PLF’s 2018 ANNUAL MEETING
BILLINGS, MONTANA
September 11-14, 2018

A tinge of fall, and the blue skies in Big Sky country were deep and bright as over 60 PLF members enjoyed the camaraderie, friendships, and purposes of the PLF in Billings, Montana, on September 11-14, 2018. The theme of this year’s meeting was “Access to Public Lands.” And, the all-day meeting on Thursday was packed with a powerful and diverse array of speakers who addressed the complex issue of Public Land Access from all sides and angles. The Board of Director’s meeting on Tuesday and Friday included a Strategic Planning exercise for the attending directors (discussed further below), and numerous business-related topics (summarized in the Board Meeting notes). The banquet capped off the general meeting, with the silent auction, recognition awards and a powerful “Remembering BLM” speech by one of the original PLF Charter members, Smokey O’Connor. More detail on each event is provided below:

Field Tour
The blue sky was perfect as the PLF membership was led on a field trip down the Yellowstone River and in the general direction of Captain William Clark in 1806 on his return trip from the Pacific Ocean towards St. Louis, Missouri. Under the capable leadership of Dave LeFevre, Acting Field Manager in the Billings Field Office, we stopped first at the 4 Dances Natural Area, a timely acquisition which included numerous archaeological sites and the best view of Billings, Montana. Emphasizing what can be done through collaboration and partnership, we traveled next to the Yellowstone Wildlife Management Area to see what can be done with the power of partnerships that provides for habitat, recreation hunting opportunities and access to the Yellowstone River. The importance of these partnerships and the leveraged strength they provide for expanded recreation and habitat opportunities was emphatically emphasized by Barb Beck of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and Kim Prill, Acting Deputy State Director for Minerals, Energy and Realty. Next, we visited Pompey’s Pillar National Monument, managed by the BLM, to view the original William Clark signature on the massive sandstone pillar within the Monument.

General Membership Meeting
A powerful array of speakers and greeters were included in the General Membership meeting on Thursday. First, we were greeted (Continued on Page 2.)
PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

I’m just getting back from the annual meeting in Billings. The annual meeting always means it is time for the Fall Monitor edition. It’s been six busy several weeks in PLF. In August, we held the Fourth Student Congress in Baker City, Oregon and the annual meeting was just two weeks later. And, we can’t forget that National Public Lands Day was September 22. A lot of activity keeping a lot of people busy and involved in Keeping Public Lands in Public Hands. Many of the major PLF events are reported on in this edition, as well as other work the PLF has been doing with our many partners.

The annual meeting is always a fun time to get together with old friends, coworkers, and former bosses. This year was no exception. There was a good turnout and those that attended had a good time discussing the importance of access to public lands and some of the difficulties in acquiring and managing for public access with the speakers. Brian Steed, the BLM Acting Director, spent about 45 minutes visiting with us via phone. Brian had intended to be with us in person, but his travel plans changed and he attended a sage-grouse meeting with the Western Governors. He joined us while sitting in the Denver airport and we appreciate him taking the time to update us on BLM activities. We also had an outstanding field trip to Pompey’s Pillar National Monument, the Four Dances Special Recreation Management Area and the Yellowstone Wildlife Management Area. The Billings Field Office and several cooperators that partner with the BLM to make these special areas better led the trip. The meeting was capped off by the banquet where we got to recognize members that have contributed so much to the BLM and the PLF over the years. This year we recognized Pete Culp and Tom Allen for Lifetime Service Awards and Don Simpson for Volunteer of the Year. These meetings don’t happen without the work of a lot of people and I thank Dave Mari and Jim Binando and their committee for leading the planning effort, the Montana BLM for all of their help, and Beau for making this meeting successful.

On the Tuesday before the meeting started, the Board held a facilitated work session to develop a new strategic plan for the PLF. Rich Whitley, John Fend, and George Stone served on a committee over the past year to get the process started and they will be continuing to pull this together for the approval of the Board in the next few months. Thank you, Rich, George, and John; and thank you to our facilitator Jennifer Pratt Miles. Once the plan is approved it will help us set our course on what we want to take on over the next five years within our resources and volunteer capabilities.

There is a lot of news to squeeze into this edition of the Monitor, so I am going to keep this short and encourage you to keep up on the PLF’s advocacy work by checking in on publicland.org and our social media sites. I hope you all have a good fall and you get a chance to enjoy the public lands. Thanks for all you do, PLF could not be successful without the dedication of its members.

PLF’s 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from Page 1.)

and welcomed by the Billings Mayor, Bill Cole, who provided us the background of Billings, Montana, as first a railroad town, and now a bustling regional economic center for central and eastern Montana, where energy, agriculture and recreation work together for the betterment of all. We also were greeted by the staff and videos of Senator Jon Tester and Senator Steve Daines, each reminding us of the importance of public lands.

Ed Shepard introduced our speakers and told his own story of public land access when he was an entry level employee in Rawlins, Wyoming, in the 1970s when the concept of an “implied easement” in the checkerboard country went to the Supreme Court of the United States (and the government lost!).

