



## COPAS- COLORADO NEWS

October 2004  
Vol. 2004-2005 No. 2

### October 12<sup>th</sup> Lunch Speaker

On October 12, Howard Blunk, COPAS National Vice-President, and Sandy Launchbaugh will speak on COPAS issues.

### President's Message

I was gladdened by the strong turnout for our first luncheon of the year. Thank you all for the quick turnaround of membership applications and dues payments. I wish I could have had time to meet more of you on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately I will be out of town on October 12<sup>th</sup> so I will have to wait for my next opportunity on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

In addition to Dan Reichel, Deanna Duell, Dawn Meek and Brenda Thompson whose service to your society was recognized at the last luncheon meeting, I would like to thank John Hultin and Mark Solomon for serving as Co-Chairs of the Revenue and Financial Reporting Committees, respectively. I have presented each of them with their token of appreciation so that they would not have to wait until November 9<sup>th</sup> to be recognized.

I think we are off to a very good start with our luncheon speakers. I found Liz Rao's presentation on the Regional Transportation District's FasTracks to be very informative. It is clear that the mass-transit/transportation issues facing the Denver-Metropolitan are very complex and financially daunting. I especially appreciated Liz's ability to answer questions from the audience.

The networking opportunities for members in our society continue to develop this year. On September 10<sup>th</sup> COPAS-Colorado members Scott Hillman, Steve Gorham, John Hultin, Dave Abel, Tom Ferguson, Phil Doty, Jim Allison, Sandy Launchbaugh and I gave separate presentations to the Desk and Derrick Club at their GLEAM Accounting 101 seminar. Scott is diligently working on the creation of a Midstream/Upstream committee here that will have counterparts in other local COPAS societies. He is coordinating a meeting with several individuals at the National meeting in San Antonio to continue this process. He is also making arrangements to provide a speaker(s) for the technical session before the October 12<sup>th</sup> luncheon. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a discussion of the Society of Petroleum Engineer Evaluators (SPEE) SEC Reserve Reporting seminar to be held on October 13<sup>th</sup> and the IPAMS Lunch & Learn Program. Finally, several companies in Denver have formed a consortium with PDI and are making oil and gas education programs available to our members on a space available basis at a reasonable price here in Denver. We will keep you posted on new developments. I hope you can take advantage of a number of these opportunities.

If you have any suggestions, ideas or other comments please feel free to contact me or the other Board members. We can all be reached via e-mail, but I refer you to our website, [www.copascalorado.org](http://www.copascalorado.org). You can contact us there and you can find other information about your society.

Michael (Mike) Roach  
2004-2005 COPAS-Colorado President

### Educational Opportunities

In addition to the regular monthly COPAS meetings, periodic technical sessions and annual Education Day, COPAS members are invited to participate in the following programs:

The Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineer and COPAS-Colorado is offering a **mini-seminar on how reserve numbers are generated and the SEC reporting requirements and federal tax rules relating to those numbers**. John Wright (Phd.-PE) and Patrick Quinn (CPA).will speak. It is scheduled from 11:30 to 3:00 on October 13, 2004 in the Herschner Room in the Wells Fargo Bank Building. The fee is \$18 and includes catered lunch and refreshments.

**Please mail your check in advance to reserve your place.** Make the check payable to SPEE, c/o Kinney Oil Co., 1401 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 870, Denver, CO 80202. Indicate whether you need CPE credits and include your name, address and email.

Gregory Wilcox, V.P. Engineering at Wilbanks Reserve Corporation, is directing the event and feels his members have shown a strong interest in the topic and in the benefit to be derived from the interaction with COPAS-Colorado. **For additional information, please call Rob Fowler at 303-295-1770 or email jrobf@qwest.net.**

**IPAMS** has instituted a new series of seminars called the “**Lunch & Learn**” Program. The series is designed to (1) educate industry employees at all levels about the industry in general and our issues in particular, and (2) to develop a grassroots network of industry volunteers who can respond to requests for comments on EISs/EAs, land management plans, bills, regulations, negative press, etc., and/or serve on a Speakers Bureau; hence, making better industry “Ambassadors” of all of us. Upcoming programs are as follows:

