



VOL. LIII No. 3 Third Quarter 2023



# 'Makers Gonna Make' Coming on Saturdays

"makerspace" is defined as a collaborative workspace for making, learning, exploring, and sharing that uses a range of high-tech to no-tech tools. These spaces challenge students to learn through hands-on experiences that foster innovation, expose students to new opportunities, build critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and utilize failure as a valuable learning tool.

Our new STEAM Education Center provides the perfect setting for students to gain all the benefits of a makerspace and with our new community makerspace event, **Makers Gonna Make**, students across the community can test the limits of their own creativity and innovation. Through experimentation and discovery, students can develop in-demand 21st century skills in flexibility, collaboration, communication, initiative, adaptability, and more.

Makers Gonna Make will be held once a month on select Saturdays starting September 9. Students in first through fifth grade will have access to the space from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and students in sixth through 12th grade will have access from 2 to 4 p.m. Our drop off sessions encourage students to utilize the variety of maker resources we have to offer, including our 3D printers, laser cutters, vinyl machines, and TeacherGeek Makercarts.

These learner-led events will allow students to engage in the Engineering Design Process as they bring their creations to life. Petroleum Museum Educators will be available to help foster innovation and provide safety and equipment training as needed.

Cost per session is \$15 for Petroleum Museum members and \$25 for non-members. Discounts are available for 6- and 12-month bundles. Pre-registration is required. For more information and a complete list of dates, please visit **www.pbpetro.org**.







Makers Gonna Make starts Saturday, September 9 Visit www.pbpetro.org

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**Permian Basin** Petroleum Museum, Library and **Hall of Fame** ...exploration. innovations and legends...

# Volunteer Path to Jobs Leads Away from Austin



Working in the petroleum industry was not on Lindsay Ballard's priority list of jobs when she graduated The University of Texas-Austin in 2009 with a degree in biochemistry. She considered pharmaceuticals, but the idea didn't go far. Nationwide, there was a recession and jobs weren't plentiful.

Eventually, Ballard found a job in the Dallas area working in electricity and natural gas services. One step led to another and today she lives in Midland and serves on the Museum's Board of Trustees.

"I love what the Petroleum Museum's mission is, and the numerous educational opportunities available to the community and visitors," she said. "It is im-

portant for people who may not have an oil and gas background – to visit the museum and gain a deeper understanding of the history and applications of the industry, as misinformation is prevalent."

The new STEAM Education Center is expanding the Museum's ability to offer more classes for students of all ages. "This building is such a wonderful addition, and I want to see the Museum continue on that path," she said.

Ballard grew up in the small German town of Thorndale outside Austin and the neighborhood university was a natural fit for her. Like thousands of other UT graduates, she wanted to stay in the area but earning a paycheck became more important. After working in Dallas, she met an employee of EnergyNet and soon found herself in dusty West Texas.

EnergyNet focuses on helping individuals and companies divest their minerals, royalties, non-operated and operated offerings, she explained. After a decade at the company, Ballard has decided to make a leap and is working for herself, now with private clients to divest and purchase oil and gas assets.

Even though Midland wasn't on her radar as a place to settle down, she's discovered "it is very special. Midland is not just a place; it is a place full of wonderful and supportive people, and that is what matters most in life."

Serving on the Museum's board also brought an unexpected perk: getting to know the Museum's animals. "The wallaby is my favorite. The Museum is a gem and Midland is lucky to have it," she said.

# Archives Poem: 'Rose of Texonoiland'

Among the Texas oil fields Where Texon land is known We named a well, St. Rita, The dearest Saint we own.

And in group one, 'twas christened With a rose from Rita's shrine Blown from a topmost derrick To all the winds of time.

And thus the seeds of faith were sown For where each sacred petal fell, A prayer went up that there might spring Another Texon well.

For here like giant sentinels The great tall derricks stand Guarding the liquid lake that lies Beneath the Texon land.

The lake of oil that people say Flows to an unknown sea, Awaiting but the skill of man To set its treasure free.



These are the first five verses of the 10 that are the Oilfield poem, Rose of Texonoiland, written by Agnes Daily and dedicated to Haymon Krupp, Esq., "Our worthy President of Texon Oil and Land Co."

The Museum's Archives and Library are a rich source of historical information about the industry and the Permian Basin. We were recently contacted by **Courtnie Bagley** with the Texas Public Policy Foundation about oil field poems held in our Archives. She is working on creating energy-based cross-curricular content for students in Texas schools. As Bagley explains, "The arts mold and mirror culture. Often songs, paintings, and poetry commemorate important events. The Santa Rita well is no exception." This poem is particularly fitting now as May 2023 marked the 100th anniversary of the Santa Rita #1. To read the rest of this poem and other poems in our Archives, contact Tiffany Bradley, Archives and Collections Manager, 432-683-4403.

