



CHASE
CHICAGO

AAPL ANNUAL MEETING

AAPL ANNUAL MEETING

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THEATRE BUILDING
136 N. STATE STREET

AAPL 68th Annual Meeting

Landmen return to Chicago to network, learn and enjoy the best of the Windy City

After 14 years, AAPL returned to Chicago for its 68th Annual Meeting, and the Windy City did not disappoint. Despite uncertainty if Chicago could still be a feasible destination due to the city's strict COVID-19 vaccination requirements, once the mandates lifted, members showed their excitement to return to the iconic city and AAPL forged full speed ahead with plans for the event.

Once again faced with a short window to promote the Annual Meeting, staff organizers and committee members worked quickly to produce a memorable experience for attendees. Led by Annual Meeting Chair Michelle Aurzada, CPL, and Education Annual Meeting/Seminar Committee Chair Trinidad Hernandez, CPL, the Annual Meeting boasted 17.5 continuing education credits and CLE credits from several states with an incredible slate of speakers lined up to hit it out of the ballpark.

With 350 attendees, the turnout was higher than last year's Annual Meeting in Arlington, Texas, exceeding expectations as AAPL looked to regain its footing at in-person events in a post-COVID-19 world. Thank you to all the attendees and exhibitors who participated and special thanks to the generous support of the following sponsors that helped make the Annual Meeting possible: Chevron, Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, ThoughtTrace Inc., EOG Resources Inc., Bryson Kuba, Devon Energy, Halo Land Management, Kearney, McWilliams & Davis PLLC, Lawrina, Turner Oil & Gas Properties, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Callon Petroleum, NAPE, Land Information Services, Peregrine Petroleum, PBLA, Roger A. Soape, Inc., Los Angeles Association of Professional Landmen, Murfin Drilling Co., Big Cypress Energy LLC, J. Mark Smith & Associates Inc., Tall Cotton Energy and Taylor Land Service Inc.



by/ **ANDREA SPENCER,**
CEM

*AAPL Production/
Communications
Manager*





Outgoing President Jim Devlin, CPL, presented the gavel to incoming President Carl Campbell, CPL.

OPENING SESSION

Chairman Aurzada, a former police officer, kicked off the meeting with a special treat for attendees. Patriotic American songs echoed throughout the Hilton Chicago as the Honor Guard and the Pipes and Drums of the Chicago Police Department set the stage for attendees at the start of the Opening Session. Adorned in kilts and comprised of past and present members of the Chicago Police Department, the CPD Pipe Band marched into the ballroom and subsequently into the hearts of many of those present. Attendees were so moved by the band and its mission to honor their fallen comrades that they made donations to the 100 Club of Illinois, which provides resources and support to families of first responders killed in the line of duty throughout the state.



Keynote speaker Alex Epstein addressed attendees during the Opening Session.

LOCAL ASSOCIATION ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

New this year, AAPL hosted a Local Association Roundtable Discussion, where attendees came together to contribute their thoughts, solutions and ideas related to various topics impacting local associations. The new event proved very successful, with more than 100 people attending and many people expressing their appreciation for the forum, which provided insight for innovative ways to bolster efforts with their local associations.

AWARDS

Each year, AAPL's president has an opportunity to recognize individuals for their remarkable efforts through the Presidential Meritorious Service Award. This year, AAPL President Jim Devlin, CPL, recognized Kyle Reynolds, CPL, for his efforts on the AAPL Policy Manual Task Force and C. Andrew Cooper, CPL, for the work he did as education czar.

The annual Awards Program featured several heavy hitters for their contributions to AAPL and the industry. Roger A. Soape, CPL, accepted the coveted Lifetime Achievement Award, and Allyson Johnstone Howard, CPL, took home the Landman of the Year Award. The Pioneer Award posthumously honored the legendary H.L. Hunt. For a complete list of award winners, see page 32.



The Blankenship Family Horizon Award recognized Beverly Cunningham for her accomplishments as a trailblazing female leader in the land industry who has distinguished herself in her career as well as in the profession and has supported AAPL and its mission.

Now in its fourth year, the Blankenship Family Horizon Award recognized Beverly Cunningham for her accomplishments as a trailblazing female leader in the land industry who has distinguished herself in her career as well as in the profession and has supported AAPL and its mission.

