



THE PUBLIC LANDS Monitor

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PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH September 12-15, 2017

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General PLF Meeting, Salt Lake City, September 13 and 14, 2017

by Geoff Middaugh

The General Meeting had a full agenda, and an enthusiastic audience. As introduction, President Jesse Juen thanked the Salt Lake District and Utah BLM Staff for the previous day's great field trip to Utah's West Desert. The field trip preceded the discussion in the general meeting about urban/wildland resource conflicts, from shooting, to fire, to intensive recreation and off-road vehicle use. As usual, people learn a lot about the landscape when kicking dirt and talking about common issues, all which trend towards understanding and developing relationships.

The opening speaker was Mike Nedd, current Acting BLM Director. Mike explained why BLM and public lands are important to our country. This is his world now as he works daily with the new administration. Mike explained his approach to developing relationships, with the importance of touching and talking and meeting people eye to eye. There is a chance for agreement when we touch and talk.



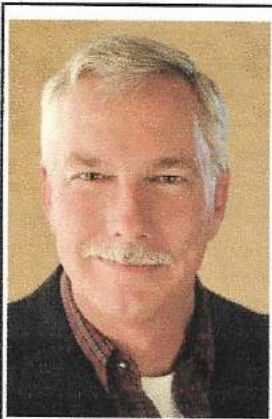
Mike Nedd

Mike specifically thanked those in the crowd who helped him by mentoring and providing guidance as he learned about the BLM. He thanked PLF members Tom Allen and Elaine Zielinski, and described how they went that extra mile to help him understand what the BLM is, and why it is important to all Americans. He feels that part of his job is reminding the new people that the BLM has a cadre of professionals who wake up every day trying to do the best for the land and the American people. Their expertise is about understanding the complexities of public lands: resources, laws and politics. For Mike, it's exciting to be in D.C. and to try to work as an intermediary

(Continued on Page 2.)

The Public Lands Foundation advocates and works for the retention of America's Public Lands in public hands, professionally and sustainably managed for responsible common use and enjoyment.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Jesse Juen

The Salt Lake City annual PLF meeting and Board discussion was productive, informative, and fun. I first want to thank PLF's Bill Lamb and his team for all their hard work, and it clearly paid off with a highly illuminating meeting and Board discussion. And, of course, a thank you to Beau McClure for keeping it all together and moving forward. A special thanks to George Stone

for leading us through our technical inadequacies and helping us to see some light at the end of the social media tunnel. And to Dwight Hempel for his behind the scenes expertise which keeps PLF's finances in order. Then there is Mike Ferguson for planning our next Student Congress and assuring it will be a meaningful experience and huge success. He has great plans for the upcoming Student Congress in 2018 in Baker City, Oregon. Thanks to Elaine Zielinski for keeping the history project alive, with hopes for an end in sight. And Van Manning for leading the fund-raising effort and the development of a strategy for us. My thanks to Tom Allen who brings his trademark expertise and knowledge to addressing the perpetual problem of an unsustainable Wild Horse and Burro program. In addition, we had tremendous outside partners, who lent valuable perspectives and expanded our horizons for the future: Leslie Duncan, Public Lands Program for Pew Charitable Trusts (Washington, D.C.); Joel Webster, Director, Center for Western Lands for the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) (Missoula MT); Johnny Hodges of the National Association of Forest Service Retirees; 2017 George Lea Founder's Scholarship recipients Kate Gille and Kaitlyn Williams; and 2016 Student Congress Board representative Mackenzie Case.

The list of speakers at our Thursday meeting was stellar. At a time of transition and change, I thank Mike Nedd who came to our general session while many changes, charges and topics are being addressed in Washington, D.C. I thank Ed Roberson and his full team in the Utah State Office and the West Desert District (including District Manager Kevin Oliver and staff) for

taking the time to host our field tour, give us perspectives on local issues and concerns, and being open on how they are working with local communities, interested public and agencies in dealing with them. Our primary topic was the wildland urban interface, but the meeting also addressed the ever-present concern of keeping public lands in public ownership. As you might have guessed, this issue quickly becomes black and white at a politician's level. However, at the field level, everyone is working together quite well to manage the issues while sustaining public lands in public hands. This entire group provided a broad analysis of the unique politics of public land retention and use in Utah, and gave context and meaning to what is in the papers and circulating through social media. Thank you: Mike Styler, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Natural Resources; Pat Shea, former BLM Director; Dayne Barron, Advisor to the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy; Sheldon Wimmer (ex-line manager and Fire Management Officer for Utah BLM); and Tom Adams, Director of the Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation, in the Governor's Office of Economic Development. All of their comments and candor were appreciated by the attendees, as reflected in the questions and answers provided.

I also had the tremendous honor of recognizing Geoff Middaugh as PLF's Volunteer of the Year and Lifetime Service Awards for Ray Brady and Jeff Holdren who retired from the BLM's D.C. office. I can say, without a doubt, that we had a successful annual meeting with the help of many folks. Thank you all for attending, participating and engaging to make our session such a success.

Great meeting, and we will look forward to Montana in 2018!

(Continued from Page 1.)

between the political and professional forces. To do that, he carries a rock to remind himself that he must be strong. And a rubber band, to remind himself he must be flexible.

Mike identified his positive relationship with Secretary Zinke so far and how they both come from a mili-

(Continued on Page 3.)

PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING*(Continued from Page 2.)*

tary background, although the Seals and the Rangers do have their own views of the world. Issues are focused. The Secretary wants to reorganize to increase efficiencies, especially at the SES levels in the Department. The Secretary also has his priorities. They include:

1. Conservation and the Stewardship legacy, as identified by Teddy Roosevelt;
2. Sustainable development for energy development;
3. Restore trust and good management to the Department;
4. Support energy and tribal sovereignty;
5. Increase revenues;
6. Protect our borders;
7. Achieve regulatory balance, and develop regulations that pass to future administrations;
8. Modernize infrastructure;
9. Reorganize the Department into regions, and make regions the same throughout DOI.

BLM Leadership has taken the Department priorities, and translated them to BLM priorities, which are:

1. Energy independence;
2. Stewardship conservation and shared conservation;
3. Getting America back to work;
4. Protect our borders (focused on California, Arizona and New Mexico);
5. Serving the American people.

Regarding National Monuments, a select group are being reviewed. Decisions are pending. Also, sage-grouse plans are being revised, and the BLM will not negate the work of the States. Revisions will be more responsive to State demands. Also, while Planning 2.0 is gone, future plans will be shorter, will focus on state and local issues and concerns, and be much more collaborative than in the past. Energy development decisions will be made in 3-5 years, not the 5-8 years as in previous administrations. The goal is to have energy decisions made in less than three years.

