DECEMBER 2018

The TAKE-OFF

MICHAEL LATE BENEDUM CHAPTER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL LANDMEN





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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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During this time of year, I think about how fast time goes and how much there is to do! If we're not rushing around with family trying to find the perfect Halloween costume, racing to the grocery store to find the last turkey the night before Thanksgiving, or procrastinating on holiday shopping, we're trying to stop weather from stealing time from days that are already too short. And that is just the personal aspect of life. On the professional side, we have the challenges of keeping our teams motivated to push through to the end of the year along with budget updates, wrapping up the partially completed projects, and projecting into the future by creating goals for the new year. All of these things result in a tremendous amount of work needing to get done daily! It is so important to remember that balance is the key factor in keeping everything moving forward.

I was recently on the phone with my mom explaining everything that was on my "to-do list" that evening, which included more things than one person could do in a week let alone one evening, and she laughed at me. She said, "Well, what are you going to do if you don't get it all done?" I think she was overwhelmed for me and wasn't quite sure if I was on the brink of breakdown or if this was just my new normal. I laughed and explained "I have a to-do list for tomorrow too. I'll just add it to that list." Fast forward to that evening when I finally crawled into bed. I thought about my response to her and found comfort even though I didn't get everything done.

I found comfort in the fact that I knew everything that needed to be done in both my personal and my professional life, prioritized it all, and then tried my best to get as much accomplished as possible. There are some days I have to leave work early to pick up a sick kiddo and the balance shifts, and there are other days I have to skip taking the kids to the jump park because I need to go into the office on a Saturday. Which is what happened today because the MLBC Newsletter Committee was going to come after me if I didn't get this to them today! But I continue to strive for balance in it all.

The land world can create a feeling of frenzy and panic as everything has a deadline of last week and everything is behind from the start. It's hard sometimes to keep the anxiety out of



the day-to-day and realize what you don't get done today will still be on your desk tomorrow. It helps when I prioritize what needs attention that day. If I am constantly reevaluating my day to make sure I prioritized correctly, I have a better shot moving all the "to-do's" to the "DONE" list. There is nothing better than marking something off a list!

As we all struggle with maintaining a balance in the different aspects of life, let's try to enjoy the craziness! Right now your life, if anything like mine, may be so full of "to-do's" that you might catch yourself wondering why you signed up for everything you did, but I can't help but think of that saying, "if you want something done ask a busy person to do it."

Speaking of busy, the MLBC has been very active in the basin this year! By the close of 2018, MLBC will have hosted 22 events in three different states. The events were comprised of five socials, three clay shoots, two golf tournaments, two educational seminars, four lunch meetings, and six dinner meetings. It has been quite a successful year of providing educational and networking opportunities to the membership. The new year of 2019 brings with it new venues, new speakers and an exciting calendar of events! We look forward to continuing to grow and evolve to meet the needs of our membership. If you can give back to the association, we want your help! Get involved by volunteering on a committee or at a future event. Reach out to any of the ex-committee members or Abby, because we want to hear from you! I hope everyone can slow down enough during the holidays and end of the year to enjoy their loved ones and find comfort in the fact there is always a "to-do" list for tomorrow. Cheers!

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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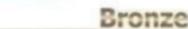




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To secure a corporate sponsorship, advertise in The Take-Off, or if you have questions, please contact Abby Veigel at abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org. Please contact Harry Heinbaugh at Harry.Heinbaugh@percheronllc.com for dinner meeting sponsorships.

4th Annual Clay Shoot

Raises \$28,000 for West Virginia's Veterans - Sponsored by LG&A



The group gathers for the National Anthem, safety brief, and a

un's Shoot

Shoot

Office and a surface and

Michael Kalany and Anthony Romeo presenting the WVU Veterans
Law Clinic with the big check



Anthony Romeo joining Douglas Downs of Spoondle Farms on the smoker

Nearly 200 people attended the Fourth Annual MLBC Veterans Charity Clay Shoot in support of the West Virginia University College of Law Veterans Assistance Clinic, which provides free legal help to West Virginia Veterans. The Charity Clay Shoot, Dinner, and Auction, which took place October 12, 2018 at Hunting Hills in Dilliner, Pennsylvania, raised over \$28,000 through ticket sales, sponsorships and auction item sales, making it the most successful in the four-year history of the event.

Critical to the success of the event was the

support from the Michael Late Benedum community. Twenty-seven oil and gas companies and service providers pledged between \$500 and \$7500 each to sponsor the charity event. Anthony Romeo, founder of the shoot, a veteran, and an employee at Northeast Natural Energy said, "I am so thankful for the support and enthusiasm that surrounds this event and its cause. We are surrounded by great people that support worthy causes such as the WVU Veterans Law Clinic and I couldn't be more thankful. A huge thank you to everyone that was able to make it

to the shoot, to our sponsors, and to the volunteers that make it all possible.

