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**ND STATE
LEASE SALE**
to be held on
February 3, 2015

The ND DEPARTMENT
OF TRUST LANDS
will hold its quarterly
ND Oil & Gas
Lease Auction on

Tuesday
February 03, 2015
at 9:00 AM CT

Kelly Inn
1800 N 12th Street
Bismarck, ND

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

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

L.A.N.D. will be holding its
quarterly meeting on **Monday,**
February 2, 2015 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.

*We would like to thank
Crowley Fleck PLLP
for sponsoring our LAND
social for the evening.*

CROWLEY | FLECK PLLP
ATTORNEYS

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

L.A.N.D. members will elect a new
slate of officers at our 2nd Quarter
L.A.N.D. meeting in May.

Nominations will be received from
the floor at that time. Any volunteers
will also be welcomed.

June Weeks, current Vice-President,
will move up to President. Jeff
Skaare will move into a Director's
position.

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

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



President's Report

Jeff Skaare, RPL



Greetings Land Professionals,

At a recent meeting I heard my company's COO respond to employee concerns of the dropping oil prices by referencing a line from the movie, "Zero Dark 30." If you are familiar with the movie there is a scene where a helicopter approaching Bin Laden's compound is about to crash. Inside, the Squadron leader calmly shouts, "Who here has been in a helo crash before?" After every hand goes up in the air, the squadron leader then shouts, "OK so we're all good." We have seen low oil prices before, and most, in not all of us, have been in this helicopter. It is not always fun to go through but we know how to survive. I encourage you to stay involved in your local association and stay informed on the changes going on in our basin including new legislation and most of all stick together and support one another.

Our upcoming meeting will be held at the Kelly Inn in Bismarck, ND on Monday February 2, 2015. The meeting time is 5:00 p.m. Additionally, the North Dakota State Land Department has agreed to hold its State lease auction on Tuesday February 3rd, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Bismarck also at the Kelly Inn. This sale includes roughly 35,132.71 gross and 20,752.48 net acres in nine different counties and includes some interesting new areas.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President and thank you all for your membership in L.A.N.D. Of course, for those of you who are not yet members of A.A.P.L., I encourage you to join.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey L. Skaare



2015 LAND Membership Dues

It's time once again to support your professional association. Your annual dues for 2015 can now be paid.

A Renewal Form has been emailed along with this newsletter. Please fill out your renewal form completely and mail it along with your membership fee.

Membership choices are as follows:

- One (1) year = \$25.00
- Five (5) years = \$125.00
- Ten (10) years = \$250.00

If you would like to pay your dues or if you have any questions regarding your dues payment, you can e-mail Tom at: tom@greatnorthernenergy.net

FYI: If you are unsure if you have paid or not, I will be email a reminder to those that have NOT paid their 2015 dues, SO...watch your emails and if you receive notice, you are one of the lucky ones! ☺



AAPL Director's Report

Rick Frazier, AAPL Director



I recently attended AAPL's Quarterly Board Meeting held in Austin, Texas, on December 7, 2014. As with all AAPL meetings, I left with a renewed positive attitude (though considerably tempered by global developments) and a stronger sense of pride to call myself a landman. This meeting was no exception, and many pivotal topics were explored/discussed (some with more vigor than others) that impact our industry and the career paths that we have chosen. Let me be perfectly clear from the outset, however, that jubilation and merriment over how wonderful things are for the "awl binness" were, not surprisingly, MIA. My apologies for the tongue-in-cheek southern drawl.

Our discussions, of course, dealt with standard on-going issues under the "old business" heading that have yet to be concluded. These issues remain in the "let's get more information" and discussion phase. So, I will forego addressing them at this time until more tangible conclusions have been finalized. Let me at least say that the Independent Contractor/Employee fireball is

leading the pack in terms of significant issues. Although, Licensing of Landmen continues to be in strong contention as an "also ran". In my opinion, neither of these issues is more significant than the other; and I will provide any new information on those and other salient topics as they evolve.

