



## October 2011 eBrief Print Version

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### **Recap of GPA and GPSA board meetings**

The GPA and GPSA boards of directors held their respective meetings in Albuquerque, NM, the week of Oct. 17. Several items of interest were reported at each meeting:

**GPSA Board** – The directors reviewed and approved the 2011 year-end audit. The association's finances are in good shape and funds are in place for the printing of the 13<sup>th</sup> Edition of the GPSA Engineering Data Book. It is anticipated that the 13<sup>th</sup> Edition will be available in 2012.

The board's entertainment committee successfully contracted with country artist Phil Vassar to provide the entertainment at the Tuesday evening gala at the 2012 GPA Convention. Vassar is a singer, songwriter and country artist extraordinaire. Increased party attendance as compared to last year is anticipated.

The board approved a newly developed Sponsorship Program that will be incorporated into the GPA Convention next April. Details have been distributed to the membership, and these details can be found below in another eBrief article.

**GPA Board** – The directors unanimously approved the association's budget for 2012. Based on a recommendation from its Executive and Finance Committee, the budget was amended to include an overall membership dues increase of 10%. This adjustment was considered necessary due to the revenue-neutral adjustment approved last year that changed the membership reporting requirement from NGL production to employee work-hours, and the increased activities that GPA has engaged in, and the anticipated activities for 2012 that GPA will be engaged in. In addition, the budget included \$265,000 from the membership for the 2012 Research Program. With funds from the Propane Education and Research Council and GPSA members, the total approved research budget is \$565,000.

The board also approved the newly developed Sponsorship Program that will be incorporated into the 2012 GPA Convention.

A report from the Chapter Relations Chair advised the board that the annual Domestic Chapter Summit was held last July in Albuquerque and topics discussed included the chapter's acceptance of electronic payments for activities, insurance questions, tax-exempt issues and records retention. The chapter leaders also requested that board members strongly encourage their employees to attend and become engaged in chapter activities.

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### **OSUIT GPA/GPSA Training Program**

In September, the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology (OSUIT) announced one of the largest donations in its history – a \$2 million commitment from Chesapeake Energy. The gift will be used to build a state-of-the-art natural gas compression training center at its Okmulgee campus. The facility will be called the “Chesapeake Energy Natural Gas Compression Training Center,” and will be equipped with the latest technology, machinery and tools, enabling students to be work-ready upon graduation. The Energy Center will be the new home of the GPA/GPSA Natural Compression Training Program and at least one other natural gas industry program.

Following the opening of the Training Center, enrollment numbers are expected to double to 115 students, and the program plans to graduate 50 to 55 skilled individuals each year.

The Training Center’s total budgetary need is \$4 million, but this \$2 million investment allows the school to begin construction.

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### **2012 GPA Convention: “Mapping Midstream’s Future”**

As its meeting nearly two weeks ago, the Program Committee selected “Mapping Midstream’s Future” as the theme of the 2012 GPA Convention, which will be held April 15-18 in New Orleans, La. Global futurist, author and visionary business advisor Dr. James Canton will kick off the convention as our keynote speaker.

Dr. Canton has been recognized as “one of the top presenters in the 21st century” by Successful Meetings Magazine and has spoken to thousands of organizations on five continents. He is noted for his fascinating, informative, dynamic and entertaining keynotes.

A frequent guest of the media, Dr. Canton is a commentator on CNN. He was named “the Digital Guru” by CNN and “Dr. Future” by Yahoo, and has been featured by CNBC, Fox, PBS, ABC, Fortune, The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, Bloomberg Report, The New York Times, US News and World Report, among others.

We look forward to hearing Dr. Canton’s assessment on the future of the energy industry at the General Session and hope you’ll join us there.

Registration and hotel information for the 2012 GPA Convention will be communicated in December, so keep an eye on your inbox for that information.

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### **All 2012 GPA Convention sponsorship opportunities in one place**

The GPA Convention offers a number of ways to promote your company, and now, all of those opportunities can be found in one location.

