



For America's Heritage

THE PUBLIC LANDS Monitor

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SUMMER QUARTER 2017

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

Please join us at the next PLF Annual Meeting which will be held at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah, September 12-15, 2017. The theme of the meeting will be **"Urban Interface with Public Lands."**

Members of the Board of Directors and others interested in attending the Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 12, should plan to arrive in Salt Lake City on Monday.

On Wednesday, September 13, at 7:30 a.m. the BLM Utah State Office will be hosting a tour that will highlight some of the issues and opportunities that the Public Lands provide the American public and what the public can do to help manage the lands.

The cost of the tour will be \$25.00, which includes lunch, drinks and transportation. The sandwich choices are: Veggie Delite, Black Forest Ham, Cold Cut Combo and Spicy Italian. Please make your selection on the Registration Form, which is an insert in this *Monitor*.

A Dutch-oven dinner will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday evening at North Canyon Park, 3900 Bountiful Blvd., Bount-

iful, Utah. The cost for the dinner will be \$20.00, which includes transportation to the park.

A full-day meeting is planned for Thursday, September 14, that will include speakers who will be addressing this year's theme. Lunch will be on your own. Several choices of restaurants will be included in a packet of information you will receive upon arrival.

A banquet, silent auction, and raffle will be held on Thursday evening. The banquet meal is at a cost of \$40.00. The meal consists of **Chicken Breast** stuffed with bread and sausage, topped with chicken pan gravy, accompanied by mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables; tossed green salad; and chocolate cheesecake with raspberry sauce for dessert.

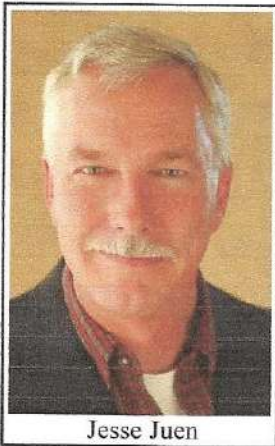
The following special meals are also available:

Vegetarian Meal: Lentil and Vegetable Ratatouille paired with mushroom quinoa and marinated tofu. This can also be prepared **Vegan**. Dessert will be an assorted fruit cup.

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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

I hope everyone had a wonderful spring and is geared up for summer. I just returned from a week up in the mountains in New Mexico and Arizona. My family obtained a permit and retrieved live aspen poles from our National Forests in New Mexico for some construction projects and then relaxed at a small lodge in Ari-

zona surrounded by National Forest in the White Mountains. Both forests had old fire scars and new fire scars. I know for a fact the fires in Arizona dating back to 2012 were considered catastrophic and massive. I don't know the scale or the impact to homes, communities, or the environment, but what we saw was a rich vibrant forest that responded with an amazing amount of grasses, forbs, aspen, shrubs and young pines. I was bragging to my brother that we would bag several game species to be viewed and enjoyed across these landscapes. We did. Pronghorn antelope, mule deer, elk, turkey, black bear, apache trout and numerous other species. It always reminds me about the growing severity of our wildfires in the West and the never-ending need to educate our rural, suburban and urban communities of those threats, how to remove those threats, and the critical nature of managing our public land forests to include fire as part of the normal ecosystem function.

With the summer upon us, please enjoy your public lands; but also be willing to educate the public you meet and interface with them, so they understand the need to keep their lands in good health.

A long way from the restoring forests of Northern Arizona was a week of meetings that Don Simpson and I attended in Washington, D.C. It was encouraging to participate with a viable group of partners as we work towards meeting the mandates of FLPMA for our National System of Public Lands. Having said this, things are changing fast and not everything we talked about is still the way it was. Following is a report that Don Simpson and I wrote after our trip of April 25-27, 2017:

1. Public Lands Working Group – National Wildlife Foundation Conference Room

Attendance: 10 members representing Trout Unlimited, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP), Turkey Federation, National Wildlife Federation, PLF, and Colin Kearns, the Editor-in-Chief with *Field and Stream*.

a. *Field and Stream* will be publishing a piece next spring called "American Icons." It will be 20 pages and feature five icons, two of which will be in the West. They want location and species diversity in the stories, so will likely pick topic areas such as deer, elk, waterfowl, upland game, and fish. They will have a reporter and videographer on site for several days and will post instagrams and other social media during the event. Colin is looking for areas to select, so if PLF would like to offer an idea he asked that we submit soon. One idea is that we ask Bob Wick if he could pull together a list of the great spots and provide some photos that we could pass along.

b. Advancing Conservation and Education Act (ACE) This draft legislation provides a mechanism to exchange isolated State Sections located in protected areas for Public Lands suitable to the State. The State can pick any lands they want with no acreage cap. This is still a new bill, so the working group will follow it and comment when it is more timely. Most of the concern expressed was over the potential that the State could select quality hunting and fishing areas.

c. Land Transfer Legislation. Several states have passed legislation promoting the idea of public lands being transferred to the State. On a national front this issue has quieted, but the working group is pulling a paper together rejecting this wholesale transfer notion in whatever form it may take. The paper will highlight that the States and the BLM should work together managing wildlife, recognizing both entities' authorities related to habitat and species management. A second paper is being prepared talking about the better way to deal with land transfers is through existing sale (think FLTFA) and exchange authority, with an eye on improving access for hunters and anglers and improving habitat.

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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2. TRCP Coalition Policy Council Meeting

Attendance: 45 different coalition members from hunting and sportsmen groups, wildlife groups, NGO's, Associations and Industry.

- Policy Council: Jesse participated in a half-day policy council meeting and discussions which included advancing habitat enhancements, public access, hunting, fishing, recreation and retaining public lands. Several members were very supportive of the opportunities and needs for retaining public lands in public hands.
- TRCP Conservation Awards Banquet: Attended the banquet with coalition members, NGO's, recreation companies and political representatives. Took the opportunity to introduce the Public Lands Foundation to Secretary Zinke and how important it is to keep Public Lands in Public Hands.