Jim Posewitz provided our introductory keynote speech using his long history of involvement in conservation and access in Montana, and his 32 years with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. His knowledge and experience (author of five books on conservation) provided us a new perspective in his view

(Continued on Page 3.)
PLF’s 2018 ANNUAL MEETING
(Continued from Page 2.)

Jon Raby, Acting State Director of Montana and the Dakotas, brought the membership up to date on his priorities with the new administration.

of the “democracy of the wild” and where the American conservation movement came from. His view of the complexity of access, as well as the importance of partnerships, friendships and knowledge of the land and landscape were insightful to the theme of our meeting. His timeline for the land is one that PLF members understand: exploited, restored, nurtured and protected.

Robyn Driscoll was a member of the Montana House of Representative and is now a Yellowstone County Commissioner. She spoke about her experiences as a commissioner, because local government and county commissioners are the first-place people who are either for or against access go to resolve their concerns. Access is a popular cause, but it has to be balanced with the law and private property rights.

Paul Burdett, Executive Director, Public Land and Water Access Association, spoke of the importance of the public trust doctrine and the complexities of each and every access problem, and the law. His organization has been involved with many access acquisitions and each is unique, nuanced, controversial and complex. (See picture on Page 4.)

Barb Beck, Regional Supervisor for Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, again reiterated the value of partnerships and relationships to resolve all types of issues. And, every legislative session has bills either expanding or contracting public access. Solutions are political, but based on a wide variety of technical and legal issues. As a State of Montana agency, she has

(Continued on Page 4.)
to work both sides of every specific issue and assure that all factors are addressed.

Terry Anderson provided a broad view of the political economy of access as one of the founders of Montana's Property and Environment Research Center (PERC). The public and agencies have to understand the costs of unfettered access, and ask the question: How much access is enough? And, what measures do you use to determine the "public value" of a private right. He expressed concerns with the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) "Off Limits but Within Reach" (which was a handout to all attendees) because it makes every access issue seem alike, when they are all vastly different in terms of costs, impacts, context, and alternatives.

Mike Cooney, Lieutenant Governor of Montana, opened the afternoon session after the break with a welcome to Montana, and the value of Montana's strong public access laws, which provide public lands for public benefit. He recognized that tourism and recreation provide for 71,000 direct jobs for Montanans, which is now more than logging and mining combined, while recognizing that all jobs are important to the Montana economy.

Jennifer Doherty, Director of Lands for the 227,650 nationwide members of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF), identified the broad-based work that RMEF does for habitat and access. She emphasized that all access is not equal, and each proposal has to be judged on a variety of criteria such as costs, alternatives, and public concerns. She introduced Linda Cardenas, who is a BLM employee with her duty station in Missoula, Montana, and provides a liaison between RMEF and BLM on a variety of issues, including access proposals and habitat enhancements.

Mary Sexton was the former Director of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, and now lives near Choteau, Montana on the family ranch. She was a former county commissioner and a member once of the Lewistown District Resource Advisory (Continued on Page 5.)
Council. She described, through stories, access issues she has been involved with, some humorous and some tragic. One of the most tragic was when a fight over access turned to murder, which was featured in the NBC Dateline Series. She reminds people that State Lands in Montana provide 8% of all school funding, and it is important to educate all about the value of these lands for all types of use, as well as recreation.

Acting BLM Director Brian Steed spoke via teleconference, in closing, to the membership. He identified that seven of the 12 BLM State Director jobs are still vacant, but he soon will be able, maybe, to make some announcements (No announcements at the time of this Monitor). In addition, the Secretary is still focused on moving the BLM headquarters of 300 employees out of the Washington area and somewhere in the West. Brian reported that the BLM oil and gas lease sale in New Mexico on September 5 and 6 resulted in bonus bids of $973 million, the largest ever.

Barbecue and Banquet

Hal Stearns, from Humanities, Montana, gave the evening lecture after the barbecue at the conference center. Hal identified the complexities of public land law, involving the social movement and migration of pioneers into the West. His vast collection of homesteading photographs specific to Montana, and his individual perspective of the hardship and drive of pioneers was familiar to many, but powerful with his command of the topic.

At the Banquet, Don Simpson was named “Volunteer of the Year” for his work with the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, taking the lead on several significant PLF issues and carrying out his duties as PLF Vice President.

Vice President of Operations Beau McClure received special recognition during the annual meeting for the countless hours of work he volunteers to keep the PLF running smoothly. Many people play a voluntary role.
role to make the PLF possible; Beau is the one that brings all this work together. To recognize Beau’s outstanding work, several Board members and friends made a special contribution to present Beau with a vacation so that he and his wife, Jan, can get away and relax from duties for a short time. One member donated a resort timeshare week. Thank you, Beau, for your amazing contribution to the PLF.

Note: Beau wishes to thank all of you who contributed to the special recognition. Your generosity and thoughtfulness are greatly appreciated.

The Conference was a resounding success, and we all need to thank the amazing effort by Dave and Arlene Mari and Jim Binando for their work.

