underground storage facilities in salt formations, among many others.

Sid died in 1959 after placing most of his assets in a philanthropic foundation.

He was one of that rare breed of wildcatters who wrote oil history through daring ventures no one else would undertake. His organizational skills were many. His deeds were exceptional. Yet on a personal level he always commanded the loyalty of a host of friends and was in turn loyal to them.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

**Myra Brown Robinson 2005**

Myra Brown Robinson becomes the second woman ever elected to the Petroleum Hall of Fame. Since 1982, the Robinson Drilling of Texas has drilled more than 1,300 wells totaling more than 11 million feet. Robinson has been credited for excelling in the male-dominated oil business due to her intelligence, hard work, persistence and ability to adapt to its constant change. She is one of the few women in the United States to head an oil drilling company.

Robinson was born in Fort Worth on December 20, 1919. She graduated from Colorado City High School and attended University of California at Los Angeles to become a teacher. However, the Depression sent her home and she soon found employment with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In April 1942, she married Robert "Bob" Robinson.

After her husband's accidental death in 1972, Robinson had to learn the business overnight with help from loyal employees. She managed to keep their doors open when other contractors were closing their businesses. Soon afterward, the Arab oil embargo hit and oil prices soared. When the crash hit in 1982, Robinson Drilling of Texas pulled through. Over the years, she also kept up with changing technology, going from nitroglycerin shoots to 3-D seismic.

Robinson is known for her energetic leadership, strong character, fiscal responsibility and belief in the company's employees. She has served the boards of the Salvation Army, Schreiner

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College, Permian Basin Petroleum Association, The Petroleum Museum, Samaritan Counseling Center, Howard College Foundation and Big Spring Area Community Foundation. When the Presbyterian Church allowed women to be elected church officers, she was in the first class of elders that included women.

She was also the first woman selected to receive the Top Hand Award. In Big Spring, she has been named Woman of the Year and received the Ethics in Business Award. She helps deserving students with college tuition and provides seed money to help organizations and small businesses.

Robinson navigates through the male dominated industry with integrity, persistence, and most of all, grace.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Myra Robinson January 25, 2005

### **James T. Robison 1969**

The story of James Thomas Robison began with his birth in Cass County, Texas, September 30, 1860, and ended with his death on September 8, 1929. During thirty years of his life he served in the General Land Office of Texas, first as a clerk, next as a Chief Clerk from 1900 – 1908, then in November, 1908 he was elected to serve, and after taking the oath of office on January 11, 1909, he continuously served as Commissioner of the General Land Office, State of Texas, to the day of his death.

His administration of the State public school lands was marked by sincere regard for people who purchased land, as well as concern for the State's financial welfare in connection with land it had sold. His plans for lease sales of land, for the governing of mineral operations on State lands and for regulating payments to the State school funds and to the University of Texas were adopted and are now an integral part of West Texas development and prosperity. It was due to many of his farsighted suggestions that the University of Texas and the State public school funds have the envied financial positions that both, respectively, now enjoy. Mr. Robison was equally well known in the Permian Basin of this State and whose possession thereof was threatened by drought conditions that enveloped the area during the 1920's.

Mr. Robison, the school teacher, the legislator, the University of Texas law school graduate of 1899, and the Land Commissioner, lived to see his plans for the proper handling of the public school domains confirmed by the Supreme Court of Texas into established land law. He died on September 8, 1929 and was entombed by the bodies of a son and a daughter who had predeceased him. His devotion and dedication to justice and duty, his indomitable spirit and his humanity and humility endeared him to the people of Texas.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

## **Do Not Cite**

### **Earl G. Rodman, Sr. 1983**

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### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1983 induction dinner Peter Flawn Speaker

### **Joe G. Roper 2003**

Starting with one rig in 1955, an oil field salesman and a roughneck transformed their company into one of the most successful independent oil companies in the nation and one of the largest drilling companies in Texas.

When Tom Brown and Joe Roper formed their partnership neither envisioned the scope of what would become Tom Brown Drilling and, today, TMBR Sharp Drilling Co.

Joe Greer Roper was born July 15, 1928, in Henrietta. After graduating from Midway High School and attending one semester at Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, Roper headed into the field as a roughneck. He served in the U.S. Army from 1941-1945.

Thomas Clark Brown was born Jan. 11, 1927, in Bowling Green, Ohio. After graduating from high school, he joined the Navy in 1944. After his discharge, Brown attended Tulane University. He left after his junior year for a job with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Akron. In 1949, he transferred to Wichita Falls, where he met the man who would become his lifelong friend.

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Brown, managing the Goodyear distributorship, also was selling rubber goods to Halliburton and Smith bits on commission. He called on a Jack Grace Drilling Company rig in late 1953 to sell bits and there he met the morning tour driller -- Joe Roper. The driller ran one of Tom's bits and it made a record run.

In 1955, Brown found backers for him and Doyle Scarber to purchase a trailer-mounted drilling rig. Roper was hired as daylight driller. Brown eventually bought out Scarber, and Roper took over supervision of all operations for the firm now known as Tom Brown Drilling Company. Headquarters were moved to Midland in late 1957.

By 1959, the company's rig fleet had grown to four, although none was paid off. Roper wrote a check and became half owner of the company. Growth continued and by 1969 it became one of the first companies in the Permian Basin to be publicly traded. When the company expanded into oil and gas exploration and production, the name was changed to Tom Brown, Inc. During the mid-1970s, the firm extended its holdings to the Rocky Mountains with a discovery well in Wyoming.

After the economic bust of the 1980s, the company was restructured and the drilling operations spun off as TMBR Drilling Co. Brown was chief executive officer of Tom Brown, Inc., while Roper served as CEO of TMBR Sharp. Tom Brown, Inc. became solely an exploration and production company. At one time with a rig count of 52, TMBR Drilling was one of the largest drilling companies. Roper ran TMBR/Sharp Drilling until his death Jan. 26, 2001.

Over the years, the company brought millions of dollars and hundreds of jobs to the Permian Basin. Today, the firm is one of the state's leading independent oil companies with 130 million cubic feet per day of gas production and 5,600 barrels per day of oil production.

Brown married Sammie Angela in 1989. He has two children, Thomas C. Brown, Jr., and Nancy Spadafora. His numerous memberships include Independent Petroleum Association of America, International Association of Drilling Contractors, All American Wildcatters, Midland College Board of Trustees, United Way, West Texas Rehabilitation Center, West Texas Boys Ranch and Texas Research League. He has received the Texas Railroad Commission Pioneer Award and Hearst Newspapers Lifetime Achievement Award.

Roper married Julia Johnson, who died in 1989. He died in January 2001. They have four children: Judy Kathleen Roper Davis, Joe Mark Roper, Patricia Ann Roper Elledge and Jeanie Elisabeth Roper Cornelius.