Widely believed to be the first woman to hold the title of a landman with a major oil company, Cunningham was interviewed by *The Conocoan*. In the article — titled “Beverly Is a Landman” — she describes her experience as a Kansas girl who worked her way up from scout secretary all the way to land advisor assigned to the manager of North America land and acquisitions. When she was promoted to landman, her manager asked her if she had a better idea for a title, and “landwoman,” “land lady” and “land cadet” were floated as options. She considered the suggestions but ultimately preferred landman.

She explained: “Landman identified the position in the industry, and I was happy with it. Ladies, can you imagine being called a land cadet? You owe me.”

WELCOME RECEPTION

The Welcome Reception was held in the beautiful Versailles-inspired Grand Ballroom of the Chicago Hilton. This magnificent ballroom has hosted kings, queens and numerous U.S. presidents and was the setting for *The Fugitive* movie, along with a dozen other films. Attendees sampled Chicago-style hot dogs, deep-dish pizza and a variety of pasta at the Taste of Chicago-themed event, while catching up with old friends and networking with professional peers at the event.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Former Horizon Award recipient Nancy McCaskell, CPL, executive vice president at Pitts Oil Company, keynoted the special awards event and gave a moving message about the importance of figuring out who you are and what really matters. Taking the audience on a journey through a time in her career when she had to challenge herself so she could become a better leader, she encouraged attendees to focus on “what things matter to you.”



Nancy McCaskell, CPL, moved attendees at the Horizon Breakfast with her keynote message about the importance of focusing on what things matter to you.



David Ramsden Wood headlined the Education Luncheon with a lively presentation of his perspectives on the energy industry.

Industrial policy pundit Alex Epstein and #hottakeoftheday podcast creator and former co-founder and COO of OneEnergy Partners David Ramsden-Wood provided attendees with engaging perspectives on the energy industry in their keynote addresses.

Epstein keynoted the Opening Session and focused on why we need more energy, not less. Fresh off his newly published book, *Why*

Global Human Flourishing Requires More Oil, Coal, and Natural Gas — Not Less, he offered arguments for how to frame the fossil fuel conversation to look at the full context.

Epstein discussed how in the global narrative to remove fossil fuels, the focus is only on the negative side effects when the reality is that fossil fuels are and will continue to be the lowest cost



Annual Meeting Chair Michelle Aurzada, CPL, welcomed attendees to the Hot Play Happy Hour Social at Buddy Guy's Legends Live Music & Blues Club.



Richard and Margaret Moritz, Fred MacDonald, Amber Meissner and Jordyn Beckwith enjoyed a Moscow Mule at the Hot Play Happy Hour Social.

source of reliable energy for billions of people for decades to come. He also noted low-cost reliable energy is fundamental to human flourishing and that increasing energy use correlates with improvements in the health and safety of our environment. Epstein questioned audience members several times, gauging how well the energy industry

is doing at winning the hearts and minds of people. While participation indicated various ratings, the consensus showed what Epstein referred to as a need to reframe the conversation to look at the bigger picture that also includes the benefits of fossil fuels.

Epstein also invited attendees to continue the conversation by

visiting energytalkingpoints.com and subscribing to his newsletter, which provides relevant information about current energy issues. As a special perk for registering early, attendees received a signed copy of Epstein's latest book and had a chance to meet him after his presentation.

Headlining the Education Luncheon with a lively presentation, Ramsden-Wood shared his passion for America's energy by highlighting the hypocrisy of those who are against the energy industry and what he believes it would be like to shift to renewable energy. He challenged oil executives to take on Big Tech, which has gone unnoticed in the media when comparing the rates of return between companies such as Google to major oil companies.

DRW concluded by saying, "We live in the best country in the world, and that's because of fossil fuels." He also encouraged attendees to continue the conversation by subscribing to his #hottakeoftheday podcast.

EDUCATION PROGRAM

Education sessions covered overlaps and challenges in estates as well as possible negotiation, zoning and spacing conflicts where renewable energy and oil and gas development may coexist. Other topics included fact versus fiction discussions surrounding climate change and global warming; the new concept of using flared gas to generate electric power for data centers or for crypto mining; ERCOT power grid issues; and the energy transition. Speakers also shared their experiences in traditional topics such as leadership development, law and finance, allocation wells, royalty price provisions, well engineering and economics, and law and finance surrounding mergers and consolidations.

The conference recordings bundle is still available for purchase and includes on-demand access to all the education sessions, including the Horizon Breakfast and Opening Session, and the opportunity to earn

up to 15.5 continuing education credits all from the comfort of your home or office. For more details, visit landman.org/events/annual-meeting/past-annual-meeting.

