



For America's Heritage

# THE PUBLIC LANDS Monitor

Editors:  
Patricia Harvey  
Ray Brady

Address: P.O. Box 7226 Arlington, VA 22207  
Website: [www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org)

Phone: 703-935-0916  
Email: [info@publicland.org](mailto:info@publicland.org)

Board of Directors:  
President Ed Shepard  
Vice Pres. Don Simpson  
VP- DC Affairs Elena Daly  
(appointed)  
VP-Ops. Beau McClure  
Secretary Ray Brady  
Treasurer Dwight Hempel  
Student Cong: AnnaFaith  
Jorgensen  
Past Pres. George Lea  
Henri Bisson  
Ed Shepard  
Jesse Juen

Directors-at-Large:  
Tom Allen  
Dean Bibbes  
Ray Brady  
Glen Collins  
Jim Curriuan  
John Fend  
Mike Ferguson  
Eric Janes  
John Kwiatkowski  
Van Manning  
Dave Mari  
Mat Millenbach  
Tim O'Brien  
George Stone  
Rosemary Thomas  
Rich Whitley  
Maggie Wyatt  
Elaine Zielinski

State Representatives:  
AK Sharon Wilson  
AZ Beau McClure  
CA Nancet Haug  
CO David Stout  
ID Anna Steele  
MT Richard Hopkins  
NV Ev (Butch) Hayes  
NM Jesse Juen  
OR Jerry Magee  
UT Bill Lamb  
WA Geoff Middaugh  
WY Bill LeBarron  
Midwest Bob Anderson  
& East. States

VOLUME XXXII No. 1

SPRING QUARTER 2019

## 2019 PLF ANNUAL MEETING — RENO, NEVADA

September 10-13, 2019

The next PLF Annual Meeting will be held at the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino in Reno, Nevada, on September 10-13, 2019.

Members of the Board of Directors and others interested in attending the board meeting on Tuesday, September 10, should plan to arrive in Reno on Monday, September 9. Wednesday, September 11, will consist of a BLM tour and an evening barbecue. A full-day meeting is planned for Thursday, September 12. A PLF banquet and silent auction will be held on the evening of September 12. The Board of Directors will meet again on Friday morning through noon, September 13.

The Peppermill Resort Spa Casino is located at 2707 South Virginia Street, Reno, Nevada 89502. We have reserved North Wing Single King rooms at a rate of \$85.00 per night, plus room tax (currently 13%), and a Tourism Surcharge (currently \$2.00 per night). Double beds or rollaway requests will be subject to a \$20 charge for each additional bed, plus room tax.

Reservations are subject to an early departure fee of \$50 plus room tax in the event of departure prior to confirmed check-out date. Reservations are subject to a

charge of one night's room and room tax and Tourism Surcharge if cancelled less than 24 hours before the scheduled arrival date.

Guest accommodations will be available beginning at 3:00 p.m. on arrival day and reserved until 11:00 a.m. on departure day.

The Hotel Resort Fee (normally \$30.00) will be reduced to \$15.00 per room, per night. Amenities include:

- Shuttle service to and from the Reno Tahoe International Airport daily from 4 a.m.-11:45 p.m.
- Business center access including incoming and outgoing faxes (up to 5 pages)
- Use of valet, EV Charging Stations, access to the parking garage and surface parking
- Use of the health club, pool and concierge
- Local and #800 phone calls
- In-room refrigerators
- Microwaves and cribs available upon request
- In-room coffee with Keurig Coffee Maker
- Two (2) bottles of water per night.
- Complimentary wireless internet

(Continued on Page 3.)

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



Ed Shepard

What a way to start off the New Year, with our Government partially shut down. This is becoming the norm, and it is no way to run anything, let alone the government of the largest economy in the world. I won't try to partial-out blame for the shutdown, except to say it was

not the fault of the rank and file BLM employees that put their boots on and go to work every day. Or should I say, want to go to work every day. In my opinion the fault lies with both the executive and legislative branches that are too accepting of kicking the can down the road until the last minute, creating a crisis, and then using it to try to increase power and position for the next election. This is not fair to the taxpayers, the users of the public lands, those that are dependent on public lands and their uses for their livelihoods, and it certainly is not fair to the employees that just want to do their job.

Okay, now that I've vented, I'll quit rambling and just say that I am grateful for the BLM employees and those of the other land management agencies that show incredible resiliency and come to work with a positive attitude and just want to get on with business and pick up where they left off on December 21, 2018.

During the shutdown, Interior also lost a Secretary with the resignation of Ryan Zinke. David Bernhardt has been acting for the past few months and has been nominated to become the next Secretary of the Interior. He is slated for a hearing soon and may possibly be confirmed by the time this edition of the *Monitor* goes to print. There has been some of the normal shuffling of political personnel within the Department due to the changing of the guard and the post mid-term changes. There continue to be many vacancies that have not been filled since the administration change in January 2017, and hopefully the new Secretary will move to fill those positions as quickly as possible.

