



COPAS-COLORADO NEWS

April 2010

Vol. 2009-2010 No. 8

President's Message

Our next luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, April 13th. Natalie Mullis, Chief Economist for the Colorado Legislature will be giving us an update on the Colorado Economy. The April luncheon is also COPAS-Colorado's annual business meeting in which we elect new board members. We will elect three members to serve three-year terms. I want to thank our nominating committee of Jim Allison, Mike Roach and Bob Virgin. I appreciate all of their help in this important endeavor. Luncheon registration will begin at 11:30 with lunch at noon.

Education Day 2010 is approaching. It is May 11 and the theme is "The Petroleum Industry: Paving the Way into the New Energy Economy." Please see additional information on the website.

The COPAS Spring National meeting is the week of April 19th in Santa Barbara. Registration details are at www.copas.org. If interested, this is an excellent opportunity to get involved at the national level and work on many of the ongoing publication projects. A complete listing of these projects is in the issue of *ACCOUNTS*. There are several voting items on the agenda for the Spring 2010 National meeting. These include adjustments effective April 1, 2010 to the audit per diem rates, wage increase, loading and unloading cost and workers' compensation and employer's liability insurance manual rates; AG-9, *Guidelines for Contractor Audits*; MFI-18, *Affiliates and Related Entities*; MFI-21-AD-1, *Overhead Joint Operations Addendum*, and an application from PASCO for membership.

We would like to thank Wendy Eberhardt who volunteered to be our official photographer. Should you see Wendy with her camera, please smile!

The Board recognizes a special volunteer each month. This month, Mike Roach receives our recognition and gratitude. Mike has served COPAS-Colorado in various capacities over the years, including serving on the board of directors and Nominating Committee and chairing the Tax Committee. Please see the **Volunteer of the Month** section of the newsletter for discussion of Mike's efforts on our behalf. Also, please say thanks to Mike when you see him!

Diane Kirk
2009-2010 COPAS-Colorado President

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart. – Elizabeth Andrew

Monthly Luncheon April 13th, 2010

On April 13th, our lunch speaker will be Natalie Mullis, Chief Economist for the Colorado Legislature. Natalie will be giving us an update to the Colorado economy and we will see if any of her predictions from last year were correct or not. It should be a very informative and enlightening presentation.

We would like to ask all members to please help us ensure that luncheon registration goes smoothly. The deadline for registration is noted in the monthly email blast as well as on our web site. If you are a paid member, please log onto the web site and register if you fail to receive the email blast. You do not need to register through the email blast. Should your plans change after registration, please notify Tristan Farel at Copasluncheon@gmail.com. You must also note any special meal requirements in your on-line registration. The hotel cannot accommodate additional unplanned requests in a timely manner. Those requesting a special meal will need to inform their server of the request once seated.

Remember that registration starts at 11:30 and lunch starts at noon. To attend, please register no later than Wednesday, April 7th at www.copascalorodo.org/meetingregistration.html.

Technical Session April 13th, 2010 10:30 A.M

The Tax Committee is presenting the technical session on April 13. Bill Mueldener of Hein & Associates and Bruce Nelson of EKS&H will discuss current developments in state and local taxation, with emphasis on the oil and gas industry.

COPAS National News

If you haven't done so yet, get your reservations in for the Spring National meeting to be held in Santa Barbara April 19 – 23! You can find the registration details at www.copas.org. The Petroleum Accounting Society of California (PASCAL) has been working hard to make this a fabulous experience. At last count they had 185 members and 40 guests registered. One highlight of the trip will be a SEEPS tour in the Santa Barbara Channel, mixing oil and gas education with sight-seeing, and maybe a whale-sighting! As of the writing of this article, 160 people have signed up for this event.