Michael Kalany, event volunteer and fellow veteran, had the following remark, "I enjoy helping out with this event. As a law school graduate and a veteran who works in the oil and gas industry, this event makes me proud. Proud to see our industry coming together to raise money so that the WVU law school can continue to serve West Virginia veterans who need legal help.

Sponsorship opportunities for the 2019 version of the shoot will be announced after the first of the year.

ABOUT THE WEST VIRGINIA COLLEGE OF LAW VETERANS ADVOCACY CLINIC

Approximately 170,000 veterans currently reside in the state of West Virginia, many with acute and unique legal needs related to their military service or return to civilian life. In the Veterans Advocacy Clinic (VAC), students will have the opportunity to represent West Virginia veterans in litigation before administrative agencies and courts, on benefits, discharge upgrades, employment claims and other civil and criminal matters. In addition, students will represent local and national organizations in non-litigation matters relating to the legal needs of veterans, including regulatory and legislative reform efforts, media advocacy, and strategic planning. Under Professor Oliva's leadership, the VAC has begun working with terrific partners to develop new projects aimed at expanding legal services to West Virginia veterans.

For more information, visit: https://www.law.wvu.edu/clinical-law/veterans-advocacy

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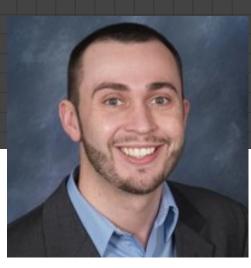
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All the best, Chris Helmick

LESSONS LEARNED

2018 marked my 11th year as a Landman in the Appalachian Basin. During this time I have worked for small brokers, large land service providers and now the nation 's largest natural gas producer. I have recently decided to relocate to West Virginia's Eastern panhandle to be closer to my wife 's family. While I will still be working in a land-related role, I will not be involved in the natural gas industry. I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight a few of the greatest lessons I've learned throughout my career as a Landman:

Know what you stand for and what you don't.

Nothing is more important than maintaining your integrity and morals. We only have one story to tell. Don't let your actions reflect something you don't believe in.

Trust your gut.

You have a natural intuition to help direct you. Use it. Believe in your abilities and be confident. The identity you give yourself is who you become.

Continue to learn and improve.

I don't think there has been a single day in my career where I have not had a question to which I didn't know the answer. Never stop striving to improve, further your industry knowledge, and become a greater asset to your peers and your organization.

You are the company you keep.

How many times did your parents say this to you? Turns out this is also true for your career. Surround yourself with the most ambitious, honest, knowledgeable folks in the industry and that's what you will become.

Don't be afraid of the unexpected.

This is the most challenging to overcome and one that I am still trying to master. I have always been a planner. I plan for multiple scenarios with the thought that I'm covering all possibilities. This has led me to spend multiple hours thinking, strategizing, and planning for situations that may never occur. Sometimes the anxiety that comes from the unpredicted is simply a sign that you're growing.

Failure is a catalyst for growth.

Even when I trust my natural intuition it doesn't necessarily mean that everything works out exactly how I had planned. Failure is where some of life's most valuable knowledge comes from. Success is not a straight line. Don't make excuses for your failures. Just remember not to repeat them.

I wanted to say thank you to MLBC Executive Committee, Committee Chairs and all our members for your contributions to the association. It has been a great joy getting to know each of you and I wish you much success throughout your careers.

ALI RECAP

MORGAN GRIFFITH, CPL, ESQ

CLAIRE SERGENT WALLS LEGAL GROUP, PLLC

The Appalachian Land Institute, a joint meeting between the MLCB, NALA and the AAPL, was held on October 4 and 5 in Washington, Pennsylvania. Over 150 people attended the event in person, held at the Doubletree conference center. Attorney James Carr from Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease kicked off the conference, giving the crowd an update of legislative and regulatory changes. Christopher Furey, Esq., from Bricker and Eckler in Cleveland, Ohio then spoke on the unauthorized practice of law, and real estate broker's license issues for landmen. Jordan Wilcox presented High Pressure. This was followed by Stefanie Hines' presentation on West Virginia title issues.

A favorite topic (according to post-meeting surveys) was presented by Zack Arnold of Infinity Natural Resources. He entertained the non-engineers in the room with his presentation - "Engineering for Non-Engineers." This was followed by the presentation by attorneys Melissa Glassman and John Wilburn from the Tyson's Corner, Virginia office of McGuire Woods. They tag-teamed the federal condemnation topic. We ended the day with Andy Graham's epic Oil and Gas in Pop Culture show (Steptoe & Johnson).

