

Special FMC Meeting Tuesday, October 25, 2022

Guest Speaker: Ed Raines “How, When, Why, and Where of Hydraulic Fracturing”



credit CSM

The FMC is holding a special-scheduled meeting featuring Ed Raines, Curator of the CSM Geo-Museum in Golden talking on the “How, When, Why, and Where of Hydraulic Fracturing”. The meeting will be held at the usual FMC monthly meeting spot of Barker Hall in the downstairs of the Mountain View United Methodist Church, 355 Ponca Place in Boulder. Please park near to and enter through the west main doors. The scheduled day is Oct 25th, and the start time is at 7:00 PM.

Abstract:

The definition of mining is extracting valuable materials from the Earth. The operation and use of pans, sluices, hydraulic giants or monitors, hydraulic elevators, and dredges are all a part of mining, even though they certainly are not carried on in underground mines. The petroleum industry has, since August 27, 1859, in Titusville, Pennsylvania, grown to a size that appears to have removed it from the mining industry. Nonetheless, the industry still involves extracting valuable materials from the Earth. Today the industry has turned to the use of new methods to release and recover valuable materials from the enclosing rock in a technology that involves the use of explosives and hydraulic processes.

This process, known as hydraulic fracturing, is vital to the recovery of the hydrocarbons used for fuels, chemicals, and an incredible array of “synthetic” products which shape our modern civilization.

Note: One of the responsibilities of the Colorado School of Mines is to educate future engineers to execute the process of hydraulic fracturing safely and efficiently, to the benefit of the entire world. The Mines Museum of Earth Science has just completed a new exhibit that illustrates and explains the how, why, and where of the process to the public as well as students and faculty.

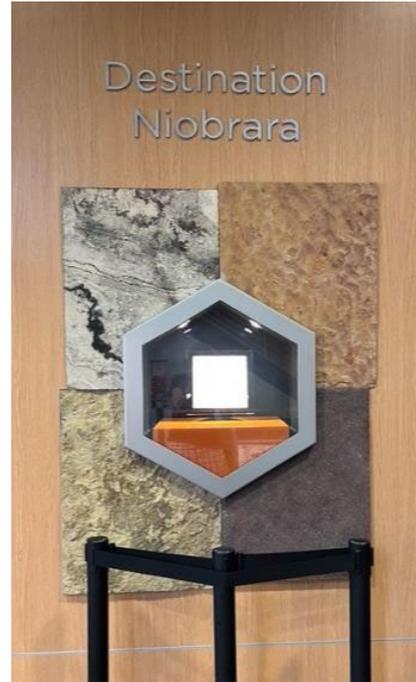
In the Colorado Front Range area, the main source for oil and gas is at present found in the Niobrara Formation. The recovery process is technically challenging and very expensive. This presentation will cover many of the basics of producing oil and gas from the Niobrara formation in the Denver Basin. The Wattenberg oil field NE of Boulder has the 4th largest reserves of oil in the USA.

For members, guests at the most recent meeting on the 11th, and for the general club membership, below is the link to club member Anita Colin's work at the Como Bluff dinosaur dig site recently shown on Rocky Mountain PBS.

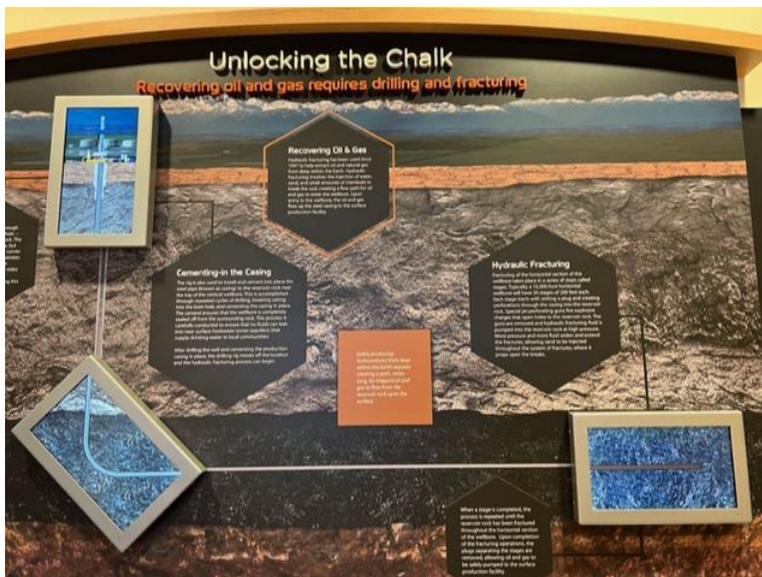
<https://www.pbs.org/video/bones-bond/>



Credit: Brian Walko



Credit: Susan Howard



Mines Museum exhibit explaining how gas and oil are recovered using hydraulic fracturing.

Credit: Susan Howard