

GRAND JUNCTION GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WWW.GJGS.ORG

DECEMBER MEETING

Joint meeting with the CMU geology students

Wednesday December 16, 2015

7:30 PM

SACCOMANNO LECTURE HALL

(In the Wubben Science Building)

Larry Moyer Consulting Geologist

Will Speak On

“History of Exploration and Development of Fossil Fuel Resources with Insights in the Possible Potential of the Greater Divide Creek-Southern Grand Hogback Area of the Southeastern Piceance Basin in Mesa, Garfield, Pitkin, Gunnison and Delta Counties, Colorado”

Abstract on Reverse Side

Guests Are Always Welcome

OFFICERS FOR 2016

Ed Baltzer-President

Brann Johnson-Vice President

Bill Chenoweth-Secretary/Treasurer

Verner Johnson-1 Year Councilor

Vanessa Santos- 2 Year Councilor

Ed Kolb-3 Year Councilor

**Your 2016 Dues-\$15.00- are due now. Make your check to
the GJGS Foundation for a tax deduction. Bring to the
meeting or mail to GJGS,
P O Box 4045, Grand Junction, CO 81502**

Abstract – The first development of Fossil Fuel Resources in the area began in 1881 with the staking of mining claims for high quality coal resources in the Coal Basin Area of Pitkin County, Colorado. The coals were mined and used for steel making as late as 1991.

Oil and gas resource development began with the drilling of a 10,815' hole on the Divide Creek Anticline during 1937 – 1939 that TD'd in the Mancos Shale and was plugged. Over the subsequent years different exploration and development projects have targeted different zones and plays. Including the Iles Formation, Mesaverde Coals, Dakota, Morrison, Entrada, Weber-Maroon, Minturn, and Leadville formations.

Overall modest gas production in the range of 60 BCFG has been produced from the sandstones of the Iles Formation and Mesaverde Coals. Considering the size of the Divide Creek anticline and other structures in the area, the area has been a graveyard for oil and gas exploration.

With the technological development of horizontal drilling and improvements in hydraulic fracturing, significant potential for unconventional resource development in the members of the Mancos Shale exist. This play is in the early stages.

The history of land use conflicts in the vicinity dating back to the formation of the US National Forests in the late 1800's and early 1900's will be reviewed. Further, economic issues related to conflicts from competing uses for the collectively owned resources of the area will be reviewed.