William is extremely prevalent in the Oil and Gas community, in both Texas and Louisiana. He serves as the VP of Land for Castex Energy, Castex Carbon Solutions, and Minotaur Minerals – a pretty well-rounded group as they’re comprised of oil and gas, carbon, and mineral companies respectively (and he has his finger on the pulse in all three categories). He is also the Land Manager for Castex Lafourche LP which oversees 18,000 acres of coastal marshlands where he handles marsh remediation, surface activities, 3rd party lessee negotiations, and governmental affairs for landowner organizations. Beyond this, his most impressive regular duties include oversight of land services and seismic companies responsible for a 500 square mile 3D shoot totaling $60 million in cost, and contract negotiations for a $350 Million Participation Agreement with a private equity firm. Not to mention, he belongs to and plays an active role in the AAPL (*Director*), HAPL (*Chairman*), BRAPL (*Director*), HELG (*Member*), and LLA (*President*), and volunteers regularly in many other groups like the Ronald McDonald House. If there is a way for him to get involved, he pursues it.

Moreover, William has extensive experience in all phases of professional land management, including exploration, mineral acquisitions, and fee lands management. After obtaining his degree from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana he began his land career in 2004 with Petro-Hunt, LLC as a Landman in the Permian Basin. After leaving Petro-Hunt William went on to work as a project manager in most of the major shale play basins across the United States. A Certified Professional Landman, William has been a member of NALA, PLANO, DAPL, DAPL, LAPL, ALTAPL, TAPL, and the Michael Late Benedum chapters of the AAPL.

While he juggles all these roles and extracurriculars, he finds time to build upon old relationships and establish new ones. There have been numerous examples of his personal relationships being the diffuser between company-to-company issues, and why I personally know so many influential individuals in the Oil and Gas community even though I’m just starting out in my career. He is the connection, mentor, friend, calming spirit, and leader that you wish you had but don’t see very often in today’s climate. This also speaks to his ability to communicate with others and bring them together (and ultimately persuade them to do what you want them to do) – a quality one would hope for in any Landman.

Mostly, he is a man of character and integrity. He is the first to listen, respond thoughtfully, and give credit where credit is due. He never boasts about himself, never complains, and never climbs over others to get where he wants to go. I believe the fact that he can be so involved, mentor the next generation, and bridge the gap between the Good Ol’ Boys and the world of today, all while not dropping the ball, leading by example, attending church at St. John the Divine where he is a member of the Associate Vestry, traveling between his home and family of 6 in Baton Rouge to his office in Houston weekly, is why he is the best candidate for Landman of the Year.

