

THE OILMEN'S
A SIXTY YEAR COMMEMORATIVE



Sixty years of history – what an achievement for The Oilmen’s! This commemorative book captures all of it in the context of the evolving oil and gas industry and the unfolding world events that shaped it.

The Oilmen’s had issued simple historical summaries of the Tournament every five years from the 20th Oilmen’s onward. For the 50th golden anniversary Oilmen’s I had the pleasant task of creating the coffee-table sized commemorative book that forms the basis of this updated version for the 60th diamond anniversary.



BARRY STEWART

Aided by many past chairmen with ideas, anecdotes and materials, the story of the Oilmen’s was told in detail. Many hours of combing the archives, actually a collection of cardboard boxes in the basement of the Petroleum Club that had been started by the far-sighted Art Smith, Chairman of the 34th Oilmen’s, resulted in the final product.

Dave Fitzpatrick, Chairman of the 55th, issued a five-year supplement that year. Now, commissioned by Doug Cutts, Chairman of the 60th, he has coordinated this major ten-year extension of the 50th book. Congratulations to them both.

As you read it, I know you will come to appreciate the rich history of the Oilmen’s and how it has evolved over the decades, even over the last ten years. The industry has changed – increased oilsands activity, tight gas and oil plays spurred on by new technology, the phasing out of energy trusts, the disappearance of most intermediate oil companies... The business environment has changed – new governments, royalty roller-coaster rides, increased environmental expectations, tax rule surprises...

The Oilmen’s has also changed over the last ten years, mirroring the industry changes. It has extended the attendance to industry contributors from the finance and support segments. It has downsized from 15 golf flights to 12, reflecting the current industry mix. In response to changing social patterns, it has become less formal and more inclusive of oilmen’s partners in the many activities.

However, most importantly, in its resilience and responsiveness, the Oilmen’s has retained its status as the most significant social event and networking opportunity for the leaders of our industry. This is its true legacy.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barry Stewart".

Barry Stewart

Chairman, 47th Oilmen’s

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This year the Oilmen's celebrates a milestone: The Diamond Anniversary. For 60 years Oilmen and Partners have congregated for a few days of camaraderie, friendship building, golfing, dining, dancing and most of all... a whole bunch of FUN.

As Sandy and I sifted through the boxes of files, photos and memoirs, we found that FUN is the common thread that runs through every theme, every story and every tradition. The 60th Oilmen's celebrates the many ways we have FUN, have a laugh, savour the moment and love the game-whatever that game may be. We pay tribute with this book to the people who have created and established 60 years of successful Oilmen's traditions.

The Oilmen's: A Sixty Year Commemorative is an updated version of The Oilmen's: A Fifty Year Commemorative that was produced for the 50th Oilmen's during the millennium year of 2000. Author Barry Stewart, Chairman of the 47th Oilmen's dedicated a number of years researching, writing and organizing the 50 years of Oilmen's history- a rich history, not just full of great stories and anecdotes, but a true reflection of the oil industry's growth. It has been edited by a special committee of the 60th Oilmen's with the aim to reflect changes that have occurred in the last 10 years.

There are many people and companies to thank for their contributions and assistance:

The special committee comprised of Allan and Lisa dePaiva (Governor, 60th Oilmen's), Dave and Sian Fitzpatrick (Chairman, 55th Oilmen's), Barry and Fay Hodson (Chairman, 46th Oilmen's), Tom and Pat Holland (Governor 53rd to 56th, and the 59th Oilmen's), Katherine Laborde and Kurt Kennedy (daughter and son-in-law of Eddie and Elizabeth Laborde (Chairman, 5th Oilmen's)), and Terry and Gayle McCoy (Chairman, 53rd Oilmen's).

Juice Creative for their talent and creative efforts in shaping and enhancing the final product.

Susan Jaeger, editor of the Oilmen's Newsletter from the 55th to the 60th Oilmen's, for her support and the sharing of her many Oilmen's files.

Sundog Printing for the publishing of this commemorative book.

At the 60th Oilmen's, everyone is encouraged to participate, to get involved, let down their guard and join in the FUN.

Doug Cutts

Chairman, 60th Oilmen's



Doug Cutts



Dave Fitzpatrick

The special committee would like to thank Doug and Sandy Cutts for entrusting us with the task of researching, compiling and editing this 60 year commemorative book.

The committee would like to acknowledge, with great appreciation, the tremendous efforts made by Barry Stewart from inception to publication of his "labour of love" and for his encouragement and support of this project

Dave Fitzpatrick

Chairman, 55th Oilmen's
Editor-in-Chief, Special
Committee



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GROWING UP WITH “THE OILMEN’S”



Growing up with the Oilmen's Golf Tournament was something that I've always remembered fondly. It has literally been a part of my life since "day one". I'm sure my mother and father, Elizabeth and Edward LaBorde, were very excited to show their friends the photos of their new twin girls at the 15th Oilmen's in Banff back in (gulp!) 1965.

Every August, my sister Elizabeth and I would excitedly watch Mom and Pop prepare for the big event – chatting about the theme, the colours, the costumes – and the frenzy surrounding these preparations was a huge part of their enjoyment. When we got a little older, we sometimes tagged along and spent a wonderful week in my parents' motorhome at the Jasper Park Lodge. There was no better way to spend time during our carefree summers than sunny days filled with hiking, fishing, canoeing and other random adventures. (Come to think of it, the weather actually wasn't that great and we did have the occasional surprise bear encounter, but we still laugh about it to this day – my sister hasn't gone hiking since 1980!)

My mother's house is adorned with Oilmen's memorabilia, including beautiful silver coffee urns, serving dishes, decanters and various other golf and gin rummy winnings from over the years. Dozens and dozens of photographs from the Oilmen's line the walls of the house and houseguests still spend most of their visiting time in my mother's long hallway searching for themselves in the pictures! One of them is a photo of a teenage girl (me!) with Gene Cernan, who remains the last man to have walked on the moon (and who was also lucky enough to have attended a few Oilmen's tournaments). The photo was taken during the 30th Oilmen's in Jasper and is signed "To My Moon Maiden", an incredible keepsake.

In the 1980's, I often found myself on the receiving end of a frantic phone call and zipping out to Banff to deliver a forgotten pair of reading glasses or to painstakingly work on my parents' makeup

for Costume Night. I clearly remember one particularly exhausting makeup session that ended with me falling asleep on the floor of Mom and Pop's room at the Banff Springs Hotel and driving back to Calgary the next morning. But it was all worth it, just to be a part of the excitement of the Oilmen's.

My father, Eddie, attended every Oilmen's Golf Tournament from the 1st in 1951 right up to the 53rd in 2003, which was his last tournament before he passed away in October later that year, a few weeks short of his 90th birthday. I was fortunate to attend his last Oilmen's for a few days as a guest of some close friends, Maia and Ivan Velez, and to experience the event first-hand with Mom and Pop. After spending my whole life seeing the event through the eyes of my parents, to be with them at the Oilmen's during the last few months of Pop's life was an emotional and overwhelming experience.

A few years later, I was overwhelmed again when my husband, Kurt Kennedy, and I were invited to our first Oilmen's. But no one was more emotional than my Mom, who, after some 40 years of being a part of the Tournament, truly understands how special it is. My mother now enjoys the glitz, the glamour, the tall tales and the friendship and laughter through my eyes. We pore over the newsletters and photos with great enjoyment, bringing back incredible memories and much emotion. It is equally fulfilling to watch our children get caught up in our excitement and, touchingly, counting the days until mom

and dad hit the road to Banff or Jasper and they can spend a special week with Grandma. The 60th Oilmen's in 2010 will be our fourth and, as it did for Elizabeth and Eddie, has become an event for which all other engagements, duties or crises get set aside for a week.