HOT PLAY HAPPY HOUR SOCIALS

Following the education program on Thursday, attendees made the brief walk to Buddy Guy's Legends Live Music & Blues Club — the premier blues club in Chicago, owned and operated by Grammy winning blues legend Buddy Guy. During the event, attendees had exclusive access to the two-story venue and enjoyed playing pool, listening to live jazz music and making connections with others working in the various plays around the country.

MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

President Devlin capped off his presidency, noting that AAPL had weathered the storm, and even though the association ended the year with a budget deficit, we surpassed membership expectations. In his farewell address, Devlin noted he had traveled 109 days — a total of 22 weeks for AAPL business. Thanking the hosts from his visits to 17 different cities and local associations, he said: "Membership in AAPL is a privilege. Thank you for the privilege of being part of your association."

Incoming President Carl Campbell, CPL, received the gavel and looked ahead to his plans for the year. He pointed to building on the strategic goals that have been identified for AAPL's future success and the already strong commitment to education. He looks forward to honing and refining the association's education programs and watching our membership numbers rebound, remarking, "We have a lot of wood to chop. We will do so."

Cranford Newell, CPL, presented the Treasurer's Report. For the period ending March 31, 2022, AAPL's assets totaled \$42,339,817, a \$1,316,297 — or 3% — decrease from \$43,656,114 a year prior, Newell reported.

AAPL Executive Vice President Greta Zeimetz acknowledged Devlin for his contributions to the association over the year and presented him with a Golden Lease on Life. Campbell presented a donation in Devlin's name to the Landman Scholarship Trust to be awarded to students studying in an energy management field at one of AAPL's accredited university programs, and the Executive Committee gifted him a shotgun.

LANDMAN BASH

Attendees happily "masked up" their eyes for the black and white masquerade themed ball aboard the 180-foot four-story Spirit of Chicago yacht and enjoyed casino games, dancing and a stunning sunset over the Chicago skyline while cruising around Lake Michigan.

EXIT CHICAGO, HEAD WEST

Next up: Huntington Beach, California! AAPL heads west to Surf City USA and hopes you will make plans to join us June 14-17, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort & Spa for the land professional conference of the year! Attendee registration, exhibits and sponsorships are now open. Visit landman.org or contact Samantha Sharp at ssharp@landman.org if you have questions about sponsorship opportunities or exhibiting. ▲

AAPL's Education/ Annual Meeting Seminar Committee assembled a fantastic education program.

Special thanks to all the speakers for their contributions and involvement in the following sessions during this year's Annual Meeting:

Leadership for Land Professionals

From Global Warming to Climate Crisis: Has Anything Actually Changed, Other Than the Name?

Royalty Price Provisions, Net Effective Burdens and the Impact on Your Overall Well Economics

Intro to Hard Rock Mining and The General Mining Law of 1872

Law and Finance: Mergers/Consolidation

Evolving Electricity

Leadership Development Panel

Recent Developments in Drilling Allocation Wells

Taking a Look at Recent Energy Cases

Into the Digital Pipeline: The Intersection of Natural Gas Flaring & Crypto-Mining

Oil, Gas, Wind, & Solar: Accommodating Competing Surface Interests

Purchase these sessions at landman.org



SCAN ME



Jane Crouch, CPL, Mona Ables, CPL, and Chris Crouch were all smiles at the Welcome Reception.



AAPL Past President Lester Zitkus, CPL (2020), pictured with incoming President Carl Campbell, CPL, and outgoing President Jim Devlin, CPL (2021).



Garrett Haag, RPL, Julie Morton, CPL, Deborah Richardson and Ben Eisterhold, CPL.



Erin and Wade Pollard, CPL, and Anna Hudson, CPL.



Greg Bozek, RPL, Jana and Brock Winston, RPL, Angela Williams, CPL, and Blake Welch.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



Chevron Canada Resources



Jim and Caryl Devlin (center) took to the dance floor on the Spirit of Chicago Yacht and enjoyed a fun-filled ending to the Annual Meeting.



Michelle Aurzada, CPL, and Sara Worsham, CPL.



Marci and Ryan Schneider pictured with Emily and Robert Rice, CPL.



Lis and Cranford Newell, CPL, Sara and Andrew Cooper, CPL, Julie and Dirk Vanderploeg, CPL, and Jordan and Will Boone, CPL.



D.J. and Chelsea Cherry



Nicole and Brian Tolson, CPL



Ellarie Sutton, RL, Kira Solntsev, Morgan Pyle, RL, Gabriel Pardue, Sophie Sallee, Ryan Dennison, RL, and his wife, Maddie and Rachel Beason.