Among his memberships are International Association of Drilling Contractors and Permian Basin Oil Show Board of Directors. In 2000, he also was honored with the Hearst Newspapers Lifetime Achievement Award.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Joe Roper's Children 2/17/2003 (2 tapes)

Video: DVD 2003 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner "Building a Future with Footprints from the Past"



**Arch H. Rowan 1979**

The Rowan brothers – Arch and Charles – were products of East Texas. They were raised to young manhood at Alvin, Texas, roughnecked for Humble Oil, and learned the sweet scent of oil at Mexia. In 1923, when the Powell field boomed near Corsicana, the brothers formed Rowan Drilling Company.

Rowan Drilling became one of the largest drilling firms in the oil business, pioneering in technology and outlook. In the Permian Basin it was one of the early ones, especially in the Wink and Big Lake areas. Accompanying this rapidly expanding drilling enterprise was Rowan Oil Company, a sister company formed in 1948 that moved with speed and imagination into the Basin and many other parts of the southwest. Its assets later became a major part of the Texas Pacific Coal and Oil Company.

Rowan Drilling has been transformed into Rowan Enterprises, Inc., of Houston, where it is now one of the major international drilling companies.

Not only were Arch and Charles Rowan free enterprisers of a classic kind, they were beloved leaders in their adopted city of Fort Worth, givers of time and money to good causes, stimulating to know, and setting examples for their colleagues in and out of their business. We recognize them as much for the kind of people they were as for their business achievements.

Charles L. Rowan died in 1961 at the age of 70. Arch H. Rowan died in 1975 when 80 years old. Their accomplishments in the drilling and wildcatting areas were remarkable. Just as much so were their respective characters and basic goodness to others.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1979 Hall of Fame induction ceremony

**Charles L. Rowan 1979**

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### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1979 Hall of Fame induction ceremony

### **Robert W. Russell 1969**

Robert Warwick Russell, who is with us here tonight, represents the great supplier branch of the oil industry as well as the American tradition of craftsmanship.

He was born August 7, 1885, at Parker's Landing, Pennsylvania, the son of a Scotsman who opened his own machine shop in Parker's Landing in 1879. At the age of 13 Bob left school to learn his father's trade. At a later time in Burgettstown, Pennsylvania, the Russells helped build the first gas engine to power a drilling rig successfully. Soon they were manufacturing them. Still another shop was opened in 1905 in West Virginia.

In 1935 Bob Russell opened a machine shop in Monahans, Texas. He and his people labored over steam equipment, and pounded away during the night hours welding stems for drilling contractors. Twenty-four hours a day they worked to keep the often worn but always badly needed drilling equipment in operation.

In 1966, after more than 80 years of service to the oil and gas industry by three generations of the family, the Russells sold their Monahans shop and Bob retired. He represents at its best the tradition of hard work and of dedicated devotion to his craft and his colleagues that have made the supplier portion of the industry so valuable a part of it.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Paul O. Sill 1995**

Paul Otis Sill, born in Michigan in 1883, headed for Texas in 1902 to work on the Galveston sea wall.

Talk of oil and money lured him to Humble, Texas in 1904, and at the age of 21 Paul began his lifetime career of rig building, first as a foreman and later as a contractor.

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He worked in Spindletop's second boom, followed the boom to Sour Lake and Batson and to the Oklahoma oil fields of Drumright, Cushing, and Pawhuska. He threw his hat into the political ring in Pawhuska serving as its city manager and then as elected mayor.

In 1925 Paul was hired by the Marland Oil Company and asked to move to McCamey, Texas, to build rigs. After settling his family in San Angelo, he worked in the McCamey district and built over 100 rigs. That was the era of wooden derricks, when timber was trucked to the field by mule teamsters for the rig builders to measure and cut. Mid-Kansas Oil and Gas Company (now Marathon Oil Company) hired Paul to build the rig for the Yates' oil field discovery well. His expertise was used for most of the discovery wells throughout the Permian Basin.

Wooden derricks were replaced by steel derricks during the twenties; his talents remained in demand and he continued building rigs throughout the Permian Basin of West Texas and Southeastern New Mexico.

He retired from rig building in 1968 and died in 1977.

His wooden and steel derricks stand as sentinels, casting his shadow over the landscape of this vast petroleum empire. Paul Otis Sill is remembered and honored for his role as a premier rig builder in the southwest and the Permian Basin.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Paul O Sill 3/23/1970

Video: 1995 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **William G. Skelly 1979**

William Grove Skelly was the son of an oil teamster, and the sight and sounds of drilling were part and parcel of his boyhood experience. He was born near Erie, Pennsylvania, in 1878, learned about oil in Oil City, and began a remarkable career as an industry pioneer, philanthropist and civic leader.

He was a determined man, and his determination was to build an oil business of his own. At the age of 26 he hit oil for the first time. Soon he was moving into the Mid-Continent region, wildcatting and jumping hard wherever the plays began. Bill Skelly was a factor, and a large one, in such legendary booms as Electra, Desdemona, Burkburnett and Ranger. In the Permian Basin, his Skelly Oil Company helped create the great fields of Winkler County and influenced oil development elsewhere through one of the larger field offices in the region.

Bill Skelly not only built his own oil company but integrated it vertically and made it one of the industry's commercial dynamos in Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas and other states. It is now a valued and major part of Getty Oil Company's domestic operations in the mid-part of the nation.

Skelly, as with so many other oil men whose contributions to the public good are seldom recognized, gave untiring leadership to a multitude of causes in Tulsa and other places. He was generous in his giving, both of himself and of his resources. He seized on new technology, such

## **Do Not Cite**

as early radio and aviation, and helped move them within reach of the public at large. He was, in short, more of a giver than a getter. His death in 1957 deprived us of his companionship but not of the permanent and impressive example he set for us all.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: William G Skelly 4/11 – 12/1957, recording of 1979 Hall of Fame induction ceremony,

### **Hazen P. “Cap” Slagel 1972**

If you were looking for somebody who is bone and flesh of the oil business as it once was, you would stop hunting with H. P. Slagel, who has lived and breathed it nearly all of a long life.

He was born in Mason City, West Virginia, in 1895, and as a boy helped his father drill and produce brine wells. He was a Wells Fargo messenger in Atascosa County, Texas; served as a captain with the 36<sup>th</sup> Division – and picked up his nickname of “Cap”; worked in the Ranger, Texas, oil field; and then showed up in Colorado city in 1919. Any one of those experiences was enough to make a man out of you.

Cap Slagel worked as a tooldresser or driller on many of the more important Mitchell County wells. These wells, together with the flurry around Toyah a little earlier, brought the eyes of the nation’s oil people to the Permian Basin for the first time.

Cap was on the Morrison No.2 well, which was the second and best of the early producers in the Westbrook Field in 1922. He was involved with the Sloan-Miller No.1, which extended the Westbrook and was a major producer. He was on the Chalk No.1, which found the Chalk field in Howard County.