2018 Silent Auction—A Big Success

This year’s silent auction that took place in conjunction with the PLF annual meeting banquet in Billings, Montana, on September 13, 2018, was another great success, thanks to the 15 donors who contributed 64 items to the auction and the 21 purchasers of those items. All 64 donated items were auctioned for a total of $1,650.00. Thanks to the generosity of participants, an additional $630.00 in donations was received, making a total of $2,280.00 for the night. All of these funds are in support of the George Lea Founder’s Scholarship for 2019. The Foundation wishes to thank Arlene Mari for organizing and managing the auction, those that helped Arlene, and all of you who donated and who participated in the silent auction.

2018 PLF Annual Meeting Group Photo

Front row kneeling, L to R: Bob Conquergood, Dave Mari & Ed Shepard (PLF President)


(Continued on Page 7.)
PLF’s 2018 ANNUAL MEETING
(Continued from Page 6.)

Board of Directors Commences Strategic Planning Activities

The primary attention of the 2018 Board of Director’s meeting was to focus on strategic planning. The Strategic Planning committee led by Rich Whitley provided materials for Board members to review in advance of the meeting, and an outside facilitator helped to keep participants on focus. The facilitator also conducted several telephone interviews with our founder, George Lea, past presidents Henri Bisson and Jesse Juen, and several other Board members in advance of the meeting. By the end of the day, the Board members developed a preliminary five-year strategic plan and a more detailed one-year plan for 2018-2019. These drafts are currently being reviewed by the full Board. The Board members identified the following priorities:

- Expanding PLF’s paid membership.
- Recruiting recently-retired BLM employees to join, volunteer and serve on the Board.
- Enhancing the Board’s diversity.
- Establishing criteria for the Board to apply when deciding whether to engage action on a proposed project.
- Encouraging our members to volunteer and assist with our ever-increasing workload.
- Broadening funding sources and joint funding opportunities.
- Emphasizing partnering with outside organizations, including other Interior peer retiree groups, the “Friends” groups affiliated with the Conservation Lands Foundation, and through participation in working groups on relevant topics.
- Balancing PLF’s roles as both an advocacy organization, primarily focused at the national level, with social functions for our retired members at local levels.
- Providing exclusive benefits to our dues-paying members.
- Reforming our current Board and committee structures.

Each Board member will be asked to volunteer to support at least one priority task. Board members present at the meeting made their initial choices. If you are interested in volunteering to assist us in reaching our goals or serving on the Board in the future, please contact Beau McClure at vpops@publicland.org.

2018 PLF Board of Directors Meeting Excerpts

Decisions/Actions Related to the General Session:
Don Simpson reported that on September 13, the House Committee on Natural Resources ordered H.R. 502, a bill that would permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund, to be reported in the nature of a substitute. The intention is that it will be attached to a bill that has bipartisan support.

The use of the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) was also discussed as a means of providing access to public lands. However, the downside to FLTFA is that it generates funds from BLM lands, but does not give priority to BLM acquisitions.

Exchanges and the use of easements to obtain access to public lands also were discussed.

The Board agreed to update the PLF Position Statement on “Public Access to the National System of Public Lands,” July 24, 2010, PLF 2010-09.

Moving BLM Headquarters to the West:
The proposal to move the BLM Headquarters Office to somewhere in the West was discussed. The Board believes there are many problems with such a move and that the PLF needs to develop a Position Statement identifying the problems and pointing out why it is important to keep the BLM Headquarters Office in Washington, D.C. The Board also agreed to write a letter to Brian Steed stating (and attaching) our position.

Register of BLM Retirees:
In August, Geoff Middaugh developed a paper asking, “Is there a continued purpose and need for the PLF to maintain a Register of BLM Retirees?” Eighteen responses were received with all but three recommending that the Register be discontinued.

At the Board meeting, several past experiences with mailings to persons on the Register were mentioned that indicated that approximately 30% were no longer valid addresses. Board members present felt it had passed its usefulness. Therefore, the Register of BLM Retirees will be retired.

(Continued on Page 8.)
PLF’s 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from Page 7.)

Board members also discussed the possibility of making the current list of membership maintained by the PLF Treasurer available to all PLF members so that they can use it to communicate with other members. Beau McClure pointed out that membership lists have been inappropriately used in the past by members for their personal business. There was general agreement by Board members present that the membership list would not be made available to all PLF members because of the potential for abuse of the information.

Wild Horse and Burro Position Statement: Tom Allen gave copies of his final draft Wild Horse and Burro Position Statement, dated September 11, 2018, to all Board members present along with his responses to suggestions made by Board members prior to the meeting. Board members present recommended that the Position Statement be sent to all relevant congressional committees and BLM leadership. The Position Statement was approved, subject to minor editorial changes.

“The Past and the Future” Project: Beau provided a status report on “The Past and the Future” Project, which showed the rate of completing interviews between new BLM employees attending the BLM’s Pathways Course and retirees had dropped significantly in the past two years.

As a result of the Board’s discussion, it was decided that the project should continue, but modified to focus on mentoring rather than a structured interview of both parties—the employee and the retiree. It was also suggested that the interviews no longer be recorded and the questions be modified and provided only as a starting point of discussion. State Representatives are still to be responsible for assuring that the mentoring process begins with each BLM employee in their state.

