

Michael Late Benedum Chapter

American Association of Professional Landmen

The Take-Off

October 2014

MLBC P.O. Box 955 Bridgeport, WV 26330

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

"Always do right.
That will gratify some people and astonish the rest."
-Mark Twain

We strive to enforce our rules of ethics on our peers in order to protect ourselves, our professional association, and the public from unethical practices. Our success as an industry depends on our ethical standards.

The MLBC has been committed to a standard of ethics and integrity since it's inception in 1959. As land professionals in the Appalachian Basin, we must be committed to the highest standards of ethics and integrity. We must represent the land industry with professionalism, honesty, integrity, values, and transparency. As members of the MLBC, we are to be guiding the industry around us to the "high road" in all of our business practices. Below are thoughts to consider on a daily basis.

- ♦ My daily practices adhere to the code of ethics of the MLBC and the AAPL.
- ♦ The amount I bill per day is consistent with the amount of work performed for my client.
- ♦ I am transparent in my billing methods and ensure all of my accounting methods are ethical.
- ♦ I take full responsibility for my actions, behaviors, and attitudes. I avoid "passing the buck" or blaming others for my problems and mistakes.
- ♦ I know and follow ALL of the rules established by my organization, client, and brokerage.
- ♦ When given a task or assignment, I regularly try to do MORE than is expected of me.

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Upcoming events

Click Here to Register

November Dinner Meeting

November 13, 2014

Bridgeport Conference Center

Bridgeport, WV

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS CONTINUED

- ♦ When I see things that need to be done, I do them without waiting for others to take the lead.
- ♦ I'm a considerate land professional. I regularly clean up after myself and avoid behaviors that may disturb others or cause them additional work.
- ♦ I remember my promises and commitments, and I KEEP them. I take an honest approach with clients and landowners on what I can deliver.
- ♦ I look for (and seize) opportunities to help my coworkers, clients, and industry to be successful rather than just "being in it for myself."
- ◊ I make an effort to be patient with everyone I work with (and for) cutting them the same "slack" that I wish for in return.
- ◊ I respect and protect my organization's equipment, resources, and facilities just as if I owned the business and had my personal finances at stake. This includes public records, courthouse facilities, public libraries, and anywhere else I represent our industry.
- ♦ It's critically important for me to always perform with ethics and integrity...and I do it!

As you are working and representing the industry, remember to value the strength of your convictions. Honesty and integrity will go farther than any other approach in land. Don't be deterred when others don't make the same choices you do. Stand strong on the things that matter the most.

Never has there been a time in our industry like today. Development of natural gas is revitalizing our region and our nation. We have the potentional of making a very positive impact on the world, if we, as land professionals, stay committed to honesty and integrity. Each of you, as members, have the opportunity to serve our chapter and ensure a positive future. Please get involved, stay committed, and represent our industry in the highest regard possible.

Thank-you to everyone who came out and supported the Fall golf outing at Nemacolin. It was an honor and a privilege to present \$40,000.00 to the Big Brothers and Big Sisters program. In the past three years, the MLBC has been able to match almost 100 children. We would not have been able to show such support without each of you.

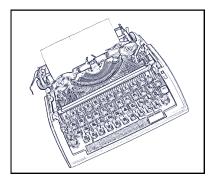
Anthony D. Farr, RPL

MLBC President 2014-2015



Jeremy Preston reports the bank balance is \$197,091.59.

SECRETARY'S REPORT



want to thank everyone who was able to join us at the annual Nemacolin charity golf outing and sporting clays shoot. The event was very successful again this year! The MLBC and friends were able to raise a total of \$40,000.00 with \$20,000.00 going to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh and \$20,000.00 to the Big Brothers Big Sisters

Laurel Region. Thanks to all those who worked so hard to make this a great event this year. A special thank you to the membership for contributing to the MLBC's charity events, making them such a success! It is great that we can all come together and give back to the communities we work and live in.

John Kimbleton 2014-2015 MLBC Secretary

MLBC Launches New Website

We are proud to announce the launch of our newly redesigned website located at www.MLBC-AAPL.org. Our website's fresh new look, userfriendly navigation and responsive design are just some of the new features you'll notice. Our main goal was to build a user-friendly and simple to navigate site that allows users to quickly and easily locate the most frequently accessed contents.

