

## **COPAS-Colorado**

COPAS-Colorado's new president, Jim Allison, participated in the COPAS Leadership Council meeting in South Padre Island this past July. He learned a lot about the organization on a national level and has some great takeaways to share with the COPAS-Colorado leadership. We look forward to exploring the ideas that were shared and seeing how we might implement them at our society.

The board approved a New Professionals committee to begin during the 2008-2009 COPAS-Colorado year. The committee is already receiving some buzz from accountants in the industry, as observed by one of our more seasoned members while at a client's office this summer. Although the client was not an active member in COPAS-Colorado, some of the younger staff were discussing the New Professionals committee activities, not realizing that it was part of COPAS-Colorado. He informed these newer professionals that the committee was a part of COPAS-Colorado. This is exciting news that the committee is already impacting industry companies by getting the word out about networking and educational events.

The New Professionals committee will be chaired by Jenny Pitkin-Emerson. She has formulated a terrific team to get this committee going with Pat Lytle and Dash Victor who have been instrumental in getting the committee underway. They met at the offices of Hein & Associates to discuss the committee, plan for future events, and schedule future meetings. The members are eager to work towards meeting the following goals:

(1) To attract, help retain, and acclimate new accounting professionals and accounting students to the oil & gas industry. (2) To educate new or interested professionals on higher level and broad overview topics as well as technical aspects (including CPE) specific to the industry focusing on entry level topics. (3) To provide networking and social activities for new and interested individuals to help familiarize themselves to the industry and COPAS as an organization. (4) To increase awareness of careers in the oil & gas industry and to provide information / ideas on how to get into the oil & gas industry. (5) To establish guidelines for student membership (6) To integrate with other young professional societies (7) To reach out to non COPAS as well as current COPAS members to try to create an interest in careers in oil & gas and promote membership in COPAS.

The New Professionals will be sponsored by COPAS-Colorado to participate in a kickball tournament with other young professionals in the area, such as lawyers and CPAs. In addition, plans are underway for a happy hour in September to welcome committee members and share their ideas for the committee. Furthermore, they will be having an educational meeting to be hosted by EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. to listen to a speaker talk about the perceptions resulting from media exposure of the oil and gas industry. They have already met many of the goals listed and we are looking forward to their continued participation in COPAS-Colorado.

Please feel free to check out our web-site at [www.copascolorado.org](http://www.copascolorado.org) for events and information about COPAS-Colorado.

**Deanna Duell**

*COPAS-Colorado Board Member*