3. Introduction Meeting with the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management Staff

Attendance: Rich Cardinale, Marshall Critchfield, Kate McGregor, Kathy Benedetto and three BLM staff. Introduced the PLF to the new political staff.

Fairly quickly they asked for ideas or thoughts regarding managing wild horses and streamlining oil and gas. Regarding wild horses, we all agreed it was a difficult situation; and it sounded like their office was aware of the issues, and it was a priority for resolution.

We spent a lot of time talking about current oil and gas processes that work where you have cooperative processes with State and local government, user groups, landowners, other interested parties to craft appropriate proposals with mitigation and monitoring. Having a robust front-loaded process saves time, as protests and appeals are kept to a minimum and you have buy in with decisions. Landscape conservation initiatives were discussed to proactively enhance the air, water, and wildlife resources that are inherently impacted with development. These initiatives restore past practices and enhance landscapes to allow for future development.

We discussed the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative as an example and left them a 2016 annual report. We also discussed Permian Basin oil and gas management issues with the lizard and lesser prairie chickens as another example. Jesse will be providing them follow up information as requested.

4. Meetings with BLM Assistant Directors, Deputy Assistant Directors, and other Washington Office Staff

We started the morning off introducing PLF to the BLM Business Management Committee. (See Outstanding Public Lands Professional Award below).

We had several meetings with smaller groups of BLMers in Main Interior and on M Street. The goal was to introduce folks to the PLF and seek out ideas about what the PLF could do that would be helpful to the agency. These meetings were time very well spent, and we always ran out of time before we ran out of discussion. In total, we met with 21 employees. Following is a summary of the ideas and suggestions that we discussed:

a. Budget. The 2018 budget will roll out May 15. All increases in coal and oil and gas will come at the expense of the other sub-activities. There will be significant impacts to offices in the West that are located in non-energy states. A letter from PLF will be helpful.

b. Sage grouse RMPs. There is discussion that the new RMPs with sage grouse management may be required to be redone. It is possible it will just be the sage grouse portion. PLF may wish to watch this issue; and if the concerns are with the target area withdrawals and the grazing table, we could send a letter suggesting that those are dealt with using amendments or maintenance actions.

c. Wild Horses and Burros are getting a lot of attention. The next five months are critical to watch and be engaged. The coalition that staff are working with is viewed as important. Current figures are AML is 27,000; actual numbers on range are 73,000; 7,500 horses are gathered every year; and 46,000 horses are in long term holding, costing \$49 million annually. This is unsustainable and proposals will be floating quickly. A letter to the House Subcommittee was developed and

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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sent by the PLF President.

d. Public Land Transfers. This issue was on everyone's mind. The ideas discussed centered around outreach regarding the importance of public lands to people. Many ideas were about sponsoring campaigns focused on "what your public lands mean to you," "tell us a public land story," or speech contests about various aspects of public lands. In general, folks thought that PLF and other NGOs might be most helpful in this regard.

e. NLCS. President Trump waited for our arrival to host the NLCS EO signing ceremony. During the meetings, several individuals brought up the notion that the PLF could be helpful if we used our energy to provide information about the positive economic effects on local communities, the fact that livelihoods are built around these areas, and that most western states are now seeing recreation as their number two industry. Also, a little help with dispensing the idea that these areas are land grabs – they are not newly acquired Federal lands.

f. S.O. 3347. This Secretarial Order deals with expanding hunter recruitment and hunter/angler access to public lands. A report goes to the Secretary from the BLM soon, so we should watch to see what the Secretary ultimately comes out with. Concurrently, the Pew Charitable Foundation has asked Southwick Associates to prepare a report on hunting and fishing economics on public land. We should see what that looks like and maybe it could be linked, as needed, if the Secretary seeks comments.

g. NEPA/Planning/Streamlining. The Secretary has asked the BLM for a report in September on ideas for streamlining these functions. The BLM staff asked if we (PLF) could canvass members and see if there are any historical efforts along these lines that they could pass along to the planning shop.

h. Student Congress. Many we visited with were very interested in the student congress. Several asked if BLM staff could attend. We might want to consider how that could be accomplished.

i. S.O. 3336. This order asks for ideas to integrate fire

with resources. One issue will be the value of timber vs. range resources. Another will be losing the priority of BAER funds from Sage grouse landscapes. The other agencies are not happy with that priority. We should watch this issue.

j. Using PLF web page to post economic reports. During several conversations, folks advised us that the various reports (OG annual report, NLCS economic report, Annual Sound Investment report) were going to be released or are available. For PLF members to provide good data and use good data in our documents, it might be worth considering either posting for the public or having a listing somewhere for member use.

k. Mentoring New Employees was mentioned by several individuals. There is a feeling that new employees arrive with no perspective about what the agency is all about. This was also a topic that Mike Nedd brought up at our quarterly meeting with BLM. Several staff felt the newer folks were not aware of the multiple use concepts. Perhaps we look at expanding the one-on-one mentoring at Pathways. Maybe we send members to new employee meetings in the states, prepare lesson plans for those meetings, etc.

PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

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Gluten Free: Grilled marinated free range chicken breast with a lemon glaze paired with red quinoa and seasonal vegetables (gluten free seasoning)

Please indicate your choice of meal on the back of the Registration Form that is included as an insert in this *Monitor*.

The silent auction and raffle are to raise money for the George Lea Founder's Scholarship. If there are items you would like to donate for the auction or raffle, **please contact Sherry Foot by July 31** by phone at (801) 243-3099 or by e-mail at jaglady@earthlink.net. If you would like to mail the items in advance, please send them to Sherry Foot, 1213 Eagle Way, Fruit Heights, Utah 84037.

The Board of Directors will meet again on Friday morning through noon, September 15.

