



SPWP NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL WOMEN IN PETROLEUM



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

**WRITTEN BY:
SUZANNE SHORT**

Happy May! This month brings Mother's Day, graduations, and a long weekend to celebrate those who have served our country. The air conditioners will be switched on continuously and swimming pools open for business. Please take extra time to honor and remember your mother, or any special woman in your life.

Our next Adopt-A-County Mile (AACM) will be held Saturday, May 14th from 9-11am. Our mile is located at 249 and Spring Cypress. Join the group afterwards for lunch at Valley Ranch Grill and Barbeque. Watch for an email invite with parking instructions. We would love to see you there supporting SPWP in our service efforts. This opportunity is an all-around fun activity and has given our organization increased visibility in the community!

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Scholarship applications were gathered successfully on SPWP.org. Interviews are scheduled for Saturday May 21st. The committee volunteers are underway with grading, checking references, and notifying selectees. We appreciate your help on this exciting effort!

SPWP has a special event coming up for members only! On June 9th, a dinner event will be offered in lieu of our monthly breakfast meeting. The 2022 Board of Directors wishes to better define 'The Way Forward' and how the organization can best serve our membership. This meal will be held at Norris Westchase at no cost to attend. RSVP is mandatory to confirm your spot. Watch for the Punchbowl invite with more details.

As always, please connect with us on Facebook at the "Society of Professional Women in Petroleum, Houston" as well as on LinkedIn at "Society of Professional Women in Petroleum". This will help you stay updated on our upcoming events, and will also help to grow our social media presence in order to profile our organization to potential new members.



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Society of Professional Women in Petroleum



@SPWPHouston



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APRIL MINUTES

SUBMITTED BY: KELSEY HULETT

1st Vice President, Erin Williams, called the meeting to order at 7:33 am on April 14, 2022.

Erin welcomed all members and guests and introduced the 2022 Board Members. All guests present introduced themselves.

Erin asked for a motion to approve the March 2022 minutes as written in the newsletter. Sherry Adams approved the minutes as posted and the motion was seconded by Suzette Olivan.

SPWP 2nd Vice President, Yalonda Henderson, introduced speaker Lana Warren of Maersk Project Logistics. Being willing, ready, and able. Lana shared a history of women in leadership from 1981, highlighting Occidental Petroleum's CEO Vicki Hollub. She remarked that from 1981 to 2021 there have been significant increases seen in the presence of women in United States Congress, the chemical engineering profession, and holding roles as Fortune 500 CEOs. Lana also shared details of her journey including growing up in the oil industry with a father who worked for Gulf Oil and held great interest in geology. Lana found herself at 18 years old in Houston landing a job with Behring International. This job ignited her passion for international project logistics. The advice to 'make yourself indispensable' had great influence on Lana's eagerness to volunteer for everything in order to better prepare herself for the next opportunity.

Erin wished a happy birthday to all the members born in the month of April.

Erin recognized Kelsey Hulett, Suzanne Short, and Maria French as SPWP volunteers of the month for participating in the AADE golf tournament held on Monday, March 28th.

Erin confirmed that the May SPWP breakfast meeting will be held Thursday, May 12th and will feature LaDonna Blackwell of Avalon Risk.

Erin highlighted that our next Adopt A County Mile community effort is scheduled for Saturday, May 14th from 9-11 am.

Erin updated regarding the 2022 scholarship program. The application period is now closed and there is still a need for participation on our scholarship committee as graders and interviewers.

Erin communicated that the June 2022 meeting will be closed to members only as a time to recalibrate our organization discussing improvements and 'The Way Forward'.

The Golf tournament committee will be assembled in July 2022 for a Spring 2023 tournament.

Erin reminded everyone to connect with us on social media and adjourned the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 am.



MAY SPEAKER

LADONNA BLACKWELL

AVALON RISK MANAGEMENT

LaDonna Blackwell is the Southeast Divisional Account Executive for Avalon Risk Management. Avalon is a premier provider of innovative insurance, surety, and risk management solutions to the logistics industry. Prior to joining Avalon in 2021, she spent 24 years in the transportation and logistics industry with 20 of those years working as an International Freight Forwarder. As Director of Global Projects, she managed Russia/CIS, handled project cargo moves, charters, contracts, and projects in the Oil & Gas industry. Transitioning into the insurance area was the likely path as this experience allows her to understand the needs of Avalon's client base on a practical level.

