

Aaron R. Yost, CPL

Special Award – Community Service

Aaron Yost began his career as a landman for Mason Dixon Energy over 13 years ago. Aaron's hard work and dedication quickly led to many professional successes which culminated in his earning the designation of Certified Professional Landman in 2011 and his appointment as President of Percheron Energy North in 2013. While his professional accomplishments are certainly notable, it is the countless hours he has dedicated to the local community which make him deserving of this Community Service Award.

Aaron is a longtime supporter of the West Virginia University ("WVU") Children's Hospital. The hospital plays a vital role for those living in rural West Virginia and the surrounding region where access to specialized healthcare for children can be a challenge. Aaron and his wife, Sarah, experienced firsthand the benefits of having the hospital nearby when their son, Tyler, was born 3 months premature. Inspired by the lifesaving medical care provided to his son while in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit ("NICU"), Aaron has dedicated a significant amount of time and energy supporting the hospital. In conjunction with his local landman association, he organized an annual charity golf event to benefit the hospital which has raised \$80 thousand dollars over the past 5 years. He and his wife also formed a family support group called "Friends of the NICU" which provides support to families while their babies are hospitalized. Additionally, they organized the first ever 10 year NICU Family Reunion so that families could gather to celebrate the successful outcomes the hospital has provided. They are frequent speakers at fundraisers for the hospital and previously served as a March of Dimes Ambassador Family for West Virginia.

Aaron is a proud alum of WVU. He has volunteered his time for the largest private fundraising campaign in the school's 146 year history. The goal of the campaign is to raise \$750 million dollars by December 2015. Funds raised will be used to enhance education, improve West Virginia's health, economy and quality of life and support healthcare through expansion of the WVU Children's Hospital, among other things. The campaign has been tremendously successful and topped over \$680 million dollars in contributions last year. The success of this large scale campaign is attributed to volunteers, such as Aaron, who have dedicated their time and expertise to the cause.

In addition to his other community service activities, Aaron supports local youth by coaching both tee ball and basketball teams in his hometown.

Aaron is a member of the American Association of Professional Landmen ("AAPL") where he serves on the Publications Committee and the Bylaws and Policy Review Committee. He is also a member of the Michael Late Benedum Chapter of the AAPL ("MLBC") where he currently serves as Secretary of the Executive Committee, Chairman of the NAPE East Committee and Chairman of the Charity Golf Committee.