

VOL 5 ISSUE 2 | 2024

**THE WILDCATTER**  
MICHAEL LATE BENEDUM CHAPTER  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL LANDMEN



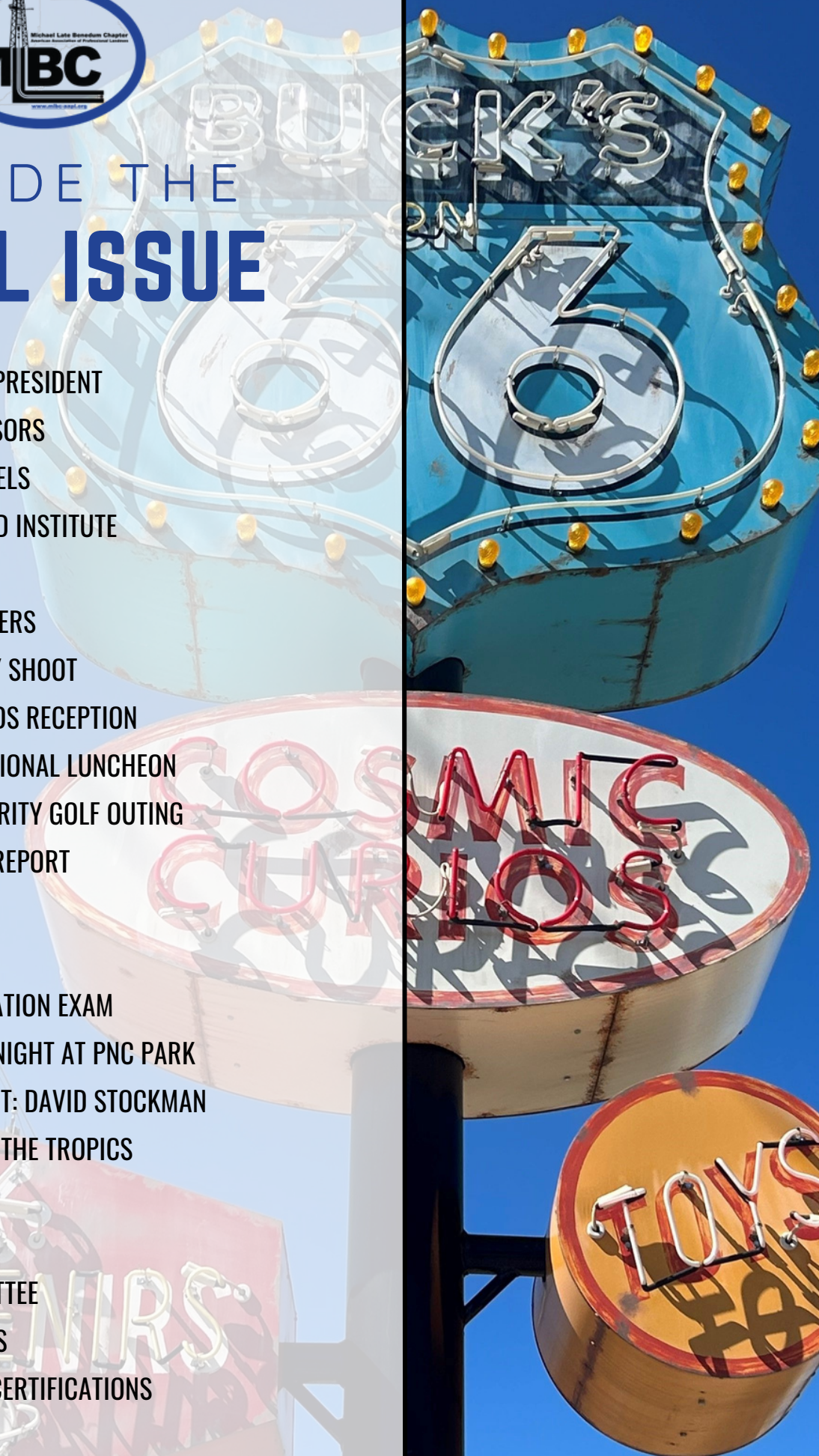
*Golden Driller Statue*

**INSIDE THE ISSUE:**  
Charity Golf Outing & Clay Shoot



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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

MLBC PRESIDENT, LHAG BOWERS



## CONTAGIOUSLY POSITIVE



*“Be positive. Your mind is more powerful than you think. What is down in the well comes up in the bucket. Fill yourself with positive things.” –Tony Dungy*

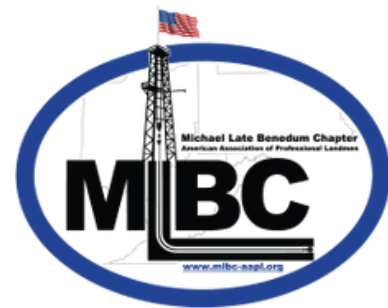
*“All the days of the afflicted one are bad, but the one with a cheerful heart has a continual feast.”  
—Proverbs 15:15*

We are all different. One might say our differences are due to 3 basic things- our circumstances, our genetics, and our attitudes. In many cases, we have little control over our circumstances or our genes. However, in every case, we can control our attitude. As a result, a powerful core value we all can adopt that will allow us to trump the limitations imposed by our imperfect circumstances and genes- Be determined to be contagiously positive. How?

1. Avoid pessimism at all costs. Don't be an Eeyore. Try not to look at the glass as half empty, try not to focus on the storm clouds, look for the silver lining, etc. If we are inclined to look for the negative, we will have no trouble finding it, but then focusing on it will have mostly negative effects. Studies have linked a pessimistic attitude with not just poor mental health, but physical health, too. A negative attitude has been linked with anxiety, depression, sleep disorders, hostility, high blood pressure and heart disease.
2. Instead, try to focus on the positive. Look for the good things both in our own lives and circumstances but also the good in others. If you must make comparisons, compare yourself to the less fortunate rather than those that seem to have it all. Come to work with a smile, with a positive professional attitude. Look at your teammates and coworkers with an eye toward finding something positive and worthy of praise. It will not only make you a better coworker and employee, it will make you a better friend, spouse and/or parent.
3. Finally, take positive actions on behalf of others. Open the door for someone else with a smile on your face. Prepare a meal for a sick neighbor or help an elderly person with a chore they can no longer care for on their own. Many find that it's much easier to deal with their own undesirable circumstances if they busy themselves helping others.

The value of cultivating a positive attitude has been likened to cultivating a garden. Root out the poisonous weeds of pessimism and negativity. Sow seeds of realistic optimism, and fertilize your life with actions that produce positive emotions. The result? You'll reap an emotional crop that will make your life much more rewarding. Cultivating a core value of being contagiously positive will not only make you a happier person, it will make you a better landman, too!

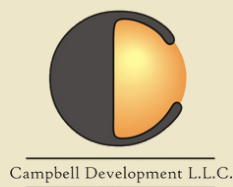
# 2024 MLBC CORPORATE SPONSORS



## PLATINUM



## GOLD



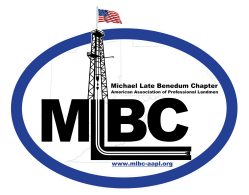
## SILVER



## BRONZE



# 2024 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP LEVELS



## PLATINUM: \$5,000 PER YEAR

### Benefits of Platinum Sponsor:

- Logo on the corporate sponsor board at every meeting along with the meeting sponsor board (virtually or in person).
- Logo in every edition of The Wildcatter and the bottom of every membership email.
- Receive three meeting/dinner passes for each meeting for one year.
- Receive two free full page advertising ads in The Wildcatter per year.
- Logo on golf outing sponsorship boards.

## GOLD: \$2,500 PER YEAR

### Benefits of Gold Sponsor:

- Logo on the corporate sponsor board at every meeting (virtually or in person).
- Logo in every edition of The Wildcatter and the bottom of every membership email.
- Receive one free half page advertising ad in The Wildcatter per year.
- Logo on golf outing sponsorship boards

## SILVER: \$1,500 PER YEAR

### Benefits of Silver Sponsor:

- Logo on the corporate sponsor board at six meetings (virtually or in person)
- Logo in every edition of The Wildcatter and the bottom of every membership email.
- Receive one free half page advertising ad in The Wildcatter per year.