Concerns for him include the increasing number of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, which has increased by 22%. He has received 86 requests in the last month.

Grazing will become "outcome based," and not rely on things like stubble height or technical requirements, which don't look at outcomes. He still has major concerns over the sustainability of the Wild Horse and Burro program, where we have 86,000 horses on the range, but the appropriate management level (AML) is 27,000. We also have 49,000 horses in long-term holding facilities. These levels will make for a \$2.0 billion program, which Congress won't fund. All tools are on the table. Fire season has been difficult, with some line of duty deaths, which is always a concern. It looks like the Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) are starting to meet, which will help meet collaborative needs again. He has hope for the BLM Foundation, and he hopes it is up and running by May 2018.

Mike addressed questions from the membership. The first question was about the future of law enforcement in BLM. He felt we will have law enforcement in some form, but it will change. BLM is a resource agency first, and law enforcement comes to protect resources, only. The law enforcement image is bad, and he hears a concern about that image. It needs to be de-militarized.

Law enforcement is a hot topic. There is concern that some people can point a gun at a federal official, and there is no consequence. Mike says that all the Bundy cases aren't finished, but we must be cautious about creating high conflict situations. It was pointed out that law enforcement is only as good as the U.S. Attorney's office, and times are tough.

Why is BLM constantly reorganizing, at the expense of critical funding, and employee morale? He feels he can convince the political staff that we are already in regions, but not sure these will coincide with other DOI agency regions. Frustration with reorganizing is high. He explained that he keeps telling managers to manage, and not get caught up in the political discussions, about the Bundy's or the loss of public lands through Congressional actions.

PLF consistently hears that authorities are being pulled from the field to the Washington Office, and Mike said that we must build trust with these new people to

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PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

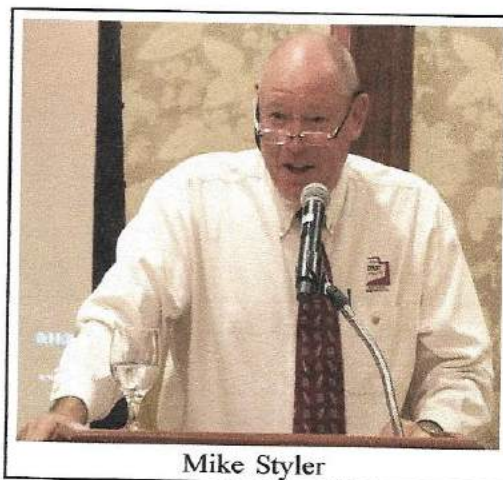
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explain what we do, and it's hard work. Mike is glad there is an end in sight for the history project. So is PLF, and we thanked Mike for getting this going again. In closing, Mike thanked the PLF for staying engaged in public lands, because we've put a lot into it, and it is still needed. He hoped we can step up and help managers, and mentor when requested. Jesse thanked him for his personal courage in these difficult times, wherever he may go, or whatever he may do.

Ed Roberson, Utah BLM State Director, addressed the complex issues he is facing, and the impacts to his organization. He faces successes and challenges, and has 23 million acres of possibilities. One of his bigger challenges involves bringing back the sagebrush sea, and stopping the short-term cycle of fire caused by increasing annual grasses. He noted how the Brian Head fire was slowed down by a watershed restoration project on BLM, which is a positive statement for these types of restoration efforts. Ed described their emphasis to further lease more land, as this is a priority. Ed indicated that in Utah, there are about equivalent jobs in the energy sector as in tourism/outdoor recreation. While tourism jobs have increased 12% between 2006 and 2016, funding has remained static, and the Big Five Parks are crowded. He continually emphasizes to employees the need to connect to communities, and know their issues and concerns. It's a challenge, as the political rhetoric makes it sound like none of this is happening. Ed was asked about the fact that Utah is leading the rhetoric around the country to transfer all the public lands to the State. Although this is what's in the papers, the rhetoric comes from high political places,

and isn't always what communities want. He has concerns that many decisions are being pulled to the Washington Office and run through political filters rather than resource policy considerations.

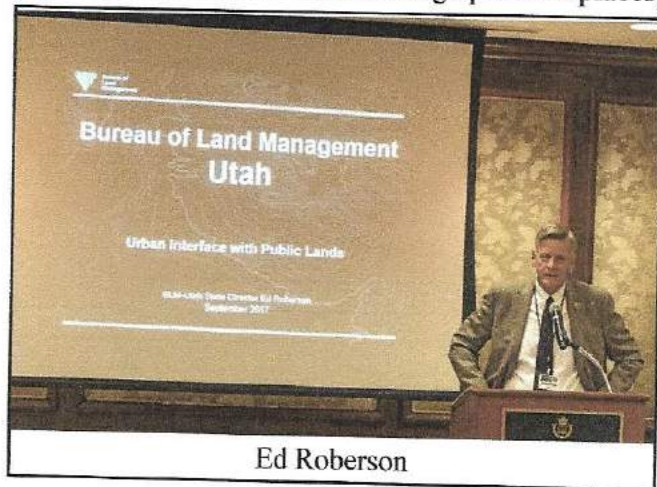
Mike Styler, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Natural Resources (DNR) spoke on the continuing emphasis on partnerships in the effort to promote the State of Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative. The Utah DNR is a replica of the federal Department of the Interior, but without the direct treaty and trust responsibilities. The watershed restoration effort was started 15 years ago and originally treated 50,000 acres a year. Now, 171,000 acres are treated annually. BLM has been a major partner in this effort. When asked if the State of Utah was going to take over public lands, he replied that this would be too expensive and too political to happen. He indicates that those advocating the takeover are really a minority, but a very vocal minority.



