



COPAS- COLORADO NEWS

October 2005
Vol. 2005-2006 No.2

Technical Session and Monthly Meeting – October 4, 2005

Remember that registration starts at 11:30 and lunch starts at noon and ends at 1:30. The tech session starts at 10:30. To attend any of these events, please RSVP no later than Thursday, September 29th at www.copascalorado.org/meetingregistration.html. If your plans change, send an e-mail to Jane Richards at janer@pyrenergy.com.

The tech session is presented by the Small Oil & Gas Committee.

Jennifer Elder/Kenny Wilkes from the Dallas office of Hein & Associates, LLP will be giving the tech session and lunch presentation on derivative/hedging accounting. They will focus on derivative identification as well as internal controls around derivative instruments.

President's Message

Last month, I mentioned in this column that the COPAS-Colorado Board had established several goals for the year. Among those goals is to interact more with other industry organizations. In October, we have chosen to help sponsor a luncheon presented by Desk and Derrick on October 11, at the DAC. You should have received an announcement in the mail. We have adjusted our usual second-Tuesday luncheon date to accommodate this luncheon. See the notice in this newsletter for specifics.

Two other Society goals are to encourage more participation of society members in activities at the national level, and to promote greater involvement with the Accredited Petroleum Accountant (APA) program.

The two goals are related, particularly with regard to Colorado. Of 23 societies, we are the second largest. Only Houston is larger. In fact, we have over 13% of the total members in COPAS, yet we have only one out of a total of 148 APAs. (Past-President Mike Roach is our only APA).

Other societies have reported that a number of their local employers are using APA accreditation as a tool to help select and promote employees. They are also pleased with the results of using the APA program as a learning and educational tool. Similarly, members are finding that, even if they have other accreditations, the APA has unique value, as it is industry-specific.

Study materials are not cheap (about \$600 for a full set) – the Society owns at least one set, and will purchase additional sets for individuals to share. Perhaps employers will also purchase sets of study materials. The Society will also assist in the registration fee for the exam. Details will come out on this later.

The exam is offered several times throughout the year around the country, but we have rarely held it in Colorado. This year, we are offering it in May in conjunction with Education Day. At the September luncheon, I publicly announced my intention to sit for the exam in May – in part to encourage others in the society to do so, but mostly, to brush up on my own knowledge. It is intimidating to me to confront being tested on knowledge that one might think I should have picked up on my own during my 25 years in the industry – particularly in those areas where I have claimed to be an expert. (Perhaps I should just be grandfathered in!)

I hope that a number of you sign up so that we can encourage each other in our efforts. (In my case, potential public humiliation is another motivator).

There is a lot of information about the APA program on the national website. Please take a look at it and give it serious consideration.

Read to Win!

Another opportunity to win has been planted in this newsletter. Find the questions and bring the answer written on a piece of paper to the registration desk for the next meeting and you will be given a ticket for a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate. (There really is a question this time, thanks to Sioux Wells for her efforts.)

I invite your suggestions and comments on the newsletter. Please email tbarnett@enercominc.com if you have a COPAS related announcement, a tasteful joke, a riddle, a good question for the drawing or something of interest you would like to share with your COPAS members.

COPAS Colorado Board Meetings

Board meetings are typically held on the Thursday following each monthly luncheon, at 3:30, and will be announced in the newsletter and on the web site. The next Board meeting will be October 6 at 3:30 at John Hultin & Associates.

COPAS MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE		
Meeting Date	Speaker	Tech Session @ 10:30 am
October 4, 2005	Jennifer Elder/Kenny Wilkes of Hein & Associates, LLP will be speaking on derivative/hedging accounting.	Derivative/hedging accounting
November 8, 2005		
December 13, 2005		
January 10, 2006		
February 14, 2006		
March 14, 2006		
April 11, 2006		
May 9, 2006		