## BRONZE: \$750 PER YEAR

### Benefits of Bronze Sponsor:

- Logo on the corporate sponsor board at three meetings (in person or virtually).
- Logo in every edition of The Wildcatter.

## ADVERTISING IN THE WILDCATTER:

Full Page Ad  
\$500/month



Half Page Ad  
\$250/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

For more information or to purchase a Corporate Sponsor package or advertise in the The Wildcatter, please contact Abby Veigel @ [abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org](mailto:abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org). Please contact Harry Heinbaugh at [harry.heinbaugh@percheronllc.com](mailto:harry.heinbaugh@percheronllc.com) for dinner meeting sponsorships.

# 2024 APPALACHIAN LAND INSTITUTE



**APRIL 4-5**  
Hilton Garden Inn  
Canonsburg, PA

▶ **Course Level:** Intermediate ▶ **Credits:** 10 CEUs (CLEs for OH, WV and PA are pending)

## TOPICS:

- ▶ **Keynote Luncheon**  
Michael Turzai; Peoples Natural Gas
- ▶ **CCUS: An Overview for Landmen**  
Andrew Graham; Steptoe & Johnson PLLC
- ▶ **Statutory Pooling and Unitization in WV-  
Process Overview Practice and Tips**  
Ben McKinney, Garrett Spiker; Steptoe & Johnson  
PLLC
- ▶ **Powering Pennsylvania**  
David Callahan; Marcellus Shale Coalition
- ▶ **The Restoration Challenge: Approaches to  
Mining Refuse in Appalachia**  
Shawn Grushecky; West Virginia University
- ▶ **An Overview of Mineral Purchasing**  
Jeremy White; Tenmile Land LLC
- ▶ **Ethics Session \*ETHICS CREDIT**  
Thomas Long; Independent Contractor
- ▶ **Understanding the Basics of Artificial  
Intelligence**  
Susanna Bagdasarova; Babst Calland
- ▶ **The Integration of Hydrogen Into the  
Energy Portfolio**  
Bernard Brown; Empire Diversified Energy

*Additional topics and speakers are pending*

Registration includes the institute, lunch and reception after the education sessions on April 4.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DISCOUNT



Need a little help with registration fees? AAPL's **Professional Development Assistance Program** reduces the registration fee up to \$300 for all AAPL-operated education events, including institutes, webinars, RPL/CPL exams, Annual Meeting, and NAPE Summit's Business Conference. The program is designed for AAPL Active Members in good standing for at least two years and have not received Professional Development Assistance more than two times in the past calendar year.

Learn more and apply today at: [landman.org/professional-development](https://landman.org/professional-development)

# LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY UPDATE

By Nikolas Tysiak, Legislative and Regulatory Chairman



A dose of new case law has arisen in Appalachia this winter. Enjoy!

## West Virginia

For those paying attention, there has been some litigation regarding the West Virginia statutory pooling laws passed in 2022. In *Sonda v. West Virginia Oil and Gas Conservation Commission*, two landowners sued the West Virginia Conservation Commission, challenging the new pooling laws (W. Va. Code §22C-9-1, et seq.) in federal court, alleging an unlawful taking without due process of law under the U. S. Constitution. Instead of proceeding on the merits, the U.S. district court for the Northern District of West Virginia unilaterally decided to abstain from hearing the case, stating that the parties needed to litigate in West Virginia state court first, without identifying the issues that needed to be resolved in state court. The U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals found that the U.S. District Court had “abused its discretion” in abstaining from the action, as there were clear questions of federal law presented for adjudication and no clear statement of state law issues to be decided. In order to abstain as attempted by the District Court, there must be an unclear issue of state law which may render the need to go to federal court moot. The Court of Appeals therefore reversed the District Court Order of Abstention and remanded to that court for further proceedings.

## Ohio

The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, Eastern Division, confronted a question of whether the Point Pleasant formation constituted part of the Utica Shale, or a deeper formation. In *Honey Crest Acres LLC v. Rice Drilling D LLC* (2024 WL 1155970 (March 18, 2024 S. D. Ohio, ED)), the district court was asked to analyze the language of an oil and gas lease; while the language of the lease expressly limited the leasehold rights, retaining to the lessor “all formations below the base of the Utica Shale” it raised the question of whether development of the Point Pleasant formation violated the terms of the lease or not. Specifically, the question is whether the Utica Shale and Point Pleasant formations should be considered separate geological formations or not. However, the opinion is only addressing the parties’ motions for summary judgment. As such, the court is not necessarily deciding on the merits; instead, it is deciding if the pleadings support continuing. As to the issue of whether a trespass against the lands of Honey Crest Acres LLC and a conversion of its property occurred, the court found that there were sufficient pleadings to support a trial. This means that a trial can, and likely will, proceed on the merits of these claims, so it is a case to watch out for in the future.

In a case NOT dealing with the DMA or MTA coming out of Ohio (for once), the Seventh District Court of Appeals was tasked with adjudication a purportedly ambiguous “Term Royalty Assignment” in *Bounty Minerals LLC v. LL&B Headwater II, LP*, 2024-Ohio-944. In this case, landowners leased their oil and gas to Mason Dixon Energy Inc. in 2007, with a 5-year primary term, a 5-year extension term, and a standard secondary term. In 2011, the landowners executed a Term Royalty Conveyance to Principle Energy, LLC, granting all their 1/8 royalty interest for as long as the lease stayed in effect, but would also apply to new leases granted within three years if the existing lease were terminated, canceled, surrendered, etc. LL&B was one of several successors to Principle, and the lease became vested in Ascent Resources-Utica LLC. Through a series of conveyances, Bounty Minerals acquired a 35% interest in the oil and gas rights. The lease was never produced throughout the primary or extended terms, expiring on September 13, 2017. Instead, the landowners and the predecessors to Bounty signed a new lease about a week later. The Trial Court found that, despite claims by Principle, LL&B and others, the Term Royalty Conveyance expired following the expiration of the 2007 lease. On appeal, the Seventh District noted that the anti-washout term (that the Term Royalty Conveyance could apply to new leases) was only applicable if the termination, surrender, cancellation, etc. of the 2007 lease occurred *before* the expiration of the primary, extension, or secondary terms. In other words, the Conveyance only applied to new leases if the 2007 lease ended prematurely. The appellate court agreed with the trial court, finding that the Term Royalty Conveyance did, indeed, expire. The court further analyzed a series of related claims for appeal, but found them all to be without merit, finding in favor of Bounty and the landowners and affirmed the trial court’s final judgment.



Pennsylvania

In *Plum Borough v. Zoning Hearing Board of Plum*, ---A.3d---, 2024 WL 314667 (Pa. Comm. Ct., January 29, 2024), the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court was tasked with determining whether the Plum Zoning Hearing Board had properly adhered to its own ordinances regarding the expansion of a UIC brine disposal well located in Plum Township. After lengthy discussion, the Commonwealth Court determined that the ZHB failed to properly apply its ordinances in dealing with the proposed expansion of the well operator, noting in several places that the ZHB expressed the sentiment that it was powerless to stop the actions of the operator, regardless of their determinations. The court emphasized that the ZHB was not powerless and had several tools at its disposal to prevent expansion of the well's operations. The court remanded to the ZHB, with instructions on how to conduct further hearings on the issue.