Mike Styler

Pat Shea, Attorney in Salt Lake City, professor at the University of Utah, and former BLM Director in Washington, D.C., talked about his strong and deep belief in the BLM. The intractable problems in the Department of the Interior go to the BLM, and the agency is practical in its approach to finding solutions, where others don't believe there are any. He pointed to interagency seed banking, water pipelines and water rights, and Superfund sites in Utah as some of the most recent examples. He indicated that he is very concerned about how science is disregarded, and ignored today, and science gives us

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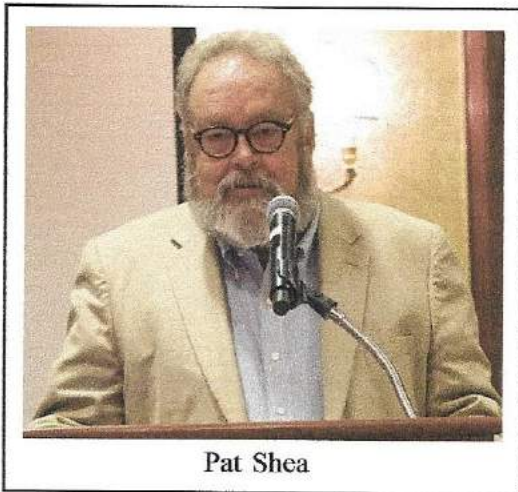


Ed Roberson

PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

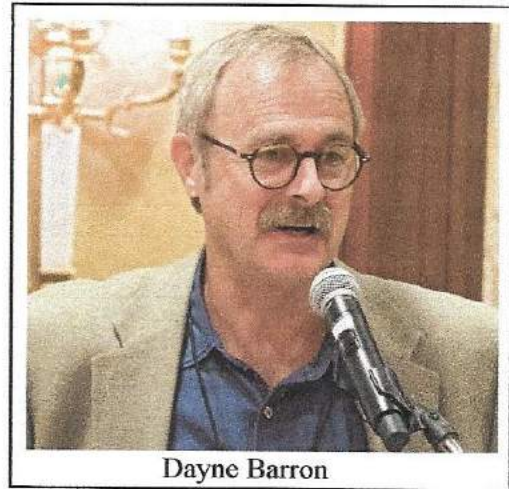
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the answer to real questions. He identified how much he had learned as the BLM Director, and he came away with an enormous respect for the BLM and its leadership. BLM would stand up to bad behavior. When asked what the true lesson of Teddy Roosevelt was for current management, he indicated that we must be true to ourselves, and to future generations. That is what legacy means.



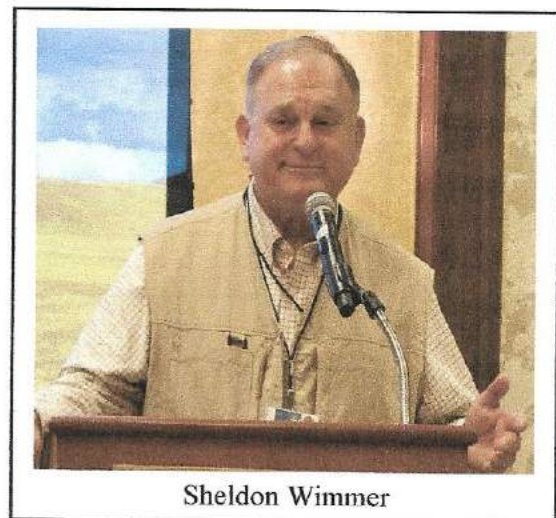
Pat Shea

Dayne Barron kicked off the afternoon session with a comprehensive explanation of the evolution of the Cohesive Plan from Yellowstone in 1988, to the fires in the 1990's, to the fires of 2000, to today. The data shows there is a problem: in 1995 the USFS spent 16% of its annual appropriation on fire and now that number is 50%. The vision of the cohesive plan is to have a cooperative approach, and have wildland fire integrated into land management. Also, the vision is to understand that the entire nation must learn to live with wildland fire, use fire when allowable, and put it out when necessary and safe. To accomplish this, all partners, landowners and administrators must have a strategic alignment of goals and actions; communication and collaborative engagement at all levels, and assure programmatic alignment of all activities to live and work with wildland fire. Dayne invited a PLF representative to attend the Western Strategy Meeting in Sacramento in November 2017, and the PLF will send a representative.



Dayne Barron

Sheldon Wimmer, Mayor of Alpine City, Utah spoke from his broad experience base in developing partnerships, and making sure words and actions match. Sheldon's career included time as a line manager and the BLM State of Utah Fire Management Officer. His perspective as a BLM manager was to always look for partners and opportunities to work together. His approach is casual: it's important to sit down and just talk. Progress can be made one step at a time and one person at a time. Sheldon entertained us with his usual supply of bad jokes, but his message of working together is heartily endorsed by all experienced managers.



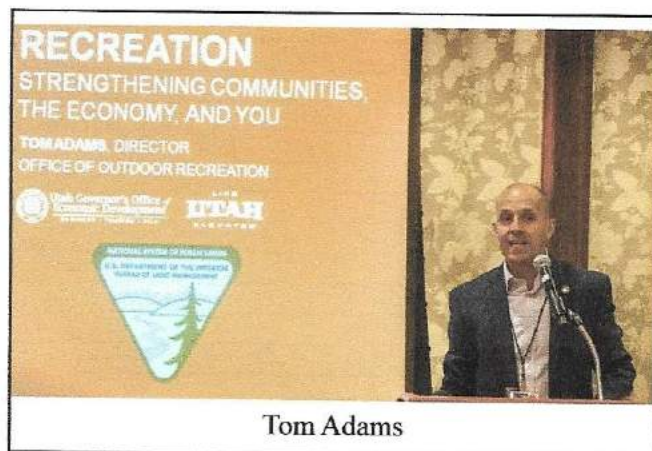
Sheldon Wimmer

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PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

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Tom Adams spoke as the Executive Director of the Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation, in the Governor's office. Tom worked in the outdoor recreation industry before he joined State government. He identified that outdoor recreation is a \$12.0 billion a year industry, and important to the state. He pointed out that annual visitation to Utah's "top five" national parks is greater than Yellowstone National Park. The National Park Service (NPS) has had a 50% increase in visitation without any increase in budgets since 2010. He has concerns about all the rhetoric involving "taking over public lands" but he also works in the Utah Governor's office. He also was saddened by the loss of the Outdoor Recreation Industry's convention from Salt Lake City. His quote was that only 10% of Utahans want to take over the public lands, and the other 90% aren't heard.



Tom Adams

Jesse Juen summarized the daylong session and field trip with illuminating comments that can help the PLF move forward with a relevant agenda for our membership:

- Politics makes things black and white, but reality on the ground never purely fits black and white descriptions;
- Multiple use and sustained yield are important, but balance is never interpreted without some vision about what is best for the land. Everyone has a different interpretation of what balance is.
- Public lands are both close and far away; and each perspective creates a different interpretation;

- Almost every speaker spoke eloquently on the importance of building relationships—sitting down and talking face to face;
- Folks that work on the ground, and strive to achieve balance, know the value of relationships.