**Tues., October 26 “Hot Topic”: “Becoming Involved in the Regulatory Process”**

*Dave Searle, Marathon Oil Company*

**What are the basic regulatory processes? Why should individuals be involved in developing and commenting on regulations? How can I participate? See IPAMS’ new online e-response commenting tool!**

**Tues., November 16 “Natural Gas Marketing 101”**

*John Harpole, President, Mercator Energy*

**How we get production from the wellhead to the end market; supply and demand; pipeline capacity and constraints.**

**COMING IN JANUARY “An Indepth Look at Seismic Exploration”**

*Stuart Wright, Manager of Geophysics, Dawson Geophysical*

The series is free and open to anyone who wants to learn more about the industry and help make a difference that benefits our industry and, ultimately, ourselves. All presentations will be held in the Herschner Room in the Wells Fargo Bank Building, 1700 Lincoln Street. **Reserve your spot by registering online at [www.ipams.org](http://www.ipams.org). For more information contact Carla Wilson, 303-623-0987 or [cwilson@ipams.org](mailto:cwilson@ipams.org).**

Meeting Date	Speaker	Tech Session @ 10:00 am
October 12, 2004	Howard Blunk, COPAS National Vice-President and Sandy Launchbaugh will speak on COPAS issues	Midstream/Downstream
November 9, 2004	Pete Stark, IHS Energy, speaking on the state of the industry	Tax
December 14, 2004	Santa	
January 11, 2005	TBA	
February 8, 2005	TBA	
March 8, 2005	TBA	
April 12, 2005	TBA	
May 2005	Education Day	

**COPAS COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULES**

Committee	Date	Time	Location	Contact	
Audit/Joint Interest	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	11:45 am	TBA	Steve Gorham	303-308-0500
Education	Oct 28	11:45 am	Mak J Energy	Tracy Pharis	303-298-9600
Fin. Reporting	Oct 22	12:00 pm	St. Mary	Phil Doty	303-740-9400
Mid/Downstream	TBA				
Revenue	Oct 7	11:30 am	St. Mary	Tom Ferguson	303-863-4376
Small Oil & Gas	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	11:45 am	Hein & Assoc.	Bryan Pratt	303-298-9600
Tax	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday	7:30 am	Adams Mark	Gordy Stenger	303-389-3622

## Dues Reminder and Change of Contact Info

Please update your contact information on your COPAS invoice when you send in your annual dues. If your info changes later, there is a change contact information link on the website that you can use to update your information. If you haven't received your annual dues statement, please contact Jim Garrett at [jgarrett@credopetroleum.com](mailto:jgarrett@credopetroleum.com)

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### **Audit/Joint Interest**

Committee chairs: Steve Gorham- Rockport -Essex Co. 303-308-0500, [Steve@rockportaudit.com](mailto:Steve@rockportaudit.com)  
Dawn Smith [dsmith@stmaryland.com](mailto:dsmith@stmaryland.com), 303-863-4321  
Dave Abel, [dabel@stmaryland.com](mailto:dabel@stmaryland.com), 303-863-4321

The JI/Audit committee meets the third Tuesday of each month, rotating at various member offices. We are currently working on several Model Form Interpretations which will be discussed at upcoming national meetings. Dawn has been our representative on the national committee that is working on a new Accounting Procedure which is set as a voting item for the fall national meeting.

Several members participated in presenting an accounting module to the Denver Desk & Derrick in September. For the last four years our committee has conducted the national employee benefits survey. We are always looking for new members to share their questions, ideas, and experience.

#### **Education**

Committee chairs: Tracy Pharis (303) 298-9600, [tpharis@heincpa.com](mailto:tpharis@heincpa.com)  
Board Liaison: Brenda Thompson (303) 339-5874, [bthompson@makenergy.com](mailto:bthompson@makenergy.com)

The Education Committee met on September 23rd at the office of Hein + Associates LLP. The committee discussed the various goals and projects for the coming year. Among these are Education Day, National COPAS Meetings and other education opportunities.

As in the past, we wanted to remind all committees they should appoint someone as a representative to the Education Committee to report monthly tech session sponsorship and become involved in other educational programs.

We welcome any others who would like to be a part of this active and involved group. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at Mak J Energy at 11:45.