But I'm not alone! There are other "second-generation" couples that also attend the Oilmen's and we have shared many laughs and tears over our common stories and memories. It seems that we all feel the same way: the Oilmen's is a part of us and always will be. There are really no words to express how I feel about being part of the Oilmen's. It's a spectacle, a marvel and, for many, a homecoming. It is filled with tradition, camaraderie, triumph, laughter and great joy. To share in the experience is a privilege and an honour and I am proud to be one of the few second-generation attendees. I know that Pop would be thrilled.

IT'S NOT JUST OILMEN THAT ACT LIKE CHILDREN

I have always loved the stories (mostly unprintable) of the early days when children were allowed to attend the Oilmen's. At least, until the "incidents" at the 12th Oilmen's in Banff, which those involved still remember! Now, we can't disclose names, but one story involves a couple of high school boys who nabbed a few bottles of hooch from their parents' suites and spent hours riding the elevators, which back then were operated – at least at this tournament – by cute university girls. After many cycles of up and down, up and down, up and down, they managed to fill the girls (and themselves) with drink. Eventually, they all got really tipsy and, after some complaints, one of the elevator girls was fired. It is also quite possible that the last straw was the water balloons thrown on incoming guests from the third floor of the Banff Springs (gasp!). Either way, stories about the antics at the 12th Oilmen's and previous tournaments are very funny, but that year marked the end of children at the event. You be the judge on whether that was the right decision!

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE...

At one of the very early Oilmen's Tournaments, Jean Dunlap (wife of George, Chairman of the 4th) and Miss Jo Friley (wife of Bill, Chairman of the 17th) were in charge of decorating the ballroom at the Banff Springs Hotel for formal night. Jean and Miss Jo were very excited about their idea to decorate each table with fancy candelabras, but the Banff Springs didn't allow it due to the fire hazard. Undeterred, the Ladies took it upon themselves to hunt down 24 pairs of silver, three-branched candelabras from neighbours and friends all over Calgary. They carefully labelled each one to ensure they would be returned to their rightful owners, then they filled the trunk of their car and headed up to Banff. Great plan, right? Well, they were informed by hotel management that there was no way that many candles could be lit in

the ballroom. After heated negotiations, the hotel buckled to the Ladies' pleas... but on one condition: that two dedicated "fire watch" personnel be hired for the entire night. No problem! The candelabras turned out to be an incredible site to behold and, to this day, Jean says that it was the most beautiful room she has ever seen.

HAVE BOAR'S HEAD – WILL TRAVEL

Smiley Raborn and his wife, Bernice, are great friends of our family and this story is a classic example of what really went on "back in the day." Smiley was Chairman of the 20th tournament, but began his long association with the Oilmen's at the 4th tournament back in 1954. He didn't get to golf at the 5th Oilmen's, though, because the Chairman, my dad Eddie LaBorde, told him he would be "too busy" to golf. And Smiley was certainly very, very busy. The 5th Oilmen's was the first year that a Grand Buffet was introduced and Smiley made sure that it was spectacular. The tables were filled with a bounty of beautifully presented and first-class dishes, lots of ice sculptures and a surprise to top it all off: a boar's head... a real one! It was truly a stunning sight. Smiley was definitely excited about the beautiful buffet, but he wasn't too thrilled with that boar's head – he thought that it was hideous and he didn't quite get why it was on display. Throughout the evening, he kept mentioning to his tablemate, a fellow nicknamed "Tork", that the boar's head would haunt him in his dreams. When Smiley and Bernice finally made it back to their room in the wee hours of the morning, they were greeted by... the boar's head, sitting atop the bed, staring back at them! (Shrieeeeeeek!)

SHOULD OLD ACQUAINTANCE BE FORGOT?

Entertainment has always been a big deal at the Oilmen's and, in the early years, it was all about landing big name entertainers and the Big Bands of the day. The biggest fish of all at the time was the bandleader Guy Lombardo and The Royal Canadians (interesting note: though Lombardo died in 1977, a recording of his version of Auld Lang Syne is still, to this day, played at the Times Square New Year's celebration in New York). Looking to make history, 17th Chairman Bill Friley convinced Smiley Raborn, who was flying to New York for business, to drop in on Mr. Lombardo to ask if he could perform at the Oilmen's. Alas, Lombardo was already booked. Smiley then nonchalantly asked him what his nightly fee was and it turned out to be four times the entire Oilmen's budget! With great relief, Smiley turned to another famous Big Band, The Lester Lanin Orchestra, who weren't such a strain on the budget. Lester and his boys were a long running success at the Oilmen's. I just wish I could find one of the embroidered "Lester Lanin" caps my dad brought home!

Author Katherine LaBorde

THE STORY OF "THE OILMEN'S"

- The First Sixty Years -



The story of the Oilmen's beginnings has been recounted many times. Visualize: It is February of 1951. The "new" industry is booming in the flow of major oil discoveries following Leduc. Four Oilmen: Arvil Minor, Kendall Hert, Russ Schoonmaker, and George Dunlap are gathered around a table in the original Calgary Petroleum Club located over a motor car supply shop on Sixth Avenue.

This book has been created to commemorate the 60th Oilmen's. Thus, it is appropriate to start by defining what the Oilmen's is and how it has become such a significant experience for so many leaders of the oil and gas industry in Canada and from around the world.

On the surface it's just an annual golf event for oil industry executives. Similar events occur in many industry centers around the globe. In fact, most cities and towns in Western Canada that are involved with the industry typically have an Oilmen's golf tournament in the summer and an Oilmen's curling bonspiel in the winter. However, this event has become "The" Oilmen's. As early as 1959, the year of the 9th Tournament, an article in the Tournament newspaper, Tee Time Topics, said about the Oilmen's: "It is not an event, it's a state of mind." Once a year, industry leaders from Canada and around the world plan their calendars to be there. In the splendid setting of the Canadian Rocky Mountains, they spend almost a week playing golf, and other sports, participating in many events, enjoying great food and entertainment and, above all, making and expanding friendships and contacts across the industry.

That is the underlying success of its longevity – the opportunity to foster valued relationships across the industry. Although no business negotiations are directly scheduled at the Oilmen's, and no formal workshops or seminars

are held, many a participant has been known to say that "more opportunities and deals have occurred as a result of contact at the Oilmen's than from any other forum or industry association."

That this event occurred at all, let alone that it has maintained itself as a vibrant, relevant experience for 60 years, says a lot about the people who have been involved in it and led it through new generations of executives and many significant cycles in the industry.

This book will attempt to tell the story of how all of this happened.

THE BEGINNING

The story of the Oilmen's beginnings has been recounted many times. Visualize: It is February of 1951. The "new" industry is booming in the flow of major discoveries following Leduc. Four Oilmen: Arvil Minor, Kendall Hert, Russ Schoonmaker, and George Dunlap are gathered around a table in the original Petroleum Club over a motor car supply shop on Sixth Avenue. Arvil Minor describes his idea of creating a Canadian golf tournament along the lines of the "Hook and Slice" event held in Louisiana. Before they leave they decide to organize a Tournament. Kendall Hert is appointed Chairman and they go on to form a committee and stage the event.