PLEASE HELP US CONGRATULATE THE

2021-22 AWARD WINNERS

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Roger A. Soape, CPL
Houston Association of Professional Landmen

PIONEER AWARD

Haroldson Lafayette "H.L." Hunt, Jr.
Dallas Association of Petroleum Landmen

Best Newsletter Small Association

Los Angeles Association of Professional Landmen
The Override - January 2021

Best Newsletter Medium Association

Ark-La-Tex Association of Professional Landmen
The Register - January 2021

Best Newsletter Large Association

Michael Late Benedum Chapter
"The Wildcatter" Vol. 2 Issue 5, October 2021

Best AAPL Director's Communication

Brian K. Tolson Jr., CPL
Dallas Association of Petroleum Landmen

Best AAPL Member Communication

Dorsey T. Roach, CPL
Oklahoma Association of Professional Landmen

Largest Percentage of AAPL Membership - Large Association

Houston Association of Professional Landmen

LANDMAN OF THE YEAR

Allyson Johnstone Howard, CPL
Houston Association of Professional Landmen

LOCAL ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR

**Oklahoma City Association
of Professional Landmen**

Education

Phillip Guerra, CPL
Dallas Association of
Petroleum Landmen

Community Service

Mimi R. McGehee
Houston Association of
Professional Landmen

Committee Member

Joshua P. Gautreau, CPL
Houston Association of
Professional Landmen

Outstanding Graduate

Gabriel Pardue
Western Colorado University

Presidential Meritorious Award

C. Andrew Cooper, CPL

Presidential Meritorious Award

Kyle B. Reynolds, CPL



2022-23 AAPL Award Winners



Devlin with Phillip Guerra, CPL. Guerra received an AAPL Special Award for his efforts to help expand renewable energy education opportunities.



Gabriel Pardue (center), received the 2021-22 Outstanding Graduate Award. Pictured with Western Colorado University Energy Management Program External Coordinator Veronica Wilde, Devlin, Western's Energy Management Board Chairman Richard Smith and Greg Riedl, CPL.



Devlin with Andrew Cooper, CPL. Cooper received a Presidential Meritorious Award for his work as AAPL Education Czar.



Devlin and Kyle Reynolds, CPL. Reynolds received a Presidential Meritorious Award for his involvement with the AAPL Policy Manual.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD ROGER A. SOAPE, CPL

Roger Soape entered the land profession 42 years ago and has been a role model for leadership and integrity in our industry.

In 1980 he founded Roger A. Soape Inc., a land services organization. He served as AAPL president in 2014-15 and is currently chairman of the NAPE Advisory Board. He has served AAPL twice before as chairman of NAPE as well as chaired the Ethics and Tax Issues committees, to name a few of the AAPL roles he has filled. In 2009 Soape was

AAPL's Landman of the Year. He is also a former president of the Houston Association of Professional Landmen, which previously named him its Outstanding Landman of the Year.

Soape was honored as a "Best Landman" by the Texas Independent Producers & Royalty Owners Association and *Texas Monthly* magazine and was named to *Who's Who in Energy* by the *Houston Business Journal*. He is a trustee of the grant-making West Endowment, a director of the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts and an advisory board member of the Katy Prairie Conservancy. He formerly served on the Texas advisory board of Canine Companions for Independence.

Soape teaches Day One of AAPL's CPL & RPL review course and has authored and presented a number of educational papers on industry topics. He takes pride in teaching and mentoring younger landmen. He is especially proud of the team he has helped develop at his office as well as the hundreds of young landmen's lives he has touched over the past four decades. Soape said he is grateful to Jack Schneider — his first employer in the land profession — who taught him what it means to be a good landman and with whom he still stays in touch.

A native Houstonian, Soape attended the University of Texas at Austin. He is an instrument-rated private pilot and a duck hunting addict. Most fall days will find him enjoying the company of his black Labrador retriever, TexAnn. He and his wife, Donna, are proud parents to daughter Kate Waters, her husband, Paul, and their two sons, Barrett and Sam. The Soapes live in northwest Houston but most days they would rather be at their second home on Tres Palacios Bay on the Texas coast. ▲

Photo Caption: Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Roger Soape, CPL, pictured with his wife Donna.

**Bio information provided by nomination submissions.*



**LANDMAN OF THE
YEAR AWARD**
ALLYSON JOHNSTONE
HOWARD, CPL

Allyson Johnstone Howard is a stellar model to those in the land industry and beyond.

