

# IPAA ACCESS

MAGAZINE



## THE POLITICS OF THE PANDEMIC

**ALSO INSIDE:**

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# Contents

6



## features

6

### **POLITICS DURING THE TIME OF A PANDEMIC**

If operators, especially smaller independents, can't access the loans that every other company can, they may be forced into layoffs, reduced operations, or possible bankruptcy.

8

### **IPAA WELCOMES DEFEAT OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING RULE**

While producers face challenging times, IPAA continues to work to ensure fair treatment, a level playing field, and clearly defined rules for ongoing operations.

10

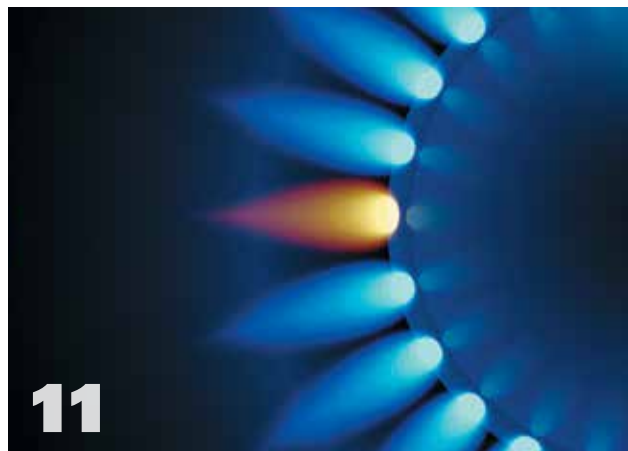
### **ENERGY SECRETARY BROUILLETTE MEETS WITH INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS IN TEXAS**

11

### **WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT NATURAL GAS BANS**

A closer look at how banning natural gas in construction could end up harming the very communities their proponents say they are trying to protect.

**SUMMER/FALL 2020**



11

14

### **IN MEMORIAM: A.V. JONES, JR.**

A.V. Jones, Jr. was instrumental in the foundation of the modern-day Independent Petroleum Association of America. His leadership, wisdom and guidance will continue to live on at IPAA and throughout the industry.

16

### **IPAA BRINGS INDUSTRY EXPERTISE TO YOU DIGITALLY**

New Industry Insights webinar series presents industry leaders discussing timely issues.

17

### **THE SHOW GOES ON**

Energy Extern Program Training for greater Houston area high school and college freshman shifts to virtual format. Learn more about the program and how to sponsor or host a webinar.

## departments

5 **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

18 **INDEX TO ADVERTISERS**







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# president's message

Dear IPAA Member,

Over the past 90 years, the Independent Petroleum Association of America and its members have seen some difficult times. Unstable prices, excessive imports, misguided regulations and misinformation campaigns have plagued the industry for decades. And now we are witnessing something entirely new – a worldwide pandemic from the COVID-19 virus.

As always, your trade association – IPAA – is here for you, to protect your interests in Washington and in the field. Our mission has always been focused on federal advocacy, but we also have robust business and professional development programs. However, amid the pandemic, these have taken on a slightly different format. Instead of in-person meetings, we have launched a series of webinars. So far, legal and market experts have helped our members understand their business options. We are also hearing from thought-leaders and our company CEOs, like ConocoPhillips' Ryan Lance.

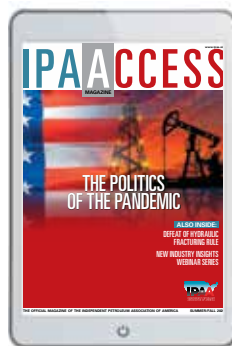
These digital meetings not only provide you with new skills, information and ideas, but they also help keep you connected to your association. So far, we have had hundreds of attendees attend our online programs. We hope you will participate in this membership benefit as well. Please check your weekly IPAA newsletter – *Issues and Insights* – for a schedule of our offerings.