The 2012 GPA Convention Sponsorship Packet gives a description of all available opportunities, including some new additions, and we encourage you to read through the entire packet to see what best fits your company’s needs and budget.

A link to the packet will always be available on the right column of the GPA web site: [www.GPAGlobal.org](http://www.GPAGlobal.org). The number of available opportunities remaining will be updated daily.

### **Please keep these things in mind:**

- A 50% deposit is required to secure your sponsorship. For your convenience, all options are listed and can be paid online by using the link on the right column of the GPA site.
- Companies that sign up for sponsorships of at least \$1,000 (excluding GPSA entertainment table sponsorships) have the option of including their company logo in the convention promotional brochure that will be mailed to more than 10,000 midstream professionals. **The deadline to be included in the brochure is Nov. 28**, so if you know you’d like to become a sponsor, don’t miss out on that opportunity.

Crystal Myers with Dollahon PR is handling all sponsorship opportunities and sign-ups on behalf of GPA for the 2012 convention. Feel free to call or e-mail her with questions:

(918) 894-4455 office  
[crystal@dollahonpr.com](mailto:crystal@dollahonpr.com)

Information about hospitalities and Vendor Night are also included in this packet. Please contact Christine Simpson, GPA, for information regarding those two opportunities:

(918) 493-3872 office

### **Advocacy Steering Committee update**

The GPA Advocacy Steering Committee is hard at work. The GPA Board of Directors approved the reorganization plan at the GPA Convention last spring, and leaders of each of the advocacy committees, along with support from Advocacy Steering Committee Chair Joel Moxley and Vice Chair Al Fatica, have been tackling major industry issues.

Matt Norton is leading the Pipeline Safety Committee on the PHMSA Reauthorization. Matt Norton and Evan Hanson have joined forces and spent much of the summer and fall leading the Pipeline Safety Committee and Legislative Committee, working with Lisa Epifani in Washington D.C., on the various versions of Pipeline legislation.

Environmental Committee Chair, Grover Campbell, is leading the way as the committee continues working on several EPA rules and proposed rules, including the new Oil and Natural Gas Sector proposed rule. Legal Committee Chair Elizabeth Hawkins reported on the cases and issues this newly formed GPA committee has championed.

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### **Deadline nears for Environmental Excellence Awards**

The Environmental Excellence Award is a project-based award honoring companies' achievements in energy conservation and environmental support. The self-nomination process is open for companies to be considered for the 2012 award recognition at the GPA Convention, April 15 – 18, in New Orleans, La. The award recipient will have an opportunity to demonstrate their projects so that other member companies may benefit from this knowledge and information. **The application deadline is December 31, 2011.** Visit <http://gpaglobal.org/awards/envexcellence/> for full program details and application forms.

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### **A GPA Research Committee meeting report**

Members of the GPA Research Committee, Technical Section F, met in Oldenburg, Germany, in early October for their fall business meeting. The first two days of the meeting were used to accomplish the usual meeting agenda, and the third day was spent visiting LTP GmbH, University of Oldenburg. LTP is currently responsible for nearly one-third of GPA's active research projects.

LTP used this time to update the group on project status as well as giving the group a tour of their laboratory. This allowed the group an up-close look at how our active projects are being studied and how past projects were studied. By allowing the group to see other equipment and techniques available, they came away with a better understanding of how LTP might be able to handle future projects.

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### **Technical Section meetings benefit from a new format**

GPA Technical Sections held their meetings two weeks ago with a new all-day format. Rather than the usual four hours normally allotted for each section to hold their business meetings, eight-hour blocks were reserved. The extra time allowed the sections an opportunity to work on agenda items while everyone was present, which increased productivity, rather than extending the amount of work time through exchanging emails and phone calls. Section members relayed that while skeptical in the beginning, the format change was a great idea. Work that would normally take months to complete with workgroup members living in various parts of the country was cut down to a few hours.