BLM positions are slowly being filled. Mike Nedd has moved back down the hall to serve as the Deputy Director for Operations, John Ruhs has assumed the Idaho State Director position, and Chad Padgett is the

new Alaska State Director. We welcome Chad as a new addition to the BLM and the leadership team. We wish all of these folks success in their new positions. This leaves Oregon/Washington, California, and Montana State Directors yet to be filled, and, if my count is right, five Assistant Directors. Brian Steed continues to serve as Deputy Director for Policy and Programs "exercising the authority of the Director." I understand that Brian is working lists on at least some of these positions.

I had the opportunity to testify before the House Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies on February 26 on the BLM's FY 2020 budget. The President's budget proposal had not yet actually been released, so we spoke to some of the major priorities we saw facing BLM, including programs that provide for healthy, resilient landscapes; the conservation of species dependent on the diverse habitats the BLM manages; the economic benefits to the Nation and to rural communities dependent on BLM-managed public lands; "all of the above" energy and associated transmission; and the safety of communities the public lands surround and the public that lives near and uses the public lands. More specifically, we supported funding for traditional and renewable energy and planning for the associated infrastructure this development requires. This development requires balanced funding to support the multiple use mandate of FLPMA. We spoke to the need to fund management for species conservation, particularly sage-grouse and other sagebrush steppe species, and the coordination of that management with state and local partners. The PLF also asked for adequate funding to address the overpopulation of wild horses and burros and to address the land health issues this overpopulation is causing. We asked for funding in support of the Executive and Secretarial Orders on promoting active forest and rangeland management to reduce wildland fire risks and improve conditions. The last points made were in opposition of the BLM headquarters move to an undetermined location in the West and a statement supporting the employees. We also asked the Subcommittee to do what they could to avoid future government shutdowns. You can read the entire witness statement on the PLF website at [www.publicland.org/Advocacy&Issues/Letters&Testimony](http://www.publicland.org/Advocacy&Issues/Letters&Testimony).

(Continued on Page 3.)



**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN***(Continued from Page 2.)*

Also in February, Beau, Mike Ferguson, and I attended the National Association of Forest Service Retirees Board meeting in Phoenix. The NAFSR has a lot of work on their plate, and much of it aligns with PLF's issues. There are a lot of areas where we are working together and many more where we could be. Our voice is stronger together. Between the two organizations, we have experience managing nearly 440 million acres of the Nation's public lands.

In the past several weeks the PLF has been asked to give briefings on the Hill to committee staffs on several programs, including range management, energy, and oil and gas. Ray Brady has been instrumental in pulling together retired employees in the Washington area to help with these briefings. These briefings are another way that PLF can provide its perspective to the Hill. Thanks, Ray, for your work on this.

Yes, Congress can work together in a bipartisan way when they want to. The President on March 12 signed into law S. 47, The John D. Dingell Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (formerly the Natural Resources Management Act). This new law combined into one Act several issues that have been languishing in Congress for several years. The PLF has supported this Act for some time and, although there are parts that could have been better, it represents a balanced approach that the PLF and most of our partners could agree with, and it received overwhelming support. The Act permanently reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund and provides for increased access to the public lands for recreation and other uses.

Rich Whitley and the awards committee are actively looking for nominees from BLM for the two Outstanding Professional Awards. We have asked BLM leadership for their help in spreading the word to nominate the many deserving employees that should be considered for recognition. We are extending the deadline until May 10. Please make contact with your friends at BLM and ask that they submit nominees to the appropriate State Director. I also ask the PLF state representatives to personally call your State Director and ask that they encourage nominations for these awards. The criteria for the awards can be found on the PLF website at [www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org).

I also want to highlight an online membership survey that the PLF is currently conducting and encourage you to complete the survey before the end of April. The survey is important to provide feedback from our members on our advocacy activities and communication tools, and to assist with our ongoing strategic planning efforts. Additional information on the survey is provided later in this edition of the *Monitor*.

Finally, it is not too early to start making your plans to attend the PLF Annual Meeting in Reno, on September 10 - 13. I hope that you all enjoy the spring and I hope to see you in Reno in September.

---

**2019 PLF ANNUAL MEETING —  
RENO, NEVADA**
*(Continued from Page 1.)*

You must make your own reservations by calling **1-866-821-9996** and provide group code **CPBLF19** no later than August 16, 2019. Please mention the **Public Lands Foundation** in order to receive the discounted group rate. You can also make reservations on line at <https://book.passkey.com/e/49848764>.

Additional meeting information will be provided in the Summer edition of the *Monitor*. If you have any questions, please contact Beau McClure by email at [vpops@publicland.org](mailto:vpops@publicland.org), or by phone at (623) 587-7883.