Please take care of yourself and your colleagues during these difficult times. And if there is anything IPAA can do to help, please let us know. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Barry Russell  
President and CEO



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# POLITICS DURING THE TIME OF A PANDEMIC

By Jeff Eshelman, IPAA Senior Vice President of Operations and Public Affairs/Energy in Depth

These past few months have been remarkable for our industry and nation. Not only did we face a major commodity price crash due to the supply-demand imbalance, but we have also faced a global pandemic that has shut down economies globally. The federal government has acted swiftly to provide economic support to American workers and businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. While the U.S. natural gas and oil industry is critical to the nation and world economy, it is important to note that we have not asked for any special “bailouts” for American producers. Any assistance provided to our industry should be the same for all industries nationwide – whether that is

the Payroll Protection Act or the Main Street Lending Program.

However, a small, fringe group of congressional Democrats and activist groups are arguing against bipartisan support of the energy industry and its employees. In a recent letter, written by Sen. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) these lawmakers are clearly putting the demands of “Keep It In the Ground” activists above the needs of blue collar workers.

States around the country, led by both Democrats and Republicans, have declared oil and natural gas operations are “essential” or “critical” business activities – a sharp contrast to the view expressed in Sen. Markey’s



## Oil & Natural Gas Industry Supports Communities

While the fringe lawmakers work to block financial assistance to essential workers and businesses, and environmental activist groups continue to take advantage of COVID-19 to push their agenda forward, the oil and natural gas industry is stepping up to help communities affected by the pandemic.

Across the country, companies and trade associations have donated the personal protective equipment that healthcare workers rely on, given millions of dollars to charities and non-profits, and supported students with educational resources while classes are cancelled.

When it comes to supporting workers and their communities, it is clear where the oil and natural gas industry stands. The question is, given their letter seeking to single out some they see as less worthy, where do these elected officials stand?



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letter, showing just how out-of-touch these politicians really are. As *The Hill* newspaper reported:

“More than 40 Democratic lawmakers are arguing that fossil fuel companies should not be able to receive any assistance under the coronavirus relief package passed by Congress last month.

“In a letter to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Federal Reserve Board Chairman Jerome Powell, lawmakers say the \$2 trillion deal was ‘intended to support struggling families, workers, businesses, states, and municipalities... Giving that money to the fossil fuel industry will do nothing to stop the spread of the deadly virus or provide relief to those in need.’”

It seems these Democrats don’t believe that “struggling families, workers, and businesses,” include oil and natural gas workers and operators, yet we know that’s the case.

As mentioned, the oil and natural gas industry has not asked for a “corporate bailout,” as Sen. Markey and the other letter signers call it, but the reality is that if operators, especially smaller independents, can’t access the loans that every other company can, they may be forced into layoffs, reduced operations, or possible bankruptcy. That would be devastating to the millions of workers who work hard every day to produce the energy we all use. ●

# IPAA WELCOMES DEFEAT OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING RULE

By Mallori Miller, IPAA Vice President of Government Relations

In these uncertain times, IPAA continues to be an advocate for our members to the Administration and with Members of Congress, ensuring that independent oil and gas producers are included in any economic stimulus packages that transpire as a result of the COVID-19 global crisis.

While producers face challenging times, IPAA continues to work to ensure fair treatment, a level playing field, and clearly defined rules for ongoing operations. Many of our industries' most significant battles have found their way to the courtroom as environmentalists decry Trump Administration actions to

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With a divided Congress and Executive Branch, it is increasingly important to turn our focus towards the judicial system for legal interpretation.

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roll back duplicative and burdensome regulations.

IPAA mounted the original legal challenge against the 2015 BLM Hydraulic Fracturing Rule, which established a set of national guidelines for regulating hydraulic fracturing activities on federally owned lands. As it was written, this precedent-setting regulation would be difficult and costly for small and medium-sized businesses to comply with and would likely discourage U.S. investment and job creation in the West.

IPAA successfully argued against the rule in the U.S. District Court of Wyoming as well as the Tenth Circuit Court before the court dismissed the case in September 2017, protecting producers from the business uncertainty of having to potentially comply with a regulation that would certainly be undone by the Trump Administration.

The Trump repeal rule came in December 2017, followed swiftly by a legal challenge from environmentalist in the Northern District Court of California.

This spring, IPAA received validation for our efforts as Judge Gilliam sided with the Trump Administration and industry in his judgment against the legal challenge brought by the environmental groups. While opponents still have the opportunity for appeal, IPAA counts this as an incredible, long-fought victory for industry.