The real purpose of our semi-annual conferences is not the great socializing, the purpose is to hold our Council meeting and conduct the business of the organization. Voting items at the April 23rd Council meeting include approval of the following:

- 2011 Membership Assessment Rates (the national rate, not Colorado's)
- PASCO membership application
- Auditor Per Diem Adjustment
- AG-9, *Guideline for Contractor Audits*
- MFI-18, *Affiliates and Related Entities*
- Wage Index Adjustment
- Loading & Unloading Cost Adjustment
- Workers Compensation & Employers Liabilities Manual Rates
- MFI-21, AD-1, *Overhead Joint Operations Addendum*

If you would like copies of these voting items, contact either your Board Representative or one of us.

The Winter Meetings of Joint Interest, Audit and Emerging Issues were held in January in Houston. A number of topics were presented: the challenges of surplus material related to deepwater operations, where it is common to order excess of very specialized material; a presentation by a Transocean engineer on the changing technology and markets of offshore drilling; a presentation on the current economy and how to protect yourself when your partners, suppliers or customers declare bankruptcy; and a spirited discussion with the counsel for the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy on the enforcement of Texas law disallowing anyone other than a Texas CPA to use the term "accountant" or "auditor".

There were also status reports on a number of current projects that are looking for volunteers (that means YOU!): MFI-27 and -37, employee benefits and incentive compensation rewrite; COPAS 201X Project team Accounting Procedure – a rewrite of the 1998 PTAP; and a rewrite of MFI-38, *Material Pricing Manual*. If you have any interest in participating, contact one of us.

And of course, it is never too early to start planning. The Summer meeting of the Joint Interest and Audit committees will be held July 12 and 13 at the Diamond Jacks Casino and Resort in Shreveport, Louisiana. Plans are still in the development stage so watch for information, either in COPAS *ACCOUNTS* or Extra!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you,

John Hultin and Brenda Thompson
COPAS board members

Meeting Schedules

COPAS-COLORADO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, April 8th, 2010 @ 3:30 PM. The board will be meeting at the offices of Hein & Associates.

COPAS-COLORADO MONTHLY LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

Meeting Date	Speaker	Topic	Tech Session @ 10:30
April 13, 2010	Natalie Mullis, Chief Economist, State of CO	CO Economy Update	Tax Committee-Current Developments on Local & State Taxation
May 11, 2010	Education Day	Education Day	Education Day

COPAS-COLORADO COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Committee	Date	Time	Location	Contact	Number
Education	April 15 th , 2010	12:00 PM	Delta Petroleum	Ken Nollsch	303-939-3906
Financial Reporting	April 15 th , 2010	12:00 PM	Encana Oil & Gas	Caleb Stephens	303-534-4600
Joint Interest/Audit	April 14 th , 2010	11:30 AM	Encana Oil & Gas	Dawn Meek	303-339-5877
Midstream/Downstream	April 22 nd , 2010	11:30 AM	Anadarko Petroleum	Al Kravitz	303-390-4968
New Professionals		11:30 AM		Jenny Pitkin-Emerson	303-223-7766
Revenue	April 8 th , 2010	11:30 AM	Bill Barrett Corp	Tom Ferguson	303-863-4376
Small Oil & Gas	April 15 th , 2010	12:00 PM	Encana Oil & Gas	Sherry Goodall	303-534-4600
Tax	April 1 st , 2010	7:30 AM	Courtyard by Marriott	Gorgy Stenger	303-740-9400
Technology	April 27 th , 2010	11:30 AM	DCP Midstream	Gayle Richardson	303-837-2487

Membership Application -- Change of Contact Info

In order to communicate effectively with all members, it is important for those members to let us know if there is a change in their contact information. If you have recently had a change, please complete the 'Change Contact Information' link on the COPAS-Colorado website. In addition, members are responsible for changing the National COPAS contact information.

Membership application and renewal forms are still available on www.copascalorado.org.

Please note the following:

Membership fees are paid for the fiscal year running from July 1 until June 30.

Membership is granted to the individual and not to the company and is **non-transferable**.