George Lea Founder’s Scholarship: Dave Stout reported that 20 students applied for the 2018-19 scholarships. Each of the committee members—George Lea, Mike Ferguson and Dave Stout—rated the same applicants as the top five, but not in the same order. As a result of a conference call among the committee members, Celina Gray of Salish Kootenai College and Kegen Benson of Montana State University were recommended to receive the scholarships. Unfortunately, neither recipient attended the PLF annual meeting.

Lifetime Service Awards: This year’s Lifetime Service Awards were presented to Tom Allen and Pete Culp at the PLF Banquet, Thursday evening, September 13, 2018, in Billings, Montana. Congratulations to both Tom and Pete for their tireless support of natural resources management.

Landscape Stewardship Awards: This year’s Landscape Stewardship Awards recognize the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Colorado Canyons Association, and the Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks. Citations for the awardees were given to Dave Mari, Maggie Wyatt and Rosemary Thomas, respectively. Beau McClure will have plaques made for each and sent to the respective PLF Board member. These members will then arrange for a ceremony in the appropriate BLM office or other venue, at which time the Citation and the plaque will be presented to the awardee.

Election of New Officers and Board Members: Ed Shepard agreed to be President for another year. And, Don Simpson agreed to be Vice President, but is not interested in being President. However, the Board recognizes the need to find someone to be Vice President who is willing to become President after a year of experience within the PLF organization. Ed also pointed out that diversity should be sought on all officer and Board positions.

Goals for 2019

• Complete the development of, and implement, the Strategic Plan—Rich Whitley and all Board members.
• Update the Position Statement on “Public Access to the National System of Public Lands”—Don Simpson, as lead.
• Develop a Position Statement and a letter to the Acting BLM Director on “Moving the BLM Headquarters to the West”—Ed Shepard, as lead.
• Continue to emphasize the importance of properly managing wild horses and burros in accordance with the PLF Position Statement on

(Continued on Page 9.)
PLF's 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from Page 8.)

Wild Horses and Burros.
- Work toward a fifth Student Congress if NAFSR will co-host.
- Continue “The Past and the Future” Project with emphasis on mentoring.
- Provide two students with interests in natural resources management with $5,000 scholarships.
- Continue to award Lifetime Service Awards, Landscape Stewardship Awards, and Professional Managerial/Technical Awards.

Next Year's Meeting: Next year's meeting will be held in Nevada in September. A committee made up of Tom Allen, Jim Curran, Butch Hayes, Dwight Hempel, Tim O'Brien, and Rosemary Thomas will discuss the PLF’s desire to hold a meeting in Nevada with the BLM and determine the venue and theme.

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD
Carson “Pete” Culp

The Public Lands Foundation grants to Carson “Pete” Culp its Lifetime Service Award for excellence in public land management. The Foundation provides this award to deserving BLM employees who have perpetuated and enhanced the proud tradition of public service.

Pete was born in Washington, D.C. and received a degree in accounting at Penn State. Pete’s career spanned 43 years: 31 in BLM, eight with the Office of Surface Mining, one with the old Bureau of the Budget, and three in the US Army.

He began his career with the BLM in 1961 as a GS-5 Accountant and rose to a Branch Chief of Budget position. Other positions Pete held over his career included Assistant Director for Lands, Realty and Resource Protection; Eastern States Director (twice); Acting Deputy Director; Acting Director; and Special Assistant to the Director for National Energy Policy.

Some of Pete's specific accomplishments include providing expertise for testimony in Congressional hearings, developing and providing training for BLM’s Annual Work Planning system, having positive involve-
ment in several controversial BLM actions such as “Rightsizing,” and salvaging the failed Automated Land and Resources Management System (ALMRS). As the Eastern States Director, Pete provided leadership in the roll out of lands records, and had numerous other accomplishments related to the wild horse program and establishment of a fire crew in the ESO. He was also credited with effectively resolving personnel and productivity issues in the Jackson District Office during his second tour as the ESO Director. Later in his career Pete co-chaired a Federal/State task force to work out issues related to the development of coal bed methane resources, an effort for which he was widely recognized.

Pete was regularly called upon to fill a variety of highest-level positions in the Washington Office. His credibility within the BLM and in the Interior Department helped to keep the BLM functioning at high levels during Administration changes.

Pete Culp (center) receives Lifetime Service Award from PLF President Ed Shepard (left) & Beau McClure.

Pete’s involvement in the establishment of the Office of Surface Mining and his seven-year career with that agency benefitted public lands through improved management of surface coal mines and abandoned mine land reclamation. His positions there included OSM’s first Assistant Director for Budget and Management. After retirement, Pete’s interests and continuing service included the PLF Board, serving as president of a local land trust in Maryland, and working for a local charity and historical society.

(Continued on Page 10.)
PLF’s 2018 ANNUAL MEETING
(Continued from Page 9.)

The Public Lands Foundation is honored to recognize Carson “Pete” Culp with this Lifetime Service Award, presented September 13, 2018 at the Foundation’s annual meeting in Billings, Montana.

