



JOSHUA L. CROWTHER, CPL

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Mr. Aaron R. Yost, CPL
AAPL Headquarters
800 Fournier Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Dear Mr. Yost:

This letter is for the purpose of formally nominating Russell Shinevar for the AAPL Annual Landman of the Year 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. I am approaching my 14th 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 even when I've worked on projects independently around our State.

I began working as a Landman in 2007 for a broker out of Traverse City, Michigan. I had no previous experience in the field and was given the opportunity because I had earned a Bachelor's Degree and was referred by my brother, who had been working as a Landman since 2006. On the advice of the broker I was hired by, I decided to join 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 right around the time oil prices began to approach \$100/Barrell. As the industry flourished throughout the country, oil and gas exploration in Michigan was developing suddenly developing rapidly 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 so my wife could accept a job opportunity as she began her career as a Registered Nurse. 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. However, it was extremely difficult for me to leave my home and move to a city where I had no friends, family or colleagues, except for Russell. Over the next few years, 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 had the invaluable opportunity to work together with Russell on various projects. He acquainted me with functions of land work I had no experience with and almost single-handedly, he facilitated 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. We spent time together working on marketing and coming up with creative ways to advertise our expertise and offer our services to brokers throughout the State of Michigan. Being independent Landmen comes with its benefits, but it also requires extra diligence and ingenuity in order to be sustainable.

Russell has been an extremely important part of my development as a Landman. When oil prices plummeted in 2015, he was always someone I could rely on for guidance and assistance. Work slowed down, but we still spent time together brainstorming ways to keep ourselves busy. I became 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. His has always displayed an unwavering work ethic, unparalleled authenticity, and professionalism in our work together. I have also been constantly inspired and motivated by his myriad of individual achievements and generous volunteer efforts as an advocate, supporter and champion of the Oil and Gas Industry in Michigan and throughout the country. In my near 13 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. In my professional opinion, there is no better candidate for the AAPL Landman of the Year Award.

Please see the attached bio containing a list of Russell's career highlights and achievements, which I requested for the purposes of submitting my nomination.

Sincerely,

Joshua L. Crowther, CPL

AAPL # 5514
Russell S. Shinevar, CPL
3610 West Street
Lansing, Michigan 48917
(517) 331-8126

Career Highlights

- Independent Professional Landman since 1981
- Member of the Michigan Association of Professional Landmen (MAPL). Has attended MAPL quarterly educational meetings on a regular basis for over thirty five years
- Has bought Leases and examined mineral title in over 40 counties in Michigan and represented dozens of different Lessees while conducting landwork. Has successfully put together multiple drilling projects in Michigan start to finish

1995

- Has been an AAPL Member in good standings since December 1, 1995

1996

- Passed the CPL Exam on the first try in East Lansing, Michigan

2001

- Recertified his CPL with 57.30 credits over the past 5 years

2004

- Elected MAPL Board of Directors Membership Chairman
Attended all local Board of Director Meetings
Hosted MAPL educational meeting
Author and publisher of MAPL Quarterly Newsletter

2005

- Elected MAPL Board of Directors Treasurer
Attended all local Board of Director Meetings
Hosted MAPL educational meetings
Author and publisher of MAPL Quarterly Newsletter

2006

- Elected MAPL Board of Directors Secretary
Attended all local Board of Director Meetings
Hosted MAPL educational meetings
Author and publisher of MAPL Quarterly Newsletter
- Elected AAPL Region II Director (Hosted multiple AAPL educational seminars in Michigan)
Participated at AAPL Board of Directors Quarterly Board Meetings

- Recertified CPL with 57.00 credits over past 5 years

2007

- Elected MAPL Board of Directors Vice President
Attended all local Board of Director Meetings
Hosted MAPL meetings including the annual golf outing and winter seminar with record attendance
Author and publisher of MAPL Quarterly Newsletter
- AAPL Region II Director (Hosted multiple AAPL educational seminars in Michigan)
Participated at AAPL Board of Directors Quarterly Board Meetings