That August, 160 players paid the entrance fee of \$7.50 and, over two days, played four rounds of golf (at least the winner did) at the Earl Grey Golf Course in Calgary. They were flighted in ten groups of 16 golfers, the flights being named after Canadian oil fields. It was a golfer-only event that included a Calcutta betting pool, but no social events or entertainment. A simple start, but the beginning of an event that has endured and evolved over 60 years.

THE EARLY YEARS

The organizers decided to move the 2nd Tournament to Banff, where 192 players (12 flights) competed over three days, culminated by a colorful award presentation at the end on the 18th green.

At the 3rd Tournament wives were officially invited and week long entertainment was organized.

The 4th Tournament, led by George Dunlap, created a host of changes most of which have endured to today. The Tournament became invitational (500 applications had been received for the 3rd Tournament). Industry leaders from outside Canada were included. A Tournament newspaper was created, as was a crest and official name registration. On course betting started and on course food was enhanced.

The 5th Tournament, led by Eddie LaBorde, greatly enhanced the food and entertainment dimensions of the event. A giant barbeque was inaugurated as was the Drilling Contractors Buffet Dinner.

The 6th Tournament added the new feature of a Governors' Ball, held in Calgary in March, designed to build the anticipation for the summer event.

Thus, although there have been many innovations and evolutions of the Oilmen's over the years, all of the ingredients and basic structures were essentially put in place over the first six years.

TRADITIONS

Each year the Oilmen's is planned by a Chairman, a Board of Governors and their many volunteer committees. There are essentially no written rules. However, there are many traditions and customs that have built over time that have ensured that the Oilmen's remains current and relevant to the industry. These involve the choosing of the Chairman and Governors, the decision on who is invited each year, the funding of the event, and the management of the changes to the event over time. These will be expanded upon below.

CHAIRMAN

How is the Chairman selected? The answer is simple: by the previous Chairman. This has led to the inevitable speculation, prognostication and even, we're told, a little wagering on the side as the anticipation builds each year for the announcement by the incoming Chairman at the closing Evening of Champions of the Co-Chairman for the next year and thus the Chairman two years hence.

But the traditions are strong. Obviously, a Chairman wants to choose someone who is dedicated to the Oilmen's, both in honoring its history and in moving it forward to continue to be successful in the future. The choice is usually from the current year's Board of Governors, but that is not required. Balance over time is expected and achieved. Exploration and Producing companies have provided essentially half of the past Chairmen; Service and Supply and Contracting companies have been the source of the other half, but nothing is programmed or automatic. Large and small companies are all represented in the roster. In fact, the first 62 Chairmen (at the writing of this book the 61st Chairman has been announced and there were two Chairmen of the 14th) came from 58 different companies. Can-Tex Drilling, was the source of two Chairmen: Jerry D'Arcy (19th) and Rogers Lehew (39th), Asamera Oil also provided two: Stu King (26th) and Bob Welty (36th) and Suncor Energy Inc. was the source of three Chairmen: George Dunlap (4th), Bill Loar (32nd) and Barry Stewart (47th). Many other combinations of Chairmen have worked at the same company over the years, but not coincidentally when they were Chairmen.

Golfing excellence is definitely not a prerequisite for being the Chairman. Only one Chairman has ever won the Redwater Flight, that being Jerry D'Arcy at the 22nd and 23rd, but four have won the last flight. Bill Loar won Drake Point four times himself. Through the 59th Tournament, 14 of the 62 known Chairmen have not yet won a flight (including the editor of this book, but hope springs eternal). Ken Germond (24th) won six times and Pat Shouldice (42nd) five times. Only three Chairmen have won their flight the same year they were Chairman: George Dunlap (4th), Bill Friley (17th) and Joe Guyer (18th), the last one being 42 years ago!

It is a tremendous phenomenon to see how the Past Chairmen interact over time, ensuring the traditions are honored but change is fostered to ensure success for the future.

At the 34th Oilmen's, Chairman Art Smith created a Past Chairmen's Cup event, a golf match held the day before the Tournament begins. For the 60th Oilmen's, Chairman Doug Cutts has decided to host the Past Chairmen's Cup at the Calgary Golf and Country Club in early August- a few weeks in advance the Tournament. A record of that event is shown in the Winners and Trophies Section. Art also created a recognition plaque and distinctive cap

that is given to each Chairman, as well as starting the Oilmen's Archives that captures the history and folklore of the Oilmen's – a source of much of the material in this book.

THE GOVERNORS

Each year there are approximately 29 Governors, organized into an Executive group and functional areas. They are generally grouped into Golf & Other Events, Entertainment, Technology and Services. The Organization Chart for the 60th Oilmen's is shown on Page 173.

The Governors are chosen each year by the Chairman. There is no tenure or rights of continuity, only tradition. Governors are current leaders from the industry. Again, about half come from Exploration and Producing companies and the other half from the Supply, Service and Contracting companies. Average tenure is about three years, but the range is great. Turnover is expected to ensure new ideas are generated and the leaders are current in the industry. Always the most difficult decision for the Chairman each year is the decision to not invite back about one third of the previous year's Governors. This tradition started early. At the 4th Tournament, only five of the original Governors were still present. Governors can be reappointed after a period of absence, and this has often occurred. Nonetheless there has been some long time Governors: Ken Germond (14 years), Sam Stewart and Bob Welty (11 years) and quite a few with 9 or 10 years service.

The listing of all Past Chairmen is provided in a later section of the book.

Once in a while a Chairman will appoint an Honorary Governor, usually someone who has been a significant supporter of the Oilmen's but who has never been a Governor, often due to geographical location. The following seven individuals have been Honorary Governors: B.W. Gillespie (1960), J.R. White (1960), R.L. Kidd (1970), E.D. Loughney (1970), W.O. Twaits (1975), D.R. Brandt (1987) and golf legend Byron Nelson (1989).

DECISION MAKING

Most decisions are easily made by consensus at meetings of the Governors or the Executive. Everyone is committed to the event's success, is aware of the traditions, and is sensitive to the feedback from and the expectations of the invited guests. However, there is a singularity of responsibility for the Oilmen's invested in the current year Chairman (and only for that year). As the frequently repeated anecdote goes, "There is seldom a vote taken at the Oilmen's, but when there is it's always a remarkable close one, 'one to zero!'"

INVITATIONS

Who gets invited? On the surface it's easy: industry leaders; a balance of Producers and Suppliers; large companies and small companies; some

international presence; and if it was an open-ended list there would be no problems. However, there is the reality of the capacity of the golf course and the strong desire of many to be "players" rather than "social" invitees.

The issue started early. As recalled earlier, there were 500 applications for the 192 golfing spots at the 3rd Tournament in 1953!

Until recent years, the Governors at times had to make the difficult decisions as to who would play golf and who would not, in striving to keep current and to maintain the balance.

Historically, the only individuals that were automatically eligible for golf invitations, since the early days, were the current year's Governors. However, the practice was often different, as for many years all Past Governors were "de facto" invited, as were all the Past Chairmen until the 1990's. Similarly, long time supporters and attendees were often invited by habit.

Starting in the late 1970's, there has been a much more determined effort to keep the invitation list current and relevant but it hasn't always been easy given the number of aspirants. Retirement isn't always obvious anymore, as many people set up their own businesses, consult, or join Boards. Similarly, people migrate to other functions such as investment banking organizations, consulting, etc. which were considered to be ineligible roles. Historically, politicians, lawyers, financial advisors, etc. would not be eligible. The only exception had been the involvement of commercial bankers, who were early supporters of the industry as well as the Tournament. Today, representatives from investment bankers, A&D/M&A service providers and energy asset management firms can be found on the invitations list.

