

**By: James “Bobo” Clarke
AAPL Director, Mississippi**

The AAPL Board of Directors’ Meeting was held June 8, 2011 in Boston, Massachusetts, in connection with the AAPL 2011 Annual Meeting. From the keynote speaker, Karl Rove, Former Senior Advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff to President George W. Bush, to the scheduled events and activities, it was an educational fun filled time for all. Trudy Fisher from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality was one of the guest speakers presenting the topic “Environmental Effects and Litigation Resulting from the BP Oil Spill”. Highlights from the meeting are as follows:

Newly elected Officers of the AAPL Executive Committee for fiscal year of 2011-2012 are as follows:

- President: Jack C Richards, CPL, Devon Energy Production Co., LP, Oklahoma City, OK
- 1st VP: Jim R Dewbre, CPL, Southwestern Energy Co., Houston, TX
- 2nd VP: Bernard J Ulincy, CPL, Range Resources-Appalachie, LLC, Canonburg, PA
- 3rd VP: Russell S Shinever, CPL, Independent Landman, Lansing, MI
- Secretary: Ms Pamela D Feist, CPL, Lakewood Exploration, Midland, TX
- Treasurer: Houston J Kaufman, Jr., CPL, Independent Landman, Fort Worth, TX
- Immediate Past President: Steve Wentworth, CPL, EOG Resources, Fort Worth, TX

Awards were presented at the opening session of the annual meeting. Congratulations to David W. Miller for receiving the Special Service to AAPL Staff Award. Other awards presented are as follows:

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| Best AAPL Director Communication | Randy Browne, CPL |
| Best Member Communication | Michel Curry, CPL |
| Best Article Published in an AAPL Publication | Thomas Marranzino, Jessica Pink, and Anna Cavaleri |
| Best Newsletters | Tulsa Association of Petroleum Landmen and Los Angeles Association of Professional Landmen |
| Special Award for Community Service | Dallas Association of Petroleum Landmen, and Fort Worth Association of Professional Landmen |
| Special Award for Education | Terry McInturff |
| Special Service AAPL Board of Directors | Michel Curry, CPL |
| Local Association of the Year | Permian Basin Landmen’s Association |
| Landman of the Year | Bill Rex, CPL |
| Lifetime Achievement Award | T Verne Dwyer, CPL |

AAPL Board Committees and Chairman contact information for the 2011-2012 fiscal year are listed below for your convenience:

COMMITTEE	CHAIRMAN	EMAIL	PHONE
Annual Meeting	Greg Zerkel	gzerkel@gmail.com	(304) 677-8228
Awards	Jeff Niemeyer	Jeff.Niemeyer@anadarko.com	(720) 929-6583
ByLaw & Policy Review	Mike Curry	mcurry@cbtd.com	(432) 685-8541
Certification	Doug Black	dblack@blackstoneminerals.com	(713) 929-1604
Education	David W. Miller	davwmil@aol.com	(601) 969-1160
Ethics	Own M. (Monty) Barnhill	o.barnhill@sbcglobal.net	(405) 748-5717
Field Landman	Robert Bergfeld, Jr.	robert@bergfeldland.com	(903) 526-3838
Finance	Jim R. Dewbre	jdewbre@swn.com	(281) 618-4711
Forms	Dora Soria	dora.i.soria@conocophillips.com	(907) 265-6297
Technology	Randy Nichols	rnichols@cincoland.com	(713) 463-6009
Leg/Reg	John Raines	john.raines@dvn.com	(405) 228-4480
Marketing	Brooks Yates	jbyates@ventexoilandgas.com	(214) 520-2929
Membership	Mike Hinze	mike.hinze@nfrenergy.com	(832) 242 9613
Publications	Jeff Myers	Jeff@landmen.com	(918) 584-2111 ext 203
Public Lands & Land Access	Richard Champion	richard.champion@encana.com	(720) 876-3609
Long Range (Strategic) Planning	Jim R. Dewbre	jdewbre@swn.com	(281) 618-4711
Subnominating	Scott Stone	sstone@spartanresources.com	(405) 843-0420
Tax Issues	Roger Soape	ras@rasoape.com	(281) 440-6347
Education Foundation	Jack Richards	jack.richards@dvn.com	(405) 228-4418
Landman Scholarship Trust	Jim R. Dewbre	jdewbre@swn.com	(281) 618-4711
NAPE Operations Committee	David Cape	david.cape@cypressep.com	(512) 342-6312
NAPE Advisory Board	Craig Young	craig.young@youngandshedd.com	(325) 691-0051