One of the most significant enhancements to the site is improved design and performance for mobile devices and tablets. More than 20 percent of the traffic to the MLBC website now comes from mobile devices and that number is expected to increase. The fully scalable and responsive design of the new site looks great and is fully functional whether you are visiting from a desktop computer, a tablet or a smartphone.

This latest redesign is part of the MLBC's continuing effort to better connect to its membership through technology. If you experience any problems using the new website or if you have any suggestions, please contact Jeremy Preston via e-mail at jpreston@eqt.com.

MLBC Regional Directors Report

n September 13-14, 2014, on behalf of the MLBC, I attended the AAPL quarterly Board of Directors meeting at the Marriott Marquis and Marina in San Diego, CA. During the meeting, a number of topics were introduced that would be of interest to our local association members:

- AAPL will host the 2015 annual meeting in Nashville, TN. Sponsorships are available. Look for information and opportunities to support AAPL's annual meeting in the near future.
- As of the September board meeting, the membership total for AAPL has risen to 21,474. The Membership Committee will be working on outreach to Land Department leadership across all member and non-members companies to encourage membership and participation in AAPL. It's good for the industry when we join together in social and professional events which enrich and protect what we do for our profession. The Membership Committee is in the planning stages of providing honors to members who have attained a certain number of years of membership in AAPL. AAPL pins denoting specific years of membership would be made available for completing certain milestones. AAPL has announced a membership drive with an incentive award of lodging and airfare at a resort in Tamarindo, Costa Rica going to the winner of a random drawing conducted by the local association with the "largest percentage growth of NEW members" from October 1 to December 31, 2014. WOW, seems like the MLBC could win that one.
- NAPE has a new look and logo. There will be a roll out of NAPEs new look on October 21st in Houston. Watch for the new look in upcoming communications. NAPE's website is www.napeexpo.com. The next NAPE will be in Denver, Colorado in December, followed soon after by NAPE Summit (new name for Winter NAPE) in Houston in February 2015. Get your flights and rooms booked soon as space is always hard to come by. NAPE also continues its schedule for Pittsburgh in April 2015. AAPL and NAPE are in need of sponsors and exhibitors for all events, but we need to make sure we have a good showing in Pittsburgh of our regional and larger corporate members. If you need information, please check out the NAPE website or the link in AAPLs website.
- AAPL continues its search for quality articles for the Landman and Landman II publication. If you have a favorite article that you would like to see reprinted or shared with AAPL members, please contact the Publications Committee or the AAPL staff. Many times, the staff can obtain reprint rights. If you are good with a pen, pencil or crayon (as the case may require), please submit articles to the AAPL for consideration. Same goes for the MLBC newsletter. Sharing or writing for the MLBC may be your initial step to notoriety. "Landman in Action" still remains a vehicle for you and your association to demonstrate profession and civic pride. Make sure you submit articles and pictures to AAPL and MLBC capturing special moments.
- The AAPL Education Committee completed a "beta test" of the new American's Landman presentation September 3rd at Percheron's Bridgeport office and Noble Energy's Pittsburgh office. The program consists of approximately 90 minutes of, video and moderator led dialogue primarily intended to introduce



what a Landman is to the public and people new to the industry, plus three video vignettes depicting Landmen and ethical issues faced when working in company environments and the field. The program provides 1.5 education credits. Following these tests, AAPL took the presentation to the University of Oklahoma (OU) for viewing by the Energy Management program students. By all accounts, the tests and the presentation at OU were very successful. The Education Committee is also working on a joint seminar with the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) tentatively scheduled for March 2015. This crossfunctional event will be sure to provide insight to drilling operations and other specifics that every Landman will find beneficial and informative. The seminar will be incorporated in the AAPL Educational Framework and will include an online tutorial.