In the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, there was a decision involving a claim of accounting between two co-tenants to oil and gas rights in Wyoming County. In *KEM Resources, LP v. Deer Park Lumber, Inc.*, ---A.3d ---, 2024 WL 696763 (Pa. Supreme Court, February 21, 2024) the predecessor to Deer Park executed a lease covering its own interest and purporting to cover all the interest of its co-tenant, the predecessor to KEM. The factual background of the case is very convoluted, with quiet title actions, striking down the judgments in those actions, and a lot of procedural and technical arguments regarding the nature of accounting claims, but there appears to be only one issue that was up for appeal to the Supreme Court – did the accounting claim filed by KEM occur within the applicable statute of limitations time period? KEM claimed a six-year limitations period, while Deer Park claimed the applicable statute of limitations was only four years. After lengthy discussion of the background to the case, the arguments of the parties, and the law regarding accounting between co-tenants, the Supreme Court concluded that the appropriate claim in this instance was, indeed, one for accounting between co-tenants. The court went on to state that there was no specific statute of limitations for such an accounting claim, so the general statute of limitations for six years applied, thereby affirming the prior decisions of the trial court and the Superior Court on the issue.

Regards,

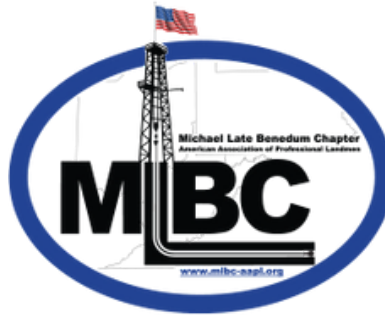
Nik Tysiak  
Chair, Legislative and Regulatory Committee, MLBC





**2024-2025**

# **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**



It is that time of year again! It is time to show your support to MLBC by taking the time to vote. You have until May 15, 2024 to cast your electronic ballot.

The MLBC thanks you for taking the time to vote on the upcoming year's board.

**VOTE NOW**

*YOU WILL NEED TO LOGIN BEFORE VOTING.*

# 2024 Spring Clay Shoot

*Benefitting the MLBC Foundation's Scholarship Fund*

**\$150**  
Per Member

**Thursday**  
**June 13**  
AT STONEWALL SPORTING CLAYS



Does your company want to get involved? Check out these opportunities!

\$500 - Station Sponsor - Sign with your logo at one shooting station

\$1,000 - Raffle Sponsor - Sign at raffle table "Today's raffle was made possible thanks to ..."

\$1,500 - Lunch Sponsor - Sign at Food Truck "Today's lunch was generously provided by..."

\$2,000 - Gold Level Sponsor - 4 shooters, 4 YETI Event Tumblers, sponsored station

\$3,000 - Platinum Level Sponsor - 8 shooters, 8 YETI Event Tumblers, sponsored station

Secure your spot by visiting:

**[WWW.MLBCFOUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.MLBCFOUNDATION.ORG)**

Questions? Reach out to Tyler Murray  
TYLERMURRAY.LAND@GMAIL.COM



# SAVE THE DATE




## MLBC Awards Reception June 12, 2024 Stonewall Resort, Weston, WV

We will be holding our MLBC Awards Presentation at Stonewall Resort this year. In addition to presenting our annual awards to the honorees, we will also be presenting our annual MLBC Foundation scholarships to student winners. This will be a very special night of networking and celebration and we hope you all can attend.

*Join Our Dynamic Growing Team Today!*

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# Michael Late Benedum Chapter

American Association of Professional Landmen

## FEBRUARY EDUCATIONAL LUNCHEON

BRIDGEPORT COUNTRY CLUB, BRIDGEPORT, WV | FEBRUARY 22, 2024

The February luncheon at Bridgeport Country Club was a great afternoon of networking and education. Stefanie Hines, assistant professor at WVU spoke on the topic of "Building Diverse Pipelines of Talent." Over 40 members were in attendance. A huge thank you to our Sponsors, [Blue Duck Resources](#) and [Honor Resources](#) for their support of this event.



### LUNCH SPONSORS



# Annual MLBC Spring Charity Golf Outing

Friday, May 24, 2024

REGISTRATION OPENS @ 7:00AM

SHOTGUN START @ 8:00AM



QUICKSILVER GOLF CLUB

2000 QUICKSILVER RD, MIDWAY, PA

\$175/GOLFER

**REGISTER NOW!**

Join us for this great event and help us as we embark on our next adventure with UPMC Magee-Women's Hospital! We will have some great prizes to give away and are looking forward to seeing everyone!

Registration is now open and includes a round of golf on Quicksilver Golf Course (formerly a host of the Senior PGA Tour and Korn Ferry Tour), and also lunch after golf with plenty of prizes.

Please consider sponsoring this great event at one of the sponsorship levels below, and remember that our donations continue to enrich the lives of our communities and their families through the work of UPMC Magee-Women's Hospital. Let's continue to support our great causes!

# SPONSORSHIPS

PLEASE CONTACT SPRING GOLF CHAIR JIM KANE TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY! IF ANY SPONSOR WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL MATERIAL, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT JIM KANE AT [JKANE@CASSIDYPC.COM](mailto:JKANE@CASSIDYPC.COM).

## MIRACLE SPONSORS: \$1,750

Four (4) golf/food registrations, PRESENTING SPONSOR signage during registration, meal, and awards, additional signage on tee boxes and resort grounds, and event and website recognition

## GENERAL SPONSORS: \$1,250

Four (4) golf/dinner registrations, signage during registration, tee box, meal, and awards, and event and website recognition

## HOLE SPONSORS: \$1,000

Company name and logo on one (1) tee box sign and the ability to put up a tent with drinks, music, and/or games for the players, and website recognition

## HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSOR: \$750

Company name and logo at the MILLION DOLLAR SHOOTOUT, as well as the hole-in-one raffle ticket table at registration, and website recognition

## PRIZE TABLE SPONSOR: \$750

Company name and logo at the Prize Table, as well as the registration table, and website recognition

## PRACTICE AREA SPONSOR: \$500

Company name and logo at the driving range and putting green, which is open to all players, and website recognition

## TEE SPONSORS: \$350

Company name and logo on a tee box sign and website recognition

PLEASE CONTACT SPRING GOLF CHAIR JIM KANE TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY! IF ANY SPONSOR WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL MATERIAL, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT JIM KANE AT [JKANE@CASSIDYPC.COM](mailto:JKANE@CASSIDYPC.COM).

# AAPL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Submitted by: Jeremy White



On March 9 and 10, 2024, the AAPL held its Q1 Board Meeting at the historic Mayo Hotel in downtown Tulsa, OK. Tulsa is a town steeped in history, especially oil and gas history. In fact, for much of the 20th century, Tulsa was known as the oil capital of the world. For decades, beginning in 1923, Tulsa was home to the International Petroleum Expo, which was the largest event of its kind in the world at the time. Each year the Expo would get “bigger and better” with exhibitors trying to outdo their previous year’s efforts. In 1953, the Mid-Continent Supply Company came up with the idea of a statue of a roustabout as a promotional display. In 1959, they made a larger statue of a roustabout climbing an oil derrick, which caught a lot of attention. By 1966, they decided to up their game a bit and built “The Golden Driller” statue - which still stands today. It is an impressive sight, standing 76 feet tall, and is said to be the most photographed landmark in Tulsa.



The city of Tulsa now exists on what would be considered Indian Territory. Much of Tulsa’s early oil success came from lands owned by the Osage Nation. If you’ve happened to read the book, or have seen the movie, “Killers of the Flower Moon”, this is the exact area we are talking about. The booming oil industry paved the way for much construction and expansion in Tulsa - a lot of it being in the popular art deco style of the time. The host hotel, The Mayo, is a stellar example of art deco design. If you happen to be in town, I recommend visiting it.



Other points of interest in Tulsa are a thriving arts district with the Woody Guthrie Center and Bob Dylan Center being focal points. Both are great museums that house all the known personal archives of those artists. Did you know Woody Guthrie wrote over 3000 songs? Neither did I until I visited the museum. Both are fantastic to visit if you are a music fan. Are you a fan of the classic Francis Ford Coppola film, “The Outsiders”? The original Curtis brothers house from the film is in Tulsa and has been turned into a museum, with lots of original pieces from the movie and background information.

There are plenty of other sights to see - historic Rt 66, “The Gathering Place” (which is a fantastic outdoor riverfront recreation space that has something for everyone), The Center of the Universe (if you don’t know -Google it), and many other museums and points of interest.

