



NEWS RELEASE

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WOMEN'S ENERGY NETWORK, NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER ANNOUNCES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DALLAS, Texas, August 17, 2009 – The Women's Energy Network (WEN), North Texas Chapter announces its 2009 Board of Directors. The WEN North Texas Chapter was formed in late 2008 to attract and promote the enhancement of women in the energy industry.

Members of the WEN North Texas 2009 Board of Directors are:

- **President** – **Lori Ward**, Principal – Strategic Client Services, Deloitte Services LP
- **Vice President** – **Christina Kitchens**, Vice President of Energy Lending, Sovereign Bank of Texas
- **Secretary** – **Debra Villarreal**, Partner, Thompson & Knight LLP
- **Treasurer** – **Melinda Yee**, Partner, Deloitte & Touche LLP
- **Membership Director** – **Amber Shockey**, Attorney Search Director, Prescott Legal Search
- **Public Relations Director Co-Chair** – **Ann Vandenberg**, Land Coordinator, Dale Resources, LLC
- **Public Relations Director Co-Chair** – **Crystal (Chris) Bell**, President, C. Bell & Associates, Inc.
- **Special Events & Networking Director** – **Susan Rader**, Division Land Manager, Nexen Petroleum
- **Assistant Special Events & Networking Director** – **Sarah Bennett**, Operations Engineer, Merit Energy Company
- **Program Director Co-Chair** – **Ann Marie Cowdrey**, Partner, Thompson & Knight LLP
- **Program Director Co-Chair** – **Kristin Chetty**, Audit Manager, Deloitte & Touche LLP
- **Program Director Co-Chair** – **Becky Foster**, Engineering Analyst, EXCO Resources, Inc.
- **Communications Director Co-Chair** – **Brandy Barnes**, VP of Administration, Executive VP, Barnes Oil & Gas, B&R Energy LLC, respectively
- **Communications Director Co-Chair** – **Jill McMillan**, Manager of Public & Industry Affairs, Crosstex Energy
- **Advisor to Board** – **Janice Hartrick**, retired VP, Associate General Counsel, Apache Corp.

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“We have made great strides this year in organizing WEN’s North Texas Chapter and look forward to building our membership. We are excited about being able to reach out to women in this part of Texas, home to many premier energy companies,” said Lori Ward, WEN North Texas President. “We believe women energy professionals who are devoting their careers to energy and making a major contribution to the success of the industry deserve a forum of their own.”

According to Ward, WEN North Texas offers educational programs to its members at luncheons or meetings with guest keynote speakers, networking events and fundraisers. “These opportunities also give women in North Texas a chance to meet others in diverse sectors of the industry,” Ward continued.

“In addition, members mentor energy professionals who are either new to the industry or who will join the industry in the next few years. Our members want to do all they can to help more women reach leadership positions in energy,” Ward added.

For more information about Women’s Energy Network, North Texas Chapter, visit www.wennorthtexas.org and click on Chapter Home, then North Texas Chapter Home. Interested parties can join the North Texas Chapter by clicking on Join Now on the Web site Home page.

About WEN

Women’s Energy Network is a nonprofit association of women professionals in the energy industry that provides networking and community outreach opportunities and fosters career and leadership development. Founded in 1994, the organization has more than 700 members nationwide. For more information, please visit the WEN North Texas Chapter Web site at www.wennorthtexas.org.

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