# **Upcoming Events:** Mineral Event, BBLs

# Special Evening to Feature Mineral Expert



"Minerals as Collectible Fine Art: How Collectors and Museums Value Fine Mineral Specimens"

Join us on Thursday, December 7, for a special evening featuring a mineral show and sale. **Dr. Rob Lavinsky** will also discuss how minerals have been the raw materials of art and civilization for centuries. He initially planned to launch his career in molecular genetics and received his doctoral degree from UC-San Diego, but his passion for minerals led to a career change. He realized the potential to move the mineral world online and **www.iRocks.com** became the first mineral-selling website online in 1996. Since then, he has been a full-time dedicated mineral

dealer and recently had a new mineral, Lavinskyite, named after him. Dr. Lavinsky owns the Arkenstone Gallery of Natural Art with locations in Dallas and Shanghai. Many of the minerals in the Petroleum Museum's Mineral Gallery were donated by Dr. Lavinsky.

# Dr. Rob Lavinsky December 7, 2023 4 p.m. Mineral Show/Sale 6:30 p.m. Social Hour 7 p.m. Lecture

# Morganite: Museum Displays Rare Piece

The Museum's magnificent specimen of Morganite comes from Afghanistan and was donated to the Museum by **Rob Lavinsky.** It was once part of famous collector, **Herb Obodda's** collection.

Obodda played a key role in opening up the extraordinary mineral wealth of Pakistan and Afghanistan. He held this piece in his personal collection for decades before Lavinsky had the honor of adding it to his collection. It is believed to be the finest and largest complete crystal of morganite from that part of the world.

Morganite minerals and gemstones are a pinkish-orange (almost salmon) variety of beryl, a very durable stone with a rating of 7.5 - 8 on the Mohs hardness scale The beryl family also includes emeralds and aquamarines. Morganite gemstones have grown significantly in popularity since 2010 and today ranks as the second most popular colored stone for engagement rings, second only to sapphires.

Morganite's subtle color comes from traces of manganese, which produces its beautiful rose and peach tints. Colors typically range from pink to orange-pink. Strong coloring in morganite is incredibly rare, but if found, the gems are usually quite large and display the finest colors.

Morganite was first discovered in Madagascar in 1911 and was initially called "Pink Beryl." However, the famous gemnologist George Frederick Kunz renamed it "Morganite" in honor of his patron, New York banker and philanthropist John Pierpont Morgan, who backed the gem exploration trips that discovered morganite in California and again in Madagascar. Since that time, Brazil has become the primary source of pinker morganite with African countries such as Nigeria and Mozambique sourcing most of the peach and orange gems. Morganite mining currently takes place mainly in Afghanistan, Brazil and Madagascar.



Beryl var. Morganite Pakistan

# Schools, Ranching, Music Highlight BBLs

Brown Bag Lunches (BBLs) at the Museum offer the public an opportunity to learn about a variety of topics in an informal setting. People are asked to bring their lunch. The museum provides drinks and dessert. BBLs are free and are sponsored by Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee.

#### October 10, 2023

Bill Schammel and Jay Henricks will reminisce on baseball in Midland in the early 1980s in their presentation "Take Me Back to the Ballpark."

#### November 14, 2023

Pat McDaniel, Director of the Haley Library and Research Center, will discuss "Origins and Influence of Ranching Heritage." He will review Midland County's origins and the influence of the ranching heritage it embodied from 1885 until the dawn of the 21st century.

#### December 12, 2023

The West Texas Winds will perform "Music of the Season." The resident woodwind quintet of the West Texas Symphony will put everyone in the Christmas spirit with a repertoire of classic Christmas music.

# BBL Dates

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

October 10, 2023

Bill Schammel/

Jay Hendricks

"Take Me Back to the

Ballpark"

November 14, 2023 Pat McDaniel "Origins and Influence of Ranching Heritage"

December 12, 2023 West Texas Winds "Music of the Season"

# STEAM: Break Free from Boring Holidays



With the changes to local school calendars, we are excited to announce a new adventure with our STEAM Break program. This winter break, we will be offering two STEAM Break camps: STEAM Break: Toymakers' Workshop to be held December 27-29, 2023, and STEAM Break: Winter WonderLAB scheduled January 3-5, 2024. The workshops will feature a morning and afternoon session with the option to sign up for both. The morning session will be held from 8 a.m. to 12 noon with an early drop-off option at 7:30 a.m. The afternoon session will be from 1 to 5 p.m. with a late pick-up option extending to 5:30 p.m. Looking to sign up for only one or two days? Daily drop-in rates are also available for both STEAM Break camps.