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PLF'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

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Little America Hotel is located at 500 South Main Street, Salt Lake City. They have set aside a block of rooms at a rate of \$99 (plus tax) for a single Queen room and \$129 (plus tax) for a single King room (upon availability). You must make your own reservations by calling (801) 596-5700 or (800) 437-5288 **no later than August 18, 2017**. Please mention the **Public Lands Foundation** to receive the discounted group rate. If you need to cancel your reservations, it must be done 24 hours prior to arrival to avoid any penalty charges.

Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. and checkout is at noon. The Little America Hotel has complimentary parking for registered guests. There is the Coffee Shop and the Lucky H Bar and Grille on the property. For more information about the Little America Hotel, visit www.saltlake.littleamerica.com.

Rental cars are available at the airport. Trax Light Rail (Green Line) is available from the airport to the hotel at a cost of \$2.50 (travel time to hotel is about 28 minutes). Taxi service rates are between \$25-\$30 and Express Shuttle rates are between \$12-\$15 one-way. Express Shuttle reservations can be made, in advance, by calling (801) 596-1600 or online at www.expressshuttleutah.com. Little America does not provide shuttle service.

If you have any questions, please contact Beau McClure by e-mail at vpops@publicland.org, or by phone at (623) 587-7883.

There will be several options for tours on Thursday for spouses who will not attend the PLF meeting. They include: 1) shopping or sightseeing around Salt Lake with transportation on Trax, 2) Tour of the Hill Aerospace Museum, and 3) Tour "This is the Place State Park."

The meeting Registration Form is an insert in this *Public Lands Monitor*. Please be sure to register and send the form and your check to Beau McClure, 6510 West Lucia Drive, Phoenix, Arizona 85083, **before August 18, 2017**, for the reduced rate. If you have any questions, please contact Beau McClure by e-mail at vpops@publicland.org or by phone at 623-587-7883.

OUTSTANDING PUBLIC LAND PROFESSIONAL AWARD Managerial/Administrative Category Gera Ashton

Jesse Juen and Don Simpson presented the PLF Managerial/Administrative Outstanding Public Land Professional Employee award to Gera Ashton from Arizona on April 26 in Washington, D.C. Although she had heard that she was the recipient of the award, she did not know that we would be there to present the award to her while attending the Business Management Committee meetings in D.C. She was very excited and appreciated it very much. The Award Citation reads:

Gera Ashton is the Deputy State Director for Business and Support Services in the BLM Arizona State Office. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, Gera led a number of national and statewide efforts, including serving as the Chair of the Business Management Council (BMC) and a statewide Risk Assessment Team to ensure that BLM facilities across the state were provided necessary security updates due to increased risk to employee safety.

Under Gera's leadership, the BMC developed an annual work plan to identify, track and report key work initiatives and Bureau-wide actions for the year. This effort resulted in less duplication of effort and helped move key action items forward in the BLM.

Through Gera's effort and coordination with the Office of Law Enforcement and Security, BLM Arizona was able to complete phase one of its facilities updates within set national timeframes. Gera led the effort to update all office public room designs, including the State Office public room, to ensure that front line employees were protected but customer service to the public was not negatively impacted.

Gera also played a key role on the BLM Arizona State Leadership Team (SLT), the Strategic Workforce Committee (SWC), and other ad hoc teams. Through her leadership, the state moved several efforts forward in FY2016, including a Statewide GIS Strategic Plan, a statewide Safety Functional Analysis, as well as a reorganization of several areas in the Division of Business and Support Services. These efforts were successful in large part due to Gera's willingness to work with the stakeholders and listen to multiple points of view.

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**OUTSTANDING PUBLIC LAND
PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

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Not only does Gera invest in the organization, but she invests in the people, building relationships across the state and nationally. She works closely with her peers in other states and the Washington Office. One of Gera's best qualities is that she genuinely likes to help others, is concerned for their well-being, and she takes notice of how she can serve others. Gera's integrity and courage are the underlying factors in her decision-making. Even when the right thing to do is hard, she does not compromise her integrity. Instead, she evaluates the best approach in making the right decision. All of Gera's peers know that she has their best interests at heart, and for the work place environment, the government and for the public.

A large portion of Gera's management success is that she expects professional performance from not only everyone on her team, but her highest of expectations begin with herself.

Because of her excellent body of work and her dedication to the BLM and public service, the Public Lands Foundation recognizes Gera Ashton with its Outstanding Public Lands Professional Award in the Managerial/Administrative category for 2016.



L to R: Don Simpson, PLF Vice President; Gera Ashton, Award Recipient; Jesse Juen, PLF President

**OUTSTANDING PUBLIC LAND
PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

Technical/Operational Category

Shari Ketcham

Beau McClure, PLF Vice President for Operations, presented the PLF Outstanding Public Land Professional Award in the Technical/Operational category to Shari Ketcham at the BLM Pathways Course in Phoenix, Arizona, on April 25, 2017. The Award Citation reads:

Shari Ketcham is a Wildlife Biologist in BLM's Lake Havasu Field Office. Shari makes a difference in how the BLM plans for and manages public land resources through collaborating, mentoring, educating, mitigating, and offering innovative solutions to others using the best available science to validate information.

An example of her collaborative spirit and innovative solutions is her work with the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) on how to provide improved water for a sensitive Big Horn Sheep population in the Red Cliff wildlife water in the Gibraltar Wilderness Area. The project had been in the BLM Lake Havasu review system for five years without resolution. After Shari arrived, she identified the appropriate controversial components. She worked closely with her leadership and stakeholders to provide resolution and a path forward for the project. Through collaboration and research, Shari appropriately applied BLM laws and regulations, resulting in a completed environmental document to support a fragile and sensitive Bighorn sheep population. The project was a success.

