



**PETROLEUM  
HISTORY  
SOCIETY**

**ARCHIVES**

*Newsletter of the Petroleum History Society*

*March 2013; Volume XXIV, Number 3*

**P.H.S. Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony – Wednesday, March 27, 2013**

**Blessed by Geology - Cursed by Geography:  
Canada's Energy Pipelines**

by David Finch, Petroleum Historian and Author

Controversy swirls around the Northern Gateway pipeline to the West Coast and the Keystone XL line to the Gulf of Mexico today, but Canada's energy pipelines have regularly made headlines for a century. Though invisible, pipelines have often been disruptive forces, politically charged, and even out of sync with the times. They have also been fundamental to the development of the Canadian oil industry and the continental economy. This review of key pipeline developments in Canada since the early 1900's will explain their influence and power, as well as the precarious position they occupy in our Canadian economy.

***Historian and author David Finch is the author of more than 25 books about the history of the Canadian West and a frequent contributor to the Calgary Herald. David is a longtime member of the P.H.S. and a P.H.S. Award winner.***

*Please see page 2 for the schedule for the Annual Meeting.*

TIME: 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 27, 2013.  
PLACE: Calgary Petroleum Club, 319 – 5th Avenue S.W.  
COST: Members and Guests (most welcome) - free of charge  
DRESS: Business casual at minimum, ties not required

**For the sake of our snack planning, please  
R.S.V.P. if you wish to attend to: Micky Gulless at 403-283-9268 or  
[micky@petroleumhistory.ca](mailto:micky@petroleumhistory.ca) by noon Monday, March 25**

**Note:** A variety of classic oilpatch books authored by P.H.S. members will be on display at this event with complimentary copies available to attendees. Thanks to Director Neil Leeson.

*THE PETROLEUM HISTORY SOCIETY*  
**THE BULL WHEEL**



**Next Luncheons:** Our luncheon slate has come together for this coming Spring. Our thoughts now turn to the Fall. We are always seeking speakers and interesting subjects. If you are considering making a presentation, please contact Clint Tippett, President P.H.S., at 403-691-4274.

**Publications Available at Luncheons:** Director Neil Leeson has undertaken to promote the important work that members of the P.H.S. have done to document the history of the petroleum industry through the publication of books. A variety of oilpatch classics authored by P.H.S. members will be in display at our luncheons - with free copies to all attendees.

The schedule for the P.H.S Annual meeting on March 27 will be:

4:00 p.m.	Meeting commences – call to order
4:05 p.m.	President’s Report
4:20 p.m.	Treasurer’s Report and related business
4:30 p.m.	Election of P.H.S. Officers and Board for the 2013-2014 term
4:45 p.m.	2012 P.H.S. Awards
5:15 p.m.	Keynote Speaker: David Finch
5:45 p.m.	Questions, Answers and Discussion
6:00 p.m.	Mix and Mingle with snacks and cash bar - Please come out and join us!

**Donations to the Petroleum History Society:** Members will have noted that the opportunity to donate to the Society is a part of our annual membership renewal process. We have been extremely fortunate to have in our midst many generous individuals from both the regular membership and the lifetime category who have seen fit to provide some additional contributions to enable us to fulfill our historical mandates and, indeed, to open some doors on activities that we might not otherwise be able to contemplate. Treasurer Micky Gulless, who is thanked for coordinating this membership and financial aspect of the P.H.S., has provided the following list of these 2013 sponsors current to February 26: David Barss, Penny Colton, William Cummer, Adriana Davies, Evelyn de Mille, John Downing, Bruce Goodall, Rick Green, Micky Gulless, Dick Haskayne, Adam Hedinger, Gordon Holland, Don Kent, Jeffrey Mackie, Gerald Maier, Robert McClements, Jr., Charles Stelck, Uldis Uputis, Gordon Wells, Gordon Williams and Cindy Wolfe.