Rather than meeting in conjunction with the sections, the Technical Committee met in conjunction with the GPA Board of Directors meeting. Committee members saw the benefit of having the added board exposure to GPA's continuous technical efforts, and it was unanimously decided that the format would carry over to next year. Dates for these meetings will be posted to the GPA web site when available. Minutes of the committee and its section meetings will be available and distributed soon.

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### **GPA Technical Section Updates**

#### **Technical Section A – Facilities Design**

Members of this section spent most of their time discussing how to address the need for non-inclusion of midstream operations facilities and equipment in NFPA 56, which was an issue addressed in last month's eBrief. As a quick recap, while NFPA 56 is a well written document with the intent of safety at its core, Kenny Wheat, GPA director, Technical Services, has concerns that the document has been written far too broad in scope, allowing the possible future misuse or misinterpretation with regards to the wide range of facilities encompassed by this direct excerpt from the applicability section of the document: "... new and existing flammable gas piping found in electric-generating plant, industrial, institutional and commercial applications."

Public comments for NFPA 56 are due no later than close of business on Nov. 25. GPA plans to comment before this period, addressing its concerns.

Once the comments from Section A and Section M are incorporated into GPA's response, the response will be shared with GPA and GPSA members as well as the outcome of our request.

### **Technical Section B – Analysis and Test Methods**

The following is a brief synopsis of Section B's activities.

#### **Standards:**

- **Gas and Liquids Analysis Precision Statement** – Final arrangements are underway to complete the Technical Publication which outlines the statistical analysis methods and outcomes of the data obtained from GPA Research Report 188 - *GPA Round Robin Chromatograph Test Project*. The new precision statements will affect nearly all of the Section B methods and their ongoing standards revisions.
- **GPA 2177 – Analysis of Natural Gas Liquid Mixtures Containing Nitrogen and CO2 by Gas Chromatography** – While the standard was recently thought ready for ballot once the new precision statement was published, during the workgroup meeting the committee decided that some more minor additions and editing were appropriate before being balloted. These changes are being incorporated and the standard will be balloted upon completion of the precision statement.
- **GPA 2261 - Analysis for Natural Gas and Similar Gaseous Mixtures by Gas Chromatography** – As with GPA 2177, some minor editing was thought necessary before being balloted. These changes are being incorporated and the standard will be balloted upon completion of the precision statement.
- **GPA 2103 – Tentative Method for the Analysis of Natural Gas Condensate Mixtures Containing Nitrogen and CO2 by Gas Chromatography** - The document is awaiting the ballot of GPA 2177 due to the similarities in technical content.
- **GPA 2286 – Tentative Method of Extended Analysis for Natural Gas and Similar Gaseous Mixtures by Temperature Programmed Gas Chromatography** - The revision of this standard is essentially complete and is awaiting ballot approval of GPA 2261 before the final draft is ready for ballot.
- **GPA 2174 – Obtaining Liquid Hydrocarbon Samples for Analysis by Gas Chromatography** - Figures that were found to need clarification within the document have been incorporated. Other minor revisions to the document are nearly complete.

### **Technical Section M – Operations and Maintenance**

The leadership of this section has worked to gain more interest in the section's activities for several years and the efforts seem to have paid off. The larger group and new faces at the meeting made for a productive and meaningful meeting. Mike Spinks, Enterprise, recently took over as the interim Chair while Erin Minter, Williams Midstream, recently accepted the position as Vice Chair. Efforts are underway to find a Vice Chairman to replace Erin as she transitions into the Chair position. The following is a brief synopsis of their activities:

**Section M Document Review and Creation** – Section M has created many documents over the years that were at one time useful and informative, offering great shared practices information. These documents are severely outdated, and the interest and usefulness of them has declined due to that fact. The committee has decided to review these documents with the intent of either revising them to better help O&M departments with their development or upkeep of internal procedures, or to remove the document from circulation with no intent of republishing. The section is also focused on developing new documents with the intent of sharing knowledge.