- The AAPL Regulation and Legislation Committee (Reg/Leg) is now chaired by Mike Flores of the Los Angeles Association and he advised a title company has again raised the question of the Unlawful Practice of Law (UPL) regarding title abstracting in West Virginia. This matter is not a question for the legislature, but would be handled by the West Virginia Superior Court. This has come up in prior years (2007 and 2011) and required a lot of work each time the subject is broached. So far, Landmen and Land Service Companies have not been interfered with on this subject, so <u>we</u> must take action. AAPL has hired Steptoe and Johnson to assist AAPL's Government Affairs Liaison, Holly Carless, to monitor and provide recommendations on this subject. The MLBC Ex Com will be included on all updates so we can keep the members informed on any changes.
- The AAPL Field Landman Committee will continue to host numerous seminars across the country trying to entice Landmen to join AAPL and receive a discount on their initial year of association membership while enjoying a free seminar. Committee Chairman, Leslie Irish, has requested if you sign up for the seminar, please attend or cancel prior to the event. The AAPL is billed for food and services based upon the number of people registered for the event. Even though the event is free, this costs AAPL money if a large number of people are *no-shows*. This has happened in the recent past when over half the registered attendees did not show up for the event.
- The AAPL Certification Committee and AAPL staff continues its review of eligible RL, RPL and CPL applications. AAPL has hired JoAnn Stoy to work with the Certification Committee at AAPL headquarters after the departure of Kelly Davis. If you need assistance, please give her a call. Certification Committee Chairman Russell Shinevar's motion at the September board meeting to reduce the number of sponsors required for the RPL application was passed and will take effect in the near future. The exact language of the amendment to the program specifications will be published soon, but the idea was to reduce the number of sponsors to either 2 CPLs or 1 CPL and 1 RPL. This will certainly help the members who are having difficulty finding 3 CPLS as sponsors.
- The AAPL Nominating Committee challenged the Ex Com and Board of Directors to nominate at least one person for an office in the next term. This will hopefully provide a robust number of candidates across all the AAPL regions in addition to the nominations submitted by the general membership. The MLBC Ex Com should also consider nominating outstanding members in our local association for positions in the national organization. We definitely need regional representation as a member of AAPL's Executive Committee.
- The AAPL Online Store is up and running. You can order AAPL branded merchandise, accessories and apparel. This is a good way to show your pride in AAPL by wearing and gifting the branded merchandise to your colleagues and staff that are members of AAPL. The website is www.landmanstore.com.

• AAPL reports a strong balance sheet with June 30, 2014 assets of \$36,018,977, an increase of 17.4% over the same period in 2013. At June 30, 2014, revenues increased 2.8% from \$9.26 million to \$9.52 million, and expenses increased 48.2% from \$7.53 million to \$11.17 million over the same period in 2013. The higher expenses are related to additional staff requirements at AAPL and NAPE, implementation of new government relations programs, and the marketing/public awareness programs. In addition, investments from the Martin Luther accounts, currently \$28.3 million, reflect a decrease of 2.9%, which is primarily due to the transfer of funds from AAPL to the LST account and taxes issues from unrealized gains.

The MLBC and our region is well represented on the AAPL board and committees by local members. The interests of our Appalachian Landmen are being addressed along with the rest of the country.

Should you have any concerns or questions I should address to the AAPL Executive Committee or Board of Directors, or bring to the attention of the MLBC Executive Committee, please feel free to contact me at macree@nobleenergyinc.com.

Mark Acree
AAPL Director



COLORADO • INDIANA • KENTUCKY • OHIO • PENNSYLVANIA • WASHINGTON, D.C. • WEST VIRGINIA
The rules of the Kentucky Supreme Court require the following statement: This is an advertisement.

New Members – September 2014

First Name	Last Name	Employer	Member Type
Debra	Ross	BMJ Research	Associate
Gary	Dozier	Dozier's Energy Services, LLC	Active
Laureen	Dozier	Dozier's Energy Services, LLC	Active
John	Taylor	Exterra Land Resources	Active
Cortney	Medley	Honor Resource Company	Associate
Shane	Jamison	Honor Resources Company	Active
Robert	Jones	Honor Resources Company	Associate
Travis	Copen	Honor Resources Company	Associate
Kirk	Starcher	Honor Resources Company	Associate
Benjamin	Mitchell	Honor Resources Company	Associate
Matt	Lambert	independent	Active
Charles	Yeager	Independent	Associate
Brian	Hurst	Independent Contractor	Active
Lisa	Cattafesta	Jay Bee Exploration 1, LLC	Active
Nathan	Coleman	Jigsaw Enterprises LLC	Active
Travis	Goldsmith	Mountain Stream Energy Services	Active
Vance	Hefley	Mountaineer Keystone LLC	Associate
Rich	Albert	Noble Energy	Active
Christopher	Furey	Orange Energy Corporation	Active
William	Grant	Range Resources - Appalachia, LLC	Active
Matthew	Thorn	Self	Active
Rick	Hathaway	Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C.	Associate
Eric	Kitcho	Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC	Associate