**Holiday Fun:** We recently received a notice concerning the Drake Well Exhibit at the Drake Well Museum, 202 Museum Lane, Titusville, PA – visit [drakewell.org](http://drakewell.org). Also of interest is the West Virginia Oil, Gas and Civil War Heritage District with towns Burning Springs and Petroleum.

**Book Signings:** P.H.S. Member Terry Steinkey of Maptown in downtown Calgary has advised us of three petroleum-related book signings scheduled for his store during May, specifically May 16 – Rick George (book: Sun Rise); May 23 – Sanjay Patel (book: The Future of Oil); May 30 – Joyce Hunt (book: Local Push – Global Pull). All are welcome. Please note that these dates are tentative and subject to change so maybe call ahead to confirm. Maptown's address is 100 – 400 5 Avenue S.W., Calgary. Call 403-266-2241.

**Historical Photos:** Maptown also carries a selection of framed petroleum historical photographs from Western Canada, as prepared by P.H.S Member Randal Kabatoff through his company Soul of Canada which can also be reached through [info@soulofcanada.com](mailto:info@soulofcanada.com) Photos, both single and in combination, are available through a catalog that can be viewed at Maptown. Favourite scenes are Leduc No.1, Redwater No. 1, Atlantic No. 3, Lineham No. 1 (Waterton), Saskatchewan, Viking No. 1, Bow Island No. 1, Dingman No. 1 and Dina No. 1.

**Horizontal Drilling Pioneer:** Does anyone remember Peter Gretener's advocacy of horizontal drilling as a way of working with geological heterogeneity and maximizing fracture intersections? Peter was a Swiss geologist who got his start with Shell Canada in the late 1950's mapping in the Northwest Territories. He later became a professor at the University of Calgary where he liked to introduce provocative ideas to his students. Peter, now deceased, would be very proud of the ways in which horizontal drilling has been implemented as a part of our exploitation of unconventional resources.

**Oil Sands Website:** The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (C.A.P.P.) has a new oil sands-related website. Go to [www.oilsandstoday.ca](http://www.oilsandstoday.ca) to read all about it.

**Genealogy and Petroleum History:** We were alerted to a new historical resource for Turner Valley. The Alberta Family Histories Society has compiled a webpage of Turner Valley obituaries as a basis for research. Go to: <http://afhs.ab.ca/data/announcements/turner/>

**Petroleum History Institute:** The Institute is having its Annual Meeting this year in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from May 16-18, 2013. The deadline for the submission of abstracts for its symposium is April 1, 2013. Proceedings from the meeting are published in the annual volume of Oil-Industry History. Please visit [www.petroleumhistory.org](http://www.petroleumhistory.org) for more details. Pittsburg is said to be the birthplace of U.S. crude oil refining with operations dating back to the early 1850's. This must have been quite a feat if oil was not discovered until 1859 – but I'm sure there is a story there somewhere.

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Back issues are archived on our website at [www.petroleumhistory.ca](http://www.petroleumhistory.ca)

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June 11-13, 2013

Stampede Park

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

**Operation Bow-Athabasca:** The Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists and the Geological Survey of Canada, in conjunction with the Canmore Geoscience Centre, have produced both a travelling exhibition and a volume on this regional geological mapping project from the 1960's and early 1970's that covered the area between the TransCanada Highway along the Bow River all the way north to the Athabasca River along the Yellowhead Highway near Jasper. The book of 72 pages was authored by Ben Gadd (with contributions from Ray Price, Roger Macqueen and Rick Green), is 72 pages long, contains numerous colour illustrations as well as a DVD with many of the related final maps, and costs \$20.00. It can be purchased at the C.S.P.G. office at 110, 333 – 5 Avenue S.W., Calgary. Or if you run into P.H.S. Member Rick Green, he is sure to have a copy that he can sell you as it is being used as a fundraiser for the Canmore Geosciences Centre.