COPAS COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULES					
Committee	Date	Time	Location	Contact	
Audit/Joint Interest	October 17	11:00 am	St. Mary	Steve Gorham	303-308-0500
Education	October 12	12:00 Noon	Hein & Assoc.	Tracy Pharis	303-298-9600
Fin. Reporting	October 20	12:00 Noon	Encana	Diane Kirk	303-740-9400
Mid/Downstream	seeking a chairman				
Revenue	October 5	11:30 am	St. Mary	Tom Ferguson	303-863-4376
Small Oil & Gas	October 25	12:00	Hein & Assoc.	Bryan Pratt	303-298-9600
Tax	1 st Friday of month	7:30 am	Adams Mark	Gordy Stenger	303-389-3622

Change of Contact Info

If your contact info changes during the year, there is a change contact information link on the website that you can use to update your information.

2007 National Meeting

The 2007 National Meeting Planning Committee will meet on September 29, 11:30 at MAK-J. Please contact Brenda Thompson for information at (303) 339-5874 or bthompson@makjenergy.com

Committee Reports

The Tax, Financial Reporting and Small Oil & Gas Companies committees strive to offer 1 hour of CPE at each of their meetings. For more information, contact the committee chairperson for details.

Audit/Joint Interest

Committee chairs: Steve Gorham- auditsteveg@msn.com
Dawn Smith dsmith@billbarrettcorp.com, 303-293-9100
Dave Abel, dabel@stmaryland.com, 303-863-4388

The JI/Audit committee started the year off with a meeting hosted by St. Mary Land & Exploration on Tuesday, September 20th. We had 18 members representing 6 companies and the National Office. We would like to thank Scott Hillman again for joining our meeting. We also had a member from Oklahoma City join us. The main discussion of the meeting revolved around the current happenings at the national level and how it would affect our society. We also had good discussion regarding the use and process of MFI's. Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 17th @ 11:00. The meeting will again be held at St. Mary Land & Exploration. We will be creating an agenda for this year's meetings and discussing the national meeting at Farmington. Hope to see you all there!!

Education

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

The Education Committee is excited for the upcoming year and the many projects we will be working on – from the APA Exam to Education Day in May 2006, this will be a busy year. All committee chairs should be organizing their tech sessions through our committee; dates open are Nov '05 and Jan – April 2006. This is also a reminder that each committee should designate a representative to the Education Committee to assist in this process. We are always looking for volunteers to the committee with the many tasks it has to complete. Any interested parties may attend the next meeting on Wednesday, October 12th at 12:00 at the offices of Hein & Associates, LLP (717 17th St #1600). If you have any questions please contact Tracy Pharis, Chairman: 303-298-9600.

On August 8, 2005 President Bush signed into law the Energy Policy Act of 2005. List three of the six issues this bill is designed to address on a piece of paper and bring it to registration to be entered into the drawing.

Financial Reporting

Committee chairs: Diane Kirk, CPA, dkirk@eksh.com (303) 740-9400
Deanna Duell, CPA deanna.duell@thebaileyco.com (303) 384-1512

Come one, come all – to the COPAS Financial Reporting Committee – Planning Meeting

Give us your input on the topics/speakers you would like to be covered during the 2005-2006 COPAS year.

Meeting will be held at the offices of Encana located at 370 17th Street – please go to the 17th Floor reception area.

The meeting will be on Thursday, October 20th at 12:00 p.m. – lunch will be provided.

RSVP to Deanna Duell at deanna.duell@thebaileyco.com or (303)384-1512 – we need a head count for the lunch.

Our goal is to determine the dates/times/locations/topics of our 2005-2006 COPAS year. Come prepared with input and ideas – we look forward to hearing from you!

Midstream/Downstream

The midstream/downstream committee is looking for a chairman. If you are interested in this committee, please contact Mike Roach at mroach@stmaryland.com.

Revenue

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

The Revenue Committee met on Wednesday, September 7th at the offices of St. Mary Land & Exploration. There were 24 attendees representing St. Mary, Forest, Ultra Petroleum, Kerr McGee, McElvain, and Petro-Canada. Plans for the upcoming COPAS year were discussed including future meeting agendas and a possible Technical Session topic to be presented in February. The Committee also reviewed recent regulatory developments and discussed who would represent the Committee at the National Meeting next month in Farmington. A special topic of interest was what plans are being made for the disposition of September royalty checks to hurricane affected locations. The U.S. Postal Service is maintaining a website with updates on the delivery status of these areas at www.usps.com/communications/news/serviceupdates.htm.

