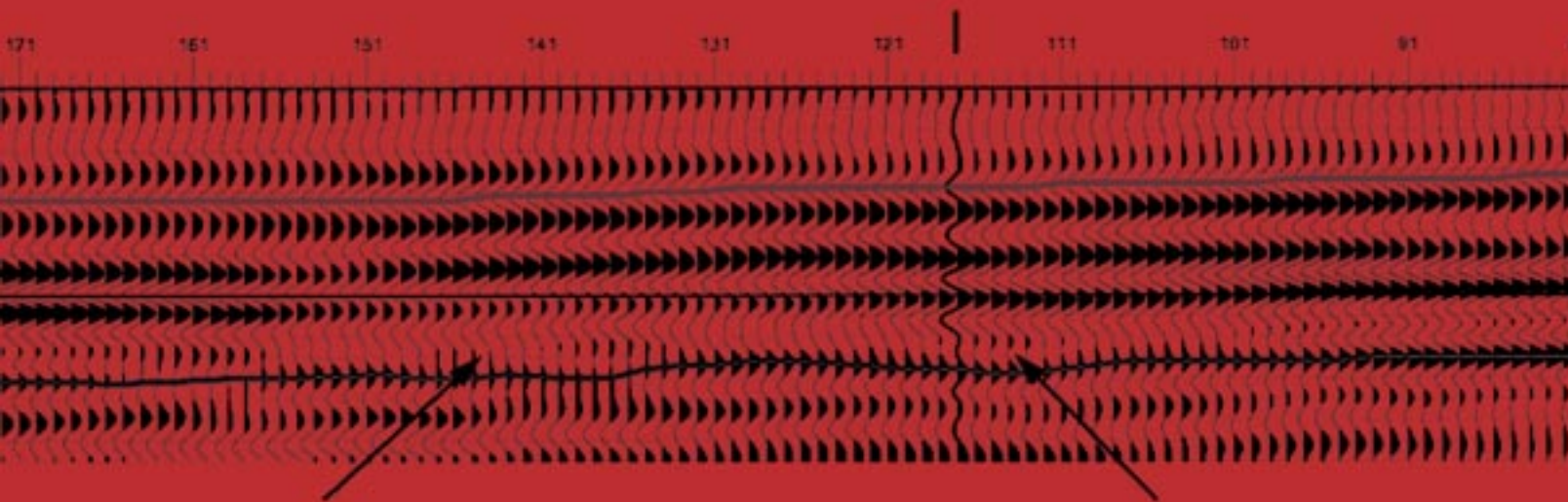
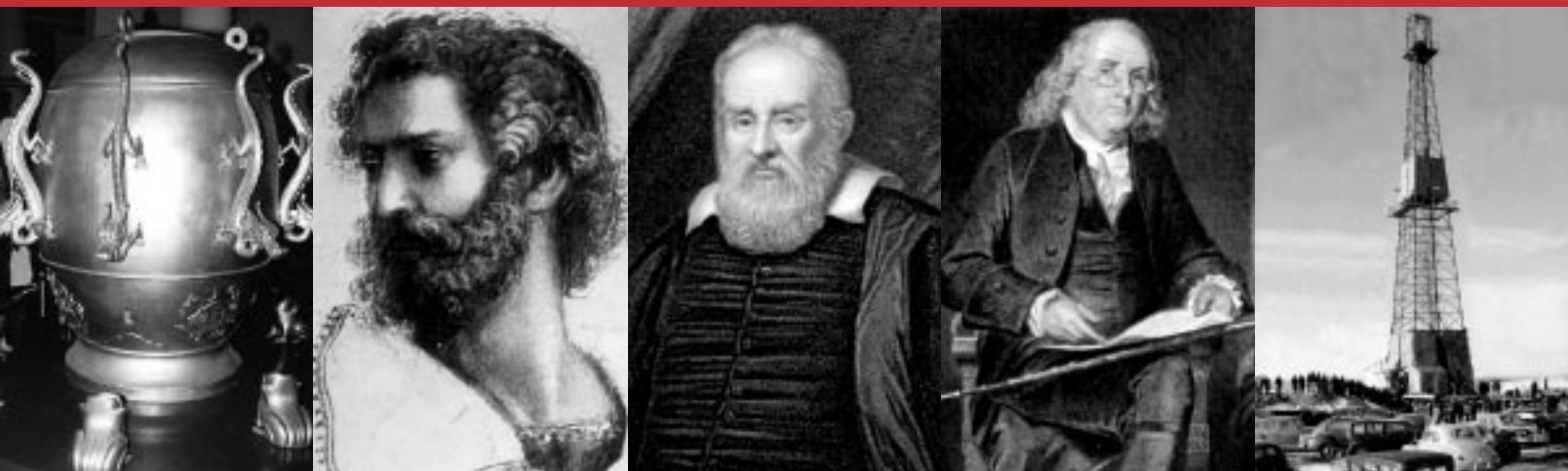


N THE NEGOTIATOR

The Magazine of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen
October 2003

Simplifying Seismic A Historical Journey



A SUMMER WELL SPENT

PLM Students provide an accounting of their summer job experiences in the Patch. **PAGE 14**

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Dawn Jarvis discusses the recent improvements made by the Technology Committee and reveals what changes we can expect this year. **PAGE 19**

WHO IS CHARLES LESLIE MAY?

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The Magazine of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen

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Submissions to *The Negotiator* should be sent in print-ready form to one of our Editorial Board. The deadline for inclusion in an issue is the first day of the month prior to the published month. For a copy of our submission guidelines, please contact a member of our Senior Editorial Board.

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October 2003

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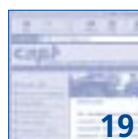
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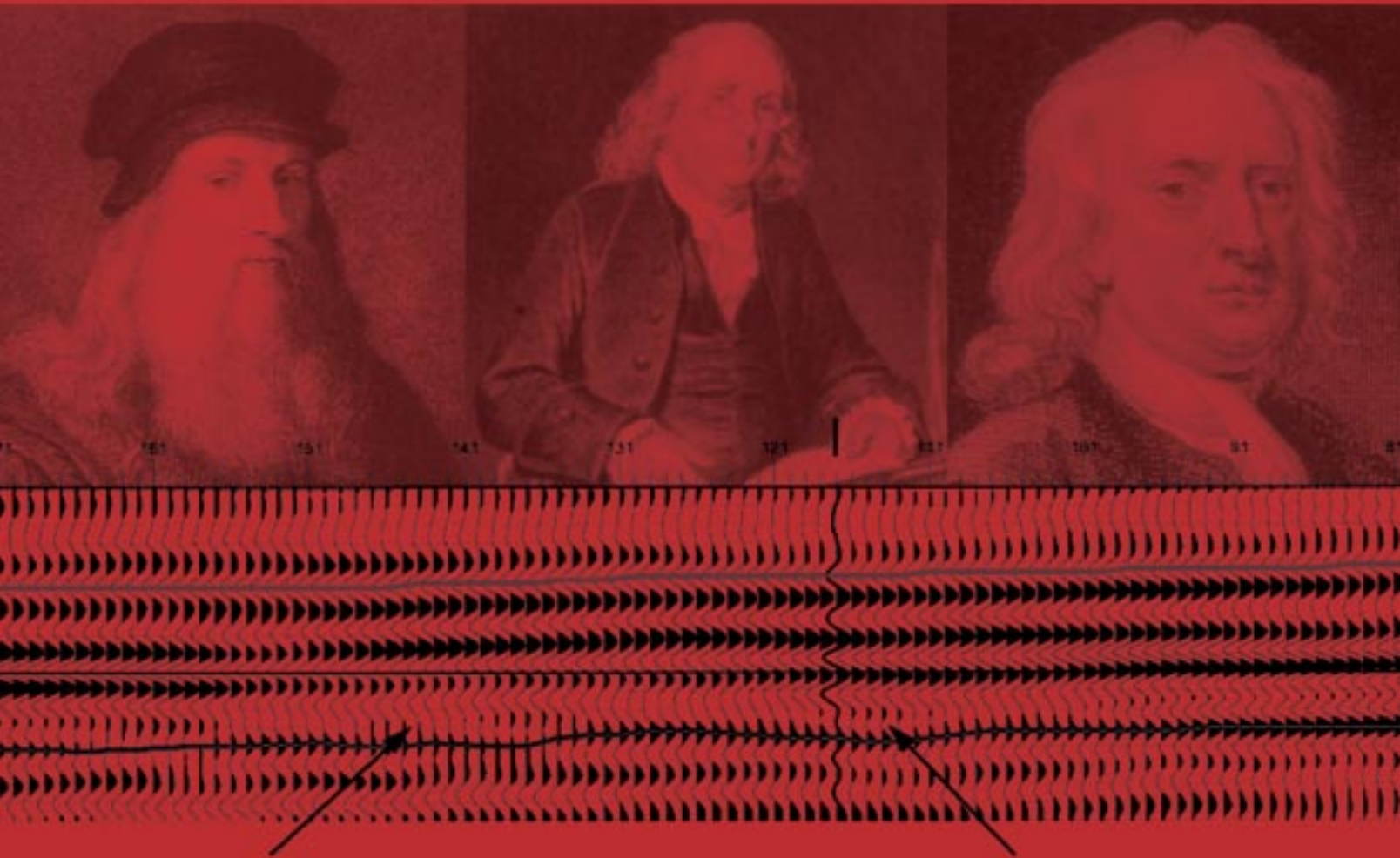
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Simplifying Seismic

