

## 2025 GO-WV scholarship deadline: March 14

The Gas and Oil Association of WV, Inc. established its Scholarship Program in an effort to become more involved in higher education in West Virginia. The Scholarship Program was specifically created to reward the outstanding scholastic achievements of high school seniors whose parents work in the oil and natural gas industry for GO-WV members companies. The Association also awards deserving high school “student employees” who have completed a required number of working hours at a GO-WV member company.

Since 2020, two annual one-time, \$1,000 scholarships are also sponsored by ConServ In-

corporated and earmarked for students who are choosing a career path that benefits the oil and gas industry in a vocational/technical field such as, but not limited to, welder, truck driver, well tender, electrician, mechanic, etc.

Since the GO-WV Scholarship Program’s inception, over \$246,000 has been awarded



*Jennifer Vieweg  
Communications  
and Education  
Co-Chair*

**Scholarships**

*Continued on page 17*

## Register now for 2025 GO-WV Winter Meeting

Mark your calendars and register before Feb. 5 [online](#) to get the early bird discount for the Gas and Oil Association of WV, Inc. (GO-WV) Winter Meeting on February 19-20, 2025, at the Marriott Town Center Hotel in Charleston.

Join friends, colleagues, legislators and professional contacts for this worthwhile and exciting two-day event. To better benefit your business, take advantage of the [sponsorship opportunities](#) that are available. The positive exposure, educational and networking opportunities make this a great investment for your company.

Wednesday will feature an employment practices panel specific to the oil and gas industry. There will be a GOpac reception (admission by donation only), followed by the GO-WV membership and legislative reception, followed by your own dinner plans.

Thursday will open with a panel discussion on meeting U.S. and global energy demands. Oth-

er morning sessions include updates from our U.S. Senators, closing with a presentation on natural gas powered generation moving into the future. Lunch will include a presentation to the Oil & Gas Museum and recognition of the Rusty Hutson, Sr. Heritage Award and 2025 Gunslinger Award recipients. Governor-elect Patrick Morrisey has been invited to open our afternoon session, followed by talks from other industry leaders.



*Craig Colombo  
Vice Chair/  
Program Chair*

[Click here for the agenda.](#) [Click here to register](#) or [click here for printable registration form.](#) [Click here to sponsor](#) or [click here for printable sponsorship form.](#) [Click here to reserve your room at the Marriott](#) (Rate of \$145 + tax is valid February 18-21, 2025). [Click here for speaker information.](#)

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## "Drill, Baby, Drill"

The rally cry of the MAGA movement has been “Drill, Baby, Drill,” which is a reference to the statement made by Joe Biden in 2008 when debating John McCain and complaining about his 20 votes in the Senate against solar power. Biden said that all John McCain knows is “Drill, Baby, Drill.” The phrase was resurrected by the Republican Party in response to Biden’s 2021-2024 policies subsidizing renewable energy while simultaneously attempting to regulate fossil fuel out of business.

Oil and gas exploration has and always will be cyclical. There is an old saying in the oil patch that “you need to get in (the play) before the bankers show up, and get out before the prostitutes come to town.” Of course, this refers to the “pump and dump” model of acquiring a large leasehold and drilling just enough wells to establish a substantial production profile that can be projected into the future. Couple this with a high forward price curve and you have a prescription for a healthy pay day without the difficulties associated with operating the leasehold over the long term. That begs the question as to whether its reasonable to expect the US producers to “Drill, Baby, Drill.”

During Donald Trump's first term from 2016-2020, horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing were still in their infancy. Although the Barnett, Eagle Ford and Woodford shales had been developed using these techniques, the Appalachian, Haynesville and Permian basins were just beginning to develop infrastructure (pipelines, compressors and gas plants) to support widespread development. Gas prices peaked during the recession of 2008 and slowly began to decrease as more and more supply came online. By the end of the Trump term in 2020, the COVID 19 pandemic reared its ugly head and worldwide governments shut down the economy, plunging prices and development to a standstill. To jump start the COVID-stalled economy, the government began printing money and incentivizing renewable energy while simultaneously constraining fossil fuel production with onerous rules and regulations. Lawfare was used to stop infrastructure development, driving record inflation of oil and gas and all products that include significant amounts of energy.

The Bankers started showing up in 2021 and, with the help of the Prostitutes, have put a stop to the “shark fin” production profiles instead favoring debt reduction, free cash flow and increasing dividends. This is great for investors but it’s a far cry from the free-wheeling wildcatter days of building the "shark fin" and to hell with debt and commodity prices. Many wildcatters, including Pioneer Resources, Hess, Endeavor and Marathon Oil, have been

### Chairman's Report

*Continued on page 17*



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## Trump's "Day One" Executive Orders transform industry policies

On January 20, 2025, the Trump administration issued a suite of Executive Orders and memoranda signaling a dramatic shift in American energy and environmental policy. Collectively these actions, among a historically large array of “Day One” orders issued by the administration, aim to stimulate domestic energy production (with a focus on oil, natural gas, coal, hydropower, biofuels, critical minerals and nuclear energy resources), expand energy transmission infrastructure, enlarge refining capacity, and streamline environmental permitting and review requirements for energy production and infrastructure projects while canceling Biden-era domestic climate policies, disen-

gaging from international climate agreements, and curtailing leasing and permitting for offshore and onshore wind energy projects.

