

ARCHIVES

Newsletter of the Petroleum History Society

October 2010; Volume XXI, Number 7

P.H.S. Lunch and Learn Meeting – Wednesday, October 27, 2010

Drilling - Then and Now

by Leroy Field, Drilling Engineer

The oilpatch is now buzzing with excitement concerning the application of long, directionally drilled horizontal wells and multi-stage fracs to the exploitation of not just unconventional shale plays but also to the tighter fringes of conventional pools that were long thought to be past rejuvenation. Formation names like Cardium, Viking and Slave Point are enjoying new currency as companies, big and small, hurry to capture this emerging bonanza. Enabling this rebirth has been the application of relatively new technologies which are the subject of this month's talk by well known drilling expert Leroy Field.

Mr. Leroy Field, a native Albertan, graduated from the University of Alberta in 1954 with a B.Sc. in Petroleum Engineering. During his career he has worked for a number of companies involved in the oil and gas business as jug hustler, roughneck, salesman, serviceman, engineer, onsite supervisor and other operating roles. Areas of activity have been the Grand Banks and Beaufort Sea; deep, difficult and sour Foothills tests; heavy oil pad drilling; slim hole and TBA (Transportable By Anything) rig operations. He completed twenty-five years with Amoco in various capacities culminating in Drilling Manager. Since 1989 he has been providing engineering consulting services in drilling operations. He has been a leader in developing new technology and procedures in the drilling business and has been providing training in this discipline throughout his career. Leroy's career and accomplishments were recently featured in an article in the Canadian Well Construction Journal published by the Canadian Association of Drilling Engineers (CADE) of which Leroy is a Founding Member (1974). Leroy previously addressed the Society in 2002 on the subject of "Horizontal Drilling" but additional developments in drilling technology have set the stage for this return engagement.

TIME: 12 noon, Wednesday, October 27, 2010.

PLACE: Calgary Petroleum Club, 319 – 5th Avenue S.W. – Cardium Room

COST: Members \$30.00 and Guests \$35.00 (most welcome) (cash or cheque only)

R.S.V.P. if you wish to attend to: Clint Tippett, 403-691-4274 or clinton.tippett@shell.com by noon, Monday, October 25, if not sooner.

Individuals who indicate that they will be attending
- but do not materialize will be considered
"no shows" and will be invoiced for the cost of the luncheon.
Individuals who do not R.S.V.P. cannot be assured of seating.