*Continued*

# AAPL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Submitted by: Jeremy White



There were many topics covered during the course of the board meeting. In addition to the individual Director's Reports, the following is a summary of the key points covered:

- **Treasurer's Report:** Compared to December 31, 2022, total assets have increased from \$37,985,849 to \$40,266,304, a change of \$2,280,455 or 6.0%. The increase is primarily due to market activity related to the investment account and the use of less cash from the investment account for operating purposes.
- **Revenues** (exclusive of investment revenue) compared to December 31, 2022, have increased 27.7% from \$1,225,540 to \$1,565,445, a change of \$339,905.
- **Expenses** compared to December 31, 2022, have decreased 13.7% from \$3,208,083 to \$2,768,637, a reduction of \$439,446.
- The report of the 2024 NAPE Summit was positive - with 8121 attendees, 464 exhibitors, and 383 prospects. The change up in the schedule received lots of positive feedback. This year there was a mineral and non-op hub for seminars and separate business and technical education tracks - offering more diverse educational opportunities. The prospects seemed to be a good mix of assets - something for everyone.
- The NAPE Charity Golf event raised \$87,000 for veterans charities, which was outstanding.
- **Member and Association Communications - LNG Exports Joint Trades Policy Letter.** On Jan. 24, AAPL joined the American Exploration and Production Council, American Petroleum Institute, Independent Petroleum Association of America, and dozens of other industry and trade groups "in urging the Biden administration to reject calls to halt permits for U.S. LNG export facilities." In a letter to U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, "the groups emphasized the critical role that continued U.S. LNG exports play in safeguarding national security, creating U.S. jobs, supporting our European allies and contributing to global climate goals."
- The Education Committee is working to roll out the first 3 of 5 high level webinars for the AAPL membership. They will be approximately 4-6 hours in length. The first 3 topics will be:
  - Due Diligence
  - Royalty Calculations
  - Geology and Engineering for the Landman
- The AAPL is also working on developing tutorial videos, and has posted some pointers on AAPL Connect, showcasing technology tips and tricks and working to build that out.
- AAPL urges its membership to attend the upcoming AAPL annual event at Boston Park Plaza, Boston, MA on June 19 -21, 2024. The schedule has been revamped, including a Thursday night awards dinner with entertainment, as well as a first-time attendee reception on Wednesday prior to the start for all other attendees. They have some fun events lined up and it should be a good experience for all.
- **REMINDER** - If you aren't aware, if you are a member of AAPL (and really most of us should be) you are entitled to Professional Development Assistance. This is a registration fee reduction of up to \$300 for AAPL operated events - which can be used twice in the calendar year. So, if you'd like to use it for the Annual Meeting - by all means, use it. AAPL will take \$300 off your registration. You can use this for Institutes (ALI), RPL/CPL Exams, and NAPE Summit. So that is a \$600 benefit available to all members in good standing who have been a member for at least two years. I just wanted to make sure everyone was aware of that.

*Continued*



# AAPL DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Submitted by: Jeremy White

As always, I would like to thank the MLBC for the opportunity to represent the organization and region as its AAPL Director. I would also like to thank Tenmile Land, and its ownership, for supporting my efforts to serve this term. Finally, I'd like to thank Hamel Reinmiller and Denton Smith of Command Energy in Tulsa for extending such hospitality to the whole AAPL Board of Directors. They made us feel very welcome. If any of our members have questions or concerns related to the AAPL, feel free to reach out to me and I'll try to help the best way I can.

Sincerely,

Jeremy M. White  
AAPL Director 2023-2025

**Please note the following dates related to upcoming Director's Meetings and the AAPL Annual Meeting.**

- Board Meeting: June 18-19, 2024 - Boston Park Plaza - Boston, MA
- AAPL Annual Meeting: June 19-22, 2024 - Boston Park Hotel - Boston, MA
- Board Meeting: September 27-29, 2024 - Grand Traverse Resort - Acme, MI
- Board Meeting: December 6-8, 2024 - Rancho Bernardo Inn - San Diego, CA



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## 2024 AAPL ELECTION: NEW OFFICER NOMINEES

The AAPL board of directors met on Sunday, March 10, at its quarterly meeting, and voted to approve a nominated slate of officers to serve for the 2024-25 term in accordance with the AAPL bylaws.

AAPL is using an electronic ballot for the election of the officer slate.

To access your official ballot, including biographical information of the officer nominees, please click the following link:

**[Click Here to View the Nominees and Cast Your Vote](#)**

Please take the time to review the election materials and cast your vote. The deadline to complete your ballot is May 20, 2024, at 11:59:59 PM CDT. Once you click on the submit button, you will not be able to vote again.

Thank you for your participation in this election.

Brian Tolson, CPL  
AAPL Secretary and Election Officer





## ANNUAL MEETING IN BOSTON IS A CAN'T-MISS EVENT

**THE LANDMEN ARE COMING, THE LANDMEN ARE COMING ... IN RECORD NUMBERS!**

The buzz around our **70th Annual Meeting** has been unmatched with registration numbers on track to meet or exceed pre-pandemic numbers! We cannot wait for the strong showing from our members and industry this June in Boston. The more energy professionals who attend, the better the professional development and tailored networking sessions!

Continue reading for important updates on the professional development and land conference. **Register now** to take advantage of low priority rates before they expire – or even worse – before Annual Meeting sells out!



**REGISTER**

**MORE ANNUAL MTG DETAILS**

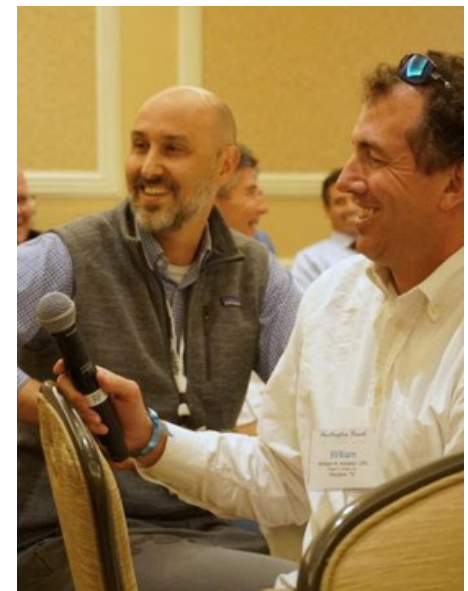
## LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS UNITE

**NEW TWISTS ARE ON THEIR WAY FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL LOCAL ASSOCIATION WORKSHOP**

The Local Association Workshop kicks off Annual Meeting on the afternoon of June 19. The workshop format will connect local association leaders from across North America in hopes to build stronger organizations for all. New for this year, participants can earn 1 CEU and enjoy a selection of beer and wine!

Over 25 associations participated in this one-of-a-kind event last year. Please RSVP your local association by emailing Andrea Spencer at [aspencer@landman.org](mailto:aspencer@landman.org).

Bring your entire Local Association! In addition to low priority rates, AAPL members can save an additional 20% with group rates by registering 5 or more at once.



**ALL SPECIAL EVENTS**

**REGISTER & SAVE**

## FRIDAY LUNCHEON KEYNOTE: TRISHA CURTIS

**PRESIDENT & CEO | PETRONERDS, LLC**

Trisha Curtis is a renowned macroeconomist who performs research, advising and consulting services for her clients. On her hit PetroNerds Podcast, Curtis gives listeners in-depth analysis of the U.S. and world economy, geopolitics and the U.S. shale industry. She was formerly the director of research, upstream and midstream at the Energy Policy Research Foundation, Inc. in Washington, D.C. Since 2010, she has led extensive research efforts and major consulting projects and authored several reports on the North American upstream and midstream markets for government agencies, global think tanks and corporations.

Trisha joins Trudy Cathy White and Sarah Sandberg as the third and final Annual Meeting keynote presenter. See full keynote bios in the [\*\*Keynote Speakers tab\*\*](#) on our Annual Meeting page.



