



# MICHIGAN LANDMAN NEWS

*Newsletter of the Michigan Association of Professional Landmen*

**July 23, 2014**

## CHECK IT OUT! MAPL ROLLS OUT NEW WEBSITE

We are pleased to announce the new look of the MAPL website ([www.michiganlandman.com](http://www.michiganlandman.com)) and hope that you will have better usability in all features! I have a short write-up on how to achieve the best results when using the site.

1. Under the "Calendar" tab, you will find the upcoming MAPL events for the month. The calendar is navigable by month. By clicking "Open Calendar" you will find the events currently posted. When these events go live, you will be able to view details and register for the events.

2. Under the "Members" tab, you will be required to use only a password to access.. What you will find on the Member's page, are the following:

- a. Membership Renewal/Application Form
- b. Membership Directory
- c. Cvent Member Portal

The Cvent Member Portal is the software we use to plan events and manage each member's individual information. This portion is important for you, in the event you have changes to your contact details (phone, address, etc.) you can change them here. Click the link, either you have signed-up through Cvent Member Portal before, all you will need to do is Log In, if not, please Sign Up.

Once entered, you will have the ability to:

- i. Edit certain contact information and/or renew membership in "My Profile & Membership"
- ii. View a history of your attended events in "My Events"
- iii. View the searchable Member Directory

**Mathew W. Maritz, RPL**  
MAPL Treasurer

July 23, 2014

## **“INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS” ACT 241 of 2014 / HOUSE BILL 4958 NOW LAW!**

The law clarifying and protecting the Independent Contractor status of Oil and Gas Landman has been passed by both houses of the Legislature and signed by the Governor. The legislation takes effect August 26, 2014.

### **An Excerpt from the legislation related to Oil and Gas Landmen:**

*(v) Service performed by an individual as an oil, gas, or mineral landman under a contract with a private person or private entity if substantially all remuneration, including payment at a daily rate paid in cash or otherwise for the performance of the service, is directly related to the individual's completion of the specific tasks contracted for rather than the number of hours worked, and if the contract provides that the individual is an independent contractor and not an employee with respect to the contracted service. As used in this subdivision, "landman" means an individual who is engaged in 1 or more of the following:*

- (i) Negotiating the acquisition or divestiture of oil, gas, or mineral rights.*
- (ii) Negotiating business agreements that provide for the exploration for, transportation of, or development of oil, gas, or minerals.*
- (iii) Determining the ownership of oil, gas, or minerals through research of public and private records.*
- (iv) Reviewing the status of the title to, and curing title defects and deficiencies associated with, the ownership of oil, gas, or minerals.*
- (v) Managing rights or obligations derived from the ownership of interests in oil, gas, or minerals.*
- (vi) Interacting with regulatory agencies in support of activities relating to exploring for and producing oil, gas, or minerals.*



## **SAVE THE DATE!!**

AAPL will be hosting a Field Landman Seminar in Traverse City at The Corner Loft on **October 16, 2014**. The new President of AAPL, Roger Soape, CPL, will be one of the guest speakers. As always, this event is free to AAPL members and \$50 for non-members which will include your first year AAPL Membership. More information will be made available as things are finalized and we get closer to date of the event. Hope to see you there!

### **Sue Benson, CPL**

MAPL Past President

AAPL Region II – Michigan Director

Jul 23, 2014



*Left to Right: Steve Rapanos, President; Greg Vadnais, Jr., Membership Chair; Sue Benson, Past President and AAPL Regional Director; Matt Maritz, Treasurer; David Millsop, Vice President. Absent: Luke Miller, Secretary.*

## 2014 – 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 20, 2014, Clare, Michigan – MAPL members in attendance at the President's Meeting voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Board of Directors naming the new officers and welcoming Greg Vadnais, Jr. to the Board. The Board officers will serve in their roles for the MAPL fiscal year of July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

### CONTACT US:

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## 37<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FALL SEMINAR NOTICE

Please join us at the **MAPL's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Seminar** to be held on September 18, 2014 at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids for a full day of speakers.

The day's events begin with registration and continental breakfast at 7:30 AM and wrap up at 4:30 PM. There are blocked rooms available for \$140.00/night +tax – just call 1-800-253-3590 before August 18 and mention that you are visiting for the MAPL Fall Seminar. Speaker information and registration invitation will be sent out in August.

Hope to see you all there!

**Steve Rapanos, CPL**  
MAPL President

Jul 23, 2014



**MAPL PAST PRESIDENTS** (left to right): Tad Stuart, Jill Porter, Jeff Smetzer, Russell Shinevar, Clifford Abel, Leslie Irish, John Stender, Jr., Gary "Buck" Hackworth, Gail Holland

## OUTSTANDING Presidents Meeting 2014

Outgoing President Sue Benson hosted a very entertaining, fun, and informative meeting at The Doherty Hotel in Clare on June 18, 2014.

Great food, good fellowship and an informative presentation by Justin Reuter, a Geophysicist with Wolverine Gas and Oil, made for a memorable evening.

Sue Benson was honored as immediate Past President. Sue has been a force in moving MAPL forward, particularly in terms of technology. Sue was the driving force behind moving all of our marketing from costly printing and mailing to electronic mail. Sue also championed and continues to lead our implementation of Cvent for our membership and event management.

MAPL has been graced with a number of strong leaders. Sue Benson can most certainly count herself among those who have had the largest tangible impact on the membership of MAPL. Thank You Sue! We can't wait to see what you accomplish representing us as our AAPL Region II Director!



