On July 13th of this year, land professionals from all over the region gathered in downtown Pittsburgh at the Sherwyn Hotel, now Point Park University, to celebrate the founding of the first chapter of the AAPL and to pay homage to its namesake, Michael Late Benedum. Mr. William P. Getty, President of the Benedum Foundation, captivated those in attendance with a revealing look into Benedum the person and the underlying character that made him who he was.

It is this character that we as an organization our built upon. Integrity first and foremost with a dedication to the professional development of the members that we serve and the betterment of our region as a whole. We do this by maintaining the highest ethical standards, providing valuable educational and social networking opportunities, contributing to the needs of our community through various charitable events, and cultivating our aspiring young land professionals. Below is a sampling of a few of the opportunities we have coming up.

Upcoming Events:

- On September 14th we’ll be having a regular dinner meeting at Marietta College in Marietta, OH. Make sure to look for the presentation tour being put on by the Land & Energy Management students.

- The Appalachian Land Institute is coming up again on October 5-6 at the DoubleTree in Washington, PA. Great opportunity to pick up 10 ceu credits and that 1 cherished ethics credit.

- After ALI on October 6th head over to Dilliner, PA to participate in the 2017 Top Gun Charity Clay Shoot. Money raised goes to benefit veterans across WV through the WVU Veterans Advocacy Clinic.

The 2017-18 schedule will provide many opportunities for networking and education. Be sure to check the schedule and make plans to attend. We look forward to seeing you at one of our events!

Jeremy D. Preston, RPL
President 2017-2018
I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself, the marketing committee and our aspirations for the upcoming membership year. I look forward to the opportunity to helping the MLBC with its marketing efforts. The Marketing Committees short term goals are to help market and advertise MLBC events to its members, boost attendance at events and to help generate public goodwill for the continued community service and charitable donations the MLBC is involved. Currently, the marketing committee is a two-person committee comprised of Adam Anderon of Honor Resources, and myself, John T. Catsonis.

Thus far, the Marketing Committee has been responsible for producing the Member Spotlight that features a short article about an MLBC member in each MLBC Takeoff. The Marketing Committee has also assisted with marketing events on Facebook and Linked-In and creating illustration flyers for upcoming events. Please like our Facebook page located at Michael Late Benedum Chapter of AAPL and our Linked-In page at MLBC-AAPL. The Marketing Committee also worked with the Scholarship Committee to create a Press Release published in the WVU Student Newsletter highlighting the support the MLBC offers to exceptional students and WVU’s Land and Energy Management major.

Moving forward, the Marketing Committee would like to assist in membership engagement and growth. One way to obtain this goal is to work with the Membership Committee and Certification Committee to encourage new and current members to take advantage of the MLBC events and continuing education credits. Another way to increase membership involvement is to ask all of our members to share professional articles, oil and gas legislative updates and photos from the field if they would like to see them published in the MLBC Takeoff.

The long-term goals for the Marketing Committee and myself are to help the membership base use the dinner meetings, luncheons and other events as an opportunity to network and create lasting professional and personal relationships, and to facilitate membership knowledge and growth by increasing attendance at educational events.

Also, I would like to briefly introduce myself to all the members. I am a graduate of Ohio University, where I obtained a BBA majoring in Finance and Management Information Systems. I am a Landman with Apex Land Corporation which offers acquisition, title, curative, heirship research and acquisition among other related land services to production companies in the Appalachian Basin. I am fortunate to be a second-generation Landman and much of my appreciation and knowledge of the industry was bestowed upon me by my late father, Larry W. Catsonis. I have had the opportunity to see the industry change over time and look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead and I believe Landman, Attorneys, and everyone involved in procurement of oil, gas and minerals is of extreme value and importance to the oil and gas industry and natural resource development.

If any of our members are interested in joining the Marketing Committee please feel free to reach out to me and I look forward to speaking with you all at the next event!