Shari worked with the Arizona Public Service (APS) team, which needed five right-of-way (ROW) approvals for various electrical distribution lines. APS disputed one of the stipulations related to Arizona Native Plant Law. Shari utilized her chain of command and state support team and collaboratively determined that the stipulation should be changed based on the rationale that the Arizona Native Plant Law does not apply on federal lands. Shari's diligent attention to detail and reaching out to her leadership as a new wildlife biologist helped determine which plants should be considered for replanting.

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**OUTSTANDING PUBLIC LAND
PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

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Shari then classified plant distribution by county for the operator to promote the use of the new stipulation. This provided a deliverable work product that protects plants, promotes responsible use and allows for the multiple use mission of the BLM. She showed exceptional dedication to her resource and was able to resolve a complex and potentially controversial conservation issue that has far reaching effects within the Lake Havasu Field Office, and may be utilized by other field offices in Arizona.

Shari recognized the need and worked to restore several riparian areas; she created a bird checklist for the field office to display at watchable wildlife areas; and she worked with the Outdoor Recreation Planner and the Recreation Assistant Field Manager to build a trail system throughout the Parker Strip and make this area another recreation and watchable wildlife area for visitors. These represent a few of her many accomplishments.

Because of her consistent efforts to showcase the best of public land management, the Public Lands Foundation is pleased to recognize Shari Ketcham with its Outstanding Public Lands Professional Award in the Technical/Operational category for 2016.

/s/ Edward W. Shepard, President
December 30, 2016



Shari Ketcham, Award Recipient

**LETTERS (OR EMAILS) TO THE
PRESIDENT, BOARD OR ANYBODY WHO
WILL LISTEN:**

From the PLF Founder and Past President, George Lea; a letter to the PLF Secretary:

Thanks so very much for taking on the writing of the Monitor. I know what is involved in being the Editor/writer. I did it for more than 20 years before Glen and still recall the effort to write those 16 pages four times a year. I also remember how easy it could become to concentrate on the social aspects of being a PLF member and not what's happening on the public lands in writing *The Monitor*. We have "Remembering BLM" for the social aspects. My only recommendation to you is to keep in mind the name of the newsletter, *The Public Lands Monitor*, and to find information about the public land; to "monitor" what's going on the land. If you do not get it, I suggest you subscribe to the "Public Land News". I found it very helpful in filling those 16 pages. They have a special rate for PLF members.

As an aside, I spent two days last month driving through the Bears Ears National Monument talking to local residents and local Chamber of Commerce people. They are all opposed to the Monument only because "Obama did it," even though it means greater economic benefit through tourism, which is the mainstay of their economy. So, I think they will get over it and soon become a supporter of it. One of the good aspects of the designation is that the area contains a good-sized chunk of Forest Service land and the wording of the designation requires joint BLM/FS management of the total area at a joint office. So BLM will be managing FS land and vice versa. Interesting!!

George Lea, First President and Founder of the Public Lands Foundation

Letter from PLF Student Congress attendees: *The following note (and attached letter) came from Mike Ferguson about one of the PLF attendees (Claire Martini) at the Student Congress. Something should be said about Mike's outstanding leadership and his tireless work on the Student Congress. The resulting letter from one of his protégés speaks for itself (PLF thanks you, Mike!). And thank you, Claire Martini.*

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**LETTERS (OR EMAILS) TO THE PRESIDENT, BOARD OR
ANYBODY WHO WILL LISTEN:**

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From Mike Ferguson: Here's the note I sent to Claire and the rest of the Student Congress.

Claire, this is outstanding. Thank you for contacting the other members of the Student Congress. And thank you, Molly, for jumping in too. This is exactly the kind of engagement we were hoping would happen after the Student Congress was over. So, thank you for taking the initiative to get it started. I hope many others in the group will stay involved as well.

You should know that Beau McClure (PLF Vice President for Operations) sent your email out to the rest of the PLF Board. Many of the Board members have responded, and they are all very impressed, not only with the initiative, but also the fact that the letter to the Secretary is extremely well written.

It would be wonderful if you and at least a few other members of the Student Congress would stay in touch and weigh in when you need to. Thanks again and WELL DONE! **Mike Ferguson**

Dear Secretary Zinke,

I'm writing today as an attendee of the 2016 Bureau of Land Management Student Congress and as a scientist, a descendent of 1880's Utah pioneers, and an avid outdoorswoman to urge you to keep Bears Ears National Monument protected.

As a participant at the 2016 Student Congress, I worked with 30 young leaders from across the country to develop recommendations for the Department of the Interior and Bureau of Land Management. Our group identified four main priorities: 1) Multiple use and sustained yield, 2) Cultural relationships (honoring past, present, and future), 3) Public participation, outreach, and education, 4) Human resources (job creation and retention for the next generation of public land managers).

The proposal to reduce or rescind Bears Ears National Monument directly contradicts the recommendations made by the next generation of public land managers to

the Bureau of Land Management and Department of Interior at the 2016 Student Congress in the following ways:

- 1) According to the Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA), agencies must manage for multiple use and sustained yield. We recommend strengthening programs for environmental restoration, agency and corporate accountability, and ecological health. Bears Ears NM provides additional support for land managers to prioritize these values.
- 2) To manage for cultural attributes, the BLM/DOI consulted tribal groups in collaborative management as support for the monument grew. The designation of the monument reflected the full 80 years of grassroots advocacy and tribal-led support that went into Bears Ears; to rescind or reduce the monument is both likely illegal and a step away from the tribally-integrated management structures that the next generation of land managers and users are asking for.
- 3) Public participation in former Secretary Jewell's listening tour demonstrated the incredible enthusiasm for protecting Bears Ears. Public education is something the DOI could improve, as significant misinformation regarding impacts of monument designation on traditional uses (wood gathering, hunting, etc) has become widespread. The public ought to know that the monument does not limit or restrict these uses, and the DOI must increase the emphasis on public outreach and education.
- 4) Removing or reducing national monument designation threatens jobs for the next generation of land managers. As baby boomers and "FLPMA babies" retire, DOI/BLM should prioritize job creation, recruitment, and retention for the next generation.

