



## COPAS- COLORADO NEWS

November 2004  
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### November 9<sup>th</sup> Lunch Speaker

The speaker for November is Dr. Pete Stark, Vice President of Industry Relations for IHS Energy in Denver. He will speak on Global Oil & Gas Resources: Implications for U.S. Energy Supplies. He plans to address some of his talk towards how this affects producers in the Rockies.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP at [www.copascalorado.org/meetingregistration.html](http://www.copascalorado.org/meetingregistration.html) as soon as possible. If your plans change, send an e-mail to Jane Richards at [jrichards@tipperarycorp.com](mailto:jrichards@tipperarycorp.com).

### Hats off to COPAS – San Antonio Society for a job well-done on the Fall 2004 National Meeting!

Historic San Antonio - an attractive location for my 1<sup>st</sup> COPAS national meeting!

Appropriately located in the downtown area in the midst of various cultures and diverse entertainment, the Fall Meeting was attended by many society members from across the country, (even Alaska!) and Canada, too. With the infamous Alamo a few blocks away, the core components of COPAS committees met with seriousness and purpose, and yet, an air of welcome reception.

Though I am new to the organization, all the members were friendly, helpful, and eager to receive a 'first timer'. Most noteworthy was recognizing the enormous amount of knowledge and years of experience in oil and gas assembled together in one place! All of varying levels and backgrounds together discussing emerging issues and vital topics that affect all in the industry. The goal is to set procedure and recognize industry standards.

If you've never been to a National Meeting, I would definitely recommend attending future meetings! Right on the ocean, Corpus Christi is next in April 2005! Hope to see you there!

John Waite  
Pioneer Natural Resources

### President's Message

I understand we had a hiccup at the October 12<sup>th</sup> luncheon where some of you had to wait to be seated and served. I apologize for the inconvenience, but would like to take this opportunity to explain and request the assistance of all of our members. For many years now, the members of your Board of Directors who are responsible for arranging the luncheon meetings have had to contend with a very large number of members who RSVP but do not attend and an almost corresponding number of members who do not RSVP but do attend. It is important that the Meeting Coordinator estimates the correct number of attendees so that we do not have inconvenience for our members. It is even more important for our organization, to maintain our low cost structure, to keep from overestimating the number of members who will attend a luncheon since we have to pay for the no-shows. If we miss our attendance estimates too often, we will have to raise our membership dues, again. Two statistics from the October 12<sup>th</sup> luncheon for your consideration:

50 out of 158 members who RSVP'd did not attend the luncheon (32%).  
37 out of 145 members who attended the luncheon did not RSVP (26%).

I think these percentages are HUGE. I would not want to be estimating attendance from statistics like these. Please show your fellow members some consideration. **If you plan to attend, please RSVP as soon as possible. If your plans change, send an e-mail to Jane Richards at [jrichards@tipperarycorp.com](mailto:jrichards@tipperarycorp.com).** You will see this theme elsewhere in this newsletter and on the registration form. It's that important to this organization. Thanks in advance for your help.

I am encouraged by attendance at our luncheons. I hope you are taking advantage of the networking opportunities. Our membership figures are holding up pretty well, but we can always use more members. If you know of anyone who should be a member I hope you will encourage them to join.

The following items were approved at the council meeting in San Antonio:

- 1) The Spring 2004 COPAS council minutes,
- 2) No change to the COPAS membership assessment rate,
- 3) The by-laws change,
- 4) A 4% increase in the employee benefits upper limitation percentage, and
- 5) The used equipment survey percentages.

New National Board members elected to 3-year terms starting January 1, 2005 are Barbara Koch from the Oklahoma City society, Tom Wierman from the Canada society and Bob Wilkinson from the Tulsa society. The nominating committee in charge of presenting candidates for the National Board next year will be Lynn Boyer from the Ft. Worth society, Cindy Heymans from the Oklahoma City society and our own Brenda Thompson. Howard Blunk who presented at our October 12<sup>th</sup> luncheon will be next year's COPAS President. I refer you to the COPAS website at [www.copas.org](http://www.copas.org) for additional information.

On November 9<sup>th</sup> I'll be attending the technical session sponsored by the Tax Committee and I'm looking forward to hearing Pete Stark of IHS Energy speak on the state of our industry. I hope to see you there.

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:

**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., 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 @ 10:30 am
November 9, 2004	Pete Stark, IHS Energy, speaking on the state of the industry	Tax
December 14, 2004	Santa	N/A
January 11, 2005	TBA	Revenue
February 8, 2005	TBA	
March 8, 2005	TBA	JIB/Financial Reporting
April 12, 2005	TBA	JIB/Financial Reporting
May 2005	Education Day	N/A

## COPAS COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULES

Committee	Date	Time	Location	Contact	
Audit/Joint Interest	Nov 23	9:00 am	St. Mary	Steve Gorham	303-308-0500
Education	Nov 22	11:45 am	Kinney Oil	Tracy Pharis	303-298-9600
Fin. Reporting	Nov 18	12:00 pm	St. Mary	Phil Doty	303-740-9400
Mid/Downstream	Dec 2	11:45 am	TransMontaigne	Scott Hillman	303-860-5372
Revenue	Nov 3	11:30 am	St. Mary	Tom Ferguson	303-863-4376
Small Oil & Gas	Nov 16	11:45 am	Hein & Assoc.	Bryan Pratt	303-298-9600
Tax	Nov 5	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 Joint Interest/Audit committee will meet on November 23rd. at 9:00 AM. The meeting will be held at St. Mary's. We will be discussing the results of the various voting items at the national meeting and continue our theme of reviewing the basics of oil and gas from the prospect through production and sales. If your company has employees new to the business this is a no-cost introduction by various committee members with many years of experience. If you are not new to the business come and share your experience with others.