Today’s modern equipment makes exploratory drilling easy, or at least look easy. What we have today, though, was built on the muscle and skill of men such as Cap Slagel. What they learned about drilling and about the rocks beneath us are part and parcel of the technology we are using now. More importantly, they left a big tradition of determined manhood that has been with oil people ever since.

Cap Slagel has also been an independent producer and was involved in the Ira Field in Scurry County and wells on the Foster Ranch near Iatan. Take it all together, and you find he has been engaged in some phase of the oil industry continuously since 1919, which is well over 50 years. There are not many that can match that record, and there are not many that can match the example that H. P. Slagel has set for all the rest of us.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: H P ‘Cap’ Slagel 12/5/1969, Recording of 1972 Hall of Fame dinner on Magnetic Tape (2 reels) Dr. S A Wengerd speaker

### **Samuel A. Sloan 1972**

Sam A. Sloan was what might be called a both-barrels pioneer. On the one hand he was a key figure in developing some of the very earliest oil production in the Permian Basin. On the other, he laid some of the groundwork for the aviation industry in the Southwest – an industry that has become a major customer for the petroleum industry.

He was raised in Altus, Oklahoma. During World War I he flew combat in France for the Army Air Corps and gained a love of flying that lasted to the minute of his death. After the war, in 1919, he went into the oil business at Colorado City. His first well on the Landers Ranch was dry but reached 4,008 feet which was quite a well for those days.

In the early 1920's Sam Sloan shared in a series of significant wells. In some of these he partnered with Steve Owen of Tulsa or with other men, and in some he was alone. These included the discovery well in the Chalk Field in 1926, and a very early and major well in the great Dora Roberts Field in 1926 – 27. He drilled one of the first wells in Loving County and a substantial number in Mitchell, Reeves, and Taylor counties. Taken as a group, these show that Sloan was one of the earliest and most active of the oil operators in the Basin.

He made a substantial amount of money from these ventures, and he used much of it in attempting to get the American public to forget their Model T's and look to the skies. He was instrumental in establishing the first airports at Midland and Fort Worth, and the Midland field was later named for him. He was working on establishment of a Fort Worth – El Paso commercial service at the time of his death.

On January 1, 1929, Sam Sloan, who had become a Midland resident, flew his plane to Colorado City. He circled the Country Club at 25 feet altitude and waved at his friends. Moments later he was dead in a crash.

It has been 46 years since Sloan died. He was a bachelor, and today is survived only by a sister whose health did not permit her to join us. He might have sailed on to the far sky of forgotten men, but his selection brings him here tonight, with us.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Recording of 1972 Hall of Fame dinner on Magnetic Tape (2 reels) Dr. S A Wengerd speaker

### **Levi Smith 1985**

Levi Smith was well known wherever oil was produced in the nation and in foreign fields. His greatest venture, however, was as Big Lake Oil Company's President in West Texas' first oil company town – Texon – *The Touchstone of the Permian Basin*.

Born in 1869 in West Virginia, he married Lucy Parriott in 1892 and worked as an oil field building contractor. He was associated early with the Benedum-Trees oil interests in Illinois, Louisiana and in Mexico. As their emissary he traveled worldwide – Columbia, Venezuela and Romania. When Transcontinental Oil Company was organized in 1919, he headed for Desdemona, Texas.

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When Santa Rita No. 1, the West Texas wildcat, began flowing May 28, 1923, Texon Oil and Land Company's Frank Pickrell contacted Benedum-Trees for financial aid to develop the field, but Trees refused to accept the offer. Levi Smith had obtained a leave from Transcontinental, and on his own had traveled to Texas and spent several weeks from June to August watching the well's performance. Armed with sand and oil samples, he then persuaded Benedum-Trees to act quickly on the project. Bit Lake Oil Company and its holding company, Plymouth Oil, were established in October, 1923.

Levi Smith, President of Big Lake Oil, began a vigorous drilling campaign in the field, coming to West Texas with his family to take charge. He chose the Orient Railway boxcar site of Texon as the town for his employees and families. Unyielding in making Texon a model law-abiding town, he personally supervised building Texon's homes on wide streets, a public school, union church, hospital, theatre and a boarding house and bunkhouses for single men and included polo grounds, tennis courts, a golf course and a baseball field. Texon was a unique experiment – the first company town, or camp, in the Permian Basin.

Smith was responsible for the Yates field discovery well. Transcontinental held a large block lease on rancher Ira Yates's land. Smith gave his friend, rancher Ira Yates, his word that if Transcontinental did not drill an oil test, he would personally drill it himself. Transcontinental dealt with Mid-Kansas Oil, a subsidiary of Ohio Oil, and on October 29, 1926 the Mid-Kansas Transcontinental No. 1-A Yates – *The Queen of the Pecos* – blew in.

Levi Smith died suddenly July 10, 1932 and was buried in Cameron, West Virginia.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony "All our Yesterdays" (2 tapes)

### **Joseph C. Trees 1970**

The lives of Michael L Benedum and Joseph C Trees were so intertwined that we here found it difficult to separate their accomplishments. We therefore cite them in the way they saw themselves – as partners and fellow adventurers in the great game of oil discovery. Both men were products of the West Virginia oil boom of the 1890's. Mr. Trees was an operating man, an engineer and an expert in drilling. Mr. Benedum had a flair for finances and for assessing risks. Their talents were different and their personalities were different, yet they worked smoothly together throughout their lifetimes and each was willing to let the other go it alone if he so chose. Their partnership lasted until Mr. Trees died in 1943. Mr. Benedum died in 1959 at the age of ninety. He had then become a legendary figure, mixing in the early days of the industry into the computer age of today.

During all of those eventful years, Benedum and Trees found more new oil in more new places than anyone can imagine. They found major fields in Illinois for the first time. They discovered the Caddo Lake Field in Louisiana and Mr. Trees himself developed ways to overcome the tremendous gas pressures that were found there. There followed an unparalleled series of petroleum finds all over the world. They together found oil in Canada, Colombia, Mexico,

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Romania, Texas, Venezuela and elsewhere. Whoever it was that coined the word “wildcatter” was bound to have had them in mind.

Together or separately, and under different company names, they did great things in the Permian Basin at times when no one knew whether this area was to be a freakish flash in the oil pan or be one of the large producing areas of the world. In 1926, an answer came once and for all. Before then, there was a belief that the Pecos River probably marked the western limits of petroleum deposits in Texas. It took courage to present the arguments that brought a series of wildcats into Pecos County and into the area now known as Iraan. Wells were drilled in a venture with what is now Marathon Oil Company. Those wells were dry. Even more courage was required to order the rig moved onto the Yates ranch, a full sixty miles from the nearest production in Bit Lake. But this move and that well established the existence of oil in tremendous quantities. The Yates field remains a star in the Texas Oil crown and is one of the greatest fields ever found in the United States.