### [\*\*KEYNOTE BIOS\*\*](#)

## HOT TOPICS

In addition to the aforementioned Local Association Workshop and world-class keynote speakers, attendees can earn CEUs throughout concurrent education sessions from industry leaders covering relevant topics, including:

- Energy Transition
- The Future of the Anadarko Washout
- Technology, Free & Simple: An AI Primer
- Co-locating Energy Assets
- Leadership: Evolving Company Culture
- Marketable Title
- Investing in Energy Stocks
- Ethics: Landmen & Chat Bot
- Human Capital in Energy
- Multitract Wells
- CCS: State of the States
- Robotics Demonstration from Boston Dynamics
- Legal Issues: Extraction of Lithium From Brine
- Shift Happens
- Estate Planning & Taxes

Attendees can earn over 13 total CEUs throughout Annual Meeting. Stay tuned for full topic list. Schedule and topics are subject to change and CLEs are to be determined.

### [\*\*SCHEDULE OF EVENTS\*\*](#)



## EXTRACURRICULAR HAPPENINGS

### EXPLORE BOSTON BEYOND ANNUAL MEETING

The birthplace of American literature will provide a unique backdrop for official **Annual Meeting events**, including our **Cheers Bar** Welcome Reception and new AAPL Celebrates event in the stunning **State Room**, as well as extracurricular options like the **Freedom Trail**, **Samuel Adams Brewery**, **Museum of Fine Arts** and **Duck Tours**. You may have to come extra early or stay extra late to catch a **Boston Red Sox game**, but you can find some '90s nostalgia with a **Hootie and the Blowfish** concert at Fenway Park on Friday, June 21, after Annual Meeting concludes. Continue the road down memory lane with a **Sarah McLachlan**, **Blue Man Group** or **Rick Springfield + Richard Marx** concert, all happening within days of Annual Meeting. Use your favorite search engine to find for more details on these Beantown offerings.



## ANNUAL MEETING HAPPENINGS

## CONNECT BEFORE BOSTON AT A SPRING ENERGY INSTITUTE

AAPL **Energy Institutes** offer a premium education event with a networking component. Held regionally around the country, these events are hosted by AAPL and have leadership coordination with corresponding AAPL local associations. Attending an Energy Institute is a great way to gear up for Annual Meeting – AAPL's flagship event.



## ENERGY INSTITUTES HOME

## ALL UPCOMING AAPL EVENTS

# NAPE

Where Deals Happen

February 7-9, 2024 | Houston, Texas



We'd like to recognize and congratulate Marietta College for receiving second place in the TCU Case Competition, Undergraduate Division! The winning team was comprised of Carson Meckler, Carson Halbower and Paige Schindler.

This year's topic focused around the pros and cons of upstream consolidation or mega-mergers in the E&P sector of the oil & gas industry and the impact of the M&As on stakeholders, domestic economic growth, energy consumers and the energy transition. Teams had exactly 5 hours to research the topic and prepare a 15 minute power point presentation. They then gave the live presentation to a panel of judges with Q&A after.





# AAPL RPL/CPL CERTIFICATION EXAM REVIEW - PITTSBURGH, PA

**REGISTER**

Review will be held May 15-17, 2024, at the Steptoe & Johnson Southpointe office:

Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC  
11 Grandview Circle, Suite 200  
Canonsburg, PA 15317  
(724) 749-3140

**COURSE OVERVIEW:** The Certification Exam Review is a fast-paced, intensive study of the topics covered by the CPL and RPL certification exams. Lectures will be interactive and enhanced with problem-solving sessions. It is highly acclaimed as a thorough land review and an excellent means of preparation for the CPL and RPL exams. This class covers the following topics:

**Registration Includes:** CPL/ RPL Study Guide provided on Day 1. Previous purchases are non-refundable. After selecting [REGISTER \$], use the drop down arrow to choose the preferred registration, RPL Review or CPL Review. The default is for the CPL review option.

**RPL/CPL Day 1:**

Real Property Law  
Land Descriptions  
Contract Law  
Conveyancing and Interest Calculations  
Oil and Gas Lease  
Ethics

**CPL Day 2:**

Pooling  
Joint Operating Agreement  
Negotiations  
Well Trades

**CPL Day 3:**

Federal Leases and Units  
Environmental  
Offshore  
Mineral Landwork  
Federal Taxes on Oil and Gas Income  
Geographic Information Systems

**RPL: 6 CEU & 1 Ethic**

**CPL: 18 CEU & 1 Ethic**



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PIRATES TAKE ON THE  
CARDINALS. ENJOY FOOD,  
DRINKS AND FIREWORKS  
AFTER GAME



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JULY 3RD  
6:40PM GAME  
START



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SEVENTH INNING  
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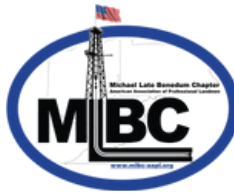


[www.mlbc-aapl.org](http://www.mlbc-aapl.org)



# THANK YOU TO OUR HOME RUN SPONSORS





## Member Spotlight: David Stockman

### Tell us a little about yourself.

My name is David Stockman and I have grown up in Canonsburg, PA all my life. I went to Canon-McMillan High school where I met my high school sweetheart, Leah Stockman, in November of 1988. We married in June of 1998 at the St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Canonsburg and are still married and attend the same church after 26 years. Not sure how she has put up with me this long, but we are still together and have an 18-year-old son, Nathan. Nathan continues the Canon McMillan tradition and plays the tenor sax in the Big Mac Band. He was drum major his junior and senior year, has completed his Eagle Scout and is a very good student. He is currently driving his mother and dad crazy...and broke, trying to determine where he wants to go to college and study pre-medicine. In our spare time, which is not much, we both like to golf and the three of us are all Disney and Star Wars fans.

### Who are you currently employed or contracted with?

I am currently the Director of Land for Eastern Operations with Western Land Services. I started this position in October of 2022.

### How long have you worked in the oil and gas industry? And what states do you have experience? And tell us about any other land organization you belong.

I started in the oil and gas industry as an abstractor for the broker Szuhay & Associates. I am still grateful for David Szuhay and a number of the people I met and continue to work with, that took the gamble on me and gave me the opportunity to learn the title side of the business and then allowed me move inside at Atlas Energy to continue my development as a landman. I have worked in all of Appalachia (PA, WV, OH). I have also worked due diligence projects in CA, CO, OK, KY and TX. I am a member of the AAPL, WEN, ELN, APA, GPAMS, IRWA, as well as other regional chapters in OK and TX.

### Tell us about your first position in the industry.

I started out with Szuhay & Associates in the lowest capacity. I entered the industry with just a small bit of knowledge around real estate title and quick surface title checks I did for Chuck Swick, a local attorney in Meadville while I was going to Allegheny College for my undergraduate degree. Once I started with Szuhay, I entered a class where the instructors taught us the basic abstracting requirements and all things title around severances, adversing, run sheets, title chains, etc. Once I got my feet wet there, I was asked to work on a project at Atlas Energy that included working on all of the exhibits for the Atlas/Reliance partnership that ultimately put Atlas in the position to be sold and purchased by oil and gas giant Chevron. I am very lucky that I was hired on by Atlas after completing this work and continued working for Chevron in positions of increased responsibility until they sold all of their Appalachia assets to EQT and left the basin.

### What areas of the industry do you have experience in?

Most of my experience lies in the land and asset development side of the industry. I have been involved in acquisition, surface, ROW, permitting, pooling, title, due diligence, divestment, and other land negotiations or strategy development.

### Do you have a mentor in the industry? Can you provide details?

This is an extremely hard question for me, as I have met and worked with so many amazing people since joining the oil and gas industry. It would be almost impossible for me to name them and thank them all. I hope they all know how much I care about them and appreciate them! In addition, I have been extremely lucky to have worked with some great leaders and even better people. Their passion for the industry, but also in the people that they worked with and the integrity they brought to the table, were simply unmatched. The 3 people that have influenced my career as a landman and that I respect most are Bill Kerns, Jeff Wilson and Trent Webre. They are great mentors, and I am very lucky to be able to call each of them friends as well. They continue to help me and shape my career as a landman, a leader at Western, in the oil and gas industry, as well as in my life as a husband and father.