Ohio's Seventh District Court of Appeals Unanimously Overrules Perpetual Lease Claim

On September 26, 2014, Ohio's Seventh District Court of Appeals issued a major decision providing certainty as to the validity of certain oil and gas leases used throughout Ohio. The Appeals Court in *Hupp v. Beck Energy Corporation* unanimously overruled a trial court ruling stating (1) that the lease was perpetual in nature and therefore void against public policy; and (2) that the lessee breached the implied covenant to reasonably develop the land by failing to drill any wells on the leasehold premises during the primary term of the lease.¹The trial court had previously found that certain portions of the lease's habendum clause and delay rental provision created a "no-term" or perpetual lease. The trial court also certified a class of plaintiffs to include all lessors under the standard form lease with Beck Energy Corporation. To read more: click here.

^{*} Republish from Administrative Watch, Babst Calland

EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The MLBC's Education Committee has been hard at work for our members this year. The goal of the Education Committee is to provide exceptional educational opportunities to our membership. The Committee is responsible for planning the MLBC's educational offerings at dinner meetings and seminars throughout the year. Take a look at some of our recent activities and upcoming events:

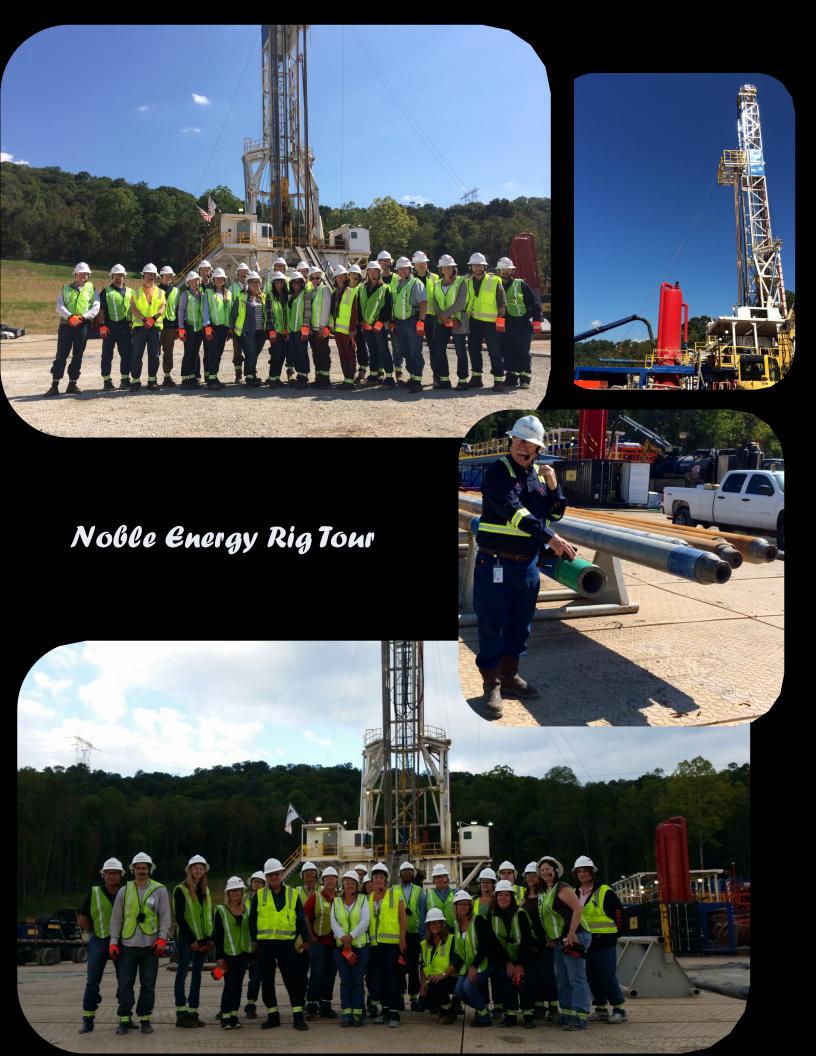
The MLBC's Education Committee and Noble Energy offered two free rig tours to our members on September 18, 2014. Attendees began the day with an overview of and the drilling process as presented by Stacey Brodak, Noble Energy's Manager of Community & Media Relations. Next, attendees were transported to the location for a look at a triple rig in action. The tour concluded with a Q&A session with Noble's onsite personnel. The tour was much appreciated by those who attended. Thank you Noble Energy for a wonderful day!

