March 26, 2022

Director’s report

ALTAPL

P.O. Box 1296

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Dear ALTAPL Members:

 Thank you for the privilege of serving as your director on the AAPL Board of Directors. I want to take this opportunity to share with you information discussed and covered at the AAPL Board Meeting held in Charleston, South Carolina, December 11-12 2021, and the March 2022 Board Meeting held in Oklahoma City.

 First, some great news came out of the March Board meeting. Our association newsletter, *The Register*, won the award for best association newsletter for medium associations this year. Will Huguet served as editor last year, and the April 2021 edition was nominated and won! Congratulations to Will! At the annual meeting in Chicago, this award will be presented during the annual awards luncheon.

 Speaking of the Annual meeting-AAPL is making it easier for local associations to have a presence at this year’s meeting. Information from AAPL has been sent to local association leadership. I know the ALTAPL board will review and consider whether it makes sense to participate this year in Chicago. If you are making plans to attend the annual meeting this year, AAPL is offering discounts for groups from local associations. Please check with AAPL when you register so you can join other ALTAPL members and maximize savings. Also remember that there is scholarship money available for this event for AAPL members. The Cubs are in town the whole week of the Annual Meeting, so make plans to enjoy the friendly confines of Wrigley Field.

Our industry still is affected by Covid pandemic related matters, and that includes NAPE and the income which AAPL derives from NAPE activities. The event in February had over 6,000 attendees, and with the recent uptick in the industry, there is real optimism that the next NAPE event will have more than 10,000 attendees. With addition of educational opportunities at NAPE, this event is also eligible for financial assistance from AAPL. I am looking forward to the next event, and NAPE is an event every landman should attend at least once.

AAPL membership dues were set to increase in 2020 and 2021. I was proud to lead the debate on rolling back dues increases at that time. Circumstances are much better, and the increase is needed. Studies have shown that most professional associations with similar membership benefits have dues much higher than the AAPL annual dues, which are set to increase to $150/year in July.

We all know many of our colleagues who have just recently returned to full time landwork, and there are new opportunities popping up all over our area. During tough times, many ALTAPL and AAPL members consider dropping memberships to save money. I am going to be a cheerleader for our local and national association. ALTAPL dues are $40 per year after the first year. We have great monthly lunch meetings with timely and informative topics where CEUs can be earned. We have a tremendous annual seminar, and frequent opportunities for networking with our industry partners. Likewise, AAPL offers significant benefits to its members that many of us do not utilize. I have mentioned on many occasions that AAPL members are eligible for a $300 payment to attend AAPL educational events, and this includes the Annual Meeting. Various types of insurance is available through AAPL membership. Webinars, seminars and other educational meetings are available, some at no cost to the members. Education and networking are the two areas members consistently state are the biggest benefit to AAPL membership, but I encourage you to go to the website (landman.org) and see what other opportunities and benefits are there for members to use to their advantage. Call me if you have any specific questions and I will do my best to make sure you receive the assistance you require from AAPL staff.

Before the pandemic, ALTAPL leadership was working hard to get an RPL/CPL review course in our area. I am proud to say their work paid dividends, and July 19-21, 2022, the review will be held here in Shreveport. Registration is open on the AAPL website. Please share this exciting news with any landmen who may be interested. Approval is required to sit for either the RPL or CPL exam, so candidates should start the application process as soon as possible. If you need RPL or CPL sponsors, please reach out to any ALTAPL board member, and we will make sure you get the sponsors you need. Also, if you have a certification and need CEU, remember that you can attend the review and get hour for hour credit. This event is also eligible for tuition assistance from AAPL. The process has changed, as testing is now done via Scantron. There are Scantron centers in Shreveport and Bossier City, and Scantron will also provide a proctored examination via computer from any location, but reservations must be made for this option.

ALTAPL ballots for directors will go out soon, and I encourage you to read the profiles on the candidates and make your choices for who is best equipped to lead our local association. Likewise, the AAPL slate of officers has been publicized and will be voted on in June.

There is a ton of information and resources on the AAPL website, and I encourage you to visit often and stay informed and current on the matters which affect our industry. The Resources tab alone provides for everything from a career center to industry resources, the landman store (for AAPL logoed merchandise) to member resources. If you explore the website, I can promise you that you will discover useful information that can benefit you immediately and in the future.

 AAPL membership is slowly rebounding, and hovers just below 12,000 members. With gas prices over $5.50/mcf as of this writing, and oil at more than $100/barrel, I am hopeful many who have had to leave the industry will come back. Landmen should be looking at the renewable sector for work. There are significant opportunities in wind and solar that our local landmen can fill. Many of our traditional oil and gas partners are cranking up renewable divisions, and landmen are uniquely equipped to provide the requisite skills and experience this emerging market will require.

If you have any questions regarding your AAPL membership, benefits, actions taken by the leadership of AAPL or its Board, please reach out to me. I am available by phone or email and will respond to you immediately. It is an honor to serve this great group of landmen, and I thank you again for the opportunity.

Paul L. Wood, CPL

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