First Quarter L.A.N.D. Meeting & Social

L.A.N.D. will be holding its quarterly meeting on Monday, February 4, 2013, at the Kelly Inn, Bismarck, ND. The business meeting is scheduled to begin at 5:30 PM and the social at 6:00 PM.

The social is open to all L.A.N.D. members and friends, industry guests and personnel.

ND STATE LEASE SALE
to be held on
February 5, 2013

The ND DEPARTMENT OF TRUST LANDS will hold its third quarter ND Oil & Gas Lease Auction on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 9:00 AM CST

Kelly Inn
1800 North 12th St.
Bismarck, ND

For a complete list of nominated tracts, visit the Land Department’s website at www.land.nd.gov.

L.A.N.D. to Elect New Officers at the May Quarterly Meeting

This coming May, at the regularly scheduled quarterly meeting, L.A.N.D. members will elect a new slate of officers. Nominations will be received from the floor at that time. Any volunteers will also be welcomed.

Jeff Skaare, current Vice-President, will move up to President. Jon Aisenbrey will move into a Director’s position.

Positions that are open for election are: Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Please contact Jonathan Aisenbrey, Jeff Skaare or any other board member for further information. Board members are listed on the last page of this newsletter, along with their contact information.
Greetings Land Professionals,

It’s now January, the most wonderful time of the year. With brisk air and clear heads after Christmas break, we can attack with gusto the pressing curative issue of the day. The answer to almost all of them these days seems to be “yes, you’re going to need to probate that”.

Neglected mineral interests aside, it seems more and more we are all too happy to do whatever clean up title or curative we can find. Landmen in general still seem to be staying busy, but as the courthouses clear out a bit it’s important that we handle ourselves with dignity and professionalism. We must adhere to our codes of conduct and maintain client confidentiality, without compromise. Read your MSA’s, we shouldn’t be selling someone else’s title to a website or anyone else.

It’s important that we maintain strong support of L.A.N.D, the Petroleum Council and AAPL so that they may have the resources to continue to educate us and to watch over and defend our way of life, our careers and our interests not only in the Bakken, but also in states and formations that we haven’t yet started working.

It’s important to continue to pay attention to our lawmakers and the intricacies of laws. Be sure to let them know what we know. There’s a difference between “and” and “or”, the definitions sections of a law matters, mineral and royalty owners are tax payers and voters. Not everything can be bought, sometimes that includes pipeline ROW’s.

Last but not least; don’t be afraid to reach out to your reputable associates and to form limited coalitions for the short term projects. It’s a great way to level out the ebb and flow of high volume, short fuse projects.

Until the next highly informative L.A.N.D. Newsletter, may your legal description be accurate.

Cordially,
Jon Aisenbrey
January 2013

WELCOME
New 2013 LAND Members

Clennan, John J.
Crawford, Kaylea L.
Cymbaluk, Michael J.
Dassinger, Stephanie E.
Fettig, Alicia, L.
Furlong, Ramona
Heisler, Dona
Hunt, Bailey
Kasza, Jake, M.
Schicke, Art
Severinson, Lindsay A.
Sontag, John A.
Suelzle, Christopher

DONALD B. SASS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is open to anyone pursuing an energy-related degree from an accredited institution, who is a graduate of a North Dakota High School. Sass Scholarship grants are not limited to young, recent High School graduates, but are also available to non-traditional students who may be “older than average” and are studying for graduate as well as undergraduate energy-related degrees. Applications are online at: http://www.ndcf.net/scholarships/documents/Sass.pdf. Contact Kate Moser Black for more information. kate@inlandoil.net

To Donate to the Sass Scholarship

If you would like to donate to the SASS Scholarship, please send your contributions to: Tom St. Peter, L.A.N.D. Treasurer, P.O. Box 2703, Bismarck, ND 58502-2703

Continuing Education Credits

This is just a reminder for those who need Continuing Ed Credits; one continuing education credit will be awarded to all who attend the full L.A.N.D. meeting. (Not just the social!)