At the 59th Oilmen's, for the first time on a very selective basis, representatives from senior law and accounting firms were invited; and a few attended. This new practice reflects the new operational environment and business market place in which industry activity is conducted. Compared to the not so distant past, the industry is now fraught with extensive consultative, disclosure and compliance requirements which have greatly complicated normal business practices.

Generally the active invitations list is comprised of 600-700 executives. Currently invitations are sent out "on a first come first reply basis". How things have changed. At the beginning of the past decade, a strong golf waiting list existed, and now a mere 10 years later, all of those wishing to golf are accommodated. This is certainly reflective of the dramatic changes that have occurred in the industry and society during this time period.

To ensure the international flavor of the Tournament, which expands the scale of contacts made, it has been the practice to invite 20 to 25% of the golfers from "non-resident" locations (i.e., outside Western Canada). Recent years have seen golfers from the United States, Europe, South America, the Middle East and Australia.

Golfing invitations include the Governors (approximately 29), immediate Past Chairmen (3), Governors' Invitees from outside of Western Canada (approximately 50), and executives from Western Canada (approximately 150).

In the past, the election process for golfing invitations was simple; all eligible executives were placed on a ballot and the Governors voted. The top 150 or so received a golfing invitation and the rest received a social invitation. The executives who were eligible for the ballot were those that had indicated an interest in golfing at the Oilmen's and had attended at least one Tournament. First time attendees who did not golf enjoyed all of the other Oilmen's activities including the numerous volunteering opportunities.

There were often some disappointments over not receiving a golfing invitation. The only advice to be given was for people to become involved with the Oilmen's functions, with the industry associations and the community needs (education, charity, professional, etc.). All of this affected voting.

A relatively new phenomenon has been the response of some golfing invitees that they would rather be social guest in order to enjoy the many other offerings of the Oilmen's. It's a great reflection on the evolving nature of the Tournament and the enhanced offerings for the non-golfers.

There have been some remarkable attendance records. George Dunlap was at the 1st Tournament and active at most of them up to the 46th. He then continued to come out to cheer on the Past Chairmen in their pre-tournament event and to attend the opening dinner. Don Brandt played golf in the first 36 Tournaments and attended the first forty. R.D. Hood missed the first year and then golfed in the next 40 Tournaments, winning his flight the last year. Eddie Laborde missed the 1st, but played in the next 44 and then continued to play in the Past Chairmen's Cup. Al Ross golfed in 47 consecutive Oilmen's from the 2nd to the 48th. Rod McDaniel and Doug Martin have each achieved the milestone of attending 50 Tournaments.

When asked the reasons for the Oilmen's surviving successfully for 60 years, the "oldtimers" most often mention (i) it has always attracted senior executives from the industry which means the networking and relationship building has been meaningful, and (ii) the golf tournament has been a serious event, meaning the executives were keen to participate and to return year after year – for many it is the only serious tournament in which they compete.

OTHER EVENTS

Providing activities for the non-golfers, i.e., the "social" invitees and all of the spouses/partners, has been part of the Oilmen's since the early days. Other events include a tennis tournament, bridge and gin rummy tournaments, hiking, biking, a putting contest, tours, health and cooking lectures, etc. In recent years, port/wine/scotch tastings, art classes and the putting contest have emerged as the top non golf events at the tournament. More and more of the non-golfing guests of the Oilmen's want more to do than just watch the golfers, and the Oilmen's has been responding.

For a number of years, a trivia contest, based on the year's theme was held. What made it so special was that the clues were hidden at the many different venues (i.e., hotel, ballroom, golf course, tennis courts, etc.), so everyone was stimulated to see the various events. With a significant prize to be won, it was not an uncommon sight to see guests wandering the areas, pencil and paper in hand, looking for information that would help them solve the puzzle. At the 49th, clue #16 mysteriously disappeared each day causing some consternation, but persistence and some judicious clue swapping solved the problem.

The Hospitality Centre is usually a busy place where attendees can rendezvous, pick up current information or directions, get advice on events and sign up for the many activities. It all started at the 43rd Oilmen's when Ihor and Jeannie Mazuryk set up a hospitality area in their personal room. It was such a hit that it has become a permanent fixture, albeit in a convenient accessible area now, and we wonder how we did without it for so long.

PARTNERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Starting with the 51st Oilmen's an organized Partner's Golf tournament has been held. The specific format has varied from year to year. The tournament is played at Hinton for Jasper based Oilmen's (the 60th Oilmen's Partner's Tournament, however, will be played a day in advance of the main tournament on the Jasper Park Golf Course) and at the Tunnel Nine course when the Oilmen's is at Banff. The emphasis is on fun and a scramble format is usually followed. In some years, competitive and non competitive events have been held, however the emphasis is always on having a good time. The event usually includes a fund raising component with the funds going to a charity designated by the Chairman and his partner.

SPOUSES, PARTNERS AND CHILDREN

As mentioned earlier, the first two Tournaments were essentially men golfers only events, but from the 3rd Oilmen's on spouses and partners have been included. In the early days, children were often brought along as well, generally allowed to be present at the daytime events, but excluded from the evening dinners and entertainment. At the 11th Oilmen's, 85 children were registered and many other younger ones were present. It was decided after the 12th Oilmen's that children would not be invited or permitted since it was distracting from the primary function of the Oilmen's, which was to promote and develop executive interactions.

However, in recent times, several attendees have brought their children, but the "kids" still do not attend the events and are not brought to the venues. This trend may well continue, reflecting the fact that many executives are younger today and still want to attend the Oilmen's - and they are not willing to leave their children at home.

One interesting side bar to the children's issue is that often older children were acting as caddies for their fathers. By the 13th Tournament it was decided that even "caddie children" had to stay "in town," not at the Banff Springs Hotel. Bob MacLeod, Chairman of the 49th, first attended the Oilmen's as a caddy.

A pocket size Photo Directory has been a feature of the Oilmen's since the 8th Tournament. This has become a valued reference, both during the Oilmen's and in the years that follow. Many executives have the past Oilmen's Directories lined up by their office telephone. In the early days the photos were of the golfers only. At the 18th Tournament photos of wives were included, but it would be another 25 years before non-married guests were to be included in the Directory. Our industry is a leader in many things, but obviously not everything!

An ongoing feature since the 19th Oilmen's has been the Ladies Brunch (changed to the Partners Brunch at the 47th) that is held on the first morning of the Tournament. It provides a great opportunity for making and renewing acquaintances plus, for many years, has seen draws for major prizes such as trips, paintings, jewelry, and upscale craft work.

WOMEN "OILMEN"

The lack of women in senior executive positions in the industry was true for a long time. Finally, at the 42nd Tournament, Dee Parkinson-Marcoux, Executive Vice President of Suncor, was invited as an "Oilman." She was followed by Peggy Simmons, Vice President at Petro-Canada (45th), Laura Miller, President of Conoco Canada (48th) and Nancy Laird, Vice President of PanCanadian (49th). At the urging of Dennis Flanagan, Chairman of the 45th Oilmen's, Dee took up golf and became the first ever woman golfer in the Tournament that year. This, of course, caused a lot of kibitzing and did cause the handicap committee to scramble to figure out how to adjust for different index bases and tee boxes (just do it straight up, it turns out), but it has worked out well. Dee became the first woman flight winner (Drake Point at the 47th) and the first woman Governor (48th).

