



COPAS-COLORADO NEWS

◆ December 2010 ◆ Volume 2010 – 2011 No. 4 ◆

President's Message

Happy Holidays! I'm writing this while preparing for Thanksgiving turkey and all the fixings. I hope you had a safe and happy Thanksgiving and that you enjoy the Holiday season. I hope to see you at our Holiday Luncheon.

Our organization is very active in serving the community. Thanks to everyone that helped the New Professionals with their School Supply Drive. For the holidays this year, the Board approved the Children's Hospital for our Holiday donations. There is a list on the webpage of the different toys that they need for the various ages of the children that have to stay in the hospital over the holidays. I know every child will appreciate even the smallest gift that you can donate. They will also accept gift cards and money as well.

Also at the last Board meeting, we approved accepting the Revenue and Midstream/Downstream committees' recommendation to make the Midstream/Downstream committee a sub-committee of the Revenue Committee. This is consistent with the vote taken at the Fall National meeting.

The Board has appointed Pamela Kocsis to replace Tristan Farel. Pamela will fill out the remainder of his Board assignment for this year. Thanks Pam for volunteering.

My theme this year is "Together We Can Do It." I truly believe that without the volunteers and other members willing to step up to help we would not succeed. December's Volunteer of the Month is Dawn Meek with Mak-J Energy. Please see the "Volunteer of the Month" section for more information.

Volunteer of the Month – Dawn Meek

Dawn Meek has been an active member of COPAS-Colorado. Dawn has co-chaired the JI/Audit Committee meeting for many years. While organizing these meetings, Dawn still finds time to send out all the CPE forms that are requested every month from all the committee meetings. She also is an active member of the Education committee. We are very fortunate to have her as part our organization! Again, thank you Dawn for volunteering!

COPAS National News

The COPAS national Board of Directors is scheduled to meet on Monday, December 6th here in Denver. Among the many topics of discussion will be a strategic plan for COPAS. We have completed the first decade of the 21st century and accomplished quite a lot; moved the office to Denver, hired a new Executive Director, updated our APA program (a continuous activity actually) and formed a new educational joint venture. We have established new training and

"Thanks to everyone that helped the New Professionals with their School Supply Drive."

Next General Meeting & Luncheon

December 14, 2010
Tech Session: N/A
Registration: 11:30 AM
Lunch: 12:00 PM

Marriott City Center
1701 California Street
Denver, CO 80202

Next Board of Directors Meeting

December 14, 2010
10:00 AM

Marriott City Center
1701 California Street
Denver, CO 80202

education opportunities, updated and modified many accounting guidelines, training and reference materials, and created new committees, changed old committees, hosted conferences. The list goes on. Really, we have a lot to be proud of.

But the work we do is not finished. COPAS members are in the process of reviewing MFI-48, Drilling Overhead addendums, PTAP2 Project Team Accounting Procedure, AG-6, Oil Accounting Manual, AG-8, AG-7 Guidelines for Cash Flow Budgeting, AG-12 Guideline for Determining Finding/Acquisition Costs and TR-9 Accounting Educational Training Guide.

So what does this all have to do with a board meeting and strategic planning? In order to meet the needs of our members we need to look at not only what we have accomplished, but what we need to accomplish. We need to have a plan that makes sure we are 'ahead of the curve'. We want that plan to be in line with the goals and objectives of COPAS. COPAS was formed to provide a forum to exchange knowledge about oil and gas accounting. Are we still focusing on that exchange or should our objectives change? So where do you fit into this? First we want and need your involvement. Find a document project team and volunteer. Attend committee meetings and offer your opinions. Volunteer to be a committee chair. There are a lot of opportunities to get involved. You don't have to be a subject matter guru in any one area to get involved. But getting involved may make you that subject matter guru. You will be rewarded, maybe not monetarily, but there are definite benefits to be gained.

We also want your input. We want to know what you think COPAS is all about. What do you think we should focus on for the next ten years? Is it Education? Is it Procedures? Is it Accreditation? Is it all of the above? If you have a few minutes, send us an e-mail with your thoughts. Who knows, that idea lurking in the back of your head, may be the one thing that sets us apart and keeps us 'ahead of the curve'.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Thompson and John Hultin, COPAS Board

General Meeting & Luncheon December 14, 2010 12:00 PM

The December 14th Luncheon is COPAS-Colorado's annual Holiday Luncheon. As such, we will not have a speaker but will have the traditional buffet and good times. In addition, we will be collecting donations for [The Children's Hospital](#). To better assist you with decisions regarding donations, please keep in mind:

1. Due to infection control guidelines, they cannot accept used items,
2. Items need to be in their original packaging,
3. They cannot accept toys that depict violence,
4. Newborns, infants/toddlers and adolescents are the age groups with the greatest need,
5. See COPAS-Colorado's website for The Children's Hospital 2010 - 2011 Wish List for great ideas.