Much more could be said of Mr. Benedum and Mr. Trees and of the great influence they had on the petroleum industry, not only in this region, but in other places as well. It is thought to be enough to see them as representing a special breed of men who grouped their way through uncertainty to find oil. The nation and the world needed oil in great amounts. Without the independent explorers such as Mr. Trees and Mr. Benedum – men who were willing to risk everything to meet that need – we would all be the poorer. If we do not see their like again – and we all hope that we do – then the petroleum industry will have lost forever a bit of its soul.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording 1970 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Judge Brewster speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Allen K. “Moose” Trobaugh 1997**

In 1954, the consulting firm of Beal, Trobaugh and Associates (BTA) was formed. A one room office located in the basement of Midland’s Crawford Hotel served as the company’s first office for a partnership that spanned nearly twenty years.

Carlton Evans Beal was born in Los Angeles, California in 1914. The son of a geologist and discoverer of the Kettleman Hills field in California, Carlton was born into the oil business. He received his master’s degree in petroleum engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June of 1937. As WWII broke out, Carlton was employed by Richfield Oil Company. Because his job was considered part of an essential industry by the government, he was put on loan by his employer and became a member of the Engineering Committee for the Petroleum Association for War under the Interior Department for the western states. After spending four years handling data on oil reserves, Carlton decided to operate as an independent consultant, drilling his own wells.

Allen K. “Moose” Trobaugh was born in October, 1919 in Springfield Georgia. His college education began at Clemson College in 1937. WWII interrupted his plans and Moose joined the U.S. Army Air corps. He was awarded several honors during WWII including the Distinguished



## **Do Not Cite**

Flying Cross and the Silver Star. Following the war, Moose continued his education at the University of Southern California, receiving his degree in 1948 in petroleum engineering.

It was during this time that Carlton Beal and Allen K. “Moose” Trobaugh met. “Moose” was an “A” student of Carlton Beal’s at the University of Southern California after the war. Beal recruited Trobaugh for his new oil company. He needed a “bright young man” who was “not afraid to work”. The alliance between them eventually spawned the successful oil company of BTA, formed in 1964. Their partnership was perfect for each other: Carlton handled the land and geology and Moose did the drilling and field operations. Nearly 1500 wells have been drilled by BTA. Its loyal investors recognize that their successful track record of low risk drilling operations is due to the strength of their basic geology and geological analysis. Although Trobaugh left BTA in 1965, the two men participated in drilling operations until Trobaugh’s death in 1984. Carlton Beal continued to successfully steer BTA until his death in 1994. Both Carlton Beal and Moose Trobaugh lived lives of achievement in the petroleum industry and were especially involved in the interests of Midland and its youth.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Melba Trobaugh 3/14/1997

Video: 1997 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner “Stars over Midland”

### **Fred Turner, Jr. 1975**

Fred Turner, Jr., of Midland, brought to the Basin’s oil industry tremendous determination, outstanding business faculty, and an uncanny ability to see the unseeable beneath the earth’s surface.

Born on a ranch in Coleman County, Texas, in 1896, he early dressed tools and learned about drilling. In April, 1927, he came to Midland as a scout for Marland Oil Company.

Shortly afterward he found what he believed to be a vacancy in the great Yates Field in Pecos County. Early-day surveying occasionally left such unsurveyed lands, and Fred Turner, Jr. found one and drilled it in 1933, after some classic litigation. It proved to be one of the greatest producing wells in the United States.

He pushed ahead with a discovery in Lea County, New Mexico: the West Lovington Field. There were others, in the Shafter Lake San Andres Field, and the Parker Wolfcamp and Parker Pennsylvania – all in Andrews County, Texas. He was active in Ector County and in many other Texas counties as well as in San Miguel County, Colorado.

As a successful oil operator, he might have been content, but his boyhood memories and natural bent took him into the ranching business as well. He raised fine cattle and thoroughbred horses, and distinguished himself in these Texas pursuits as well.

It was, in fact, while on his pecan farm near Brownwood, Texas, that he died, in February, 1964.

## Do Not Cite

His and Mrs. Turner's spacious home in Midland now houses the Museum of the Southwest, the result of a family gift. His memory, however, is housed in the minds of many who remembered him as one of the foremost builders of the Basin.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame induction dinner on Magnetic Tape

### **Charles D. Vertrees 1985**

The Permian Basin petroleum industry was in its infancy when Charles David Vertrees was hired as a geologist by Marland Oil Company at San Angelo in 1925. His productive life paralleled the industry's development in this oil province.

Born in Linn County, Kansas in 1899, his family moved south to the Texas border town of Brownsville where Charles graduated from high school in 1918. To finance his college education he headed for Mexico's oil fields to work as a truck driver. In one year's time he earned enough for his education. He returned to the States, graduating in 1923 from The University of Texas at Austin with a B.A. degree in geology. He returned to Mexico as a geologist for the East Coast Oil Company at Panuco. He married his college sweetheart, Eloise Faulkner, who also graduated as a geologist.

They returned to the States to San Angelo in 1925 where Marland Oil Company hired him as a paleontologist. Marland merged with the Continental Oil Company and in 1929 continental reduced its San Angelo office staff from 28 geologists to two to cut costs – Charles D. Vertrees was one who stayed. In August, 1929 he moved to Midland as District Geologist in Continental's office in the newly-opened Petroleum Building.

He had attended the first San Angelo Geological Society meeting January, 1926 and was a charter member of that group that later became the West Texas Geological Society. He served as a president in 1935. He was elected Honorary Life Member in 1957. He authored the *History of the West Texas Geological Society*, published in 1973.

He witnessed many changes in the Permian Basin's oil industry. His area included 56 West Texas and 16 New Mexico counties with only wagon roads and cow trails to follow in the early days. It was not unusual to experience four flats a day, the opening and closing of many gates on ranches where he blazed new roads, and to aid errant cows giving birth to their calves.

Continental Oil Company and "Charlie" Vertrees are credited with the Todd Ranch field, the Elkhorn Ellenburger Field, the Wasson Field and the Slaughter field, among many others. From 1926 until 1958 he served Continental, rising to Regional Research Geologist. He retired in 1958 and opened a geological consulting office in Midland, where he now resides.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Abell, Haigh & Vertrees (3 tapes) 2/2/1971, Charles D. Vertrees 5/12/1970 (2 tapes), 7/23/1980 (2 tapes), 1/27/1982, 3/5/1985

Recording of the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony "All our Yesterdays" (2 tapes)

### **Cyril “Cy” Wagner 1999**

On April Fool’s Day, 1962, two men pooled their financial resources, which came to not much more than \$0, and formed a partnership that has lasted 37 years and evolved into one of the most successful independent oil and gas companies in the country. Through their talent and sheer determination, Cy Wagner and Jack Brown have transformed a one-rig company into the multi-faceted corporation known as Wagner & Brown, Ltd.