Cocktails were held outdoors under a canopy in the pouring rain. Additional attendees came to hear Mike Curry, president of the AAPL, speak about his adventures across the United States during his tenure as president.



The next day dawned bright and early as attorney Dan Kostrub from Lenington, Gratton & Alexander (Canonsburg, PA) discussed the commencement of operations. This was followed by the ethics hour – where Morgan Griffith, CPL, Esq., spoke on the recent trials (pun intended) of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia (Claire Sergent Walls Legal Group). Another favorite topic – Overview of the Entire Basin – was given by Timothy Knobloch, from Marietta, Ohio. Dave Spigelmyer, Marcellus Shale Coalition, ended our meeting with his presentation.

The next all-day seminar is another joint seminar hosted by MLBC and EMLF on March 14, 2019 at the Meadowlands Casino. Stay tuned for further information!

A Day in the Life of a Marietta College **Land & Energy Management Student**

By Alec Shook, Marietta College Landman Association President

You may ask yourself: What is the typical upcoming projects. As Grace Haas, a day for a Marietta College Land & Energy Management student? This is a question frequently asked by those outside of our program and those in the workforce as well. In this piece, we hope to answer those questions and shed some light on the course load and the day-to-day lifestyle of a Marietta College Land & Energy Management (LEMG) student.

Although the LEMG Major is housed within the Department of Business and Economics at Marietta College, our program pulls many of our courses from other programs on campus, including: geology, petroleum engineering, and environmental studies, with the additional classes coming from other business-related majors, like management and economics. The diversification of courses completed by our students lends to the liberal arts degree earned once they graduate, by completing these courses with students majoring in other fields, we see our graduates as very well-rounded professionals and individuals.

To begin, let's take a look at the typical class schedule for a junior student majoring in Land & Energy Management. Students average around 15 credit hours per semester, depending on which courses they elect to take, this number may rise or fall by one or two hours, but students typically take 5 classes per semester.

During the junior year in our program students begin to take the majority of their upper level courses and continue to see the connection of our program to other departments on campus as well.

Typically, students will take their Engineering Economics course in the fall semester. This course covers the economics that an exploration and production company typically analyzes when deciding between

senior majoring in LEMG states, "it helps us put in perspective the role that landmen play in financial planning for the future of our industry." This course is housed in the Department of Petroleum Engineering and Geology, just one example of the diversification in our courses.

Another course is Legal Environment of Business, which covers how to create your own corporation or LLC. Contracts and negotiations are also covered in this course. Many students find this course to be helpful upon graduation due to many of our students creating an LLC for internships or permanent positions. Many of our graduates begin working as a contractor before being brought in-house, and having your own LLC is a necessity in this work environment.

Students also get their second accounting course in the junior year; Financial Accounting typically follows Managerial Accounting. In both courses, students are exposed to different accounting problems and experience different company's balance sheets and income statements. Another business-related course is Business Finance, this course builds off of both Accounting courses and expands into the analyzing of corporations The final course that most students take during their junior year is a geology course, specifically Geographic Information System mapping. In this GIS course our students are exposed to different mapping systems and how they function.

Students are required to build maps and analyze these different maps to better understand the topography and dimensions of these areas. Another large chunk of student's time throughout the semester involves the Marietta College Landman Association (MCLA); the student organization for all Land & Energy Management students.

Students hold meetings every two weeks to discuss upcoming fundraisers and events. including the next MLBC meetings. In these meetings students are able to bounce ideas off one another and give advice to the underclassman who need some help in one of their courses or are looking for an internship for the summer. Our organization also finds trips and experiences for our students to attend. Another large chunk of this organization is finding industry professionals to come in and speak to our students about internships and jobs. MCLA is a great way for our students to get involved and create the connections necessary to succeed in their careers.

Finally, many of our students have work study jobs throughout campus. Whenever our students have any downtime, they are busy working these positions. Some of these positions include working as a supervisor at the Dyson Baudo Recreation Center, working as a student ambassador at the admissions office, or working as a dispatcher for the Marietta College Campus Police.

Some of our students complete internships during the semester as well. In the past we have had students work in the map's office of the Washington County Fiscal Office, here Christian Tait, a senior Land & Energy Management major assists the general public in finding property lines and other problems associated with the county's GIS system. In addition, he was able to assist the Washington County Sheriff's department in locating a drug dealing operation that strung across multiple states by using the county's GIS system.

As you can see, our students remain very busy and involved on and off campus throughout the semester. From a full course load, participating in the student organization, to supervising the recreation center, our students remain committed to becoming the best land agents they can be.



MCLA students meeting with MC grad Rocky Peck in Parkersburg, WV



MC students and advisors attending 2018 NAPE in Houston, Texas



Grace Haas (right), senior and Tyler Lajko (Middle), junior working the front desk of the MC Dysn Baudo Recreation Center



ambassador for the Marietta College Admission office

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Legislative & Regulatory Update

BY RYAN PANKIEWICZ

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and I wish all an outstanding 2019. A lot has been going on with the election and only time will tell how those results will play out.