With a divided Congress and Executive Branch, it is increasingly important to turn our focus towards the judicial system for legal interpretation. IPAA will continue to fight for our member companies on all three fronts to safeguard the future health of the American independent oil and natural gas industry. ●



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## ENERGY SECRETARY BROUILLETTE MEETS WITH INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS IN TEXAS

On July 10, IPAA leadership including Chairman Steve Hinchman, Vice Chairman Jim Wilkes and IPAA Offshore Committee Chairman Ron Neal along with several CEOs of independent oil and gas producers met with Department of Energy Secretary Dan Brouillette and Under Secretary of Energy Mark Menezes in Houston. Ron Neal was integral in making this meeting happen at the Houston Energy, LLP offices in a safe and social distanced manner.

Issues and topics discussed at the meeting included offshore access, offshore regulations and other issues impacting independent offshore producers; pipeline infrastructure and the upcoming NEPA regulation reform announcement by the Administration; and energy markets. The independent producers requested that Brouillette advocate for the oil and natural

industry in front of other agency leaders and the Administration in their cabinet-level meetings.

The Department of Energy reported in their weekly External Affairs newsletter that, "They discussed the impacts of COVID-19 on the industry and actions the Trump Administration is taking to provide assistance."

While this was a rare in-person meeting, throughout the COVID-19 crisis IPAA has been working with Congress, federal agencies and other industry groups to ensure our members' interests are heard and acted upon. IPAA staff has met with government officials and their teams over the phone and virtually, seeking for them to better understand any policy actions that can be taken to alleviate further harm to U.S. natural gas and oil producers.

Back in April, IPAA's Chairman Steve Hinchman and Vice Chairman Jim Wilkes joined IPAA management including Barry Russell, Lee Fuller, Ryan Ullman and Fred Lawrence for a call with Mark Wesley Menezes, Under Secretary of Energy and his team to discuss policy changes that could be made to aid struggling producers. Items IPAA brought up included uncertainty around the implementation of the Economic Stabilization Fund and other lending mechanisms, and the difficulty for small producers to utilize and sell to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

From government relations, economics and public affairs – the IPAA team will continue to play an active role in the ongoing situation and various policy solutions that emerge. ●



1. IPAA Chairman Steve Hinchman with Department of Energy Secretary Brouillette and Under Secretary Menezes.  
2. Ron Neal, Co-Founder and Co-Owner of Houston Energy, L.P. welcomes Secretary Brouillette to the meeting with independent producers in Houston.



## WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT NATURAL GAS BANS

There's a worrying trend gaining traction in California, the Boston suburbs, and a few other liberal enclaves across the country. In the name of meeting ambitious decarbonization and emissions goals, a few dozen cities are considering – or have passed – ordinances that look to limit or outright ban natural gas in construction.

But the bans are meeting resistance. Consumers and businesses, concerned over the impact the bans would have on lower-income families, local restaurants and others, have been pushing back. In February, Arizona passed a bill with bipartisan backing that prevents cities from forbidding the use of natural gas. Other states, including Missouri, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Mississippi are considering similar legislation. Surprisingly, in late July, Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey (D), who frequently sides with environmentalists, struck down what would have been the East Coast's first ban on natural gas in a community outside of Boston.

EID's latest fact sheet takes a closer look at what people are saying about how these bans could end up harming the very communities their proponents say they are trying to protect.

Turn the page to  
learn more!





# What They're Saying About Natural Gas Bans

A worrying trend is gaining traction in California, the Boston suburbs, and a few other communities across the country. In the name of meeting ambitious climate goals, a few dozen cities are considering – or have passed – ordinances that look to limit or outright ban natural gas use.

But the bans are meeting resistance. Consumers and businesses concerned over the potential impact on lower-income families, local restaurants and others have been pushing back. Some states legislatures have passed or are considering legislation preventing their cities from forbidding the use of natural gas.

Here's a sample of what they're saying about how these efforts could end up harming the very communities that the bans' proponents claim to be protecting.

