

MARINE TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY

HOUSTON SECTION

ISSUE:5/2014



marine technology SOCIETY

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LUNCHEON - MAY 22, 2014

DATE:

Thursday, May 22, 2014

11:30 am - Registration

11:45 am - Lunch

12:15 pm - Presentation

1:00 pm - Meeting Concludes

LOCATION

Pelazzio (Westheimer/West Houston)
12121 Westheimer, Houston, TX 77077

COST:

Members with paid reservation: \$35

Non Members with paid reservations:
\$45

Unpaid reservations & walk ins: \$50

Full-time students: \$15

RESERVATIONS/CANCELLATIONS:

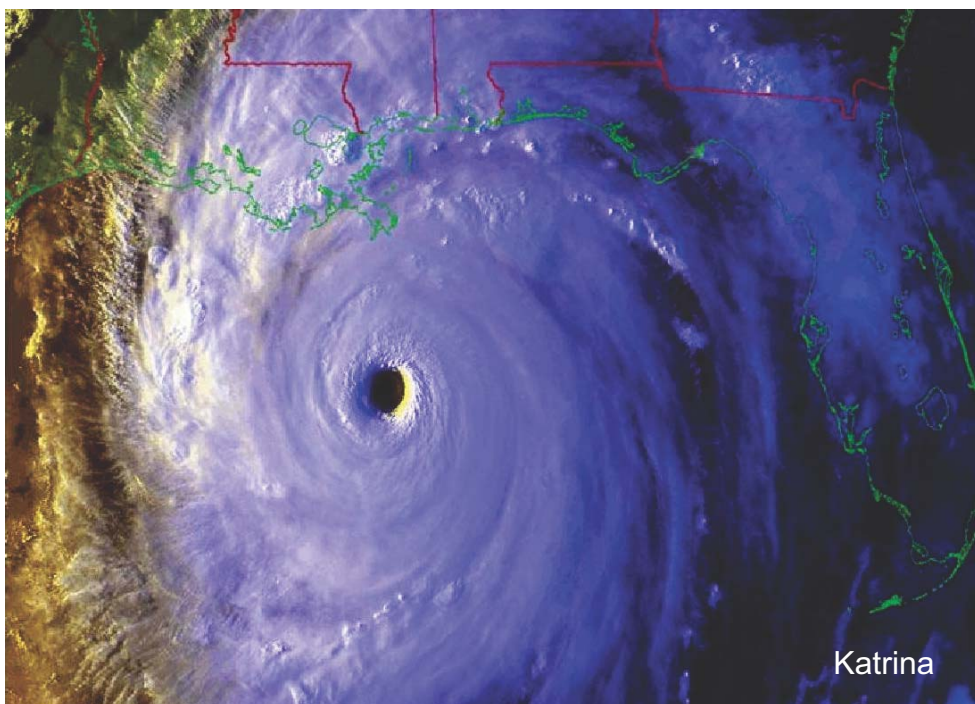
On-line: www.mtshouston.org

e.mail: mtsh@mtshouston.org

Online closes: May 20, 5:00 pm

Cancellations by May 20, 5:00 pm

2014 HURRICANE SEASON WHAT'S NEW AND WHAT TO EXPECT



Katrina

The 2014 Atlantic hurricane season officially begins on June 1st. Despite a large number of relatively weak storms forming in 2013 the impact to the Gulf of Mexico and the United States was quite minimal. What was going on last year that prevented storms from intensifying? What do atmospheric and oceanic indicators point to for what is in store for this year? In order to put the forecast for the upcoming season in

context, a look back at the history of hurricane activity in the Gulf of Mexico will be presented. Finally, recent developments in the science of hurricanes is leading to continued improvements in the skill and accuracy with hurricane track and intensity forecasting. Some of the recent innovations and what they mean for the offshore industry will be discussed.