The most notable development (which is still on-going, incidentally) is the re-evaluation that AAPL and the Certification Committee are engaged in regarding the CPL qualification requirements. While both recognize the true value of a Bachelor's Degree, they also confirm that experience is an invaluable teacher. We all learn from doing. With that in mind, it has been proposed that the CPL qualification requirements be modified so as to give additional weight to years of experience, or "time in grade" as it's often referred to. While debated contentiously, the proposal appears to have been generally well received by the rank and file as well as the Executive Committee. At this juncture, a Bachelor's Degree will continue to be as fundamental requirement. Stay tuned for more

developments as they come to fruition. One final thought on this: Do not misunderstand and think that AAPL is diluting the standards for CPL designation or, for that matter, the RPL designation. Quite the contrary, AAPL will continue to maintain strict quality assurance for both certifications. AAPL is committed without compromise to ensuring that the CPL certification will always be an icon representing the highest level of professional achievement for landmen. Please visit AAPL's website for more detailed information on these issues, as well as valuable information on other topics that concern us as landmen.

Congratulations to all: AAPL has purchased a new building in Houston. AAPL's telephone number remains unchanged, and its new address is:

American Association of
Professional Landmen (AAPL)
800 Fournier Street
Houston, TX 76102

Lastly, please mark your calendars for the upcoming NAPE SUMMIT to be held at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas. Dates for the

AAPL Director's Report *continued from page 3*

Summit are February 10th through the 13th. First Lady Laura Bush and Governor Sarah Palin are among the keynote speakers. I am personally looking forward to hearing their remarks. It will be interesting to see the general tenure and mood, given the crash of crude oil prices. Please remember, though, that with adversity comes opportunity. The

contrarians say: When others are selling – BUY. This NAPE may be an excellent opportunity for the long-term savvy investors to acquire some valuable assets at attractive prices.

As always, thank you all for allowing me the privilege to represent L.A.N.D. as its regional director to AAPL. Please feel

free to contact me with any thoughts, issues, or concerns that relate to the well-being of our industry. I will be happy to present them to AAPL as appropriate.

Rick Frazier, CPL

Region 7 Director to AAPL & Assistant Chairman of the Field Landman Committee

Why become an AAPL Member?

Networking – AAPL events bring together thousands of landmen from around the world to provide outstanding opportunities for members to network with nearly 20,000 landmen. With our job bank and member directory, AAPL provides access to qualified landmen across North America through the largest job network in the energy industry.

Educational Meetings – AAPL hosts more than 80 educational programs, meetings and institutes nationwide each year to help members stay competitive in an ever-shifting industry, and we're adding more each year.

Publications – AAPL publications include our bimonthly magazines, Landman and Landman 2; the AAPL membership directory; books – such as the Oil and Gas Land Reference Volume – and institute research papers. In addition to subscriptions to Landman, Landman 2, Landman's Directory and the Annual Report included in your

annual membership dues, AAPL offers reference guides and text books to both members and nonmembers at friendly costs. Visit AAPL's Bookstore to order any of its highly-touted publications. Full versions of Landman and Landman 2 magazines as well as the article archive are available online to AAPL members. The archive allows members to search for articles printed in past issues by author, title and keywords.

Resources – AAPL provides resources that help make landmen effective, including access to industry forms as well as our bookstore. Through www.landman.org, members can access electronic versions of Landman and Landman 2, browse our presentation database, view our events calendar, search the membership database, download educational materials and more.

Professional Certifications – AAPL offers three certifications that are recognized throughout the industry

as indicators of competency, proficiency and professionalism. Not only do our certifications enhance a member's credibility, they are proven to increase earning potential for landmen. Our certifications include the Certified Professional Landman (CPL), Registered Professional Landman (RPL) and Registered Landman (RL).

Legislative Advocacy – Membership in AAPL makes you a part of a united voice to seek what is best for the energy industry. AAPL supports the interests of landmen by being proactive on key legislative issues such as licensing and taxes.

AAPL Group Insurance Program – AAPL offers other benefits for members, such as optional insurance coverage for health, life, automobile and errors and omissions for landmen in the United States and abroad.

