

Desk and Derrick Club of Oklahoma City

DERRICK LIGHTS

Why All Eyes Are On Arkansas' Lithium

By Tim Parrish

Article from CNBC video report: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5xSreFNteU>

There is a mineral on the periodic table named Lithium, it is also known by the symbol **Li**. It is a simple element that has an atomic number three (3) on the entire chart. Only Hydrogen (1) and Helium (2) are simpler and they are gases. It is a soft, silver-white color metal and the least dense metal on earth. Lithium is not widely dispersed throughout nature and is mostly found underground in briny water.

The world's four largest lithium producing countries are Australia, Chile, China and Argentina. In 2018, an area in the South American countries of Chile, Bolivia and Argentina became so prominent in lithium extraction that they are dubbed the Lithium Triangle. It is estimated that this area contains 75% of the worlds known lithium deposits. That is why lithium is considered a **rare earth metal**.

A geological formation named the Smackover Formation exists between Northeast Texas, Southern Arkansas including small towns such as Magnolia and El Dorado and Northwest Louisiana. This formation contains extremely porous, lithium-rich deposits that has made extraction a profitable industry for decades. This formation has the highest concentration of lithium in North America with only the Lithium Triangle having a more concentrated deposit of lithium. The main producers of this resource in Southern Arkansas are ExxonMobil (XOM), Standard Lithium (SLI) and Albemarle (ALB).

While this part of Arkansas has been a stable source of lithium since the 1950's, it has suffered economically in recent years due to a flood of Chinese produced lithium related mainly to electric car battery production. So much so, that world-wide commodity prices for lithium have fallen 80% since 2020.

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CLUB MOTTO
"GREATER KNOWLEDGE -
GREATER SERVICE"

CLUB PURPOSE

The purpose of the Club shall be to promote the education and professional development of individuals employed in or affiliated with the petroleum, energy, and allied industries and to educate the general public about these industries.

ADDC MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance and foster a positive image to the global community by promoting the contribution of the petroleum, energy and allied industries through education, by using all resources available.



Desk & Derrick Club of Oklahoma City

Club Information • www.deskandderrickokc.com
 Association Information • www.addc.org

2025

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 Enterprise Crude Oil LLC

VICE PRESIDENT

Michelle Burgard
 Devon Energy

SECRETARY

Wendy Sparks
 Carl E. Gungoll Exploration

**TREASURER &
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 PRESIDENT**

Marsha Gentry
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2025 DIRECTORS

DIRECTORS

Marcy Ebert
 Retired

Jamie Gilmore
 General Dynamics

Jamie Sabata
 Waukesha-Pearce industries

***From the Editor,
 Ann Mefford***



Merry Christmas

Last time to wish everyone a great time with your family and friends this year!

We had our first snow at my house this year and its cold enough that I know its winter. I have most my decorating done at home and just started shopping for Christmas. My calendar is getting fuller by the day.

Its Christmas time and I hope you can find time to do small acts of kindness and volunteer to help others. In the days we are living in it's the little things that matter the most. Letting someone in front of us at the check out line, letting someone cross the street, taking a homemade treat to a neighbor or friend or just smiling at people are all wonderful things that are easy to do.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New year to you all!

Ann

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EDUCATION

FIELD TRIP

Board

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HOSPITALITY

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TBD

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RULES

TBD

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**2025
 COMMITTEE
 CHAIRS**



2025

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Enterprise Crude Oil LLC

VICE PRESIDENT

Michelle Burgard
Devon Energy

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Wendy Sparks
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Jamie Sabata
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PARLIAMENTARIAN
TBA

Tim Parrish

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December 4, 2025

Mark Twain famously said, "Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."

I want to invite all of you and any guests to our December meeting on Tuesday the 9th. I am pleased to tell you that we will have Market Director, **Trish Winters**, from **Breakthrough T1D** (fka Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund) tell us about the current strategies, treatments and future hopes for the fight against Type-1 diabetes. To learn more come to our meeting or check out BreakthroughT1D.org.

It seemed like Thanksgiving was slow coming, but with it in the rearview mirror it is clear that time goes by quickly. Why does time go by faster as we get older? There are still 24 hours in a day. 365 days in the year 75% of the time. Those physical realities have not changed. I have bad news for you. It is **YOU** that has changed. **What!?** Oh, Tim please tell me more. Here is what happens, **1)** our brain just isn't as quick and sharp as when we were younger, think of a flipbook where you see fewer pages instead of the whole book, **2)** we get in a rut or routine and we lump these days together as singular or near singular experiences, **3)** we have fewer new or novel experiences, **4)** proportionally one year at the age of 10 years old is 1/10 of your life and one year when you are 50 is 1/50 of your life. This YouTube video, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8N2xmO8h94&t=246s>, will explain these concepts differently than my explanation.