Educational Opportunities

COPAS-Colorado Education Day – May 11th, 2010

	The Petroleum Industry: Paving the Way into the New Energy Economy
Keynote 8:00 to 9:00	Tisha Conoly Schuller President of Colorado Oil & Gas Association.
Session 1 9:00 to 10:00	Henry Sobanet “Colorado’s Economy and Public Finance Challenges”
Session 2 10:00 to 11:00	Christy Hass, LucaTechnologies Oil recovery on abandoned wells
Session 3 11:00 to 12:00	Judy Matlock. Natural Gas and Fuel Efficiency
LUNCH 12:00 to 1:00	LUNCH – COPAS Colorado Update / Networking Scholarships Awarded
Session 4 1:00 to 2:00	Brian Bengtson, Encana Natural Gas Cars
Session 5 2:00 to 3:00	Kathleen M. Sgamma / IPAMS: Natural Gas in the Rockies: Clean Energy Solutions and Policy Impacts
Session 6 3:00 to 4:00	John Hereford Renewables
Session 7 4:00 to 5:00	Scott McCandless & Mike Manwaring – PwC Tax Law Changes affecting Oil & Gas Companies

PDI Energy Classes

April 6-7 Revenue Accounting at EideBailly in Golden

April 28-29 Intro to Upstream at Wellpoint/Bolo in Lakewood

May 27 – Oil & Gas Reserves-Changes in 2010 at Oildex Downtown Denver

June 7 – Oil & Gas Accounting for non-Accountants – at Oildex Downtown Denver

July TBD – Land for non-Landmen - Location TBD

Go to www.copascolorado.org to see the list of PDI classes offered in our area.

Volunteer of the Month

April 2010
MIKE ROACH

COPAS–Colorado is pleased to honor Mike Roach as our April 2010 volunteer of the month. Mike has most recently served on the 2009 and 2010 Nominating Committee. He also is an active member of the Tax and Education committees. Mike served on the board of directors from 2001 through 2007 in various positions, including President, and chaired/co-chaired the tax committee from 1995-2000. Mike is a great example of a strong leader and active member of COPAS-Colorado and we are very appreciative of his enthusiasm, leadership and skills. We want to thank Mike for his dedication and commitment to COPAS-Colorado.

Committee Reports

The Tax, Financial Reporting, New Professionals 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.

Education

Committee chairs: Ken Nollsch, knollsch@heincpa.com, 720-939-3906
Sarah Brittenham, snb@rampartenergy.com 303-376-3615

The Education Committee is excited to announce the Keynote speaker for Education Day 2010, Tisha Conoly Schuller, who is the new president of the Colorado Oil & Gas Association. She will lead off the day starting at 8:00am. The theme for this year's Education Day is: *The Petroleum Industry: Paving the Way into the New Energy Economy*. The agenda has been set and can be found at <http://www.copascolorado.org/educationday.html>. The Committee welcomes any and all volunteers who will be interested in helping to put together another successful Education Day.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, April 15 at 12:00p and will be held at Delta Petroleum which is located at [370 17th Street, Suite 4300](#). Lunch will be provided.

To attend the next meeting, please RSVP to Ken Nollsch at knollsch@heincpa.com.

Board Liaison: Dave Abel 303-575-0310, dabel@deltapetro.com

Financial Reporting

Committee chairs: Caleb Stephens, cstephens@nrc.net, 303-534-4600
Jim Boak, jboak@eidebailly.com, 303-770-5700

The Financial Reporting Committee will be co-sponsoring the April meeting with the Small Oil and Gas Committee. The meeting will be focused on the current credit market and related impacts on the oil and gas industry. The meeting will be held on April 15th at Encana which is located at 370 17th Street, Denver, CO. Lunch will be provided.

Board Liaison: Susie Kuntz, (303) 298-9600, skuntz@heincpa.com

Joint Interest/Audit

Committee chairs: Dawn Meek, dmeek@makjenergy.com, 303-339-5877
Ann Wennberg, ann.wennberg@encana.com, 720-876-5139

The JI / Audit committee met on March 17th at the offices of St. Mary Land & Exploration. We had 22 people attend representing 13 companies. Michael Roach with St. Mary Land was our speaker for our lunch meeting. He discussed sales tax, ad valorem taxes, APA, and Potential legislative issues. Thanks Mike!