A Historical Journey



Dr. Easton Wren



This is the first chapter in a series which will explain the seismic business in simple terms. Designed specifically for non-technical personnel in the oil industry, it should provide a forum for information and questions. This opening installment will focus on the very early history of geophysics in exploration in general and trace the beginnings of the seismic method and the early days of geophysics in Western Canada exploration.

Brief History of Geophysics (Earth Physics)

Aristotle (383-322 B.C.) is usually given the credit for compiling the first known geophysical treatise, the "Meteorologica", which embraced weather, oceanography, astronomy and meteors. Formal seismic instrumentation appeared in A.D.132 when Chang Heng set up his seismoscope in China which indicated earthquake activity.

Throughout medieval times, the divining stick or rod became a standard tool in the search for groundwater or rare minerals. Even today this particular methodology is still practiced but not understood.



Aristotle

The main growth phase occurred during the Renaissance when Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) initiated new thinking on geology, vulcanology, aircraft, parachutes, submarines and art, notably the Mona Lisa. The painting itself is Leonardo's understanding of the Earth as a "living organism" and not simply a dead planet. He also deduced that alpine rocks were once submerged under the sea when he identified the fossil shells they contained. Leonardo's work with sound and light has provided the tools for the modern understanding of the main geophysical methods employed in the oil and mining industry.



Replica of Chang Heng's seismoscope

Many other famous scientists have contributed to the development of geophysical methods. These include William Gilbert (1540-1603) who founded the science of magnetism; Galileo Galilei (1564-1642) who developed the formulae for gravity and invented the thermometer; Christian Huygens (1629-1695) who explained refraction and diffraction in wave behavior; Sir Isaac Newton (1642-1727) who stated the basic Laws of Motion; Benjamin Franklin (1702-1790) who studied lightning and postulated continental drift.

These early scientists had great skills and insight and few could stray from a natural curiosity of the earth amongst their other interests. However, the development of geophysics was somewhat slow and academic during the 1800s as the first attempts at recording earthquakes did not occur until 1880. In 1897 the first global network of seismic monitoring stations was proposed and operating by 1899.

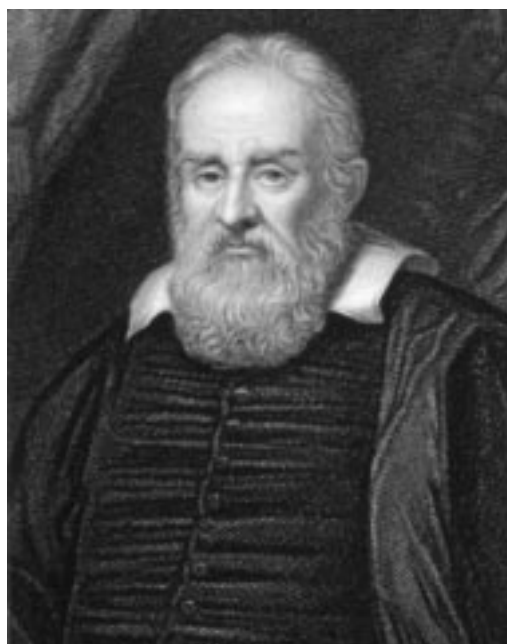
The early investigations and development of geophysics has followed four unique pathways based on four important earth properties:

- Density, measured as the force of gravity
- Magnetization, expressed as the local magnetic force
- Electrochemical, measured with electrodes
- Acoustic response (seismic), measured by geophones

Each of these methods has played a key role in the evolution of applied geophysics in exploration for minerals, coal and oil and gas. While each one has special characteristics and applications,



Leonardo da Vinci



Galileo Galilei

our interest will be focused on the seismic method which is the most popular and provides the best definition of those targets we seek in the oil and gas industry. We will follow the changes that occurred when earthquake physicists began to consider the possibility of creating artificial earthquakes to make images of the geological subsurface and begin the exploration process for natural resources.

Exploration with Seismic

The use of seismic methods as an exploration tool is essentially a twentieth century phenomenon. While the global network of seismic (i.e. earthquake) observatories was established in the 1890s, it was not until the early 1920s that an artificial earthquake method was developed to use seismic as a remote sensing or imaging tool for subsurface geology.

There were several independent discoveries that ultimately were to be embraced in the general understanding and application. One of the more romantic was the work of the German scientist, Ludger Mintrop. He had been a Professor of Earthquake Seismology prior to World War I and was drafted by the military. The German High Command was not sure how to use his talents and assigned him to various sectors of the war. He served in the airship division as a physicist but it was as a commander of a long range artillery unit that he suggested that he could detect the position of enemy artillery

installations using his seismograph equipment from the university. The idea was simple. Lay out the seismic detectors (geophones) in a pattern and record the miniature earthquakes created by the shock waves of the enemy guns and identify their position by triangulation.

After a demonstration of the method at a firing range, Ludendorff, the Supreme Commander, was convinced and ordered the deployment of these units at the front. However, resources were scarce, the war was drawing to a close and the system was never implemented.

Mintrop entered the post-war years with an idea that it was possible to generate artificial earthquakes at the surface and inject energy into the ground to produce information about the geological subsurface. An early experiment focused on salt domes buried in the Rhine Valley and considered to be causing oil traps. Success was achieved and Mintrop was invited by Gulf Oil to bring his technique to the United States and demonstrate its value. In 1923, his seismic techniques were applied and identified the Orchard Salt Dome, between Houston and San Antonio. This was drilled and became the Orchard Oilfield.

Seismic had arrived as a viable tool and swept throughout North America. The first geophysical crew arrived in western Canada in the summer of 1926, working out of Lethbridge.

Of particular interest here is that Mintrop had a business relationship with Conrad and Marcel Schlumberger in Paris in the early 1920s. Together they formed the Societe de Prospection Electrique, a geophysical company engaged primarily in mineral exploration using electrical (resistivity) methods. After a short period Mintrop went his own way and created his commercial company "Seismos"



Sir Isaac Newton

the Greek word for sound. In the 1960s this company became "Prakla Seismos", then "Prakla", then "Geco-Prakla" then finally, Schlumberger. It is fascinating that the founding fathers of the two service industries, seismic and well logging, created their own companies and ultimately united under the one flag at the end of the century.

Mintrop's story does not end here. He later returned to university life as a professor. We shall see how his influence with one of his graduate students, a young Dutchman called Otto Koefoed, resulted in a dramatic discovery which became part of modern seismic's most powerful interpretive tools ... the method of A.V.O., or amplitude versus offset.