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 Diane Kirk at dkirk@eksh.com. You must also note any special meal requirements in your on-line registration (for example, if you are a vegetarian, vegan, do not eat beef, etc). 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.**

Please note that you will be sent a registration confirmation a day or two before the luncheon. If you do not receive the confirmation, and you registered (but perhaps typed in your email incorrectly) or would like to register, please notify Diane Kirk immediately.

Remember that registration starts at 11:30 a.m. and lunch starts at 12:00 p.m. To attend, please register no later than Wednesday, December 8th at www.copascalorado.org/meetingregistration.html.

Technical Session December 14, 2010 10:30 AM

We will not be having a tech session prior to the Holiday Buffett.

Committee Reports

Please note: the Tax, Financial Reporting, New Professionals and Small Oil & Gas Companies committees strive to offer one hour of CPE at each of their meetings. For more information, contact the committee chairperson for details.

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Tiffany Ballard
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Board Liaison:
Diane Kirk
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Committee chairs:
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Education

The process of planning for the May 2011 Education Day is underway. We are planning an exciting day. We welcome anyone who would like to be in on the planning process.

The education committee also has the annual COPAS-Colorado scholarship process underway. Similar to last year, we will be looking to give scholarships to four students who are working towards an accounting career in the oil and gas industry. Scholarship recipients will be determined based on written submissions. We are currently planning campus events to promote the scholarships, as well as COPAS-Colorado.

The next meeting for the Education Committee will be on Wednesday, December 1 @ 12:00p at Hein & Associates, 717 17th Street, 16th Floor. Please RSVP to Kevin Barnes kbarnes@sm-energy.com or 303-861-8140.

Financial Reporting

The Financial Reporting Committee hosted the Technical Session on November 10, 2010. Alexie Tune, audit director with Deloitte & Touche, presented an update on recent accounting matters with a focus on proposed standards. The Committee thanks Alexie for her time and excellent presentation. Turn out was approximately 100 members.

The next Financial Reporting meeting will be held jointly with Small Oil and Gas Group on December 6, 2010 at noon. In that meeting, Jake Vossen, audit partner with Hein & Associates, will present his observations on "Oil and Gas Reserve Disclosure – What you need to know for 2010". Jake points out that significant judgment is needed to apply the year old disclosure rules. He will review what many companies disclosed for 209 and disclosures you may wish to consider in 2010 financial filings. One hour of CPE can be earned. The meeting will be held in the Marriot office building, 30th floor conference room and will be hosted by Hein & Associates. Please come before noon to visit with other members over lunch. Please be sure to RSVP to Tiffany Ballard, Co-chair at tballard@billbarrettcorp.com.

Joint Interest/Audit

Jl / Audit had their meeting on Wednesday, November 17th. We had 30 people representing 15 companies. We had guest speaker John Lipka, The Security Advisor at Encana. He gave a great presentation on fraud in the oil & gas industry. Thank you John for your time.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 15th, 2010 at 11:30 am at MAK-J, 1600 N Broadway, 5TH floor conference room. This meeting will be a

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brown bag lunch. We have a speaker scheduled. He is Steve Parks, Chief Geologist with MAK-J.

Please RSVP no later than noon on Friday, December 10th. Due to space limitations we can only accommodate 45.

If you receive an email invite, please respond to the invite whether or not you will be attending. If you are not receiving emails from us, please email me so that you can be added to our list.

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

January – no meeting TECH SESSION
February 16th – Hein
March 16th – SM Energy
April 20th – MAK-J
May 18th– Location to be determined

New Professionals

The New Professionals sponsored a school supply drive at the October 12th and the November 9th COPAS-Colorado luncheons. On behalf of our entire committee, we thank all of those who contributed school supplies and/or cash to our efforts. In total, we collected eight boxes of school supplies and \$640 in cash. Carolyn Kircher and Jennifer Gordon delivered the school supplies and a portion of the money raised to Manny Martinez Middle School and Joe Acker presented a check to Venture Prep to help purchase school uniforms. Both schools were very appreciative of the efforts of COPAS-Colorado and could not thank all of us enough for our help in their time of need. In fact, numerous students at Manny Martinez made some cards to show their appreciation.