John T. Catsonis
Marketing Committee- MLBC
jcatsonis@apexlandcorp.com
MEETING SPONSORS

June Dinner Meeting

Honor Resources
Hughes River Land
Percheron Survey
Steptoe & Johnson

July Clay Shoot
Back Roads Energy

July Dinner Reception
Peacock & Keller

July Dinner Meeting
Percheron Survey
Steptoe & Johnson

August Dinner Meeting

Bryson Kuba
Hughes River Land Service
Percheron Survey
Steptoe & Johnson

Thank you for your sponsorship!
WVONGA To Push Again For Mineral Efficiency

by Jim Ross THE STATE JOURNAL Aug 14, 2017

CHARLESTON — Natural gas production in West Virginia is not growing as much as it is in Pennsylvania and Ohio. The head of the West Virginia Oil and Natural Gas Association blames it on noncompetitive drilling laws.

Specifically, that means West Virginia lacks laws allowing joint development and co-tenancy.

WVONGA will try again in the next legislative session to secure those two items, said Anne Blankenship, WVONGA executive director.

"WVONGA will advocate again in 2018 for the West Virginia Legislature to pass a mineral-efficiency bill that will resolve the issue when 100 percent of the mineral interest owners do not consent to the development of oil and gas," Blankenship said last week. "In many instances, a fraction of one percent of the mineral interest owners can prevent the development of oil and gas against the will of the super majority.

“Our surrounding states, including Ohio and Pennsylvania, have laws in place to address this issue, and production is increasing at higher rates in those states than in West Virginia. To become competitive with these states, West Virginia must pass similar laws.”

Co-tenancy would allow drilling when 75 percent of owners of a tract agree to allow development of mineral rights, even if the other 25 percent do not approve or cannot be located. Joint development would allow drilling companies to use horizontal drilling to extract natural gas under land using leases that were bought when shallow, vertical wells were the only drilling technology available.

Both practices have been opposed by landowner rights organizations and the West Virginia Farm Bureau.

Senate Bill 576, which addressed joint development and co-tenancy, passed the Senate this year but died in committee when it moved to the House of Delegates.

EQT is one of the largest drillers and producers of natural gas in West Virginia. In a recent conference call, EQT CEO Steve Schlotterbeck referred to what he called West Virginia’s “antiquated” oil and gas drilling laws and regulations when discussing EQT’s capital expenditure program and how it plans to drill more in Pennsylvania than in West Virginia.

An EQT spokesperson confirmed that Schlotterbeck was referring to the lack of joint development and co-tenancy in West Virginia.

After this year’s regular session of the Legislature ended, Schlotterbeck said EQT can drill wells with longer laterals in Pennsylvania than it can in West Virginia because of joint development and co-tenancy. He also said West Virginia’s laws are also wasteful of natural gas. Because the company cannot drill laterals in West Virginia that are as long as those in Pennsylvania because of co-tenancy restrictions, some gas that could be recovered here is not recovered, he said.

Blankenship’s comments came as WVONGA compared production in West Virginia counties last year. Blankenship said Doddridge County (334,486,963 cf) was by far the largest natural gas producing county in 2016, producing about 334.5 million cubic feet, followed by Wetzel County with 208.7 million.

The next four counties ranked by production were: Marshall, with 143.1 million cubic feet; Ritchie, with 130.8 million; Harrison, with 128.3 million; and Tyler, with 120.9 million.

Statewide, West Virginia wells produced nearly 1.35 billion cubic feet, up about 2.5 percent from 2015, Blankenship said.

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, last year West Virginia’s natural gas production increased by about 56.3 million cubic feet, or 4.3 percent. Pennsylvania’s production increased by 450.99 million cubic feet, or 9.37 percent.

Ohio overtook West Virginia in production by producing about 44.5 percent more gas than in 2015, according to the EIA.
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
CHARLES M. DORNETTO, RPL

In this edition of the MLBC Takeoff it is with great pleasure we introduce you to Charles M. Dornetto. Charles, who goes by Chuck, holds an RPL Certification is an active member of the AAPL and MLBC. He is employed by Percheron LLC and is currently working a project representing Northeast Natural Energy, of Morgantown, WV.

Chuck currently resides in Cranberry Township, PA with his 3 year old son Brooks. When Chuck is not working he says he stays busy playing with his son who has "energy level off the charts" and he is "knee deep in toys, tractors and trucks."