### How long have you been a member of the MLBC. Do you currently have any certifications through the AAPL?

I think I have been an MLBC member for approximately 10 years now. I do not have any certifications through the AAPL.

### What benefits have you found as a member of the MLBC? What are your favorite aspects?

There are many benefits of the MLBC but the relationship building, and the educational aspects of the organization are just enormous. The ability to get to really know your peers on a personal level and discuss specific topics around our business, direction in the industry, growth opportunities, hiring, etc. is just amazing. One of the key features of a good landman has always been relationship building and meeting people where they are. I think the MLBC does a great job doing just that!

### Do you serve the MLBC, AAPL, or any other organizations in an executive capacity and/or serve as a committee chair? Are you a member of any committees?

I am the new MLBC Awards Chair. I am very humbled to be given the opportunity to work on this committee and am looking forward to becoming more involved with the MLBC and Executive Board.

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## HIGH-YIELDING RESULTS.



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Natural Resources



Environmental &  
Regulatory



Business  
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Real Estate,  
Land Use & Zoning



Pipeline &  
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Commercial  
Litigation

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# *Spring Social At the Tropics*

LIVE MUSIC BY  
THE JUKEBOX  
BAND

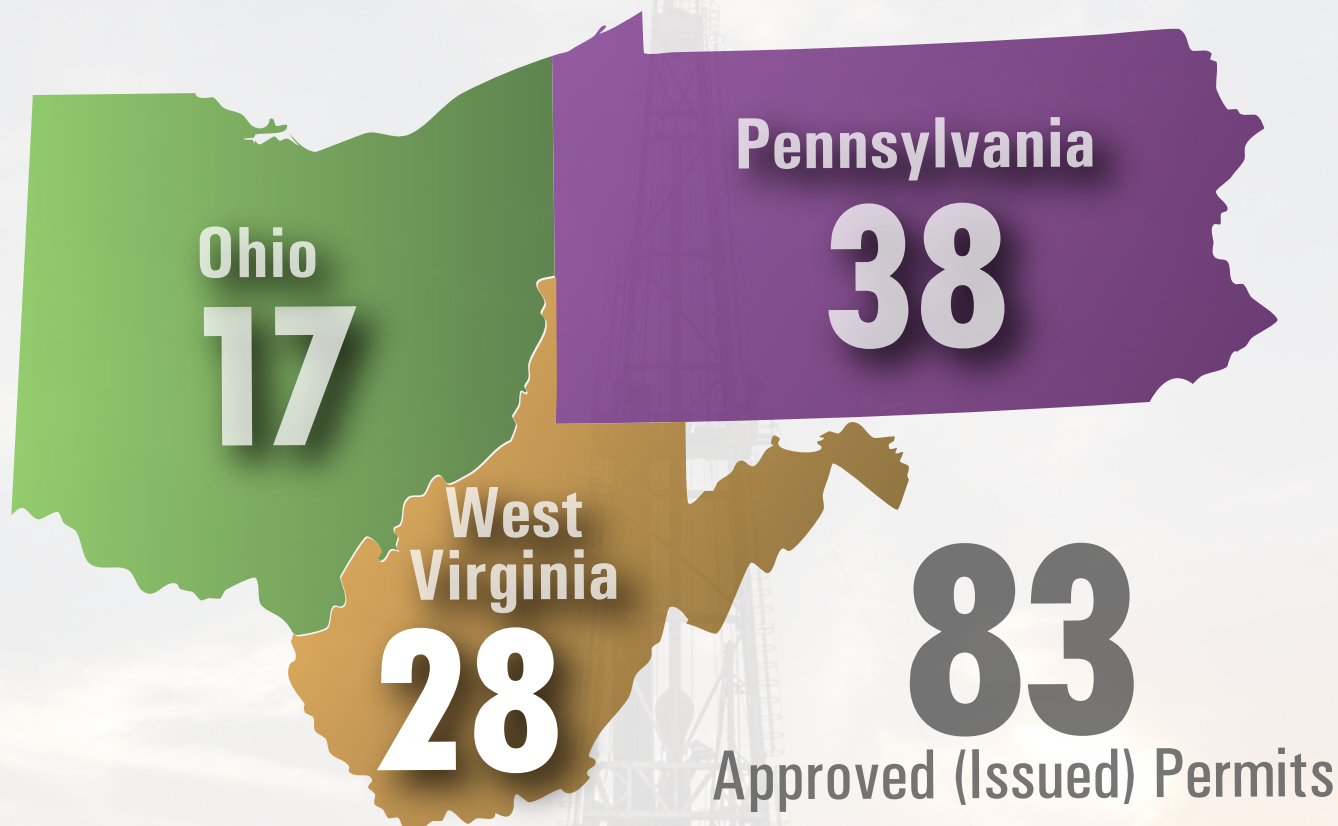


**May 9, 2024**

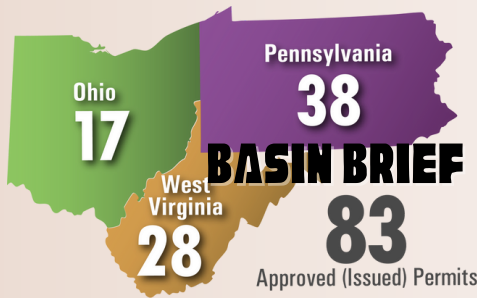
Join us for a night of networking, food, drinks  
and live music

**FOR MORE INFO:**  
[www.mlbc-aapl.org](http://www.mlbc-aapl.org)

# BASIN BRIEF



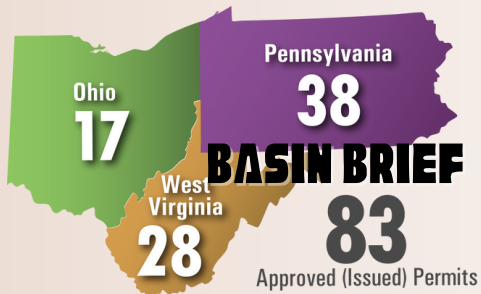
*BASIN ACTIVITY INFORMATION PROVIDED BY JKPC, INC. PETROLEUM CONSULTANTS AND IS CURRENT AS OF FEBRUARY 2024.*