MLBC Education Committee Chair, Christa Dotson, recently served as Advisory Committee Chair for the AAPL's Appalachian Land Institute. This year's Institute was held on October 2-3 at the Meadows Casino in Washington, PA. Attendees were treated to presentations by representatives of some of the top oil and gas exploration and production companies and law firms in the area. Nearly 200 land professionals from our region attended the event. Several members of both MLBC and NALA served on this year's Advisory Committee for the Institute including: Bruce Turner (Steptoe & Johnson), Michael Kalany (Percheron Energy), Britney Crookshanks (Northeast Natural Energy), Cecil Ray (EQT Production Company), Joel Baker (Noble Energy), Spence Hale (Independent), Anthony Farr (Tioga Resources) and Bernard Ulincy (Range Resources).

Roger Soape, AAPL President, delivered the address at the Dinner Meeting following the Appalachian Land Institute on Thursday, October 2, 2014. The Dinner Meeting was cohosted by the MLBC and NALA. Mr. Soape is the President and majority shareholder of Roger A. Soape, Inc., the land services firm he founded in 1980. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mr. Soape for making time to speak with us.

The Education Committee is gearing up to plan a full day seminar at the Bridgeport Conference Center in Bridgeport, WV on February 12, 2014. If you would like to assist with the planning of the MLBC's next educational event, please contact Christa Dotson, at 304.848.0038 or cdotson@eqt.com.

Christa Dotson MLBC Education Chair & Director



2014 Annual MLBC Fall Charity Golf Outing

The Michael Late Benedum Chapter of the AAPL held its Annual Fall Charity Golf Outing benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters Greater of Greater Pittsburgh and the Laurel Valley on Mystic Rock and The Links Golf Courses at Nemacolin Woodlands Resort on September 19, 2014. We had a record field of 220 golfers this year over both courses. Following golf, the MLBC held a cocktail hour and dinner for members and guests at Horizon Point in Nemacolin. With the help of our members, the MLBC and numerous sponsoring companies, we raised the most money in the history of the event and were able to present a check for \$40,000 to these great charities. The MLBC has now donated \$100,000 to charity over the past three years from the success of this golf event! Thank You to all who attended!

Award Winners

<u>Mystic Rock</u> <u>The Links</u>

1st Place (-17 scorecard playoff)1st Place (-18)Casey SiskNathan RussellJosh GoodnightBrocton SkeenRyan CarrJarred Detweiller

Justin McCarter Caleb Ward

2nd Place (-17 scorecard playoff)2nd Place (-16)Travis EdmondsonNick DelacomaKeith BurkeBrian GaudinRyan SkellyTaylor GreggBrent EvansJohn Sabia

3rd Place (-17 scorecard playoff)3rd Place (-15)Tanner BechtelEric BoyingtonBob BraithwaiteRicky HenryMatt CadleBrandon UlincyPaul EarlesonPat Turner

<u>Skill Prizes – Mystic</u> <u>Skill Prizes – Links</u>

Long Drive #5 – Steve Teel

Closest to the Pin #2 – Bob Zwierzynski

Closest to the Pin #3 – Scott Remaley

Closest to the Pin #6 – Ricky Henry

Closest to the Pin #12 – Steven Bryant

Long Drive #15 – Peter Binoto

A special thanks for all of our Sponsors for the event as well as the generosity of the MLBC and its members to helping make a great event and donate to a special charity. Also thanks to the many volunteers who helped the day go off without a hitch! We look forward to seeing all of you back next year!