AAPL Committee Volunteers AAPL is always seeking members to become a part and get involved with the various committees. Those interested are encouraged to contact the various Committee Chairperson or your local AAPL Director for more information.

Membership in AAPL continues to rise. As of March 31, 2011, the total AAPL Membership was **12,415**. AAPL is currently taking renewals for the upcoming 2011-2012 membership period. Below is a breakdown of AAPL members by type and count.

Active Members	9,911
Associate Members	1,600
Active – Non USA	74
Associate – Non USA	11
Senior Members	228
Golden Lease	34
Life Members	4
Student Members	553
Total	12,415

The AAPL Membership Committee is working more closely with the local associations to recruit, retain, and effectively report members for the benefit of AAPL and local associations. The following is a method developed to assist with the recruiting and retaining process and membership reporting:

Recruiting. AAPL will report on a regular basis to the President and Director of the local association of any new AAPL members. The local association is encouraged to report on a regular basis any new local member that is not a member of AAPL. AAPL is also available to assist in promoting local associational events such as educational seminars, program meetings, and membership events.

Retaining. AAPL Directors will keep local members informed by providing their Director's Report of each quarterly Board Meeting and informing members of upcoming educational seminars and events. Retaining also includes follow-ups with non-renewals.

Reporting. The local associations will maintain and report a membership spreadsheet to help verify member information such as name, address, email address, birth date, AAPL ID Number and classification of membership as defined by AAPL guidelines.

AAPL looks forward to working with each local association to provide the necessary services and resources to reach out, include and unite landmen and land-related persons through professional development and service.

Educational Committee has recently released updated certification guidelines for its three designations – Registered Landman (RL), Registered Professional Landman (RPL) and Certified Professional Landman (CPL). The most significant change affects the RPL designation, which no longer requires a four-year degree.

A sub-committee designated “Local Liaisons” has been established to interact with each local association in developing educational opportunities with both local and national appeal.

Field Landman Committee has teamed up with the Membership and Education Committees to schedule as many Field Landman seminars as possible throughout the year in an effort to keep AAPL's commitment of supporting the field landman. The seminars are free to AAPL members. As part of the membership drive program, non-members can register for \$50 when they attend a seminar in 2011-2012. By registering, the \$50 fee can apply for AAPL membership at no cost for the first year.

The Landman Scholarship Trust Review Group has named Martin Lebrun from the University of Tulsa as AAPL's 2011 Outstanding Graduate. Additionally, the group has selected the scholarship award recipients for the 2011-2012 semester cycles. All selected recipients from the six accredited schools (the University of Calgary, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the University of Oklahoma, Texas Tech University, the University of Tulsa and Western State College of Colorado) have been contacted and made aware of their respective awards.

AAPL IT/Website Committee's goal is to develop the “go to” website for all AAPL members and professional landmen that will focus on a user friendly website. A site that is member focused, promotes the landman and its profession, and provides an easy way to all members to get involved with AAPL. Visit the website at www.landman.org to learn more about AAPL, upcoming educational events, industry forms, job postings, etc.

AAPL Treasurer's Report reported the financial condition for the period ending March 31, 2011. The Balance Sheet for the referenced period reported total assets increased by 27.1% to \$20,775,004. The Statement of Income and Expenses for same referenced period reported revenues increased 36% to \$7,123,985. Expenses increased 28.1% to \$3,914,845. The increase in expenses is due to personnel additions and growth in operations over the course of the year and a \$500,000 grant to the Educational Foundation. The overall increase in net revenue is due to the Luther King investment account.