About the Speaker



Mark Chambers serves as the President & CEO of ImpactWeather, Inc. based in Houston Texas. ImpactWeather is a wholly-owned subsidiary of StormGeo Group out of

Bergen Norway. Graduating from Texas A&M University in 1986 with a BS in Meteorology, Mark has 28 years of experience in the business of professional meteorological consulting. In addition to his current role, his professional experience has also included operational forecasting, remote sensing, system administration, and business development. ImpactWeather's mission is to help clients operate safely, effectively, and efficiently in all weather conditions. One of ImpactWeather's core competencies is in the field of hurricane forecasting and assisting businesses become more prepared and resilient.

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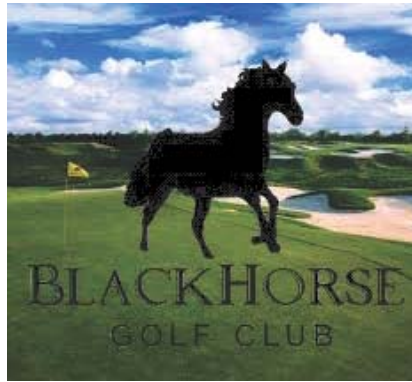
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GOLF TOURNAMENT

July 24, 2014



It is close to summer - which means it is time to book your team for the upcoming MTS Houston Annual Golf Tournament.

This year's tournament will be held at the Black Horse Golf Club in Cypress. Black Horse is beautifully laid out with majestic oaks, live oaks and pine - and there is enough variety, course changes and challenges to ensure that golfers use all the clubs in their bags. For most holes you can swing away with the driver, though others require careful consideration.

To beat the heat, the tournament will begin at 8:00 am and will conclude with lunch and the awards ceremony starting at 12:00 noon.

Sponsors

The golf tournament is one of our main fund-raising opportunities and supports our scholarship programs. Sponsorships range from \$2500 at the gold sponsor level to \$250 for a hole sponsor.

Sponsors will be recognized on the website, in this Announcement and at the actual event. We appreciate your generosity in supporting this event.

Registration

Please register and pay through the website at www.mtshouston.org/golf.cfm.

The tournament generally sells out ahead of time, so if you wish to play but do not have your full team put together, please go-ahead and register. You can always log back into the website with your confirmation number and add or change your team member line up.

Cost

Team (four players): \$750.00

Individual players: \$195.00 each

Tiger Drives: \$20.00 per team

Mulligans: \$10.00 each

Golf Committee

Chair: Terry Dahlke - Geospace

Co-Chair: Wendy Post - Seatronics

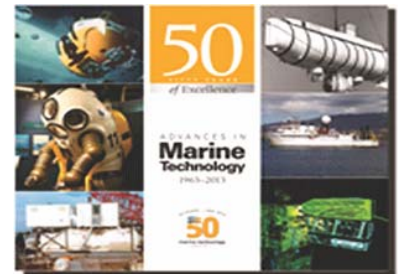
DP CONFERENCE

Register now for the upcoming Dynamic Positioning Conference, which will be held October 14-15 in Houston, with an optional Workshop on October 14, and a golf tournament at Meadowbrook Farm Golf Course on October 17.

An outstanding program is being planned for 2014 and the Advance Program is expected to be issued in early June. Please go to the website at <http://www.dynamic-positioning.com/program.cfm>

Early registration is \$550 for MTS members and \$625 for non members. Registration fees will increase by \$100 for both members and non members after September 8, 2014. details, are on the website.

MTS ANNIVERSARY BOOK



50 Years of Excellence: Advances in Marine Technology traces the development of our industry from the Trieste through today. Featured are many pioneers of our industry, personal stories and reminiscences and photos of technology, events and people.

Books can be ordered from the MTS National website at <http://www.mtsociety.org>.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Brian Bearden

As an industry, we put enormous store on safety. And rightly so. Next to outer space, the offshore arena is potentially one of the most hazardous environments in which to work. Nevertheless years of extreme vigilance pay off. In fact, the offshore industry boasts an excellent safety record. There are a great many far more dangerous occupations ranging, not surprisingly, from alligator wrestler to carpenters and delivery services.