/s/ Edward W. Shepard, President

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD
Thomas J. Allen

The Public Lands Foundation grants to Thomas J. Allen its Lifetime Service Award for excellence in public land management. The Foundation provides this award to deserving BLM employees who have perpetuated and enhanced the proud tradition of public service.

Tom has dedicated his life to public land management. He was born and raised in West Allis, Wisconsin, the middle of three brothers. His love of the woods started early as he enjoyed summers at his grandparents’ farm in northern Wisconsin. He played football in high school and graduated from the University of Montana in 1962 with a degree in forestry.

Tom started his career with BLM in 1962 as a Realty Specialist in the Carson City District and retired as the Alaska State Director in 1999.

In the intervening 37 years, Tom served in a variety of BLM positions with ever increasing responsibility. He held the position of Area Manager in Carson City and Folsom Districts, Budget Analyst in the California State Office, Budget Analyst and Branch Chief in the Washington Office, Desk Officer in the Office of the Secretary, Associate State Director in Arizona, Assistant Director for Administration in the Washington Headquarters Office, and finally State Director in Alaska.

Tom has always been recognized for his exceptional vision and foresight and his ability to find solutions whether for the Native Americans in the Southwest or Alaska, as well as other tough budget, personnel, land management or process problems.

Some of Tom’s specific accomplishments include resolution of Zuni access to the sacred site, Zuni Heaven; being a major player in the signing of an MOU related to fishing, hunting, and sports shooting on Federal lands; and completion of an EIS allowing for development in the National Petroleum Reserve of Alaska. Throughout his career Tom actively coached and provided opportunities to his subordinates.

Tom Allen has technically been retired for almost 20 years, yet he has continued to work tirelessly on behalf of public land issues, especially in the areas of rangeland health, wildlife, recreational shooting, and wild horse and burro management.

The Public Lands Foundation is honored to recognize Tom Allen with this Lifetime Service Award, presented September 13, 2018 at the PLF’s annual meeting in Billings, Montana.

/s/ Edward W. Shepard, President

Tom Allen (center) receives Lifetime Service Award from PLF President Ed Shepard (left) & Beau McClure.

Outstanding Public Land Professional Award
Managerial/Administrative Category
Glen Guenther

The Public Lands Foundation is proud to present the 2017 Outstanding Public Land Professional Award in the Managerial/Administrative category to Glen Guenther, Upper Snake Assistant Field Manager. Throughout his career, Glen has demonstrated a commitment to public land management, including responding positively to customer concerns, balancing (Continued on Page 11.)
the agency’s mission to appropriately manage natural resources with the desires of various competing interests, and assertively defending the agency’s position in the face of increasing political pressures and lawsuits. His initiatives have proven effective despite declining budgets and increased challenges through litigation.

With Glen’s exemplary relationship with the ranching community, and his ability to have critical conversations, permittees and BLM were able to come to an agreement for a 30% reduction in grazing for 2014, in response to persistent drought. Because each allotment and grazing operation is unique, Glen and the range specialists he supervises worked one-on-one with all the grazing permittees to design a grazing plan that worked for each specific allotment. Everyone agreed that it was important to do what was right for the land, even if that meant taking a financial hit. Getting over 200 permittees to agree to a reduction without the threat or need for a field manager decision was nothing short of a miracle.

Glen’s knowledge of the grazing program is known far and wide. Due to his expertise, he was selected to join a national team to develop outcome-based grazing strategies for the bureau. In 2017, he spent days in Reno assisting his peers in crafting policies and procedures that would allow flexibility and creativity in grazing management. As Jeremy Casterson, Upper Snake Field Manager, states, “Glen’s ability to find creative solutions to problems and think outside the box is hands down one of the most valuable leadership traits he brings to our organization.”

Glen exhibits a proactive approach in the development of his employees. He allows them to take risks, assume leadership no matter what their grade level, and encourages them to think outside the box, which has resulted in a can-do attitude among his staff. His staff of 11 are committed to public land management largely in part due to Glen’s tutelage. Glen works to foster growth within his own organization by advocating and supporting the use of other opportunities to initiate staff progression. He allows his employees opportunities to take on difficult projects while providing a good sense of work/life balance.

Glen recruits, retains, and develops employees who will carry forward his high standards for public land management. Besides his efforts to develop his employees, Glen is also interested in helping the bureau run more efficiently. He continues to teach grazing classes to young range management specialists in the bureau and uses his expertise to draft policies and procedures that make sense in the field.

Glen possesses a forthright character that “tells it like it is.” This approach has served him well in interactions with employees, peers, and community members on actions throughout the Field Office. He demonstrates an ability to cut to the heart of an issue, look for potential weaknesses, explore various possible solutions, and then talk those solutions through with affected parties. He is a firm defender of public lands and the interests of the BLM and fosters those same qualities in his staff.

Because of his commitment to public land management, the Public Lands Foundation recognizes Glen Guenther with its Outstanding Public Lands Professional Award in the Managerial/Administrative category for 2017.

/s/ Edward W. Shepard, President

Glen Guenther (center) receives 2017 Outstanding Public Land Professional Award in the Managerial/Administrative Category from Brian Steed (left), Acting BLM Director, and John Fend, PLF Director-at-Large.