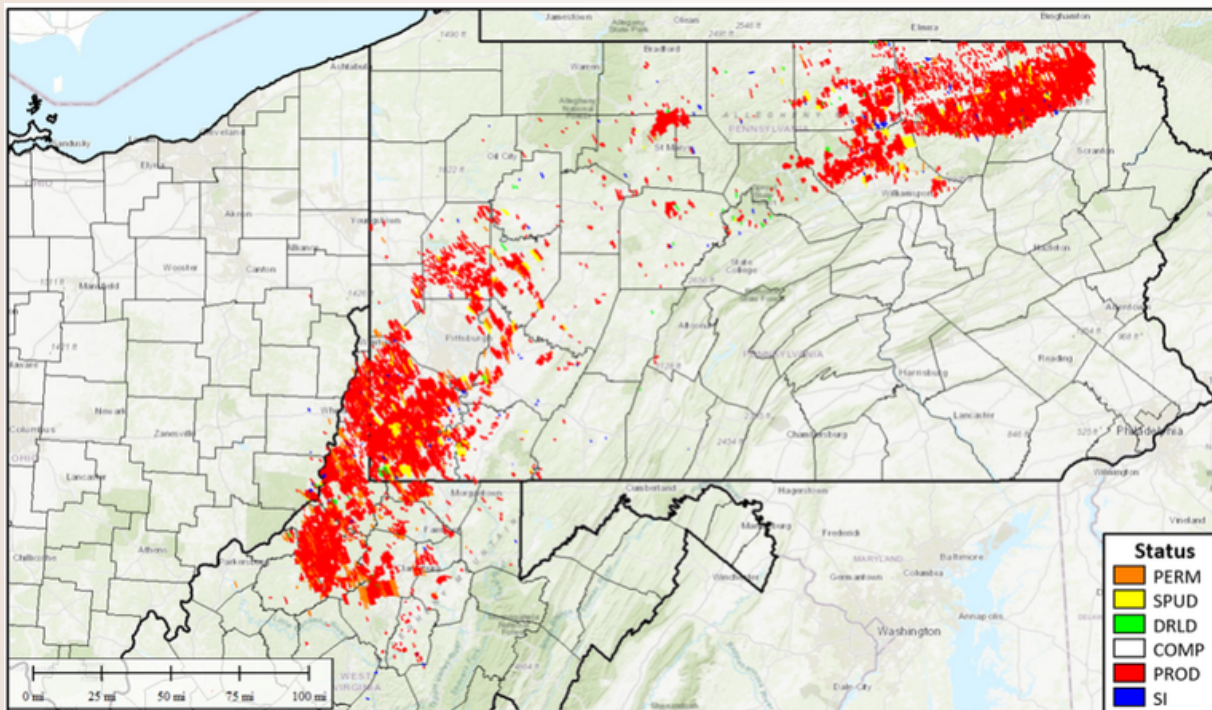
# PERMIT DETAILS

NO.	API	COUNTY	OPERATOR	PERMIT DATE	RESERVOIR
1	34-059-24651-0000	Guernsey	Encino	02/05/2024	Utica
2	34-059-24652-0000	Guernsey	Encino	02/05/2024	Utica
3	34-059-24653-0000	Guernsey	Encino	02/05/2024	Utica
4	34-059-24654-0000	Guernsey	Encino	02/05/2024	Utica
5	34-019-22872-0000	Carroll	Encino	02/21/2024	Utica
6	34-019-22873-0000	Carroll	Encino	02/21/2024	Utica
7	34-019-22874-0000	Carroll	Encino	02/21/2024	Utica
8	34-019-22875-0000	Carroll	Encino	02/21/2024	Utica
9	34-019-22876-0000	Carroll	Encino	02/21/2024	Utica
10	34-019-22877-0000	Carroll	Encino	02/22/2024	Utica
11	34-019-22878-0000	Carroll	Encino	02/22/2024	Utica
12	34-019-22879-0000	Carroll	Encino	02/22/2024	Utica
13	34-019-22880-0000	Carroll	Encino	02/22/2024	Utica
14	34-067-21783-0000	Harrison	Gulfport	02/28/2024	Utica
15	34-067-21784-0000	Harrison	Gulfport	02/28/2024	Utica
16	34-067-21785-0000	Harrison	Gulfport	02/28/2024	Utica
17	34-121-24657-0000	Noble	EOG Resources	02/27/2024	Utica
18	37-081-21998	Lycoming	Beech Resources	02/01/2024	Marcellus
19	37-081-22000	Lycoming	Beech Resources	02/01/2024	Marcellus
20	37-081-22001	Lycoming	Beech Resources	02/01/2024	Marcellus
21	37-115-23125	Susquehanna	Coterra	02/01/2024	Marcellus
22	37-125-29114	Washington	Range Resources	02/01/2024	Marcellus
23	37-125-29115	Washington	Range Resources	02/01/2024	Marcellus
24	37-015-23901	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/05/2024	Marcellus
25	37-015-23902	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/05/2024	Marcellus
26	37-015-23903	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/05/2024	Marcellus
27	37-015-23904	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/05/2024	Marcellus
28	37-047-25155	Elk	Seneca	02/05/2024	Marcellus
29	37-047-25158	Elk	Seneca	02/05/2024	Marcellus
30	37-047-25156	Elk	Seneca	02/06/2024	Marcellus
31	37-047-25157	Elk	Seneca	02/06/2024	Marcellus
32	37-007-20656	Beaver	Range Resources	02/07/2024	Marcellus
33	37-007-20657	Beaver	Range Resources	02/07/2024	Marcellus
34	37-003-22659	Allegheny	Range Resources	02/08/2024	Marcellus
35	37-003-22660	Allegheny	Range Resources	02/08/2024	Marcellus
36	37-003-22661	Allegheny	Range Resources	02/08/2024	Marcellus
37	37-015-23905	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/13/2024	Marcellus
38	37-015-23906	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/13/2024	Marcellus
39	37-015-23907	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/13/2024	Marcellus
40	37-015-23908	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/15/2024	Marcellus

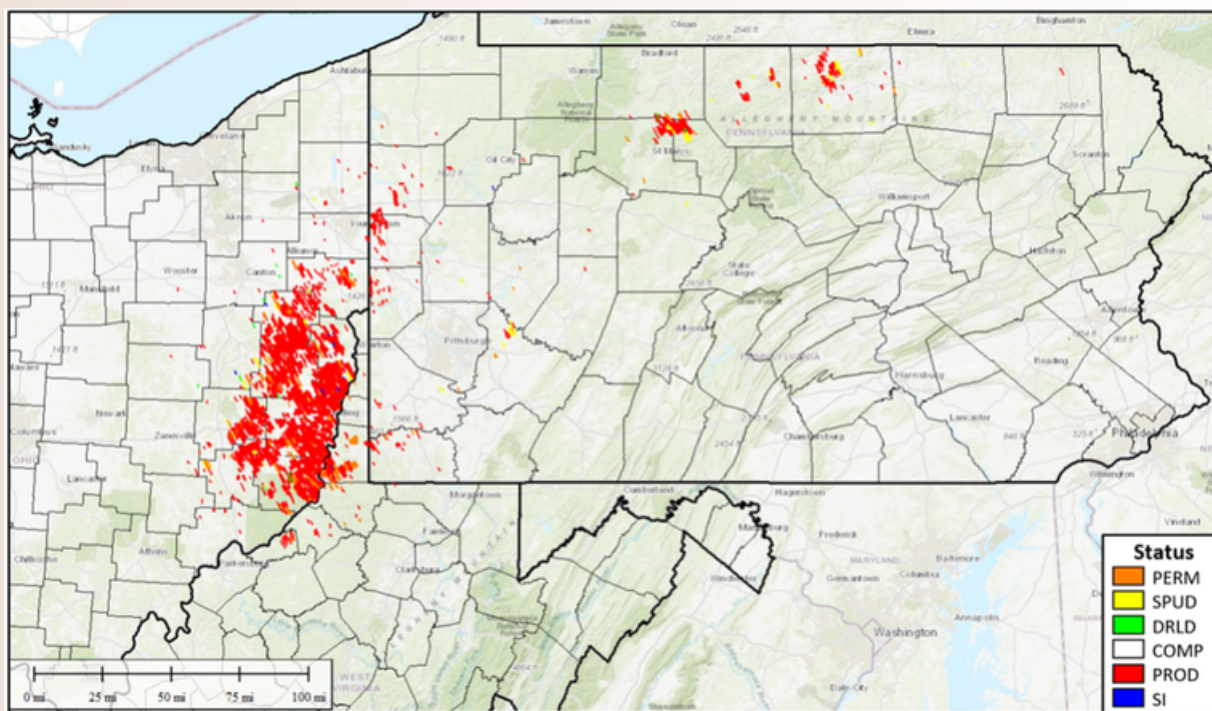
41	37-015-23909	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/15/2024	Marcellus
42	37-115-23154	Susquehanna	Coterra	02/15/2024	Marcellus
43	37-125-29111	Washington	Range Resources	02/15/2024	Marcellus
44	37-125-29112	Washington	Range Resources	02/15/2024	Marcellus
45	37-125-29113	Washington	Range Resources	02/15/2024	Marcellus
46	37-059-28374	Greene	EQT	02/16/2024	Marcellus
47	37-115-23165	Susquehanna	Coterra	02/16/2024	Marcellus
48	37-015-23890	Bradford	Repsol	02/21/2024	Marcellus
49	37-015-23891	Bradford	Repsol	02/21/2024	Marcellus
50	37-015-23892	Bradford	Repsol	02/21/2024	Marcellus
51	37-015-23893	Bradford	Repsol	02/21/2024	Marcellus
52	37-015-23894	Bradford	Repsol	02/21/2024	Marcellus
53	37-015-23910	Bradford	Chesapeake	02/21/2024	Marcellus
54	37-081-22002	Lycoming	Beech Resources	02/21/2024	Marcellus
55	37-129-29214	Westmoreland	CNX	02/22/2024	Utica
56	47-051-02423	Marshall	EQT	02/01/2024	Utica
57	47-051-02424	Marshall	EQT	02/01/2024	Utica
58	47-051-02442	Marshall	EQT	02/01/2024	Utica
59	47-051-02443	Marshall	EQT	02/01/2024	Utica
60	47-051-02444	Marshall	EQT	02/01/2024	Utica
61	47-051-02445	Marshall	EQT	02/01/2024	Utica
62	47-051-02446	Marshall	EQT	02/01/2024	Utica
63	47-051-02447	Marshall	EQT	02/01/2024	Utica
64	47-033-06027	Harrison	Diversified	02/09/2024	Marcellus
65	47-033-06028	Harrison	Diversified	02/09/2024	Marcellus
66	47-069-00366	Ohio	SWN	02/12/2024	Marcellus
67	47-069-00367	Ohio	SWN	02/12/2024	Marcellus
68	47-041-05760	Lewis	HG Energy	02/20/2024	Marcellus
69	47-085-10515	Ritchie	Antero	02/26/2024	Marcellus
70	47-085-10516	Ritchie	Antero	02/26/2024	Marcellus
71	47-085-10517	Ritchie	Antero	02/26/2024	Marcellus
72	47-091-01377	Taylor	Arsenal	02/26/2024	Marcellus
73	47-091-01378	Taylor	Arsenal	02/26/2024	Marcellus
74	47-051-02441	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Utica
75	47-051-02454	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Utica
76	47-051-02455	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Utica
77	47-051-02456	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Utica
78	47-051-02458	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Utica
79	47-051-02459	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Utica
80	47-051-02460	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Utica
81	47-051-02468	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Marcellus
82	47-051-02469	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Marcellus
83	47-051-02470	Marshall	EQT	02/28/2024	Marcellus



