



JOHN R. DRIBUS



**A MESSAGE
FROM NOGS
PRESIDENT**

To members and friends of the New Orleans Geological Society:

Hello all members and friends of NOGS! Louisiana continues to see significant progress in the fight against the coronavirus. Last month there were 450 Covid patients hospitalized across the state, and over 60 on ventilators. Those numbers have dropped to 325 in hospitals and only 49 on ventilators. One month ago, we had about 1,400,000 doses of the vaccines administered across the state, and almost 534,000 Louisiana residents had completed the series. Today 2,255,300 doses have been administered, and 966,365 have completed the series. If you have questions please call the Vaccine Hotline at 1-855-453-0774 or visit the Louisiana Department of Health website at <http://ldh.la.gov/Coronavirus/>.

Last month NOGS continued our technical webinar series with a superb talk from Dr. Sharon Cornelius from the University of Houston sharing her work on geo-pressure in the Gulf of Mexico. This month on May 3 we are looking forward to Dr. John Snedden of the University of Texas at Austin who will talk about his work on the Gulf of Mexico Superbasin. We have other great talks lined up for the rest of the year as well.

There have been a couple of date changes for major geoscience conventions that I want you to be aware of. The GCAGS GeoGulf 2021 convention in Austin, Texas will now be held Oct 27-29 to avoid a conflict with the AAPG ACE scheduled for Denver from Sept 26- October 1. You can also find the dates for other geoscience conferences at <https://waset.org/geology-conferences-in-2021>.

I close my letter this month by introducing to you the new candidates who have been nominated thus far to run for 2021-2022 NOGS leadership positions. For President Elect: Hillary Sletten (Shell), Vice President: Nancye Dawers (Tulane), Secretary: Wayne Cook (Stratigraph), Director: Charlie Miller (OCSBBS), and Editor Elect: David Reiter (Retired). Nominations from the membership are open now, so if you have other individuals who will agree to serve if elected please submit their names to Christy by the end of April. We also will have some trustee vacancies that need to be filled for the NOGS Memorial Foundation Board. Please let her know if you are interested in volunteering for one of those positions.

The final item is that dues renewal will be coming up soon, and I want you to know that we will be increasing our dues to \$35.00 for Regular membership and \$15 for Student membership. Please be reminded that we haven't been able to have a lot of fund raisers this year so I encourage you to pay your dues and to give consideration to adding a special donation to the Memorial Foundation to help us continue our worthwhile local community, university, and education programs. Thanks everyone, stay well!

Regards,
John Dribus