Big news: I'm sure you have heard about the Ohio Supreme Court ruling in Dundics v. Eric Petroleum Corporation (2018-Ohio-3826). The fact that the landman representing Eric Petroleum was hired to acquire leasehold rights and in return he received compensation and future royalty interest, this lease buyer was not working on a day rate. The Supreme Court determined that the statute of real estate broker is unambiguous and there is no exception for the independent landman. We are still awaiting whether this will change how in-house landmen will be treated. On January 7, 2019, the Ohio General Assembly should convene for the new term which could overturn the decision through a statutory exception inside the real-estate licensure statute.

As a follow-up to a previous article discussing the Climate Change Lawsuit in New York: "On October 24, the New York attorney general filed suit against ExxonMobil, accusing the company of fraudulently downplaying the risks of climate change to its shareholders. The suit, New York v. ExxonMobil Corp. (Case No. 452044/2018), filed in New York State court, follows three years of investigation by the New York attorney general's office that looked into

whether the company deceived investors and the public over the risks of climate change. It did not address how ExxonMobil might have played a role in exacerbating the effects of climate change, but leaves the door open to additional lawsuits. An ExxonMobil spokesman told The Hill that there "is no evidence to support these allegations" and "The company looks forward to refuting these claims as soon as possible and getting

this meritless civil lawsuit dismissed."(10/29/2018)



Finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for reading this article because I am stepping down from the MLBC Legislative and Regulatory Committee. I want to thank the MLBC board and its members for giving me this opportunity and I believe you will be in good hands as Drew Romig and Nikolas Tysiak take over the task. They are seasoned attorneys in the oil and gas world.



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October 10, 2018

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Dear Mr. Greiner,

Michael Late Benedum Chapter's generous gift of \$28,500.00 received on October 10, 2018 is deeply appreciated. Because of your generosity, youth and mentors are forming life-changing friendships over the course of thousands of simple moments.

These moments—tossing a football, sharing a meal, or playing a board game—may seem insignificant, but when multiplied by hundreds, they become much more. These moments become trust, concern, motivation, and hope.

Nothing can take the place of a positive, caring role model in the life of a child. Thank you for being a part of making this possible.

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Sincerely,

Sam

Jan S. Glick

CEO

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

MR. TREVOR WYATT, RPL

The MLBC is pleased to introduce Mr. Trevor Wyatt, RPL, to our membership as we feature him in our Member Spotlight Q&A of the MLBC Takeoff. An esteemed member, Trevor has been an MLBC and AAPL member for over 10 years. Please read along and get to know Trevor a little better.



MLBC:

Give us an idea of who Trevor Wyatt is. Where are you from? Tell us about your family.

TREVOR WYATT:

I was born and raised in Parkersburg, WV, the middle-child, sandwiched between two sisters. I spent the first 36 years of my life in the Mid-Ohio Valley, and graduated from Parkersburg South High School in 1998. I was heavily involved in music and arts throughout my entire tenure in school. I sang in every group that was available to me and I played guitar in the Jazz band. I was always busy and have very fond memories of high school. I have a Bachelor of Arts from WVU with a double emphasis in Psychology and Sociology. Before I became a Landman, I worked as a CPS Investigator for a few years. It was a very demanding job, but it was fruitful work. I moved to the Raleigh, North Carolina area over two years ago to help plant a church. I am a Worship Pastor when I am not negotiating contracts for oil and gas. It was step of faith to move here, as I was not sure how being a Landman in the South would work out, but it has been fantastic thus far. I have been married to my lovely bride, Jamie, for over eight years, and we have three little boys: Liam who is six, Silas is four, and my youngest Theo, is two. We also are looking to add to the fold as we just got licensed to foster to adopt here in Wake County, NC. Much of my free time is allotted to quality time with the family, music, and my church obligations, but I also enjoy CrossFit, and coach some weekday CrossFit classes before the sun comes up. As the boys get older, it seems life gets wilder and more exciting. I would not have it any other way.

MLBC:

How has your career evolved and what is your current position within the industry?

TW:

I was an Independent Landman the first 10 years of my career, but now I am a proud employee of Honor Resources Company.

MLBC:

How long have you been in the oil, gas and land business?

TW:

This coming April, I will have been in the industry 11 years.

MLBC:

What was your first job in the oil and gas industry?

