

November 7, 2024

17th
ANNUAL
LEGENDS
DINNER

OGGE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

5:30 – 7:00 PM

OGF Hosted Social Gathering

7:00 PM

Dinner

Seating @ 6:50 pm

7:30 PM

Foundation Chairman's Welcome
(Thomas C. Cronin)

7:35 PM

Recognition of Sponsors & Foundation Updates
(Michael E. Hale)

7:45 PM

Introduction of Legends Award Presentations
(J. Mark Lester)

7:55 PM

Pioneer Legend Arville I. Levorson
(presented by J. Mark Lester)

Pioneer Legend William G. Skelly
(presented by Larry H. Davis)

Living Legend J. Larry Nichols
(presented by Herbert G. Martin & Sally Starling)

8:55 PM

Closing Remarks
(J. Mark Lester)

a resounding round of applause
to **OUR** *gracious*
SPONSORS

TITLE SPONSORS:

LARRY AND RONNA DAVIS

GOLD SPONSORS:

THOMAS C. CRONIN

IN HONOR & MEMORY OF RAY H. POTTS

OGF LIVING LEGEND 2013

SILVER SPONSORS:

HERB & MARYNM MARTIN

SPENCE CARSON

THE DAVIS FAMILY

IN HONOR & MEMORY OF HERB & SHIRLEY DAVIS

OGF LIVING LEGEND 2009

LARRY LUNARDI

MARK & CAROL LESTER

BRONZE SPONSORS:

KEN JOHNSON

FRANK GAGLIARDI

STAR GEOPHYSICS INC.

ARVILLE I. LEVORSEN

1894-1965

Arville Irving Levorsen is recognized as one of the most outstanding Petroleum Geologists of all time. Friends, family, and colleagues called him AI, Irving, or Lev. Of Norwegian descent, he was born July 5, 1894, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he spent his early years. In 1917



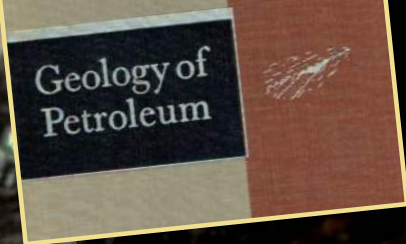
he graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Mining Engineering. During World War I, Arville served in the 27th Army Engineers. After meeting at the University of Minnesota, Arville married Elma Hario in 1920 and they had four children: Jean Levorsen Freeman, Robert Levorsen, James Levorsen, and John Levorsen. From 1919 to 1930 Levorsen worked as a field geologist for Greenwood Oil Company, District Geologist for Gypsy Oil Company, and Chief Geologist for the Philmack and Independent Oil Companies.

From 1930 to 1945, other than a two-year stint as Chief Geologist for Tidewater Oil Company from 1934-36, Arville was a consulting geologist in Tulsa, Oklahoma. It was during this period that Arville established himself as an outstanding petroleum geologist. In 1931 during the Great Depression, Arville found himself out of a job with a wife and children, but he had a prospect idea that he truly believed in. However, it was in Pontotoc County in southeastern Oklahoma, an area which at the time was considered by most geologists and oil companies as unfavorable for the accumulation of commercial quantities of oil. After being repeatedly rejected by several oil companies, Arville earned the trust of lawyer Edwin Moore, who financed the drilling of the prospect which opened the 190-million-barrel Fitts Field.

At a time when most petroleum geologists were still focused on anticlinal traps, Arville Levorsen had a far broader vision. Several published papers during this time interval reflected his vision: “Studies in Paleogeology” in 1933 addressed paleogeologic maps to help solve geologic problems; “Problems of Petroleum Geology” in 1934 focused on unconformities; “Stratigraphic Versus Structural Accumulations” in 1936 introduced and defined the term “stratigraphic trap”; and “Stratigraphic Type Oil Fields” in 1941 documented his insistence that the largest oil fields are commonly found in stratigraphic traps. Arville was indeed a life-long student of Petroleum Geology. He not only applied his knowledge and expertise to successfully exploring for new reserves, but he passed along that knowledge through numerous publications to help other geologists be successful.