Exploring for Oil and Gas with Geophysical Tools

It is over two hundred years since early pioneers noticed the peculiar oil saturated sandstone exposed along the banks of the Athabasca River. Since that time, the history of oil and gas in western Canada has gathered much momentum and geophysics has played an increasingly significant role.

The first Canadian discovery of natural gas happened by accident at Alderson in Alberta in 1883. A cable-tool rig drilling a water well along the CPR right-of-way encountered gas at a depth of 335 meters and the well blew wild with severe consequences when several of the drilling crew were injured. At Medicine Hat in 1890,

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Brad Lane, President

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natural gas was discovered during coal seam drilling operations and led to the first commercial development of a natural gas field. In 1914 the Dingman well was completed in Turner Valley and produced wet gas with very light oil.

During the course of this early history, geophysics was emerging as a practical method of reducing the odds in exploratory drilling. The earliest indications of geophysical operations in western Canada include torsion balance (gravity) surveys run at Norman Wells and over the southern plains of Alberta in the 1920s. In 1930, extensive torsion balance surveys were conducted in southern Alberta by Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas. The first full-time geophysicist appears to have been J. Edgar Duncan who worked for the Gas Company from 1929 till 1933. The first seismic survey was run at Turner Valley in 1929 for Royalite. This was followed by seismic operations in Lethbridge (1933) and High River (1934).

The crews all came from the United States and had no sense of winter conditions. Thus, all seismic work was done in the summertime, avoiding the extreme heat of mid-Continent areas like Texas and Oklahoma, and winter activities were not initiated until after World War II. Today, most seismic operations are run in the winter, peaking in January, when budgets usually kick in and when frozen ground conditions provide easier access, less surface damage, no interference with crops and achieve better quality data at relatively lower cost.



Benjamin Franklin



Leduc Number 1

By the late 1930s, seismic work was on the increase only to be partly affected by World War II. In 1944, seismic data acquired by United Geophysical led to the discovery of Shell's Jumping Pound Gas field.

Canada's most noted petroleum geophysicist of the time was the late Norman J. Christie. Not only was he highly respected as a scientist but he had an acute sense of business and gained the reputation of being Canada's geophysical ambassador. He achieved the highest honours that the seismic industry could bestow including being president of the SEG (the global Society of Exploration Geophysicists).

Western Canada's oil industry made a quantum leap with the discovery on seismic data of the Leduc Number 1 near Edmonton in February 1947. This came after Imperial had drilled over 120 consecutive dry holes and were thinking of abandoning western Canada. In spite of known Devonian reef oil at Norman Wells and oil in the older rocks of the Foothills, it was not considered likely that there would be much to be found under the Cretaceous of the prairie. Thus, Leduc was as much a milestone for the geophysical industry as it was for the oil and gas industry itself. Both came of age with Leduc. ^N

Note: Questions on this and subsequent articles are invited. Please send any question by email to the author at eastonw@telus.net. A selection of questions with answers will be published regularly.

Dr. Easton Wren

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The key issues discussed and resolved at the CAPL Executive Meeting on August 19, 2003 at the CAPL Office:

- Guest Elizabeth Burke-Gaffney, Chairman of the 2003 Conference, provided a budget update on the upcoming Conference in Edmonton and advised there are currently 276 Delegate and Exhibitor registrants.
- R.K. Howard submitted a Treasurer's Report, as at August 19, 2003 showing CAPL investments totalling \$820,703.75 Canadian and \$30,132.19 U.S. with a cash balance of \$67,426.34 Canadian and \$11,583.25 U.S. Since the last report, a total of \$105,000.00 was transferred from the current account to the investment account.
- R.K. Howard provided a six-month review on the 2003 Budget and advised that as of June 30, 2003, revenue is \$30,000 less than budgeted, while expenses are down by \$120,000 budgeted. He reminded Directors to submit their 2004 budgets to him by the end of September 2003.
- Cindy Rutherford advised that no membership applications were available for approval. The majority of applicants received have not taken a mandatory Ethics seminar or are missing vital information on their application form.
- The Alberta Department of Energy will be holding an Information Session October 2, 2003 on the proposed changes to NGC (Natural Gas from Coals). The Board of Directors approved to pay for the cost of the luncheon at the Session, which will be approximately \$1,000.00.
- Chris Koichopolos advised the new CAPL Website has been implemented and feedback on the site has been very positive. The 2003 Conference Website is also available and several people have registered for the Conference via the site.
- Tom Emerson provided the following update on Field Acquisition and Management:
 - The B.C. Forestry, the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission, CAPL, CAPP and the Woodlot Association have been having ongoing discussions with respect to access on lands held under Woodlot Licences. All Associations have committed to work together to prepare a standard operating agreement to allow access for exploration companies on lands disposed to Woodlot Licencees.

In Memoriam

- Bob Garies has submitted an article in the September 2003 Negotiator regarding an update on the status of the Guide 56 rewrite. The EUB will be formally rolling out the rewritten Guide 56 to Industry in September of 2003 and will be looking for further input from industry.

- Bill 16 – An Amendment to the Agricultural Dispositions Statutes Amendment Act and the Public Lands Act became effective July 10, 2003. This amendment basically affects access to lands, which are held under grazing leases.

- Guy Anderson advised he will review the new Privacy Legislation for Alberta and advise how it may affect the CAPL.

- Brad Goodfellow reminded Directors of the following:

- The next General Meeting will be held September 15, 2003 at the Conference in Edmonton. The following General Meeting will be held October 21, 2003 at the Fairmont Palliser Hotel with the guest speaker to be announced.

- The next Executive Meeting will be held September 15, 2003 in Edmonton, Alberta, with the following Executive Meeting on October 7, 2003 at the CAPL Office in Calgary.

- A Topical Issues Luncheon is scheduled for October 9, 2003 at The Westin Hotel, Calgary. The topic is "Company to Company Dispute Resolution", with guest speaker David Savage. Other guest speakers will also be in attendance. ^N

Clark Drader
Secretary/Director, Social

It is with deepest sadness that the CAPL announces the recent passing of a long time member.

Ernie Gent passed away August 27, 2003 at the age of 87 years. He became a member of The CAPL in 1968, served as President of the CAPL in 1974 and was a lifetime member of the Association when he passed away. Ernie enriched the lives of those who knew him and contributed to the success of our organization. ^N



Santa Claus (a.k.a. Ernie Gent) giving Jack Irwin a lamp "to help him find his way home." CAPL Christmas Party, 1969.

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PLUS 2002–2003 Farewell

Looking back over the past year, and given our exceedingly successful campaign, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has contributed to the Petroleum Land Management (PLM) program and has aided in strengthening the Petroleum Landman Undergraduate Society (PLUS).

Special thanks needs to be given to those who have contributed this year, and although I cannot personally recognize everyone, I would like to emphasize how significant their contributions are to the program. Whether it is a professor who has contributed their time, a mentor who has lent their experience or a sponsor who has invested in our program, these contributions are a cornerstone to our operations. They have ultimately aided in providing academic and social support, hands-on learning and the opportunity to network with professionals within the industry. Without the aid of these people, it would be nearly impossible to achieve our mandate:

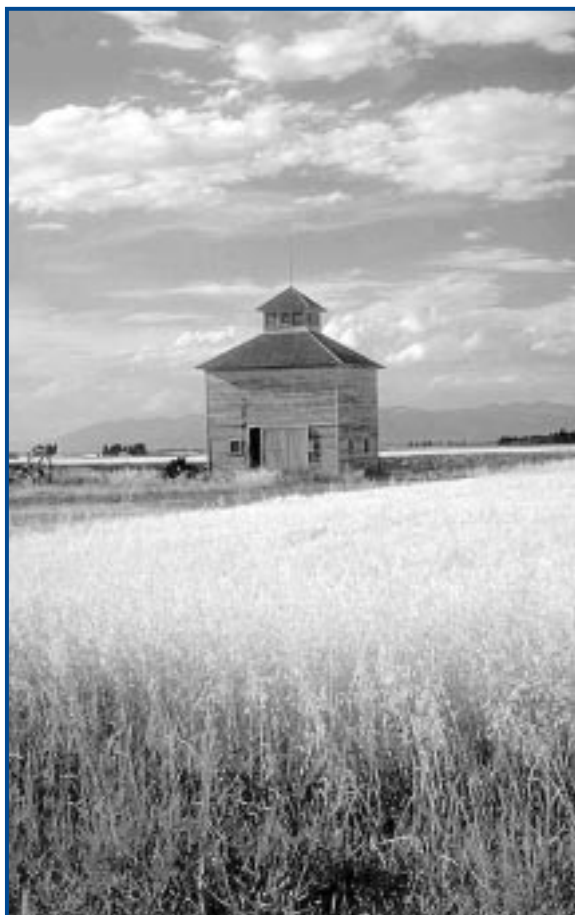
"To foster a more comfortable environment so that tomorrow's leaders in the oil and gas industry may meet with those at the forefront of the industry today."