## Natural Gas Bans Disproportionally Hurt Vulnerable Groups



Mark Morial, President of the National Urban League, pointed out that even though energy prices disproportionately impact people of color, these communities are oftentimes left out of the discussion:

“ Generally speaking, people are debating these issues in some instances without consultation with the leaders of the African American communities and neighborhoods affected by these issues. ”

Bill Malcolm, senior legislative representative from AARP, said that the bans are concerning for ratepayers who earn less money:

“ I just checked the numbers and natural gas is now at \$1.85/MMBtu, and just to put that in perspective, in 2012 it was actually \$12/MMBtu. So where is the new power for the new load going to come from? ”

## Natural Gas Bans Will Harm Local Restaurants and Other Industries



The California Restaurant Association is suing Berkeley over its ban on natural gas in many new buildings that went into effect January 1, 2020:

“ Whether searing steaks, charring vegetables, or stir-frying noodles, chefs and cooks rely on the most important tool in the creation of a dish – fire. There are also economic impacts. Many restaurants use gas to heat water and space and for other appliances. This ban will raise costs to build and operate restaurants. Restaurant owners may simply choose not to move to or construct new buildings because they will not have access to natural gas. ”

The temperature control needed for much of restaurant cooking requires visually gauging the cooking flame, manipulating the intensity of the heat, and being able to scale the temperature up or down in a split second. Thus, the ordinance will reduce the types of cuisines available to Berkeley residents. It will also make meaningless much of the culinary training that some of the finest chefs have received. Simply put, a ban on natural gas is not something to which restaurants can adapt. ”



Jerry Scott, Senior Vice President at RH Peterson:

“The hearth and patio industry has worked hard to provide products that increase the quality of home and family life. From the barbecue to celebrate a special occasion, to a gathering around a fireplace during a holiday, these moments are even more valued today with our busy, hectic lives. In fact, recent surveys show that outdoor rooms with exterior fire features and kitchens are among the top features that home buyers are looking for. Fireplaces and stoves that provide efficient zone heating add to the comfort of home life, while reducing energy use and costs. Many of these products use natural gas as a fuel source and would disappear with a natural gas ban.”

Alicia Kennedy, a food writer and podcast host, shared the story of a Brooklyn tapas bar in her article, “Electric stoves are a home cook’s nightmare.”:

“Francisco Anton of La Ñapa in Brooklyn, where the plancha, deep fryer, and stoves all run on electricity in a kitchen built from scratch in what was once a corner bodega. “A gas stove can stay working fine with the proper treatment for 10-plus years,” he says. “Electrical equipment? Every day after the first year is a gift.”

Robert W. Phillips, a professional chef and chairman of the Chef De Cuisine Association of California:

“This ban will slow down the process of cooking and reduce a chef’s control over the amount and intensity of heat which is needed to prepare food appropriately. It’s like taking paint away from a painter and asking them to create a masterpiece.”

## Natural Gas Bans Eliminate Consumer Choice



Takoma Park, a suburb of Washington, D.C., passed a non-binding ban that directs the community to remove all the fossil fuels from the city – pressuring residents to ban natural gas appliances and gas stations to move outside city boundaries:

“The number of times the word ‘require’ is used in this is stunning...Don’t tell me what to do with my table scraps.”

Rep. Bob Thorpe, an Arizona state representative from Flagstaff, discussing bipartisan legislation that preempts cities from enacting natural gas bans:

“It’s ridiculous that any government will get down to that level that they’d tell someone how they can heat their house.”

Glenn Hamer, President and CEO of the Arizona Chamber of Commerce:

“A poll of more than 1,000 natural gas customers conducted in late 2019 found that 92% of respondents statewide prefer having the choice of using natural gas in their home, and 82% of respondents were strongly opposed to natural gas being eliminated from their homes.”

Kevin Messner, Senior Vice President of Policy & Government Relations at the Association for Home Appliance Manufacturers:

“There is consumer interest in having a choice and having both.”

Jot Condie, President and CEO of the California Restaurant Association:

“We believe that the Berkeley ban represents the start of efforts to ban or severely restrict all natural gas use...It’s impossible to overstate how irresponsible this is at a time when millions of Californians find themselves in the dark due to planned power outages. The citizens of California need reliable and affordable energy that allows them to choose what appliances they have in their homes and businesses.”