In 1945 Levorsen became Chair of the Geology Department at Stanford University, then in 1947 Stanford made him Dean of the School of Mineral Sciences. He returned to Tulsa in 1951 as a consulting geologist, much of which was in an advisory capacity to foreign governments, including Brazil, India, Australia and France. In 1954 Levorsen published the First Edition of the classic textbook “*Geology of Petroleum*”. Arville was driven by his desire to share with others what he had learned and thought about oil, oil fields, and finding oil. He stressed that exploration of oil included a comprehensive understanding of the detailed geologic history of the area, including its stratigraphy, sedimentation, deformation and fluid dynamics. A Second Edition of “*Geology of Petroleum*” was published in 1967, two years after Levorsen’s death, as revised and edited by one of his former students, Dr. Fred Berry. This became



the “classic text” for teaching Petroleum Geology in Universities across the country. A commemorative edition was published by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists Foundation in 2001.

PIONEER LEGEND

ARVILLE I. LEVORSEN

1894-1965

Arville Levorsen was a Director of the First National Bank of Tulsa and a Trustee of the University of Tulsa. In 1948 he received the highest award bestowed by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the "*Sidney Powers Award*". In 1963 he received the "*Outstanding Oklahoma Oilman Award*," and he notably served his profession as President of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, President of the Geological Society of America, and President of the American Geosciences Institute.



Arville Irving Levorsen passed away in his sleep in July 1965 at his beloved summer home near Ely, Minnesota.

Arville was held in the highest regard by petroleum geologists all around the world. His contributions to the science of Petroleum Geology are unequalled.

For his outstanding career accomplishments and his outstanding contributions to our profession, the Oklahoma Geological Foundation is proud to honor *Arville I. Levorsen as a Pioneer Legend.*



WILLIAM G. SKELLY

1878-1957

William Grove “Bill” Skelly was born during the year of 1878 in Erie, Pennsylvania, not far from Colonel Drake’s famous oil discovery at Titusville. Bill was one of six children of Irish and English immigrants William and Mary Sweatman Skelly. Bill’s parents instilled a strong work ethic in him, and while in grammar school he made money selling newspapers on the street and shoveling snow during the harsh Pennsylvania winters. At age 14 he finished public school and attended Clark’s Business College in Erie, completing the course in less than a year. Bill then followed in his father’s footsteps and started working in the oil fields of Pennsylvania, initially hauling oil-well supplies with a horse-drawn wagon, then as a tool dresser. During this time Bill learned he had to



begin at the bottom and work his way up to be successful, and he absorbed as much oil-field knowledge as he could.

However, his career ascension was interrupted in 1898 when the Spanish-American War broke out, and he enlisted in the Sixteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers and participated in the Battle of Coamo in Puerto Rico. After his service in the Spanish-American War, Bill became manager of the Citizens Gas Company in Gas City, Indiana, where he learned the technology of transporting and controlling natural gas through pipelines, which would serve him well in later years.

During this time, Skelly observed that others were making fortunes during the oil booms of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, so he decided to become an independent oil and gas producer. In 1904 while living in Indiana (at the age of 26), Bill Skelly discovered oil for the first time and that same year married his sweetheart Gertrude Frank. They had two daughters, Carolyn Skelly Burford (1905-1996) and Joanne Skelly Stuart (1910-1994).

After several drilling ventures in Indiana and Illinois, Skelly moved west, first to Texas, then in 1913 to Tulsa, Oklahoma. In 1915 Skelly successfully drilled the Ida Woodruff lease in the heart of the Healdton Field in Carter County, Oklahoma. This 20-acre lease accelerated William Skelly's success. In 1916 he became involved in the El Dorado Field located in Kansas, where he became one of the region's largest operators. In 1917 Skelly formed the Midland Refining Company in El Dorado, then in 1919 at age of 41 he incorporated the Skelly Oil Company and established its headquarters in Tulsa, which was known at the time as the "Oil Capital of the World". With tremendous success in the oilfields of Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma, by 1923 Skelly Oil Company had become one of the largest independent producers of crude oil and manufacturers of gasoline.



Bill Skelly had established a great relationship with the Osage Nation Indians and during the 1920's Skelly Oil became heavily involved in the expansive Burbank Field in Osage County. Skelly's overall annual oil production rose from 1.6 million barrels in 1920 to more than 8.7 million barrels in 1929. In addition to being an oil driller and producer, Skelly owned refineries, pipelines, and marketing, while establishing a large network of service stations. By 1930 Skelly Oil Company owned and operated 471 service stations and had more than 4,000 franchised Skelly dealers nationwide.



