



## REPORT- CHAPTER MEETING 5 OCTOBER 2012

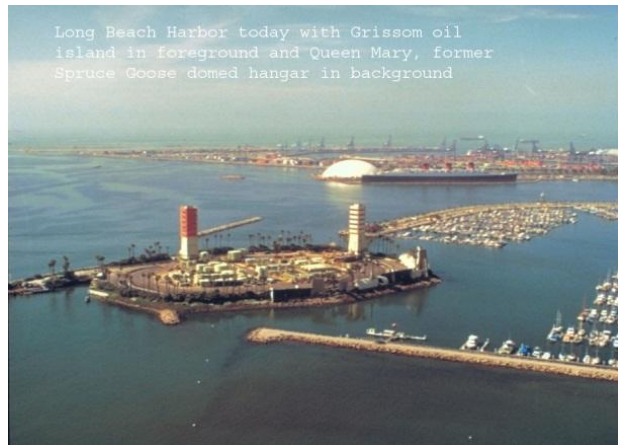
**Chapter One** held its second meeting for 2012 at the Wilmington Oil Field / THUMS Pier J Boat Landing facility located in Long Beach Harbor. The event was hosted by Mr. Uduak Ntuk Petroleum Engineer for the City of Long Beach. Twelve members and guests attended the tour and participated in the Chapter business meeting. They were: Mike Beckage (Chapter VP), Tom Cronin (Treasurer) , Sarah Thomason, Kirsten Larsen (Secretary), Bret Eisman, Rainer Rahaeuser, Lynette Honsey, Les Shobe, Rick Ralston, Anil Khadilkar, , David Gough and Barry Shope (President)

After a box lunch break the meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm and was followed by the Secretary and Treasurer's reports from Kirsten Larsen and Tom Cronin. Barry Shope reviewed a few potential locales for future meetings. Mike Beckage provided a brief presentation on the upcoming TV documentary involving the test of aircraft passenger survivability involving the controlled crash impact of a remotely flown Boeing 727 aircraft. Mike and Kirsten's company, DTS in Seal Beach, had significant test manikin instrumentation on that event.



Mike indicated that the documentary would be shown on a National Geographic Channel special later that week.

Kirsten then introduced Mr. Ntuk and he began by giving a brief overview of the Wilmington Oil Field operated by the City of Long Beach where we would be given a private tour of the 4 artificial islands off the coast of Long Beach. Originally named the THUMS islands, operated by Texaco, Humble Oil, Union Oil, Mobile Oil and Shell Oil companies, the artificial islands were built in 1965. Named after the first four American astronauts to lose their lives, Grissom, White, Chaffee and Freeman, the islands are currently owned by Occidental Petroleum Corporation. After a safety briefing the meeting attendees boarded a work boat that shuttles oil field employees between the islands and the mainland and headed to the operations on White Island (passing the Queen Mary).



Our tour guide, Mr. Ntuk, explained the mysteries that were hidden behind the island's wall of palm trees, curved four story high 60's style futuristic structures and water falls facing the shore line. All of these engineered features

were specifically installed to mask both the visual and acoustic effects of the oil drilling and distribution operation from shore. The curved structures and water features are positioned to deflect and dampened sound from the island operations. Oil rigs are mobile on rail tracks to move them around the island to various well heads. The rigs are surrounded by a structure that has visual effects resembling the same balcony height separations and



complimentary colors of nearby shore-based hotels. Extensive environmental protection and safety were designed into the island operations and were seen to be quite comprehensive.



After the tour the membership thanked Mr. Ntuk and presented him a commemorative plaque for his most interesting presentation of the unique THUMS facility. Barry also thanked everyone for attending and gave a special recognition to [Kirsten Larsen](#) and Sarah Thomason of DTS for their outstanding efforts in organizing and coordinating the facility tour with the City of Long Beach. Appreciation also goes out to Mike Beckage for the photography. The meeting was adjourned at 5pm.