During the morning session, students will enjoy themed experiments, engineering challenges, and innovative projects. The afternoon session will feature popular winter movies, hot chocolate, and inventive challenges. STEAM Break is open to all students in first through sixth grade. This is also a great way for homeschoolers to enhance their STEAM curriculum.

Pre-registration is required. Sibling and member discounts are available. For more information and to register, please visit **www.pbpetro.org.** STEAM Break is generously sponsored by **Ovintiv.** 



## **Robotics Funlabs**

or students in kindergarten through sixth grade, we will be offering our **Building Bots Robotics and Engineering Funlabs** this fall. Students can engage in innovative engineering challenges and robotic design featuring our LEGO robotics equipment, Spheros, Ozobots, and Osmos. With different activities each session, your young engineer will love returning each month!

Students in Kindergarten through second grade will meet the first Tuesdays of September, October, and November while students in third through sixth grade will meet on the third Tuesdays. Both classes meet from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Cost per session is \$25 for Museum members and \$30 for non-members.



For more information and to register, please visit **www.pbpetro.org**. Building Bots Robotics & Engineering Funlabs are generously sponsored by **Oxy**.







# **STEAM Sprouts Sessions**

oin us this fall for our six-week **STEAM Sprouts** session: *TinyBots*. During this six-week program starting September 18, sprouts ages 4-5 will tackle engineering challenges and stay busy learning to code. *Tinybots* will feature our newest robotics equipment: the Sphero indi learning robot. This robot is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of computational thinking and computer science principles in an exciting way. During this STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math)-based program, students will build custom mazes and solve puzzles with these imaginative, play-based learning kits.

Two identical session options will be available: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. OR 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost per student for the six-week session is \$80 for Museum members and \$100 for non-members. For more information and to register, please visit www.pbpetro.org.

STEAM Sprouts is generously sponsored by SM Energy.

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## APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE

We give a round of applause to the following friends, companies and businesses. Their in-kind contributions of time, assistance or services are appreciated:

ASCO Equipment, Inc.

Memorial contributions to the Petroleum Museum are deposited in the permanent endowment fund, unless donor advised, to provide ongoing tribute to the individuals recognized in bold. Donors are listed below the honoree. Contributors from May 11 to August 2, 2023, were:

IN MEMORY OF...
Willis H. "Bill" Gilmore, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Edwards
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Betsy & Buzz Hurt

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Landreth

## **Memorials**

Joe P. Liberty
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Jananne & Les McLaughlin
Christine Rodriguez
Letty & Armin Rubio
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# Spooky Science Spectacular

Thursday, October 26 6:30 p.m.



## Family Science Night Goes Spooky

Join us if you dare for a spooktacular time on Thursday, October 26, for our Spooky Science Spectacular Family Science Night from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wear your costume and channel your inner spookologist as you engineer eyeball catapults, brew up cauldron slime, experiment with puking pumpkins, and more! Sweet treats and science collide during this fun, free educational event. Museum members enjoy the added bonus of early admission from 6 to 6:30 p.m. We would like to extend a special thanks to **Chevron** for making this frightfully good time possible!

# Book It Now for Holiday Fun

Ready or not, the holiday season is rapidly approaching, along with all the gatherings and parties that come with it!

Whether you're looking to host a cocktail reception, a formal dinner, or any-



thing else you can dream up, the Petroleum Museum is the perfect venue, with great options for groups of 20 to over 200 people. We have several unique spaces to help make your next event truly special. The fall/winter calendar fills up fast, so call or email today to discuss how we can make your holiday party one to remember! Go to rentals@petroleummuseum.org.



## ASK Dr. Petro

# Explain Causes of 'Climate Change'



Q. Are fossil fuels causing the earth to be unlivable?

A. "This year's hot temperatures are part of a slow warming trend on a planet where far more people die from cold than from heat, and where we need fossil fuels to protect us from both." – Alex Epstein

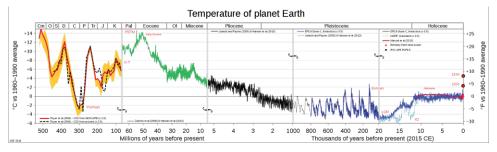
There are several "natural" and "anthropogenic" (human-induced) factors that contribute to climate change has occurred for

millions of years, which is clearly seen in the geological record. On a geologic time scale, the evolution of the sun has been an important factor in determining Earth's cli-

mate. According to standard solar theories, the sun has gradually increased in brightness as a natural part of its evolution after having started with an intensity approximately 70 percent of its modern value. Earth's orbit and poles have also affected climate over time.

