

# Douglas L. Beene

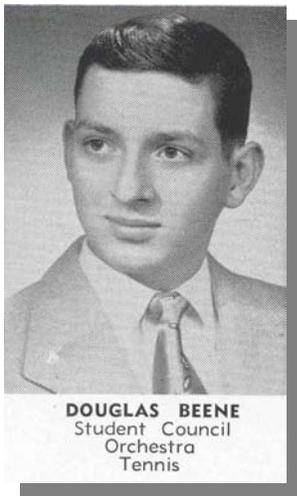
1 July 1956 to 8 February 2002

## *Contributions to the Survey, the University and Kansas*

Kansas Geological Survey

University of Kansas

### **The Early Lawrence Years**



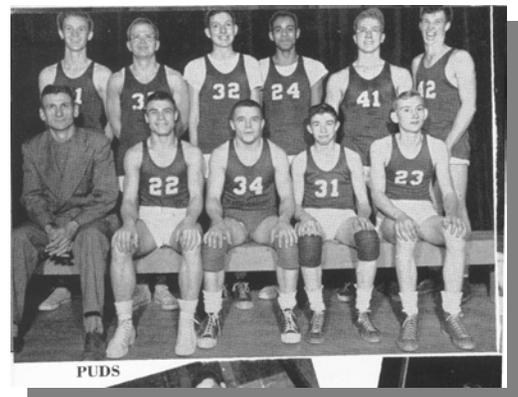
**Doug Beene, Class of 1952**

Doug’s roots go far back into the pre-history of Lawrence as evidenced by his appearance in R. C. Moore’s first draft of that famous pen and ink sketch looking to the west across Lawrence during the Middle Pennsylvanian (See Page 8). Doug graduated from Liberty Memorial High School (now Central Junior High) in the class of 1952. He was a member of the scout team in football. However, getting tackled multiple times by Bill Nieder (who, as a senior, was a high school All-American line backer and went on to win gold and silver Olympic medals in the shot-put) rapidly disabused him of any career as a gridiron hero. Doug always was and continues to present day a basketball fan, but Doug was also a basketball star on the 1952 Lawrence City League “Puds”. However, the team did not have one

of the best records in the league (3 Wins – 7 Loses).

This early experience may have ignited Doug’s interest in being a scorekeeper for basketball. After graduating from high school, Doug moved up the hill to begin his college career, and his long tenure as a Jayhawk.

Doug became a geologist in a typical fashion (i.e. starting by default and working into a passion). As a



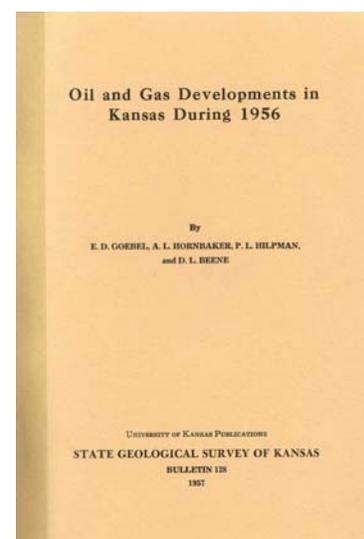
**Doug Beene is Number 32 in the back row.**

business/accounting major one had to fulfill distribution requirements by making it through at least one physical science course. Geology appealed to Doug as easier than either chemistry or physics. After one geology course from Dr. Andy Ireland, he was hooked and changed majors. As usual his new advisor in the geology department forgot to tell him that in order to graduate he would now be required to complete both chemistry and physics. In addition to Dr. Ireland, Doug enjoyed the challenge of attending classes taught by a number of professors in the department including Drs. Moore, Louis Dellwig, and a young Bill Hambleton.