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**LETTERS (OR EMAILS) TO THE
PRESIDENT, BOARD OR
ANYBODY WHO WILL LISTEN:**

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Since I've lived in the West all my life (northern Arizona, Washington, Oregon, and California), I've experienced the remarkable opportunities for hiking, climbing, hunting, and historical tourism offered in many of the national monuments that are being reconsidered. Bears Ears NM, Vermilion Cliffs NM, Grand Staircase-Escalante NM, and Gold Butte NM are all spectacular examples of native history, scenic value, and recreational potential. Each is also uniquely threatened by mining, cattle, or oil and gas operations that simply don't belong in landscapes that drive the region's economy with tourism alone.

Bears Ears clearly demonstrates a need for the enhanced protection and management of a national monument as laid out in the Antiquities Act.

- The size of the monument—while smaller than the initial tribal proposal—is needed to protect historic and prehistoric sites and other items of scientific interest.
- The designation allows current “available uses” of federal lands including wood gathering, hunting, and other traditional uses while also clarifying where mining is/is not appropriate given the exemplary historical and prehistorical artifacts, scenery, and regions of ecologic continuity.
- Tribal, state, and local concerns clearly highlight the passion for protecting this place. As the designation process demonstrated, there was a vast majority of public support with a few vocal local detractors.
- The monument designation allows crucial funding to be directed to the area.
- As a monument, Bears Ears has tremendous potential to draw tourism to the area and provide a vital and stable source of economic rejuvenation that this rural area badly needs (and that short-term energy jobs have repeatedly failed to provide).

In the recommendations of the student congress, we found it necessary to formally recognize “our ongoing commitment to the continuation of the multiple use and sustained yield of federally managed public lands. It bears reiteration that ongoing federal management of the national public lands system is in the public's best interest; public lands must remain in public hands. Our management recommendations center in the following themes: a shift in values (from extractive to sustainable), the inclusion of diverse cultures that includes robust public participation and comprehensive history, and the development of a cohesive public land narrative.”

I urge Secretary Zinke to consider these recommendations and to honor his previous commitments to tribal sovereignty by keeping Bears Ears National Monument as it is.

Sincerely,
Claire Martini, PLF Student Congress, Flagstaff,
Arizona (86004)

PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Notes 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. One thing is clear: This is a time of major transition and change for the BLM. The Acting BLM Director, Mike Nedd, sent an all employee email warning of budget cuts in the future that could displace 10% of the BLM workforce. Numerous SES position changes have been announced and others are pending. The Remembering BLM Facebook page and the PLF website have some information on these changes, and we are cautious not to pass on unverified information. Hang on though!

Due to space, the completed version of these letters is available on the PLF Website. Letters sent this quarter include:

- [June 15, 2017 - PLF AZ Chapter - Letter to Secretary Zinke Regarding Arizona National Monuments](#)

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PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

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- [June 14, 2017 - Letter to Secretary Zinke on BLM Headquarters Move to West](#)
- [June 5, 2017 - Letter to Congressional Appropriators on BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program](#)
- [May 24, 2017 - Letter to Secretary Zinke on National Monuments](#)
- [May 24, 2017 - Letter to Secretary Zinke on Resource Advisory Councils](#)
- [April 5, 2017 - BLM, FS, NWRA letter to Congress Opposing H.R. 622, Termination of BLM & Forest Service Law Enforcement](#)

BLM AND PUBLIC LAND NEWS

Notes from the PLF Secretary: Due to the rapid changes in the news, and the inability of keeping up with changes in websites, I will not be providing website links in the news section to the information sited.

At the request of Jesse Juen, Idaho Director-at-Large, John Fend, attended the 44th Annual Northwest Outdoor Writers Association Conference (April 27-30, 2017), at Sandpoint, Idaho and represented the PLF. Here is John's report.

PLF Board member John Fend participated on the "FOR SALE: PUBLIC LANDS" panel discussion at the above conference. Approximately 35 members attended the panel discussion. Joining John on the panel was Scott Laird with the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Montana branch (a PLF collaborative partner). While the panel organizers tried repeatedly to get a panelist representing the opposite point of view, they were unsuccessful. Scott and I had a very friendly audience, albeit one thirsty for information. Scott Laird and John tag teamed a PowerPoint presentation the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership had prepared. After introductions of each respective mission statement, we spoke about the value

of public lands remaining in public ownership generally. We spoke to the history of the public lands (handout PLF's "America's Public Lands: origin, history, future") and showed a short video (available on You Tube) that illustrated that history. We then shared Idaho-specific BLM handouts the Idaho State Office supplied to John addressing visitor opportunities and dollars of economic output from Idaho's Public lands. This discussion was then expanded to the National scale based on another BLM pamphlet titled "The BLM; A sound Investment for America 2016." This demonstrated the amount of recreational visitation occurring and the economic contributions of visitation to local communities. The same was briefly discussed for oil and gas; coal; non-energy minerals; geothermal, solar, and wind; grazing; and timber. John indicated they should review the handouts for more details with western state by state summaries.

Scott Laird did a great job outlining the wildlife, fisheries, and cultural values associated with public lands and how these values would become second fiddle to the state's constitutional mandates to manage public resources for maximum monetary return. The loss of public access to public lands upon sale of public lands by states resonated highly with this audience.

We both spent some time addressing questions from the audience regarding current events, the President's ordered review of past monument designations, funding shortfalls, and wildfire. The wildfire questions led to more examples of burdens being passed on to the local taxpayers for wildfire suppression activities, now paid for largely by the federal government.