Chuck’s first job in the industry was with Brighton Resources in 2009 where he began Abstracting titles in Marshall County, WV. He has experience working in PA, OH, and WV performing title abstracts, acquiring leases and mineral rights, and managing title and acquisition projects. Chuck says he was introduced to his first oil and gas job by a friend who “Trained me and put me to work.”

Chuck attributes his early success in the industry to two people, one of which is Dan Nabuda who trained Chuck in title and how to complete a title abstract. Chuck recalls getting the initial instructions from Dan as they reviewed land records from recorder’s offices with online access to grasp the idea of a chain of title.

Chuck would also like to thank Aaron Yost for giving him an opportunity to expand his career to project management. Chuck says of Aaron, “he invested time and energy in me and I benefited from his experience and knowledge.” Not only that, but Chuck says that Percheron has assisted in his career development with assistance in continuing education and certification.

Mr. Dornetto appreciates the education opportunities and community service offered by the MLBC. In his time as an MBLC member he has seen membership opportunities grow as well as higher education programs being offered at local universities of WVU, PSU and Marietta College. Chuck said he values the support the MLBC and AAPL offer to its members for educational opportunities while maintaining high ethical standards and social events for its members. At Percheron, Chuck has given back to the local communities by food drives and food shelters that he volunteered.

Feel free to say hi to Chuck at our next event!

John T. Catsonis
MLBC Executive Assistant

The MLBC is seeking an Executive Assistant to assist with the day-to-day functions of the organization on behalf of its membership. The ideal candidate for this contracted position is an organized self-starter who is looking for part-time work with a flexible schedule.

Responsibilities:

- Provide general support to the Executive Committee and membership, as directed.
- Maintain the MLBC schedule by planning and scheduling meetings, conferences, charity fundraisers and educational events.
- Attend monthly MLBC meetings and social functions as scheduled including evening and occasional weekend events.
- Prepare and maintain the MLBC’s records both organizational and financial.
- Assist members with general inquiries via telephone, email and in person.

Required Skills:

- High School Diploma (Bachelor’s Degree preferred)
- Valid Driver’s License

Please send cover letter, resume and day rate requirements to:

MLBC-AAPl
Attn: Job Posting
PO Box 955
Bridgeport, WV 26330
Deadline for Application: **September 22, 2017**

MLBC Job Board

The Website Committee would like to remind you to check out the MLBC's Job Board. The job board offers candidates more opportunity to get noticed and adds flexibility for employers to promote their job postings and search for candidates who are actively seeking work. The Job Board can be accessed by clicking [Here](#). Some of the highlights:

For Job Seekers:

We’ve expanded the capabilities of the user profile to include more detail and enhanced privacy settings. Users can now exclude specific employers from seeing their profile or choose to make it completely private. Job postings are now searchable by distance and skill category with results sortable by location, employer and job type.

For Employers:

Searchability is the name of the game. Candidate profiles are now searchable by specific skill categories with results sortable by industry experience. Employers now have their own accounts and company profile including logo and contact info that is displayed on all job postings. Job postings can also include a direct link to an internal career site to complete the application process.

Design:

The MLBC’s Job Board is housed internally within the organization’s member management system and reflects the feel of the website, creating a seamless experience for users.

This feature is part of the MLBC’s continuing effort to better serve its membership through technology. We hope the job board becomes a valuable tool for our membership and appreciate any feedback to help achieve that end. If you experience any problems or have any suggestions, please contact Jeremy Preston via e-mail at jpreston@eqt.com.
United States expected to become a net exporter of natural gas this year

The United States has been a net exporter for three of the past four months and is expected to continue to export more natural gas than it imports for the rest of 2017 and throughout 2018. The United States’ status as a net exporter is expected to continue past 2018 because of growing U.S. natural gas exports to Mexico, declining pipeline imports from Canada, and increasing exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG).

The United States is currently the world's largest natural gas producer, having surpassed Russia in 2009. Natural gas production in the United States increased from 55 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) in 2008 to 72.5 Bcf/d in 2016. Most of this natural gas—about 96% in 2016—is consumed domestically. Abundant natural gas resources and large production increases have created opportunities for U.S. natural gas exports.