In conjunction with these Executive Orders and memoranda, the Trump administration carried out a sweeping revocation of Biden-era Executive Orders, including orders relating to energy policy and environmental regulation, climate initiatives, promoting electric vehicles, environmental justice, the withdrawal of areas of the Outer Continental Shelf from oil and gas leasing, and the implementation of the Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

President Trump also issued a Day One memorandum implementing a regulatory freeze requiring agencies to refrain from proposing or issuing any new rule and withdraw rules that have been finalized but not yet been published in the Federal Register, until those rules are approved by the new agency head. The memorandum also directs agency heads to consider postponing for 60 days the effective date of any rules that have been published or issued but have not taken effect, for the purpose of reviewing any questions of fact, law, and policy that the rules may raise. Some Biden-era rules relating to energy and the environment appear to be subject to this freeze, however, the overall impact of the freeze appears to be limited.

More detailed reviews of these actions are available at the links below.

- [Energy Policy](#)
- [Regulatory Freeze](#)
- [Key Environmental Regulatory, Permitting, and Enforcement Implications](#)

Additional actions by President Trump on energy and environmental issues are expected, and legal challenges are practically certain as federal agencies take concrete steps to implement these directives. For more information on the actions discussed in these Alerts or related matters, please contact Ben Clapp at (202) 853-3488 or [bclapp@babstcalland.com](mailto:bclapp@babstcalland.com), or Gary Steinbauer at (412) 394-6590 or [gsteinbauer@babstcalland.com](mailto:gsteinbauer@babstcalland.com).

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## From the Burd's Nest: Hitting the floor running

Since my January article, the Nation seated its 47th President and West Virginia seated its 37th Governor. As expected, both hit the floor running.

Nationally, Trump signed 26 executive orders (EO) on his first day in office compared to the 33 orders he signed during the first 100 days of his first term! Here is a sampling of some of the many Executive orders signed by President Trump that will likely have implications important to our industry:

1. Rescinding 78 Biden-era executive actions that included several related to border security and changing immigration policy, including expanding the legal authorities used to enforce immigration law against immigrants already in the U.S.
2. However, another Biden EO that originally revoked Trump's March 2019 permit for the XL Pipeline, was among the directives rescinded by President Trump on his first day in office. This decision appears to have put Keystone XL back on the table. Only time will tell if construction on this major oil pipeline can be resurrected.
3. Withdrawing from the Paris Climate accord and revoking Biden's EV Mandate.
4. Lifting the freeze on LNG exports.
5. In his Executive Order "*Terminating the Green New Deal*", Trump ordered all federal agencies to pause disbursement of funds appropriated through the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act or the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. We await to see how soon and deep this "pause" impacts federal funds related to the plugging of orphan wells.
6. Invoking the National Emergencies Act of 1976, Trump declared a national energy emergency giving the administration more powers to expedite approvals for infrastructure for fossil fuels, biofuels, nuclear power and critical minerals, but not solar and wind.
7. Lifting the restriction of oil, natural gas and mineral production in Alaska, that opens areas

for development, including parts of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). It also supports Alaska's desire to revive its LNG industry.

8. Placing new restrictions on wind power development that bans new leasing for offshore wind and places a temporary suspension of all federal leasing and permitting for wind projects both offshore and onshore.
9. Formally establish the new Department of Government Efficiency as an entity within the federal government to "maximize governmental efficiency and productivity."
10. Enacting a hiring freeze for federal government employees through the executive branch.
11. Requiring all federal departments and agencies to take the necessary steps to terminate remote work arrangements and require employees to return to work in-person at their respective duty stations on a full-time basis—with certain exceptions.
12. Banning diversity, equity and inclusion programs in federal agencies, describing such programs as having "demonstrated immense public waste and shameful discrimination."

Trump has spoken quite often regarding the need to double our electric generating capacity if we are to compete for A.I. and datacenter development. Trump's declaration seeks to ease environmental restrictions on power plants to meet that demand, speed up construction of new plants, and ease permitting for transmission and pipeline projects.

"We will drill, baby, drill," he said during his inauguration speech. "We will be a rich nation again and it is the liquid gold under our feet that will help us do it."

Closer to home, Governor Patrick Morrisey announced eight executive orders and a couple other announcements that focus on economic issues and issues he characterized as being about citizens' freedoms. Here is a quick overview:

**Burd's Nest**

*Continued on page 16*

# Upcoming events for your review

February 5-7, 2025

## **2025 NAPE Summit**

*GRB Convention Center, Houston, TX*

Info: [2025 NAPE Summit](#)

February 13, 2025

## **Appalachian STEPS Network:**

### **Contractor Management Workshop**

*Oglebay Resort, Wheeling, Charleston, WV*

Info: [gowv.com](#)

February 19-20, 2025

## **GO-WV 2025 Winter Meeting**

*Charleston Marriott Hotel, Charleston, WV*

Info: [gowv.com](#)

March 5-7, 2025

## **Ohio Oil & Gas Annual Meeting**

*Easton Hilton, Columbus, OH*

Info: [ooga.org](#)

March 22, 2025

## **Marion County STEAM Day**

*County Stem Center*

March 26, 2025

## **GO-WV Gas & Oil Day at the Legislature**

*State Capitol, Charleston, WV*

March 26-27, 2025

## **WV Construction & Design EXPO**

*Charleston CCC, Charleston, WV*

April 2, 2025

## **GO-WV Damage Prevention Seminar**

*Hope Gas, Jane Lew, WV*

Info: [gowv.com](#)