In addition to being active in various industry organizations, LaDonna is an Adjunct Professor of Logistics Management at Lone Star College and is a graduate of Louisiana State University.



UPCOMING BREAKFAST MEETINGS INCLUDE

June 2022 - "The Way Forward", *closed meeting*

July 2022 - 2022 Scholarship Recipients

August 2022 - Scott Singleton, Strox Systems

Annual joint meeting with AADE Houston Chapter

September 2022 - Christina Penrose, Lubrizol

October 2022 - TBA

November 2022 - Annual Board of Directors Election, *closed meeting*

December 2022 - SPWP Annual Holiday Party

SPECIAL EVENT

The Way Forward

6pm - 8pm; Norris Conference Center
Closed Meeting

Join us for an evening of discussion and planning as we navigate the way forward for SPWP. We will chat about membership, committees, fundraising, and how we strengthen our 41 yr old organization, post-pandemic.

RSVP IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING



MEMBER RECOGNITION

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

LYNN BABEC ANSYS, INC



1. How did you get started in the oil & gas industry?

I got my first job after graduation as a production engineer working for Amoco (now BP) Canada.

2. What is your area of specialty (i.e. sales, accounting, engineering, etc.)?

Enterprise Business Development and Account Management focused on Digital Energy.

3. When people seek out your help, what do they usually need help with?

Upstream E&P life cycle digital workflows, petroleum engineering domain knowledge and industry contacts.

4. Who has been the most influential person in your career and why?

I cannot single out one individual. The global energy community is full of talented people with all kinds of knowledge and skill sets and who are willing to share their expertise with others. I have friends all around the world and love that about my career.

5. What is the best career advice you've received?

Enjoy the work and the journey. Build fun into every day.

6. Were you born in Houston? If not, what brought you here?

No. I started my career in Canada. We located to Houston following an overseas assignment in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil. Lovely place and even nicer people.

7. What is your favorite place in the world?

Lake Louise. What can I say? I miss the Canadian Rockies – always.

8. What is your favorite book or movie?

Casablanca

9. If time and money were no issue, what hobby would you pursue?

My whole family loves to travel. So given that freedom, I would plan trips to New Zealand, Australia, Africa, Alaska, Argentina, Scotland, Norway... the list is endless. Seeing new places and experiencing new cultures, food and people is one of life's wonders. And I love the outdoors.

10. How did you become involved in SPWP?

I attended meetings with Elaine DiLisio. Elaine was introduced to SPWP on a plane flight.

MEMBER UPDATES

SUZETTE OLIVAN

Suzette Olivan (Stratum Reservoir) recently took a short trip to Jamaica in March. They went to attend fiancé Chris' best friend's wedding and also used the time off to re-energize themselves. Even though it was a quick trip, it was well worth it!

We are so glad you enjoyed your trip Suzette!



TANIA REZANKA

Tania Rezanka (Schmidt + Clemens) is celebrating her son, Santiago (below) who passed his physical and will be joining the 7th grade football team this Fall 2022! Congratulations Santi!

Additionally, Tania and husband Michael celebrated his 48th birthday with a weekend, country road trip to Sherwood Forrest Faire in McDade, TX (left). SFF is a Renaissance festival, smaller in size than Texas Renaissance Festival, and happens in the month of April.



MEMBER UPDATES



ANGELICA BAUTISTA

Angelica Bautista recently celebrated being newly hired to work with Express Pressure Pumping. She is working as a Field Engineer in frac services, and is excited to tackle the challenging new role. Angelica is pictured (left) celebrating with fellow SPWP member Tania Rezanka (right).

Congratulations Angelica! SPWP wishes you all the best as you pursue this new chapter!



Does your company have summer internships available? Our scholarship recipients are on the lookout for internships. This is a great way to ensure our organization (& our industry) continue to support future female leaders!

Contact First VP with more info

CAREER CORNER

Why Female Mentorship In The Workplace Is More Important Than Ever

As more and more women lean in and promote upward mobility, it's crucial to keep the trend going. One of the best ways to build sustainable female leadership is through mentorship. See why women need to be mentoring women to build tomorrow's leaders and how any company can implement an effective mentoring program.