#### Education

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

The Education Committee has begun preparing for next May's Education Day. The topics have yet to be determined, but early consensus seems to be 'practical answers, part 2'. We are still looking for representatives from each standing committee (if no volunteers appear there will be a draft).

We are excited about the educational opportunities available in Denver. IPAMS sponsors a 'Lunch & Learn' program (see previous announcements). PDI has organized a Denver Consortium who's first offering was so popular they had to schedule 2 classes. Of course, actively participating in COPAS standing committees also offers frequent educational opportunities.

Did you know COPAS Colorado has a library? It is housed at the IPAMS office and contains COPAS publications and other educational materials. Watch the COPAS website for a library list.

The Education Committee is also revitalizing the interest in the Accredited Petroleum Accountant (APA) program here in Denver. Watch for further information and upcoming test dates.

Our next meeting will be a brown bag meeting held at the offices of Kinney Oil, Monday, November 22 at 11:45. If you have any questions call either Tracy Pharis or Brenda Thompson.

#### 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 met at the offices of St. Mary Land & Exploration on Friday, October 22nd. The purpose of the meeting was to plan our COPAS 2004/2005 year meeting topics. The committee will meet on the [www.copascalorado.org](http://www.copascalorado.org)

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third Thursday of every month excluding the month of February and April. The committee will host the COPAS technical session prior to the luncheon in March or April. Following is a list of meeting dates, topics, and locations:

**November 18th** - "The Effect of PCAOB Regulations on Audits and Financial Reporting" - Location: To Be Determined (please contact Deanna Duell closer to the date)

**December 16th** - "Closing out Section 404 Compliance for the Year" - Location: St. Mary Land & Exploration

**January 20th** - "SEC Hot Topics" - Location: Hein & Associates

**February 17th** - NO MEETING

**March 17th** - "The Impact of Proposed Changes in Accounting for Stock Options" - Location: Encana

**April 12th** - COPAS Technical Session: "Sarbanes-Oxley Rule 404 - What Have We Learned to Date about Reporting on Internal Controls"

**April 21st** - NO MEETING

Thank you to the 17 people who attended our organizational meeting on Friday, October 22nd. We look forward to the new COPAS 2004/2005 Year.

### **Midstream/Downstream**

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

The Midstream\Downstream Committee hosted a tech session prior to the October 12th luncheon. Approximately fifteen people were in attendance representing thirteen companies to hear Scott Hillman speak on Refined Products. This included information on a new proposed refinery in Arizona (the first one in the United States in 30 years), distribution of refined products and terminals.

On October 21st at the Fall 2004 COPAS National Meeting in San Antonio a breakfast meeting was held of members from various societies interested in starting Midstream\Downstream Committees. Seventeen people attended from thirteen companies and seven societies. The societies in addition to Colorado that were represented were Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Houston, Ft. Worth, Permian Basin and Canada. San Antonio has also expressed an interest. Currently the plans are to hold a meeting with speakers at the Spring 2005 COPAS National Meeting in Corpus Christi on Thursday afternoon, April 28th.

The next meeting of the Colorado Midstream\Downstream Committee will take place on Thursday, December 2nd at 11:45 a.m. at the offices of TransMontaigne Product Services Inc. located at 1670 Broadway on the 31st floor. The speaker and topic is to be determined and will be announced at the November luncheon.

If you are interested in attending the December 2nd meeting or would like further information on this new committee, please contact Scott Hillman at (303) 860-5372 or [shillman@transmontaigne.com](mailto:shillman@transmontaigne.com)

### **Revenue**

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

There were 25 attendees present for the first meeting of the Revenue Committee on October 7th at the offices of St. Mary representing St. Mary, Kerr McGee, Tom Brown, Forest, P2ES, Trinity, Encana, Western Gas, Credo, and Hein & Associates. An update of regulatory developments over the summer was presented and future agendas for meetings were discussed.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 3rd at St. Mary starting at 11:30 am. The agenda topic will be "Uncleared Royalty Checks....What Do You Do About Them?"

Please RSVP to Tom Ferguson if you plan to attend.

### **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 3rd Tuesday of every month. The time will be at 11:45 to 1:00 pm. The location will be at Hein & Associates, LLP (717 17th Street, Suite 1600).

### **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 next meeting of the Tax Committee will be Friday, November 5, at 7:30 AM at the Adams Mark Hotel. Please RSVP to Melissa Prochazka at (303) 592-8617.

The Tax Committee will be presenting the technical session on November 9 starting at 10:30 a.m., at the Marriot City Center. The subject will be a summary of 2004 tax legislation.

### **Newsletter Editor:**

Tommye Barnett: email [tbarnett@enercominc.com](mailto:tbarnett@enercominc.com)

I invite your suggestions and comments on the newsletter. Please email if you have a COPAS related announcement.