## MARCELLUS WELLS BY STATUS

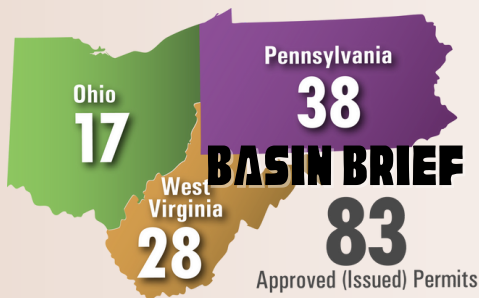


## UTICA WELLS BY STATUS









## PRODUCING WELL COUNT BY RESERVOIR

RESERVOIR	OH	PA	WV	TOTAL
Marcellus	41	11,027	3,685	14,753
Utica	3,273	388	109	3,770
Burkett	-	242	30	272
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,314</b>	<b>11,657</b>	<b>3,824</b>	<b>18,795</b>

## PRODUCING MARCELLUS WELLS

OPERATOR	OH	PA	WV	TOTAL
EQT	-	1,513	861	2,374
Chesapeake	-	1,594	-	1,594
Range Resources	-	1,527	-	1,527
SWN	30	768	635	1,433
Antero	-	-	1,210	1,210
Coterra	-	1,055	-	1,055
Seneca	-	830	-	830
Repsol	-	760	-	760
Rice	-	543	-	543
CNX	1	433	85	519
Others (68)	10	2,004	894	2,908
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>11,027</b>	<b>3,685</b>	<b>14,753</b>

## PRODUCING UTICA WELLS

OPERATOR	OH	PA	WV	TOTAL
Encino	994	-	-	994
Ascent	878	-	-	878
Gulfport	446	-	-	446
Antero	241	-	1	242
SWN	206	1	5	212
Hilcorp	76	92	-	168
Seneca	-	166	-	166
Rice	142	1	-	143
INR Operating	103	-	-	103
EQT	-	11	71	82
Others (19)	187	117	32	336
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,273</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>3,770</b>

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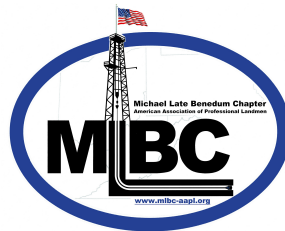
Michael Late Benedum  
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# MLBC

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 4-5**

**Appalachian Land Institute**  
Hiton Garden Inn at Southpointe, PA

**May 9**

**Spring Social at the Tropics**  
Tropics, Morgantown, WV

**May 24**

**Spring Golf Charity Outing**  
Quicksilver Golf Club, Midway, PA

**June 13**

**Spring Charity Clay Shoot**  
Stonewall Sporting Clays, Roanoke, WV

**June 13**

**Annual Awards and Scholarship**  
Stonewall Resort, Roanoke, WV

**July 3**

**Pittsburgh Pirates Game**  
6:05 game start and fireworks after

**August 15**

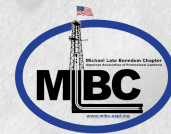
**Educational Luncheon**  
Southpointe Golf Club, Canonsburg, PA

**August 30**

**Fall Charity Golf Event**  
Southpointe Golf Club, Canonsburg, PA

2023 - 2024

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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**Sergeant At Arms**

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**Local Director**

Steve Carr  
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**Local Director**

Daniel Cooper  
Amecos Resources, LLC  
[daniel.cooper82@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.cooper82@gmail.com)



**Regional Director**

Jeremy White  
Ten Mile Land, LLC  
[jeremywhite@tenmileland.com](mailto:jeremywhite@tenmileland.com)



**President Emeritus**

Justin Nixon, CPL  
Northeast Natural Energy  
[jnixon@nne-llc.com](mailto:jnixon@nne-llc.com)

# 2023-2024



# COMMITTEE CHAIRS



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**SCHOLARSHIP/UNIVERSITY LIASON:**  
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# MLBC MEMBERSHIP REPORT MARCH 2024



First Name	Last Name	Employer	Member Type	Sponsoring Member
Christina	Chain	Flat River Minerals/Cloud Peak Minerals	Active	Whitney Wickes
Jason	Willamson	Percheron	Active	Christa Dotson
Shawna	Floyd	Tenmile Land	Associate	Jeremy White
Gunnar	Drell	Cloud Peak Minerals	Associate	Thomas Carey
Tracy	Huson	Independent Broker	Associate	Amy Gough
Richard	Reed	Vanguard Real Estate Solutions	Active	Jonny Garner
Benjamin	Elchik	Brighton Land Management, Inc.	Active	Michael Moran
John	Schurman	Recon Resources	Associate	David Stockman
Natalie	Jefferis	BHE GT&S	Active	Gregory Cunningham
Dax	Taylor	EOG Resrouces, Inc.	Active	Will Porter
Chuck	Walton	EOG Resrouces, Inc.	Active	Jacon Lucas

## MEMBERSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

<b>Total Members:</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>Total Active:</b>	<b>434</b>
<b>Active:</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>% Active:</b>	<b>67.29%</b>
<b>Active PP:</b>	<b>30</b>		
<b>Honorary:</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Associate :</b>	<b>108</b>
		<b>Student:</b>	<b>93</b>

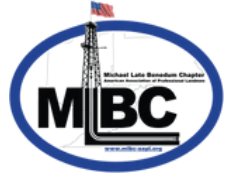
## SHOUT OUT!

Congratulations to the following member(s) recently gaining their Certification through the AAPL :

**Savanna Hardy, CPL**

*New members are approved on a monthly basis. If the need arises to move along membership approval (ex. Ohio Landman Registration), please email Abby Veigel - [abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org](mailto:abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org)*

# MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



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

Application for membership in the Association shall be subject to the approval by a majority vote of the Executive Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting and shall require the signed approval by the acting President of the Executive Committee, as evidence of the Committee's approval.

Notice of the approved application(s) of all potential Association member(s) shall be printed in the next regularly scheduled publication of the Association. Members shall have the opportunity for a period of thirty (30) days following the publication to object to the potential member's application.