Our mandate was accomplished through various networking galas held throughout the year and was largely made possible because of the efforts of my executive team, namely Jamie Sollard and James Armstrong, who have spent countless hours coordinating these events.

On the same note, as our elected terms are now at an end, I would like to welcome next years PLUS executive team. I am pleased to announce Allison Martin will be acting as President, while Adam Skulsky and Craig Tyler will be acting as VPs for the club.

I would like to wish all of you the very best and I look forward to our paths crossing again. **N**

Sincerely,
Sumir Saini
President of PLUS, 2002-2003



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Get Smart

The CAPL Education Committee is pleased to present
the following courses:

Coalbed Methane – Energizing Opportunities and Challenges

October 7, 2003 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

This one day course will be an overview of the nature of Coalbed Methane, the history and development of the resource and the opportunities and challenges it offers. Instructors heavily involved in CBM development will explore technical aspects of CBM, land and legal issues and concerns, types of CBM agreements, CBM regulation, water use, environmental concerns, royalty schemes, tenure and other emerging issues.

Alberta Crown Lease Continuation

October 9, 2003 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

An overview of the Regulations governing lease continuation. Will provide a case study approach of the process and detailed examples of application packages.

Ethics

October 14, 2003 8:30a.m. – 12:00p.m.

Intended to increase understanding of ethics and the dimensions of ethical inquiry. Case studies give each participant insight into his or her ethical boundaries and will help to answer the morality vs. legality question.

Fiduciary Duties

October 14, 2003 1:00p.m. – 4:30p.m.

Will focus on the problem areas arising in the context of both transactions and day to day operations. The course will emphasize the circumstances when fiduciary duties do and do not arise and the nature of these duties.

CAPL Operating Procedure: Operations Issues

October 16, 2003 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

An involved in-depth analysis of specific provisions in the 1990 CAPL Operating Procedure.

Selected Developments in Oil & Gas Law

October 17, 24 & 31, 2003 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

This 3 day seminar will review the manner in which Courts have dealt with selected issues in oil and gas law; illustrate the effect of the said decisions on the everyday practices and procedures of the industry; demonstrate how to identify similar problems in the future; provide practical suggestions on how to avoid or resolve the said legal issues; and explain the rationale behind the said decisions and recommendations.

Geology

October 21 & 22, 2003 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

This seminar will provide an overview of geology as it applies to petroleum exploration in Canada.

Alberta P&NG Regulations

October 23, 2003 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

This course will cover the administration of Continuations for primary and continued leases; grouping and validation of licenses; registration of liens and transfers; surrenders; rentals; offsets; the petroleum and natural gas sales process and trespass.

British Columbia P&NG Regulations

October 28, 2003 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

This seminar will cover an overview of the British Columbia Petroleum and Natural Gas Act and associated Regulations including the land tenure system, Crown Sales and surface rights.


Well Spacing and Holdings

October 30, 2003 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

A review of the existing regulations and the consequences of variation from normal spacing units through practical problems.

Saskatchewan P&NG Regulations

November 4, 2003 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

An overview of the Saskatchewan Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulations. 

For further information or to register, please contact the CAPL Office at 237-6635, email: dgrieve@landman.ca, or complete a registration form and fax it to 263-1620. Visit our website at www.landman.ca for the full calendar of seminars.

Roster Updates

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Message from the Executive



A friend of mine carries a motto from a famous scientist (whose name I can't remember) saying something to the effect that the world is just full of exquisite realities that are waiting for our observation skills to improve. Life has a lot of lessons available to be learned. One way that we can improve our observation skills is to borrow those skills from other people by attending courses. Another

way is to look at ourselves with fresh eyes, as many of our members do when they mentor students and other landmen. Within CAPL both of these opportunities are offered under the Education portfolio.

At my advanced age (I'm almost as old as R.K. Howard) some parts of my memories are treating me like a stranger. In this instance, I can't remember where I heard this, it might have been in Mo Sychuk's course. Anyways, (whoever it was) said that we should all fear the words "tried and tested" in the context of drafting a legal agreement. The lesson was that if there could be a perfectly drafted agreement it would include a solution to all problems before they ever got to a court where they could be "tried and tested". His conclusion was that if a clause was "tried and tested" it must not have been drafted as clearly as was needed. This was a small lesson I learned only recently, but it gave me a new impetus to improve my drafting skills. I have learned a hundred such lessons recently, and I expect to find a hundred more real soon.

Theron Nalder, an almost-famous orator, once told me,

"Scott, you can't possibly make all the mistakes there are to be made. At some point you're going to have to start learning from the mistakes of others."

I was 16 at the time, and while I remember the moment, I don't remember which particular mistakes I was in the process of learning. I'm at least a thousand weeks older now, and education, both formal and informal, has become progressively more prominent and more meaningful to me both in business and in my personal life. I think I may be approaching the point where I have learned as much from the mistakes of others as from my own mistakes. Sometime before I die, I hope to tip that balance strongly in favour of vicarious experiential learning.

Tom Peters, a writer slightly more famous than my father, wrote,

"The emerging economy is based on knowledge, imagination, curiosity, and talent. What if we could learn to tap the wonderful, rich differences among people? Wouldn't a corporation that could exploit the uniqueness of each of its ... employees be phenomenally powerful? Put negatively, isn't a corporation that doesn't figure out how to use the special curiosities of its people headed for trouble?"

At CAPL we're capturing some of the best knowledge, imagination and talent and offering it to you in the form of courses and workshops. We also have the mentoring program for university students, and we're looking at offering mentoring in several forms for people already employed in the industry. If you haven't been taking any of our courses lately, maybe you should look again. If you need more training than CAPL currently offers, perhaps you should be asking CAPL to investigate whether there are more members who need the same. Maybe we could look into offering it for all.

We should take notice of the efforts and the successes being delivered up by the members of the Education Committee and the Mentoring Committee. They are joining a legion of stalwarts who have done an immense service for CAPL and for the industry. Some of the best CAPL has known were members of, or contributors to the committees within the education portfolio.

So now, what's in it for you? ... well ... let me answer that question with two quotations:

"The meaning of things lies not in the things themselves but in our attitude towards them."

– Antoine de Saint-Exupery

"A man's mind, stretched by a new idea, can never go back to its original dimensions."

– Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. 

Scott Nalder
Director of Education

Meeting Announcements

October General Meeting

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Guest Speaker: Steve Edwards, General Manager
and COO: Calgary Exhibition and
Stampede

Topic: Evolution of the Calgary Stampede.

Fairmont Palliser Hotel
133 – 9 Avenue S.W.

Cocktails: 5:00 p.m.

Dinner: 6:15 p.m.

Members must fax or email their response to Karin Steers at the CAPL
office no later than noon on October 16, 2003.

Any members with special dietary needs or food allergies should
contact Karin Steers at 237-6635.

November General Meeting

Networking Evening

Thursday, November 13, 2003

Art Gallery of Calgary
117 – 8 Avenue S.W.

Reception: 5:00 p.m.

Members must fax or email their response to Karin Steers at the CAPL
office no later than noon on November 10, 2003. **N**



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Summer Student Perspectives

Thoughts on a summer well done

Many thanks to the following PLM students who volunteered to share their thoughts and perspectives on their experience as summer students.