(Continued on Page 12.)
PLF’s 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from Page 11.)

Outstanding Public Land Professional Award
Technical/Operational Category

Cindy Fritz

The Public Lands Foundation is proud to award Cindy Fritz, Supervisory Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) Specialist, at the Boise District, the Outstanding Public Land Professional Award in the technical/operational category. Cindy’s technical and operational work with the District has spanned over 30 years, and she has consistently demonstrated exceptional results related to the criteria established by the PLF for this award.

One of the most significant problems facing the Great Basin is the expansion of invasive annual grasses. In recent decades, the frequency of wildland fire has dramatically increased, contributing to a cycle of fire and invasive annual grasses that has led to the large-scale conversion of a historic sagebrush-steppe ecosystem into invasive grasses. This cycle has resulted in increasing fire suppression costs, loss of wildlife habitat, impacts to private property, and significant economic impacts to the livestock grazing industry. For nearly 25 years, Cindy has dedicated her career to finding innovative solutions to this widespread problem. Cindy leads the development of up to 15 post-fire rehabilitation plans per year, including working closely with interdisciplinary teams, agency partners, affected permit holders, and other stakeholders and developing treatments to enhance resistance and resilience following fires. To put this pace and longevity of work into perspective, Cindy has facilitated over 1.2 million acres of ESR treatments on public land in the Boise District over her career.

Cindy has also shown extraordinary courage in seeking the long-term benefit to public lands and resources. After the 2015 Soda Fire, Cindy faced both internal and external resistance to implementing the vision of a comprehensive approach to ESR, including layered treatments using adaptive management to improve the likelihood of success. This innovative method challenged a longstanding BLM approach to post-fire rehabilitation treatments in which a failed treatment had no further opportunity to recover and multiple-year treatments were not an option, making the success of ESR efforts heavily dependent on weather conditions in the year following a fire. Cindy recognized that the ability to re-treat an area or to develop multi-year layered treatments created new opportunities for successful treatments.

She is also regularly recognized as a leader in her field. She has been called upon for multiple public presentations to local, regional, and national organizations, and for BLM and DOI leadership. Most recently, she has been asked to lead a national “lessons learned” discussion based on her work on the Soda Fire ESR effort, and in the past two years, she has presented to the Office of Management and Budget, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, and the Wildland Fire Leadership Council, sharing her ideas and solutions for the ESR program. She is recognized by her peers as a leader in the ESR program and is frequently consulted for reviews of policy guidance, best practices, and development of treatments.

Her leadership has directly contributed to important shifts that have improved the way BLM conducts post-fire rehabilitation, including changes in the way the agency purchases and prepares seed, improvements in the design of treatments, and efficiencies in structuring and staffing a program to ensure timely implementation during key seasons. Her contributions have increased

Cindy Fritz (center) receives 2017 Outstanding Public Land Professional Award in the Technical/Operational Category from Brian Steed (left), Acting BLM Director, and John Fend, PLF Director-at-Large.

(Continued on Page 13.)
the success of the BLM's program over time and her work has made a difference in management of public lands.

Because of her consistent demonstration of exceptional results, the Public Lands Foundation is pleased to recognize Cindy Fritz with its Outstanding Public Lands Professional Award in the Technical/Operational category for 2017.

/s/ Edward W. Shepard, President

Fourth Student Congress
Mike Ferguson

Twenty young women and eight young men recently convened in Baker City, Oregon for the Fourth Student Congress. Participants were selected from a group of 65 applications received. These college students and recent grads represented twelve states and Canada. The theme this year was the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers and National Trails Acts. The event was the result of a partnership effort between PLF, BLM, The River Management Society, and the Partnership for the National Trails System.

Before getting down to the business of developing recommendations, the participants were treated to a living history presentation by Joyce Badgley Hunsaker as she reprised her role as Fanny McNeal who described her personal experiences as a pioneer moving west.

The service project this year was along the Wallowa River across from the Minam Store. The students built a fence (including filling several rock cairns), repaired and stained picnic tables, and assembled some outdoor furniture. Several pictures and a video of the project have been posted on the PLF website. For all their hard work, the students were rewarded with about 45 minutes of splash and giggle time in the Wallowa River.

As with previous Student Congresses, this group came up with a series of recommendations for consideration in future policy development. Some of the recommendations mirrored recommendations from earlier Student Congresses to expand collaboration, improve Tribal involvement and make better use of current technology.

There were also some noteworthy new ideas, which included:

1. Conduct qualitative studies of public viewpoints as a supplement to the variety of quantitative studies undertaken by a variety of organizations. Qualitative studies present a statistical evaluation of how various people respond to a variety of questions. They tell very little about why people respond the way they do. Qualitative surveys provide information about why people feel the way they do, but do not provide any statistical reliability. Taken together, these surveys could provide a great deal of insight to managers and policy makers.

2. Broaden the Narrative. Much of the history of this country is told from the perspective of white settlers. In order to more fully understand our history, historical information from other perspectives should be included. A variety of cultures played pivotal roles in developing the United States. They should be a part of the story.

These recommendations will be presented to the BLM Director and Secretary of the Interior in the coming months. One of the participants will be selected to participate in that presentation.

