



WELCOME to the Land of Thoroughbreds, Bluegrass and Bourbon:

On behalf of the East Kentucky Section of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), it is indeed our honor and privilege to host the Eastern Regional Meeting (ERM) for 2017. This event will take place at the Clarion Hotel in Lexington, Kentucky, from Wednesday, October 4th thru Friday, October 6th, 2017. Please mark your calendars and be prepared to enjoy the best that autumn in Kentucky has to offer. Your ERM Planning Committee has labored long this past year to prepare for this outstanding event.

The theme of this year's meeting is **THE RACE FOR ENERGY INDEPENDENCE**. This underlies the absolute importance of petroleum in our future, while also highlighting our backdrop and host city, Lexington, the "Horse Capital of World." We expect to have some 30 exhibitors prepared to display the latest trends and technological advances.

Our technical program consists of three distinct segments this year, beginning with the workshops on Wednesday afternoon, October 4th, shortly after the conclusion of the golf scramble. These workshops will occur simultaneously from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The first workshop is a primer on basic Reservoir Engineering for the oil and gas professional. It will be presented by Mr. Jim Brooker, of Brookston Resources. He will be discussing the use of state of the art methodology in order to enhance production in conventional fields. At the same time, a tour of the University of Kentucky's Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER) facility will take place. There you will get to see up front the research taking place at this world class university. For example, their Fischer-Tropsch research lab where coal is converted into an ultra-low sulfur diesel is a must see. Finally for those of you willing to stay that extra day, there is a field trip sponsored by the Geological Society of Kentucky to the Berea Sandstone outcrops in eastern Kentucky. This includes an in depth discussion regarding this emerging horizontal oil play. This field trip will take place on Saturday morning, October 7th. Please indicate your interest with regard to the latter upon arrival to the ERM. As usual, all workshops are complimentary and absolutely free of charge.

The technical committee has also put together a total of 24 internationally recognized papers along with 8 e-Posters. They will be presented in two concurrent tracks during the day on Thursday, October 5th. The technical sessions are further divided into four topical areas: Drilling; Case Studies in Production and Health, Safety and Environment; Reservoir Engineering; and Hydraulic Fracturing. Many of these papers deal exclusively with the development of unconventional resources.

Also on Thursday, our awards luncheon will feature our keynote speaker Mr. Brian Habacivch, Director of Constellation Energy's Commodities Management Group (CMG). He will be speaking on the current state of the oil and gas industry and its outlook. Don't miss this incredible and dynamic presentation.

Friday morning, October 6th, we have assembled an outstanding panel that will provide a very interesting and thought-provoking roundtable discussion regarding "The Future of Natural Gas." This

blue-ribbon panel consists of not only a prominent member from the oil and gas industry, but also a policy maker, an end user, and a professional consultant.

And this event is not all about work either. For your enjoyment we have included a slate of social events. Wednesday morning, October 4th, will be our traditional golf scramble just next door at the beautiful Griffin Gate golf course; well within walking distance to the Clarion Hotel. And, Wednesday evening will feature a welcome reception in the exhibit area with great food and networking opportunities

Thursday, October 5th, will be even more special, beginning with the spouse's tour. For those interested, they will be visiting at least two thoroughbred farms, and then enjoy a delicious luncheon in historic Midway, Kentucky. And then on Thursday evening, we have planned a mock horse racing event and an auction of wonderful door prizes, all while we enjoy the culinary tastes of our now famous "Round the World" food spectacular.

And finally on Friday, October 6th, please stick around for the drawing for one of two laptop computers to be given away (*must be present to win*) following the conclusion of the roundtable discussion panel.

Lastly, and if you like horse racing, then you are in exactly the right place as Friday afternoon, October 6th, is Opening Day for the fall meet at the breathtakingly beautiful Keeneland horse track. Please note that we do have tickets available on a first come, first serve basis; or you may contact Keeneland directly either online at www.keeneland.com for ticket availability, or by calling them toll free at (800) 456-3412.

We sincerely hope that you find this year's SPE Eastern Regional Meeting to be enjoyable, educational, memorable, and just plain fun, as you take in the best that autumn in Kentucky has to offer.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Pierce
General Co-Chairman



Harry D. Callicotte
General Co-Chairman