

THE NEW FACES OF FINANCE

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If the No. 1 prize for oil and gas finders is hydrocarbons, the second is money. Money makes the oil and gas world go 'round. In our June issue, *Oil and Gas Investor* introduced readers to our first annual list of 20 Under 40 in E&P—a sampling of some of the most exciting younger professionals at work in oil and gas

exploration and production today.

At the time, we noted the widespread concern in the industry about where the next wave of talent would come from to replace the baby boomers who have held the spotlight for so long. After canvassing our readers and editorial sources to come up with that first list of impressive young leaders, we think the industry can put at least some of its fears about the next great crew change to rest.

Next up: the capital finders and providers. We're proud to present in this issue our first annual list of 20 Under 40 in Energy Finance. From bankers to private-equity providers to analysts and investors of all stripes, the talents and commitment of this group of younger professionals also should allay worries about succession. They share the strengths of the innovators who have come before and have led the U.S. oil and gas industry to its current pinnacle of technological and business-building might. They are hard workers, creative thinkers, exceptionally bright, entrepreneurial, and community- and family-minded.

(*Oil and Gas Investor* also profiles rising stars in the Bright Spot page in each issue. See the archives at OilandGasInvestor.com for more on these impressive individuals.)

Some of these individuals work in risk management and insurance, others bank everyone from the very largest E&Ps to the small and middle-market-size companies. Read on to find out more about the financial products, investments, deals, transactions and fundraisings they have helped advise on or lead.

—The Editors

twenty
UNDER 40
IN ENERGY
FINANCE



John W. Donovan Jr.

JOHN W. DONOVAN JR., 35

Founder, Managing Partner,
Donovan Capital LLC, Houston

Houston native who founded his own energy banking firm in 2007. "I have always been an entrepreneur—from when I was in elementary school mowing yards to today. As I went from investment banking to private equity, I saw a lot of entrepreneurs really stepping out of their comfort zone and into entrepreneurship. Helping guys like that raise capital appeals to me." Started his professional career at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette (now Credit Suisse First Boston) before joining Quantum Energy Partners to grow its energy private-equity fund. Holds a BBA in finance with a concentration in accounting from the University of Texas at Austin.

Accomplishments: Closed over \$500 million in private equity, mezzanine, term loan and senior debt financings and advisory transactions since the firm's inception.

On what sets him apart: "I am beginning to establish myself in the energy space by taking the smaller deals others don't pursue and applying some of the bulge-bracket investment banking and private-equity skills I have learned over my career. Where others see obstacles, we see solutions."

On his drive: Finds joy in creating wealth for fellow entrepreneurs. "It's really rewarding to see my clients just grow beyond their wildest dreams. To be a part of that from the very beginning is a lot of fun."

Goals: Maintaining a balance between work and family. "As the business grows it becomes more demanding of time, and balancing that with my personal life is something that I work very hard on."