

# RICHARD D. FRITZ

## *Living Legend*

Richard “Rick” Fritz is a native Oklahoman who spent much of his youth around the “oil patch” in Osage County. His dad, grandfather, great-grandfather and many of his uncles worked as pumpers or roughnecks. Rick said, “I met my first geologist when I was 11 years old.” He was so impressed with the geologist’s intellect, cool clothes and fancy car, that he decided to become a geologist on the spot.

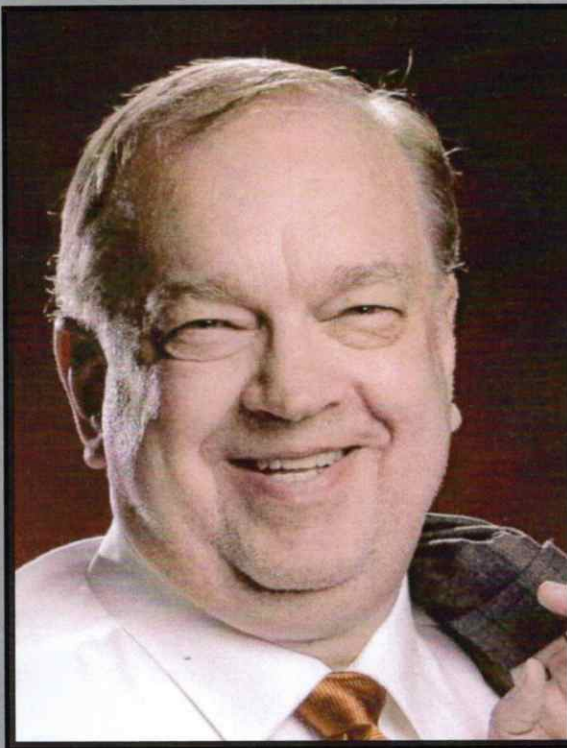
Currently, Rick is CEO of Council Oak Resources (COR), an EnCap private equity start-up company focused on exploration in the Mid-Continent area. The goal of Council Oak Resources is to determine the best unconventional reservoirs using advanced geoscience, engineering, and analytical methods. By using these scientific methods, the COR team made a significant new discovery in the basal Mississippian “black porous chert” in the Anadarko Basin of Oklahoma.

Rick began his career in 1977 working for Exxon on exploitation geology in South Texas, developing several producing fields in the Frio and Vicksburg Sand reservoirs. In 1980, he was transferred to Oklahoma City and worked as a Mid-Continent exploration geologist. During

this time, Rick explored for Granite Wash, Red Fork, Morrow-Springer, and Hunton oil and gas reservoirs.

Rick left Exxon in 1982 to work for Masera Corporation as a consultant and manager for the development of exploration-focused geological and geophysical studies in the Mid-Continent, Gulf Coast, and Black Warrior Basins. After 1990, Rick became the President of Masera and supervised several major exploration research projects in the United States, Middle East, and Africa.

In 1995, Rick became the President of MXC Corporation working as an independent exploration geologist in the Gulf Coast and Mid-Continent regions. He was involved in early horizontal drilling programs as he and his team explored for “sweet spots” in the Austin





Chalk of Texas. They successfully leased and sold more than 150,000 acres in the play.

In 1999, Rick was hired as the Executive Director of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG). He was responsible for the management of the AAPG Headquarters in Tulsa, and the oversight of numerous programs for AAPG's 35,000+ members. Rick instituted the first comprehensive strategic and tactical planning program for AAPG. This program had clear, executable goals such as the Global Development Initiative, resulting in several programs and AAPG satellite offices outside the United States. In late 1999, Rick became the Executive Director of the AAPG Foundation and was responsible for management of the Foundation's programs with AAPG and for requests from the general public. During this time, he recommended and was responsible for the oversight of a \$35,000,000 development campaign.

After twelve years as Executive Director of AAPG, Rick decided in 2011, to move back to his first love as an exploration geologist. He was hired to work in SM Energy Company's new venture exploration team in Tulsa, where he studied active resource plays to understand the parameters that made some successful and others marginal. He was promoted to Senior Technical Advisor for SM Energy and was responsible for developing new play ideas across North America until mid-2015. It was at this time, Rick decided to develop his own company and thus founded Council Oak Resources.