The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's offices on Wednesday, October 5th at 11:30 am. The primary topic will be Accounting Guideline AG-13 on Accounting for Farmouts/Farmins, Net Profits Interest and Carried Interests. This payout guideline will be a voting item at the October National Meeting in Farmington. Also, we will have a special lunch at this meeting, so attendees should RSVP their attendance to tferguson@stmaryland.com by the morning of Tuesday, October 4th so an accurate count can be obtained.

Small Oil & Gas Companies

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

The SMOGC will meet Tuesday October 25. Sisk and Company will provide an update on D&O insurance as well as safety programs that are available to companies and their field operations. The meeting will be at the offices of Hein & Associates 717 17th St, Suite 1600 at Noon. Lunch will be provided.

Please call Bryan Pratt at 303-298-9600 or email to bpratt@heincpa.com for information about this committee.

Tax

Committee chairs: Gordy Stenger of Noble Energy, Inc., 303-389-3622, gstenger@nobleenergyinc.com
John Tripp of the University of Denver, 303-871-2029, jtripp@du.edu.

The Tax Committee has monthly breakfast meetings on the first Friday of each month, at 7:30 AM at the Adams Mark Hotel. Meetings typically include a review of current developments in oil and gas taxation, including income, sales and use, production and property taxes, and practice issues and other items of interest. The meetings are chaired by Gordy Stenger of Noble Energy and Professor John Tripp of DU. Attendees include tax accountants from local companies, large and small, as well as representatives from accounting firms and other consultants.

Desk and Derrick Annual Industry Awareness Luncheon

Presented along with COPAS-Colorado, Colorado Oil & Gas Association (COGA), Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA), Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States (IPAMS), and Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists (RMAG)

Tuesday, October 11, 11:30 am at the Denver Athletic Club, 1325 Glenarm Place

Mr. Jim Sims of the Partnership For the West will be speaking.

\$35 for non-D&D members, by reservation only

Contact Anna Morgan, Coleman Oil & Gas, Inc., 303-623-2401 for registration information

Please be sure that your checks and reservations for the Oct 11 D&D luncheon are addressed to:

Samantha Calvillo
c/o JM Huber Corporation
1050 17th Street

IPAMS Lunch & Learn

Each seminar in IPAMS' "Lunch & Learn" series is designed to educate and inform people about our industry, issues impacting our industry, and how those issues affect our way of living, the way we do business, and our livelihood.

***October 18** – "What Happens to Gas After Production," Dena Lund, Team Lead for DJ Basin and Paradox Basin Gathering, EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. *We've been through E&P 101. Now what happens? How is natural gas gathered, processed, transported? What kind of regulations apply? How easy/difficult is it to get a gathering system or pipeline approved? How much and what kind of reclamation is done on pipeline systems?*

November 15 – "Refining and Petrochemicals," Mike Ashar, Executive Vice President, Suncor Energy Inc. *Mike will present a very basic chemistry lesson on converting hydrocarbons. How do we get petrochemicals? What kinds of petrochemicals are there? What are some of the uses for petrochemicals? Who are some of Suncor's customers? Can you recycle petrochemical products? What kind of regulations are you required to follow? Are we out of refining capacity in the U.S.?*

***PLEASE NOTE:** In September and October, "Lunch & Learn" sessions will be held in The Forum Room at the Wells Fargo Bank Building, 1740 Broadway. Enter on the Broadway side near the north end of the building. Next to the ATMs, there is a brown door that leads to the auditorium. We'll have signs posted at both locations!

Register online at www.ipams.org. For more information contact Carla Wilson, 303-623-0987 or cwilson@ipams.org.

Employment Postings

Check out the employment posting on the COPAS Colorado website at www.copascaloradolorado.org.