Jack E. Brown was born August 16, 1925, in Brownsville, and graduated from high school in San Antonio. As a young boy, he started his career selling magazine subscriptions, then advanced to working as a newspaper carrier for The San Antonio Express-News. He served with the U.S. Army during World War II, and after graduating from Texas A&M University with degrees in petroleum and mechanical engineering, he started a job with Drilling & Exploration Co. His resume includes positions with Bridwell Oil Co., in Alice and with Texaco in Venezuela. When he returned to the States, Brown came to Midland and signed on with J. E. Jones Drilling Co., where he was to meet Cy Wagner.

Cyril Wagner, Jr., was born February 15, 1934 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and grew up there. He graduated with a degree in geology from the University of Oklahoma and went to Midland for his first job with Amerado Petroleum, where he worked as scout and geologist and developed his talents as an oil finder. Later, he joined J E Jones Drilling and met Jack Brown.

With Wagner as the geologist on wells, and Brown as the engineer, the duo found they worked well together. Wagner eventually suggested the two become independents along with Deane Stoltz as landman. They started with a “popcorn drilling rig” built by Brown and the company deepened wells in the Clearfork, going down to the Spraberry Trent. Then Wagner saw a chance in the New Mexico Bagley Field to re-enter wells and put them in production. Led by Brown’s problem-solving engineering, the company developed the Burro Pipeline and completed 60 wells. Eventually, Stoltz left to run another company, leaving Wagner & Brown to pursue other endeavors. They successfully developed the highlight Field and Muddy Play in the Powder River Basin of Wyoming, and the largest drilling program ever of the Conger (Penn.) Field in Sterling and Glasscock Counties. Wagner & Brown, Ltd. is the operator of more than 600 wells in the area that have produced more than 11 million barrels of oil and 265 billion cubic feet of gas. Wagner and Brown have been recognized by their peers for their accomplishments, and received the Top Han Award from the Permian Basin petroleum Association. The duo has made significant contributions to their respective universities and to the numerous philanthropic and educational endeavors in the Permian Basin. Texas A7M University is the home of the Jack E. Brown Chair in Engineering. Wagner has received the University of Oklahoma’s Distinguished Service Award, and OU established the Lissa and Cy Wagner Professorship in Geology and Geophysics. It has been said that these two men “epitomize the entrepreneurial spirit, dedication, and perseverance that are hallmarks of truly great industry leaders.”

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Cy Wagner 2/22/1999 (2 tapes)

Video: 1999 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

**Herbert Earl Ware, Jr. 2009**

C.O. Ted Collins, Jr. and Herbert Earl Ware, Jr. both graduated from the University of Oklahoma: Collins in 1959 with a B.S. in Geological Engineering and Ware in 1954 with a B.S. and a M.S. in Geology. They both had brief careers with major oil companies before becoming partners in 1969 with American Quasar. Running exploration from Midland, Texas, their partnership flourished by finding or developing several Deep Delaware fields. In 1982, Collins was named President of HNG Oil Company in Midland while Ware elected to go independent and manage their partnership's interest. The two men invested in numerous wells by independents across the Permian Basin and Rocky Mountain regions.

In 1988, Collins and Ware reunited to form Collins & Ware, Inc. Within twelve years, the company grew into one with over 1 TCF of proven reserves, over 100 employees and assets of over \$500 Million. Operating over 500 wells in the Permian Basin, South Texas and Rocky Mountains, Collins & Ware utilized 3-D seismic as an exploration tool. Ware passed away in 2001, leaving behind his legacy as a geologist and as a benefactor of the Midland community.

**Johnny R. Warren 2009**

Born on August 14, 1936 in Houston, Texas, Johnny R. Warren attended the University of Texas, graduating with degrees in engineering and business. He was transferred to Midland, Texas, while working for Southwest Industries as an oil industry equipment salesman. He then worked for Wilson Supply and Mission Manufacturing, enlarging his network of industry contacts and selling compressors to industry majors like Texaco.

In 1971, Warren became general manager of Compressor Systems, Inc. (CSI), a subsidiary of Treanor Equipment Company. Warren expanded the business to include compressor fabrication and packaging units to companies producing natural gas and also selling compressor packages overseas. In 1981, Warren established Ignition Systems & Controls, Inc. (ISC) to repair or manufacture certain natural gas engine parts. Warren then purchased Treanor Equipment Company in 1985 after the untimely death of Jack Treanor. Despite the oil industry downturn in 1986, Warren used his resolve and creativity to purchase unused equipment and convert them to other industries.

Warren has also been a benefactor in the area, for instance, helping to raise \$6 Million for First Presbyterian Church and to bolster the diesel mechanics program at Odessa College. At the time of his death, Warren was Chairman of the Board and President of Warren Equipment Company, which had three operating subsidiaries.

**Charles Weiner 1989**

Sam Weiner, known as "Skipper", emigrated from Latvia to America where he worked in the Pennsylvania coal mines before entering the oil fields in Corsicana, in 1898. After a brief stay in El Dorado, Arkansas, he moved to the boomtown of Wink where he established the Westerly Supply Company. By this time his eldest son, Ted, had entered the oil field. Ted and "Buck" Sturm drilled the first commercial oil well in the Royalty Field. The Weiners drilled the Monroe

## **Do Not Cite**

Field discovery well near Barstow and the linkage well between Langley and Mattix Fields near Jal, New Mexico.

In 1943 Texas Crude was established by Ted and later joined by his brothers, Stanley and Charles. Texas Crude was responsible for over 100 major discoveries in the Permian Basin. They promoted and drilled the discovery well in the Tex-Harvey Field, Midland County's first commercial producer.

The Weiners were also among the first independents to use the "carried interest" concept in financing oil and gas operations.

After the Korean War, Charles opened an office in New Orleans while Stanley headed drilling operations in West Texas. Sam "Skipper" Weiner died in 1958; Stanley died in 1969. Ted was organizing a new company when he died in 1979. Charles is Chairman of Texas Crude, Inc. in Houston, with offices in Fort Worth, Midland and Calgary, Canada.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Charles Weiner (4 tapes)

#### **Sam Weiner 1989**

Sam Weiner, known as "Skipper", emigrated from Latvia to America where he worked in the Pennsylvania coal mines before entering the oil fields in Corsicana, in 1898. After a brief stay in El Dorado, Arkansas, he moved to the boomtown of Wink where he established the Westerly Supply Company. By this time his eldest son, Ted, had entered the oil field. Ted and "Buck" Sturm drilled the first commercial oil well in the Royalty Field. The Weiners drilled the Monroe Field discovery well near Barstow and the linkage well between Langley and Mattix Fields near Jal, New Mexico.

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#### **Stanley Weiner 1989**

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### **Ted Weiner 1989**

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### **Van Stratton Welch 1969**

Van S. Welch was 88 years old when he died in 1969. During his long lifetime he both saw and participated in some of the most exciting days of the oil industry.