## Natural Gas Bans Ignore Efficiency and Environmental Benefits of Gas Appliances



Zilvinas Silenas, president of the Foundation for Economic Education:

“Burning gas to make electricity is only about 40% efficient, on average. The environmental effect of switching from gas stoves to electric stoves depends largely on how the electricity is produced... Given current U.S. electricity production, if you banned natural gas stoves across the country, only 2 out of 10 would be powered by renewable energy – the remaining eight would be powered by electricity generated from coal (three), nuclear (two), and natural gas (three).”

Danielle Williams, spokeswoman for Massachusetts utility National Grid:

“Natural gas has “an enduring role to play in bringing about a clean energy future, and that customers should have the ability to choose their energy source.”



Photo by Tim Evanson

## In Memoriam: A.V. Jones, Jr. Special Message from Barry Russell, IPAA President and CEO

By Barry Russell, IPAA President and CEO

IPAA staff, former and current leadership and our members mourn the loss of A.V. Jones, Jr. He was a former chairman of IPAA and served in many leadership positions, including oversight of our finance committee.

During the Arab oil embargo, he was a champion for domestic producers. A.V. not only volunteered his time to advocate for us on Capitol Hill, but he also was a frequent IPAA spokesman in the media – including appearances on national TV shows like Good Morning America (where he once debated consumer activist Ralph Nader on the deregulation of natural gas price controls).

### A.V. JONES, JR. ALBANY, TX JUNE 30, 1932 – JULY 12, 2020



IPAA CHAIRMAN A.V. JONES JR.  
1975-1977.

**A.V. Jones, Jr.**, a pillar of the Albany, Texas, community and the independent oil and gas industry, died peacefully at home on July 12, following a brief illness. He was 88 years old.

The son of a West Texas wildcatter, A.V. Jones, Jr. started working in the oil patch as a young teenager. Over the course of his long life, he saw the ups and downs of the oil business from every vantage point – from the immediate experience of a gusher or a dry hole, from the excitement of running a thriving company in boom times and the challenges of making it through a bust, from the inside of U.S. politics and the outside of global markets. “I’ve worked two lifetimes,” said A.V., who could still be found working in his office until just recently. “Most people have a career for thirty or thirty-five years, but I’ve been in the business now more than sixty.”

Born on June 30, 1932, in Wichita Falls, Texas, A.V. was ten weeks old when his parents, Alva Vance Jones Sr. and Nellie Ruby Jones, moved with their newborn to Albany. Except for his college years, A.V. Jr. lived in Albany the rest of his life.

He was a member of the First Christian Church of Albany, where he first served on the church board at age 12 when most of the adult men of the community were away in World War II.

As a fullback for the 1948 Albany Lions in his senior year of high school, A.V. was a significant factor in that team’s one-loss record. He earned the nickname “Goat” for the way he put his head down like a billy goat and charged forward. “A.V. was known throughout the area as Goat Jones, not just in Albany,” says his younger

brother and lifelong business partner, Jon Rex Jones. “People knew him as a fine athlete and tougher than a boot.” A.V. also played football for Cisco Junior College.

A.V. met his future wife, Pat Lidia, on the football field where she was a cheerleader. He was 14 and she was 13 when they went to a school party together, and they were inseparable from then on. They were married September 12, 1950, and celebrated 69 years of marriage last fall.

While still in high school, A.V. worked in his father’s oil business, Jones & Stasney, digging ditches and sitting on wells. After he graduated in 1953 from the University of Oklahoma, A.V. and his father created their own company; they were soon joined by Jon Rex. A.V. Jones & Sons would become one of the most successful and notable independent oil and gas companies in Texas.

When their father died suddenly in 1965, A.V. Jr. and Jon Rex took over the company. A.V. brought to their endeavor a keen understanding of geology and an incisive mind for evaluating deals. The “Jones boys” made their mark as developers of the oil fields in northeast Shackelford County and eventually expanded their oil exploration to the Gulf Coast, Colorado, Oklahoma, Michigan, and internationally. A.V. was always proud of a 1973 front-page feature about the family business in the Wall Street Journal.

He was an early member of the All-American Wildcatters and a leader in the oil industry, serving as president of the West Central Texas Oil and Gas Association, the National Stripper Well Association, and the Independent



His entrepreneurship in the private equity markets pioneered today's industry and he has been instrumental in the foundation of the modern-day Independent Petroleum Association of America.