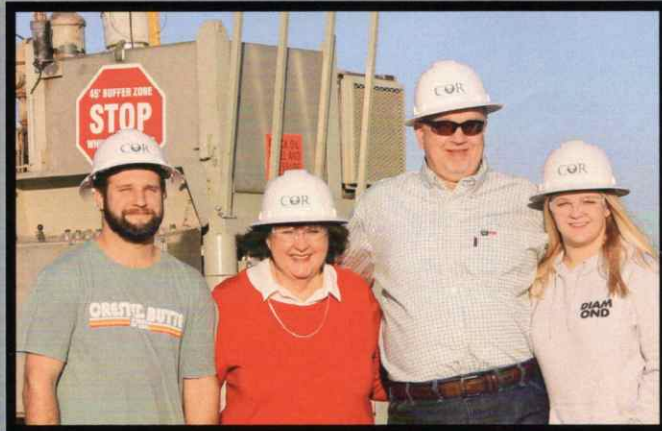
Rick Fritz "bleeds orange", having graduated with Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in geology from Oklahoma State University. He is an Active Member of the OSU Geoscience Alumni Advisory Board where he actively corresponds with Boone Pickens to improve the School of Geology at OSU through fundraising and oversight. Due to his diligent work, he was honored as an OSU Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumnus.

Rick joined AAPG as a student in 1975 and attended his first AAPG annual meeting held in Houston in 1979. He was so excited about the program and people, that he committed to go to every National AAPG convention possible. As a result, he has attended 39 straight Annual conventions plus numerous AAPG Section and Region meetings. Rick became a regular



AAPG volunteer in 1992 by serving in the House of Delegates and as a Division of Professional Affairs (DPA) Councilor. He was elected DPA Treasurer in 1996 and elected as DPA President-Elect in 1999, although he had to postpone that opportunity when he became the AAPG Executive Director. Rick was re-elected as the DPA President-Elect in 2013 and served as DPA President in 2014-2015. He has served on numerous DPA committees and was instrumental in the development of the highly successful "Playmakers Forum" held in Oklahoma City in 2017.

Rick served on the AAPG Advisory Council in 2014, as well as numerous AAPG committees including the Investment, Imperial Barrel Award, Reservoir Development, and the 100th AAPG Anniversary committees. As a volunteer, Rick was a Founding Member of the Datapages Program and served as Chair of the Datapages Board from 2012 through 2015. He is a member of the Visiting Geologist's Special Interest group for the Mid-Continent and a Founding Member of the popular "Jammin' Geos", which uses music to reach out to members, non-members, and students at AAPG events.



In 2012, Rick was senior co-author of AAPG Memoir 98: "The Great American Carbonate Bank". Currently, he is in the process of developing the "Playmakers to Bulletin" Technical Interest Group to encourage members to submit content on active exploration plays. This first submittal from this Group will be from Rick and John Mitchell regarding the Anadarko Superbasin. It was during this time that Rick was elected to the AAPG Foundation Members of the Corporation and is currently Chair of the Foundation Fundraising Advisory Committee. He helped in the establishment and is a member of the Military Veterans Scholarship Committee. Rick served as the Chair of the AAPG Foundation Trustee Associates from 2015 to 2016.

Rick has received numerous awards including the AAPG Distinguished Service Award, the Harrison Schmitt Award, and the Certificate of Merit. In addition, Rick has received the DPA Distinguished Service Award and the Life Membership Award, which is the DPA's highest award. Rick is an Honorary Member of the Tulsa Geological Society having served as President of the TGS from 2012 to 2013.

One of Rick's favorite Oklahomans is Will Rogers. Like Will, Rick is a "people person" and enjoys working with and managing young professionals. In his roles at AAPG and OSU, Rick has enjoyed working on numerous programs for students.

The Oklahoma Geological Foundation is proud to honor Richard D. Fritz as the recipient of the "Living Legends Award".