Laura Miller was a Governor for the 50th Oilmen's. Catherine Hughes served as a Governor for three years, the 53rd through the 55th; and Darcy Cuthill was a Governor for the 54th and 55th Oilmen's.

Let's hope many more women follow in all categories.

VOLUNTEERISM

It's safe to say that without the huge amount of volunteer time given by many people, the Oilmen's would not exist as it does. You could not buy the energy and creativity it brings, let alone afford it.

For many of the guests at the Oilmen's, volunteering involves reporting scores from on course, running communications stations, driving shuttle

vans or beverage carts, handling opening night sweepstakes tickets or pari-mutuel betting, announcing or taking bets at the on course "Closest to The Pin" location, or taking photos and reporting events for the daily Oilmen's "Times." Everyone is encouraged to participate – it's important to the running of the Oilmen's, it expands everyone's contacts, and it's fun.

Behind the scenes there is even more volunteer work. All year, long before the Tournament arrives, the many Committees are busy planning all of the golf, other events, decorations, entertainment, food, and logistical services that need to be ready for the Governors' Ball and the August Tournament. Dozens of executives put in untold hours to make the Oilmen's happen, ably supported by their partners and executive assistants.

In times past, when the Tournament arrived, yes, it was the senior executives themselves that went up the ladders installing decorations, drove tent stakes on course, or directed many service activities. Currently, the executives "hands on role" is not as focused on the labor intensive set up phase; rather it is focused on dealing with the myriad of other issues that arise during the Tournament. This is reflective of the trend to utilize digital imagery for decorations and including installation of the service tents in the turnkey price.

NEWCOMERS

From the beginning, the Oilmen's has been determined to keep current with the changing faces in the industry. The Governors are always challenged by the Chairman to identify new candidates. Up until recent years typically, 10% to 15% of the attendees each year were Newcomers. More recently, Newcomers account for 25% or more of the tournament attendees.

Attending an Oilmen's for the first time can be a little intimidating with all of the activities, traditions, and folklore that inevitably make the rounds. To help them prepare, early issues of the Oilmen's "Times" are sent out describing the events and suggesting they get involved as a volunteer. A special letter is sent to the Newcomers by the Chairman that elaborates on the week's events and provides hints on clothing, costumes, etc., and an experienced Oilmen's partner contacts the Newcomer's partner to answer questions and to act as a host/hostess during the week. A special Newcomers Reception is held on the second night of the event. We want everyone to enjoy themselves and become a continuing supporter.

WHO PAYS FOR IT ALL?

The Oilmen's is funded by the fees charged to the participants and contributions received from companies. Costs have obviously risen over the years with inflation and the expansion of the activities. At the 1st Oilmen's the golf fees were \$7.50. It was \$50.00 by the 4th (\$25.00 social), and has reached \$3650 (\$2000 social) at the 60th. These fees include a corporate donation from participating E&P and Energy Services companies; however

participating Financial Institutions are requested a further contribution of \$2500 for the photo directory. It also must be recognized that many companies contribute a lot more in terms of people's time and services.

In the early days the service companies and drilling contractors provided much of the support, especially in terms of dinners such as the Barbeques and Buffets, or the Catfish Fry and Shrimp Boil. It is fun to see the list of sponsors at the early Tournaments: Schlumberger Well Surveying Corp., Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Co. Ltd., etc. plus the self-explanatory Canadian Schenley Limited.

To ensure equal opportunity for all sponsors, the practice was changed in the late 1970's to asking for monetary contributions and providing recognition in the Photo Directory. Thereafter, advertisements or signage on site was disallowed. One year this became a bit of a controversy as tennis balls with a corporate logo were disallowed in the Tennis Tournament. (However, we should always remember there are never any fixed rules and Oilmen are a pragmatic bunch).

For the past twenty (20) years or so the corporate contributions have been expanded to include the producing companies, providing everyone with equal opportunity and helping to defray costs.

THE HOTELS

The Oilmen's is truly blessed with its two alternating sites of the Banff Springs Hotel and the Jasper Park Lodge. Photos and a history of the venues are provided later in the book.

The 2nd through 15th Oilmen's were held at Banff and then the alternating between locations began. In the early days, the Oilmen's event was essentially the end of the season event for the hotels, as they cut back or shut down operations for the winter and much of their staff returned to school. These days both hotels are fully engaged year round, but there is always room on their calendars for the Oilmen's.

As one would imagine, relationships have inevitable had some ups and downs over the decades as the event continued to expand and the cost steadily escalated. In fact, one of the stated reasons for looking to Jasper as an alternate site in the mid-1960's was a concern about the Banff cost levels. Remember, in those days Banff Springs Hotel was a CP Hotel and the Jasper Park Lodge was a CN Hotel. However, everything always worked out and today there is an extremely positive relationship between the Hotels and the Oilmen's. As Ted Kissane, the former Vice President and General Manager of CP Hotels in the Rockies, has said a number of times, "The Oilmen's is the number one event for both hotels. It's the only time the whole organization from the Chef to Housekeeper to Golf Pro all work together on a complete event with a group of outsiders who come in and work the details with us."

THEMES, COLOURS AND LOGOS

A prominent part of each Oilmen's now is the choice of a theme and Tournament colours by the Chairman. This adds continuity to the whole week as it impacts the decorations, the entertainment, the food choices, the prizes and hundreds of other details. In the early years there was often a theme night with special entertainment and sometimes costumes, but it was Smiley Raborn, Chairman of the 20th, that created the concept of the whole Tournament having a common theme, colours, and logo. It took a few years to catch on completely – one Chairman chose colours and left it to his Governors to choose a theme and another simply chose the colours as "autumn." But it did become a key element and today there is much speculation and anticipation of the coming year's theme – usually stimulated by hints from the incoming Chairman at the closing dinner. All is revealed with the invitations and decorations at the Governor's Ball in the spring.

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment has been a significant part of the Oilmen's since the early days. There were the days of Big Bands: Moxie Whitney, Sammy Kaye, Lester Lanin, Fred Radke, Harry James, Peter Duchin, etc.; years of headliners: Dennis Day, George Gobel, Rosemary Clooney, Phil Ford, Mimi Hines, Bobby Curtola, Frankie Laine, The Rankins, Louise Mandrell, etc.; and appearances of great Canadian humorists: Dave Broadfoot, Don Herron, André Philippe Gagnon, etc. There is always a week full of fun, with lots of music, dancing and general amusement. A big incentive for winning on the golf course from the second day onward is the fact you then play in the afternoon draw rather than early morning and thus can enjoy the late night fun. (Or, as Paul Lovell described it in his 49th Oilmen's Partners Brunch presentation: you avoid the "losers breakfast" at the golf course on the third and fourth mornings).

Costume Night is always a special event. The concept started with a Carnival in Rio night at the 14th and by the mid-1970's, with the advent of annual themes, it became a regular feature bringing out a new dimension of creativity in everyone. The most famous (or is it infamous) Costume Night has to be James Bond Night at the 15th when toy water pistols became weapons of choice and red wine became ammunition!