As a follow-up to the Student Congress, eleven of the 28 participants received scholarships to attend the joint Rivers and Trails Symposium in Vancouver Washington in October. These scholarships were provided by the River Management Society, Partnership for the National Trail System and the National Park Service.

Backgrounds on participants, as well as photos and a video of the Fourth Student Congress can be found at www.publicland.org.

New Student Congress Representative Named to PLF Board of Directors

AnnaFaith Jorgensen has just been named to the PLF Board of Directors for a two-year term. AnnaFaith was a member of both the third and fourth Student Congress. She was a student at Prescott College in Arizona when she participated in the third Student Congress in New Mexico. Her thoughtful participation and leadership, even though she was the youngest member of the group,
PLF's 2018 ANNUAL MEETING  
(Continued from Page 13.)

was the reason she was invited back to participate in the fourth Student Congress and help maintain some continuity.

AnnaFaith is looking for a career either in public service or a conservation oriented non-profit. Last year she was selected as a Student Conservation Association Intern working with raptors in Acadia National Park in Maine, and later as an SCA Visitor Services Intern at the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge in Massachusetts.

As a veteran of two Student Congresses, AnnaFaith has offered to help with the planning of the fifth Student Congress in 2020. We welcome AnnaFaith to the PLF Board of Directors.

AnnaFaith will replace Mackenzie Case. Mackenzie was a participant in the third Student Congress and has been on the PLF Board for the past two years. The PLF Board would like to thank Mackenzie for her service over the past two years. She has been a very active and engaged Board member. In addition to her regular Board duties, Mackenzie also put together an update on where participants from the previous three Student Congresses have ended up. Her analysis showed that about 20% of the participants went on to careers in the federal government. Thank you, Mackenzie, for all of your hard work.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR CREDIT UNION OPPORTUNITY

We are pleased to announce a new benefit for members of the Public Lands Foundation - Credit Union membership! Interior Federal Credit Union (FCU) serves its members 24/7 through online and mobile banking, call center employees, 5,500 shared-branches, and 55,000 ATMs nationwide. With some of the best interest/loan rates in the country, you can become a member with just a $25 deposit into a savings account. Learn more at www.interiorfcu.org.

BALLOT FOR 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Be sure to fill out the 2019 Board of Directors ballot, which is an insert in this 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. We are especially in need of a State Representative in Oregon. Please consider paying your 2019 dues when you send in your ballot.

DONATIONS 
GENERAL FUND
Henri Bisson 
Terry Genz
Gregg & Mary Simmons (3 Donations)

Scholarship Fund
Louis Bellesi David Cavanaugh
Richard Hopkins Mary LeNoe
Gregg & Mary Simmons (3 Donations)
Elaine Zielinski Charles Switzer

STUDENT CONGRESS
Conservation Lands Foundation
Jim Caswell Mike Ferguson
Linda Hofman Gary Marsh
Beau McClure

MEMBERSHIP DUES ABOVE $35.00
Contributing Member
Fran Cherry Mike Crouse
Larry Evans James Skillen

Sustaining Member
Phillip Allard

Comments from your PLF Secretary

I have decided to step down as the PLF Secretary and as co-editor of the PLF Monitor. I have asked Ray Brady to succeed me, and he has agreed to be on the next ballot for PLF officers. I have enjoyed this opportunity and offer my full support to Ray in this transition. Thank you all for what you do for the Public Lands Foundation.
IN MEMORIAM

Editor Errata: I would like to correct an omission from previous editions. This note came from Russ Kaldenberg: Sadly, I would like to share with you, for the In Memoriam, that my friend and mentor, William Howard “Bill” “Ole” Olsen passed away on his 86th birthday (March 7, 2017). Bill was California’s first State Archaeologist for BLM in Sacramento, serving 17 years, from 1974-1992. He served 7 more years as a retired annuitant working on NAGPRA collections and tribal repatriation issues.

Charles E. Adkins after completing a BA in archaeology at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, he worked 20 years for BLM as an archeologist, mostly on the North Slope, Fairbanks District Office, AK, on July 21, 2018, in Granville, NY.

Florence Ann Chaffin retired as Executive Assistant in the Arizona State Office, on July 15, 2018, in Peoria, AZ.

Mary J. Hanson lived in various communities including Safford, AZ, Worland, Rock Springs and Rawlins, WY, Reno, NV and Anchorage, AK (Anchorage, DO, AK) before moving to Lander, WY, in 2005. Over her 31-year federal career she worked for the VOA, Forest Service, Federal Aviation Administration, and retired from the Bureau of Land Management as an Environmental Coordinator, on August 24, 2018, in Lander, WY.

Sally Joan Haverly was a lead Realty Specialist in the Rock Springs District Office, and retired in 1998, on March 31, 2018, in Green River, WY.

Kenneth Ray Hock was a receptionist in the Bakersfield Field Office, CA, on July 2, 2018, in Bakersfield, CA.

Linda E. Kipp worked for the BLM in records management, specializing in oil and gas leasing and mining claims in the Arizona State Office, on July 6, 2018, in Phoenix, AZ.

