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### **Rocky Mountain Section of AAPG Announces 2020 Awards**

Casper, WY -- The Rocky Mountain Section of AAPG is pleased to announce the honorees for its 2020 Awards. Because the Section meeting planned for the middle of September in Grand Junction, Colorado was cancelled, the presentation of the 2020 Awards was made by mail and virtual presentations at the October Rocky Mountain Association of Geologist luncheon meeting. These are the award recipients:

#### **2020 Robert J. Weimer Lifetime Contributions Award**

*recognizing lifetime contributions to the practice of the geosciences and/or petroleum geology in the region of the Rocky Mountains*



**Robbie Gries** has blazed a trail for women in the geosciences throughout her lifetime. Her career is marked by a series of 'firsts'. Robbie was the first woman to graduate with a geology degree from Colorado State University, one of the first women members of the Denver Petroleum Club, the first woman to chair the AAPG Annual Convention (Denver, 1984), the first woman president of AAPG in 2001, and later the first woman to receive AAPG's prestigious Michel Halbouty Award for outstanding leadership. In 2018 to 2019, she served as President of the Geological Society of America. Robbie has spent a career making significant contributions to the practice of petroleum geology in the Rockies. Recently she authored "Anomalies: Pioneering Women in Petroleum Geology, 1917-2017". This best-selling volume profiles the lives and accomplishments of women who have been forerunners and leaders in petroleum geology and, like Robbie, have given so much to our profession in countless and often unheralded ways.

## 2020 RMS-AAPG Distinguished Service Award

*recognizing members who have distinguished themselves in singular and beneficial long-term service to the Rocky Mountain Section–AAPG*



**Rob Diedrich** embodies long term and beneficial service to the RMS-AAPG and affiliated societies. From his early career to now, he has been active in local geological societies. Rob has served as President of the RMS-AAPG Foundation since 2007. He was Co-Chair of the RMS meeting held in Billings, Montana in 2006 and an Advisor for the Section meeting in Billings, in 2017. Through his personal involvement and managerial positions, Rob Diedrich always encouraged participation in the local and regional societies. Many individuals owe their participation and leadership in the RMS-

AAPG and affiliated societies to Rob. He is the ultimate networker and collaborator. He strives to bring the right people together to solve geologic problems or staff volunteer organizations. His ability to motivate and lead teams means his impact goes far beyond what his hands touch.

## 2020 John D. Haun Landmark Publication Award

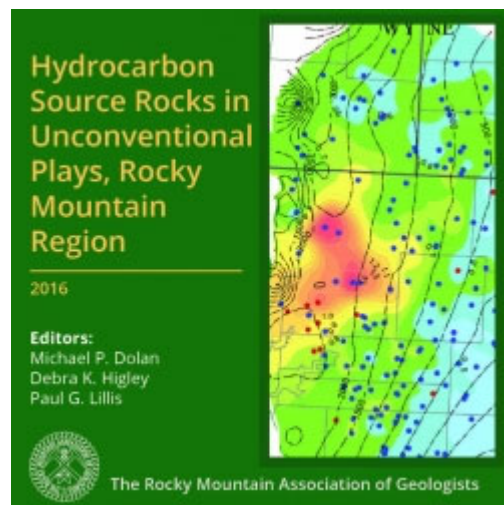
*recognizing the authors or editors of a book, guidebook, or other publication that over the past decade has had exceptional influence on developing new hydrocarbon plays or deeper understanding of fundamental geology within the Rocky Mountain region*

### Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists 2016 Guidebook: Hydrocarbon Source Rocks in Unconventional Plays, Rocky Mountain Region

*Editors: Michael P. Dolan, Debra K. Higley and Paul G. Lillis*

The oil and gas industry's transition in the last decade to unconventional plays has renewed an interest in understanding the petroleum geochemistry of source rocks. RMAG's 2016 Guidebook entitled ***Hydrocarbon Source Rocks in Unconventional Plays, Rocky Mountain***

***Region***, is focused on the science behind these new reservoirs. This volume features a collection of articles that provides insight into the petroleum systems of some of the major resource plays in the Rocky Mountain Region, such as the Bakken and Niobrara. Additionally, it showcases formations with 'new' resource play potential, such as the Tyler in the Williston Basin and the Chuar Group in Arizona and New Mexico. Editors **Michael P. Dolan, Debra K. Higley and Paul G. Lillis** assembled this collection of



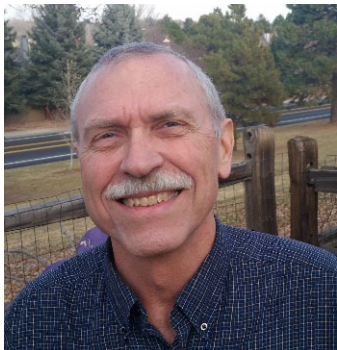
relevant papers to foster better understanding of petroleum systems in the Rockies and the exploration and development of unconventional reservoirs.



**Michael Dolan** is the co-founder of Dolan Integration Group (DIG) and QuickStartX. He specializes in organic geochemistry with over 20 years of oil and gas industry experience for DIG, Mobil, and ExxonMobil.



**Debra Higley** is an emeritus petroleum geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in Denver, Colorado. Her research and publications have focuses on petroleum system modeling and petroleum resource assessment for basins in North and South America.



**Paul Lillis** is a petroleum geochemist recently retired from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in Denver, Colorado. His research focuses on the application of petroleum and source-rock geochemistry to identify, characterize, and map petroleum systems.

### **2020 RMS-AAPG Outstanding Young Professional Award**

*recognizing members with less than five years of experience who have made significant contributions to the industry through volunteering to the professional societies or by scientific achievement*



**Emily Erz** has volunteered and excelled at roles usually given to more experienced professionals. This includes organizing and conducting field trips for the 2019 RMS--AAPG meeting. She is currently serving as President Elect for the Wyoming Geological Association and helping this association transition into a more modern and streamlined system. She was fast tracked to this position because of her ability and motivation.

### **2020 Julie A. Lefever Memorial Award**

*recognizing those who have done an exceptional job at sharing geoscience knowledge with the science community and/or general public*



**Gus Gustason** never hesitates to teach anyone and everyone what he knows about geology and loves taking people into the field to see geology in action. Since the late 1990s, he has led or co-led more than 20 field trips and core workshops sponsored by regional and national societies, including the Society for Sedimentary Geology, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists, Wyoming Geological Association, and Geological Society of America. Topics included sedimentology, geochemistry, stratigraphic architecture, reservoir characteristics, and sequence stratigraphy of Cretaceous fluvial and marine rocks. He has shared his ideas by giving numerous talks at local society luncheons and more than 50 talks or posters (abstracts) at regional and national meetings/conventions. He has worked with numerous graduate students on thesis topics involving “anything Cretaceous” in the Rockies.

### **Contact**

To learn more about these awards, please contact

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