Arizona PLF outreach efforts (Submitted by Beau McClure)

1. On February 8, 2017, the Arizona Chapter sent a letter to Senators McCain and Flake opposing the use of the Congressional Review Act to eliminate the BLM's recently revised planning rule, commonly known as Planning 2.0.
2. On June 15, 2017, the Arizona Chapter sent a letter to Secretary Zinke concerning the Presidential Executive Order on the Review of Designations under the Antiquities Act issued on April 26, 2017, and in support of National Monuments in Arizona.

(Continued on Page 11.)

BLM AND PUBLIC LAND NEWS

(Continued from Page 10.)

Wyoming PLF outreach: (Submitted by Bill LeBarron). Wyoming PLF has been very busy sending letters and emails to their Congressional delegation on reorganization, and the sage grouse plan. These are the items that Bill LeBarron (and the Wyoming PLF Team) have worked on over the last three months.

1. Following the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative (WPLI). There are approximately 700,000 acres of WSAs in Wyoming. There is a lot of interest in this topic, and PLF Wyoming is providing information.
2. Provided two interviewers for the Pathway Mentoring project: ex-BLMer Mike Brown and Tim Monroe.
3. Wrote letters to Senators Mike Enzi and John Barrasso on the following issues - Planning 2.0 and the Advisory Council. Also I provided them with my views plus sent the letters that Jesse Juen signed on the Antiquities Act, Support for Advisory Boards and councils, and wild horses and burros. John Kwiatkowski also sent letters.
4. John Kwiatkowski and I both distributed the "America's Public Lands" brochure around Northern and Western Wyoming. Sent out to the Wyoming Outdoor Council, Keep Wyoming Public, Wyoming Sportsman for Federal Lands and others.
5. Tracking the Sage grouse issue here in Wyoming. Governor Mead supports keeping the current rules. About 2-3 years ago PLF wrote a letter to Mead supporting the state plan, and BLM partnered with the State in developing the plan.

DONATIONS TO THE PLF

General Fund

Mike Ford
William Stanley

Gregg & Mary Simmons (4)

Scholarship Fund

William E. Ball, Jr. Carolyn Droscher
Pat Harvey Gregg & Mary Simmons (4)
Don Simpson

Student Congress

Wayne Mike Gardner

**SOCIAL MEDIA: THE REMEMBERING
BLM AND FACEBOOK GROUP**
by Bob Conquergood, Website Administrator

REMEMBERING BLM has continued to grow with 397 members from 27 states plus Guam and Thailand. The Group provides information to the users ranging from BLM news to articles in the press about BLM and its employees to PLF news and, finally, to obituaries of former and current BLM employees.

The **REMEMBERING BLM Facebook group** is private and cannot be accessed by the public. It is a secret group (Facebook's term) that is available only to members who are current or former BLMers. Because it is hosted by Facebook, all members must have their own Facebook page. Members can post news and photos and can comment on what others have posted and can invite other current or former BLM employees. Others wishing to join can do so by emailing a request to Bob Conquergood at bconquergood@publicland.org. Please indicate your affiliation to BLM, such as "retired BLM employee."

Information posted on Remembering BLM cannot be indexed on Google or other search engines but may be available from other sources. News and other information is shared regularly between PLF's Facebook page and with PLF's home page. Both of those sites are available to the public. The PLF website has been updated and stays current on advocacy activities and letters sent by the Board (and some included in the *Monitor*). Check them out!

We're always interested in member input on what you would like to see on our website and social media. Send your suggestions to George Stone, Chair of the Technology Tools Committee at gstone@publicland.org.

NEW MANAGER OF THE PLF ARCHIVES

Connie Stone, a retired BLM Cultural Resource Specialist, has agreed to serve as the new “manager” of the PLF’s Archives. She replaces Glen Collins who has served in that role for the past 15 years.

The PLF’s Archives is a collection of historical materials related to the BLM and the BLM lands that is housed in a room at the BLM National Training Center (NTC), located in Phoenix, Arizona. The PLF Archives was established in 1992. Over the past 25 years, the PLF Archives has grown to include 12 file cabinets, 5 book cases, a large map cabinet, and a computer to help keep track of the over 1,500 files and the hundreds of printed and recorded historical materials that have been donated primarily by BLM retirees.

The PLF Archives is an office-specific treasure trove of historical information about BLM’s people, programs and projects. We are fortunate that Connie Stone is willing and able to help keep this collection updated and available to BLM, PLF and the public.

Connie Stone is a PhD graduate from Arizona State University with a degree in anthropology. She worked for the BLM in Arizona for 21 years, first as an archaeologist and assistant field manager at the Phoenix District Office and later as a cultural resource specialist on the renewable energy team at the Arizona State Office. She understands the BLM and its programs and projects.

Inquiries about the PLF Archives may be directed to her at airedog2@cox.net. If you have historical materials to donate to the PLF Archives, send them to PLF Archives, c/o BLM National Training Center, 9820 N. 31st Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85051.

REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PLF’S LANDSCAPE STEWARDSHIP AWARDS

August 1, 2017 Deadline

Once again, the Public Lands Foundation is accepting nominations of a private citizen(s) or group(s) who deserve to be recognized for their sustained contributions at a landscape scale to the conservation

and management of BLM’s National System of Public Lands. PLF members and BLM employees are encouraged to submit nominations by **August 1, 2017**. Winners will be determined at the PLF Board of Directors meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, in September, and they will be announced and recognized soon thereafter.

Organizations and individuals outside of government are often the catalysts for demonstrating effective approaches for achieving good stewardship of these lands and resources. PLF’s Landscape Stewardship Award honors the work done by private citizens who work to advance and sustain community-based stewardship on a landscape scale that includes, in whole or in part, lands administered by BLM. The focus on landscapes is intended to be broad in nature versus small-scale, local, project-oriented efforts.

Emphasis is on individual local citizens or groups comprised of local citizens who are typically all-volunteer without paid staff. The award is a citation acknowledging the nature and significance of the awardee’s achievements. The nomination form and guidelines can be found on the PLF website at www.publicland.org.