In 1955, as Doug completed his junior year, the field of geology was booming. Graduating geology majors were the subjects of bidding wars among oil and mineral companies. Princely offers in the \$700-\$800 per month range were common. Another small item typical to a career in geology managed to slip by that first advisor – the boom-bust nature of the profession. In 1956, a bust hit the oil industry. That year twenty-two graduated from KU with a degree in geology, only three or four got jobs in the profession. In the spring Doug interviewed at the Survey and was offered a position making \$340 per month as a Geologist I starting on 1 July 1956 at the Pittsburg office. Graduation was in June and Doug didn't know whether he was going to graduate or be a father first. However, he graduated about 4-5 days prior to Ginny having their first baby (Carolynn). There were to be a total of four children in the Beene household (Carolynn, Sharon, Leslie, and Steve).

### **Pittsburg, Kansas**

At the Pittsburg office, Al Hornbaker was the geologist who trained Doug. The following year Hornbaker, who wanted to come back to Lawrence and work on his advanced degree, left Doug in charge of the Pittsburg office. The Pittsburg office was started by G. E. Abernathy during WWII in order to work with the coal, and lead and zinc mining industries. However, immediately after WWII, the office became involved in tracking



oil and gas activity and production. By the time that Doug arrived in 1956, coal mining was on its last legs and the eastern Kansas fields were a hotbed of oil and gas drilling. Doug worked closely with the old US Bureau of Mines office out of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, on the brand new technology of waterflooding. Information collected on eastern Kansas' oil and gas activity was highly sought after by the Kansas Corporation Commission and the numerous companies that brokered scout and production information (e.g., Dwights, Red Top, Vance Roe, and Petroleum Information). Prior to the Survey collecting oil and gas data, locations were poorly known, and production was not accurately assigned. Most production was hauled by truck, and the pumper only knew he hauled from a lease in a certain region with no idea of the legal description. The Survey in those days even employed a scout working out of Chanute. For those who might not know, an oil field scout is a paid spy who spends most of his time either in coffee shops talking to roughnecks and roustabouts or sitting in his car with binoculars counting joints of pipe on a drilling rig.

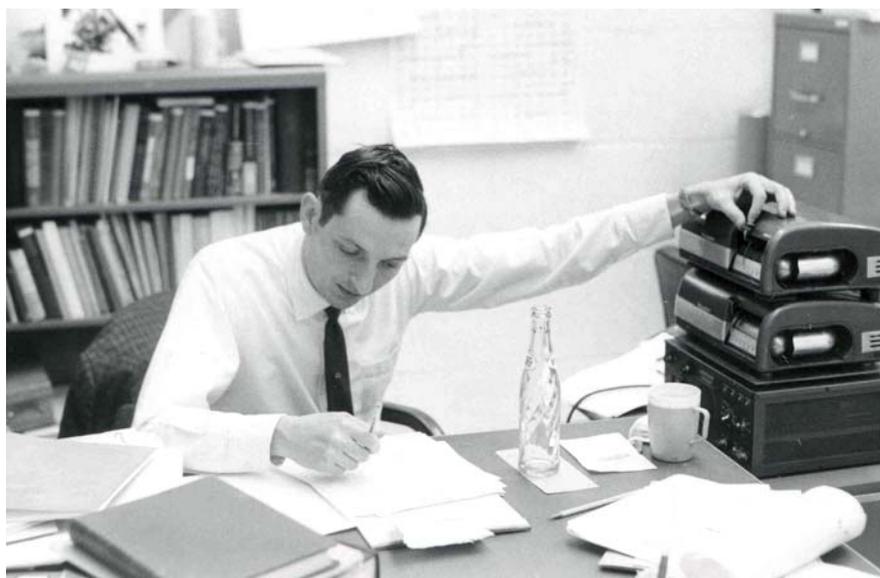
While in Pittsburg, Doug had the privilege to go down into the last operating underground coal mine in southeast Kansas (Lucky Star). They were working about a 2-foot coal seam by getting down on their hands and knees and undercutting the clay with a pick. Then they would shoot the seam and drop it. Rooms were no more than 3 foot tall, and blind mules were used to pull the cars. That was the last underground mine into which Doug was to venture.