She has served in leadership roles at local and national levels. In 2021 Howard served as AAPL director for HAPL and attended every board meeting — in person when it was an option. In addition, Mark DeVrient selected her to serve on his task force to address Texas statutory definitions of landmen. She also served on the AAPL task force to

define landwork and participated in AAPL's strategic planning session in 2021. And she is actively involved in the AAPL Mentorship Program.

Howard contributed to the landman profession this past year by leading the Texas Alliance of Landman Associations. She works closely with the TxALA lobbyist to monitor and address legislative issues affecting Texas landmen. She organizes the TxALA representatives, keeps records of all the leaders of each of the 12 local landman associations in Texas and plans and leads the TxALA meetings. She also has financially supported the profession by personally sponsoring seven landman association events in 2021.

Howard contributed to the energy industry in 2021 by serving on the Texas Energy Council as membership co-chair. She represents HAPL and landmen by attending monthly TEC board meetings and coordinating efforts to recruit constituent member organizations. She also testified before the State Board of Education on the importance of revising Texas textbooks and science curriculum to include content on the energy industry, including all fuel sources and the importance of teaching a full life cycle cost benefit analysis of each energy source.

Furthermore, Howard continuously contributes to her community by fundraising for, volunteering at and participating in the Houston Autism Speaks WALK. She personally raised nearly \$1,000 and volunteered at WALK registration in 2021. As philanthropy vice president, she led her local alumnae organization to adopt Houston's Casa de Esperanza de Los Niños Inc., which benefits abused and neglected children. She has organized gift card donations, essential needs drives, financial contributions and participation in its charitable Chili Cookoff. ▲

Photo Caption: Landman of the Year recipient Allyson Johnstone Howard, CPL, pictured with husband Matt, sons John Wayne (standing) and Gregory Mackey and parents Harold and Lucinda Johnstone.



AAPL PIONEER AWARD

HAROLDSON LAFAYETTE “H.L.” HUNT JR.

AAPL’s Pioneer Award recognizes an individual (member or nonmember), company or group that has made a significant impact on the land profession.

By definition, pioneer is “an innovator” or “one who ventures into unknown or unclaimed territory.”

In conversations about oil and gas, wildcatters and the like, H.L. Hunt is often the first name mentioned among the pioneers and innovators in the land profession. In 1911 he bought a cotton plantation near Lake Valley, Arkansas, with his \$6,000 inheritance. By 1920, he had accumulated 15,000 acres of farmland in Arkansas and Louisiana. Moving to El Dorado, Arkansas, in 1921, Hunt borrowed \$50 and began flipping oil and gas leases in the area. During the 1920s, he drilled and completed over 100 producing oil wells in Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma.

Many people remember him as the landman who, in November 1930, purchased Dad Joiner’s leasehold interest under 4,000 acres in Rusk County, Texas, for \$30,000 cash and \$1.2 million in future production payments. This acreage proved to be extremely productive in the East Texas oil field, which was instrumental in the success of the U.S. and its allies during World War II.

Incorporated on Dec. 18, 1934, Hunt Oil Co. became the largest independent oil producer in the United States. Hunt also supported the formation of the East Texas Salt Water Disposal Co. for the purpose of injecting salt water into a reservoir so that oil pressure could be maintained.

In 1944 Hunt discovered the first commercial oil well in Alabama. In 1958 Hunt Oil discovered the Eugene Island Block 77 Field in the Gulf of Mexico, which became one of Hunt’s most successful ventures in the Gulf.

In addition, Hunt Oil played a major role in the development of the Fairway Field in East Texas in 1960. ▲

Photo Caption: AAPL Past President Jay Beavers, CPL (2019), presented this year’s Pioneer Award, and several members of the Hunt family were on hand to accept the award on behalf of H.L. Hunt. From left: Hunt Allred; Davin Hunt, Bruce Hunt, W. Herbert Hunt, Beavers, Doug Hunt, Casey Hunt, Austin Hunt and Taylor Hunt.



Members of the Honor Guard and the Pipes and Drums of the Chicago Police Department marched into the ballroom playing patriotic music at the start of the Annual Meeting.



The Devlins celebrated his presidential year.