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#### **Restructured GPA Regulatory Committee kicks off with new leadership**

In step with the approved committee restructuring plan of GPA advocacy efforts, the Regulatory Committee has hit the ground running with new leadership and new focus. Ron Mucci, ONEOK, has agreed to serve as the new Chair, and Gary Mann, Crestwood, has agreed to serve as the new Vice Chair. These leaders will serve in their new roles through the 2014 GPA Convention. Discussion of committee goals, scope and objectives were reviewed and approved during the first conference call of the newly restructured committee. As with the other GPA Advocacy Committees (Legislative, Environmental, Pipeline Safety, Legal, and Safety and Health), the Chair and Vice Chair of Regulatory will serve on the GPA Advocacy Steering Committee. With these new leaders in place, all of our advocacy committee structures are in place and working for success of GPA and our member companies. If you would like to serve on any of these committees, please contact Jeff Applekamp:

[japplekamp@GPAglobal.org](mailto:japplekamp@GPAglobal.org).

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### **Chapter News**

## Rocky Mountain GPA

The Rocky Mountain GPA annual meeting was held Sept. 8 and was a success, with nearly 140 in attendance. Keynote speaker John Harpole, Mercator Energy, was well received at the lunch, and the afternoon sessions, broken into two concurrent sessions, had great attendance.

Thank you to the great speakers and their informative presentations that afternoon:

*Centrifugal Compression of High BTU Gas* - Rainer Kurz, Solar Turbines

*OSHA Standards and Acts and Their Implication on U.S. Gas Production and Processing Facilities* - Bob Menke, Eaton Inspection Services

*Advanced Process Control for Midstream Operations* - Vic Rice, Honeywell

*Integrated Emissions Management* - Dave Ruger, Honeywell

## Houston GPA

Houston GPA (HGPA) is hosting an educational session at the Houston Racquet Club on Nov. 9 from 8 – 11:30 a.m., followed by the HGPA luncheon. The topic is *Gas Processing: A critical component in the Natural Gas Value Chain*, presented by Ralph Neumann with John M. Campbell & Co.

Gas processing facilities are more complex than production facilities, and their design and operation are more dependent on gas composition, flow rate, temperature and pressure than in the upstream area. This half-day session focuses on the typical process flow, gas composition and products mix, gas dehydration, gas sweetening and sulfur recovery, acid gas reinjection and NGLs / dew point control. This is a technical presentation that could also serve as an advanced introductory course for non-technical professionals.

To register or to learn more, please e-mail [jeannec@JMCampbell.com](mailto:jeannec@JMCampbell.com) or visit <http://www.jmcampbell.com/gpa-educational-sessions.php> to register online.

HGPA members receive a discount, and remember, membership in the national GPA organization does not automatically make you a member of Houston GPA. Visit [www.houstongpa.org](http://www.houstongpa.org) to confirm or renew your membership. Pricing for HGPA members is \$295, and is \$335 for non-HGPA members.

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## GPA/GPSA Calendar

For event location and additional details about meetings listed below, visit: [www.GPAglobal.org/calendar/](http://www.GPAglobal.org/calendar/)

- 2 North Texas GPA Annual Sporting Clay Tournament
- 3 North Texas GPA Annual Meeting
- 9 Houston GPA Monthly Meeting - JMC Education Session & Luncheon
- 10 Rocky Mountain GPA Technical Pipeline Seminar & Chapter Lunch
- 10 GPA Canada/Petroleum Joint Venture Association 18th Annual Joint Conference
- 15-17 International Petroleum Technology Conference (Bangkok)
- 24 GPA Europe AGM and Technical Meeting
- 29 Gulf Cooperation Council Executive/Technical Committee Meeting
- 30 Gulf Cooperation Council - 6th Specialized Technical Seminar

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## Gas Processors Association

[www.GPAglobal.org](http://www.GPAglobal.org)

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