Click on “What We Do,” then on “Awards,” then on “Landscape Stewardship Award/Certificate of Appreciation Recipients.” Once there, you will find information about the award, candidates, nomination and selection process, evaluation factors, as well as a copy of the nomination form.

Please send nominations by **August 1, 2017**, by email to dmari@publicland.org.

RETIRING?

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Join NOW by sending name, mailing address, email address and phone number to Public Lands Foundation, P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207.

**REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS FOR
PLF'S LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD
August 1, 2017 Deadline**

Each year at the PLF's Annual Meeting, one or more Lifetime Service Awards are given in recognition of prestigious lifetime performance by a BLM career employee that has benefited the management of Public Lands administered by the BLM. The Award is granted as a living or posthumous Lifetime Service Award, and may include two individuals per year in each category. The PLF Lifetime Service Award procedures and criteria are listed on the Awards page of the PLF website at www.publicland.org. (Click on Menu, then expand What We Do, then expand Awards). For additional information, see the Spring Quarter edition of *The Monitor*, or contact Glen Collins.

Please send nominations and endorsements by **August 1, 2017** to Glen Collins, Chair, Lifetime Service Awards Committee, 2002 W. Sunnyside Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85029; or by e-mail (preferred) at glendone@aol.com.

**DONATIONS SOUGHT (and RECEIVED)
PLF Members Really Come Through**

A huge thank you to all the PLF members who contributed to the George Lea Founder's Scholarship this year. As of April 1st, you have contributed \$10,000. That was our goal, and that is enough to fully cover two scholarships for 2017, without having to use our other operating funds.

The scholarship consists of the following three elements:

- \$5,000 to be used toward the student's tuition expenses,
- An invitation to attend the next PLF annual meeting with all transportation and living expenses paid, and
- The opportunity to "shadow" a local BLM manager for a day.

This year's recipients are **Katelyn Gille**, a junior in Environmental Studies and Sustainability at Michigan State University, and **Kaitlyn Williams**, a graduate student in Range and Wildlife Management at Sul Ross State University in Texas. Both recipients are looking forward to shadowing a BLM employee and are hoping to attend the PLF annual meeting in September.

Thanks to all the contributors for making this happen. Mike Ferguson, former Chair of the George Lea Founder's Scholarship Committee

**STUDENT CONGRESS UPDATE
By Mike Ferguson**

One of the goals from the GLO Symposium in 2012, was that we figure out how to keep the momentum generated by those events rolling into the future. At the 2012 annual meeting, the PLF committed to sponsoring a Student Congress every two years. The hope was that each one would build on the previous ones. We are beginning to see the results of those efforts. Two significant things happened recently, both related directly to the Student Congress.

First, Claire Martini, a participant in the third Student Congress has remained active in BLM issues. (See her letter in this edition of *The Monitor*.) When Secretary Zinke announced a review of several National Monuments, Claire wrote a letter. She also sent it to all of the other members of the Student Congress and encouraged them to send a letter to the Secretary. Whether you agree with her position or not, this is the kind of interest and engagement we are hoping to inspire with the Student Congress.

Secondly, Molly O'Grady, who participated in the second and third Student Congress is spearheading an event called the Confluence of Young Conservation Leaders. Like the Student Congress, this program entails students meeting with fellow students from around their state, as well as natural resource professionals, to develop resolutions that are presented to their lead organizations, gain leadership skills, learn how to speak and present to senators and at natural resource board meetings, gain hands-on natural resource techniques in the field, etc.

(Continued on Page 14.)

STUDENT CONGRESS UPDATE

(Continued from Page 13.)

Molly says, "The structure of the Confluence along with many other ideas have come directly from my experience with the Student Congress."

These are both great examples, not only of keeping the momentum going after the GLO Symposium in 2012, but also of making progress towards our goal of increasing youth engagement in public land management issues. Plans are continuing to come together for the fourth Student Congress in 2018. The topic will be the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and National Trails Act. It will be held in Baker City, Oregon. Dates are not finalized yet, but the agenda will include some time at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, as well as some time at the confluence of the Minam and Wallowa Wild and Scenic Rivers.

IN MEMORIUM

***N**ote: 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. If you find errors, we apologize; if you have concerns, please let Geoff Middaugh know at gmiddaugh@publicland.org*

Josephine Anderson, on May 7, 2017, in Boise, Idaho, and worked in minerals in the Idaho State Office, and started work with BLM during the Vale Project in Vale Oregon.

Dorothy Adele Pickering Bergeron, on May 11, 2017, in Wenatchee, Washington, and worked at Spokane District Office as Records Clerk. Dorothy was 103, and retired when she was 80.

Philip Norman Blythe, on March 9, 2017, in Eugene Oregon, and worked in the Lakeview District.

Florence Elizabeth Garrick Claar, on March 26, 2017, in Draper Utah, and worked in the Utah State Office.

William Joseph "Bill" Cutler, on May 25, 2017, in

Livingston, Montana, and worked as the Judith Resource Area Manager, Lewistown, Montana.

Kenneth John Egerman, on April 22, 2017, in Boise, Idaho, and worked in Montana, Washington, Oregon and Idaho, and retired at the Boise Interagency Fire Center in 1986.

LaPriel Duran, on April 29, 2017, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and worked as a Procurement Specialist in the New Mexico State Office.

Diana Garretson, on March 21, 2017 in Silver City, New Mexico, and worked in public affairs, Las Cruces District and Washington, D.C.

Duane S. Guymon, on April 10, 2017, in Salt Lake City, Utah, and worked in the Arizona State Office and was a Natural Resource Manager, Spokane District Office.

Jorgen "Joe" Gulliksen, on May 9, 2017, in Salem, Oregon. Joe worked in the Redding (California) District as a Forester, Riverside District (California) as Needles Resource Area Manager (the old Cima Resource Area), and the Salem District in Oregon as a Forester.