2008

- Elected MAPL Board of Directors President
Organized and attended all local Board of Director Meetings
Hosted MAPL meetings including the Fall Seminar with record attendance
Author and publisher of MAPL Quarterly Newsletter
Started and maintained the current MAPL website michiganlandman.com
- Reelected AAPL Region II Director (Hosted multiple AAPL educational seminars in Michigan)
Participated at AAPL Board of Directors Quarterly Board Meetings and attended the AAPL Annual Meeting
- As AAPL Region II Director, received the AAPL Award for Largest Growth Percentage of AAPL Membership – Medium Sized Association at the Annual Meeting by encouraging and sponsoring dozens of Michigan Landmen to join AAPL

2009

- MAPL Board of Directors Immediate Past President
Liaison to MAPL Board of Directors and Membership
Author and publisher of MAPL Quarterly Newsletter
Maintained the current MAPL website
- AAPL Region II Director (Hosted multiple AAPL educational seminars in Michigan)
Participated at AAPL Board of Directors Quarterly Board Meetings and attended the AAPL Annual Meeting

2010

- Author of MAPL Quarterly Newsletter
Maintained the current MAPL website
- AAPL Region II Director (Hosted multiple AAPL educational seminars in Michigan)
Participated at AAPL Board of Directors Quarterly Board Meetings taking the podium several times as Director in support of AAPL
Attended the AAPL Annual Meeting

2011

- AAPL Executive Committee Third Vice President
Participated at all Executive Committee Meetings hosted by AAPL and Jack Richards, President
Participated at all AAPL Board of Directors and several Committee Meetings

Published Articles in the Landman Magazine
Attended the AAPL Annual Meeting

- Contributing Member to the AAPL Strategic Planning Committee
Attended Committee meetings at AAPL headquarters
- AAPL Awards Committee voting Member and ExCom Liaison to the Committee
Attended Awards Committee Meeting at NAPE
- NAPE Ambassador
- Recertified CPL with 124.80 credits over past 5 years

2012

- Assistant Chairman of the AAPL Millennial Task Force
Attended AAPL Board of Director Meeting
- NAPE Ambassador

2013

- AAPL Certification Committee Member. Reviewed and approved over 100 Certification Applications
Published Article in the Landman Magazine

2014

- AAPL Certification Committee Chairman (Took a year off from doing landwork and committed an entire fiscal year as Certification Chairman to AAPL and its membership)
Organized and coordinated monthly Certification Committee Meetings
Attended AAPL Board of Directors Meetings
Reviewed and approved over 800 Certification Applications
Assisted in updating and rewriting the outdated AAPL Certification Program Specifications and Certification Applications
Published Articles in the Landman Magazine and started "Certification Corner"
Participated in all Education Committee Meetings
- As Chairman of the AAPL Certification Committee, passed an Amendment to the Certification Program Specifications in front of the AAPL Board of Director by vote of 43 in favor and 2 opposed lifting the restrictions on Title Professionals who do not negotiate in order to allow them to sit for the CPL Exam
- Recipient of a Special Recognition Award at the AAPL Annual Meeting from AAPL President Roger Soape for accomplishments as Certification Chairman
- NAPE Ambassador

2015

- Chairman of the AAPL Advanced Educational Study Task Force A/K/A Task Force #3
Organized and coordinated monthly Task Force Meetings
Attended AAPL Board of Directors Meetings

- Contributing Member of the AAPL CPL Exam Review Task Force
Attended meetings at AAPL headquarters to rewrite questions missed on the CPL Exam more than fifty percent of the time

2016

- Contributing Member of the AAPL Promote & Hire Your Own Campaign Task Force a program approved by the Executive Committee of AAPL.
- Gave Ethics Speech to local Landmen at AAPL Field Landman Seminar in Boardman, Ohio titled “Landman Ethics and Lessons Learned”
- Recertified CPL with 167.30 credits over past 5 years