For more information on becoming an AAPL member go to: www.landman.org



North Dakota Petroleum Council Report

Ron Ness, President of the North Dakota Petroleum Council

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 here.

How to Find a Bill

During a legislative session, bills can be found at www.legis.nd.gov. To find a bill for the current session, choose '64th Assembly (2015-16)' on the left side of the page, then '64th Regular (2015)' on the left side about halfway down the

page. This page includes links to all of the information for the current legislative session. Information relating to the House can be found on the left side, with information regarding the Senate on the right. If you scroll about halfway down the page there will be headlines that say 'House Bills and Resolutions' and 'Senate Bills and Resolutions'. Choose either House Bills or Senate Bills based on the bill you are looking for. Bills that began in the House start with the numbers 1 or 3, and bills that began in the Senate start with a 2 or 4. The bills are then listed in numerical order. Clicking on the bill number will lead you to actions relating to the bill, while clicking on the longer number

to the right of the bill number will take you to the current text of the bill. As the session progresses, there may be multiple versions of the same bill available. The version listed last will be the most current version.

Helpful Links

64th Legislative Assembly:

<http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/64-2015/regular>

House Bills:

<http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/64-2015/bill-text/house-bill.html>

Senate Bills:

<http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/64-2015/bill-text/senate-bill.html>

Legislative Deadlines:

<http://www.legis.nd.gov/files/resource/64-2015/legislative-deadlines/2015-legislative-deadlines.pdf?20150112102227>

Bill Tracking System:

<http://www.legis.nd.gov/legislative-bill-tracking-system>



Trouble Finding Missing Mineral Owners?

Contact ..

W.T. Butcher & Associates, LTD.

Toll Free: 1-800-700-1541

Email: dina.wtba@midconetwork.com

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Search Fee: basic \$50 & up
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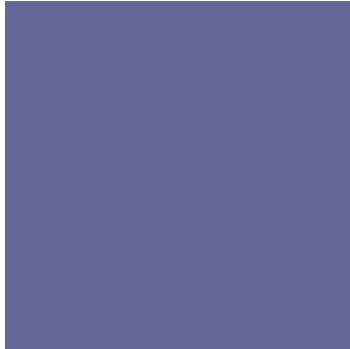
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Calendar

- Feb 2 **First Quarter L.A.N.D. Meeting**
*5:30 pm CST ~ Kelly Inn
Bismarck, ND*
- Feb 3 **ND State Lease Sale**
*9:00 A.M. CST – Kelly Inn
1800 N 12th Street, Bismarck, ND*
- Feb 7 **RPL/CPL Exam ONLY**
*Bismarck, ND
For more info – www.landman.org*

WELCOME New 2015 LAND Members

February 2015
Baxter, Randy S.
Forward, Robin W.
Harris, Scott G.
LeCates, Christopher K.

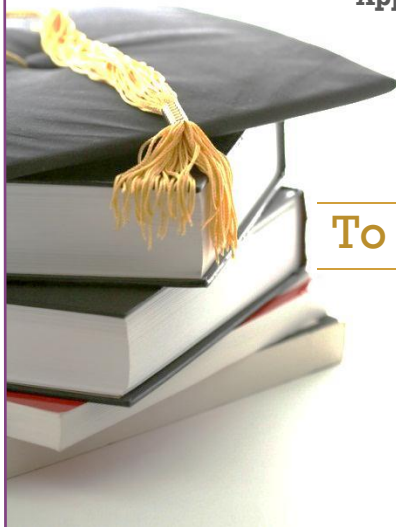


DONALD B. SASS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is open to anyone pursuing an energy-related degree at an accredited institution and who is a graduate of a North Dakota High School. Applications for the scholarship can be found at www.ndcf.net > View the Map > Statewide Funds > Donald B. Sass Memorial Scholarship.

Application DEADLINE is April 1, 2015.

For further information, please contact
Kate Moser Black at 701-255-1416 or
email her at 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

~ RPL & CPL EXAM ONLY- Bismarck, ND ~
Saturday, February 07, 2015 (7:15 AM-2:30 PM)
For more information contact AAPL at Phone 817-847-7700 or www.landman.org

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