Philip C. "Phil" Hamilton, on June 12, 2017, in Portland Oregon. Phil worked in Oregon/Washington, Nevada and Wyoming, and spent the last 19 years before retirement on western Oregon land use plans.

Will R. Hauck, on May 23, 2017, in Great Falls, Montana. He was a Forester in Lewistown, Montana, and a Resource Specialist in the oil and gas program, Montana State Office.

Stanley E. Kerlin, on June 8, 2017, in Ridgecrest, California. He worked at numerous National Park Service locations before becoming a BLM Ranger in El Centro, California, and then in Ridgecrest as Supervisory Ranger.

Jan Robert Miller, on March 11, 2017, in Medford Oregon, and worked in Oregon, Arizona, Alaska (adjudication), California and back to Oregon.

Neil F. Moreck, on April 29, 2017, in Billings, Montana. Neil worked as a Range Management Specialist in Dillon, Montana; District Manager in Rock Springs, Wyoming; Rights-of-Way Coordinator in Billings, Montana; Deputy Director of Renewable Resources in Washington, D.C.; Western Service Center Director in

(Continued on Page 15.)

IN MEMORIUM

(Continued from Page 14.)

Denver, Colorado; Colorado State Director in Denver, Colorado; and other stations in Miles City, Montana; Carson City and Winnemucca, Nevada; and Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Millie Nelson, on May 15, 2017, in Lodi California. Millie was a Budget Analyst in the California State Office.

William (Bill) Olson, on March 3, 2017, in Carmichael, California, he was the first archaeologist in the California State Office.

Robert Perrin, on May 13, 2017, Travel Management Specialist in Washington, D.C.

Garth Portillo, on March 3, 2007, in Sandy, Utah, and was an archaeologist in Bakersfield and Riverside Districts, and the Utah State Office.

Christina Marie Reed, at 32 years old, on April 21, 2017, in Denver, Colorado. She was a Planning and Environmental in the Colorado State Office.

Alan Paul Robinson, on May 17, 2017, in Grants Pass, Oregon. He worked in the Medford Oregon Office.

Richard Dean "Dick" Tate, on May 14, 2017, in Boulder Colorado, and worked as a Patent Attorney, Colorado State Office.

Terry Taylor, on March 19, 2017, in Ammon, Idaho. He worked as a range conservationist in Boise, Idaho; Baker, Oregon; Burns, Oregon; and Idaho Falls, Idaho.

David Wickstrom, on April 27, 2017, in Spearfish, South Dakota. He was Forester at Montrose, Colorado; Area Manager in Ukiah, California; Area Manager in Fairbanks District Office, Alaska Realty Specialist (Alaska Program Staff) in Washington, D.C.; Outdoor Recreation Planner in California State Office.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Received From:
L. Paul Applegate

In Memory of:
Bob(Buff) Buffington
& Marvin Pearson

William E. Ball, Jr.

Rachel Brekhus
Bill Griffith

David A. Jones

Les Rosenkrance
Elaine Zielinski

Tom D. Conklin,
Irving Zirpel &
Col. Stanley Hathorn
Betty Brekhus
Gene Russell and
Marlow Osborne
Bob Buffington &
Marv Pearson
Bob Buffington
Judy Nelson & Pat
Archer

Errata: In the Spring 2017 edition of the Monitor, in the category of Family Contributions in the Membership Dues Above \$35 section, Shela McFarlin's spouse's name was incorrectly spelled, and it should be David Redmond.

Comments from your PLF Secretary

This edition of the Summer PLF *Monitor* is filled completely with the work of the PLF membership, including reports on visits, meetings, and interactions with partners. The advocacy work of Arizona and Wyoming is also included (Great work by the way). I know there are others, so I would like to hear from those who have taken on their own advocacy issues. 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)

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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.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

- \$35 Regular
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THE PUBLIC LANDS FOUNDATION IS A TAX EXEMPT 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION

Registration Form—PLF Annual Meeting
Little America Hotel, 500 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah
September 12-15, 2017

Date	Event	No. of People	Per Person	Total Cost
	Early Registration (received by August 18, 2017)		\$50.00	
	No Fee for Spouse Registration*			
	Late Registration (received after August 18, 2017)		\$60.00	
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Board of Directors' Meeting (please indicate attendance) – Sun Valley Room			
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Tour (select from box lunch choices on back; lunch, drinks, and transportation included)		\$25.00	
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Dutch-Oven Dinner (North Canyon Park, Bountiful, Utah; transportation included)		\$20.00	
Thursday, Sept. 14	Evening Banquet – Plated Dinner		\$40.00	
Friday, Sept. 15	Half-day Board of Directors' Meeting (please indicate attendance) – Sun Valley Room			
	Remittance Total			

Please Print Name(s): _____

Address:

E-mail: _____

Phone:

Please make your check payable to the “**Public Lands Foundation**” and send it and this Registration Form to Beau McClure, 6510 W. Lucia Drive, Phoenix, Arizona 85083-7406 by **August 18, 2017**. If you have questions, please contact Beau by telephone at 623-587-7883 or by e-mail at vpops@publicland.org.

Please indicate your meal preferences and any spousal tour preferences

Please indicate your meal preferences below. Meal coupons will be in your registration packets.

Wednesday Lunch on Tour: **Black Forest Ham** **Cold Cut Combo**
 Spicy Italian **Veggie Delite**

Thursday Banquet: **Chicken Breast** **Vegetarian**
 Vegan **Gluten Free**

Other dietary needs (please indicate):

Spousal tour options are listed below. **Please check your preference.** Transportation for spousal tours will be by Trax or carpooling of private vehicles of participants.

Spousal tour options:

- Shopping or Touring Salt Lake City by Trax (Gateway, City Creek or other visitor sights)
- Visit the Hill Aerospace Museum
- Visit 'This is the Place State Park'

* Spouses not attending the general meeting do not need to pay the registration fee.