

LAW OFFICE OF PAUL L. WOOD, L.L.C.
W.A.L.T. SERVICES, L.L.C.
(WOOD ABSTRACTING, LAND and TITLE SERVICES, L.L.C.)
8870 Youree Drive, Suite 112, Shreveport, LA 71115
P.O. BOX 5005
SHREVEPORT, LA 71135-5005
email: paul@paulwoodattorney.com

318-798-6177

318-798-6178 (fax)

March 20, 2024

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I recently attended the AAPL Board of Directors quarterly meeting, which was held March 9-10, 2024, in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Every year at the March meeting, the Board of Directors is informed about the award winners for the year, with the awards to be presented at the annual meeting, to be held this year in Boston, Massachusetts. I am proud to let you know that the ALTAPL *Register* won the award for Newsletter of the Year! Congratulations to David Smith, the editor last year, and all of those who helped get the winning edition submitted. There are 38 local associations, so this is a huge honor, and we are fortunate to have great local talent make sure our monthly newsletter provides timely information regarding ALTAPL activities, current trends, recent updates to cases and laws, as well as well permit information for our area. Drew Burnham is doing a great job this year putting out quality editions of *The Register* month after month. This is no easy task, so take a moment to let him know you appreciate his efforts.

At each board meeting in March, the AAPL annual budget is reviewed and approved. I am happy to report that the 2024-25 budget is projected to have a small surplus, welcome news after several years of negative balances for the budget. Also, the Policy and Bylaws task force has completed a two year process of reviewing, updating and proposing changes to AAPL policies and bylaws. Most of the changes are benign and have little real impact on members, but rather eliminate conflicts and address the need to update these documents to conform to current committee activities and recent changes in our industry. Eligible AAPL members will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed bylaws changes, and that vote should take place in the late spring. Before the vote occurs there will be a 60 day window for review and comment regarding any proposed changes to the bylaws. The vote should take place before the 2024 AAPL annual meeting, and the results will be announced before the annual business meeting in Boston on June 20, 2024.

This year the annual meeting will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, June 19-21, 2024. Boston is a great venue, and I hope many ALTAPL members will attend. Remember, AAPL offers members Education Assistance of up to \$300.00 for events such as the Annual Meeting. You can apply online at landman.org, and under the Professional Development banner, click on Education Assistance. This education assistance is available twice per calendar year for eligible members. The annual meeting will offer great educational opportunities, networking opportunities, social events, and the chance to visit one of the great cities in the US. If you have questions, please reach out, I am always happy to share any information I can.

The Board of Directors for AAPL has nominated a slate of officers for the 2024-25 year. All voting is done electronically, so if you have not received your ballot by email, let me know. I will make sure you receive a ballot. I am fortunate that I know all of the candidates, and we will be well served by this Executive Committee. The candidates are: Nancy McCaskell, President, Kyle Reynolds, 1st Vice President, Mark Caponegro, 2nd VP and William (Bill) Hackett, 3rd VP. Christine Touchstone has been nominated for Secretary, and Amy Gwyn has been nominated for Treasurer. VOTE! If you have any questions about the candidates, please ask.

I serve on the ALTAPL Ethics Committee. Fortunately, there are not many issues we need to address, but if you are aware of any questionable ethical activity by any landman (whether or not a member of ALTAPL and/or AAPL) please contact me. Our committee will investigate each report and you can remain anonymous. It is up to each of us to regulate and protect our profession, and serve the good of the public, by taking action when unethical behavior occurs.

It is a privilege and an honor to serve as your AAPL director, and not a responsibility that I take lightly. Let me know how I can help you and answer any questions about AAPL you may have.

March brings us beautiful Spring weather, with the promise of renewal of life. Easter brings new life with the promise of eternal life. My hope for each of you is Peace.

Paul L. Wood, JD, CPL