### MICHIGAN WELL REPRESENTED AT AAPL

Michigan Landmen are currently very well represented at the National level with leadership positions in AAPL! Left to Right: **Sue Benson**, your Region II Director, **Russell Shinevar**, after a stint as AAPL Third Vice President, now serving as Chair of the Certification Committee, and **Leslie Irish**, Chair of the Field Landman Seminar Committee. **Thank You to our AAPL Leaders!**

July 23, 2014

## President's Message

Well, it's that time of year again! The MAPL Board has transitioned as we all move up a spot (or down – depending on your point of view ☺) and we take a moment to reflect on what has come before us and how we want to move forward.

Over the past year the MAPL organization has experienced some tremendous changes with the introduction of CVENT. This software program has allowed our Board the ability to more effectively communicate with MAPL members and provide our Board the tools to more effectively manage various processes involved with the operations of the MAPL. It is because of the persistent hard work of our immediate Past President, Sue Benson, that we enjoy the benefits of this remarkable tool. I can tell you first hand that there were times that various Board members (namely myself) scratched our (mine) heads and wondered if this was the best way to go. Fortunately Sue saw what could be and patiently kept answering our questions and meeting our doubts with examples of what we could accomplish if we stuck with it. And she was right – so I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sue not only for her persistence but also for her years of service to the MAPL and her continued work with the AAPL.

As I am writing this I keep thinking to myself – what a tough act to follow. The MAPL is humming along pretty good right now because the efforts of our past Board members and the current crop of David Millsop, Vice President; Luke Miller, Secretary; Matt Maritz, Treasurer; and our newest addition Greg Vadnais, Jr., Membership. David, Luke and Matt continue to improve upon the roles they fill as we transition from year to year and Greg will be a great addition to the Board with his perspectives on the industry and how we can further engage our members.

So, how do we improve upon the efforts of the past and continue to offer our members the best educational and networking opportunities? Well, we stay committed to our numerous annual events like the upcoming Golf Outing and Fall Seminar as well as the Autumn gathering at Boone's in Traverse City, the Winter Mini-Seminar in Mt. Pleasant, the Spring dinner in Lansing and the Annual Meeting/President's meeting in central Michigan. Each of these events offers great educational and networking opportunities and should already be on your calendar for the upcoming 2014-2015 year.

Moving forward and building on the efforts of the past, the MAPL is going to make efforts to connect with other organizations involved in energy exploration and production (such as MOGA) in the state of Michigan and provide even more outlets for our members to network and gain educational experiences about the vast array of opportunities the energy industry provides.

But, we need your help – as an MAPL Member, you are invited and encouraged to participate in MAPL events and we would appreciate hearing about organizations that you think we should be connecting with. To that end, if you have an idea or a topic please contact me or one of our Board members and share your thoughts.

I thank you in advance for your participation and dedication!

**Steve Rapanos, CPL**

MAPL President



*July 23, 2014*

***It is time for the one and only purely social event of our year!!!***

**The 2014 MAPL Golf Outing at the world class TreeTops Resort in Gaylord, Michigan!**

MAPL members and their guests are invited to participate in a day of golfing fun and prizes at TreeTops Resort in Gaylord, Michigan for a 1:30 PM shotgun start on **Friday August 8, 2014**. This is a four-person golf team event using the scramble format. At least two (2) golfers on each team must be an MAPL member.

The 2014 MAPL TreeTops Golf Outing includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, access to free range balls and putting greens, and a buffet lunch on the patio during registration, and a fantastic Backyard BBQ outdoors in the beautiful TreeTops Resort. There will be awards for the longest drive and closest to the pin. The cost for the golf outing is \$100.00 for MAPL members and \$125.00 for non-members - *a significant price reduction from 2013!!!!*

If you are unable to golf but would like to join us at TreeTops Resort for the Backyard BBQ dinner, the cost is \$25.00 for MAPL members and \$40.00 for non-members. Dinner will be served on the expansive patio upon arrival of all golfers back at the clubhouse where awards and door prizes will be given.

**INCREDIBLE / "SATISFACTION GUARANTEED" DOOR PRIZES!!!**

MAPL has paired with Carl's Golfland, one of the nation's premier golf retailers since the mid-1970's to come up with a spectacular collection of door prizes. TaylorMade Fairway Woods, Cleveland Mashie, and a host of very cool and current golf related items. BONUS - each door prize comes with a gift receipt from Carls's that allows the recipient to trade what they received for any item on the Carl's website of equal value!!! A door prize you are guaranteed to enjoy!!!

**NEW FOR 2014 - THE STAY AND PLAY OPTION**

MAPL has arranged a special rate for MAPL members and their guests to Stay and Play at TreeTops for a very special price. For just \$99.00 Inn / \$159.00 Lodge you can stay at TreeTops and enjoy an additional round on any of the 18 hole championship courses!!! Of course, this is subject to availability - *make your lodging reservations and tee times directly with TreeTops by calling (866) 348-5249 - group MAPL.*

**SPECIAL PRICE FOR THE VERY SPECIAL ThreeTops Par 3 COURSE**

TreeTops will allow any of our participants to play the world renowned ThreeTops nine hole par 3 course for a discounted rate of \$49.00. If you love golf, you owe it to yourself to experience ThreeTops, it is unlike any other course in the world. Beautiful setting and challenging holes create an unforgettable experience for golfers of any level! *Make a tee time for your ThreeTops experience - before or after the 2014 MAPL Golf Outing!!!*

**David Millsop, RPL**  
MAPL Vice President