Suggestions to carry this session into PLF strategies were discussed and offered:

- Fire recovery and restoration are examples of policy areas needing attention, and both require developing trust, partnerships and cooperation. Relationships don't prosper in the face of constant litigation;
- Relationships are for building trust, but we don't seem to talk enough about trust as a part of building relationships with individuals, partners, communities and local governments;
- Multiple use and sustained yield mean building balance. PLF needs to bring these old ideas back and make them relevant to today's discussion as so much is driven by national agendas which don't take into consideration sustained yield or multiple use;
- PLF shouldn't get back into reviewing individual plans, but state representatives need to know what is going on as land use plans are developed;
- PLF needs to be aware of the process, and we have seen how creative local offices are (like the Salt Lake Field Office in the West Desert District), and in the face of severe restrictions and second guessing at higher political levels. Just think how creative a field office could be if we trusted them, let them go, and let them work on developing relationships and trust.
- Let's not let BLM get wound up in another reorganization, and get caught with another layer of obstruction. Reorganizations destroy morale.
- Agencies can't promote themselves, but the PLF can promote the success, and share these with

(Continued on Page 7.)

PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from Page 6.)

media and others. There is a need for the PLF to promote leadership on morale issues, and add context and experience to defuse the rhetoric that is swirling around.

- There is no need to lose sleep over the political agenda to transfer public lands to the states. It won't happen, and just focusing on this issue could defuse our efforts at being advocates for sound management and stewardship. Let's not get trapped into chasing this noise that is saying that bad things are happening, when we know this isn't the "reality" on the ground. There is concern about the impacts this political rhetoric has on morale and productiveness of the work force. It's a waste of time and someone needs to calm the waters.
- Relationships turn to trust which turn to collaboration which turn to progress on the ground.
- The Landscape Stewardship Award to Box Elder County is an example. It opened doors, it developed relationships, it promoted trust, and the BLM made progress. That's the good PLF can do.
- There are other examples, like the Department of Defense (DOD) restriction on planning in the Salt Lake District. This needs investigation because it is unique, without precedent, stifling to on the ground progress, includes inconsistent guidance, and affects morale.
- The Past and the Future program is one way that the PLF can help, engage, mentor and share our experiences.
- Jake Palma described the value of the PLF when he was considering career paths. He indicated he is most concerned about the expertise that walks out the door when people retire, and new employees don't have the benefit of that experience or knowledge. And, these aren't just retirees at the highest level, but involve the day-to-day special skills and knowledge in an office, like Price, Utah. It's been called successional

planning, and is important to new people and the experienced people.

In conclusion, President Juen promised to go to each BLM office in New Mexico (and Oklahoma!), and get an email address for each BLM Manager in each office he visits, and send them copies of *The Monitor* on a quarterly basis. President Juen challenged each state representative to visit each BLM office in their state and do the same. He will do this in New Mexico, and will pay for the annual PLF membership of one person in each office who indicates an interest and was planning to retire, with an emphasis on mid-level professionals. At the end of the year, we need to add it all up. See if we've made progress. Any takers?

Field Trip: West Desert, September 13, 2017

How much fun can you have on a BLM/PLF Field Trip to Utah's West Desert? By all accounts, it seems like A LOT! which was the most popular response. Although the day and the bus ride were long, it was a general opinion that it was an informative and interesting day. A good time was had by all. There was a lot of information transmitted back and forth as several PLF members had worked in this area 20, 30 and 40 years ago. It was noted that: Some things change, and some things stay the same.

First stop was the BLM land along the west side of Lake Mountain, looking east towards freshwater Utah Lake and Mount Timpanogos on the eastern horizon. The issues are similar: fire, expanding urbanization, resource degradation from shooting, periodic fire in annual grasses, and the loss of sage brush. Solutions are few, and hard, but the discussion was lively. Kevin Oliver, Salt Lake District Manager, led our discussion with his knowledgeable staff participating. The area is called ground zero for a reason. The urban interface is expanding as Utah remains the fastest growing state in the Nation now. Oliver explained the importance of partnerships and emphasized the relationship with the local sheriff on enforcement matters. The standard tools are used: closures are used, but sparingly; a transfer of

(Continued on Page 8.)

PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING



PLF SLC Group Photo

“Front Row (L to R): Jean Fend, Kate Gille, Maggie Wyatt, Kaitlyn Williams.

Second Row (L to R): Bob Conquergood, Beau McClure, Mackenzie Case, Wayne Winterton, Smokey O'Connor, Jane O'Connor, Bill LeBarron, Jeff Holdren, Mike Ferguson.

Third Row (L to R): Chris Gardner, Tom Allen, Elaine Zielinski, Arlene Mari, Timothy O'Brien, Dick Manus, Sylvia Gerber Bruce, Jo Berreth, Sharon Wilson, Ray Brady, Shailaja Brady, Deanna LeBarron, George Lea, Van Manning, Dean Bibles, Tom Adams.

Back Row (L to R): Bill Lamb, Dayne Barron, Janice Kwiatkowski, John Kwiatkowski, Dave Mari, Geoff Middaugh, Debbie Middaugh, Phyllis O'Brien, John Fend, Hank Noldan, Rosemary Thomas, Bob Moore, Ed Roberson, Don Simpson, Jesse Juen, George Stone.”

NOTE: For a larger version of the photo, go to the PLF website: <http://publicland.org/events/annual-conference/2017-salt-lake-city-utah/>

Field Trip: West Desert, September 13, 2017

(Continued from Page 7.)

land to the county for an intensive shooting range under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act has been completed; enforcement patrols continue, and education, education, education about the hazards of not paying attention. Tom Allen again pointed out the many ways that partnerships in the shooting sports can be developed in a mutually benefiting way.

Second stop was at the 40,000-acre Five Mile Pass Recreation Area where the BLM has developed an off-road vehicle play area, and some facilities like rest rooms and parking/staging areas. The area is heavily used during the spring, and cooler times of the year. The inevitable advance of the Wasatch Front march of affordable housing is headed this way. The closure of public lands in this area is to prevent ORV use on a

superfund site, with hazardous materials in the dust. Michael Sheehan explained the historical significance of Five Mile Pass, which includes the Pony Express trail for its short lived “run” in 1860-61 as well as aboriginal use, including petroglyphs.

Third stop and lunch was at Clover Springs, after the drive through dusty Rush Valley. This area now includes a campground, on federal and private land at the spring. From the stop, there is evidence of watershed improvement work on the expanding juniper forest, mainly on state and private land. Clover Springs at the base of the Onaqui Mountains includes one of the more popular Wild Horse areas in the District, where horses are readily visible to visitors. The importance and values of land exchanges was discussed, including the difficulties of getting many of these completed in reasonable timeframes.

(Continued on Page 9.)

PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

Field Trip: West Desert, September 13, 2017

(Continued from Page 8.)