EIA expects exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to increase. U.S. liquefaction capacity continues to expand as five new projects currently under construction—Cove Point, Cameron, Elba Island, Freeport, and Corpus Christi—come online in the next three years, increasing total U.S. liquefaction capacity from 1.4 Bcf/d at the end of 2016 to 9.5 Bcf/d by the end of 2019.

Three liquefaction trains at Sabine Pass, Louisiana, are currently the only operational liquefaction facilities in the United States. A fourth train at Sabine Pass is undergoing commissioning and a fifth train is expected to come online in 2019. Another liquefaction project at Cove Point, in Maryland’s Chesapeake Bay, is scheduled to come online later this year.

Based on construction plans, EIA expects that by 2020 the United States will have the third-largest LNG export capacity in the world after Australia and Qatar. The latest Short-Term Energy Outlook forecasts that U.S. LNG exports will reach 4.6 Bcf/d by December 2018 as new liquefaction trains at Cameron, Freeport, and Elba Island come online. However, actual use of U.S. LNG export terminals will be affected by the rate of global LNG demand growth and competition from other global LNG suppliers.

**MLBC SCHEDULE**

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<td>Marietta College&lt;br&gt;Marietta, OH</td>
<td>Stehen Bupp&lt;br&gt;EQT</td>
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<td>October 5-6, 2017</td>
<td>Appalachian Land Institute&lt;br&gt;Washington, PA</td>
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<td>October 6, 2017</td>
<td>Hunting Hills&lt;br&gt;Dilliner, PA</td>
<td>Charity Clay Shoot</td>
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<td>November 9, 2017</td>
<td>The Pines Clubhouse&lt;br&gt;Morgantown, WV</td>
<td>Scott McKernon&lt;br&gt;Babst Calland</td>
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### JULY 2017 NEW MEMBER LIST

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### AUGUST 2017 NEW MEMBER LIST

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JULY CLAY SHOOT

The MLBC held its July Clay Shoot event at the beautiful Hunting Hills Shooting Preserve located in Dil-liner, Pennsylvania. The shoot was another great outing with lots of broken targets, some were hit, some hit the ground but in the end, all were broken.

As always Hunting Hills did a wonderful job with the shoot and provided a delicious steak dinner.

Awards for the event went to Sara Brown for High Ladies Score and she also took home the MLBC Top-Gun Trophy. Ryan Mather was Third Runner-Up, Rich Robb was Runner-Up and Steve Kennedy took the High Score award.

Special thanks go out to Back Roads Energy for sponsoring the shoot and for their continued support of the MLBC.

Make plans now to attend the Fall Clay Shoot on October 6th as the MLBC host the 3rd Annual Top Gun Charity Clay Shoot with all proceeds benefiting the WVU College of Law Veterans Advocacy Clinic. This program assists Veterans with legal needs as needed. Come on out and support the Veterans.

AAPL offers three certifications that are proven to enhance a member's credibility in the industry and to increase earning potential for landmen.

Certified Professional Landman (CPL) – The highest designation offered in the energy management industry, CPL certification is the standard by which landmen demonstrate their comprehensive competence, proficiency and professionalism in the landman field.

Registered Professional Landman (RPL) – The mid-level designation offered by AAPL, RPL certification distinguishes a landman as knowledgeable, experienced and professional.

Registered Landman (RL) – The initial level of certification, RL certification signifies a fundamental knowledge of the land industry as well as a landman’s commitment to furthering their education.

For more information on why becoming a certified landman is important, click here.
2017 Top Gun Charity Clay Shoot

Demonstrating its commitment to veterans across the state, the West Virginia University College of Law has expanded its Veterans Assistance Project (VAP) from a practice area within the General Clinic to a stand-alone clinic, the WVU Veterans Advocacy Clinic (VAC), directed by Associate Professor Jennifer Oliva, a graduate of the United States Military Academy and an Army veteran.