A signup sheet will be available at the meeting. There is no cost for this credit, but you do have to be in attendance for the full meeting.

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Key Issues

This week we will see some very important hearings and bills for our industry, a few are listed below:

- SB 2206, the setback bill, will be heard on Thursday, Jan. 24 at 9 a.m. This bill increases the setback requirement for wells to 1,320 feet, and the NDPC will be testifying in opposition. It is very important that we have as much industry representation in the room as possible. Please plan on attending the hearing if you are able.

- HB 1333, NDPC and Dunn County Landowner’s easement bill, was also introduced this week. This bill was drafted to address concerns from landowners who have multiple easements crossing their land and others who are hesitant to grant easements across their property. It creates a new requirement for owners of underground gathering pipelines to provide a file of the location to the NDIC, allows the landowner or tenant to access the files on their property, and expands the ND Mediation Services at the Dept. of Ag. to include pipeline easement-related disputes, creates a funding mechanism for the abandoned oil and gas well reclamation fund, and will provide $75 million of existing tax revenue into that fund. This will hopefully eliminate one more hurdle and result in more pipelines resulting in fewer trucks and safer roadways, reduced dust impact, decreasing long-term funding needs for road improvements and maintenance, and reduce natural gas flaring. A hearing is not yet scheduled for this bill. This is not a silver-bullet for obtaining easements, but addresses many concerns we hear from landowners.

- HB 1147, the pipeline footprint clarification bill, was heard on January 17. The NDPC testified in favor of the bill. This bill lessens the permitting requirements for pipelines being sited in already permitted areas or pipeline corridors and would eliminate many unnecessary delays in the process, which can add weeks or months to the project. A subcommittee will continue working on this bill.

How to Contact Your Legislators

During a legislative session, a legislator can be reached at the State Capitol by leaving a message with the legislative telephone message center at (888) NDLEGIS (635-3447) or (701) 328-3373 (local). That number can also be used to obtain information on bills under consideration. A legislator can also be reached by mail or e-mail and address rosters are posted at: http://www.legis.nd.gov/contact-my-legislators.
AAPL Director’s Report
Rick Larson, AAPL Director

By now all AAPL members should have received a letter from AAPL President Jim Dewbre concerning selling title reports. The title reports are the property of the client and are not to be sold. The AAPL bylaws talk about loyalty to the client, protecting the interests of the client, and avoiding activity that would be considered a conflict of interest. This letter was a result of a company that was soliciting brokers to provide title reports that would be posted for sale on the internet.

Last year AAPL conducted 85 seminars and educational events. New seminars are being developed in a variety of disciplines, such as Title Examination and Curative Standards, Pooling and Unitization, Basics of GIS, and Due Diligence. As previously stated virtual live webinars on all seminars will be available to AAPL members. You will be hearing more about Landman 411 Series of 12 tracks for experienced land professionals.

The 59th Annual AAPL Meeting will be held in Washington DC at the Grand Hyatt June 5-8, 2013. A great lineup of topics for the education sessions include and overview of the BLM and working on federal lands, comparative oil and gas law review. A memorial tour of Washington DC at night will be available. Also, a number of other tours and activities are being planned. You will be hearing more about the annual meeting in the coming months.

Winter NAPE will be held the same week as the L.A.N.D. Meeting and ND State Mineral Sale. Dates for Winter NAPE in Houston at the George R. Browne Convention Center are February 5-8, 2013. Gordon Brown, former Prime Minister of Great Britain will be the speaker for the Charities luncheon.

NAPE East will be April 10th through the 12th in Pittsburgh, PA. NAPE Mountain is being organized and hopefully will be finalize for late 2013 or early 2013.

The University of Wyoming is being accredited for a Petroleum Land Management program. Curriculum is being finalized and should be ready for the fall of 2013. A number of other universities are looking at establishing PLM/Energy Management programs and are seeking accreditation.

Membership in AAPL has reached 17,851.
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