Bill Skelly was sensitive to oil-field waste. He recognized and implemented processes to preserve reservoir pressure to enhance flow rates over time and ultimate recoveries. He developed an early interest in natural gas and thought it wasteful that so many producers vented the gas from their oil wells. He searched for a way to harness natural gas as fuel, and Skelly Oil led the industry in creating a market for liquid petroleum gas under the product name *Skelgas*.

WILLIAM G. SKELLY

1878-1957



William G. Skelly was not only a highly respected and successful oilman, but he was also generous in his philanthropy through both his personal time as well as his resources.

Over the years Skelly became the champion and leader of numerous civic, educational, and charitable causes in Tulsa. He served

as President of the International Petroleum Exposition from 1925 until his death. In 1928 he founded the Spartan School of Aeronautics to train pilots and mechanics. In 1930 he helped build the University of Tulsa's football field, now known as Skelly Stadium. Later, he donated his ownership of the radio station KWGS to the University of Tulsa in 1945. In 1955 the Oklahoma legislature passed a unanimous resolution praising William G. Skelly as Tulsa's greatest asset. "Mr. Tulsa" was indeed more of a "giver than a getter".

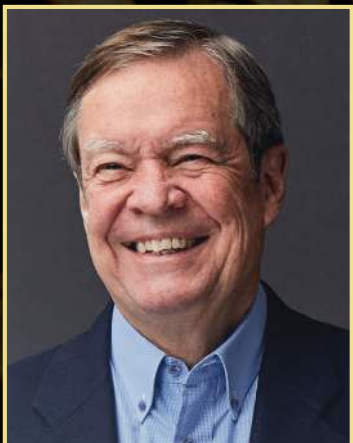
William G. Skelly remained as President of Skelly Oil Company until shortly before he passed away in 1957. He led the company through the Great Depression, the WW II years and beyond as it continued its successful exploration, production, refining, transportation and marketing growth over the years. The day after Mr. Skelly died, the offices of Skelly Oil Company were closed and all work suspended in respect for the man who had led the Company across four decades from its small beginning to a fully integrated major oil company.

Bill Skelly went from working in the oilfields of Pennsylvania as a teenager to building one of strongest independent producers of oil and gasoline in the United States. For his tremendous success in the oil and gas industry in Oklahoma, and his philanthropy and generosity of both his time and resources to Tulsa and the State of Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Geological Foundation is proud to name ***William G. Skelly as a Pioneer Legend.***

LARRY NICHOLS

Larry Nichols was born in 1942 and raised in Oklahoma City. Nichols earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geology from Princeton University in 1964 and his Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan in 1967. He served as law clerk to Justice Tom Clark and Chief Justice Earl Warren

in the U.S. Supreme Court. He then served as Special Assistant to Assistant Attorney General William H. Rehnquist in the Office of Legal Counsel at the U.S. Department of Justice.



Larry Nichols and his father co-founded Devon Energy Corporation in 1971, which today is one of the nation's largest independent oil and natural gas producers. He served as CEO from 1980 to 2010, and he served on the Board of Directors

from 1971 until his retirement in 2016. He was Chairman of the Board from 2000 to 2016. Devon has been ranked on Fortune magazine's list of the "100 Best Companies to Work For" in America, Fortune's "World's Most Admired Companies" list and is a recipient of the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, the highest recognition given by the U.S. government for support of Guard and Reserve employees.

Larry was the first CEO of an independent oil and gas company to serve as Chairman of the Board of the American Petroleum Institute in Washington, D.C. In 2015, he received API's Gold Medal for Distinguished Achievement. He served for many years on the Board of Directors of the Independent Petroleum Association of America and as Chairman of the Public Lands Committee. He received IPAA's Leadership Award and Chief Roughneck Award, and he served as Chairman of the Domestic Petroleum Alliance. In 2001 Nichols was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, in 2005 he was named Energy Advocate of the year and in 2006 he was named one of the 50 most powerful Oklahomans. In 2001 Forbes Magazine called Nichols the, "Odd Man In," saying, "Larry Nichols' sense of timing is out of sync with everyone else's. That's what makes Devon Energy successful."

Nichols serves on the National Petroleum Council, the National Association of Manufacturers and the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce. In addition, he is currently a part of the Central and Eastern European Legal Institute. He previously served as Lead Director and Chair of the Governance Committee of both Baker Hughes Inc. and Sonic Corp., two New York Stock Exchange companies.