TW:

My first job was with S&A Property Research as a contract landman, running title, buying leases, walking and flagging CBM well-sites, electric, pipeline and road right-of-way. That was in Westmoreland County,

MLBC:

Who has been your biggest influence/mentor? Tell us about he or she.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

Interview by: Adam W. Anderson, RPL Membership Committee

MR. TREVOR WYATT, RPL

TREVOR WYATT:

I have a couple. As far as this industry is concerned, I have worked with some amazing people. I would have to say that Darryl Griwatz has probably the biggest influence on me in this business. I have worked for Darryl for over nine years and have never had a single day without work. It is a testament to how he runs his business. I know he cares for his people. He also demands excellence from us, which I appreciate. He instilled in me the need to always go the extra mile; being as productive and thorough as I possibly can. Early on, when I was still figuring out everything, he was quick to offer advice, correct issues, and keep me moving in the right direction. His phone line is always open if I need anything. The second one is my father, also a Landman, Daniel Wyatt. I respect that man. I am so thankful he raised me to have a good work ethic. He also taught me that everyone has value and deserves to be treated as such. If you know him, then you know there is nobody like him. His wit and creativity are unmatched!

MLBC:

How long have you been a member of the MLBC? How long have you held your RPL designation?

TW:

I have been a member of the MLBC since 2008 and have been an RPL since 2014.

MLBC:

What are your favorite aspects of being a member of the MLBC?

TW:

I love that the MLBC facilitates networking and reconnecting people in the industry. The continuing education credits are obviously very useful as well.

MLBC:

What are your plans for the future?

TW:

Well, we should be getting the call any day now for our first foster child. It is scary and exciting all at the same time! I plan on continuing my career with Honor Resources Company, and also focus on growing the church down here in North Carolina. I might buy a guitar or two, so hopefully my wife doesn't read this.

MLBC:

Would you like to add anything?

TW:

Absolutely. This business has been a blessing to my family. Being a Landman has been challenging at times, but very rewarding. It is an industry where you get out what you put in. I never planned on being a Landman, but I believe my steps were directed to become one, and I have carved out a nice life working in this industry. The AAPL and the MLBC keep me sharp and knowledgeable as the industry ever changes, and it is nice to have that support. I am also thankful for the opportunity to share a little of my story.

In Memoriam

Butler Boyd Brown



Butler Boyd Brown passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, October 6, 2018 at the young age of 35. His eight years in the Oil & Gas industry has consisted of various roles, the most recent being a leasing agent for Layne Land & Leasing LLC since August 2017 and he was an active member of MLBC and AAPL. Butler never met a stranger and his charismatic personality was truly one of a kind and will not be forgotten. He leaves behind a wife, Letisha (Tish) Brown, and a 2year-old son, Griffin Brown. Tish is also an industry professional and Team Lead Abstractor at Layne Land. Please keep his family, friends, and colleagues in your thoughts and prayers through this difficult time. A scholarship fund for his son Griffin will be established and any donations towards it or gifts to assist with this financial burden can be sent to Tish Brown, c/o Seth Jarvis, at 170 Lakeview Drive, Suite 2, Morgantown, WV 26508.

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WHAT I'VE LEARNED RECENTLY

RYAN PANKIEWICZ

I am honored to write an additional article for the MLBC. After much thought, I want to talk about my experiences over the last six months and how it applies to you. I was fortunate to have an opportunity with Percheron Field Services for 18 months before the project ended this past March. Since then, I have been looking for my next opportunity and had many new experiences. I have applied for many positions, some of which are dream jobs and some would require me to travel or relocate. One thing that stands out is the lack of courtesy from folks who don't even acknowledge a resume submission. I often sent out 30 resumes a day and did not receive a single response. Just as a general courtesy, HR employees should be advised to at least acknowledge receipt of a resume.

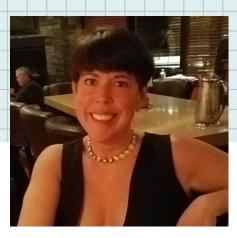
One thing I learned after traveling to new cities is that we are all the same, whether in Indianapolis, St. Louis, Branson, Springdale, Arkansas or even Tulsa, Oklahoma. People in other places just do some things a bit differently, but much still works on a handshake. I learned during my travels that "yes, sir" and "no, sir" go a long way. I met one lady who worked at a brewery in Arkansas and commented how far please and thank you go.

One would expect courtesy to be a part of customer service. Have you ever had to contact a company with a problem and received the response, "That's our policy"? When that happened to me, it made my blood boil and drove me to contact the CEO on LinkedIn. I was told that "The problem is fixed" not "I'm sorry for your trouble" or "How can I make this right?" Don't make clients beg you to make it right; there are lots of folks looking to eat your lunch.