#### **Financial Reporting**

Committee chairs: Philip E. Doty, CPA, [Pdoty@eksh.com](mailto:Pdoty@eksh.com) (303) 740-9400  
Deanna Duell, CPA [deanna.duell@thebaileyco.com](mailto:deanna.duell@thebaileyco.com) (303) 384-1512

The Financial Reporting Committee will be meeting on Friday, October 22nd at 12:00 p.m. at St. Mary Land & Exploration, 1776 Lincoln Street, Suite 700.

Lunch will be provided by EKS&H. We will be discussing our 2004-2005 COPAS meetings - so bring your ideas and come hungry.

We will plan to meet on the third Thursday of every month if that works for the majority of people. We will know more after we meet in October.

#### **Midstream/Downstream**

Committee chair: Scott Hillman, [shillman@transmontaigne.com](mailto:shillman@transmontaigne.com) or (303) 860-5372

The Midstream/Downstream Committee will be sponsoring the tech session prior to the October 12th luncheon at 10:00 a.m. The topic and speaker is being worked on. As soon as it has been determined it will be posted to the website.

COPAS Colorado recognizes that the oil and gas industry is more than E&P and JIB. In order to understand and support our industry fully, we must involve all facets of the industry, from getting the product from the earth, to getting the product to the market. Anyone who is interested in joining the Midstream Committee please contact Scott Hillman at the phone or email above.

### **Revenue**

Committee Chair – Tom Ferguson ([tferguson@stmaryland.com](mailto:tferguson@stmaryland.com) or 303-863-4376)

The Revenue Committee will hold its first meeting this year on Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at the office of St. Mary Land & Exploration Company (1776 Lincoln Street, Suite 700) at 11:30 am in the 7<sup>th</sup> floor Board Room. The Committee will discuss regulatory developments that have occurred over the summer, agenda items for upcoming meetings, and participation in the rewrite of the COPAS Oil and Gas Severance Tax Guide and Royalty and Tax Incentives Checklist. Please RSVP your attendance to [tferguson@stmaryland.com](mailto:tferguson@stmaryland.com) by the afternoon of Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, so an accurate count for lunch can be developed. Also, with the recent merger and consolidation activity that has impacted the Denver membership, Committee members should provide email updates to Tom Ferguson as soon as possible. Members who have not been getting their COPAS membership material can access enrollment forms and meeting schedules at the Colorado COPAS website <http://www.copascalorado.org/>.

### **Small Oil & Gas Companies**

Committee Chair: Bryan Pratt, Hein & Associates LLP, 303-298-9600 x234, [bpratt@heincpa.com](mailto:bpratt@heincpa.com)

The SMOG will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month. The time will be at 11:45 to 1:00 pm. The location will be at Hein & Associates, LLP (717 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1600).

September saw the first meeting for the SOGC committee. It was held at Hein & Associates LLP offices. Eleven COPAS members attended, and there was an excellent discussion on FASB 143, and the future implications and the difficulties accounting departments face in fully implementing this accounting standard. Thanks to Tristan Farel for the presentation, and to all who participated in the discussion.

The next SOGC meeting will be held October 19, 2004 at Hein & Associates (717 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1600 Denver, CO 80202). The topic for the October meeting will be year end tax planning for Oil & Gas companies in 2004.

All SOGC meetings will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Hein & Associates' offices.

### **Tax**

Committee chairs: Gordy Stenger of Patina Oil & Gas Corporation, 303-389-3622, [gstenger@patinaoil.com](mailto:gstenger@patinaoil.com), and John Tripp of the University of Denver, 303-871-2029, [jtripp@du.edu](mailto:jtripp@du.edu).

The Tax Committee holds breakfast meetings on the first Friday of each month. The first meeting of the fall will be held on October 1, 2004 at the Adams Mark Hotel at 7:30 AM.

The next meeting of the Tax Committee will be on Friday, November 5, at 7:30 AM at the Adams Mark Hotel. Topics will include an update on current developments in oil & gas federal and state taxation. Attendees are encouraged to bring with them practice issues and questions for discussion by the group.

### **Newsletter Editor:**

Tommye Barnett: 303-296-8834 or email [tbarnett@enercominc.com](mailto:tbarnett@enercominc.com)

I invite your suggestions and comments on the newsletter. Please let me know if you are unable to print the current format of the newsletter. Please email if you have a COPAS related announcement.