See It, Be It

It's crucial for women in the workplace to have role models. Mentoring helps women ideate about what they will become. For women to be more empowered in the workplace, it's crucial to have structured mentorships where women can learn from each other.

Mentors are a critical part of both professional and personal development. Everyone is glued to their screens nowadays. We often forget the art of in-person communication, which is essential to be a strong leader. Mentors give women an avenue to practice their communication skills in a safe environment by focusing on growth and improvement.

In addition to personal growth, mentors also help develop a leadership pipeline in your company. Leaders succeed when they have the chance to connect with others and learn. These learning opportunities can actually save your company time while improving efficiency.

Mentors help new hires acclimate to your culture more quickly. Ask your new employee about their career aspirations. Match her with a leader in the position she sees herself in some day. This will give the new hire a trusted confidante who can help her grow more quickly in her career.

How To Build A Culture Of Mentorship

It's clear that mentors make the world go 'round. No matter your culture or company, you can set up your own mentor program to see happier employees and effective leaders. Use these tips to create mentorships that empower your employees.

Make it a team effort: Don't open up your mentoring program to a few groups or departments. Make it available company-wide to get the most out of it. In fact, this opens up the possibility of cross-departmental collaboration and mentorship, which builds stronger leaders.

Look for complementary skills: It's tempting to assign mentorships based on personality. You certainly want your mentor and mentee to get along, but it doesn't mean you should assign employees to groups based solely on personality. Skills should be the main factor in your mentor matchmaking strategy. For example, match a developer with a marketer so they can exchange valuable skills and insights with each other. This will grow each woman's individual talents in the workplace, making her even more valuable.

Ensure structure: I've seen some companies set up a very laissez-faire type of mentor program. They might match up employees for mentorships, but then hand the reins to the employees. Mentors and mentees can be left in charge of their relationship, but there still needs to be structure and accountability on the company's end. This keeps mentorships on track for better results. Structure also helps with a company-wide buy-in for mentorship programs. Unless mentoring is part of your culture and you reinforce the importance of mentoring relationships, there's a risk it will fizzle out. Create designated spaces and time during the workday for mentorships, solidifying them as a crucial part of your workplace.

Focus on communication: Mentoring helps your leaders and rising stars practice their communication skills. Whether mentoring happens in one-on-one or group settings, it encourages women to practice effective, clear communication.

More and more women are taking leadership roles in corporate America. Connect female employees with mentors to help them grow their skills exponentially. Companies benefit from increased communication and a more skilled workforce, while employees feel more valued, more informed and ready to take on the world.

Interested in either being mentored or becoming a mentor to women in our industry? Consider forming a mentorship group within SPWP and get others connected! We have so many valuable opportunities and resources within our own organization, so why not take advantage? Connect with our Member-At-Large today!



GENERAL INFORMATION

The Society of Professional Women in Petroleum was formed in early 1981 to support professional career women in the Petroleum Industry, through networking, education, and the distribution of technology and information. SPWP is incorporated as a non-profit organization.

All aspects of drilling and production operations are covered through topical monthly breakfast meetings and industry speakers, and we constantly seek to further expand the knowledge of our members. We also feature professional development speakers and hold roundtable discussions on a rotating basis.

SPWP's membership consists of women who have active careers in the Oil & Gas Industry in fields including Engineering, Geology, Sales, Research, Finance, Law, Quality Assurance, Purchasing, Advertising, and Marketing.

SPWP is dedicated to furthering the careers of women in the Oil & Gas Industry and as part of our mission, we have a merit-based scholarship program that provides financial assistance to female Houston-area high school seniors entering a Texas college. Our annual fundraisers on behalf of this program are made possible through the tremendous support of companies within the industry, as well as through the tireless dedication of our members.

SPWP MISSION STATEMENT

SUPPORTING CAREER WOMEN IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY
THROUGH TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Edward Jones

First Vice President

Erin Williams,
MSI Pipe Protection
Technologies (NOV)

Second Vice President

Yalonda Henderson,
Sumisho Global Logistics

Secretary

Kelsey Hulett,
NOV

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Suzette Olivan,
Stratum Reservoir

Social & Development Director

Amii Rozell,
S&P Global

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Ingrid Cooper,
TEX-FIN Inc

Scholarship

Tania Rezanka,
Schmidt+Clemens

Golf

Sherry Adams,
Wabtec Elastomer Group