There are approximately 170,000 veterans that 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 VAC, students 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. READ MORE HERE

2017 Sponsorship Opportunities

**PLATINUM Sponsor: $1,500**
Includes: Four (4) shooters to participate in the day’s activities, one (1) station sponsorship, and recognition as a PLATINUM Sponsor throughout the day and on main signage.

**GOLD Sponsor: $1,000**
Includes: Recognition as the GOLD Sponsor throughout the day and on Main Signage. The GOLD Sponsors have the opportunity to set up a hospitality table/tent, games, provide adult beverages, non-alcoholic beverages, and food to the shooters during check in and during the awards ceremony.

**SILVER Sponsor: $500**
Includes: Recognition as a SILVER Sponsor throughout the day and on one (1) station.

**BRONZE Sponsor: $100**
Includes: Honorable mention during the event kickoff and at reception. The BRONZE Sponsor is a pledge to provide the means for a Student Veteran to join us for the day’s festivities.

Note: for an additional $250 you can set up a table/tent to pass out swag and water to shooters at select stations along the course (4 available). Contact me for multiple sponsorship discounts.

After the shoot there will be beverages, steak dinner, and prizes. The 1st place shooter will be named the MLBC Top Gun and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, high ladies and high team get prizes! 50/50 and other drawings will be held throughout the day and announced after the shoot.
**Platinum $5,000.00 per year**

Benefits of Platinum Sponsor

- Logo on the corporate sponsor board at every meeting along with the meeting sponsor board.
- Logo on the back of every Takeoff and the bottom of every membership email.
- Receive three meeting/dinner passes for each meeting for one year.
- Receive one free Full Page advertising ad.
- Receive free Half Page ad in the takeoff per year.
- Logo on Golf Outing sponsorship boards.

**Gold $2,500.00 per year**

Benefits of Gold Sponsor

- Logo on the corporate sponsor board at every meeting.
- Logo on the back of every Takeoff and the bottom of every membership email.
- Receive one free Half Page advertising ad in the Takeoff per year.
- Logo on Golf Outing sponsorship boards.

**Silver $1,500.00 per year**

Benefits of Silver Sponsor

- Logo on the corporate sponsor board at six meetings.
- Logo on the back of every Takeoff and the bottom of every membership email.
- Receive one free Half Page advertising ad in the Takeoff per year.

**Bronze $750.00 per year**

Benefits of Bronze Sponsor

- Logo on the corporate sponsor board at three meetings.
- Logo on the back of every Takeoff.

**Advertising in The TakeOff**

Full page ad $500.00 per month  
Half page ad $250.00 per month

**Dinner Meeting Sponsorship**

Cost $250.00 per meeting. Companies will receive advertising at the dinner meeting as well as your logo displayed on our website for the month of the meeting you sponsor.

To secure a corporate sponsorship, advertise in the Take-Off, or if you have any questions please contact Tara White at twhite@mlbc-aapl.org. Please contact Jeremy White at jwhite@eqt.com for dinner meeting sponsorships.
2017-2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
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EQT Production
jpreston@eqt.com

Vice President
Britney Crookshanks, RPL
Infinity Natural Resources
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Secretary
Christa Dotson
EQT Production
cdotson@eqt.com

Treasurer
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Director
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Percheron
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National Director
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Percheron Energy
aaron.yost@percheronllc.com

President Emeritus
John Kimbleton, CPL
Latitude Land and Regulatory
jkimbleton@gmail.com

Executive Director
Tara White
MLBC
twhite@mlbc-aapl.org
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<td><strong>University Liaison</strong></td>
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The MLBC membership application is located on the website at www.mlbc-aapl.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 Tara White at twhite@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 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.

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**MLBC WEBSITE**

If you experience any problems using the website or if you have any suggestions, please contact Jeremy Preston via e-mail at JPreston@eqt.com.

**JOB BANK**

The direct link for MLBC Job Bank is www.mlbcjobbank.com. If you have any questions, please contact Jeremy Preston via e-mail at JPreston@eqt.com.

**PHOTO ALBUM**

We would like to share our Photo Album with you to show you what MLBC has been doing throughout the year. The direct link for MLBC Photo Album is www.mlbc-aapl.org/VPhoto.php.