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He drilled his first well at the turn of the century in Allegany County, New York, where he was born. Later, with Thomas Flynn, he drilled the discovery well at Wyoming's Elk Basin Field. He drilled in Illinois and at Burkburnett in Texas.

In the early 1920's Van Welch, along with Tom Flynn and Martin Yates, undertook three wells in the Pecos Valley near Artesia, New Mexico. They sold acreage to raise a little money and promised their drilling crew part payment in oil.

The third of their wells was Illinois Producers No. 3, and it found oil. It was completed June 29, 1924, and opened up the great southeastern New Mexico fields. Van Welch and his partners thus were chief instruments in enlarging the Permian Basin's production toward its westward limits.

Van Welch was a citizen of Artesia from 1930 until his death. Among his philanthropies was the establishment of college scholarships for students in each of the three major ethnic groups in his home community. Both personally and as a noted wildcatter he represented the finest qualities of the industry.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Recording of 1969 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Wallace Pratt speaker on Magnetic Tape

### **Fred A. Wemple, Jr. 1995**

Fred A. Wemple, Jr., pioneer oil marketer, highway builder and civic leader, was born in Bonham, Texas in 1892. He studied engineering at New York University and law at Georgetown University. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War I.

He moved with his wife, Edith, to Midland from East Texas in 1923. He opened Midland's first drive-in service station, the Ever Ready Filling Station, on the northeast corner of North Loraine and West Wall Streets. As a wholesaler for Magnolia Petroleum Company (The Flying Red Horse), he operated his first service station for the next 34 years, closing it down in 1957 to make way for progress.

At the time of Fred's move to West Texas, the roads were in terrible condition and the area was booming with oil field activities. Fred reasoned that the marketing of petroleum products was directly related to the amount of good roads. He dedicated himself to establishing the network of roads that ultimately enhanced the explorations and development of the petroleum industry in the Permian Basin. Good roads were an absolute necessity to accommodate the scouts, landmen, surveyors and other oil personnel as well as the general public.

Fred's unique vision was soon recognized in Austin and he was appointed to the Texas Highway Commission as a member from 1947 until 1953. He served a chairman of the Commission for two years. As chairman he launched an approved Midland's Big Spring Street underpass and cut the ribbon at the forma opening.



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He served as director and a member of the executive committee and president of the Texas Good Roads Association. He was recognized as the single person most responsible for the development of the great highway system envied nationwide that serves the oil industry and the State of Texas so well.

Fred A. Wemple, Jr. died September 29, 1967.

An innovative roadside park on Interstate 20 East of Midland was completed and dedicated to this man. The network of highways in the Permian Basin is a lasting monument to Fred Wemple, Jr. who dedicated 44 years of service to the people, the State of Texas and the nation.

This Petroleum Hall of Fame member was a builder of excellent highways – highways that changed and enhanced the Permian Basin petroleum industry.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Lucille Wemple 3/28/1995

Video: 1995 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **Clayton W. Williams, Sr. 1987**

Clayton Williams Sr. was a true son of West Texas, born in the officer's quarters of old Fort Stockton in 1895.

The son of an early day judge and surveyor, Clayton graduated from Texas A&M University as an engineer. After working for mining and power companies and as a surveyor, he joined Texon oil and Land Company, Group No. 1. His work was so impressive that Clayton was put in charge of the engineering, geology, and land departments despite his lack of training as a geologist, landman or petroleum engineer. While working for Texon's Group No.1, Clayton recommended the successful drilling of the University 1B, then the deepest well in the world.

Clayton left Texon's Group No. 1 to work on his own as an engineer, oilman, businessman and public servant. He settled in his hometown of Fort Stockton, serving as a Pecos County Commissioner for eighteen years.

Clayton's greatest legacy to West Texas was as a historian, preserving the region's history through his books and service to several historical societies and museums.

After a life as a miner, soldier, farmer, rancher, engineer, oilman and historian, Clayton Williams Sr. died in 1983.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Clayton W Williams, Sr. 2/17/1970 (2 tapes), 4/9/1975, 6/1/1983 (2 tapes)

Video: 87-39 1987 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

## **Do Not Cite**

### **Clayton W. Williams, Jr. 2005**

Oilman, farmer, rancher, financier, telecommunications executive, entrepreneur, and teacher, these are only a few of the words that describe the multi-faceted man that epitomizes West Texas. Despite the many business ventures Clayton Wheat Williams, Jr., has undertaken over the years, his heart still beats strong for the professions that gave him his start: farming, ranching, and oil.

He was born in Alpine, Texas on October 8, 1931 and grew up in Fort Stockton. As a graduate of Fort Stockton High School, he attended Texas A&M University and graduated in 1954 with a Bachelor of Science degree in animal husbandry. Upon graduation, he served in the U.S. Army.

In 1957, he and friend John May started May and Williams, an oil and gas company. In 1959, the duo drilled a successful well in Coynosa. From that well, he started a natural gas company and planted the seed of Clajon Gas Company, founded in 1961, which became the largest individually owned gas company in the state.

In the mid-1970's, Williams made his biggest strike. The Gataga No. 2 well blew in with such force that the nearby town of Mentone had to be evacuated. It became one of the largest wells in the Permian Basin, producing 32 million cubic feet of gas per day. Williams was now one of the top natural gas wildcatters in Texas and in May 1993, he took Clayton Williams Energy public on the NASDAQ stock exchange where it is currently trading.

In early 1998, Clayton Williams Energy's oil production continued to rise as a result of drilling long, record-breaking laterals and soon after established a world record for horizontal length drilled in a 24-hour period. Williams has organized many other companies including WilGas Company, NGL Service Company, Natural Gas of Mississippi, Century Royalty Company, Williams Ranches, Williams Brangus, Williams Farms, ClayDesta Corporation, ClayDesta National Bank, Hunters Africa, ClayDesta Communications Company, Warrior Gas Company, Maverick Mud Service and W&G Partnership.

Among the numerous honors he has received are Outstanding All – American wildcatter, Champion of Free Enterprise Award, Golden Plate Award from the American Academy of Achievement, Petroleum Association's Top Hand Award, Texas A&M Dean's Service Award from the College of Business Administration, Hearts Corporation Energy Award, Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Member, and Independent Cattlemen's Outstanding Leadership Award. He founded the 200 Club in Midland, and is a member of Midland Chamber of Commerce, Permian Basin Petroleum Museum and Museum of the Southwest.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Clayton Williams Jr. 4/7/1974, Clayton Williams, Jr. 3-2-3005

Video: DVD 2005 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner, DVD video of 2005 Hall of Fame ceremony

### **Harvey E. Yates 2005**

The Yates Brothers, as they are called, could not stay away from the business in which they had been raised. In their own unique style, they continued and expanded Yates Petroleum. Harvey, Martin II, better known as “Bitsy,” Saint Clair Peyton, better known as “S.P.” and John have pioneered their own oil ventures, wildcatting and risk-taking enterprises while working for the collective interests of the parent company started by their father, Martin Yates Jr., in the early 1920’s.