Last stop was the North Oquirrh Management Area and Yates Spring area, with a commanding view of the Great Salt Lake, Deseret Peak, Stansbury Island, and Antelope Island (to the west and north). This area was developed into a manageable area through incremental land exchanges over the last 25 years with Kennecott Copper Corporation. The area also has urban wildland issues as housing developments in booming Tooele are moving closer to the public lands.

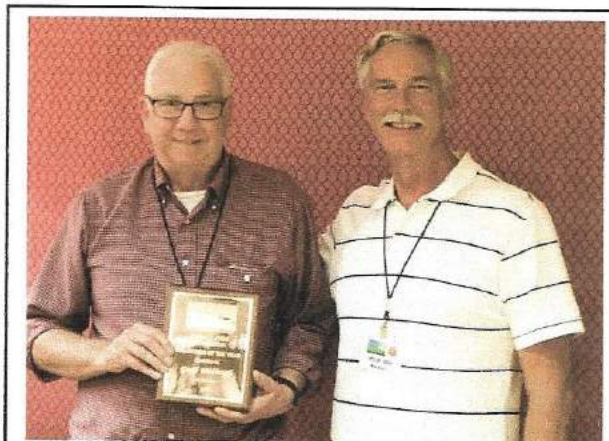
Bill Lamb noted after the field trip that our bus driver was amazed at what he saw. He had no idea of the valuable resources on these lands, and he has driven around them all for years. As was said in the general meeting: Public lands are so far, and yet so close to all of us.

We made it back to the Little America Hotel by 4 p.m., and in plenty of time for the Dutch oven barbecue above Bountiful, Utah, and with a commanding view of the Great Salt Lake and Antelope Island. After being entertained by Stu Carlson's poetry, we made it back to hotel in the aura of an amazing sunset. Great day in Utah.

Banquet

The Banquet was well attended, and profitable, as \$2,267 was made in the silent auction and raffle to support the Student Congress and George Lea Founder's Scholarship Fund. President Jesse Juen thanked our supporters, our speakers and those in attendance. President Juen handed out the PLF Volunteer of the Year award to Geoff Middaugh (and Geoff thanks the PLF for this recognition). Also, he handed out PLF Lifetime Service Awards to Ray Brady and Jeff Holdren, described below. Dean Bibbes gave us his historical account of the development of the Arizona Wilderness resolutions in the early 1980's. He gave a colorful explanation as to how he got the Governor (Bruce Babbitt) and two Senators to work together—Barry Goldwater and John McCain, and the entire Congressional Delegation (including Mo Udall). Included was Dean's receipt of 132,000 relinquished

mining claims in Congressionally designated Wilderness in a big paper bag, as promised by the executive from a major uranium company. Now that's trust! Dean's description of the political maneuvers and the power of working positively with the delegation have not been replicated in regard to Wilderness designations, and Arizona stands today as the only BLM state where the WSA provisions of Section 603 of FLPMA have been acted upon in a Statewide bill.



Geoff Middaugh, 2017 Volunteer of the Year, with Jesse Juen.

PLF BOARD MEETING— SEPTEMBER 12 AND 14, 2017

The annual PLF Board meeting was a productive exercise, led by President Jesse Juen and Vice-President for Operations Beau McClure. The basic outcome of this effort was an agreement to develop a strategic plan, and potentially developing a grant to get non-government organization assistance to develop the strategic plan. This plan will integrate the efforts of outreach to partnership, fund raising and membership, which the Board is giving a great deal of attention to. Numerous administrative tasks were again addressed such as our social media strategy (led by George Stone), the need for transition strategies for PLF officers, and staying in contact with the BLM. For additional information about the Board, feel free to contact any Board Member or Officer.

At the conclusion of the PLF Board Meeting on Friday, President Jesse Juen asked for feedback from

(Continued on Page 10.)

PLF BOARD MEETING*(Continued from Page 9.)*

Front row (Kneeling, L to R): Bill Lamb, George Lea, Rosemary Thomas, Beau McClure & Tim O'Brien. **Second Row (L to R):** Maggie Wyatt, Elaine Zielinski, Glen Collins, Tom Allen & Mike Ferguson. **Third Row (L to R):** Dave Mari & Sharon Wilson. **Back Row (L to R):** George Stone, Bill LeBarron, Van Manning, Geoff Middaugh, Don Simpson, John Kwiatkowski, John Fend & Jesse Juen.

our Student Congress representative and George Lea Founder's Scholarship recipients at the meeting. Here is a quote from Kate Gille: *I wanted to thank you all for bringing us here. This has been one of the most amazing things that I have ever done to advance my career, and being here has been informative, insightful and interesting. Thank you so much!*



2017 George Lea Founder's Scholarship winners Kaitlyn Williams (left) and Kate Gille (right)

PLF'S LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD RAY BRADY

The Public Lands Foundation grants to Ray Brady its Lifetime Service Award for excellence in public land management. The Foundation provides this award to deserving members who have perpetuated and enhanced the proud tradition of public service.

Ray Brady has dedicated his life to public land management. He was born in 1948 in Decatur, Illinois. He moved to Arizona when he was about 10 years old. And, he graduated from the University of Arizona in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology. Ray served in the Army in Vietnam and he went to work for the Bureau of Land Management as a Mineral Specialist in Colorado and Arizona in the early 1970s.

He has more than 40 years of professional federal public service in the management of public lands and mineral resources—35 years with the Bureau of Land Management, and 8 years with the Conservation Division of the U.S. Geological Survey. *(Continued on Page 11.)*

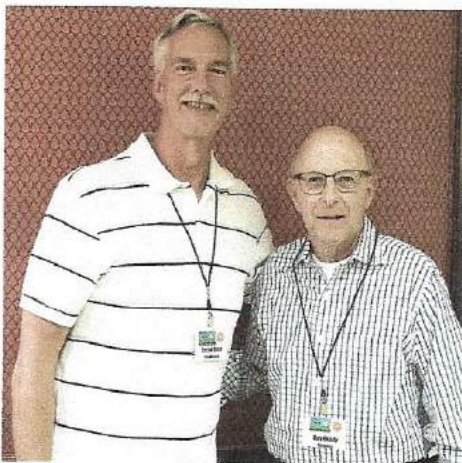
RAY BRADY

(Continued from Page 10.)

He has served as BLM Deputy State Director for Minerals in Arizona; BLM District Manager at Safford, Arizona; Deputy Mining Supervisor with the U.S. Geological Survey in New Mexico; Mineral Specialist with the Federal Oil Shale Program, and Chief, Division of the Lands and Realty, in the BLM's Washington, D.C. Office.