He will be missed, but his leadership, wisdom and guidance continue to live on at IPAA and throughout the industry. Our prayers and thoughts are with his family and friends.

I've included below a copy of A.V.'s obituary. Please join me in celebrating a life well lived, and a spirit that lives on. ●



Barry Russell

Please join me in  
celebrating a life well lived,  
and a spirit that lives on.

JLMCANALLY/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

Petroleum Association of America. In those roles, he testified before the U.S. Congress several times, helped gain approval of the pivotal "Stripper Well Amendment," and advocated for independent oil producers on national television shows, including two appearances on Good Morning America. A.V. remembered, "They wouldn't attack me, because I was a nice, friendly, smiling guy from little Albany, Texas. Part of my charm was that I wasn't quite as smooth as a lot of people expect an oil executive to be."

With a smile that could rival the Texas sun, A.V.'s small-town charm was authentic. He loved his neighbors and took pride in creating jobs and opportunities for the people of his hometown. A.V. and Jon Rex built the Jones family office building on Hill Street in Albany. Over the years, they also helped develop Albany's downtown, the First National Bank of Albany/Breckenridge, and the Old Jail Art Center. Devoted to maintaining Albany's tight-knit and supportive community, A.V. could always be seen at local celebrations. He performed many times in the Fandangle and the Albany Nativity.

In 1962, he became the Albany representative to the West Central Texas Municipal Water District board, helping to develop and manage the Hubbard Creek Reservoir. He would serve many years as board president, and he only retired from the board in 2008, after 46 years of service.

Known as "Grandsir" to his grandchildren, A.V. loved seeing his grandkids grow up in Albany and Abilene, whether cheering on his only

granddaughter as a Lady Lion or mentoring his three grandsons in the business of deal-making. He delighted in watching his great-grandchildren experience a Lions football game or their first Fandangle.

In his later years, he focused on investing in other people's ventures and developing portfolios of investment funds for oil and gas deals. "When we tell about some of these deals," A.V. explained not long ago, "people sometimes ask, 'How did you figure that out?' And I would try to explain that it's just about being here, day after day, reading a lot, and having experiences, and then having enough going on that you can act when you see an opportunity. We don't have any special gift or instinct to see what's coming. A lot of people can see it. But doing it takes moxie. You can teach a ten-year-old to do the mechanics of what I do. The part you can't teach is the business insight – 'I want that deal, I don't want that one.' Now, there are things we can't do because we don't have enough money. We sure don't have the kind of capital that Exxon has. But those Exxon guys don't get to live in Albany. They don't get to go to a Lions football game on Friday night or quail hunting after work."

A.V. loved quail hunting and his bird dogs. It was always a good day when he could take friends and family out for a hunt on nearby rangeland. As a leader in quail habitat conservation, A.V. received the 2010 Quail Conservation Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas Wildlife Association Foundation. And in 2013, he received the T. Boone Pickens Lifetime Sportsman Award from Park Cities Quail.

A.V. and Pat's philanthropy also extended to the University of Oklahoma's School of Geology and Mewbourne College of Earth and Energy. Most important to A.V. was supporting Albany institutions, including the public schools, Ben Richey Boys Ranch, Lions football, and the First Christian Church.

For the past forty years, until very recently, A.V. could be found every Sunday morning teaching an adult Sunday school class to his fellow church members. And every fall, A.V. and Pat could be seen cheering on the Albany Lions in their seats near the 50-yard line.

The Jones family wishes to express heartfelt gratitude to A.V.'s longtime assistant, Charlotte Taggart, for her years of dedication and many kindnesses, and to those who provided special care to A.V. in his last months, in both Hendrick Hospital and at home – Amy Folsom, Jerica Alexander, Jessica Bowman, Dr. Keith Robinson and Dr. Ferral Endsley.

A.V. is survived by his beloved wife; two younger siblings, Jon Rex Jones and Jean Jones Tucker; brother-in-law William Tucker; daughter Patti Jones (Gerald Cockrell); son K.C. Jones (Pati); grandchildren Jay Hardaway (Lindsay), Jacob Jones (Barrell), Zach Jones (Sarah Kate), and Madison Jones; nine great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his sister-in-law, Ann McArron Jones, and by his oldest child, Van Jones.