April 10, 2025

## **SOOGA Spring Meeting**

*Marietta, OH*

April 12, 2025

## **WVMA Day at the Legislature**

*State Capitol, Charleston, WV*

April 15, 2025

## **GO-WV Pipeline Safety Seminar**

*Marriott Town Center Hotel, Charleston, WV*

Info: [gowv.com](#)

April 17, 2025

## **GO-WV Pipeline Safety Seminar**

*BHE GT&S, Bridgeport, WV*

Info: [gowv.com](#)

April 17, 2025

## **PIOGA Spring Meeting**

*Rivers Casino, Pittsburgh, PA*

May 5, 2025

## **GO-WV Spring Swing**

*Berry Hills Country Club, Charleston, WV*

Info: [gowv.com](#)

May 19, 2025

## **11th Apex Pipeline Charity Golf Outing**

*Berry Hills Country Club, Charleston, WV*

May 19-21, 2025

## **IOGCC Annual Business Meeting**

*Oklahoma City, OK*

Info: [iogcc](#)

June 2, 2025

## **Arsenal Resources Tee-it-up Golf Outing**

*Pete Dye Golf Course, Clarksburg, WV*

June 5-6, 2025

## **GO-WV Science Teacher Workshop**

*Waterfront Hotel, Morgantown, WV*

June 24-26, 2025

## **Virginia Oil & Gas Assoc. Annual Meeting**

*Hilton Garden Inn, Virginia Beach, VA*

June 25-26, 2025

## **KOGA 88th Annual Meeting**

*Campbell House, Lexington, KY*



# Get GO-WV insurance now

The Gas and Oil Association of WV, Inc. offers what is considered the premier association health insurance program in West Virginia.

The program is presented through a successful partnership with Highmark BlueCross BlueShield (HMBCBS) and Blue Ridge Risk Partners and has become the largest fully insured policy holder of HMBCBS, a partnership that has existed for over 30 years.

With the expertise of this partnership, our groups are assured of stability and multiple services, including the oversight and compliance of the ever changing Affordable Care Act Laws and Regulations. This allows our members to focus more on their business.

GO-WV membership is one of the qualifications for the insurance program. For more information about this program, contact Lori Miller Smith of GO-WV at [lmillersmith@gowv.com](mailto:lmillersmith@gowv.com) or 304-344-9867 or Josh Zontek of Blue Ridge Risk Partners at [josh.zontek@blueridgeriskpartners.com](mailto:josh.zontek@blueridgeriskpartners.com) or 304-848-6475.

Plan features offer competitive rates; reduced employer risk exposure; multiple plan options; tiered rates; and outstanding customer service.

The insurance plan also provides a dental program through United Concordia, a subsidiary of Highmark BlueCross BlueShield Pennsylvania, a vision plan through VSP and life insurance and short-term disability through Unum Life Insurance Company of America.

Plans are effective January 1, 2025. [Click here for complete information on all plans.](#)



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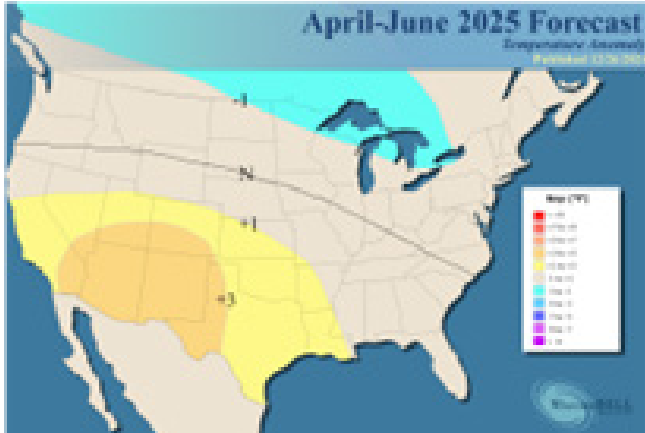
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# WeatherBELL: Winter forecast update



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The variable winter pattern has continued unabated thanks to a weak La Niña.

After a historic cold snap in December and a milder period, January turned frigid for a time. February started warmer but expect March to start off the spring colder than normal.

As the spring goes on, we expect the coldest air, relative to normal, to be adjacent to Canada and in the Great Lakes. Warmth should start really early in the Southwest and make inroads into the South in April.

The extra contrast between North and South will produce an environment conducive to severe thunderstorms and tornadoes.

## BUYING GAS FOR HOPE GAS

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You may be eligible to join our Encova Safety Group Program for workers' compensation with your GO-WV membership. For more details and to see if you qualify for a premium discount, please contact [mark.pettry@encova.com](mailto:mark.pettry@encova.com) or visit [encova.com](http://encova.com) to find an agent.





## Time now to plan for your 2025 advertising in GO-WV News

Your continued support of *GO-WV News* through your advertising is greatly appreciated. Advertisers have the opportunity to expand their reach to this important market and keep your name and your products and services at top-of-mind awareness for your current and potential customers.

The 2025 advertising contract can be found at [gowv.com](http://gowv.com). You can begin advertising at any time

throughout the year. For our current advertisers, a copy of your current contract and most recent ad are available from the GO-WV office. Ads must be paid in full by check or credit card prior to publication.

Please call Jordan Bonnett at the GO-WV office at (304) 344-9867 or email him at [jbonnett@gowv.com](mailto:jbonnett@gowv.com) for any questions regarding advertising opportunities.

## Get your GO-WV license plate now!



[Click here](#) for the application.





## Damage prevention, pipeline seminars coming

The Safety Committee has planned three seminars in April for which registration is now open.