On November 11th the New Professionals committee co-hosted a holiday networking happy hour with the Next Generation Oil and Gas Professionals and had over 130 people in attendance. Additionally, we collected donations at the door for Denver Active 20/30 “Christmas For Kids” and collected a box full of coats for the homeless. The event raised almost \$800 which will be used to take underprivileged youth in our community on a shopping spree to buy gifts for their families. Thank you to Hein & Associates for helping sponsor the event and to those that attended and donated to this great cause.

Our next meeting is a Lunch & Learn on December 1st at 11:30a.m. at Encana. Dave Whitcomb, Vice President of Marketing at SM Energy will be presenting to our group. The title of his presentation is, “NGL’s, how valuable are they?” Encana will be hosting the meeting site and EKS&H will be sponsoring lunch.

Please RSVP to me no later than noon on Tuesday, November 30th so we can ensure we have enough food.

CPE INFO: Learning objectives - To gain an understanding of the current NGL market; Prerequisites - None; Program level - Basic; Program Delivery - Lecture; Advance preparation - N/A; Recommended CPE credit - 1 hour.

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Board Liaison
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Revenue Committee

The Revenue and Midstream/Downstream Committee met on November 11th at the offices of Bill Barrett Corp. The meeting was attended by 39 members representing Anadarko Petroleum, Aspect Energy, Bill Barrett Corp, Credo Petroleum, Delta Petroleum, Encana Oil & Gas (USA), Fidelity Exploration & Production, Forest Oil, MAK-J Energy, McElvain Oil & Gas, P2 Energy Solutions, SM Energy, Trinity Management, Venoco Inc., and Whiting Petroleum. Harold Kemp, Assistant Director of the Office of State Lands & Investments was scheduled to discuss the WY State Royalty eRMA reporting changes, however, due to adverse weather conditions he was unable to attend. Printed copies of the eRMA presentation was provided to the members. An alternative agenda was quickly devised and the members were treated to a viewing of a documentary entitled "Haynesville: A Nation's Hunt for Energy". This film examined the largest natural gas field in the United States and the impact on the mineral owners and community.

The members voted unanimously to accept the Midstream/Downstream as a sub-committee of the Revenue Committee. At the national level, the affirmative vote was also supported at the September Salt Lake City National Meeting.

The COPAS Revenue Committee plans to meet Thursday, December 9th at 11:30 a.m. at the offices of Encana Oil & Gas located at 370 17th Street (Republic Plaza), in 40th floor conference room. Lunch will be provided by of Encana Oil & Gas. The meeting will be a discussion of the workshop held in Denver and Salt Lake City in September by the ONNR (previously BOE MRE, MMS, MRM) pertaining to reporting on federal units and communitization agreements.

The following represents our tentative schedule for remaining meetings:

- January 2011 – Jim Tallant will discuss Gas Plant Accounting. The Revenue and Midstream/Downstream Committee is asking for companies to volunteer hosting this meeting and/or provide the lunch. Please contact Sofia Schlosser or Susan Santisteven if your company can help. The meeting date TBD.
- Thursday, February 10th – Rick Logan, with KE Andrews will discuss Colorado Tax Reporting Unique Issues. Whiting Petroleum will host the meeting and provide lunch.
- Tuesday, March 8th – Tech Session at the Marriott – Benjamin M. Fink, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Western Gas Partners, LP will discuss the Master Limited Partnership structure through which Western acquires and operates midstream energy assets.
- Thursday, April 14th – Holly Hepp, Anadarko Petroleum, Marketing Presentation. Anadarko Petroleum will host the meeting and provide lunch.
- Thursday, May 12th - Discussion by the Revenue Committee Chairs regarding topics from the April, 2011 COPAS National meeting in Houston. Forest Oil will host the meeting and provide lunch.

Committee chairs:
Chris Morrison
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720-864-4813

Cheryl Fabry
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Board Liaison:
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Committee chairs:
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John Tripp
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Berni Guest-Weaver,
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312-8550

Board Liaison:
Pamela Kocsis

Small Oil & Gas Companies

The SMOG Committee's December next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Financial Reporting Committee on Monday, December 6 at noon. The meeting will be held at the downtown Marriott at 17th and California in the 30th floor conference room. Jake Vossen, Partner with Hein & Associates, will be discussing the new SEC O&G rule and it's affect on companies. Please contact Cheryl Fabry CFabry@eksh.com or Chris Morrison cmorrison@enerplus.com for additional details.