37th Oilmen's Chairman, Bill Mooney, has filled many roles at the Oilmen's over the years: Chairman; Master of Ceremonies; Humorist, etc. One particular role is that of Chief Walking Eagle (too full of _ _ _ _ to fly), the final arbiter of Oilmen's weather. At the 36th Walking Eagle had an Eagle, using driver and 9 iron on the par 4, 11th hole at Jasper.

FOOD

Food is a big item and a big treat at the Oilmen's. From the early days there were key features such as the Drilling Contractors Buffet, the giant barbeque and the Shrimp Boil and Catfish Fry.

A story is told that one year the catfish fillets were flown up and stored in a Calgary freezer awaiting the Tournament, but due to an absent overseer and a power failure they all spoiled. Quick action resulted in similar size and shape fillets of ling cod being obtained from the Calgary Chinese seafood market. Guests said it was the best catfish ever!

The hotel chefs bring their most creative talents to bear for the Oilmen's as they have a whole week of offerings to plan tied into the theme. Buffets and sit down dinners are always delicious, generous and colourfully presented.

On course food has also been with the Oilmen's since the 4th Tournament. Food stations on the golf course and tennis courts provide continuous food and beverages throughout the day, with major theme luncheons served at the main tents.

However, the signature food of the Oilmen's is the bacon burger. This has been a feature since the early days and is always popular. Hundreds of pounds of back bacon are grilled on-course each year. Most golfers and guests don't consider a day at the Oilmen's complete without at least one bacon burger – and often it's more.

TABLE RESERVATIONS

It's hard to explain what an issue table seating can be. In the early days, each dinner was arranged by reservation, meaning that each day spouses were busy organizing groups and lining up to make reservations, often jockeying for favorite table locations. It was hectic and sometimes dysfunctional as groups would often stick together for the whole week and newcomers were sometimes clustered together, hardly designed to stimulate interaction and making new relationships. With some resistance, in the mid-1970's a partial system of pre-assigning tables on a random basis was instituted and it has been a big success. Today there is a general blend, with open seating on the first and third night (Costume night), pre-assigned seating on the second and forth nights, and reservations taken for the final night's formal Dinner of Champions. It works well. If you want to hear some funny stories, ask some of the oldtimers about shenanigans in the past related to table seating.

BETTING

What's a golf game without a little wager? Well, the Oilmen's has always provided that opportunity. At the 1st Oilmen's a Calcutta pool was organized, where players are auctioned off to the highest bidder. This quickly became a

major event, with the "Hook and Slice Stag Dinner" which was held in Calgary a week or two before the Tournament. Over time it became bigger and bigger with "syndicates" or groups of attendees usually banding together to buy the big favorites. The Calcutta was tried at the Banff site once (the 14th) so the women and out of town guests could watch and participate, but the general feedback was that the women were bored and so it was not repeated. They did try their own Calcutta pool for a couple of years, but it generated little real interest and was displaced by the Ladies Brunch. The final Calcutta was held for the 27th Oilmen's. At the 28th there was just on course betting. As Scobey Hartley and Bob Laidlaw have related, the Calcutta was just getting too big – over \$100,000 was being bet. The syndicates made it unaffordable for many, the pressure on golfers became huge, and there was starting to be some media interest in the event. The Oilmen's has always been a private function avoiding any publicity or media coverage. For this reason the Calcutta was stopped.

Pari-mutuel betting on the opening night has become the standard. It is for modest amounts (units of \$5.00) and generates a lot of kibitzing by the crowd and posturing by the golfers throughout the evening.

At the 20th there was a prize for the golfer that scored the first hole in one in the Tournament. Jack Wahl won a Continental Mark III on his first par three the first day. That event was discontinued thereafter, since it resulted in the golfer being declared a professional by the Golf Association. Also, to some it seemed too extravagant even though it can be covered by insurance, as at many club and charity tournaments. In subsequent years if a hole-in-one was scored, the ticket holder rather than the golfer would be the lucky winner of an automobile. Now there are three sweepstakes raffles for "Closest to the Hole" on a designated hole. Tickets are \$20.00 and the bettor receives a random player for each day. In recent years, modest cash prizes for a hole in one and for the closest shot each day are paid out and the three pools practice continues, due to the significant large interest shown by the bettors.

Some years at Jasper there have been Casino Nights with the full range of blackjack, roulette, over-under, etc. the latter times have seen these nights involve play money and token prizes, but earlier real money was involved. One year, the story goes, the house was down a significant amount late in the evening and organizers were concerned. Apparently the professional pit boss heard this and asked what they hoped for. Just to break even was the reply. With no questions asked and no answers given, the last hour saw the bank break even!

On course betting is also a fun feature every year where the crowd bets on "closest to the pin" in each foursome that plays the feature hole. Enhanced by colourful announcing and lots of cajoling, it's a nerve testing experience for the golfers.

GOLF RULES

One of the features of the Oilmen's is that there are a few special golf rules. The most visible is the use of a gimme circle (originally a gimme stick) that means any ball inside the circle is conceded and any ball outside the circle must be putted. It was designed to speed up play, but also to avoid any hard feelings or gamesmanship moves between players regarding conceding putts. Modified winter rules are often used that allow a ball to be "nudged" with the club head if it's in the fairway. This is intended to reflect that there can be rough spots in the mountain course fairways due to the animals. A ball in an elk hoof print or impeded by a rock in the bunkers can also be moved. To speed up play no provisional balls are allowed. There are two other exceptions that can only be attributed to the quirks of Oilmen: there is no limit on the number of clubs carried and the flag stick can be left in when putting. However, only the explicitly stated exceptions to the Rules of Golf are allowed. This sometimes causes misinterpretations and debates when someone believes the Oilmen's Rules are lax enough to allow, for example, nudging in the rough or relief from rocks in general. It usually all works out amicably.

GOLF PROFESSIONALS

Over the years the Oilmen's has invited golf professionals to provide demonstrations and sometimes give lessons. U.S. Touring Professionals such as Ken Venturi, Fuzzy Zoeller, Chi Chi Rodriguez, Tom Kite, Bob Toski, and Don Pohl have attended as have world class Canadians such as Gary Cowan, Stan Leonard, Richard Zokol, Jim Nelford, and Barb Bunkowsky. Showmen such as Wedgy Winchester and Peter Longo entertained the crowds, and Joey Pickavance and Seth Glasco have provided clinics and demonstrations throughout the week.

At the 54th Oilmen's the Canadian ladies longest drive record holder, Lisa "Longball" Vlooswyk was the attending celebrity golf pro. A challenge event was set up with the Oilmen paying a fee to try and out drive Lisa. None succeeded and all of the funds were donated to a designated charity.

Standing above it all is the enduring friendship and respect of the Oilmen's with Byron Nelson, one of the greatest golfers and gentlemen in history. Byron first attended the 22nd Tournament and he attended nine in total. He complimented the Oilmen's as being the best run amateur tournament in the world. This latter comment was also stated by Ken Venturi on a TV broadcast of a professional tour event.

PRIZES AND RIBBONS

Prizes have always been a big part of the Oilmen's events. Each year the prizes and trophies are displayed at the Tournament all week and the contestants can dream of their reward.

Silver and Waterford crystal prizes were the feature of early Tournaments but over time they tended to reflect the theme of the year – e.g., aboriginal masks at the 44th Gathering of the Spirits, telescopes at the 47th Exploring the World, and space themed original art at the 55th 2005 missionSPACE.