The Gas and Oil Association of West Virginia (GO-WV) is hosting its fourth annual Damage Prevention Seminar from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Hope Gas in Jane Lew, WV on Wednesday, April 2, 2025. The agenda will be posted shortly.

Presented by GO-WV and WV811, the event is sponsored by Hope Gas.

There is no cost to attend this seminar, but registration is required.

GO-WV is hosting two pipeline safety seminars in April, one in Charleston and one in

Bridgeport. These are presented by the Gas Pipeline Safety Division of the PSCWV. There is no charge to attend, but registration is required; lunch is provided. The agenda will be provided soon.

The first pipeline seminar, sponsored by Mountaineer Gas, will take place Tuesday, April 15, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Marriott Town Center Hotel in Charleston. The second seminar is Thursday, April 17, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. It is sponsored by and will take place at BHE GT&S in Bridgeport.

## Oil & Gas Museum

The Oil, Gas and Industrial Historical Association, West Virginia's only multi-site museum, highlights the history and present day impact of oil and gas in the Appalachian Basin.



We honor and celebrate the rich history of West Virginia and the Mid-Ohio Valley, supporting research, preservation and interpretation at our sites.



Start exploring the Oil and Gas Museum and travel back in time with us.



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119 Third Street, Parkersburg, WV  
304.485.5446

Learn more [www.oilandgasmuseum.org](http://www.oilandgasmuseum.org)

Register now for upcoming GO-WV events:

Appalachian STEPS Meeting

2025 Winter Meeting

Damage Prevention Seminar

Pipeline Safety Seminar

Spring Swing





## Making memories

Returning from our annual January Florida vacation, we were flying from Orlando to Akron-Canton airport. I had a business meeting in Marietta. It was sunny and clear. Flying over the Ohio River, snow-covered Parkersburg, Marietta and Belpre were easy to spot. The Muskingum River looked frozen. Then we heard, “From the flight deck. We have begun our decent into the Akron- Canton area. Current temperature at the airport is one.” I looked at Lynnda. “One what? One degree above zero,” she responded.

At the rental car counter, we got a small SUV. I asked the counter lady, “Where are the cars?” She pointed behind her. “Parking lot. Once you find it you’ll need to clean off the snow. Have a nice day.” I’m thinking, “It was 75 degrees at the pool with the grandkids yesterday.” My Michigan and Ohio winter expertise as a young man kicked in. I found the vehicle, got the snow cleaned off and picked up Lynnda at the terminal before frost bite set in. It was good to be home even in the cold and snow.

The temperature in Pinch was -5 degrees our first night home. THANK YOU, American natural gas industry, for helping to keep our lights and heat on. If the anti-fossil fuel crowd and previous administration in Washington had been given their way, Americans would have frozen in the dark. The wind wasn’t blowing, solar panels don’t work at night and batteries don’t store much power when cold. We aren’t out of the woods yet. 95% of queued power additions to the PJM grid are intermittent renewables with only 5% baseload natural gas. We need to change that fast. I was glad to hear, “Drill, Baby, Drill.”

When we returned home and got our mail, we found a late Christmas present from our daughter, Dannielle, a plaque with the phrase, “TAKE VACATIONS. Go as many places as you can. You can always make more money. You can’t always make memories.” It was a good reminder why we do what we do. Time is precious. We can’t buy more of it. We can only use what we have wisely.

Dannielle had a long weekend off and joined us the weekend before our return. It was fun playing golf. We watched a pair of Ospreys build a nest and did a run together.

Not everything can be planned. When we focus on others first, good things happen. Our youngest son, his wife and our four grandkids spent two extra days with us because of weather up north. We call friends and family when we are close by. My nephew was happy we called. He visited with us over beer and snacks. We weren’t sure if we would see our grandson and his family who live two hours north of Orlando. We saw them in November and still let them know we would be in Orlando on Sunday. Our grandson took off work and drove down with his family. Cooper, our great-grandson changed a lot since November. He is now a 9-month-old, developing a personality, crawling fast and climbing. He loves the water. Dannielle got to see him for the first time. Great-grandma Lynnda loved holding and playing with him. Children grow up fast. We don’t get a do-over.

We took the Key West Express from Marco Island with friends from Pennsylvania who vacationed with us the second week. The Key West Express is a high-speed comfortable air-conditioned catamaran capable of over 30 knots (approximately 40 mph). It makes the trip in about three hours, giving us part of the morning and most of the afternoon before the return trip at 5 PM. We stopped at an Irish Pub on Duval Street for a late lunch before the return trip and made friends with the Irish guitar player/singer. Learning we were from West Virginia, he played *Country Roads*.

On the trip back, as we left port the captain announced, “The seas are a little rough but we will make the trip as comfortable as possible.” In rough seas the ship rides a wave up and suddenly drops when the wave breaks and there is no water under the boat. There is a reason why I don’t ride

**Making memories**

*Continued on page 13*

August 3-5, 2025

**GO-WV Summer Meeting**

*The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV*

Info: [gowv.com](http://gowv.com)

September 11-13, 2025

**WV Oil & Gas Festival**

*Sistersville, WV*

September 12, 2025

**WV O&G Festival Person of the Year Ceremony**

*Sistersville, WV*

September 15, 2025

**BHE GT&S Golf Outing**

*Pete Dye Golf Course, Clarksburg, WV*

September 16-18, 2026

**Shale Insight Conference**

*Bayfront Convention Center, Erie, PA*

September 22-24, 2025

**IOGCC Annual Conference**

*Anchorage, AK*

Info: [iogcc](http://iogcc)