Upcoming AAPL Board of Directors Meetings for the 2011-2012 fiscal year are scheduled as follows:

September 10-11, 2011 – Palm Beach, FL
December 3-4, 2011 – Scottsdale, AZ
March 17-18, 2012 – Yountville, CA
June 13-16, 2012 – San Francisco, CA

Summer NAPE 2011 will be held August 17-19, 2011. Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17th and Exhibits are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, August 18th-19th. Booth registrations are showing a strong start for the summer's event in Houston. Housing and event registrations are now available at the website www.napeexpo.com. Mr. Marty Schardt, Executive Vice President of AAPL and the rest of the AAPL staff, will be coordinating the general operations of NAPE.

Winter NAPE 2012 will be held February 22-24, 2012. Booth registration deadline for returning exhibitors was March 24. Registration form for new exhibitors is available on the web site.

AAPL NAPE Operator's Committee The purpose of the AAPL NAPE Operator's Committee (the “Committee”) is to provide oversight of NAPE administration through the review and monitoring of NAPE general operations, activities, budgets and financial results in order to insure the on-going success of NAPE.

In view of the significant impact that NAPE has on AAPL, in terms of financial stability, industry activity and the land professional's role and stature in the energy industry, the Committee's objectives include, without limitation, the following:

- Improve the efficiency, financial strength and effectiveness of NAPE operations;
- Review and evaluate NAPE programs and effectiveness;
- Review and approve the budget for each NAPE Expo, to be prepared and submitted by NAPE staff within ninety (90) days following the conclusion of the preceding NAPE Expo;
- Inform AAPL leadership (as described below) on all pertinent information affecting the on-going success of NAPE;

- Assist in development of new policies, initiatives and improvements pertaining to NAPE operations;
- Ensure NAPE operational compliance in conformity with AAPL by-laws and policies; and
- Elevate the stature of AAPL as Operator of NAPE.

The Committee shall be comprised of nine (9) appointed AAPL members, serving on a rotating three-year term, with three members rotating off annually, starting in June 2012. The committee chair and assistant chair shall be appointed by the then-current AAPL president and first vice president, respectively. The Committee shall also include the then-current chair of the NAPE Advisory committee (if that individual is an AAPL representative), the AAPL Executive Vice President (non-voting member) and the NAPE Executive Vice President (non-voting member). The Committee chair and/or assistant chair shall coordinate with the AAPL Executive Committee through its designated liaison and report to the AAPL board of directors in the same manner and frequency as other AAPL standing committees.

The Committee shall endeavour to meet quarterly in person or via teleconference to accomplish its purpose and objectives.

CURRENT LEGAL MATTERS

The Tax Issues Committee has advised of tax issues currently affecting independent landmen, and the firms that retain them, which have again been targeted by at least one state seeking to classify independent contractors as employees for tax purposes. AAPL has provided guidance to the directors of the affected local landman's associations to assist them in responding to the state challenge. If you are an Independent contractor and your tax status has been challenged, please contact Roger Soape at the above contact information.

The Committee is monitoring efforts by the IRS to disallow field landmen's travel expenses due to long term hotel stays resulting in change of landman's tax-purposes residence from his/her home to the hotel.

Louisiana UPL Currently, there is an Unlicensed Practicing of Law playing out in the State of Louisiana. AAPL filed an Amicus brief addressing same and lost. The case and the UPL part are to be appealed to the Louisiana Supreme Court. There are current issues in West Virginia and Wyoming, as well. Texas has been successful in defeating the UPL in the past and has also been successful in defeating licensing of landmen. This issue is bad for Landmen and is being monitored very closely by AAPL. More details and written material will follow soon.

**** Mark Eppes** has been chosen to represent MAPL as AAPL Director for the next two years. Congratulations Mark !

On a personal note, it has been an honor and a privilege to represent MAPL as AAPL Director. It has been a very rewarding opportunity to meet and work with other land professionals in striving for a common goal of carrying the industry and profession into the future. I will continue to be involved with AAPL as a member of the AAPL Strategic Planning Committee. Should you have suggestions / comments for the betterment of the Association, please let me know and your voice will be heard. Thank you again, Bobo