However, the ribbons with the Oilmen's medals are the most sought after as they are proudly worn with the formal attire at the closing Evening of Champions, eliciting congratulations from everyone and quiet determination to do better next year by those who are ribbonless. Everyone can get a ribbon – golf, tennis, putting, cards all qualify. And everyone wants one.

SUMMARY

As you read the rest of this book, especially the annual summaries for each year, it is hoped you will be entertained and that you will be able to sense the traditions and evolution of the Oilmen's that have caused it to endure so successfully for its first 60 years.

There will be some apparent transitions that took place; the original concept and creative drive of Arvil Minor (Chairman of the 2nd); the basic structuring of the Tournament and the supporting events by George Dunlap (4th) and Eddie LaBorde (5th); the spreading of the Tournament to Jasper by a group in the mid-1960's, which included Vic Baer (16th); the drive in the early 1970's to make it more cohesive with colors, themes, extra events, a full week of entertainment, etc., led by Smiley Raborn (20th) and others; the trend to less formality in the late 1970's, led by Scobey Hartley (27th) and involving many Chairmen of the time; the firming up of the traditions of the Oilmen's and the firm establishment of annual themes in the 1980's by Chairmen such as Art Smith (34th); the full inclusion of women executives by Dennis Flanagan (45th) and others in the early 1990's; and the drive in the late 1990's to make the schedule more responsive to business and family needs to enhance the appeal to the non-golfers, ensuring it responds to the next generation of leaders, spear-headed by Al Schreiner (46th), Barry Stewart (47th), and everyone else since then.

In reality, every year is part of the history, the tradition and the evolution, and every year always ends up being "the best ever."

THE FUTURE

The Oilmen's celebrates its first 60 years, determined to be here for its 100th anniversary. It will continue to change with the times, while maintaining its status and traditions. It will attract and engage younger generations to ensure its long term success in a world that is increasingly enthralled by the game of golf. It will maintain its reputation as "the best amateur golf tournament in the world."

THE CANADIAN OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY



When the four original organizers of the Oilmen's gathered in the winter of 1951, it was exciting times for their industry. Major discoveries were being made, many new companies were arriving or being formed, pipelines were being built to reach new markets, and a whole new economic force was emerging in the country. Times were good. But, what had gone before to reach this point? And, what was going to happen in the next sixty years? Let's take a look.

BEFORE 1951

Today's oil industry has its beginnings in the mid-1800's. Certainly earlier, oil seeps had been observed and some uses had been found, such as burning crude oil as a fuel or using heavy pitch to waterproof ships. In Canada, Peter Pond had observed the oil seeps at Athabasca in 1788 and explorers detected seeps at Parson's Pond in western Newfoundland in 1812. In 1848, a Nova Scotian, Abraham Gesner, first distilled crude oil into kerosene.

The first drilling for oil, rather than tapping into seeps, occurred in the 1850's, one hundred years before the Oilmen's. Oil was discovered at Eniskillin in southwest Ontario in 1857, and at Titusville, Pennsylvania and in southeast New Brunswick in 1859. The late 1900's saw oil discovered around the world in places such as Sumatra, Burma and Peru.

In 1882, John D. Rockefeller created the Standard Oil Trust which came to dominate the US industry before it was split up by anti-trust regulators in 1911.

Technology advanced steadily with rotary rigs (1844), gas lift systems (1864), purpose built oil tankers (1878), drilling mud – a mixture of clay, cement and grain (1887) – and the diesel compression engine (1896).

The first indication of Canadian energy politics emerged in 1907 when gas

exports from southern Ontario to the United States were stopped to save Canadian resources. There were some short lived oil discoveries in the Waterton area of Alberta in 1902. 1909 saw natural gas discoveries at Stoney Creek, New Brunswick and Bow Island, Alberta, which were tied into Moncton and Calgary in 1912.

Imperial Oil, which had been founded in 1880, opened the first free standing gasoline station in Vancouver in 1908, the year of Henry Ford's first Model T.

The early years of the century also saw many significant world events: Spindletop started the great east Texas oil boom (1902), large discoveries were made in Persia (1908), in Mexico (1909) and in Venezuela (1912). Rolling-cutter rock bits were invented (1909), reservoir waterflooding was initiated (1911) and gravimetric surveys were conducted (1915).

Turner Valley had its first of three oil rushes as gas condensate, or natural gasoline, was discovered in 1914. A second boom occurred in 1924 with the discovery of more liquid rich gas, and then a third time in 1936 with oil discovered in deeper horizons. Frenzied land deals, stock promotions, and drilling activities characterized these times.

Around the world, the 1920's and 1930's saw major events continue. The huge Kir Kuk field was discovered in Iraq (1925). Oil was found in the Magdalena River Valley of Colombia (1926), at Burgan in Kuwait (1934),

1. Ontario 2. Turner Valley 3. Norman Wells 4. Leduc

Domman in Saudi Arabia (1938), and Dukhan in Qatar (1939). Prices were low and competition was fierce between the emerging large international companies. National oil companies were formed in many countries, e.g., France (1924) and Italy (1927). Mexico nationalized the industry in 1938.

In North America regulatory agencies were created to promote conservation and provide stability to the markets. The Texas Railroad Commission became the dominant force in the US (1931+), Alberta passed an Oil and Gas Conservation Act in 1932, established market prorationing in 1937, and created a Petroleum and Natural Gas Conservation Board in 1938 to oversee all of these functions. "The Board" would become a world standard for effective, professional and technical regulation of the industry, always maintaining the highest standards of integrity and fairness.

Refinery thermal cracking was introduced (1916), tetra-ethyl lead was added to reduce the "knocking" of gasoline engines (1921), seismic refraction surveys began (1923), seismic reflection was used (1925), diamond coring started (1926), barite was added to mud (1926), the Schlumbergers invented electric well logging (1928), and radioactive well logging started (1938).

Crude oil supplies became both a cause and a factor in the outcome of the Second World War.

In Canada, Imperial Oil's 1920 discovery of oil at Norman Wells along the Mackenzie River became the source for the Canol pipeline, built by the American army in 1943 to a small refinery at Whitehorse on the Alaska Highway in anticipation of a Japanese invasion. The line never shipped any oil.

The 1930's and early 1940's saw increasing exploration activity across western Canada. Following Turner Valley, medium gravity oil was discovered at Lloydminster (1939). A pilot project, Absands, was started in Athabasca in 1936. Some large natural gas fields were found, such as Viking (1939), Princess (1940), Jumping Pound (1944), and Brazeau (1945). However, all of these commodities had limited market value at the time.

The United States became a net importer of oil in 1948 after 90 years as an exporter. United States companies were increasing their attention to Canada. Texaco (1938), Gulf (1942), Philips (1944) and Sun (1945) are indicative of the times. Imperial Oil had been persistent, drilling 133 exploration wells across the prairies with very limited success.

Then it all changed. February 13, 1947. Imperial Leduc No. 1. Light, sweet oil from a Devonian reef. A field that would prove to have about 400 million barrels of recoverable reserves. The rest is history.

Attention was drawn to the Leduc discovery when Atlantic Leduc No. 3 blew out in 1948. An estimated one million barrels of oil flowed to the surface before the well could be plugged by drilling offset wells and pumping all sorts

of materials into the underground formation to stop the flow – folklore includes grain, walnut shells, ping pong balls, etc., but mostly huge volumes of river water. A short-lived fire lit the night sky to Edmonton and beyond.