Julia Hughes:

As I prepare to enter my fourth and final year of my degree at the University of Calgary, I can definitely say that my summer employment at Anadarko Canada Corporation has not only helped confirm my decision to work in the oil and gas industry but has better prepared me for my upcoming PLM classes.

Employed in the Contracts Department I worked independently on projects involving freehold lands and numerous industry agreements; such as, Farmout Agreements, Joint Operating Agreements and the preparation of Notices of Assignment.

In addition, we tracked various chains of title (while developing an appreciation for this important step) and learned how to lapse caveats. These assignments helped me to become familiar with several applications, such as ATS Landman, Accumap, Enerlink, and MapQ.

While I learned more than I could ever learn from a classroom, the highlight of the summer was the positive working relationships developed with my coworkers and peers. Everyone was more than willing to share their knowledge and to answer my questions. While we were readily welcomed into the Contracts team, we were also exposed to the other groups within the organization and their role in the industry.

This extremely rewarding experience has provided me with a foundation that will no doubt help guide my future endeavors.

***“My summer employment ...
has not only helped confirm my
decision to work in the oil & gas
industry but has better prepared
me for my upcoming PLM classes.”***



Brent Blackshaw:

As a PLM student at the University of Calgary, I knew securing a relevant summer job would help me to gain experience, provide insight into my chosen career path, and to be better prepared for the upcoming school year. However, finding a job with a company with a supportive learning environment helped to make my summer an invaluable work experience.

Although I was hired within the Agreements and Administration group at Imperial Oil, where I spent much of my time with contracts, there was a great deal of exposure to many other areas of land through different projects. Dealing with Pipeline Right of Ways, caveats and attending a Surface Rights Board hearing let me see a bit into the Surface aspect of land. A large mapping project as well as gathering information for Right of First Refusal issues provided me with a broader perspective of both the Mineral and the Acquisition and Divestment areas of a land department. On top of all of this, my mentor gave me the opportunity to manage many day-to-day items, which provided me with an appreciation of the organization and prioritizing skills a landman must have and develop.

By letting me take part in so many areas of a land department with such an encouraging and open learning environment, I feel as though I have had a great learning experience. This summer, with the help a positive culture, gave me the opportunity to build some great working

"This summer ... gave me the opportunity to build some great working relationships and friendships. Ultimately, this experience has left me anxious to begin my career in land."

relationships and friendships. Ultimately, this experience has left me anxious to begin my career in land.

Kristie Bennett:

The experience I received through my summer of employment with Imperial Oil Resources was undoubtedly one of the most beneficial and rewarding I have had. Working in the Agreement and Administration group, I worked directly with the Contracts

Landmen, where they exposed me to many of the issues involved with the agreement side of the oil and gas industry.

Throughout the summer I was given a wide range of tasks that included drafting Notice of Assignment and Amending Agreements, and reviewing Clarification and Royalty Agreements to name a few. I was also given the opportunity to diversify my experience by working with the Surface group, Asset Enhancement group and the District Landmen.

Previous to my employment this summer, I had only a brief understanding of agreements, their interpretation and execution. However, after spending a summer working in the industry, I can honestly say, hands on experience truly is the best way to learn and understand. I am looking forward to going back to school to apply all the knowledge I have acquired to my future studies.

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The highlight of my summer was the opportunity to meet such a great group of people. The friendly atmosphere and the willingness of everyone to lend a hand with a question or problem positively contributed to my learning experience and helped to make me feel part of the team. This is an experience that I will carry with me for many years to come and it has reaffirmed my decision to continue to pursue a career in Land.

Chris Lamb:

This summer I was fortunate enough to obtain a position at Baytex Energy. The experiences and knowledge I gained from this position helped to further confirm my decision to continue in the PLM program at the University of Calgary. The skills learned in the classroom really helped me prepare for what Land is all about.

The opportunity to learn from experienced Contract Analysts, Mineral Land Administrators and Landmen at Baytex allowed me to gain a stronger understanding of the day-to-day workings of the Land Department. Spending time working with these different specialties

permitted me to learn a great deal about land and to see how a play develops right from the land sale to finalizing contracts to managing the related mineral documentation.

Throughout the summer, working on many projects helped to introduce me to many different aspects of Land. Activities such as Mineral and Contract file review, land sale meetings, divestiture projects, completing lease transfer and caveat registration documentation, and reviewing well data information really allowed me to explore land from all angles. I feel really fortunate to be given the opportunities and experiences at Baytex to enhance my background and knowledge of Land.

I feel quite lucky to have received a position in the industry for the summer. The people, experiences, tasks and network I have been able to build at Baytex have helped me to gain a stronger understanding and appreciation for the land department as a whole. **N**



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Author, Author!

Do you have an interesting topic that you think would be of interest to your fellow members of the CAPL? Our Editorial Staff are looking for authors with noteworthy ideas they would be willing to write about and have published in The Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen's monthly magazine, *The Negotiator*.

The editorial committee is interested in receiving articles dealing with a wide variety of topics, from pertinent government issues, to current and changing technical trends that would be useful to CAPL members. As well, CAPL education information is always welcome in order to keep the membership informed and up-to-date. We are also interested in receiving informative articles of a business nature – articles that will help to keep our members in-the-know when it comes to their day-to-day negotiations. Finally, for all the history buffs out there, we appreciate stories that tell of the CAPL's vibrant history (see "Who is Charles Leslie May" on page 24 of this issue).



Submission guidelines can be found on the CAPL website at www.capl.ca/publications/article_submission_guidelines.asp.

If you are interested in contributing, please contact Adrienne Petzold at adrienne_petzold@calverresources.com with your article submissions or questions. 

Senior Editorial Staff
The Negotiator



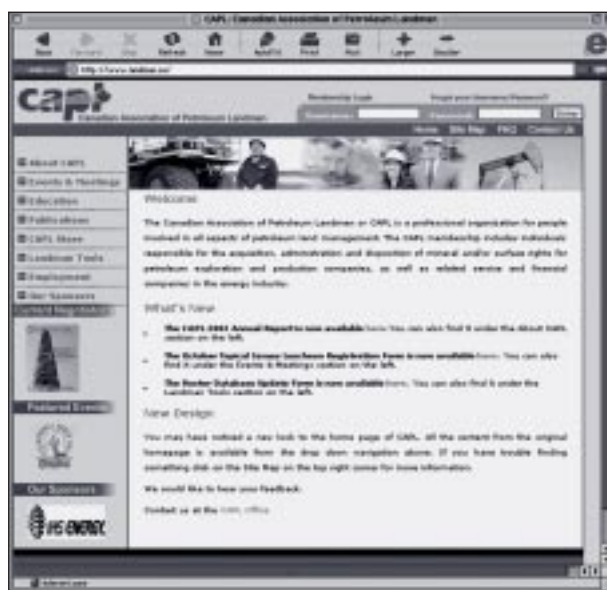
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Committees in Action: Technology Committee

The Technology Committee is responsible for managing all technical issues within The CAPL and our mandate is to utilize technology to better serve and support our members, committees and the office staff. One of the most visible responsibilities is the maintenance of the CAPL website (www.landman.ca) and over the past year the committee has contributed significant time and energy to several improvements. These improvements include a new job posting and volunteer opportunities section and the introduction of web advertisement.



Other projects include reducing costs and improving access to documents by posting the 2003 CAPL Operating Procedure online and working with the conference committees to develop the new conference website (www.caplconference.ca). The committee works closely with the CAPL office staff that maintains the member database and coordinates all of the website updates. Thank you to Denise and Karin for all their hard work and dedication to our members.

It is important to recognize several longstanding members who have stepped down from the committee this year: Ian Clark (Director), John Mannix (Chairman) and Rian Harrison. Their contributions to the committee have been invaluable and they will be missed.