They have developed some of New Mexico’s largest, most significant fields and built a solid reputation for leadership in the petroleum industry. Their discoveries include the Grayburg-Jackson field, Loco Hills, Dagger Daw, Empire Abo, Eagle Creek, Penasco Draw, Pecos Slope Abo and dozens of Morrow gas fields. Their search for oil and gas has taken them into Texas, the Rocky Mountain states, offshore and overseas.

The Brothers individual awards and accomplishments are a testament to their father’s undying spirit and optimism. They and their family members have been the force behind Yates Petroleum and other Yates’ companies, guiding their future beyond Artesia’s city limits and New Mexico’s state boundaries to incorporate a world of opportunities. The Yates’ lives have always been filled with uncommon experiences. From surviving a tornado to hanging on against fierce winds of regulatory adversity, the Yates have stood together. Each son inherited the Yates’ dominant characteristic – persistence mixed with a genetic defect – a love for the oil business.

Harvey Emmons Yates was born in Artesia on July 6, 1910. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Oklahoma and a master’s degree in geology from the University of Texas in Austin. He first worked in the oilfields in the 1920’s as a roustabout and tool dresser. His first discovery, the Travis No. 1 in 1939, opened the West Loco Hills field. He founded HEYCO, a drilling company which had its headquarters in Roswell.

He was a board member of Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA) and held offices in Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico (IPANM), the Geological Society, Boy Scouts and Rotary, along with serving on the First National Bank of Artesia board. He was a recognized wildcatter (Wildcatter of the Year, 1990 IPAMS award) who paved the way for many successful independents. He died in April 19, 1999.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Yates Family 1/26/1993 (2 tapes)

Video: DVD 2005 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner, DVD video of 2005 Hall of Fame ceremony

### **John A Yates 2005**

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John Ashby Yates was born in Artesia, New Mexico on August 10, 1929. He studied economics at Dartmouth College then returned to Artesia to work in the oil business. It was John who encouraged the Brothers to operate together as an entity – Yates Petroleum. Evolving from the Martin Yates Estate, which only held interests in other companies but little to operate, the company began operating wells. Today, Yates Petroleum has more than 400 employees and operates 5,000 to 10,000 wells. The company is the largest lease holder in New Mexico.

John's determination led to the finding and developing of Pecos Slope Abo Field, an area overlooked by log experts who believed it contained salt-filled sand and no natural gas. He drilled more than 400 producing wells in several years, marking his success as a wildcatter.

He has served on the National Petroleum Council and is a member of the New Mexico Oil and Gas Association, Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico, American Petroleum Institute, Roswell Geological Society and has been inducted into the All American Wildcatters Association. The IPAA awarded him Chief Roughneck of the Year. He also received an honorary doctorate from the New Mexico State University.

John was always conscious of the continuous need to find new oil & gas sources while protecting the environment. He is a willing teacher to man, valuing family, friends, and dedicated employees. He is caring, upright and just a good ol' boy.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Yates Family 1/26/1993 (2 tapes) , John Yates 2/11/2005

Video: DVD 2005 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner, DVD video of 2005 Hall of Fame ceremony

**Martin “Bitsy” Yates, III 2005**

The Yates Brothers, as they are called, could not stay away from the business in which they had been raised. In their own unique style, they continued and expanded Yates Petroleum. Harvey, Martin II, better known as “Bitsy,” Saint Clair Peyton, better known as “S.P.” and John have pioneered their own oil ventures, wildcatting and risk-taking enterprises while working for the collective interests of the parent company started by their father, Martin Yates Jr., in the early 1920’s.

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Martin “Bitsy” Yates, III was born in Mexico, Missouri on August 12, 1912. He attended the University of Texas in Austin as a law student before returning to the oil business in Artesia. His first wildcat venture with his father and Ira C. Dixon resulted in the discovery of the Loco Hills Field. He built a road by hand to the drill site and his discovery sparked an unprecedented drilling boom.

Bitsy worked with S.P. as a roustabout at Illinois Camp and the two became known for pulling rods out of a wall at an alarming rate. When the two later became successful independent operators, they were known as the Gold Dust Twins. He was an optimist and helped bridge the gap between the drillers and mud loggers in the field and employees in the office. During the mid-80s oil bust, Bitsy opted to drill about 100 wells keeping many rig hands working through lean times.

Bitsy started MYCO Industries, his own oil and gas entity in Artesia, while remaining a part of Yates Petroleum. He also was involved with Basset-Birney Oil Corporation, Dixon and Yates, Nix Oil Co., Witherspoon and Yates Oil. His professional affiliations included Independent Petroleum Association of America and New Mexico Amigos. Many described him as a contagious optimist who was civic minded and supportive of his employees. He had a great sense of humor and always had a joke to tell. Bitsy died in August 1985.

**Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Yates Family 1/26/1993 (2 tapes)

Video: DVD 2005 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner, DVD video of 2005 Hall of Fame ceremony

### **Martin Yates, Jr. 1993**

Martin Yates Jr. grew up in Missouri, edited a newspaper, heeded the call for adventure and headed west to Artesia, New Mexico, to homestead. There he eventually formed a real estate partnership called Yates and Dooley.

Traces of oil in artisan (flowing) water wells west of the Pecos River induced several oilmen to drill in the area. Yates and Dooley invested in some of the wells but the unstoppable water flow in the wells ruined oil production.

Yates felt that moving further east, across the Pecos, the water problems could be avoided. He approached Van Welch, manager of a partnership which was about to pack up its drilling rig and head back east. They worked out a partnership (Flynn-Welch-Yates). Yates acquired huge amounts of cheap leases and a drilling crew that would work for part-cash and part-leases. The first well they drilled discovered oil and gas but not enough to consider a success.

The partnership moved further east for the next well. This well discovered a huge gas deposit, but there was no market for gas. Yates let his wife Mary pick the next drilling site based primarily on her intuition. The well came in! Martin Yates had discovered an oil field almost 300 miles west of the closest successful oil well.

Yates along with partners continued drilling wells, built a pipeline and a refinery and found new fields. In 1928 they found not oil but potash. Their discovery eventually created what were for many years the biggest potash mines in the world.

Martin Yates and his children stayed in the oil business, steadily expanding southeastern New Mexico's oil horizons and production. The Empire Abo field, found in 1957, was proclaimed that year's major oil discovery in the United States.

Martin Yates died in 1949. His descendants remain successful and active in the petroleum industry. Due to his foresight, industry and leadership, Martin Yates Jr. is considered the "Father of the New Mexico Oil Business."

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Yates Family 1/26/1993 (2 tapes), Martin Yates III 1/22/1970

Video: 1993 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner

### **S. P. Yates 2005**

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S. P. was born in Artesia on September 19, 1914. He graduated from Artesia High School and attended the University of Texas in Austin where he earned bachelors and master's degrees in chemical engineering. He attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology one year before returning to Artesia to work in the oil business.

