

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 10, 2015

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Dr. Diane Austin
oilhistlaf@gmail.com
520-621-6298

Be a part of history: Lafayette Parish chosen for offshore oil and gas industry study

LAFAYETTE, La. – The U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is sponsoring a project in conjunction with the University of Arizona, to examine the history of the offshore oil and gas industry. Researchers will be at the Petroleum Club of Lafayette (one of the selected research sites) from June 17 through August 7, 2015 conducting interviews. The time period of focus is mainly from the 1970s through 2010, also known as the deepwater era.

“The Petroleum Club of Lafayette is proud to support this initiative as we work together as a community to shed light on the economic, environmental and social impacts the oil and gas industry has made on south Louisiana,” said John O’Meara, General Manager of the Petroleum Club of Lafayette.

Researchers from the University of Arizona, led by Dr. Diane Austin, are looking to:

- Conduct interviews with people who worked in all aspects of the offshore oil and gas industry during the deepwater era.
- Gather community-focused oral histories
- Talk with oil and gas industry leaders, workers, family members, local entrepreneurs, community leaders, and others who can share information about how the industry developed and evolved during this period and its relationship to Lafayette.

The offshore oil and gas industry study will:

- Document and analyze the evolution of the industry in the deepwater era
- Document the strategies and objectives of the companies involved
- Describe how technology and managerial innovations enabled the deep water developments
- Assess the cumulative effects of offshore development on the coastal landscape and on workers, their communities, and family relationships
- Examine how the policies and regulations of the government agencies were developed and explore how all these aspects of the history were related and affected each other
- Build on local universities’ robust archives

If you, a family member, or friend would like to be part of this project, please email Morgan Lundy at oilhistlaf@gmail.com or call 337-212-5978. Please provide your name, relationship to the offshore oil and gas industry or the community, and contact information (phone number and email address).

###