The current committee consists of the following members: Brian West, Ric Crowe, Lenni Werner-Schmidt, Jon Axford and George Conroy. Along with our new Director, Chris Koichopolos, we look forward to the

results of an Office and Technology needs assessment to help guide us in the year ahead. The latest project completed was the launch of the newly designed CAPL website (www.landman.ca). If you have not had an opportunity to do so, we urge you to take a look. The website is easier to navigate, features a link to the recent copy of *The Negotiator* and prominently displays our web advertisers. The website also has a site map, which allows you to find the information you are looking for quickly. We are currently working on several projects including: the redesign of our Members Only

section (specifically the roster database) which will allow members to update their information online, development of the frequently asked questions portion of our website, and online registration for CAPL events. Our goal over the next year is to increase the amount of communication through electronic means with members and to develop a closer working relationship with other committees to ensure all of our objectives are met.

Volunteering on a committee can be a very rewarding experience and we would invite anyone wishing to volunteer to check out the CAPL website under the Employment section for available volunteer opportunities. We also encourage members to continue to give us feedback on the website. Contact details are on the Contact Us section of www.landman.ca. ^N

Dawn M. Jarvis
Chairman, Technology Committee



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Echoes of Yesteryear

The following excerpt is a continuation of the series of historical accounts by oil and gas geologist and historian, Aubrey Kerr.

Willis J. (Gibby) Gibson

A store-owner's son from Botha, near Stettler, Gibby Gibson graduated in mining engineering from the University of Alberta. He joined Imperial Oil in 1944 as a sub-surface geologist, and went to Leduc as part of a geological crew formed to test Imperial Oil's theory that oil could be found in Western Canada. He saved his laundry for washing every week at his parents' home in Edmonton, and took lodging in Leduc in a building which housed a cobbler's shop.

A year after the Leduc discovery, Atlantic No. 3, a well in the Leduc field blew wild while being drilled. This wild well disgorged a lake of crude oil eight times larger than the Exxon Valdez spill that fouled the Alaska coastline 40 years later. Gibson was in charge of shipping Leduc crude direct to Sarnia prior to the Nisku loading dock being built and the refinery being moved from Whitehorse to East Edmonton.

Gibby, who participated in the cleanup of the Atlantic well, deserves all due credit for originating the idea of Kerr's book, Atlantic No. 3 1948, getting it started, and serving on the committee which saw the book through to completion.

"That was his great contribution for me," says Kerr. "Gibby stayed right with me on the story, and performed very valuable work on the commit-



tee, even though his health was not up to it at the time. It took six years to get the book sorted out and off press, and all during that time, Gibby was both a cheerleader and quarterback for it."

In retirement, Gibby didn't retire. He invested in Three Points Oils, a small company, as founding shareholder and director, and passed on the benefits of what he had learned from his long and active association with the rise and fall of the Alberta oil industry.

Gibby did, however, find time to entertain his grandchildren with humorous stories of his life in the oilpatch, and relax at his retirement home in Millarville with wife, Margaret. Sadly she was killed in a 1988 car accident, which Gibby survived. He died in June 1993, five years after open-heart surgery.

Gibson was a kingmaker because he interviewed Bob Peterson for an engineering job. Peterson later rose to be President of Imperial Oil. Gibby was also sent to Toronto and "fed the royal jelly" but returned to the oil patch none the worse for wear. As an oilman, says Kerr, Gibson always commanded respect for his professionalism, leadership, sincerity and forthrightness. "We've lost a tremendous member of the community." **N**

Aubrey Kerr



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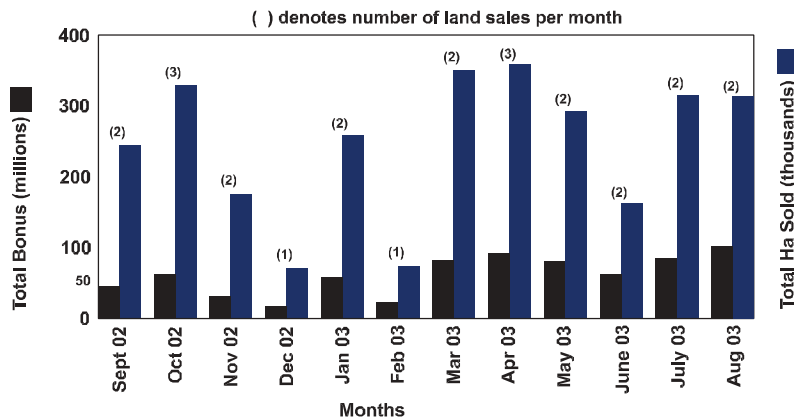
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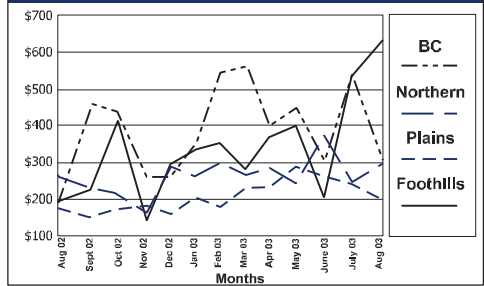
Western Canada

Land Sale Review

Alberta - Past 12 Months



Regional Trends - Average \$/Ha



August 2003

AREA	Total Ha Sold (thousands)	Average \$ / Ha
BC	74	\$303
Northern	157	\$297
Plains	144	\$198
Foothills	14	\$627
Sask	225	\$91

NOTE - All numbers are rounded off

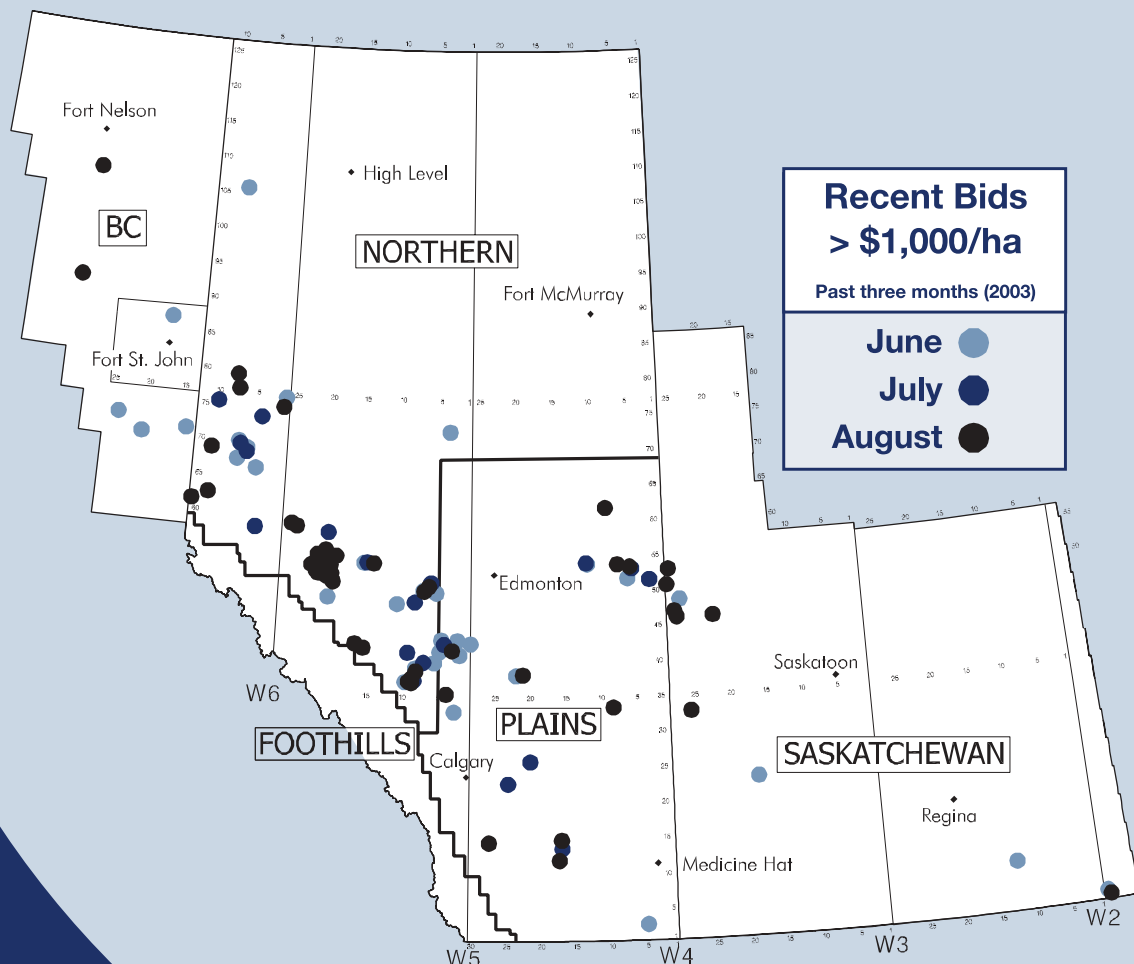
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1st Annual CAPL/International Right of Way Association (IRWA) Calgary Stampeders Game

Calgary Stampeders vs. Saskatchewan Roughriders
Sunday October 19, 2003



Come out to the last home game of the year. Join your friends from CAPL and the IRWA and watch the Stamps put the boots to those pesky Riders.