Over the years, he pioneered new technology in drilling and water control. After the discovery of the Empire Abo field, S.P. started a new technique with air drilling, which was used throughout the Permian Basin. Working with his younger brother John, he believed that techniques could be found for dealing with overproduction of water in Dagger Daw. They worked out a new process, and the two men earned awards for their water-control development. He successfully drilled hundreds of wells and in 1959 founded Yates Drilling Company.

Today, he remains as chairman of the Board and Director of Yates Petroleum Co., and Vice President and Director of Yates Drilling Company. He has served in numerous positions with New Mexico Oil and Gas Association, Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico, Independent Petroleum Association of America, TEAM Bank of Dallas and the Boy Scouts.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: Yates Family 1/26/1993 (2 tapes), Peyton Yates 2/11/2005

Video: DVD 2005 Hall of Fame video for induction dinner, DVD video of 2005 Hall of Fame ceremony

### **Wilbur A. Yeager, Sr. 1975**

To some people, the word "pioneer" means covered wagons and Indian attacks. In the case of Wilbur Arthur Yeager, it means coming to Midland in 1926 when the down had 3,000 people and almost that many windmills.

"Yeag" was born in Alexandria, Missouri, attended the University of Missouri, and served as a flyer in what was to become the U.S. Air Force in World War I. Immediately after that war, he signed on with Prairie Oil and Gas in Oklahoma; he has been in the oil business ever since.



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It cannot be said as a firm, fully proved fact, but there is reason to think that Arthur Yeager was Midland's first oil man. San Angelo was still the capital of the small but growing Permian Basin oil industry at that time, but it was to Midland that he came, bag, baggage, and bride, for Patsy Yeager joined him here immediately after their Oklahoma marriage in November, 1926.

From Prairie Oil to Sinclair and then into the ranks of the independents – such was Arthur's career history. His partner in the quest for oil has been James M. Armstrong, himself a distinguished geologist and engineer. Together, they have – over a tremendously long and productive career – helped shaped the Basin's industry. Today, almost 50 years after his arrival in the Basin, Arthur Yeager still is active, still is among those seeking the new discovery, as he was in 1926.

In one way or another he has been associated with almost everything worthwhile that has happened in Midland during all those years. Everyone knows him or knows of him. He is a kind man with his priorities in order and his hat on straight.

He deserves the high regard in which all men hold him – and the congratulations we now offer.

### **Supporting Media Collections:**

Oral History Interviews: W A Yeager 12/14/1979, Recording of 1975 Hall of Fame ceremony on Magnetic Tape

**Nominees to the Hall of Fame**

**A – L: Lateral File 14 Drawer D**

Alan “Dan” Auld, Sr., William S. Barnickel, Roy G. Barton, William F. Baxter, The Beal Brothers (Carlton E., Barry, Spencer, Kelly), W. R. Berger, Sr., Carl O. Bizzell, William Henry Black, Jack Evans Blake, Robert C. “Bob” Bledsoe, Herbert F. Boles, Frank T. Brahaney, Al Buchanan, Finis D. Breedlove, Marcellus Douglas Bryant, Gene Weldon Butts, John S. Callon, Emery and Stanley Carper (team), Robert G. Carr, Charles W. Chancellor, Jimmy Charlton, Carlos Louis Chase, Russell C. Conkling, William Henry Conkling, Grover Conrad, Henry and Horace Cook (team), Hugh “Hap” Corrigan, Joshua S. Cosden, John B. Coulter, John Cox, Dr. Paul B. Crawford, W. Frank Dameron, Elmer Decker, A. W. “Al” Dillard, Jr., Nash James Dowdle, Donald G. Dunbar & Robert F. Imbt (team), Harry Raymond Eaves, W. T. “Bill” Edwards, Riley Ford Farris, J. C. “Bill” Ferguson, Ernest M. Funkhouser, William Knox Gordon, Myrle Greathouse, H. J. “Hank” Gruy, B. Frank Haag, Quillard Lamb “Shorty” Hall, Steven Patrick ‘Steve’ Hannifin, Emmett Vincent Headlee, M. D., Herbert A. “Bert” Hemphill, Clarence E. Hinkle, Richard Delmon Hodges, Alvin Hope, Theodore “Ted” Houck, Fred Hyer, I. W. “Ike” Hynd, Charles O. Ice, Curtis ‘Curt’ Inman, Arland Irvin Innes, Wallace W. Irwin, Lee Jones, Jr., Sol Kelly, Harold Kersey, William C. Kimball III, John Zay Kimberlin, Sr., William B. “Bill” Lane, Dr. Walter B. Lang, Jim C. Langdon, Franklin L. Le Bus, Sr., Charles Vernon Lee, Lewis C. Link, Dee Locklin, James R. “Nick” Luttrell

**M – Z: Lateral File 13 Drawer A**

William Earnest Mapp, Albert A. Mattei, O. H. McAlister, George B. McBride, Troy Avery McCarty, I. C. “Bill” McCormick, Clarence Thurston McLaughlin, Joe B. McShane, Jr., Hamilton McRae, Manual “Dee” Mills, Bascom L. Mitchell and Joe Gifford (team), Jeff Morris, Lee Wayne Moore, Frank Mosing, William Hugh Munn, Mark B. Murphy, Lloyd and Sam Noble (team), Jerome J. O’Brien, Stephen Samuel Owens, Dr. A. E. Pardue, Hal C. and Josie “Sweetie” Peck (team), John Roby Penn, William Y. Penn, Vincent C. Perini, Jr., John W. Peery, Clarence C. Pope, Russell J. Ramsland, Edward Everett Reigle, Dr. Walter O. Rehmeyer, George A. Reese, L. G. “Dusty” Rhodes, J. Cecil Rhodes, William D. Richardson, Rupert P. Ricker, French Martel Robertson, L. W. Sandusky, Clarence Scharbauer, Sr. and Clarence Scharbauer, Jr. (team), Burl Self, Albert Martin Schiemenz, Conrad and Marcel Schlumberger (team), P. A. “Punk” Sheets, Harry F. Sinclair, Robert E. and Vivian L. Smith (team), Donald Luther Sparks, Charles Spence, William H. Strang, Clifton Lee Thomas, John W. “Skipper” Thomas, A. W. Thompson, James C. Thompson, Clara, Wilbur J. and Robert G. Thomson (team), Raymond J. Tollette, Hugh Hardie Tucker, Albert Clark Turner, H. A. “Dave” True, Harold J. Vance, James “Jim” Vaughan, Arthur L. Walker, Burton F. “Bert” Weekley, Neil Wills, W. Floyd Wright, John F. Younger, Roland Lee “Buck” York, James Zimmerman, Wilbur W. Zingery

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