Memorial gifts in A.V.'s name may be made to the AVJ Foundation, 850 N. 1st Street, Abilene TX 79604; or Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation, 6065 Sherry Lane, Dallas TX 75225.

# IPAA BRINGS INDUSTRY EXPERTISE TO YOU DIGITALLY

## New Industry Insights Webinar Series Presents Industry Leaders Discussing Timely Issues

By Jennifer Pett Marsteller, IPAA Director of Public Affairs and Communications



On June 10, Jordan Horoschak, Managing Director in Energy Investment Banking at CIBC Capital Markets and a member of IPAA's Board of Directors, led an insightful fireside chat with Ryan Lance, the chairman and CEO of Houston-based ConocoPhillips.



Mitch Lane, U.S. Energy Markets Leader for Ernst & Young opens IPAA's July 15 Industry Insights webinar with EY.



In our second Industry Insights webinar held on May 13, "Pathways to Recovery," IPAA Vice Chairman Jim Wilkes of Texland Petroleum was joined by W. Byron Dunn of Tubular Synergy Group and Bob Fryklund of IHS Markit in a discussion on what recovery for the industry might look like. What will be the challenges to start up again? What are the opportunities?

In 2020, we have seen the ability to meet in-person nearly eliminated with the threat of COVID-19 ever present and companies' travel budgets slashed.

In April, IPAA staff and our board mobilized to create our Industry Insights webinar series. These biweekly webinars held on Wednesday mornings bring together industry leaders to share their expertise on timely topics facing oil and natural gas producers. There is no cost to register for the webinars, and they are open to both members and non-members (we follow-up with applicable non-member registrants following the meetings to encourage them to join IPAA and support our other efforts).

We have had great attendance with some webinars having nearly 1,000 registrants. We are finding we are reaching many more people online than we could with some of our recent

in-person meetings. We have had public and private sector attendees, students – you name it. We have also made recordings of the webinars available to view on-demand after the original presentations. You can find these recordings on our website, IPAA.org.

These take a village to pull off in a seamless and crisp format, but our team has become seasoned professionals when it comes to putting on webinars and virtual meetings. We could not do it without the support of our sponsors who have included Shearman & Sterling, LLP, Noble Royalties, Enverus, and Ernst and Young.

It is difficult to predict when we will be able to meet with our membership in-person again, but in the meantime, we have received feedback from you all that these Industry Insights webinars are valuable and convenient. Sharing

information with you via webinar and digital means will hopefully not be the only way we communicate for the long-term, but it will likely be part of a mix for the foreseeable future.

We encourage you to visit IPAA.org/events, read our *Issues and Insight* newsletter and follow our social media pages to see what Industry Insights webinar topics are coming up. ●

### Host or Sponsor A Webinar!

If you are interested in hosting or sponsoring a future 'Industry Insights' webinar, contact Brittany Green at [bgreen@ipaa.org](mailto:bgreen@ipaa.org).

# THE SHOW GOES ON

## Energy Extern Program Training for Greater Houston Area High School & College Freshman Shifts to Virtual Format

By Nikki McDermott, IPAA Senior Director of Member Events

Despite unprecedented market conditions for the energy sector, and the COVID-19 pandemic affecting physical office environments, the Independent Petroleum Association of America/Petroleum Equipment & Services Association (IPAA/PESA) Energy Education Center **Extern Program** for high school students and college freshmen continued for its 11th year – this time virtually.

Since 2010, the next generation of America's oil & natural gas leaders has taken their first eager steps toward securing successful careers within the energy industry. Each summer, high school juniors/seniors and college freshmen are eligible

to participate in the IPAA/PESA Extern Program.

The program provides professional development and a job shadowing opportunity for future STEM and business students at various Houston and Dallas/Fort Worth petroleum exploration, production and service company locations. Over the past 11 years, 36 oil and natural gas companies have hosted 752 top students.