Kenneth Paul Knothe was a BLM Range Specialist in Burns, OR, on June 20, 2018, in Ontario, OR.

Dwight Lanterman Patton was a Forester in Coos Bay District Office, Medford, OR, Nevada State Office (Reno) and Assistant Director for Minerals in the Washington Office, and District Manager in Eugene, OR, on July 15, 2018, in Lynchburg, VA.

Joseph Michael McFarlan worked as a geologist in the Cedarville Resource Area, CA, on September 15, 2018, in Cedarville, CA.

Phillip H. Perry worked for the Bureau of Land Management, starting in 1969. He was the District Fire Control and Safety Officer, Malta District Office, MT and Lewistown District Office, MT, on August 3, 2018, in Missoula, MT.

Richard “Dick” Rademacher was a BLM Forester in the Eugene District Office, OR, on June 6, 2018, in Eugene, OR.

Quitman P. Rawls (Phil) worked in the Boise District for 17 years, on September 1, 2018, in Boise, ID.

Joe Russell worked as a geologist in the Anchorage District Office, AK, passed in September 2018, in Anchorage, AK.

Larry M. Shults retired in 2005 from the BLM where he worked as a Natural Resource Specialist in Oil and Gas, White River Field Office, Meeker, CO and as the Planner for the Ironwood Forest National Monument, Tucson Field Office, on July 19, 2018, in Fruita, CO.

Corinna Simmons worked in the Pinedale Field Office, WY (2001-2016) and Buffalo Field Office (2016-2018), on September 4, 2018, in Buffalo, WY.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Received from: In Memory of:
Tom Allen Hal Ramsbacher
Carolyn Droscher Connie Grant (Scholarship)
Chareatha Patton Dwight L. Patton
Franklin (Scholarship)
Dwight Hempel John Cook and Louis Carufel
Rebecca Johnson Kelly R. Johnson, Linda Kipp
Marv LeNoue & Florence Chaffin
Berrell Hirschi (General Fund)
Marv LeNoue Jim Parker (General Fund)
Marv LeNoue Harold Stickcomb (General Fund)
Dave Mari Larry LaPlant
Louise Senzel Irving and Jennie Senzel
Sharon Wilson (General Fund)
Lou Carufel, Larry Knapman
& Linda Mosely (Student Congress
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _______________________________________
Address ______________________________________
City ___________ ST _____ Zip _________
Phone ________________________________________
Email _________________________________________
Date _________________________________________

Public Lands Foundation Goals
- Keep lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in public ownership and open to use by the public.
- 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
☐ $50 Contributing
☐ $50 Family
☐ $100 Sustaining
☐ $200 Sponsoring
☐ $500 or more Patron

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE - $350

Public Lands Foundation
P.O. Box 7226
Arlington, VA 22207

Public Lands Foundation
P.O. Box 7226
Arlington, VA 22207

Public Lands Foundation
P.O. Box 7226
Arlington, VA 22207

Return Service Requested

WHAT'S INSIDE?
President's Column ____________________________ 2
PLF Annual Meeting: __________________________ 1
Field Tour __________________________________ 1
General Membership Meeting 1-5
Barbecue and Banquet 5-6
Silent Auction ________________________________ 6
Group Picture _________________________________ 6
Board Strategic Planning Activities ____________ 7
Board Meeting Excerpts 7-9
Awards _____________________________________ 9-13
Fourth Student Congress ______________________ 13
Ballot for 2019 Board of Directors ____________ 14
Donations ___________________________________ 14
In Memoriam ________________________________ 15

THE PUBLIC LANDS FOUNDATION IS A TAX EXEMPT 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION
Your continued financial help is needed to pay for the operating costs of the PLF. Please consider the Special Dues Categories printed on the address page of the Monitor in paying your dues.

If you have not already done so, please enclose your 2019 annual dues of $35 with your ballot. Please mark your ballot and return on or before December 15, 2018. Send your ballot to P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207. National Representatives—vote for all; State Representatives—vote for only your state.

**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 2019. Write-ins are permissible. Please mark your ballot and return on or before December 15, 2018. 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)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Representatives</th>
<th>(Write-In)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Edward Shepard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Pres.</td>
<td>Don Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Pres., Operations</td>
<td>Beau McClure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointed Vice Pres., DC Affairs</td>
<td>Elena Daly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Ray Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Dwight Hempel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Tom Allen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Dean Bibles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Glen Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Jim Curriwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>John Fend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Mike Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Eric Janes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>John Kwiatkowski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Van Manning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Dave Mari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Don Meares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Mat Millenbach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Tim O’Brien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Linda Rundell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>George Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Rich Whitley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Maggie Wyatt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-at-Large</td>
<td>Elaine Zielinski</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**State Representatives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Sharon Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Beau McClure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Nancy Haug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>David Stout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>Anna Steele</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Richard Hopkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>Ev “Butch” Hayes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>Rosemary Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>Bill Lamb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Geoff Middaugh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>Bill LeBarron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest &amp; East. States</td>
<td>Bob Anderson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments: ________________________________________________________________________________________________

Signed ___________________________ Date __________ Address ____________________________