These next two paragraphs were in my December letter last year. I'll include them again, as I believe they cannot be understated.

I hope that your Yuletide season is starting out well and that you are not yet stressed or frazzled. If the latter, take a deep breath, exhale and blow your stresses away. Remember what was written in Matthew 11:28-30, ²⁸"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Reading that Bible verse reminds me of an Oklahoma based movie that my niece was in a couple years ago, **What Rhymes With Reason (2023)**, that helped promote a FCC funded free, anonymous nationwide suicide and crisis hotline that was just getting started. **The number is 988.**



Tim

24/7 CALL, TEXT, CHAT

p.s. Invite someone to our next meeting.



Kathy Martin
2025 ADDC President
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Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Kathy Martin

Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc.

PRESIDENT ELECT

Evelyn Green

GBC Minerals

SECRETARY

Heather Woods

Whiptail Midstream

TREASURER

Christina Forth

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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Judi Adams

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Cobra Oil and Gas Co.

NORTHEAST REGION DIRECTOR

Emily VanHaften

Simple Desk LLC

SOUTHEAST REGION DIRECTOR

Jennifer Accardo

Smith Mason & Co.

WEST REGION DIRECTOR

Wanda Guenther

Lone Wolf Enterprises

Dear Members,

I hope each of you enjoyed a blessed and memorable Thanksgiving surrounded by family and friends.

As we come to the close of another wonderful year, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to each of you. Your dedication, participation, and unwavering support have made this year truly remarkable. I am grateful for the enthusiasm and commitment you bring to our organization, and I look forward to the continued success that lies ahead as Evelyn Green leads our Association during its 75th Year (and hers as well...)! Please check with Evelyn for any outstanding Committee Chair positions and consider stepping up and maybe outside your comfort zone, you won't regret it.

As we prepare for the new year, I would like to remind all incoming 2026 officers to please complete the ADO31 form as soon as possible and return it to ADO with copies as instructed on the form. Timely submission helps ensure a smooth transition and keeps our records up to date. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this important step.

As of the writing of this letter, the mail ballot vote has not been tallied yet... but be on the lookout for an email from your President as soon as the vote has been determined to see the outcome. Additionally, correspondence from the Contest Committee just went out on the submission of 2025 AIMEE's! Get your entries ready for ELECTRONIC submission by January 16, 2026 and good luck to all of you!

Wishing each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May this season bring you joy, peace, and special moments with those you love. Here's to a bright and inspiring year ahead!

Until next time with Evelyn at the helm...

Kathy Martin

"If you're not getting outside of your comfort zone, then you're not growing." Chad Foster

Central Region Director's Newsletter



Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

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Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc.

PRESIDENT ELECT

Evelyn Green

GBC Minerals

SECRETARY

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Lone Wolf Enterprises

December 2025

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

I want to thank you all for such an amazing year and all the support and helpful guidance this year. This was a huge step for me, and you all made it easy and very worth it. I owe a huge thank you to the Tulsa Club for hosting an amazing Region meeting.

I would also like to thank all my amazing, hard-working and dedicated Presidents that were willing to assist me through out this year. Thank you very much to Melodee Guerrero, **Graham Club**; Sharon Hiss, **Great Bend Club**; Kay McKinley, **Liberal Club**; Janet Beavers, **Lone Star Club**; Tim Parrish, **Oklahoma City Club**; Malissa Smith, **Tulsa Club**; Allison Igo, **Wichita Club** and Tracy Flynn, **Wichita Falls Club**. It has been a true honor to have work alongside each of you. You have all represented your clubs very well.

While I'm talking about our clubs, I do need to report that we will be losing one more of our club's this year. The Graham Club has decided that it is time for them to disband. It is so hard to see another club disband. I hope that nearby clubs will reach out a lending hand to encourage the members to transfer their membership.

Membership renewals will be coming out soon. Please be watching your emails so you can fill out your 2026 forms and get them submitted. All our clubs have had their elections for their 2026 Board of Directors. Please fill out the ADO 31 form (New Officers Form) and email it to ado@addc.org, Jamie.d.gilmore24@gmail.com, and nichole@cobraogc.com, retain a copy for your clubs records. Please don't forget to sign up for a committee at the regional level or the national level. I know Evelyn Green and Jamie Gilmore would greatly appreciate your help. Let's make 2026 another successful year.