He has been involved in major land management challenges and opportunities throughout his career. In Arizona, he assisted in a major land exchange with the State which acquired land that Congress later designated as the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area. In the Washington Office, Ray Brady was a key BLM staff leader in the Department of the Interior's efforts to increase the development of renewable energy projects on Federal lands by helping and leading the development of new policies and best management practices, screening priorities for environmental resource conflicts, and streamlining procedures for review and approval of renewable energy projects on federal public lands.

He has received awards and recognition as an "unsung hero" of the Administration's efforts to increase the development of renewable energy projects on Federal land. His supervisors and peers have described him as "a visionary who served as a keystone to opening up the public lands for renewable energy development," and have commended him for "achieving success in such a short period of time."



Jesse Juen and Ray Brady

In 2012, the Wilderness Society presented him with their "Conservation of Our Public Lands Award" for his completion of the BLM Western Solar Plan and Programmatic EIS which established a blueprint for conservation and responsible development of solar energy resources in the six southwestern States.

Ray Brady has had a long and distinguished career with the BLM, and the PLF is honored to recognize Ray Brady with this Lifetime Service Award

**LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD
JEFF HOLDREN**

The Public Lands Foundation grants to Jeff Holdren its Lifetime Service Award for excellence in public land management. The Foundation provides this award to deserving members who have perpetuated and enhanced the proud tradition of public service.

Jeff Holdren has dedicated his life to public land management. He was born in Lakewood, Ohio, in 1941. He graduated from the University of Arizona in 1962 and shortly thereafter went to work for the Bureau of Land Management in Riverside, California. He later served as an Area Manager for the Stateline/Esmeralda Resource Area in the BLM's Las Vegas District in southern Nevada where he helped develop a timeframe for disposing of the public land in the Las Vegas Valley. While working in the BLM's Eastern States Office in the early 1980s, he helped reduce the backlog of oil and gas lease applications, and played a significant role in the merger of the BLM and USGS Onshore Division.

While on the BLM's Washington, D.C. Lands and Realty staff from 1983 until 2010, Jeff applied his knowledge to help coordinate the application of FLPMA with the Taylor Grazing Act and his hand and ideas can be seen in hundreds of Instruction Memos and BLM manual sections developed at the national level. He also participated in many training courses and workshops held at the BLM National Training Center in Phoenix, Arizona, and other locations throughout the country, including the course entitled "Lands for Managers." For many years he both taught and facilitated this course, which was the primary lands and minerals training for BLM managers and supervisors. He helped the Bureau and the Department of the Interior develop regulations on many subjects, such as disclaimers of interest, land withdrawals, public land sales, segregation and opening of lands, and rights-of-way. *(Continued on Page 12.)*

JEFF HOLDREN

(Continued from Page 11.)

On retirement in 2010, after 45 years of service, he was asked to stay on the BLM Lands Staff under contract. In 2014, when money was no longer available to pay him, he began volunteering where he continues to be a volunteer source of information to the BLM for many aspects of the BLM's lands and realty programs several days of the week at the Washington Office doing what he does best—responding to calls from the field and others at the Headquarters Office, and troubleshooting issues and challenges around all phases of the lands and realty program. And, he has worked with the Solicitors Office in preparing Department of Justice attorneys for testimony in several Supreme Court Cases pertaining to the BLM.

Jeff also volunteers for the PLF by gathering the members, and obtaining the space at a local library in the Washington, D.C. area where members meet quarterly to distribute the *Public Lands Monitor* and other PLF mailings to the membership. The Public Lands Foundation is honored to recognize Jeff Holdren with this Lifetime Service Award.



Jesse Juen and Jeff Holdren

BALLOT FOR 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Be sure to fill out the 2018 Board of Directors ballot, which is an insert in this Fall edition of *The Public Lands Monitor*. Please vote for all National Representatives and your respective State Representative. Write-ins are permissible. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please indicate so on the "Comments" line. **Please consider paying your 2018 dues when you send in your ballot.**

PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Note from the PLF Secretary: The last quarter has been a busy month for advocacy issues. Jesse Juen and Don Simpson have spent quite a bit of time developing partnerships to address and understand the initiatives of a new Administration. Due to space, the completed version of these letters is available on the PLF Website. Letters sent during the fall quarter are:

- [July 18, 2017 - Letter to Secretary Zinke providing PLF's Comments on Creating Planning Efficiencies](#)
- [July 18, 2017 - Letter to Sen. Murkowski on Proposed FY 2018 BLM Budget](#)

Note: A late breaking story (September 26, 2017) was the following sign-on letter by the PLF and two other Federal retiree organizations.

Outrage Regarding Secretary Zinke's Comments Insulting Interior Agency Employees

We, the undersigned, are writing to express our strongest objections to Secretary Zinke's reported remarks that 30% of the 70,000 employees at the Department of the Interior are "not loyal to the flag." The Secretary's disrespectful remarks were made at the National Petroleum Council meeting in Washington, D.C., on September 25, 2017.

As organizations comprised almost entirely of retired professional employees of the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, our collective experience has been that the overwhelming majority of employees of these agencies are highly dedicated to our great nation and to fulfillment of their respective agency missions regardless of which political party occupies the White House. Employee commitment to mission and country is not a partisan issue.

The Secretary's remarks reveal a profound lack of knowledge of and respect for the important and honorable role played by thousands of Interior employees who are among the most dedicated employees in the federal government. Saying that over 20,000 employees in his department are "not loyal to the flag" is simply ludicrous, and deeply insulting. The longstanding tradition of Interior employee commitment to each of their respective missions is highly desirable and should not be misinterpreted as disloyal or subversive to our national interests.

We truly hope that the Secretary's words were not

simply partisan political pandering to an audience comprised primarily of energy industry representatives. Taken at face value, Zinke's disrespectful and divisive comments reveal far more about his leadership style, values, and lack of regard for the irreplaceable resources now increasingly vulnerable to his political zeal than about the quality of employees at Interior. He owes a sincere apology to the employees he has disrespected. And he owes America a duty to uphold the diverse mission, nature and professionalism of the Department of Interior which is so woven into the fabric of our great Nation.

SOCIAL MEDIA - MOVING PLF INTO THE FUTURE

Website and Social Media Improvements

By George Stone

Note: Many of us are challenged by the social media gauntlet that we run every day. George Stone has been making a tremendous effort to make it easier. I asked George to summarize his report in Salt Lake City, and continue to help us move into the future. This is George's report:

PLF continues to make improvements to its website at www.publicland.org and to expand its use of social media. PLF uses its website and social media to keep its members informed in between issues of the *Monitor*, and to communicate news and information to the public. We also rely on these tools to assist in broadening our membership and to facilitate donations.