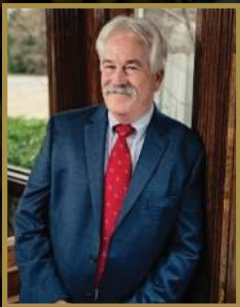
Nichols is active in state and municipal civic, community and trade organizations, including his role as Chair on the Oklahoma City Urban Renewal Authority, the OKC Redevelopment Authority and the Alliance for Economic Development.



Nichols has been active in numerous nonprofit organizations. He is on the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and has served as its Chair. He is currently Chair of the Board of the Myriad Gardens Foundation of Oklahoma City. Nichols is the Chair of the Capital Campaign of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. He is on the Board of the Dean McGee Eye Institute, and additionally, he serves on the Board of the Oklahoma State Fair, the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation and the United Way of Central Oklahoma.

Larry Nichols is often described as, “down-to earth,” “personable,” and “genuine.” He has been married to his wife, Polly, since 1971. They have two children and four grandchildren. They have each been inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. There are other awards and titles, but his most cherished are Dad and Granddad.

The Oklahoma Geological Foundation is proud to honor ***J. Larry Nichols as the recipient of the 2024 Living Legend Award.***



Joel A. Alberts
Secretary



Michael Bone



Thomas C. Cronin
Chairman



Lawrence H. Davis
Treasurer



Frank W. Gagliardi



Michael E. Hale



Terry L. Hollrah
Vice-Chairman



Lanny Holman



Camelia Knapp



J. Mark Lester



Larry Lunardi



Herbert G. Martin



Molly Yunker



Kevin Werth
Director Emeritus

**OKLAHOMA
GEOLOGICAL
FOUNDATION**
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OUR PAST LEGENDS

2007

Frederick H. “Fritz” Kate
Dean A. McGee
Dennis F. Smith

2008

John W. Nichols
Robert A. “Bob” Northcutt

2009

Herbert G. Davis
Suzanne Takken

2010

Robert Allen
Charles E. Branham
David G. Campbell

2011

Harold G. Hamm

2012

Frank Buttram
Louis M. Ford
Lew O. Ward

2013

Samuel Russel Noble
Samuel “Lloyd” Noble
Ray H. Potts
Thomas E. Davis

2014

T. Boone Pickens
Herbert Hiram Champlin
Herbert H. “Bud” Champlin

2015

Jerome Max Westheimer, Sr.
Robert W. “Bob” Waring
Dr. James O. Puckette
Dr. Kenneth S. Johnson
Bob Hancock

2016

Wirt Franklin
Dr. John W. Shelton
Royce G. Herndon
J.L. Herndon
J. Walter Duncan, Jr.

2017

Aubrey K. McClendon
T. Howard McCasland
Robert A. Hefner III

2018

Richard D. Fritz
Frank F. Phillips
Thomas W. Olsen
Keith F. Walker

2019

Harrison L. Townes
Ronnie K. Irani
Charles Newton Gould
William A. “Bill” Clement

2021

Dollie Radler Hall
Dr. Gary F. Stewart
Dr. Norman J. Hyne
Dewey F. Bartlett, Sr.

2022

Thomas N. Berry
Thomas E. Berry
Clyde McKee Becker
Clyde M. Becker
Thomas C. Cronin

2023

Thomas Baker “Tom” Slick
Lloyd E. Gatewood

Our MISSION

Each year, the Oklahoma Geological Foundation provides scholarships, awards, and grants throughout Oklahoma to students enrolled in elementary, middle and high schools, and to students that are enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs in college.

Also, the Foundation contributes direct support to teachers and their educational institutions in Oklahoma.



All of this support is bestowed through traditional endowments, awards, scholarships, and grants, as well as new programs that are created each year as the...

OKLAHOMA GEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION
expands its reach.

The Directors
OF THE OKLAHOMA GEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION

Cordially invite you and a guest to the annual
Christmas Holiday Reception

Tuesday, December 3rd – 5:30 pm
Petroleum Club Event Center
4040 N. Lincoln Blvd.

Entertainment by Michael Kleid on piano & sax!

RSVP

Tom Cronin

405-641-5833

Thomas.Cronin@cox.net





*Thank YOU for attending
and*

YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

**OKLAHOMA
GEOLOGICAL
FOUNDATION**

oklahomageologicalfoundation.org