Our next meeting will be on April 14th at 11:30 am at Encana located at 370 17th Street, go to the 40th floor and you will be directed from there. I have distributed all of the voting items for the Spring National Meeting, which will be held in Santa Barbara from April 21st thru April 23rd. PLEASE come prepared to give me your vote so that I can have the votes accumulated for the National meeting. Also, if you are going to Santa Barbara, please let me know.

Please RSVP to me @ dmeek@makjenergy.com no later than 4pm on Thursday, April 8th.

The future meeting dates for JI / Audit are as follows:

May – no meeting

If you would like to be a part of the committee, please email me or call me to be added to the distribution list.

Board Liaison: Dawn Ferik, (303) 312-8565, dferik@billbarrettcorp.com

Midstream/Downstream

Committee Chair: Al Kravitz, al.kravitz@whiting.com, 303-390-4968
Hilary Searles, hilary.searles@encana.com, 720-876-5807
Sofie Schlosser, sofia.schlosser@encana.com, 720-876-5319

We had the Midstream Committee Meeting March 16, 2010 in Whiting's offices. There were 28 people in attendance representing 10 companies. Deanna Duell, with Duell & Associates was the presenter. The presentation was entitled: "Communicating Critical Oil & Gas Accounting Policies to the Non-Accountant". Deanna's presentation provided insight on how to improve communications between Accounting and Land, Operations and other non-Accounting Departments. CPE credits were offered to the attendees. All the paperwork for CPE has been forwarded to Dawn.

Anadarko will host our April 22, 2010 meeting at 11:30. Bill Koch with Anadarko will be our speaker. His discussion will address gathering agreements, purchase agreements, etc. highlighting some of the pitfalls and what to watch out for and where Midstream companies might get burned. This will be a bring your own lunch meeting; however, Anadarko will furnish drinks and dessert.

Board Liaison: Peg Knight, peg.knight@questar.com, 303-308-3097

New Professionals

Committee Chairs: Jenny Pitkin Emerson, jenny@emersonsearchllc.com, 303-223-7766
Pat Lytle, plytle@stmaryland.com, 303-864-2502
Dash Victor, davictor@deloitte.com, 303-513-1601

The Next Generation Oil & Gas Professionals held a Lunch & Learn on Tuesday, March 23rd in which over 85 new professionals from multiple disciplines within the oil and gas industry were in attendance. The COPAS-Colorado New Professionals Committee is very involved with the Next Generation group and helped co-chair this event.

Five oil and gas professionals served on a panel and answered questions on various topics including day to day responsibilities, stereotypes of their respective functions, career paths, challenges, experiences, keys to success, words of wisdom, the importance of networking, as well as many other topics.

Thank you again to Mark Solomon, Controller from St. Mary, Vinnie Rigatti, GM from Questar, Bob Cluff, Founder and President of The Discovery Group, Chris Potter, Regional Land Manager for Whiting, and Chris Caplis, Drilling and Completions Engineer for Williams Production Company, for serving on the panel. Also, thank you to TGS, BOLO by WellPoint Systems and Questar for sponsoring this Lunch & Learn! We received very positive feedback from the

event. Let us know if you would like to be involved more in the New Professionals Committee or if your company would like to help sponsor one of our upcoming events!

Upcoming events:

COPAS-Colorado NPC Accounting Happy Hour: Thursday, April 29th from 5:30-7:30pm

Location: Tavern Uptown, 538 East 17th Avenue

Event Sponsor: Eide Bailly

**Please note this happy hour is open to all new accounting professionals in the oil and gas industry or to those desiring to learn more about the industry.