October 2, 2025

**SOOGA Fall Trade Show**

*Marietta, OH*

October 20, 2025

**11th Apex Pipeline Fall Charity Golf Outing**

*Berry Hills Country Club, Charleston, WV*

October 21-23, 2025

**SPE Appalachian Chapter Annual Meeting**

*Charleston, WV*

August 2-4, 2026

**GO-WV Summer Meeting**

*The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV*

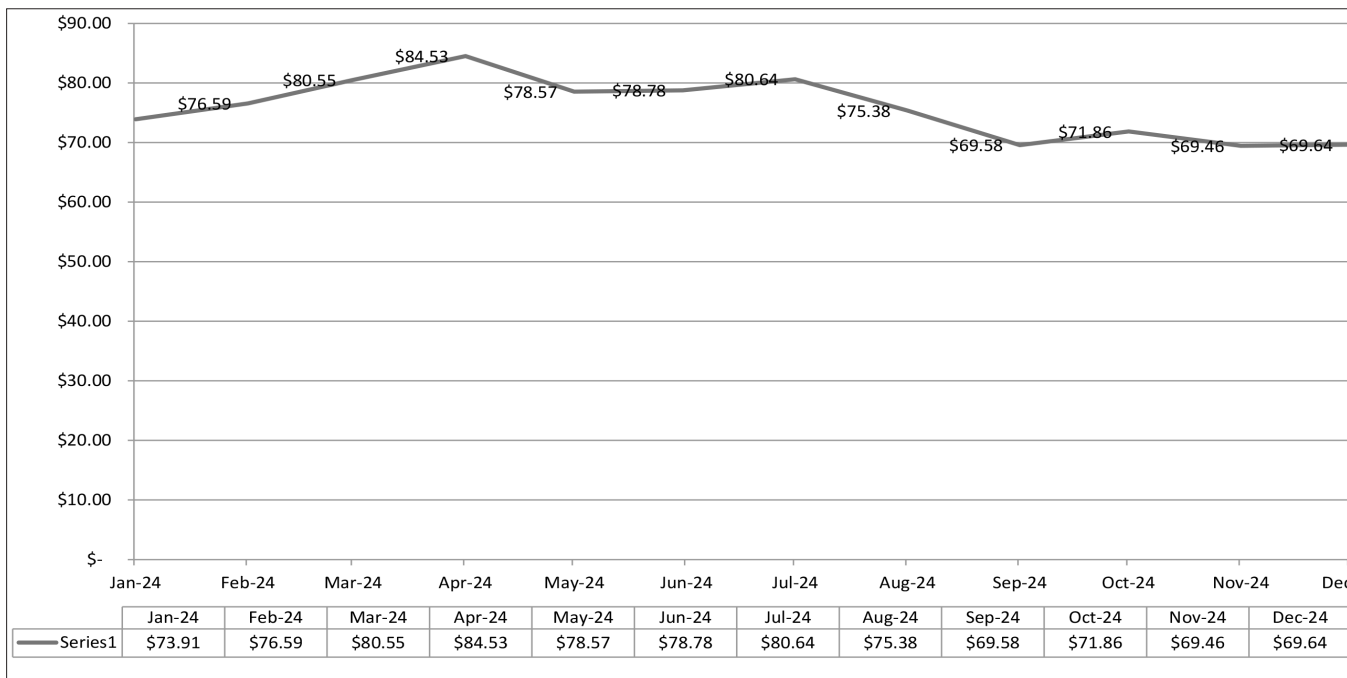


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# Monthly Appalachian Basin crude oil prices



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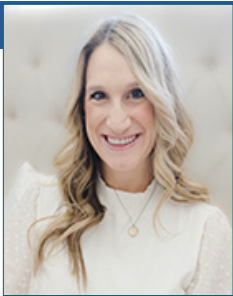


February 6, 13, 20, & 27



Register Now





## GO-WV welcomes three new members in January

Please join the GO-WV Board of Directors in welcoming these members approved in January:

### MVR Resources

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Gwynedd, PA 19436  
Phone: (215) 283-7160

#### **David Moore**

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### **ROY**

### Triple Seven Contracting, LLC

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#### **Gary Bates II**

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### WV Mineral Group

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#### **Conner Hutson**

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[chwvminerals@outlook.com](mailto:chwvminerals@outlook.com)

### **POP**

### Making memories

*Continued from page 10*

the Tower of Terror. Up went the ship and suddenly down when the ship. Up and down and up and down and suddenly up came my Irish lunch. I may have started something. I heard later one man headed to the bathroom and wouldn't come out. I was focused on my own problem. Our friend brought over a little paper bag. It was worthless. Lynnda had him get large trash bag. It was 2 ½ hours of up and down hell. The crew did a good job of cleaning up. I laid down in my seat until we were tied up at the dock. I'm sure I will be reminded of this memory every time Key West is ever mentioned. Maybe it will be funny this time next year. This vacation made many memories.

Lynnda, Nathan (Shale Crescent USA President) and I are getting ready for our next adventure. No boats involved. At the end of February, we are going on a U.S. Commercial Services Roadshow to the Netherlands, Belgium and France with economic development organizations from Texas, Florida, Georgia, New York, Virginia and other states. We will be meeting with compa-

nies and telling the Shale Crescent USA Region (PA, OH & WV) story of abundant economical natural gas.

