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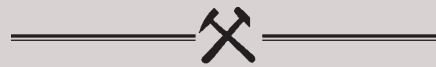
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STAFF NEWS

The Oil & Gas Division has welcomed six new employees since July.

Bismarck office

Lisa Petersen, who we introduced in the last newsletter, accepted a full-time position as an Office Assistant in August. Originally from Bismarck, Lisa has also lived in Arkansas (where she went to school) and Kansas but in the end, like so many other North Dakotans, found the lure of the northern plains too powerful to resist and came home. She has three sons: Steven (18), Dillon (17), and Hunter (12), yet still finds time to enjoy hobbies that include painting, woodworking, and horseback riding.

Jamie Lien joined the Oil & Gas Division in September as an Office Temp. Jamie is from Fessenden, where she graduated from High School in 2006. Her young family includes 1-year-old Colin, and his big sister Tristen, who is 2.

The Bismarck office's most recent hire is Tim Mork, who started as an Engineering Tech 3 in October. Tim, who is from Mandan, graduated from Bismarck State College with an Associate of Applied Science degree and also holds a B.S. in Operations Management from Minnesota State University Moorhead. After a brief sojourn in Iowa, he returned to the Bis/Man area as regional project manager for Florida Power and Light, a major investor in alternative energy resources including wind power. Having now given up his seven-state region for just one, Tim is quite happy to be spending more time close to home.

Dickinson field office

Ryan Dayton has been a field inspector with the Oil & Gas Division since August. He is from Cumberland, Wisconsin and is currently a master's candidate in geology at the University of Minnesota Duluth, having already obtained his bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. Between finishing his first degree and starting the second, Ryan and his wife Karilyn spent two memorable years in Guatemala with the Peace Corps. While in graduate school, he was awarded a GK-12 Graduate Teaching Fellowship with the National Science Foundation to help improve science literacy in local high schools.

In September Nicole Nelson also joined the Dickinson office as a field inspector. Nicole is from Minot and a graduate of Minot State University with degrees in geology and chemistry. Before becoming a field inspector for the Oil & Gas Division she was a mud logger with Weatherford International, and is therefore no stranger to North Dakota's oil patch.

Williston field office

Jessica Stalker was hired in October, bringing the Oil & Gas Division's number of field inspectors to its full complement of fourteen. Jessica was born in Pennsylvania but lived in many states before her family decided to settle in West Virginia. She lived there till 2005, when she graduated from West Virginia University at Morgantown with a B.S. in geology. Jessica moved to North Dakota from Wyoming where she worked as a geologic and environmental consultant with Tetra Tech.