

JOSHUA L. CROWTHER, CPL

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Mr. Pisciotte
AAPL Headquarters
800 Fournier Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Dear Mr. Pisciotte:

This letter is for the purpose of formally nominating Russell Shinevar for the AAPL Annual Landman of the Year Award and also the Lifetime Achievement Award. After reviewing the criteria used to judge both the Lifetime Achievement and Landman of the Year Awards, I am confident that he would be an outstanding candidate for either award. Inasmuch as I am certain AAPL has some other good candidates in the Texas and Oklahoma areas, we have a great candidate right here in our home State of Michigan.

I am approaching my 18th year in the Petroleum Land Management profession, which I have built almost entirely in the State of Michigan. My success and continued progress would never have been possible without the guidance and mentorship I have been generously awarded by Russell. I have worked closely with him on several projects and I have always been able to rely on him for advice and mentorship.

I began working as a Landman in 2007 for a broker out of Traverse City, Michigan. I had no previous experience in the field but was given an opportunity and I seized it. I joined the Michigan Association of Professional Landmen (MAPL) for the purposes of networking and broadening my knowledge of the industry. At the time, Russell was the Vice President of MAPL and I remember hearing him speak, engage and ask questions at every meeting I attended. I was always impressed by his inherent leadership abilities, knowledge of the industry and ability to explain information, even to those of us who had little experience and/or education in the business.

Russell became president of the MAPL in 2008 during a time when oil and gas exploration in Michigan was growing and there was no shortage of land work. I began attending MAPL meetings regularly and it wasn't long before Russell took notice. He encouraged me to join AAPL and work on attaining certifications and furthering my education in the process. I took his advice, joined AAPL and began attending every MAPL and AAPL meeting that took place in my home state.

In 2009, I relocated to the Lansing, Michigan area. Being an Independent Landman who worked primarily on the road or from my home office, Lansing was a favorable location because of its proximity to most of the active oil and gas projects in the state. Over the next few years, at the advice of Russell, I was able to attain my RL, RPL and eventually my CPL. Russell continued to reach out to me, offer help, advice and ultimately mentorship.

As the years progressed, I worked together with Russell on various projects. He acquainted me with functions of land work he helped facilitate the development of my career as a landman. When our projects together would wind down, he helped me network and provided referrals in order for me to continue working full-time as a landman.

Russ has been an important part of my development as a Landman. Over the years, I have become very familiar with Russell's extensive involvement in the industry, not only as a mentor to myself and others, but also as a volunteer and member of various AAPL committees. He has always displayed an unwavering work ethic, unparalleled authenticity, and professionalism in our work together. In my nearly 18 years of work as a Landman, I have not met another person that even compares to the contributions Russell Shinevar has made to the industry and the community of professionals it supports. Therefore, in my professional opinion, there is no better candidate for the AAPL Landman of the Year Award and Lifetime Achievement Award.

Sincerely,

Joshua L. Crowther, CPL