Most of the companies we will be meeting have decided to expand to the USA but haven't decided where to settle. Nathan and I learned from our overseas trips and meeting companies at SelectUSA, most foreign people know where New York City, Disney World, Texas and Hollywood are. They are clueless about Pittsburgh, Columbus and Charleston. In Germany, India and Japan, companies thought all the natural gas and oil was in Texas. A businessman from India at SelectUSA last year thought our low natural gas prices were an "introductory price." We now communicate weekly. Because of SCUSA's energy advantage, he will be bringing a delegation of Indian companies to our region this spring.

TAKE VACATIONS. Go as many places as you can. Make great memories for yourself and others. You can make money. You can't make time.



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Unparalleled Value.

## HIGH-YIELDING RESULTS.



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Real Estate,  
Land Use & Zoning



Pipeline &  
HazMat Safety



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## Hillebrand named new IPAA board chairman through 2026

I want to formally introduce Michael "Mike" A. Hillebrand, the chief executive officer of Pennsylvania-based Huntley & Huntley, to you as IPAA's board chairman for a two-year term through 2026. The IPAA board approved Hillebrand at IPAA's Annual Meeting in late October, and Hillebrand officially assumed the role this month.

Mike brings fantastic business and technical expertise to the role of chairman, coupled with a passion for industry and association advocacy. Past-chairman Steve Pruett, the president and chief executive officer of Elevation Resources, has been invaluable in expanding IPAA's reach in Texas and the Permian Basin. I look forward to working with Mike on deepening our roots and relationships in my home state of Pennsylvania and throughout the Appalachian Basin formations.

The IPAA team was grateful to have Mike join us in Houston in January to help open our Private Capital Conference.

Hillebrand is a principal shareholder and chief executive officer of one of the world's oldest and continuously existing oil and gas companies, Huntley & Huntley (founded in 1912), the founder, shareholder and board member of its institutional joint venture, Olympus Energy, the fifth largest shale producer in southwestern Pennsylvania. He has thirty-nine years of combined experience in both vertical and horizontal well drilling, completions, and operations, as well as all operating and financial aspects of oil and natural gas business development, assembly and acquisition, and marketing.

He has played a key leadership role in securing over \$1.1 billion of capital funding and/or commitments into several of Huntley's affiliated companies. One of those companies, Olympus Energy, now operates nearly 100,000 acres and in one of SW Pennsylvania's last undeveloped core Marcellus, deep Utica and Upper Devonian unconventional shale positions, now producing over 600 mmcf/d.

Hillebrand is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering. He is member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and the current Chairman of the Pennsylvania Independent Oil and Gas Association (PIOGA).



For a list of the full IPAA Board of Directors, visit <https://www.ipaa.org/board-of-directors/>.

### Meet Mike in Hourston during NAPE

Introduce yourself to IPAA's new chairman at our Annual Energy Cocktail Reception with BakerHostetler. We are pleased to invite you to join us next Thursday, February 6 at Xochi from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy:

- Catching up with old friends and colleagues and meeting new ones.
- Chef Hugo Ortega's Oaxacan-inspired hors d'oeuvres in a chic, James Beard recipient restaurant.
- Mezcal tasting and a crafted bar experience.
- An easy 4-minute walk across the street from the NAPE conference venue (inside the Marriott Marquis Houston).

Find more information [here](#), RSVP [here](#).

Mike will also be visiting IPAA's booth (#2547) on the NAPE expo floor. Be sure to stop by to say hello to our staff and register for a chance to win one of two Series 10 Apple Watches.

Thank you for your support of IPAA.

Sincerely,

Jeff Eshelman  
IPAA President and CEO

1. Instructs all executive departments and agencies to begin what he calls a “backyard brawl” to see that West Virginia competes better with bordering states.
2. Terminating DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) policies in state government.
3. Rooting out waste in government spending and requiring state departments and agencies to review any expenditure of \$100,000 or more during the current fiscal year.
4. Directing state agencies and boards to develop plans for a more efficient government.
5. Calling for a review of all existing rules and regulations with the intent of searching for items that are outdated or complex or that could impede the flow of commerce without tangible value.
6. A review of all prior executive orders.
7. Other actions include those pertaining to:
  - a. School Choice
  - b. Vaccinations for students.
  - c. A statement on gender.
  - d. And on the fight against illegal drugs/ Fentanyl.

Without question, Governor Morrissey has demonstrated his dedication to energy, fossil fuels and fairness. His previous actions on our behalf as our Attorney General are a matter of history and, as Governor, he is already singing our praises: “As America’s energy state, our nation’s energy independence begins right here in West Virginia. To lead the way, we will partner with President Trump, unleash our full potential and ultimately become energy dominant.”

While we all seem to be drinking water through a fire hose to keep up on all that is going on in Washington D.C. and Charleston, it's pretty darn obvious energy and energy development are back on the front burner—exactly where they should be.

This race to once again achieve global energy dominance is not a sprint—but a marathon. With the 2025 Legislative Session kicking off on February 12, your GO-WV leadership and lobbying teams also hit the floor running and are keeping pace with our federal and state leaders.

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acquired by major oil companies beholden to Wall Street. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, the 30 largest producers in the Permian Basin produced 0.5 MM barrels of crude per day in 2014. In 2024, the three largest producers pumped nearly 2 MM barrels of crude per day. In Appalachia, Noble, Southwestern and Carrizo have been acquired as producers try to squeeze out efficiencies and weather the low gas price storm brought on by the Circuit Courts from Main to Georgia impeding the construction of critical energy infrastructure.