On the other hand, I learned about Johnny Morris who founded Bass Pro Shops. His employees love working for him and tell me that he addresses each by name and is genuinely sincere (Forbes estimates Morris to be worth \$6 billion but he drives an old Toyota pickup truck.) Morris also empowers his employees to make sure every customer goes away happy. He knows that if someone leaves angry they won't be back, so he tells his employees to make sure they leave happy because that means they will be back and so will their friends. It's simple: Treat people like you want to be treated and empower your employees to make sure customers leave happy.

Finally, I want to discuss the importance of knowing your surroundings and how, most of the time, that boosts safety. Supervisors at Percheron wanted everyone to return home in the same condition they arrived at work. Therefore, you must take safety precautions and knowing your surroundings is key. Some basic tips include:

- 1. As you're driving, pay attention to the name of the road you are traveling and what mile marker you passed most recently. One evening while driving on Interstate 70, I needed to call 911 because a truck was blocking the westbound lane. Some motorists were already checking on the driver, and because I knew the mile marker in Ohio County, West Virginia, first responders were there quickly.
- 2. When walking into a restaurant, hotel, office or really anywhere, always look at your surroundings to make sure you know where the exits are, if there are potential hazards, or even places for shady characters to hide. Your gut knows best, so trust it.
- 3. Do you always know who is standing next to you in line or who will be your pair at the golf course? Before making a comment about a bad day, client, previous client, colleague or even another bar patron, think twice! Maybe you're on the phone talking about your boss while waiting in line and the guy behind you represents a client or you are golfing with two guys who ask what you do and they turn out to be investors in a small E&P company. It's best to act like you are on an interview and not on your way out of that job. The guy sitting next to you on the airplane to Houston could be a hiring agent and it may be a great opportunity, but only if you don't vent about your impossible situation. Keep in mind the Kevin Bacon movie, "Six Degrees of Separation"; you are never more than six steps away from knowing a stranger through a chain of friends, acquaintances, family, etc.



QUESTIONS FROM THE FIELD

Answered by By Morgan Griffith, Esq., CPL Claire Sergent Walls Legal Group

Question

GasOne was vested with a 1/2 interest in the oil and gas within and underlying a 250-acre tract located in West Virginia (Subject Tract). GasOne was not vested with any leasehold interest in the Subject Tract. In fact, the Subject Tract was (and is) unleased.

GasOne assigned to GasTwo "an overriding royalty interest of 1/32 of 8/8ths of all oil and gas" in and underlying the Subject Tract, limited to the Marcellus formation only. Did GasTwo acquire any interest in the Subject Tract from GasOne?

Answer

No. GasOne did not convey any interest by the above-referenced grant, and GasTwo received no interest from the assignment (and I assume that a court of competent jurisdiction would agree with me).

An overriding royalty interest is defined as a share of either production or revenue from production (free of the costs of production) carved out of a lessee's interest under an oil-and-gas lease. Overriding royalty interests are often used to compensate those who have helped structure a drilling venture. An overriding-royalty interest ends when the underlying lease terminates.

An overriding royalty interest is carved out of, and constitutes a part of, the leasehold interest created by an oil, gas, and mineral lease. The overriding royalty interest is deduced from the available leasehold royalty and does not alter the royalty paid to lessors.

An operator–lessee can create an overriding royalty interest either by outright conveyance or as a reservation in an assignment of the lease. An override is also a nonpossessory real property interest; therefore, the overriding royalty interest owner is not entitled to certain possessory rights, including without limitation, a right to enter the lands covered by the overriding royalty interest to develop and produce minerals. Thus, the override depends on the lessee–operator to develop, operate, and produce oil and gas from the lands covered by the overriding royalty interest.

Overriding royalty interests are not connected to an ownership of minerals under the ground. Rather, overrides stem from ownership of a portion of generated revenues from oil and gas. Owners of overriding royalty own only proceeds from the production of minerals and not the minerals under the ground. An overriding royalty interest expires once the lease has expired and production has stopped, whereas, mineral and royalty owners maintain their ownership after production stops.

GasOne owned a fee interest in the oil and gas, but its interest was not leased. As such, GasOne could not convey any interest from the available leasehold royalty because it was not vested with any interest in the leasehold estate. Additionally, there is no privity of contract between GasOne and a future lessee, because that lessee could not agree to have its leasehold royalty reduced by an agreement to which it was not a party.

Finally, per the definition of the term "overriding royalty interest," an overriding royalty interest ends when the underlying lease terminates. The overriding royalty interest is limited in duration to the life of the lease, absent contrary language in the instrument creating the overriding royalty interest. The logical conclusion of that definition is that an overriding royalty interest cannot be conveyed when a lease does not yet exist.

WMLBC UPDATE

by Amber Buric

"But... I have absolutely no idea what I'm doing."

This was my first thought, a foghorn blaring through my mind, when I read Britney's e-mail asking if I would act as the chairperson for the Women of the MLBC.

