

Executive Bio: Mark A. Stansberry



Mark A. Stansberry is an international businessman, energy leader and humanitarian from Edmond, Oklahoma. He is founder and Chairman of The GTD Group, author of “The Braking Point: America’s Energy Dreams and Global Economic Realities,” host of “The Weekly Roundtable” radio show on KFAQ 1170 AM in Tulsa, and Chairman of People to People International.

Stansberry founded The GTD Group (Global Trade & Development) in 1988 as a vehicle for helping American businesses expand into international markets and operate skillfully in diverse cultural, political and competitive landscapes. He has led business development and federal government relations initiatives in countries including: Bulgaria, Canada, the Czech Republic, China, Japan, Mexico and Russia.

In 1997, Stansberry arranged a key meeting between former Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus – now President of the Czech Republic – and U.S. Senator Lott regarding NATO expansion.

He has served in an advisory role on advance teams for Presidents Reagan and Ford, and was a staff member for U.S. Senator Dewey F. Bartlett. Stansberry has been a National Republican Convention Delegate three times (1996, 2000 and 2004) and White House event chairman for the Oklahoma Centennial Salute in 2007.

Stansberry was inducted into the Western Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2009.

With more than 30 years of direct experience in the Oklahoma energy industry, Stansberry has become a respected industry expert and media commentator on energy issues. He has been invited to testify before the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, served a nine year term as chairman of the State Chamber of Oklahoma Energy Council and founded the International Energy Policy Conference, now in its nineteenth year. He served on Governor-elect Mary Fallin’s Transition Energy Working Group, 2010-2011.

Stansberry is currently on the Board of Directors for PostRock Energy Corp. (PSTR, NASDAQ-Global) and is an ex-officio Board member for The Energy Advocates, a Washington D.C./Tulsa based nonprofit public education organization with former Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating serving as Honorary Chairman.

Stansberry landed his first job in the Oklahoma energy industry in 1977 as a landman for an oil and gas properties company headquartered in his original hometown of Elk City. A few years later, he and a friend started their own petroleum land management company, also focusing on the Anadarko Basin of western Oklahoma. In 1988, he founded The Oklahoma Royalty Company, an acquisition, mergers and divestitures firm, and served as its president through 2008.

In 1991, Stansberry co-authored his first book, an energy industry handbook called “The Acquisition Process and Due Diligence: Minimize Risk/Maximize Return!” His second book, “The Braking Point: America’s Energy Dreams and Global Economic Realities,” was released in 2008, sparking a public speaking tour of universities and international energy conferences.

Stansberry is also an independent film producer. In 2001, he co-founded a film production company with Academy Award-winning producer Gray Frederickson (The Godfather II). The duo’s most recent project: “The GET (Grand Energy Transition),” is a documentary film about the future of energy based on the book by Oklahoma energy leader Robert A. Hefner III.

“The GET” is scheduled for release spring of 2012.

In 2010, Stansberry concluded a nine-year term on the nine-member Board of Regents of the Regional University System of Oklahoma. He has also served on the Board of Regents for the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, 1988 to 1993. He served as Chairman of the Board of Regents of the Regional University System of Oklahoma, 2006-2007 and Chairman of the Board of Regents of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, 1990-91.

The University of Central Oklahoma honored him for his service supporting higher education in Oklahoma with an annual endowed scholarship in his name. He currently serves on the Board of the University of Central Oklahoma Foundation.

Stansberry currently serves on the Board of Trustees for his alma mater, Oklahoma Christian University (class of 1977), and is a Board member for various organizations including: the Academy of Leadership and Liberty, The Fund for American Studies, Oklahoma Heritage Association/the Gaylord-Pickens Museum. He serves on the Board of Visitors, School of Public Policy, Pepperdine University and Board of Advocates, Oklahoma Cancer Center, University of Oklahoma.

Stansberry is the Chairman of People to People International, a Kansas City-based nonprofit founded in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower to promote world peace through cultural, education and understanding.



As Chairman of People to People International, Stansberry recently led the effort of delivering more than 2,500 school kits to children in Haiti as part of an expansion of [Project International Children](#), an initiative started by actor Gary Sinese and best-selling author Laura Hillenbrand.

Stansberry currently resides in Edmond, Oklahoma with his wife, Nancy. They have three grown children and five grandchildren.

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