Board Liaison: Tristan Farel, tfarel@gmail.com 303-534-4600

Revenue

Committee Chairs: Tom Ferguson, tferguson@stmaryland.com , 303-863-4376
Shellene Kraft, skraft@suncor.com, 303-350-1221

The COPAS-Colorado Revenue Committee hosted the technical session Thursday, March 11th at the Marriott. The meeting was attended by 74 members representing Anadarko Petroleum, Aspect Energy, Bill Barrett Corp, Cimarex Energy Co, Crimson Resource, DCP Midstream, Direct Petroleum, Duell & Associates, Eide Bailly, EKS&H, Emerson Search, Encana Oil & Gas (USA), FACTS Consulting Services, FIML Natural Resources, Forest Oil Corp, Kinney Oil Co, MAK-J Energy, MarkWest Energy, EOG Resources, P2ES Energy Solutions, Oildex, Petro-Canada Resources (USA) Inc., Questar, Resource Development, Rivington Financial Services, St Mary Land, Ultra Petroleum, Venoco Inc & Whiting Petroleum. Guest speaker, John Curtis, from Colorado School of Mines, discussed Shale Gas Growth, Technological Advancements & Economic Considerations.

The COPAS-Colorado Revenue Committee plans to meet Thursday, April 8th at 11:30 a.m. at the offices of Bill Barrett Corporation located at 1099 18th Street, Suite 2300. Lunch will be provided by Bill Barrett Corporation. Jim Simpson will discuss MMS Non-Arms Length Transportation.

A preliminary schedule for the final Revenue Committee Meeting:

Thursday, May 13th, Whiting Oil & Gas Corp, lunch provided by Ultra Petroleum, Topic – Spring COPAS National recap.

Board Liaison: Tammy Miller-Davison, 720-876-3566, Tammy.Miller-Davison@encana.com

Small Oil & Gas Companies

Committee Chairs: Sherry Goodall, sgoodall@mrc.net, 303-534-4600
Carrie Osicka, cosicka@mrc.net, 303-573-4886 ext 1220

The Small Oil and Gas Committee held a lunch & learn on March 18th. Our speaker was William Mueldener, Tax Principal with Hein & Associates. The topic consisted of several state budget trends and new severance tax legislations passed by several states.

The Financial Reporting Committee and the Small Oil & Gas Committee will co-join for the next lunch and learn. The meeting will be held on April 15th at 12noon.

Wells Fargo will give a presentation on the current credit market.

The lunch and learn will be hosted by Encana.

Thank you to Cheryl Fabry and Chris Morrison for volunteering to be co-chairs for next year.

If you should have any questions about the next meeting please contact either Carrie Osicka or Sherry Goodall.

Board Liaison: Diane Kirk, 303-740-9400 dkirk@eksh.com

Tax

Committee chairs: Gordy Stenger, gstenger@eksh.com, 303-846-1265
John Tripp, jtripp@du.edu, 303-871-2029

The Tax Committee meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 AM at the Courtyard by Marriott on the 16th Street Mall. The next meeting will be Thursday, April 1. At the March meeting a presentation on the alternative minimum tax was given by Brent Bachmeyer and others from PricewaterhouseCoopers.

The Tax Committee is presenting the technical session on April 13. Bill Mueldener of Hein & Associates and Bruce Nelson of EKS&H will discuss current developments in state and local taxation, with emphasis on the oil and gas industry.

Board Liaison: Sioux Wells-Krayeski, 720-931-9064, sioux@weilbanksreserve.com

Technology

Committee chairs: Gayle Richardson, grichardson@stmaryland.com, 303-837-2487
Margaret Hahn, mphahn@dcpmidstream.com, 303-605-1876
Berni Guest Weaver, bquestweaver@billbarrettcorp.com, 303-312-8550

In our March meeting we had a great presentation from Dan Shikiar for Energy Navigation Inc and Dave Howden from Red Dog Systems Inc. The topic was Transaction Automation – The Evolution of Data in the Oil & Gas Industry.

The last meeting of the Technology Committee will be Tuesday April 27, 2010, 12:00 – 1:00 (Networking and lunch starts between 11:30-12:00) at:

DCP Midstream
Republic Plaza at 16th & Tremont
370 17th Street, Food Court Level
Denver, CO

We will have a speaker from WellPoint Systems, with the topic to be announced closer to the meeting date.

Board Liaison: Deanna Duell, Deanna@duellandassociates.com, 303-204-0387

**COPAS-COLORADO BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2009-2010**

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Liaison: Education

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2009-2010**

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