In the past 150 years of recorded historical temperatures, we've observed ~1°C of warming from a relatively cold starting point. Study after study has found that deaths from cold outnumber deaths from heat by 5-15 times. On every continent, cold is more dangerous than heat. Even in many countries we think of as especially hot, such as India, cold-related deaths significantly surpass heat-related deaths. If we remember that cold kills more than heat, and we compare the ~1° C (~2° F) average warming that has occurred over the last 150 years with the wide range of temperatures we deal with every day, month, and year, the increase does not seem as daunting.

Not only is the warming from fossil fuels' CO2 emissions slow,



but the cost-effective energy also generated from fossil fuels, also known as hydrocarbons, provides protection from extreme cold and heat. The key to being protected from dangerous temperatures is to utilize the modern advancements in indoor climate control, such as: insulated buildings, heating, and air-conditioning. All these things require energy—which for most of the population is generated from hydrocarbons. The developing world overwhelmingly uses hydrocarbons because that is by far the lowest-cost way for them to produce reliable energy. That's why China and India have hundreds of new coal plants in development. On a planet where many more people die from cold than from heat, but both are major threats, the key to safety is to have energy be as affordable and abundant as possible. This makes heating and air conditioning much more affordable for everyone. For the foreseeable future, the practical answer is more hydrocarbons.

For more great talking points go to industrytalkingpoints.com.

# Join: Become a Star in Midland's Showcase

Why be a member of the Petroleum Museum? Your support enables the Museum to expand and enhance the number of students it can reach through educational programming; offer companies the space for training, meetings, and conferences; and provide a place for visitors to experience the history of this community and the powerful impact of the petroleum and energy industry on our lives.

Because of you, the Petroleum Museum is a showcase for Midland, making it a destination for Midlanders, Texans, and beyond.

Museum Membership has its privileges! Not only do you make Midland a great place to live but you receive awesome benefits as well. Membership perks and how to join are listed below.

#### **ALL MEMBERS RECEIVE:**

• Free Admission for you and your guest(s) (Individual member, Corporation or

Organization employee must be present for free admission)

- 15% discount in the Museum Store
- 10% discount on facility rentals
- Discounts on select education programs
- Early access to Family Science Nights and education program registration

#### **ENERGY CIRCLE**

- Patron and Sustainer levels receive one (1) free daytime rental of Board Room
- Benefactor and Director levels receive one (1) free daytime rental of Auditorium
- 20% discount on other facility rentals
- Featured Company/Organization logo on Museum website

**INDIVIDUAL** – for Individuals and Families **CORPORATE / ORGANIZATION - For** companies, corporations, organizations and educational institutions **Individual Members** 

o \$100 Family

o \$150 Friend

o \$300 Associate

o \$600 Supporter

#### **Energy Circle**

o \$1,000 Patron

o \$2,500 Sustainer

o \$5,000 Benefactor

o \$10,000 Director

#### **Corporate/Organization Members Energy Circle**

o \$1,000 Patron

o \$2,500 Sustainer

o \$5,000 Benefactor

o \$10,000 Director

To join the Museum online, visit our website at www.pbpetro.org or contact Luanne Thornton at Ithornton@petroleummuseum.org or 432-683-4403.

Join today and start making a difference in your community!

# Membership Gives Perks All Year Long

Welcome to our newest and renewed members from May 11 to August 2, 2023.

## Contributing

Brittney & Cody Atchley

#### Family

Emily & Bjorn Baal Mr. & Mrs. Steve Becker Gina Bowman Mr. & Mrs. Michael Brady Stacie & Arthur Browning Mr. & Mrs. Weston Bruno Abby & Kevin Christensen Amy & Bryan Grant William Guinn Lisa & Tom Hain

Michelle & Steven Hofer Maranda & Levi Hutchison Lisa Kelly

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#### Sustainer

Fasken Oil & Ranch, Ltd.

#### Benefactor

Diamondback Energy PBEX, LLC

## Party on Patio **Attracts Crowd For Live Drive**

Kylie Hankinson

The 11th Annual Chaparral Pit Crew Party on the Patio was held June 10 and attracted a record crowd of 240 Chaparral enthusiasts. For the Live Drive, the Museum ran the Chaparral 2J with Jim Hall II behind the wheel. Gearheads from across the nation enjoyed good food and great fellowship. Jim Hall recounted stories from the glory days and answered many questions. It was a wonderful evening as everyone celebrated the camaraderie of all things Chaparral!