Tax

The next meeting of the Tax Committee will be Thursday, December 2nd, at the Courtyard by Marriott on the 16th St. Mall. A breakfast buffet will be served at 7:30 AM, with the meeting at 8:00. Please contact Gordy Stenger at gstenger@eksh.com by noon on December 1st if you would like to attend.

Technology

The Technology Committee met on November 16th. Robert Lovelace, a Senior Manager with EAG Services, Inc, gave an excellent and very interesting presentation about "Change Management: Why employees are sometimes resistant to changing technologies, and some strategies for effectively managing change." Lunch was provided by EKS&H. Thanks to everyone who attended.

There will be no December meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 25, 2011. Stay tuned for details.

Spring 2012 COPAS National Meeting Planning Committee

Committee chair:
Diane Kirk
dkirk@eksh.com
303-740-9400

COPAS-Colorado is proud to host the Spring 2012 COPAS Meeting April 16-20, 2012. The meeting will be held in Denver at the downtown Marriott City Center. Our theme is "Making Tracks to the Mile High City." The committee is in the process of selecting activities and venues. We will publish more information as the planning progresses.

Letters were sent in July to our member companies regarding sponsorship opportunities at the meeting. There are various sponsorship levels and events available. We encourage our members to sponsor the meeting as these funds are a critical source of funding for the meeting and related activities and events. Please call or email me if your company did not receive the letter. There are payment options available; however, we need to receive the pledge as soon as possible in order to determine and book the events and meetings.

We hope that you can join us and participate in a national meeting.



Figure 1- By Wendy Eberhardt / COPAS Colorado Photographer

Membership Application & Change of Contact Information

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 available on www.copascolorado.org.

Please note the following:

Members must meet the eligibility requirements for membership.

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

PDI Energy Classes

Thursday, December 9 – Revenue Accounting (The Mini-Class)

Maybe you just don't have time for two full days of Revenue and Production accounting as you prepare for the holidays. We're running this one day program because we've been asked "Couldn't you just hit the highlights in one day?" Come join us for this "condensed" version, in which we will focus on Revenue associated with Natural Gas, including topics on Measurement, Allocations, Ownership, Sales Valuation and a bit of Gas Plant Accounting. You'll get a lot in one day beyond **8 CPE hours**.

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

PDI Energy Classes

Tuesday, December 14 – Land for non-Landmen

Every part of the oil and gas accounting cycle interacts in some way with Land. The most common complaint of managers in E&P Accounting is "My accountants and the Land folks just don't seem to communicate well." This one day program will help you understand the language of Land, what the Land department really does, what's in a Lease, what all those documents mean and lots more that will directly help you in your job because of that tie to Land. Come join us for an informative and fun day of material you can really use.

Please check our website below for locations and costs. You can register online or "reply to all" and we will register you. You'll receive one pagers describing each of these classes as the time gets closer, but if you'd like more information about any or all of them right away, just "reply" to this note and I'll send you a one pager.

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

COPAS-COLORADO GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON SCHEDULE @ 12:00 PM

Meeting Date	Speaker	Topic
September 14, 2010	Steve Irizarry	COPAS
October 12, 2010	Brian Macke	Current Climate of Colorado Regulatory
November 9, 2010	Vinnie Rigatti.	"Horizontal Drilling and Fracing in the DJ basin Niobrara Play"
December 14, 2010	N/A	2010 Holiday Party
January 18, 2011	Tbd.	Tbd.
February 15, 2011	Tbd.	Tbd.
March 2011	Tbd.	Tbd.
April 12, 2011	Tbd.	Tbd.
May 2011	Tbd.	Education Day

COPAS-COLORADO TECH SESSION SCHEDULE @ 10:30 AM

Meeting Date	Speaker	Topic	Sponsoring Committee
September 14, 2010	N/A	N/A	N/A
October 12, 2010		APA Exam & Study Groups	Sponsored by New Professionals
November 9, 2010		Accounting update on Hot Topics.	Sponsored by Financial Report
December 14, 2010	N/A	2010 Holiday Party	N/A
January 18, 2011	Tbd.	Tbd.	Sponsored by JI/Audit
February 15, 2011	Tbd.	Tbd.	Sponsored by Technology
March 2011	Tbd.	Tbd.	Sponsored by Revenue
April 12, 2011	Tbd.	Tbd.	Sponsored by Tax
May 2011	Tbd.	Education Day	N/A