I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Nichole Harney
2025 Central Region Director

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In years past, lithium was used for pharmaceutical, ceramic glass and lubricants, but today 87% of lithium produced is used for batteries in EVs, smartphones and laptops. That is because of its light weight, low density and efficient electrochemical transferal process. The growing demand for batteries in consumer goods is expected to triple by 2030, which is why ExxonMobile plans to produce battery grade lithium that it can provide batteries for one million EVs annually.

Why Arkansas? Everyone wants their smartphones and some want their EVs, but both require batteries and batteries require lithium. Lithium requires mining and extraction and few people want a mine in their backyard, which brings back the old NIMBY (**Not In My Back Yard**) argument, but rural Southern Arkansas has embraced the opposite force: YIMBY (**Yes In My Back yard**). Lithium production infrastructure has already been in place for years, so expanding the industry in a rural, somewhat economically depressed region was mostly embraced by the residents.

Much of the lithium extraction in Arkansas compared to South America is done by a modern approach called Direct Lithium Extraction (DLE). This process is more efficient, ecofriendly, requires less energy and less water, but challenges remain for DLE, because it has not yet been proven economical on the scale that will be needed for on-going supply chains. With that said, companies doing business in Arkansas remain dedicated to lithium production. In a statement from ExxonMobbile they said, "We're committed to being a leading lithium supplier and are laying the groundwork for a successful business in Arkansas."

Lithium is used in so many everyday products that it makes in nearly impossible to go forward technologically with it. It is used in products such as CPUs, EVs, pharmaceuticals, electric cooktops. Without it, the Internet would not have exploded since the 2000s. Smartphones would not be so small and handy.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO
ALL.**



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Lucky



Strike!

Dates to
Remember

December

12/9 Members meeting

12/01 Ann Nguyen

12/15 Jamie Sabata



Marsha Gentry our
50/50 winner.

Marcy Ebert our
Birthday winner.



January

01/06 Taylor Rose

01/10 Tim Parrish

December 9, 2025 (Tuesday) Membership Meeting

On the Border

120 S. Meridian Ave, Oklahoma City, OK

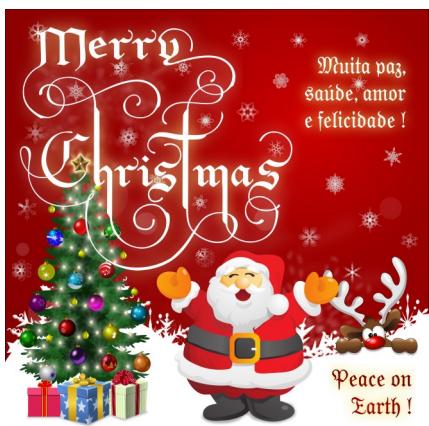
Dinner & Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Cost \$20 Meeting Only: No Charge

Reservations must be received by noon on Friday, December 5, 2025.

Payment Must Be Made For Reservation

Send Reservations to: Ann Nguyen E-mail: anguyen@eprod.com

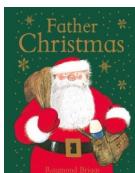


DECEMBER 2025

LET'S LAUGH (or groan)

Q: Why is Elmo Emo at Christmas?

A: Because there's No L.



Q: What is Father Christmas' wife's name?

A: Mary Christmas.

Q: What do you call people that are afraid of Santa?

A: Claustrophobic.

Q: Why couldn't the elf pay his rent?

A: He came up a little short.



Q: Why do wiener dogs like winter?

A: Because they like to dachshund through the snow.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec. 12 Poinsettia Day



Dec. 14 Roast Chestnuts Day



Dec. 15 Annual Wear Your Pearls Day

Dec. 16 National Chocolate Covered Anything Day

Dec. 21 Humbug Day (Bah)

Dec. 24 Egg Nog Day

Dec. 27 Make Cutout Snowflakes Day



Dec. 30 Bacon Day

Dec. 31 Make Up Your Mind Day (last chance)

Jan. 1 Omigosh, it's **2026!!!**

M & M
wish you a Happy New Year!

FIND SANTA'S REINDEER!

L V C A D E J S T K K G E R
K I J I P X R J T J I H O E
D O P F G A R U K L J O G E
V U W G Q E I O D D R R R D
C Q A L C R E N N O D Z D N
S S K N Y K Z W E H L D A I
D N A B L I T Z E N A P S E
B R I C N V H W P N T Q H R
P V K T E N I Q C X E G E T
X Y T Q L A E E W S M F R Y
O J B C H R R X X L O W K M
Q U N B S O R N I S C M H U
W O O G R V Z S N V Q S L N
I W M H L G G N S B H E N J



Reindeer Dasher Dancer Prancer Vixen
Comet Cupid Donner Blitzen Rudolph