# **Notable Dates**

#### **SEPTEMBER**

#### SEPTEMBER 12

Brown Baa Lunch & Lecture Series

Speaker: Dr. Stephanie Howard, MISD Superintendent

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Free admission. Drinks & dessert provided.

Sponsors: Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable

Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee

#### **SEPTEMBER 18 & 25**

STEAM Sprouts - TinyBots

9:30 to 10:30 a.m. OR 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Ages 4-5; Mondays for six weeks.

Pre-registration required. For more information, visit

www.pbpetro.org. Sponsor: **SM Energy** 

#### SEPTEMBER 19

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Grades 3-6

Pre-registration required. For more information or to register

online visit www.pbpetro.org.

Sponsor: Oxy

#### **OCTOBER**

#### OCTOBER 2, 9, 16 & 23

STEAM Sprouts - TinyBots

9:30 to 10:30 a.m. OR 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Ages 4-5: Mondays for six weeks.

Pre-registration required. For more information, visit

#### www.pbpetro.org. Sponsor: **SM Energy**

#### **OCTOBER 3**

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Grades K-2

Pre-registration required. For more information or to register

online visit www.pbpetro.org.

Sponsor: Oxy

#### OCTOBER 7

Makers Gonna Make!

Community Makerspace

10 a.m. to 12 noon for K-5th graders

2 to 4 p.m. for 6th to 12th graders

Pre-registration required. For more information or to register

online visit www.pbpetro.org.

#### **OCTOBER 10**

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture Series

Speakers: Bill Schammel and Jay Hendricks

"Take Me Back to the Ballpark"

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Free admission. Drinks & dessert provided.

Sponsors: Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable

Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee

#### **OCTOBER 17**

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Grades 3-6

Pre-registration required. For more information or to register

online visit www.pbpetro.org.

Sponsor: Oxy

#### OCTOBER 26

Family Science Night: Spooky Science Spectacular

6:30 to 8 p.m.

6 p.m. Early admission for MEMBERS ONLY

Hands-on Science Experiments & Activities

Free admission.
Sponsor: **Chevron** 

#### **OCTOBER 29**

Space Nation Day at the Petroleum Museum

2 to 5 p.m.

Hands-on Activities

Free admission

#### **NOVEMBER**

#### **NOVEMBER 7**

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Grades K-2

Pre-registration required. For more information or to register

online visit www.pbpetro.org.

Sponsor: Oxy

#### **NOVEMBER 14**

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture Series

Speaker: Pat McDaniel

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Free admission. Drinks & dessert provided.

Sponsors: Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable

Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee

#### **NOVEMBER 18**

Makers Gonna Make!

Community Makerspace

10 a.m. to 12 noon for K-5th graders

2 to 4 p.m. for 6th to 12th graders

Pre-registration required. For more information or to register

online visit www.pbpetro.org.

#### **NOVEMBER 21**

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Grades 3-6

Pre-registration required. For more information or to register

online visit www.pbpetro.org.

Sponsor: Oxy

**NOVEMBER 23**Happy Thanksgiving!

Museum will be closed Thanksgiving Day.

#### **DECEMBER**

#### **DECEMBER 7**

Minerals as Collectible Fine Art: How Collectors and

Museums Value Fine Mineral Specimens

Speaker: Dr. Rob Lavinsky

4 p.m. Mineral Show & Sale

7 p.m. Lecture

### DECEMBER 9

Makers Gonna Make!

Community Makerspace

10 a.m. to 12 noon for K-5th graders 2 to 4 p.m. for sixth through 12th graders

Pre-registration required. For more information or to register

online visit www.pbpetro.org.

#### **DECEMBER 12**

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture Series

Music: Wext Texas Winds

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Free admission. Drinks & dessert provided.

Sponsors: Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable

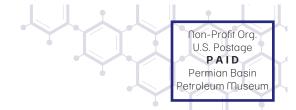
Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee

For more information about any of these programs or events, contact the Petroleum Museum at 432-683-4403 or www.pbpetro.org.



Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, Library and Hall of Fame 1500 Interstate 20 West • Midland, Texas 79701

Address Service Requested



## **Museum Staff**

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Museum Bit & Bytes is published quarterly by the Petroleum Museum. For more information call 432-683-4403 or visit the website at pbpetro.org. 9/23



SHOW YOUR OILFIELD PRIDE with these incredible performance polos! In the office or on the green, these comfortable and stylish polos will be sure to get noticed! Plus, know that your purchase supports the Museum! Museum Members always receive **15 percent off** purchases. We are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Or, shop online at **pbpetro.org/shop** anytime.

Our Mission: We will share the petroleum and energy story and its impact on our lives.