Doug also taught geology at Pittsburg State University for two years. The previous geology teacher, a member of both the Chemistry and Geography departments, retired. She had taught geology in one department and geography in the other. When she retired the Chemistry Department, where she taught geology, thought the Geography Department was hiring somebody to fill both positions. About a month before school started the Chemistry Department learned that the Geography Department had hired a full-time geographer and there was no one to teach geology. Doug was asked if he would be interested to fill in on a one-year basis. The Survey Director (Foley) approved a temporary part-time assignment. One year became two years, and when Pittsburg State asked Doug to teach a third year, Foley put his foot down by stating "two years are temporary, three years is becoming permanent. They better look for somebody else."

That's why there is one year and 9 mos. at 3/4 time on Doug's employment record. Each semester, Doug taught physical geology, mineralogy and one other geology course to fulfill a one-quarter appointment. Pittsburg tried to have Doug teach meteorology, but he had never had a course in the subject ... so he thought it best to decline. By 1963 Vance Roe and the other petroleum information companies were collecting accurate oil and gas data and the mining industry was largely defunct. The decision was made to close the Pittsburg office, and Doug was transferred back to Lawrence.

### **Return to Lawrence**

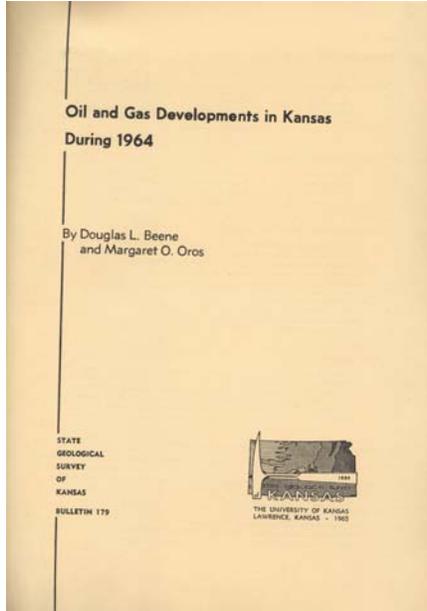
Doug worked closely with Ed Goebel and Paul Hilpman to produce activity and production reports for Kansas. The Survey occupied about 1/3 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and some of the basement of Lindley Hall. To assemble the annual oil and gas reports, four secretaries and three geologists



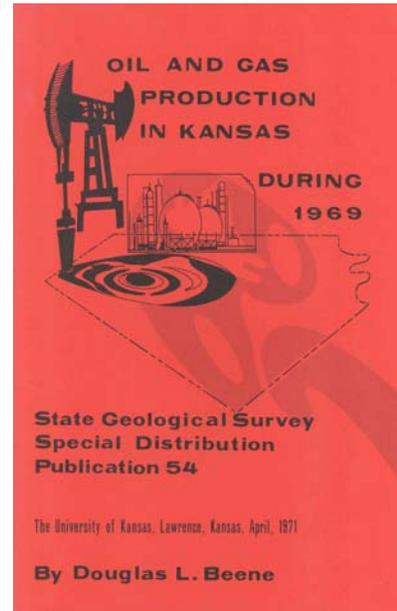
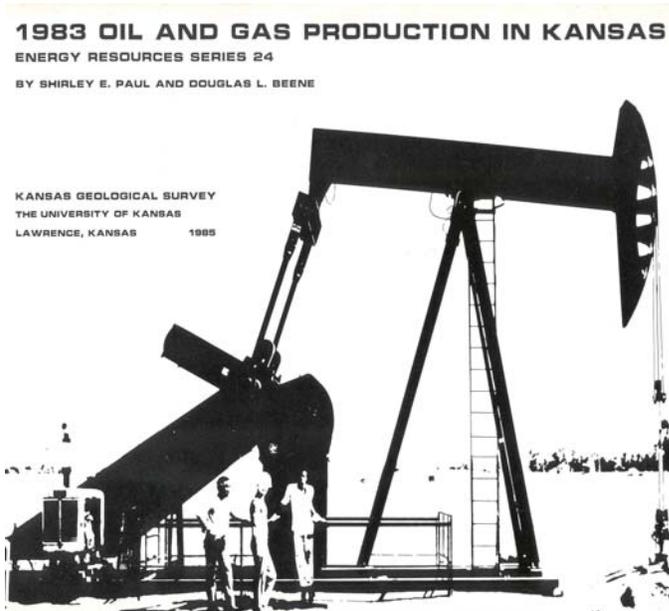
continuously ran 10-key adding machines for about 2-3 months each year. Some time around 1964, data was being collected and assembled for an enhanced oil recovery study. Floyd Preston talked Ed Goebel into using the new University computer, then located in