And then I heard a croaking sound that strikes steely cold fear into the hearts of cat owners everywhere: the cat was about to be sick. "No, no, no, no!" I launched out of my seat and ran towards the sound, tripped over the trombone case that had been abandoned in the hallway (full disclosure: I was the one who left it there), and jammed my shoulder into the wall just in time to see the cat saunter out of my husband's office on a cloud of ambivalence towards his mess.

"Okay..." I stalked over to the kitchen to arm myself with paper towels and carpet cleaner, only to find that the Keurig, having declared itself on strike against our abuses in the name of caffeinated by-products, had spewed water all over the countertop. My eyes were following the stream as it cascaded over the counter's edge, down to the growing pool of water on the kitchen floor as my husband exploded into the room, arms waving and wide-eyed, "Babe! I cannot find my socks! Where are my socks? I don't have—oh." His arms dropped his side and he cocked his head to one side. "Neat. A kitchen waterfall."

Sometime between cleaning up after the cat and locating my husband's socks, my thoughts drifted to how fantastic it would be to have a platform within the MLBC specifically targeted at bringing women within the organization together. When I returned to my computer, Britney's e-mail was still splashed across the monitor. Certainly, I had faced challenges as a woman working within in the oil and gas industry throughout my career. Yet, my focus shifted to the long list of colleagues, women and men alike, who had reached out to lift me up during my time at Babst Calland. I've genuinely felt supported and valued every single day during the past 7 years that I've been with Babst. However, the stark reality is that there are talented, vibrant women within all corners of the oil and gas industry, like so many other industries, who find themselves banging on the doors and the windows, searching for someone, anyone, to just hear them.

I felt a familiar tug in my gut, a tug that said, "Oh girl... you're about to take on a whole mountain of work, aren't you?" If chairing the Women of the MLBC could help even just one other woman within the industry step forward and be supported the way I've always been supported at Babst, I should really do this.



And what if, I thought, we could build a committee that could help break down the barriers that are separating the genders within our industry? What if we could tap into the things that make both men and women want to get more involved with the MLBC and we could all grow together? By this point, I was furiously scribbling my thoughts down on a bright green post-it note. I looked up at a tattered, faded piece of paper that I had taped to the wall beside my monitor that reads, "Why not?"

It's been about 4 months since I accepted Britney's invitation to chair the WMLBC, and I'm delighted to say that the committee, with 11 sitting members, is one of the largest committees within the organization. The committee is comprised of:

Laurie Austin Tish Brown Britney Crookshanks Brittany Fox Molly Marshall Sara Peter Rhonda Shannon Andrea Taylor Abby Veigel Jason Zoeller

WMLBC UPDATE CONT'D

by Amber Buric

Over these months, we've honed our mission and we're excited to share it with you.

- 1. Creating a positive space for women of the oil and gas industry to come together for networking, education and community outreach opportunities.
- 2. Engaging with current female membership, reaching out to inactive female members and soliciting new membership.
- 3. Creating opportunities for all members to come together to celebrate the rich and diverse achievements of women within the oil and gas industry.



And I thought, what if we could build a committee that could help break down the barriers that are separating the genders within our industry?

As I've talked with folks in the industry, both women and men alike, a couple of uniform truths have emerged. The "First Truth" is that networking can be overwhelming. Not everyone has the "gift of gab." For all the introverts reading this, I, too, have experienced the existential dread that comes with walking into a room full of strangers and tentatively approaching someone with the hope of starting a conversation, only to have something so nonsensical fall out of my mouth that it can only described as "word salad." But, then again, there have also been those times when I'm not worrying if I'm making the right face or if anyone can see that I spilled wine on my shoe, and I've met some new folks who also had wine on their shoes and we laughed about it and became friends. While I don't think that this is a phenomenon that exclusively strikes women, I do wonder if a certain "networking anxiety" is one of the reasons that we're not seeing more women at MLBC events. And, so the committee started asking, what if the WMLBC can host events that encourage and curate more laughing over the wine on our shoes rather than the word salad? Or, in other words, what if networking could be more accessible to folks who aren't natural extroverts? And, what do those events look like?

The "Second Truth" is that people want their contributions to make a difference if they are going to be active members of an organization. We're all busy, right?

We're all on this same balance beam, pirouetting between the professional and personal, every day. We're all cleaning up after the cat while mentally ticking through our work day schedules. So, if we're going to add another thing to the calendar, we need to feel that we're each moving the organization forward in our own way. And while I am certain that this is true for both the women and men, I think that one of the stones left unturned within the oil and gas industry is how we engage more women to actively participate in organizations like the MLBC. Women are making unique contributions to the industry each day, and if those of us actively participating within the MLBC can come together to celebrate the stories of these dynamic women, we will all be further enriched not only as an organization, but within each of our individual career paths.