PLF's redesigned website was launched on October 3, 2016, for desktop and mobile platforms. The website's homepage is linked to our public Facebook and Twitter accounts which are updated every 24-48 hours. We've added a "search" feature which can be used to search the entire website or to limit searches to the *Memorial Wall*. Our website averages 15-100 users daily. As part of the 2018 budget the PLF will continue to improve the overall appearance of the website and enhance its ranking in search engine results.

PLF's social media viewership continues to grow. As of August 2017, PLF's public Facebook page had 656 users who "like" us and our Twitter page had 573 users who "follow" us. Our private Facebook group page called "Remembering BLM" now has over 400 members. Beginning in 2018, PLF will selectively pro-

mote its posts on Facebook to engage more users. This will be a test with a small budget commitment of \$500 for the year. Results will be analyzed based on the return on investment and decisions will then be made as to whether to continue.

2017 COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN (CFC)



The 2017 CFC registration period runs from October 2, 2017 through January 12, 2018. New for

this year is that retired annuitants can now participate! PLF uses its "doing business as" name of "Conservation and Protection of Public Lands" for purposes of the CFC, so look us up under that name to donate. Between 2012 - 2015, annual donation pledges to PLF through the CFC have ranged between \$3,000 - \$11,000. The great benefit to PLF of these generous donations is that the monies received are unrestricted, meaning that they can be used to support many different projects. If you are a current Federal employee or retired annuitant, please consider donating to PLF through the 2017 CFC or, alternatively, by using our website at publicland.org/get-involved/donate/ or mail a check to PLF, PO Box 7226, Arlington, VA, 22207.

DONATIONS

General Fund

Henri Bisson
Gregg & Mary Simmons (3)

Jean Earl

Donations to the Scholarship Fund through the Silent Auction held at the Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City

Tom Allen	Jo Berreth
Anita Bilboa	Ray Brady
Sylvia Bruce	Stu Carlson
Mike Ferguson	Sherry Foot
Chris Gardner	Theresa Graham
Jeff Holdren	Jesse Juen
Janice Kwiatkowski	Bill & Dianna LeBarron
Arlene Mari	Beau McClure
Debbie Middaugh	Phyllis O'Brien
Smokey O'Connor	Cyndi Stone
Rosemary Thomas	Maggie Wyatt
Elaine Zielinski	

(Continued on Page 14.)

DONATIONS

(Continued from Page 13.)

Scholarship Fund

Tom Allen	Ray Brady
James Currivan	John Fend
John Kwiatkowski	Gregg & Mary Simmons (3)

Student Congress

Martha Hahn

SPECIAL DUES PAYMENTS

Contributing Member

Teri Raml

IN MEMORIUM

Note: Putting together this list in the Monitor and maintaining the Memorial Wall on the website and updates in the Remembering BLM Facebook page takes a lot of work by a group of PLF volunteers, led by Bob Conquergood. Bob is always finding names that have not been previously added to the Memorial Wall. When he finds them through the magic of Google, they are added to this list. If you find errors, we apologize; if you have concerns, please let Geoff Middaugh know at gmiddaugh@publicland.org.

Clayton Anderson. Worked in Public Affairs, WO, and was noted for Johnny Horizon outreach. Passed away June 5, 2015 in Boise, ID.

Myrtle Clara Beham. Worked as a Materials Handler, AFS Warehouse, Fort Wainright, AK. Passed away on July 2, 2017 in Anchorage, AK.

Ronald Bondy. Was a Fire Logistics Specialist (Dispatcher), California Desert DO, Riverside, CA. and Central NV Dispatch Center Manager, Battle Mountain DO, NV. Passed away August 1, 2017 in Baker, MT.

Gary Owen Britt. Worked in Coos Bay, OR, as a Timber Cruiser/Appraiser/Sale Administrator. Passed away in Wenatchee, WA on July 10, 2014.

George Caswell. Retired Coos Bay DO, OR after 29 years,

and passed away May 16, 2016 in North Bend, OR.

Kay Karen Decker. Worked as an Outdoor Recreation Planner in the El Centro RA, CA. Died in an on-duty vehicle accident on August 8, 1980.

Eugene George (Gene) Decker. Worked as a Range Conservationist, Boise DO, ID. Passed away July 12, 2017 in Emmett, ID.

Joseph Terry Evrard. Worked as a cadastral surveyor in Coos Bay, OR, GPS Resource Specialist, Coos Bay DO, OR, and passed away August 24, 2005 in Coquille, OR.

Cynthia Anne Fredrickson, Worked as a Records Manager, ORSO. Passed away on May 11, 2015 in Lane County, OR.

John Christian Gatlin. Worked as a Range Technician - Albuquerque DO and Socorro/Datil DO, NM, Passed away June 6, 1982 in Albuquerque, NM.

Aaron Graham. Worked in Wyoming; Medford, Oregon; Coos Bay, Oregon; and the Oregon State Office as a cadastral surveyor. Passed away on March 1, 2017 in Coquille, OR.

Noel P. Granzow. Worked as a Management Analyst AZSO. Passed away on July 28, 2017 in West Chester, PA.

Duane S. Guymon. Worked in the Arizona State office. Passed away on April 10, 2017 in Salt Lake City, UT.

Chris Hamilton. Worked as a forester (Coos Bay, OR), and GIS specialist in Oregon, and was a GIS contract administrator in the Colorado State Office. Passed away on July 15, 2017 in Bend, OR.

Beverly Jean Hansen. Worked as an Accounting Technician, Coos Bay DO, OR, and passed away on February 25, 2007.

Leo Hosenfeld. Worked as an appraiser in the New Mexico State Office for 22 years and passed away September 4, 2017 in Albuquerque, NM

Kenneth Edward Irons. Worked as a Range Conservationist, OR; Rock Springs DO, WY; Boise, ID. Passed away May 16, 2017 in Boise, Idaho.

(Continued on Page 15.)

IN MEMORIUM

(Continued from Page 14.)

Walter "Jake" Jakubowski. Worked in Coos Bay, OR; Range Tech, Belle Fourche RA, SD; Range Conservationist, Miles City DO, MT; Canon City DO, CO; Law Enforcement Ranger CA Desert DO, CA; Supervisory Law Enforcement Ranger, Coos Bay DO, OR. Passed away July 11, 2016 in Coos Bay, OR.

Thomas Kay Jones. Archaeologist in Yuma, Arizona. Passed away in Yuma, Arizona on June 9, 2017.

Bill Jones. Worked as a Radio Technician Grand Junction DO, CO. Passed away September 5, 2017 in Grand Junction, CO.

