

Happy Holidays to Everyone!

Many of you know my dedication to AAPL which first began when I passed the CPL Exam in May of 1996 and became a Certified Professional Landman. Since acquiring my CPL I have logged over 550 hours of AAPL Continuing Education Credits.

For this holiday season, I thought I would share with you some of my AAPL leadership history, travels, and accomplishments.

In 2006 I accepted the position of AAPL Region II Director which I held for five years.

Between 2006 and 2010 as Region II Director, I participated in many AAPL Board of Directors Meetings all across the Country. As Director, I also hosted multiple AAPL educational seminars throughout Michigan. I attended Annual Meetings in 2008 Chicago, Illinois, 2009 Clearwater Beach, Florida and 2010 Vail, Colorado.

In 2008 I accepted an AAPL Award at the Annual Meeting in Chicago for largest growth percentage of AAPL Membership, medium sized association

In 2011, I sat on the AAPL Executive Committee as Third Vice President. Many times, I was overwhelmed with this elevated position. I participated in all Executive Committee Meetings hosted by Jack Richards, AAPL President and attended all AAPL Quarterly Board Meetings. I published articles in Landman Magazine and attended the Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. I was a contributing member of the AAPL Strategic Planning Committee and a voting member of the AAPL Awards Committee meeting at NAPE. I was a NAPE Ambassador, and I recertified my CPL that year with 124.80 AAPL continuing education credits.

In 2012, I was Assistant Chairman of the AAPL Millennial Task Force and also a NAPE Ambassador. I attended the AAPL Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California.

In 2013, I accepted a position as a Member on the AAPL Certification Committee. I reviewed and approved over 100 Certification Applications and Published an Article in the Landman Magazine. I attended the AAPL Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

In 2014, with only one year on the Certification Committee, I accepted the most prominent position of any in my AAPL leadership career, I became the AAPL Certification Committee Chairman.

There was so much responsibility, that I took a year off from doing landwork and committed an entire fiscal year as Certification Chairman to AAPL and its members

I organized, coordinated monthly Certification Committee Meetings, and attended all AAPL Board of Directors Meetings. I reviewed and approved over 800 Certification Applications. I assisted in updating and rewriting the outdated AAPL Certification Program Specifications and Certification Applications. I published Articles in the Landman Magazine titled "Certification Corner." As Chairman of the AAPL Certification Committee, I passed an Amendment to the Certification Program Specifications in front of the AAPL Board of Directors by vote of 43 in favor, 2 opposed, lifting the restrictions on Title Professionals who do not negotiate in order to allow Title Professionals to sit for the CPL Exam and obtain the title of Certified Professional Landman.

I was a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award at the AAPL Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee presented to me by AAPL President Roger Soape for my accomplishments as Certification Chairman

I also participated in all AAPL Education Committee Meetings and was a NAPE Ambassador.

In 2015, I was Chairman of the AAPL Advanced Educational Study Task Force a/k/a Task Force 3. I recruited members of the committee and coordinated monthly Task Force Meetings. I attended the AAPL Board of Directors Meetings and the Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.

I was a one of four contributing members of the AAPL CPL Exam Review Task Force traveling to Fort Worth, Texas to attend and rewrite several questions missed on the CPL Exam more than fifty percent of the time.

I was a contributing and voting member of the AAPL Disaster Relief Committee assisting AAPL to provide needed financial support to its members and their families who were hurricane victims.

In 2016, I was a contributing member of the AAPL Promote & Hire Your Own Campaign Task Force. I gave an Ethics Speech to local Landmen at an AAPL Field Landman Seminar in Boardman, Ohio titled "Landman Ethics and Lessons Learned." I attended the Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida and also recertified my CPL with 167.30 AAPL continuing education credits.

In 2017, I was Chairman of the AAPL Field Landman & Specialization Study Task Force. I organized, coordinated monthly Task Force Meetings, and attended AAPL Board of Directors Meetings. I continued as a contributing and voting member of the AAPL Disaster Relief Committee approving grants to families of AAPL members in need of financial relief.

In 2018, I was a contributing member of the AAPL Field Landman Committee and attended all committee meetings.

In 2019, I accepted the position as Assistant Chairman of the AAPL Field Landman Committee. I attended all committee meetings and reached out to all Directors to encourage Field Landman Seminars across the country. I was a contributing member of the AAPL Strategic Planning Committee. I attended the AAPL Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

In 2020, I became Chairman of the AAPL Field Landman Committee. Right when Covid hit! Everyone said our committee was doomed because we held "in person" meetings and would be prevented during this time. But no, I would not let that stop the committee and as Chairman I organized and presented the first and only "National Field Landman Seminar" which was three and a half hours of online virtual education and engaged the entire committee and its members. The event went viral and maxed out on the AAPL video platform with 1000 attendees! No one had ever done that. Survey results from this event provided 100% AAPL membership satisfaction, which had never been done either.

I received the Presidential Award for Meritorious Service at the AAPL Annual Meeting in Arlington, Texas from AAPL President Lester Zitkus for my outstanding performance as Field Landman Chairman

I was also a contributing member of the AAPL Strategic Planning Committee, attended all meetings and was instrumental in having an impact on new policies and procedures that were adopted by AAPL.

In 2021, I recertified my CPL with 68.75 AAPL continuing education credits and attended the AAPL Annual Meeting in Arlington, Texas.

In 2022, I accepted the AAPL Region II Directors position again and attended AAPL Quarterly Board of Directors Meetings across the country. I hosted an AAPL Field Landman Seminar in Michigan.

In 2023, I maintained the AAPL Region II Directors position and continued to attend AAPL Quarterly Board of Directors Meetings. I attended the AAPL Annual Meeting in Huntington Beach, California. I hosted an AAPL Field Landman Seminar in Michigan.

I also took on a really big task as one of only nine Trustees and a voting member on the AAPL Landman Scholarship Trust (LST) Committee. I participated in all committee meetings and traveled to Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio where I interviewed undergraduate students and was able to approve AAPL college scholarships for all of the students I interviewed. I traveled to NAPE and attended the LST college graduate interviews voting to approve the AAPL Outstanding Graduate of the year.

Now, in 2024, I maintain the AAPL Region II Directors position and continue to attend AAPL Quarterly Board of Directors Meetings including the one held in Traverse City in September. I hosted an AAPL Field Landman Seminar in Michigan and plan to attend the AAPL Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri in June of 2025.

My second year as LST Trustee, I have taken on responsibility for West Virginia University together with Marietta College and will be interviewing around 20 undergraduate students in person for AAPL scholarships in March of 2025 at those colleges. Very time consuming reviewing applications, reading essays, traveling, interviews, reports and recommendations.

I am sure I have missed some things, and this is only a brief AAPL summary and does not include achievements through MAPL or other parts of my career as a Land Professional. I have actually done more than I can remember since first becoming a Landman in 1981. Much of this was done at my own expense. I am not complaining, and I would not change any of it. My AAPL affiliation and travels have provided me with some of the greatest times of my career, best friendships, and more importantly the best stories of my entire life.

What is next for me, you ask? Many say I am a top candidate for the AAPL Landman of the Year Award. Others say because of my longevity in the energy industry I qualify for the AAPL Lifetime Achievement Award having dedicated a total of 48 years of my life to landwork and the energy industry. For me, I guess, the next chapter is just not written yet. I will continue to stay active performing landwork, build my network as I always have, educate myself, make new memories, help others in need, and continue to provide a quality dedicated service to AAPL and all of its members for that is where my love for the energy business lies and I am able to perform at the highest level.

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AAPL Region II Director