Of course, one of the primary reasons that the offshore oil and gas industry manages to maintain a good safety record is because the industry takes safety so very seriously. We invest millions of dollars into safety programs and procedures, equipment and emergency response programs. We do not just give lip service to safety - but it is monitored and enforced on a daily basis. Of course, preservation of life is a fundamental objective of all safety initiatives, but preservation of equipment and resources also plays a part. Let's face it, offshore "accidents" are devastating when there is loss of life, but even when there are no injuries, the cost in terms of damaged equipment - such as platforms or other structures can run into billions of dollars.

At our April meeting, John Greeves of Versabar discussed another safety consideration in the offshore arena. The importance of "air gap" in platforms and how too small an air gap - the air space between the platform and the surface of the sea - can result in serious or total platform damage and destruction. John detailed some of the reasons why the air gap might be too small, including platforms designed to old code standards, or seabed subsidence resulting in the platform sinking. He also described how Versabar's technology was used offshore Indonesia to simultaneously raise three interconnected platforms four meters, extending the structure's life by at least 12 years and dramatically decreasing



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the chance of structural damage from extreme weather conditions and hurricanes.

One of the other reasons offered as to why air gaps might be too small is because waves have become larger. Or perhaps it could be argued that what was once believed to be the size of a 100-year wave or indeed the 100-year storm was actually an underestimation. This is understandable based on the relatively short period of time in which accurate weather statistics have been available. Over the last decade the Gulf of Mexico has witnessed a series of enormous and very damaging hurricanes - including Katrina, Rita and Ike. Whether these storms signify a new

trend in megastorms or not is hard to say. What we do know is that we must take every possible precaution to guard against the impact and damage that these types of storms can inflict.

At our next meeting on May 22, Mark Chambers with ImpactWeather will offer us professional and erudite insights into what the upcoming hurricane season might hold in store for the Gulf of Mexico. Will we manage another year with no significant hurricane or storm activity, or do we need to start preparing for another season of back to back tropical storms and hurricanes similar to 2005/2006? Please don't miss this important and vital presentation.

MTS HOUSTON BARBECUE

MTS Houston is looking for a venue for the 2014 Barbecue Social that is tentatively scheduled for October 23.

The Barbecue is the premier fund raising event of the year and one of our best attended social events. Companies selected to host the event will enjoy excellent exposure to some 600 or more offshore professionals. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase your facilities, products and technology.

Those interested in hosting the barbecue should be able to accommodate a large attendance (600 plus) as well as around 50 table top exhibits. Ample parking and room to set up a large marque or seat this large group is essential.

For more information, please contact Melissa Wood, Fugro at 713.305-7361. Or email mwood@fugro.com.

Thank you for your consideration!

MTS HOUSTON LUNCHES

We are glad to see so many of you paying for your MTS Houston lunches with your online reservations. Reservations without payment are not guaranteed a seat at the lunches and will also be charged the walk in rate of \$50.00.

If you book and pay for your lunch, but find you are unable to attend, you will be given a full refund provided that you cancel before 5:00 pm on the Tuesday preceding the lunch

MTS MEMBERSHIP

Please help us keep our records up to date by informing MTS National if you switch companies or your email or mailing address changes.

MTS Membership is handled by MTS National. You can check the status of your membership, pay your annual dues or update your contact information through the MTS National website at <http://www.mtsociety.org> (login required).

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About This Announcement

The **MTS Houston Section Announcement** is published monthly (11 issues a year) and distributed electronically and in hard copy format to industry professionals.

Logo sponsorship (\$150 a year) and advertising opportunities are available.

Please send articles and news items about upcoming events to the editor. Deadline for submissions is the first Thursday of the month of issue.

To include your logo, advertise or to receive this Announcement by mail, please send your name, company, address, phone; fax and e.mail address to Liz Stansfeld at mtsh@mtshouston.org.



marine technology SOCIETY

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