On the positive side of the equation, the world has shunned Russian oil and gas production due to Vlad's imperialistic escapades in the Ukraine. This has created more opportunities for US oil and gas but Europe's obsession with renewable energy has dampened that market. It still remains to be seen if Asia departs from its heavy reliance

on coal. A colleague recently told me that "Indians will never abandon their coal in exchange for LNG. What will all of those miners do for work?"

The export of LNG should increase the production of Permian and Haynesville gas, but how much LNG should the US export? We are now drilling the US shale basins which are the source rocks for the hydrocarbons that have been produced in this country since the late 1800's. When the shale resource is gone, there won't be any other horizons to exploit. I believe in the power of the free market, but we should consider the implications of rushing to supply the rest of the world with our valuable hydrocarbons. For the most part, that is a world that doesn't much care for the United States except when they are cold, starving and being overrun by hostile enemies.

## Scholarships

Continued from page 1

to these very deserving students. Complete eligibility rules and documents for both scholarship types are found on pages 20-25 or at <https://gowv.com/education/scholarship/> and will be sent to all member companies.

The completed application, including all required forms and information, must be signed by the high school guidance counselor and postmarked no later than Friday, March 14, 2025. From all the applications received, the GO-WV Scholarship Review Committee will review and award a limited number of one-time only scholarships.

Here is a quick glance at those rules:

1. Applicant must be a West Virginia high school senior.
2. Applicant must be a dependent of an employee/retiree of a GO-WV member company in good standing OR be employed by a GO-WV

member company in good standing (Student employee must have worked a minimum of 400 hours in the past calendar year. Validation of hours worked and a letter of recommendation from the employer **must** be provided).

3. Applicant must enroll in a four-year West Virginia college or university or a community college/vocational-technical school.
4. Applicant must compose an essay answering the question asked on the application form.
5. Application must be signed by the high school guidance counselor.

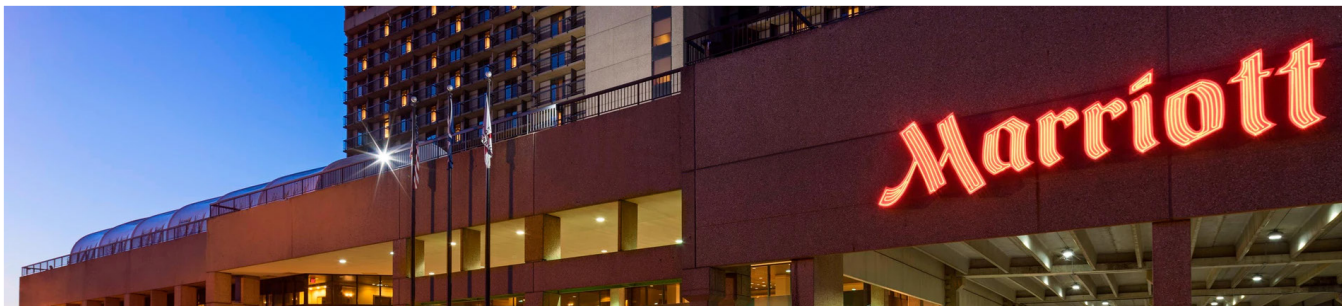
GO-WV will accept completed applications, including all documents, postmarked by Friday, March 14, 2025. Should you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact Katie McCracken at 304-344-9867 or [kmccracken@gowv.com](mailto:kmccracken@gowv.com).

# GO-WV Winter Meeting Agenda

<b>Wednesday, February 19, 2025</b>		
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<b>Registration</b>	A-B Foyer
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	<b>Breakfast</b> All registrants	Salons A-D
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	<b>Producers Issues Committee Breakfast</b> Restricted to Committee Members Only	Cumberland/Appalachian
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	<b>Past Presidents/Gunslingers Luncheon</b>	Salons E-F
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	<b>Luncheon</b>	Salon D
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	<b>Pivoten Software</b> Christopher Cantrell, CEO Stephanie Legg, Director of Professional Services	Salons A-D
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	<b>Employment Practices for the Oil &amp; Gas Industry</b> <i>Joseph Leonoro, Member</i> <i>Shelby A. Hicks-Merinar, Of Counsel</i> <i>Brittany L. O'Saile, Associate</i> Steptoe & Johnson	Salons A-D
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	<b>GOpac Reception</b> (Admission by donation only)	Salons E-F
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	<b>GO-WV Membership &amp; Legislative Reception</b>	Ballroom
	DINNER ON YOUR OWN	
<b>Thursday, February 20, 2025</b>		
8:00 a.m.	<b>Registration</b> <b>Membership Breakfast</b>	A-B Foyer C-D Foyer
9:00 a.m.	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Craig Colombo</i> GO-WV Vice Chair and Program Chair	Ballroom
9:05 a.m.	<b>Meeting U.S. and Global Energy Demands</b> Moderator: <i>Maribeth Anderson</i> , GO-WV Director <i>Domenic J. Dell'Osso, Jr.</i> , President and CEO Expand Energy <i>Michael Allen John</i> , President and CEO Northeast Natural Energy <i>Morgan K. O'Brien</i> , President and CEO Hope Gas	Ballroom
10:10 a.m.	<b>Morning Coffee Break</b>	C-D Foyer