2014 Fall Golf Outing Sponsors

SIGNATURE

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Gastar
Brighton Resources Inc.
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Jim Bourbeau Land Services
Prosper Mineral Brokers
Southwestern Energy
Appalachian Mineral Partners
E.A.R.T.H Pipeline Services
XTO Energy
Tioga Resources

FLAG

Eclipse Resources
Bryson Kuba
CONSOL Energy
EQT

BEVERAGE CART

Noble Energy Cara Davis Law Claire Sergent Walls

TEE

Percheron
Arnold Schulberg, Attorney at Law, PLLC
Reserve Energy Exploration
Energy Corporation of America
OGTA

HOLE IN ONE

Midwest Land Services



































CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

RPL & CPL EXAM ONLY- Canfield, OH

Saturday, October 11, 2014 (7:15 AM-2:00 PM)

Marietta College & Brouse McDowell Oil & Gas Symposium, Marietta, OH

Thursday, October 16, 2014 (1:00 PM-5:00 PM)

<u>Basics of Geographic Information System -</u> Pittsburgh, PA

Tuesday, November 04, 2014 (9:00 AM-3:00 PM)

TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE LISTED COURSES PLEASE CLICK ON THE COURSE TITLES.

October 2014 Dinner Meeting Sponsors

Adkins & Associates
Arnie Schulberg
George Mason Law Firm
Noble Energy Inc.
Sean Cassidy
Steptoe & Johnson
Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC

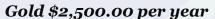
Thank You For Your Support!

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

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.



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.



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 @ twhite@mlbc-aapl.org. Please contact Jeremy White at jwhite@eqt.com for dinner meeting sponsorships.









2014 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



President
Anthony Farr, RPL
Tioga Resources
afarr@tioga-resources.com



Director
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EQT Production
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Vice President
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Director Christa Dotson EQT Production cdotson@eqt.com



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Sergeant-At-ArmsBritney Crookshanks, RPL
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bcrookshanks@nne-llc.com



President Emeritus Charles E. Heilmann, CPL EQT Production cheilmann@eqt.com



Executive Assistant
Tara White
MLBC
twhite@mlbc-aapl.org

2013—2014 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Awards Bruce Turner, CPL bruce.turner@steptoe-johnson.com

chris.elswick@steptoe-johnson.com **Bylaws** Chris Elswick

Certification James E. Talkington, Jr., CPL/ESA jeta@frontier.com

Education Christa Dotson, RPL cdotson@eqt.com

Ethics Doug Richards honordjr@aol.com

Fall Golf Steve Carr, RPL steve.carr@tsdudley.com

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Historian Open

Marketing Jesse Zirillo jzirillo@dmclaw.com

Membership Jeremy D. Preston, RPL jpreston@eqt.com

Directory **Crystal Murphy** cmurphy@tioga-resources.com

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Marlene Heilmann marheilmann@yahoo.com **Photography**

aaron.yost@percheronllc.com **Spring Golf** Aaron Yost, CPL

Sponsorships Jeremy White, RPL jwhite@eqt.com

Website /Job Bank Jeremy D. Preston, RPL jpreston@eqt.com

MLBC SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
November 13, 2014	Bridgeport Conference Center Bridgeport, WV	Timothy McKeen Stepote & Johnson	Early History of Appalachian Titles
January 15, 2015	Hilton Garden Inn, Canonsburg, PA	Stacey Brodak Noble Energy	TBD
February 12, 2015	Bridgeport Conference Center Bridgeport, WV	Seminar	TBD
March 12, 2015	The Lafayette Marietta, OH	Doug Richards Honor Resources Co.	Ethics

MLBC Corporate Sponsors

Platinum















Higher standards make better lawyers.¹⁰





































MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Michael Late Benedum



"The Great Wildcatter"

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 for 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.



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 <u>www.mlbcjobbank.com</u>. If you have any questions, please contact Jeremy Preston via e-mail at <u>JPreston@eqt.com</u>.



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.