2017

- AAPL Chairman of the Field Landman & Specialization Study Task Force
Organized and coordinated monthly Task Force Meetings and Attended AAPL Board of Directors Meeting
- Contributing Member of the AAPL Disaster Relief Committee assisting AAPL to provide needed financial support to its members and their families who were hurricane victims
- Won the MAPL bowling tournament held in Lansing, Michigan

2018

- Contributing Member of the AAPL Field Landman Committee
Attended all Committee meetings
Attended AAPL Annual Meeting

2019

- Assistant Chairman of the AAPL Field Landman Committee
Attended all Committee meetings. Suggested reaching out to all Directors to encourage meetings
- Contributing Member of the AAPL Strategic Planning Committee
Attended all meetings

2020

- Chairman of the AAPL Field Landman Committee
Initiated monthly committee meetings. Worked together with committee and AAPL Staff to put together the first ever National Field Landman Webinar

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Has logged over 485 hours of AAPL confirmed continuing education since obtaining CPL May 1, 1996
- As an Officer of MAPL, gave several speeches at local meetings including Ethics Speech

- As Region II Director, gave several speeches at local meetings educating local members about AAPL and encouraging all MAPL members to join AAPL
- Sat in on numerous AAPL round table meetings providing discussion prior to AAPL Board of Directors Meetings
- Has written several articles published in the AAPL Landman magazine
- Attended AAPL Orientation at AAPL Headquarters several times

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY

- 2010 to 2019, Spoke at several realtor association luncheons to educate local realtors on who a Landman is and what a Landman does. Also, to educate Realtors on real property mineral title and interpretation supporting the oil and gas industry
- Keynote speaker at the Michigan Land and Title Association 2011 Annual Seminar. Gave a speech on oil, gas and mineral title in Michigan to over 120 title professionals and attorneys with great success

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE INDUSTRY

- June, 2008 was guest speaker on the morning show for WMMQ Local Radio Station to take on the morning DJ who had been bad mouthing oil and gas companies on the radio regarding the price of gasoline being over \$4.00 per gallon at the pump. Speech reached out to over 80,000 listening over the radio and sent a positive message regarding Landman and oil and gas exploration. Following, geologists, engineers and other industry professionals and associates were asked to speak on this same morning radio show.
- Gave speech at his final MAPL meeting as President about his radio experience in front of 120 MAPL members and received a standing ovation
- Spoke in front of the State of Michigan Legislature, and gave testimony, in opposition to a proposed Bill that would increase recording costs of all documents recorded with the Register of Deeds Office in Michigan
- Key witness at informal hearings in Traverse City, Michigan in opposition to Licensing of Landmen which was shot down
- Most of his travels have been self-funded with no supplement allowing him to give back to the industry through MAPL and AAPL leadership positions

Additional About Me

- First started working in the oil and gas industry January 2, 1977 as a senior in high school as a draftsman for Dart Oil and Gas, Mason, Michigan.
- Did roustabout work for three years prior to becoming a Landman by working around producing wells in Michigan learning to run heavy equipment, weld, form concrete, install pipes, rebuild compressors, etc.

- Married to Cindy Shinevar for 21 years, has two Children Wesley Shinevar 31 and Danielle Shinevar 28, both very successful business professionals
- Avid outdoorsman. Hunts Big and Small Game, deer, turkey and pheasants in Michigan. Loves to fish in the lakes and rivers of Michigan too
- Accomplished bowler having inherited the love of this sport from his mother who was a famous bowler in Mason, Michigan his hometown. Routinely averages over 200 and has bowled a perfect 300 game in sanctioned competitive league play
- Loves to garden, dig in the dirt, grow flowers and vegetables
- Loves to go camping with his wife and family at State Parks around Michigan during the summer months