Please complete the attached registration form and return it along with your cheque prior to October 17, 2003 to:

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Troy Dashkewytch troy@cadastralgroup.ca 294-3118 **N**

Join us at 12 noon for a pre-game tailgate party complete with Spolumbo's sausages and a few cold beverages. We have reserved space on the east side of the stadium in the field near the entrance to Burns stadium.

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October Update

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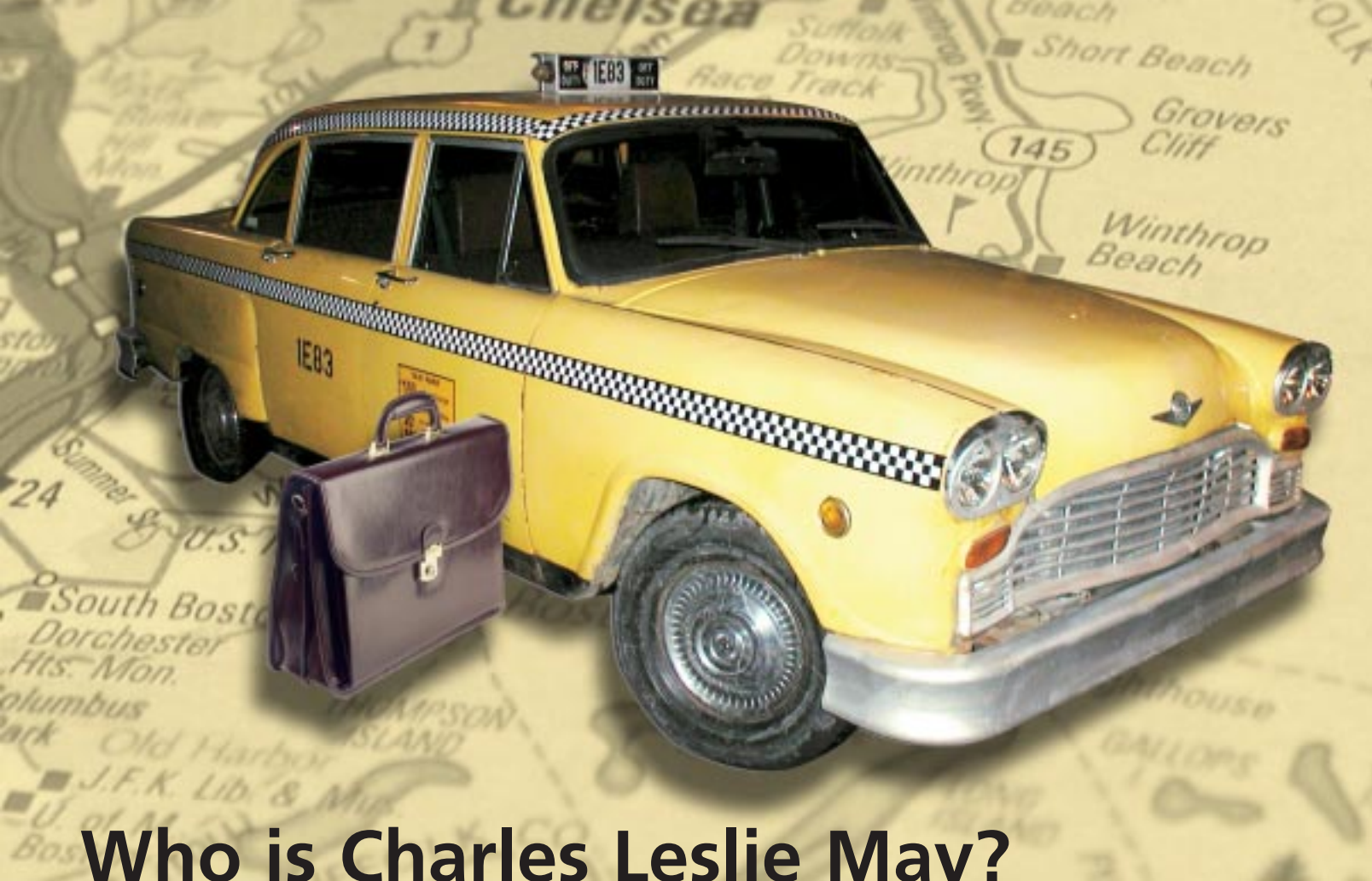


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Who is Charles Leslie May?

Every landman who has had the good fortune to spend time in the field has a story or two to tell. I have a number and here is one of my favorites. In the late 1970s I was leasing lands in the Lloydminster area for Phil Evans of Anderson Exploration. The area had become active and there was considerable competition.

Dome Petroleum had been doing some development work in the area and were going to carry out an expensive enhanced steam injection development program on the N 1/2 25-50-3 W4M. One of the parcels in the section was the SE 25-50-3 W4M and the last registered title owner was from 1908.

Charles Leslie May was unknown to the people in the area or at the Mineral Taxation Branch but the taxes were being paid by a certain Mrs. May of Florida. We had contacted Mrs. May before the area had become "hot" and had ascertained that she was not related to Charles Leslie May but that her late husband had been related but she didn't know how.

We were conducting the normal search through government and local records and through telephoning every May in the area or any area where he might have gone. No luck!

We had been ordering Land Titles documentation when low and behold a caveat was filed against the land by Manson Oil & Gas Ltd. claiming a lease on the lands. At first we were upset but then discovered that the lease had been taken from Mrs. May of Florida as the Executrix of Charles Leslie May which we knew was not correct. We realized that this was probably a ploy by Manson or their client to chase off competition.

Rather than chase off Anderson, Phil Evans and I met and reviewed the information that we had obtained. It indicated that Charles Leslie May had bought the land by agreement for sale in 1905 with the actual sale being completed in 1908. On the original documentation it indicated that he was then living in Milton, a suburb of Boston. My thought was that if he had disappeared from Alberta then he had probably gone back to the Boston area. The hunt was on!

Phil had authorized me to fly to Boston and do research. This was unusual at the time as most of this type of work was done by telephone and mail. I checked into the Holiday Inn in downtown Boston and booked a ticket for a Bruins hockey game that night in the old Boston Gardens. Heaven!

I found that Boston was made up of 10 separate Commonwealths each of which had a separate Court House and records. My plan was to rent a car and visit them all and research the records. The assumption was that as May would probably be well over 100 years old that if I were to find anything it would probably be in the

"We were conducting the normal search through government and local records and through telephoning every May in the area or any area where he might have gone. No luck!"

probate records. When I walked down to the lobby there was the taxi driver that brought me in from the airport. This was my first strike of good luck.

John Farmer was one of those characters that only could be found driving a taxi in a city like Boston. He said that he had been thinking and that if I would pay him what I would pay for a car rental he would drive me around to the 10 Court Houses and had

indeed prepared an itinerary. John's idea was that we should start at the Milton Court House and he mentioned that in the old areas of Boston people tended to live there all their lives and his bet was that Charles Leslie had returned there.