The WMLBC is taking its first step forward with our mission on December 12, 2018 at Tropics, where we'll be hosting a charity happy hour benefiting the Preston County School District beginning at 5:00 PM. We hope you'll bring a gift to wrap or make a donation and network with colleagues. And, don't worry if you make word salad or spilled wine on your shoes. We've all been there. Or, if you're not sure who to talk to, come find me. I'm the gal in the glasses, talking about what a jerk her cat is, and who has absolutely no idea what she's doing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 6, 2018: Pete Dye Country Club, Bridgeport, WV

January 18, 2019: Winter Social, Penn Brewery, Pittsburgh, PA

February 7, 2019: Bridgeport Country Club, Bridgeport, WV

March 14, 2019: All Day Seminar, The Meadows Casino, Washington, PA

April 11, 2019: Dinner Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, Southpointe, PA

May 3, 2019: Spring Social, Nemacolin Woodlands Resort, Farmington, PA

May 10, 2019: Spring Golf Outing, Oglebay, Wheeling, WV

June 13, 2019: Dinner Meeting / Awards, Bridgeport Conference Center,

Bridgeport, WV

STAY CONNECTED! Follow us on Social Media











@mlbc-aapl

Michael Late Benedum Chapter of AAPL www.mllbc-aapl.org

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2018 Executive Committee



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NEW MEMBERS

and CERTIFICATIONS

October 2018

First Name	Last Name	Employer	Member Type	Sponsoring Member
Tiffany	Arbaugh	Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir, P.C.	Associate	Casto, Matthew
Evan	Conard	Bowles Rice	Associate	Dollison, Charles
Richard	Jones	Diversifies Gas and Oil	Active	Nixon, Justin R.
Jeremy	Adkins	EnerVest Operating, LL C	Active	Jackson, Jerry L.
Joshua	Andrews	MAO	Active	Kraus, Brian
Patrick	Johnson	Mountaineer Title & Land Research, LLC	Associate	Goldsmith, Zackary
Bryan	Hoegg	Purple Land Management, LLC	Active	Rohlfing, Aaron
Benjamin	McKinney	Steptoe & Johnson PLLC	Associate	Kamicker, Jacqueline

November 2018

First Name	Last Name	Employer	Member Type	Sponsoring Member
Samantha	Harvey	Chevron	Active	Marusic, Abigail,
Britney	Carpenter	GB Energy, LLC	Active	Soter, Michael
Allison	Farrell	Jenkins Fenstermaker, PLLC	Associate	Moon, Nikki
Marta	Hodge	Jenkins Fenstermaker, PLLC	Associate	Moon, Nikki

SHOUT OUT!

Congratulations to the following members recently gaining their Certification through the AAPL:

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•	• 1		

Corey Long

RL

Sean Keally Binotto Brittany Dean James Evans Timothy Miller Danielle Pollini Christopher Snider

Total Members: 1,105

Active: 757 Active PP: 28 Honorary: 9

Total Active: 794
% Active: 71.86%
Associate: 234
Student: 77

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



Michael Late Benedum

The MLBC membership application is located on the website at www.mlbcaapl.org. Please check your information on the website prior to submitting your renewal. The MLBC website has an updated version of the membership listing. Please use this resource if you can not find yours or others information in the directory. Please report any errors or omissions to Abby Veigel at abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org.

Notice of the application(s) of all potential Chapter members shall be published in the next regularly scheduled monthly Chapter "Takeoff" newsletter. Active members shall have the opportunity during a period of thirty (30) days following the first publication to object to the potential members' application.

Such objections to membership approval may be submitted to any member of

"The Great Wildcatter" the Executive Committee and shall be in writing. The Executive Committee shall take any such objection under counsel in the next regularly scheduled monthly Executive Committee meeting. A decision to accept or reject the membership application shall be determined by a majority vote at such meeting. The Executive Committee shall notify the applicant in writing of rejection. Application for membership in the Chapter shall be subject to the approval by a majority vote of the Executive Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting, after the aforementioned thirty (30) day newsletter publication period, and shall require the signed approval by the acting President of the Executive Committee, as evidence of the Committee's approval, Names of any and all newly approved members shall be read at the following regularly scheduled general meeting of the Chapter.

ANOTE OF THANKS

As we navigate through the last months of 2018, the Executive Committee would like to extend a note of thanks to the entire membership, the committee chairs, and our sponsors that have made this past year a very successful and enjoyable adventure. Collectively, we have made a large impact not only within our industry but within the communities we work and interact with every day. It has been our privilege to serve this organization and we urge you all to consider continuing your support and membership with one of the largest associations in the AAPL and assist us in charting a course to make a much larger impact in 2019!

Happy Holidays!

All our Best. 2018-2019 Executive Committee

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