the Math Department. However, the computer was incapable of distinguishing missing data (a blank) from a zero, so individual lease and field averages were way off. Doug came up with a solution to the problem that eluded the mathematicians. After that experience, the Survey began to keypunch all the Kansas oil and gas production data. This would be the start of the Survey's later adventures through computer geology and now onto the bandwagon of today, Geoinformatics. Much of the petroleum, other natural resources, and geologic information that is

available online through the Survey web site can be traced back to these early efforts by Doug and others. We are still retrieving data that was handwritten or typed in the old large format



ledger books. Today, SQL, Cold Fusion, and Java applets query, analyze, and display, but in 1964 punch cards were run through an IBM 407 calculator. Doug and the other members of the Survey programmed this “computer” by crawling around to its backside and creating spider webs of wires. In short order the University obtained its first true computer (1965-66). It was an IBM 7040 that occupied one-half in a wing of Summerfield Hall. The production data was collected, keypunched and run as a batch job. The results were stored on multiple reels of 7-track tape. In the early 1970’s the Survey began to work closely with information brokers such as Petroleum Information and we began to



purchase the raw data on tape. Also in the early 1970’s the first version of the Data General (DG) computer was purchased, and the Survey moved its data processing off the University’s mainframe. Doug continued to assemble an annual oil and gas production report until 1996, when we rolled the DG out the door. Today the data obtained directly from the Department of

Revenue and the Corporation Commission is uploaded into the Survey's relational database management system. For the last five years Doug has worked to assemble production data from the 1930's and 1940's. He is threatening to haul a computer home and push production information back toward the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Doug has had a large role in contributing to the Survey's recognition as the best in the world in providing online access to accurate and detailed natural resource information.



Doug was asked how could he do the same job for over 45 years. He answered that it's not the same job it was in 1956. You're doing the same task but the tools you're doing it with are changing almost on an annual basis. From paper ledgers, to punch cards, to drum storage, to magnetic tape, to floppy disks, to hard disks. From ledger books, to mainframe, to a computer sitting on a desk with more power than occupied one-half of Summerfield Hall (and I think Doug's current PC is just a Pentium II).

## A Second Career

The Survey has a long history of occupying the chair at scorer's table for KU basketball teams. Sometime just after WWII, Ed Goebel began to help his neighbor as assistant scorer. After Ed's neighbor received his Ph.D., Ed became the official scorer and was assisted by Paul Hilpman of the Survey. In November of 1963, Doug started helping at the scorer's table. Doug began by running the overhead score board. The person who had been the scoreboard operator was too busy with a lucrative and more interesting second career calling square dances. Square dance nights coincided with KU basketball nights. After Ed Goebel left to teach at UMKC, Paul Hilpman became head scorer and Doug became assistant scorer. Two years later Hilpman left for Kansas City, and Doug became head scorer for KU basketball. Doug has been head scorer for 32 seasons and worked on the bench a total of 39 years. Doug has been on the bench during the tenure of over half of the KU basketball coaches – from Harp to Ted Owens, to Larry Brown, and now Roy Williams. At the end of last season Doug had been the scorer for 510 KU home basketball games, and worked innumerable Big 8 and high school tournaments – All for no pay.

At one memorable KU-Missouri game Doug was being assisted at the scorer's table by a KU assistant football coach, who still held a grudge from losing to Missouri earlier that fall. The assistant could not help himself while watching Norm Stewart's antics. He let out a yell "Oh shut up Norm, and go sit down." Norm Stewart bolted for the scorer's table thinking Doug the source. Doug was, in a few well-selected phrases, invited outside to settle the dispute. Later after the game Stewart apologized. Years later during Stewart's last game at KU, and just a day before announcing his retirement, Stewart came up to Doug and made the comment "It is time for us old guys to move on to something else."