COPAS-COLORADO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Meeting Date	Location
July 22, 2010 3:30 PM	SM- Energy, 1775 Sherman St, Ste 1200. Please contact Tammy Miller-Davison if you have any questions.
August 11, 2010 3:30 PM	Cancelled. Please contact Tammy Miller-Davison if you have any questions.
September 9, 2010 3:30 PM	Hein & Associates, 717 th Street, Ste 1600. Please contact Tammy Miller-Davison if you have any questions.
October 21, 2010 3:30 PM	Encana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc., 370 17 th Street, Ste 600. Please contact Tammy Miller-Davison if you have any questions.
November 18, 2010 3:30 PM	Willbanks Reserve, 1610 Wynkoop Street, Suite 200. Please contact Tammy Miller-Davison if you have any questions.
December 14, 2010 10:00 AM	Marriott City Center, 1701 California Street, Denver, CO 80202. Please contact Tammy Miller-Davison if you have any questions.
January 2011	Tbd.
February 2011	Tbd.
March 2011	Tbd.
April 2011	Tbd.
May 2011	Tbd.
June 2011	Tbd.

COPAS-COLORADO COMMITTEES MEETING SCHEDULE

Committee	Date	Time	Location	Contact	Number
Education	December 1 st	Noon	Hein & Assoc.	Kevin Barnes	303-861-8140
Financial Reporting	December 9 th	Noon	Marriott Office Bldg., 30 th floor	Tiffany Ballard	303-312-8526
Joint Interest/Audit	December 15 th	11:30 a.m.	Mak-J Energy	Dawn Meek	303-339-5877
New Professionals	December 1 st	11:30 a.m.	Encana	Pat Lytle	303-864-2502
Revenue	December 9 th	11:30 a.m.	Encana	Tom Ferguson	303-863-4376
Small Oil & Gas	December 9 th	Noon	Marriott Office Bldg., 30 th floor	Chris Morrison	720-864-4813

Tax	December 2 nd	7:30 a.m.	Courtyard by Marriott	Gordy Stenger	303-740-9400
Technology	January 25th	N/A	N/A	Margaret Hahn	303-605-1876

**COPAS-COLORADO DIRECTORY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President

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Liaison: Midstream/Downstream

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Liaison: Tax

Membership Coordinator

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Liaison: Small Oil & Gas

Vice President

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Liaison: JI/Audit

Secretary

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Terms: 7/10 – 6/13
Liaison: Education

Communications Coordinator

Dave Abel
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Liaison: Revenue

Treasurer

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Liaison: New Professionals

Meeting Coordinator

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Terms: 7/10 – 6/13
Liaison: Financial Reporting

At-Large Member

To Be Determined

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit/Joint Interest Committee

Dawn Meek	MAK-J Energy	dmeek@makjenergy.com	303-339-5877
Wendy Harrison	QEP Energy Company	wendy.harrison@qepres.com	303-308-3086
Crystal Scott	Hein & Associates	cscott@heincpa.com	303-298-9600

Education Committee

Ken Nollsch	Hein & Associates	knollsch@heincpa.com	303-939-3906
Kevin Barnes	SM Energy Company	kbarnes@sm-energy.com	303-863-4384
Brent Bachmeyer	Ernst & Young	Brent.bachmeyer@ey.com	720-931-4418

Financial Reporting Committee

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Tiffany Ballard	Bill Barrett Corp.	tballard@billbarrettcorp.com	303-312-8526

New Professionals Committee

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Dash Victor	The Siegfried Group, LLP	dashvictor@gmail.com	303-209-8723 ext 5217
Emerald Holden	Encana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc.	emerald.holden@encana.com	720-876-3465

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Susan Santisteven	Encana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc.	Susan.santisteven@encana.com	720-876-3090

Small Oil & Gas Committee

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Cheryl Fabry	EKS&H	cfabry@eksh.com	303-740-9400

Tax Committee

Gordy Stenger	EKS&H	gstenger@eksh.com	303-740-9400
John Tripp	University of Denver	jtripp@du.edu	303-871-2029

Technology Committee

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Berni Guest-Weaver	Bill Barrett Corp.	bguestweaver@billbarrettcorp.com	303-312-8550