# GO-WV Winter Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 20, 2025		
10:30 a.m.	<b>Senator Shelley Moore Capito</b> (invited) <b>Senator Jim Justice</b> (invited)	Ballroom
11:00 a.m.	<b>Power Generation - Moving into the Future</b> Curtis Wilkerson, Principal Orion Strategies	Ballroom
11:30 a.m.	<b>Break</b>	C-D Foyer
12:00 p.m.	<b>Membership Luncheon</b> <b>Presentation to the Oil &amp; Gas Museum</b> <i>Senta Goudy</i> , Executive Director, WV Oil & Gas Museum	Ballroom
	<b>Rusty Hutson, St. Heritage Award</b> <b>Presentation</b>	Ballroom
	<b>2025 Gunslinger Award</b>	Ballroom
12: 30 p.m.	<b>Invocation</b> <i>Don Nestor</i> <b>Oil and Gas Reclamation Awards</b>	Ballroom
1:00 p.m.	<b>Governor Patrick Morrisey</b> (invited)	Ballroom
1:20 p.m.	<b>Attorney General J.B. McCuskey</b>	Ballroom
1:40 p.m.	<b>Pete Hollis</b> , Senior Vice President and Global Head of CCUS Fidelis New Energy	Ballroom
2:00 p.m.	<b>Shawn Bennett</b> , Energy and Resilience Division Manager Battelle	Ballroom
2:20 p.m,	<b>Tri-State CCS Project</b> <i>Scott Murray</i> , Project Manager Tenaska	Ballroom
2:40 p.m.	<b>Chris Ventura</b> , Executive Director Consumers Energy Alliance	Ballroom
	<b>Adjourn and Afternoon Coffee Break</b>	C-D Foyer





# 2025 Scholarship Application

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ College/University Planning to Attend \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ High School Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

My Parent/Guardian works for a GO-WV Member Company  
 Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ GO-WV Member Company \_\_\_\_\_

**I Work for a GO-WV Company** (referral letter attached) Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date _____	If you filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), what is the amount of your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as reported to you on the Student Aid Report (SAR)? \$ _____.
Awards Assembly Date & Time _____	

### SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Applicant must be a West Virginia high school senior.
2. Applicant must be a dependent of an employee/retiree of a GO-WV Company in good standing OR be employed by a GO-WV Member Company in good standing (**Student employee must have worked a minimum of 400 hours. Validation of hours worked and a letter of recommendation from the employer must be provided**).
3. Applicant must enroll in a four-year West Virginia college or university.
4. Applicant must compose a 300-500 word essay answering the question: *“Describe your community’s perception of the Oil and Gas Industry and explain how you would improve it.”*
5. Application must be signed by a high school counselor.
6. Mail the application with all activity and course forms (listed below), essay, transcript and ACT scores as instructed below. This must be **postmarked** on or before **Friday, March 14, 2025**.

### ATTENTION STUDENT:

List your advanced placement and honors courses, organizations, volunteer and extra-curricular school activities with which you were affiliated during the four years of high school on the appropriate forms (Advanced Placement and Honors Courses, Extracurricular School Activities, Community Service and Non-School Activities - Including Employment). *Please deliver these forms along with your completed application and essay to your high school counselor.*

### ATTENTION SCHOOL COUNSELOR:

*Please sign this application and mail it along with the student’s essay, transcripts, ACT scores, and activity and course forms to the address below postmarked on or before March 14, 2025.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student’s guidance counselor’s signature

**PLEASE NOTE: ONE SIDED COPIES ONLY – NO STAPLES!**

Gas and Oil Association of WV, Inc.  
 Attention: Katie McCracken  
 300 Summers Street, Suite 820, Charleston WV











# 2025 Technical & Vocational Scholarship Application



Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ SS Number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ High School Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

My Parent/Guardian works for a GO-WV Member Company

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ GO-WV Member Company \_\_\_\_\_

I Work for a GO-WV Member Company (referral letter attached) Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date:	Awards Assembly Date & Time:
Chosen Vocation/Career:	Chosen School:

**SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Applicant must be a West Virginia high school senior choosing a career path that benefits the oil and gas industry.
2. Applicant must be a dependent of an employee OR be employed by a GO-WV Member Company in good standing. (Student employee must have worked a minimum of 400 hours. Validation of hours worked and a letter of recommendation from the employer must be included with this application.)
3. Applicant must be enrolling in a West Virginia community college or vocational / technical trade school.
4. Applicant must complete both pages of this form.
5. Applicant must ensure that this application and all necessary documents are postmarked no later than **Friday, March 14, 2025.**

**ATTENTION STUDENT:**

*After completing both pages of this form, deliver these documents to your high school counselor.*

**ATTENTION SCHOOL COUNSELOR:**

1. Please write a letter stating why you, or the student's technical or vocational course instructor, recommend the student for this scholarship.
2. Mail the recommendation letter, all pages of this application, and the student's transcript of grades to the address below postmarked on or before **before March 14, 2025.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's guidance counselor's signature

**PLEASE NOTE: ONE SIDED COPIES ONLY – NO STAPLES!**  
**Please feel free to add extra sheets if needed.**

Gas and Oil Association of WV, Inc.  
Attention: Katie McCracken  
300 Summers Street, Suite 820, Charleston WV 25301









300 Summers Street, Suite 820  
Charleston, WV 25301  
Phone (304) 344-9867 Fax (304) 344-5836

Meet your new  
benefits partners.



**Josh Zontek**  
*Chief Strategy Officer*  
*Blue Ridge Risk Partners*  
*josh.zontek@blueridgeriskpartners.com*  
*304.848.6475*



**Adam Rowh, CLU**  
*Wealth Management Advisor/*  
*Managing Director*  
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**Kenny George**  
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