When Doug first started as scorer one did not have the horn and red light. Instead the timer used a gun, actually a starter pistol fired down below the table. A number of times the timer fired the pistol above the table and right next to Doug's ear. In 32 seasons as scorer Doug was only asked to rule on a couple of shots, none of which really decided the outcome of a game.

## Retirement Plans

After retirement on 8 February 2002, Doug will continue to occupy his chair at the KU basketball scorer's table. He and Ginny will continue to visit daughters in England and Minnesota. Doug will finally get on top of those farm chores and work for Habitat for Humanity.



## Appendix A

### Douglas L. Beene Survey Publications

- 1957, Goebel, E.D.; Hornbaker, A.L.; Hilpman, P.L.; and **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1956: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 128, 250 p.
- 1958, Goebel, E.D.; Hilpman, P.L.; Hornbaker, A.L.; and **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1957: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 133, 264 p.
- 1959, Goebel, E.D.; Hilpman, P.L.; and **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1958: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 138, 228 p.
- 1960, Goebel, E.D.; Hilpman, P.L.; **Beene**, D.L.; and Noever, R.J., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1959: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 147, 254 p.
- 1960, Goebel, E.D.; Hilpman, P.L.; **Beene**, D.L.; and Noever, R.J., Data on secondary recovery projects in Kansas, 1959: Kansas Geological Survey, Oil and Gas Investigations, no. 20, 1 sheet.
- 1960, Schoewe, W.H.; **Beene**, D.L.; and Muilenburg, Grace, Geologic field trip; vicinity of Pittsburg; Bourbon, Crawford, Cherokee counties: Kansas Geological Survey, [guidebook for] National Science Foundation Class, Kansas State College of Pittsburg, Pittsburg, KS, 16 p.
- 1961, Goebel, E.D.; Hilpman, P.L.; **Beene**, D.L.; and Noever, R.J., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1960: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 155, 229 p.
- 1961, Goebel, E.D.; Hilpman, P.L.; **Beene**, D.L.; and Noever, R.J., Data on secondary recovery projects in Kansas, 1960: Kansas Geological Survey, Oil and Gas Investigations, no. 24, 1 sheet
- 1962, Goebel, E.D.; Hilpman, P.L.; **Beene**, D.L.; and Noever, R.J., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1961: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 160, 231 p.
- 1963, Goebel, E.D.; Hilpman, P.L.; Oros, M.O.; and **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1962: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 166, 165 p.
- 1964, Hilpman, P.L.; Oros, M.O.; **Beene**, D.L.; and Goebel, E.D., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1963: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 172, 180 p.
- 1965, **Beene**, D.L.; and Oros, M.O., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1964: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 179, 52p.

- 1965, Oros, M.O.; and **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas fields and production in Kansas, 1964: Kansas Geological Survey, Special Distribution Publication, no. 21, 59 p.
- 1965, **Beene**, D.L., Hallet field: Kansas Geological Society, Kansas Oil and Gas Fields, vol. 4, pp. 100-105
- 1967, **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas fields in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Map Series, no. M-3, 1 sheet, scale 1:500,000
- 1967, **Beene**, D.L.; and Oros, M.O., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1965: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 185, 177 p.
- 1967, Hardy, R.G.; **Beene**, D.[L.]; Goebel, E.[D.]; Hess, W.[R.]; Hornbaker, A.[L.]; Oros, M.[O.]; and Spitz, O.T., Economic role of the petroleum industry in Kansas: Kansas Department of Economic Development, Planning for Development, Report, no. 15A, 57 p.
- 1968, Oros, M.O.; and **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas developments in Kansas during 1966: Kansas Geological Survey, Bulletin, no. 190, 191 p.
- 1969, **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas production in Kansas during 1967: Kansas Geological Survey, Special Distribution Publication, no. 41, 144 p.
- 1970, **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas production in Kansas during 1968: Kansas Geological Survey, Special Distribution Publication, no. 50, 144 p.
- 1971, **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas production in Kansas during 1969: Kansas Geological Survey, Special Distribution Publication, no. 54, 143 p.
- 1971, **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas production in Kansas during 1970: Kansas Geological Survey, Special Distribution Publication, no. 59, 142 p.
- 1972, **Beene**, D.L.; and Wolfe, Helen, Directory of Kansas mineral producers, pp. 49-108, <In>, Brady, L.L.; Oros, M.O.; Flueckinger, L.A.; Camin, K.Q.; and Hardy, R.G.; Kansas mineral industry report, 1971: Kansas Geological Survey, Special Distribution Publication, no. 61, 108 p.
- 1973, **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas production in Kansas during 1971: Kansas Geological Survey, Special Distribution Publication, no. 64, 144 p.
- 1974, **Beene**, D.L.; Wolfe, Helen; Barnhart, Joyce; Laskowski, Joanne; Bandler, Diana; and Grisafe, D.A., Directory of Kansas mineral producers, pp. 41-100, <In>, Grisafe, D.A.; Kansas mineral industry report, 1973: Kansas Geological Survey, Mineral Resource Series, no. 2, 100 p.