In quick succession, many other significant discoveries were made. These included Redwater (1948): 800 million barrels; Golden Spike (1949): 200 million barrels; Stettler (1949): 50 million barrels; and Camrose-Armena (1950): 120 million barrels. All these names, plus others are the ones used to name the various flights at the Oilmen's Tournament. By 1950 everything was booming. The Interprovincial Pipeline was constructed to deliver western crude oil to the Lakehead for shipment to eastern Canada and the United States.

When a few years earlier there had been a few dozen active companies, now there were 300 or more. In 1949 the Western Canada Petroleum Association, the Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors, and the Western Canadian Oil Scouts Association were formed. In 1950, industry women formed the Desk and Derrick Club. The Renfrew Club, one of Calgary's first business clubs, merged with the Calgary Petroleum Club. It was there in February of 1951 that Arvil Minor said, "Let's create an Oilmen's Golf Tournament."

AFTER 1951

The main section of this book has summaries of industry events for each decade and year post-1951. An overview is provided here.

The unfolding 1950's saw continuing discoveries across western Canada from Manitoba to British Columbia. Big discoveries included Bonnie Glen, Pembina and Swan Hills. Pipelines for oil and natural gas were constructed to tie into eastern and southern markets. Refineries and petrochemical plants were constructed to use Canadian feedstocks. Natural gas pipelines, regulations and export limits became very political, the first significant indications of future Ottawa – Alberta disputes.

Major discoveries were made in Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Nigeria and Libya. The international oil companies, newly emerging large independents, and national oil companies all competed aggressively for concessions. Oil was abundant and cheap. The United States established import controls in 1947 to protect the domestic industry. Canada was also protected, i.e., its exports were allowed and its prices were held up.

The 1960's saw continuing discoveries in the west – Mitsue, Rainbow, Zama, Boundary Lake et al. Heavy oil emerged with the Great Canadian Oil Sands project in Athabasca and the early Imperial Oil steam injection pilots at Cold Lake. Exploration began offshore Atlantic Canada, in the Mackenzie Delta and the Arctic Islands. Ottawa developed a National Oil Program that

preserved the area west of the Ottawa Valley for Canadian oil. It engaged the United States in a dispute over the ownership and control of the Northwest Passage route in the Arctic as the ice breaker tanker Manhattan tested a northern route for Alaskan oil. The government also introduced tax measures to increase Canadian ownership in the industry.

Around the world major discoveries continued, especially in new areas such as the North Sea and Alaska. The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was formed to combat low prices.

In 1967 the Arab-Israeli war closed the Suez Canal and caused the Arab embargo of the United States and Britain. Production and tanker transportation was strained. Geopolitics had entered the oil industry big time.

The 1970's again saw significant industry expansion. Elsworth gas and West Pembina oil were found. Discoveries were made in the Mackenzie Delta, Arctic Islands, Sable Island and Hibernia. Syncrude was built and the Cold Lake Project began. Upgraders were planned for Regina and Lloydminster. Plans were made for a gas pipeline from the Beaufort Sea.

Politics became more intense. Two-tier pricing systems were introduced to prevent "windfall profits." Mergers were blocked due to foreign content. The federal government froze prices, announced plans to eliminate exports, raised taxes, provided incentives and mandates for Canadian ownership, formed Petro-Canada and disallowed the deductibility of Provincial royalties for tax purposes. The Provinces increased royalties, subsidized major projects, and created independent marketing agencies. Confrontation and chaos dominated the scene, but activity was high due to the incentives and subsidies.

World politics became dominant. OPEC controlled production and raised prices from \$3/barrel to \$5, then \$11, then \$20 and by the end of the decade to \$32. Properties were nationalized in Kuwait, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Iran, etc. The International Energy Agency was formed to coordinate activities by the world's 18 leading economies in response to OPEC's price increases and embargo policies. The United States had gone from controlling imports to allocating imports to ensure they were received equally by all users.

The early 1980's saw discoveries at Caroline in Alberta, Terra Nova offshore Newfoundland and Amauligak in the Beaufort Sea. Norman Wells was tied into southern markets by pipeline and oil was shipped from the high Arctic. Alsands and OSLO were proposed in the oil sands.

Early 1980's politics continued the confrontation of the 1970's. The 1980 National Energy Program created more price controls, import limits, higher taxes, new incentives, monitoring agencies, and Canadian ownership requirements in frontier lands. World prices were at \$32 US per barrel but Canadian prices were held to \$16.75 Canadian per barrel. Natural gas prices

were set at \$4.47/Mcf for exports but were limited to \$2.30/Mcf in eastern Canada. Alberta shut in production in protest. Many companies moved south. Finally there was an Alberta-Ottawa accord in 1981 that allowed for a free-market pricing mechanism.

But times were changing. By 1982, OPEC started to cut production and by 1984 prices slid to \$29/barrel. It was a balancing act until early 1986 when prices fell to \$10/barrel. Meanwhile the new federal government reached various accords with the provinces and eliminated many of the incentives, Canadian content rules, and natural gas price controls.

The late 1980's and early 1990's brought difficult times to the Canadian industry. Low prices forced many program reductions, asset sales, bankruptcies and major employee reductions. There was only a brief surge in oil prices associated with the Iraq invasion of Kuwait and the ensuing Desert Storm, Kuwaiti fires and embargo of Iraqi oil by the world.

The face of the industry constantly changed through the 1990's. Production grew. Oil sands projects expanded. Hibernia and Sable Island projects started operation. Discoveries were made in the Northwest Territories. Activity was high, with only a short pause in 1998-1999 when oil prices fell for a while. Gas prices surged in response to the growing North American demand and new pipeline construction.

But the players changed. Many new intermediate companies emerged. Mergers and acquisitions were undertaken at a furious pace. Royalty trusts became a factor. All of this was mirrored on the world scale as Exxon Mobil and BP-Amoco-Arco became Super Majors.

As the industry entered the new millennium, technology continued to advance, making deeper, more remote resources economic. Seismic processing, horizontal drilling, deep water systems, reservoir stimulation, remote sensing, etc. improved dramatically. Political issues become more international and more focused on social and environmental issues, not just economic and trade impacts.

Throughout the first decade of the 21st century the global economy has continued to use crude oil and natural gas as the primary energy source. The United States is still dependent to a very large degree on imports to maintain its place as one of the world's leading economies. Combining this with the potential for enormous economic growth from countries, such as China and India, strong demand for hydrocarbons has persisted.

The prices reflect this. The WTI oil price was \$30 per bbl in 2000 is now approximately \$85 per bbl and has ranged between \$25 and \$147 per bbl. Natural gas prices have not fared as well; being \$5 per mcf in 2000 and \$4 per mcf currently; and the range was approximately \$2 to \$14 per mcf.

In Canada, the past ten years have been tumultuous for the oil and gas industry. Royalty trusts grew and dominated the mid-cap sector until Federal legislation forced their restructuring. The Alberta government increased royalties leading to reduced drilling activity and later revamped their model to ensure a competitive fiscal structure was in place. A world wide recession lead to reduced energy needs and perhaps we are now seeing a rebound of demand and energy consumption.

Development of the oil sands in north east Alberta has continued with many new projects underway and many more in the planning phase. Currently, several large resource plays are being followed in Canada as a result of advances in horizontal drilling and multi stage fracturing techniques. The emergence of shale gas has seemingly changed the supply/demand balance for natural gas.

Going forward, the International Energy Agency predicts that global demand is expected to more than double by 2050, that conventional petroleum reserves are declining and that the supply base will need to diversify to meet the growing demand.