This summer, more than 40 students are participating in the Extern Program. The program content begins with four days of virtual training for participating students, starting on Tuesday, June 2. The training focuses on improving students' soft skills before

they spend time with their assigned company – these include communication, critical thinking, conflict resolution and time management. Externs underwent a competitive selection process and were selected from greater Houston area high schools and colleges.

"The IPAA/PESA Extern Program, our capstone program, provides invaluable professional development training and insight into the energy industry and we are proud to welcome this year's outstanding extern cohort," said **Anne Ford, IPAA/PESA Energy Education Center Senior Vice President.**

**Hy Thach, a student at the Young Women's College Preparatory Academy, and extern candidate,** said "With the



Sarah Castro, Senior Director of the IPAA/PESA Energy Education Center, speaks virtually with students in the Extern Program



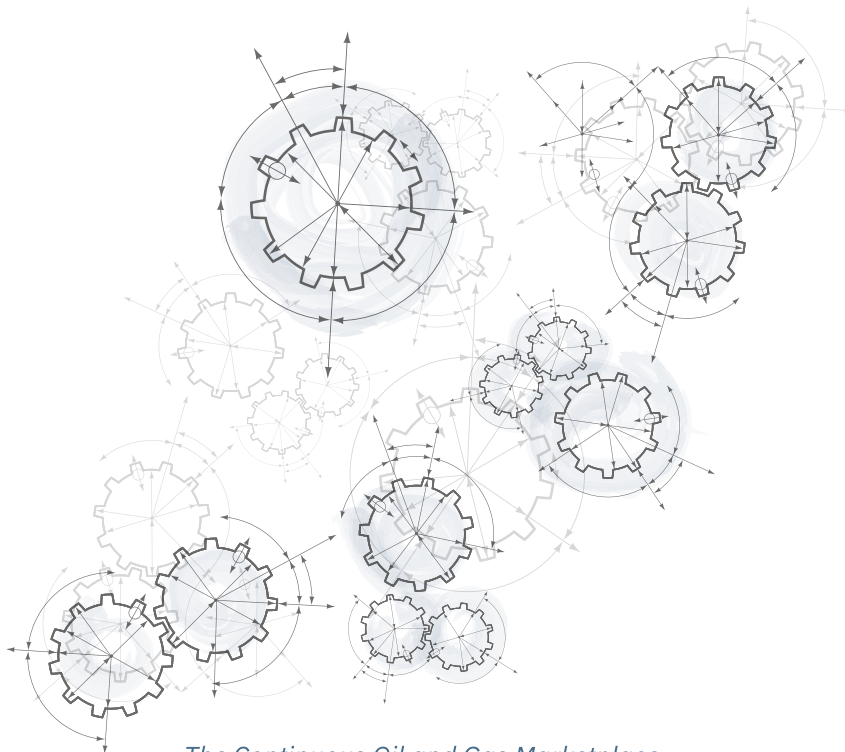
amazing opportunity to participate in the IPAA/PESA extern program, I am looking forward to building new connections, creating long-lasting friendships, and most importantly, learning about the ethics, the motivation, and the dream for engineers in the oil and natural gas industry." Ms. Thach is interested in a career in mathematics and/or philosophy as she is passionate about both fields.

**Jonathan Deflores, a junior at Milby High school and extern candidate** wants to be a petroleum engineer and says, "I

hope to learn the valuable skills that will help benefit me in whatever future path lies ahead."

In late May, Energy Education Center staff hosted a virtual meeting for this year's extern candidates and their families to discuss what the program would look like this year and answer any questions. The Energy Education Center team also held virtual trainings with Extern Program alumni who will be volunteering with the program this summer. ●

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## Thank You Sponsors & Partners

The IPAA/PESA Energy Education Center is grateful for the support of the Extern Program sponsors and partners:

- Core Lab
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- Oceaneering
- Shell
- Weir Oil & Gas

## LEARN HOW TO PARTICIPATE

If your company is interested in participating in the Extern Program in the future, please contact Sarah Castro at [scastro@ipaa.org](mailto:scastro@ipaa.org).

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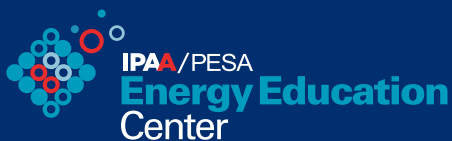
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