- 1974, **Beene**, D.L., 1972 Oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 2, 149 p.
- 1975, **Beene**, D.L., 1973 Oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 4, 156 p.
- 1976, **Beene**, D.L., 1974 Oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 6, 160 p.
- 1977, **Beene**, D.L., 1975 Oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 8, 164 p.
- 1977, **Beene**, D.L., 1976 Oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 10, 169 p.
- 1979, **Beene**, D.L., 1977 Oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 12, 175 p.
- 1979, **Beene**, D.L., 1978 Oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 14, 178 p.
- 1980, Bahnmaier, E.L.; and **Beene**, D.L., 1979 oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 16, 194 p.
- 1982, Paul, S.E.; and **Beene**, D.L., 1981 Oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 20, 204 p.
- 1983, Paul, S.E.; and **Beene**, D.L., 1982 Oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 23, 217 p.
- 1985, Paul, S.E.; and **Beene**, D.L., 1983 oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 24, 230 p.
- 1985, Paul, S.E.; and **Beene**, D.L., 1984 oil and gas production in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Energy Resources Series, no. 25, 246 p.
- 1989, **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas fields in Kansas, listing by name, location, and cumulative production through January 1, 1988: Kansas Geological Survey, Open-file Report, no. 1989-1, 95 p.
- 1989, Paul, S.E.; Ross, J.A.; Wong, M.K.-W.; Wong, R.K.-W.; Ross, C.G.; and **Beene**, D.L., (compls.), Oil and gas fields in Kansas, 1988: Kansas Geological Survey, Map Series, no. 18, 1 sheet, scale 1:500,000

- 1990, Ross, J.A.; Wong, R.K.-W.; and **Beene**, D.L., (compls.), Oil and gas fields in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Map Series, no. 22, 1 sheet, scale 1:500,000
- 1990, Grisafe, D.A.; Boyd, A.; Ross, J.A.; **Beene**, D.L.; and Wong, J.C., Abandoned pits and quarries in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Map Series, no. 24, 1 sheet, scale 1:1,000,000
- 1991, **Beene**, D.L., Oil and gas fields in Kansas, listing by name, location, and cumulative production through January 1, 1990: Kansas Geological Survey, Open-file Report, no. 1991-14, 95 p.
- 1993, **Beene**, D.L., (compl.), Oil and gas fields in Kansas, listing by name, location, and cumulative production through January 1, 1992: Kansas Geological Survey, Open-file Report, no. 1993-20, 120p.
- 1993, Collins, D.R.; Ross, J.A.; Brownrigg, R.L.; and **Beene**, D.L., Watershed districts in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey, Map Series, no. 32, 1 sheet, scale 1:500,000.
- 1995, Carr, T.R.; **Beene**, D.[L.]; and Collins, D.R., Kansas oil and gas production trends 1995: Kansas Geological Survey, Open-file Report, no. 1995-42, 12 p., (also available [Online] [http://www.kgs.ukans.edu/PRS/publication/OFR95\\_42/tim1.html](http://www.kgs.ukans.edu/PRS/publication/OFR95_42/tim1.html))