Robert R. Kindschy, Jr. Bob was the second wildlife biologist hired by BLM and was a key planner in the Vale Project. Passed away August 9, 2017 in Vale, OR.

Floyd Kissinger. Worked as a Range Scientist in Washington, DC and Denver Service Center, Denver, CO. Passed away on August 17, 2017.

James K. Kowalick. Worked as a Forester including young forest stand management and timber sale planning, in Coos Bay DO, OR. Passed away June 18, 2007 in North Bend, OR.

Michael Kyte. Worked as an Archaeologist in New Mexico. He was killed in his own home days after retirement in Tres Piedras, NM on July 15, 2017.

Magdalene "Dalene" Lemberes. Worked as a Records Clerk, Boise, and passed away July 14, 2017 in Meridian, ID.

Patrick Olmstead. Worked as a BLM Wildlife Biologist, in Boise DO, ID, and North Bend RA, OR. Passed away on May 28, 2015 in Coos Bay, OR.

James Michael Oxford. Worked as a Forester, Coos Bay DO, Oregon for 35 years. Passed away July 26, 2017 in North Bend, OR.

Thomas "Larry" Pixley. Worked in Farmington, NM. Passed away on June 18, 2017 in Farmington, NM.

Darwyn Farrell Pogue. Worked as a Mineral Appraiser, NM. Passed away August 1, 2017 in Plano, TX (buried in Santa Fe, NM).

W. Scott Poore. Worked as a Fuels Specialist, Coos Bay DO, OR. Passed away on February 7, 1998.

Edward Reilly. Worked as a Planner/Environmental Coordinator in Medford, OR. Passed away on March 9, 2017 in Jacksonville, OR.

Terry Roedel. Was a seasonal firefighter for 32 fire seasons, while also a teacher in the Buhl, ID school district. Passed away August 28, 2017 in Caldwell, ID.

Lynn Rust. Worked out of offices in Billings, MT; Casper, WY; Cheyenne, WY; and finally, in Lakewood, CO; where he served as Deputy State Director, Energy, Lands, and Minerals, in Longmont, CO.

David Whan. Worked in the Coos Bay District, and passed away August 16, 2016 in Bandon, OR.

Fred Wolf. Fred's long career included Associate State Director (ASD), Reno, NV; ASD, Anchorage, AK, District Manager, Rawlins, WY, and numerous field/staff positions. Passed away September 2017 in Seattle, WA.

Donovan Yingst. Worked as an Appraiser for his whole BLM career in Burley and Boise, ID; Portland Service Center, Alaska State Office, Anchorage, AK, and Anchorage District Office. Passed away August 2, 2017 in Boise, ID.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Received From:

Tom Allen
Ed Hastey
James Lambert
Joe Ross

In Memory of:

Noel Granzow
Bob Buffington
Neil Mork
Phil Hamilton

Comments from your PLF Secretary

This edition of the Fall PLF *Monitor* is filled completely with a summary of our annual meeting in Salt Lake City Utah. As usual, it is the work of the PLF membership, including reports on visits, meetings, and interactions with partners. Thanks to everyone for your contributions. A special thanks to Bill Lamb and his Utah crew who organized the meeting and field trip, and to George Stone for taking the photographs in this edition. The PLF is what we make it. The *Monitor* is what we make it too. If you want changes, or new directions, please let us know. Geoff Middaugh (gmiddaugh@publicland.org).

Public Lands Foundation

P.O. Box 7226 Arlington, VA 22207

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Date _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$35 | Regular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$50 | Contributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$50 | Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$100 | Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$200 | Sponsoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$500 or more | Patron |

Public Lands Foundation Goals

- Keep lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in public ownership and open to use by the public.
- Support multiple use management under the Federal Land Policy & Management Act.
- Encourage professionalism by BLM employees.
- Increase the public's understanding of and support for the proper management of the public lands.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE - \$350

Public Lands Foundation

P.O. Box 7226

Arlington, VA 22207



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WHAT'S INSIDE?

General PLF Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT	1-7
President's Column	2
Field Trip	7-9
Banquet	9
PLF Board Meeting	9-10
Lifetime Service Awards	10-12
Ballot for Board of Directors	12
PLF Advocacy Activities	12-13
Social Media - Moving PLF into the Future	13
2017 Combined Federal Campaign	13
Donations/Special Dues Payments	13-14
In Memorium	14-15
Memorial Contributions	15

THE PUBLIC LANDS FOUNDATION IS A TAX EXEMPT 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION

BALLOT**BALLOT****BALLOT**

Article VI, Ballots, of the PLF by-laws, requires annual election by mail of the Board of Directors.

Accordingly, the following is the slate of officers for the Public Lands Foundation for 2018. Write-ins are permissible. Please mark your ballot and return on or before December 15, 2017. Send your ballot to P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207. **National Representatives—vote for all; State Representatives—vote for only your state.**

(Vote by X)

National Representatives

(Write-In)

_____	President	Edward Shepard	_____
_____	Vice Pres.	Don Simpson	_____
_____	Vice Pres., Operations	Beau McClure	_____
<u>Appointed</u>	Vice Pres., DC Affairs	Elena Daly	<u>Not applicable</u>
_____	Secretary	Geoff Middaugh	_____
_____	Treasurer	Dwight Hempel	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Tom Allen	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Dean Bibles	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Glen Collins	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Jim Currivan	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	John Fend	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Mike Ferguson	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Eric Janes	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	John Kwiatkowski	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Van Manning	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Dave Mari	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Don Meares	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Mat Millenbach	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Tim O'Brien	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Linda Rundell	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Ed Spang	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	George Stone	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Rich Whitley	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Maggie Wyatt	_____
_____	Director-at-Large	Elaine Zielinski	_____

State Representatives

_____	Alaska	Sharon Wilson	_____
_____	Arizona	Beau McClure	_____
_____	California	John Fields	_____
_____	Colorado	David Stout	_____
_____	Idaho	Anna Steele	_____
_____	Montana	Jim Binando	_____
_____	Nevada	Ev "Butch" Hayes	_____
_____	New Mexico	Rosemary Thomas	_____
_____	Oregon	Dick Prather	_____
_____	Utah	Bill Lamb	_____
_____	Washington	Geoff Middaugh	_____
_____	Wyoming	Bill LeBarron	_____
_____	Midwest & East. States	Bob Anderson	_____

Comments _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Address _____

If you have not already done so, please enclose your 2018 annual dues of \$35 with your ballot. Please consider the Special Dues Categories printed on the address page of the *Monitor* in paying your dues. Your continued financial help is needed to pay for the operating costs of the PLF.