

## VISITORS NATIONAL OIL MUSEUM

A large part of the visitors have left their impressions in the Museum *Book of Honor*.

Starting with inauguration date – **8th of October 1961** (Mr. Mihai Florescu, Minister) and up to present, the **National Oil Museum** was visited by numerous personalities from the political and cultural life in our country:

- Eng. **Dimitrie Leonida**, the founder of Romanian Technical Museum that bears his name
- Cpt. Eng. astronaut **Dumitru Prunariu**, the first Romanian that conquered the cosmic space (1982)
- **Ioan Grigorescu**, famous writer, former ambassador of Romania in Poland
- **Sergiu Nicolaescu**, famous Romanian director
- **Prince Paul of Romania and Princess Lia**
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Political personalities:

- **Mr. Dinu Patriciu** – famous politician, son of great geologist Valeriu Patriciu ( 1997)
- **Mr. Radu Câmpeanu** – leader of the Liberal Party
- **Mr. Petre Roman** – President of Senate, leader of Democrat Party

President **Emil Constantinescu** honored us with his presence in 2005 on the occasion of the centenary for Nicolae Debie.

In 2007 the president of Azerbaidjan, Ilham Aliyev was very intrigued by what he discovered about Romanian Oil, because despite the fact they had a long history in the field, they had no dedicated museum.

Other political people were our guests – ambassadors of Holland, India, Cuba, Japan, Mexico, Russian federation, Austria, Great Britain (Quentin Quayle) and **James Rosapepe**, the ambassador of the United States of America who were enthusiastic about how they were received.

Another interesting fact is that Mr Rosapape advertised the museum and in fact the presence of many American visitors is largely due to him. In 2009, he launched the book fair „*Dracula is dead*” where 2 pages are allocated to our museum with the recommendation to visit it in view of finding interesting facts.

The museum has attracted the attention of many specialists in the oil field, both in the country and abroad, famous companies being interested in the Romanian petroleum industry, but also by the activity of the firms that are represented in Romania : **Shell, Amoco, Ro-Fa Center Irak, Turkish Petroleum Company, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Exxon, Schlumberger, Halliburton, Texaco, etc.**

Also, American pilots from the Second World War, prisoners in the 2<sup>nd</sup> world war, that were impressed by the Romanian traditional hospitality, and came back to our country: **Benedict Yedlin, Paul Chase, Bobby Bennett.**

The list of foreigners continues with ministers and administrators from the state apparatus, party leaders, university professors from all over the world: **USA, Canada, Brazil, France, England, Libya, Congo, China, Russia, Coreea, Poland, Germany, Zair etc.**

(In 1979, May 2006, Alexandru Edeleanu , the nephew of the famous scientist Lazar Edeleanu, came together with his family to visit the museum)

Even James Bond came to us in 1992 – banker at The World Bank Washington DC, a funny name coincidence.

Certainly, the majority of the visitors are emotionally or professionally connected with the oil industry in general, from almost all corners of the world, besides European states and USA also, Zair, Uganda, Venezuela, Mexico, Nigeria, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Congo, China, Cuba, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Chile, Ecuador, Algeria, Irak, Israel, Tunisia, Yemen, Sudan , Egypt, India and the list could continue.

Children, students, young people in general are integrated in special programs of the type: Lesson at the Museum, Children's week at the museum, and we are seeing a growing interest from their part and their teachers.

They put down their impressions "*A group of enthusiastic children, apt for emotion in front of history*"