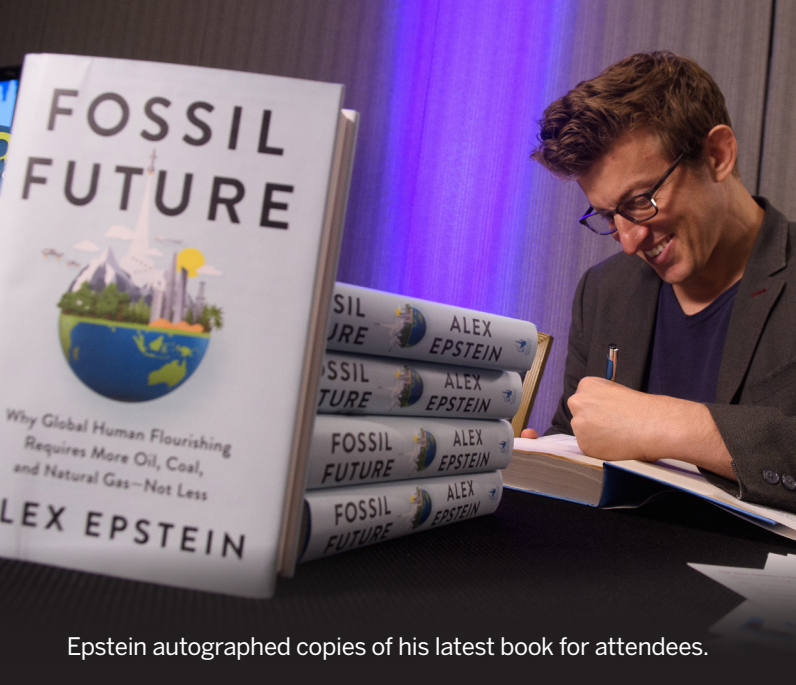
Landman Bash attendees enjoyed playing casino games on the yacht.



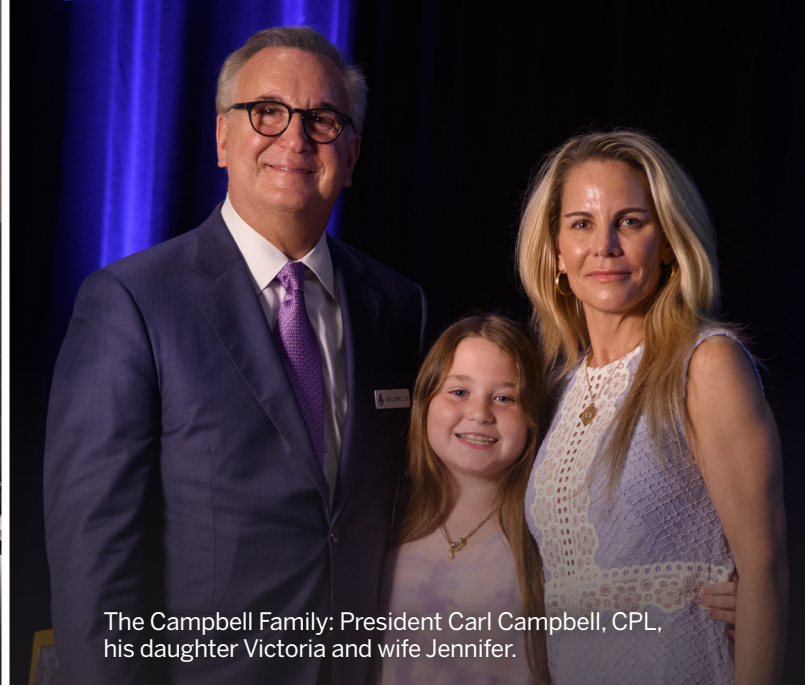
Texas Tech University Energy Commerce Program Director Kellie Estes with TTUEC student Ally Boland.



Harriet Robinson, Marci Schneider and Emily Rice.



Epstein autographed copies of his latest book for attendees.



The Campbell Family: President Carl Campbell, CPL, his daughter Victoria and wife Jennifer.



Britney Crookshanks, CPL (center) stopped by the Denver Association of Petroleum Landmen's exhibit booth in the Vendor Showcase to catch up with then-DAPL President Thomas Porter (left) and Kelly Muldoon, CPL (right).



Jim Devlin, CPL, received his Golden Lease on Life.



Brooks and Linda Yates, Lester Zitkus and his wife Sandra Fraley, Donna and Roger Soape, Caryl and Jim Devlin, Carl Campbell, David Cape, Stevenie and David Frye gathered during the Past Presidents Reception.

Huntington Beach

C A L I F O R N I A

JUNE 14-17, 2023

SPONSORSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE 2023 AAPL ANNUAL MEETING! CONTACT A MEMBER OF OUR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEAM TO SECURE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

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