The legal records in that area of the USA are not what most landmen in Canada are used to as they are simply piled one on top of the other by year. This applies to births, marriages, deaths and Probates. I started in 1905 and moved forward. First I found that in 1927 there was a record of a marriage between a Charles Leslie May and a woman whose name escapes me. Both of these people were listed as being in their 70s and working as custodians for the Church of Christ Scientist. Further searching turned up a Will for both of them who died a few years later and Charles had died first. What luck! The first Court House and I was now hot on the trail. Now commenced the problem of finding the heirs.

John Farmer, not wanting to be left dry as a result of success, suggested that we take the rest of the day off and that he would show me Boston all for the same cost. I cannot imagine anybody having a better tour of Boston than I did that day and night and which included a visit to all 8 of John's children all of whom he supported but none of whose mothers he had ever married. John was well tipped although I never told Phil about that.

The next morning I got reviewing all of the documents that I had copied in the Court House and noticed that both wills were identical and mentioned that each considering their ages, etc., had given everything of value to their respective children (no names mentioned) but did leave the rest and residue to each other. As she

had lived the longest she or her heirs would be the beneficial owners of the mines and minerals held by Charles Leslie May.

I also noted that both wills had been prepared by a lawyer named William Carroll about 50 years previously when they were married. A quick search of the telephone book revealed that there was still such a man alive in Boston. I called Mr. Carroll and explained my story and he told me straight way that he remembered the people and the wills very clearly as they were the first wills he prepared out of law school and the first probates that he had ever done.

We discussed the situation and agreed that it was the deceased Mrs. May's children who would benefit even though they would have no idea about the ownership of the asset. He could remember only that she had one son who at the date of death was a student in Stanford, in California and was hoping to get into the school of law. Other than that he had no idea and no contact with the family.

Back in Calgary I started my research. I contacted the University at Stanford and was put through to their records department. I explained my situation to the lady and was given a cold reception. I was given a short lecture about confidentiality of records and why they couldn't help. In parting I asked her if she by chance had any knowledge of a 1st cousin of mine who was a Professor at Stanford and the dam broke!

It turns out that she and her husband were best friends with my cousin Chris and his wife and the information poured out like water. I couldn't write fast enough. It appears that the son had indeed gone to law school at Stanford but had since passed away. What was more interesting was that he also has a son who had also graduated in law from Stanford. I was quickly provided with the grandson's name, address and telephone number.

I got the grandson on the telephone and told him that he was the beneficiary of something that had some considerable value but that he would never find out what it was or how he was entitled to the

***"It gave me great pleasure to write to
Manson Oil and Gas to discharge their
caveat and waited for Don Manson to
call for the story. He never called so
this might be the first time he finds
out what happened."***

interest and it was only by extreme co-incidence that I had obtained all of the facts. I also explained that I wanted to make an agreement with him that would rely on his word as nothing could proceed without going through some Court process and that he couldn't help but find out the facts beforehand. Once he had the facts he would be free to act as he wished and that I only had his good word to rely on.

He advised that he was truly fascinated by the story and would like to proceed but would need the consent and agreement of his three siblings. Within a few days he called and said that we had a deal. Within several months they had title in their names and true to their word they signed leases.

It gave me great pleasure to write to Manson Oil and Gas to discharge their caveat and waited for Don Manson to call for the story. He never called so this might be the first time he finds out what happened.

Shortly after the lease was signed Anderson drilled a well in LSD 7 of 25 offsetting the 32 well enhanced oil production project being developed by Dome. The well was, as could be expected, dry. I have on occasion through the years talked to the grandson in California whom I admired for being as good as his word.

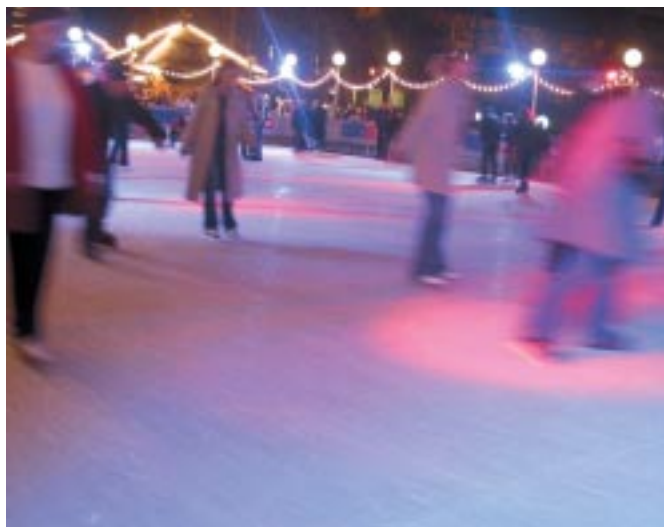
In the 1980s I got a book for Christmas called *The Promised Land* by Pierre Burton. It told the story of the Barr Colonists who had founded Saskatoon, Lloydminster and Barrhead. In the book it tells of the Colonists front man (the fellow who preceded the Colonists and arranged trains, lands, etc.) and that his name was Charles Leslie May! It also tells that he left the Colonists at Lloydminster in 1905 to file on some land. The reason for this story. **N**

John O. Davis, P.Land

CAPL/CAPLA Family Christmas Skating Party

Date: Saturday December 13th, 2003
Time: 11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Location: Olympic Skating Oval @ The University of Calgary

		Cost Plus GST	Total Cost Including GST
Admission:	Adults	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.70
	Children/Grandchildren	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.35
	Family Rate*	\$ 30.00	\$ 32.10
	(*Applicable to immediate family only)		



Please register your children by December 5th, 2003 at the latest in order to qualify for door prizes!

Share the Christmas spirit by bringing new unwrapped toys or by making a cash donation to the Children's Cottage at the event.

Admission includes hot dogs and refreshments and shinny for adults and children. Children also receive gift bags and photos with Santa.

Please note it is mandatory that shinny players wear helmets and equipment.

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CAPL Christmas Party

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Should you require further information please contact:

Terry O'Connor @ Denison 264-4111
 Pat McCreary @ Anadarko 231-0257
 Doreen Walker @ Petro-Canada 296-3335
 Doug Hilland @ Apache Canada Ltd. 261-1383, or
 Valerie Anderson @ Chevron Canada Resources 234-5060 



Annual CAPL Christmas Party & Silent Auction

December General Meeting

Thursday, December 4, 2003

Palomino Room, Round-Up Center

Stampede Park

For the first time The CAPL will be featuring a Silent Auction as part of its Annual Christmas Party.

The Silent Auction will help to raise funds for the Canadian Petroleum Landmen's Scholarship Trust Fund to benefit students enrolled in the Petroleum Land Management Program at the University of Calgary and the Land Agents Program at Olds College.

The CAPL requests prize donations to be auctioned from its members and member companies. Please think seriously about donating a corporate gift to the auction which will add to the evening's festivities and support a very worthwhile cause. Interested parties should contact:

Rob Sheedy

Clear Energy Inc. 410-3109

Lance Petersen

Crispin Energy Inc. 691-7738

Kevin Burke-Gaffney

El Paso Velvet Exploration 538-7474 



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CAPL Calendar of Events

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Alberta Land Sale N	2 Royalty Agreements CAPL Royalty Procedure N	3 Property Trades, Acquisitions and Divestments N	4
5	6 CAPL Property Transfer Procedure N	7 Coalbed Methane Executive Meeting Sask. Land Sale N	8 B.C. Land Sale N	9 Alberta Crown Lease Continuation Topical Issues Luncheon N	10	11
12	13 Thanksgiving N	14 Ethics Fiduciary Duties N	15 Alberta Land Sale N	16 CAPL Operating Procedure – Operations Issues N	17 Selected Developments in Oil & Gas Law – Part 1 N	18
19 CAPL / IRWA Stampede Game N	20	21 General Meeting Geology →	22 N	23 Alberta P&NG Regulations N	24 Selected Developments in Oil & Gas Law – Part 2 N	25
26	27	28 B.C. P&NG Regulations N	29 Alberta Land Sale N	30 Well Spacings and Holdings N	31 Selected Developments in Oil & Gas Law – Part 3 N	

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Executive Meeting Sask. P&NG Regulations N	5 Alberta Land Sale N	6	7	8

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