---

**MEMBERSHIP SURVEY**

**W**e're excited to announce that we're conducting our first online membership survey and want to hear from YOU! The survey centers on four themes: (1) PLF's advocacy activities; (2) communicating with your Board members; (3) our communication tools; and (4) membership matters. The survey should take about ten minutes to complete. We seek your input for our ongoing strategic and annual planning efforts. The survey is anonymous.

We sent an email announcing the survey to all members (for whom we have an email address) and we thank those who have responded. If you haven't taken

*(Continued on Page 4.)*



## MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

(Continued from Page 3.)

the survey, please do so using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9HVSSBB>. **The survey will close on Tuesday, April 30.** Afterward, we will compile and analyze the data, prepare a report and share it with you.

### Do We Have Your Current Email Address?

Please help us keep our records current. It's easy to do on our website at:

[www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org) >Membership>Update Membership Information.

### Annual Dues

This is also a reminder that Annual Dues were due in January and that a lot of members have not paid their 2019 dues. Please promptly pay your dues to avoid being dropped from our membership rolls.

## REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PLF'S LANDSCAPE STEWARDSHIP AWARDS

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 public lands administered by the BLM. PLF members and BLM employees are encouraged to submit nominations by August 1, 2019. Winners will be determined at the PLF Board of Directors meeting in Reno, Nevada, in September, and they will be announced and recognized soon thereafter.

The BLM has a variety of land use plans and projects that are intended to address the use, allocation and improvement of the public lands administered by the BLM. Organizations and individuals outside of government are often the catalysts for demonstrating effective approaches for achieving good stewardship of these lands and resources. Good stewardship may be defined as an ethic that embodies cooperative planning and management of resources by agencies, organizations, communities and others actively engaged to prevent loss of resources and facilitate their improvement in the interest of long-term sustainability. PLF's Landscape

Stewardship Award honors the work done by private citizens/groups who work to advance and sustain community-based stewardship on a landscape scale that includes, in whole or in part, lands administered by the BLM. The focus on landscapes is intended to be broad in nature versus small-scale, local, project-oriented efforts.

The organizations, groups and individuals typically envisioned for this award are those who took a leadership role to address landscape-scale issues. Emphasis is on individual local citizens or groups comprised of local citizens who are typically all-volunteer without paid staff. A good example would be a coalition of individuals or citizen groups joining together to address issues within a certain landscape to bring about improved stewardship.

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](http://www.publicland.org) >About>Awards>Landscape Stewardship Awards.

Please send nominations by August 1, 2019, by email to [dmari@publicland.org](mailto:dmari@publicland.org).

## REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PLF'S LIFETIME SERVICE AWARDS

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.

Nominations are welcome from all sources, including BLM employees and organizational units, PLF members, interest groups associated with various public land issues, and local and state governmental officials.

Nominations may be for any career BLM employee regardless of job grade, position profession, etc. Nominees must have had a career that lasted at least 30 years, of which 20 or more years were with the BLM. This requirement may be waived if the nominee substantially completed the time and the career was

(Continued on Page 5.)



## REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PLF'S LIFETIME SERVICE AWARDS

*(Continued from Page 4.)*

terminated by death or disablement. Nominations must have one endorsement by someone who has knowledge of the nominee's accomplishments.

The PLF Lifetime Service Award evaluation factors are listed on the Awards page of the PLF website at [www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org) >About>Awards>Awards to BLM Managers and Employees>Award Criteria.

If you want to nominate someone, please send the nomination and endorsement by August 1, 2019 to Maggie Wyatt, Chair, Lifetime Service Awards Committee, 2523 Falls View Circle, Grand Junction, Colorado 81505-1073; or preferably by email to [51booklover@gmail.com](mailto:51booklover@gmail.com).

## REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PLF'S PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

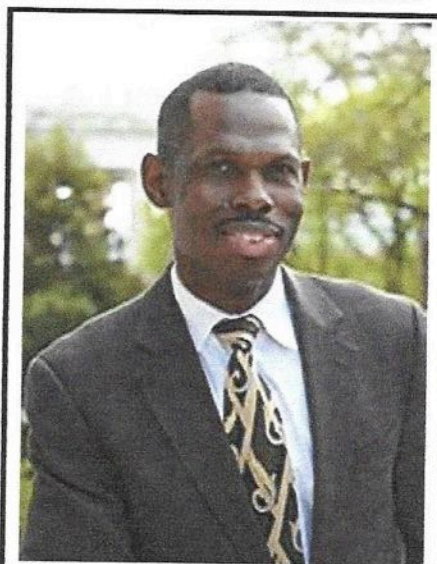
One of the principal goals of the Public Lands Foundation is the support of professionalism in public land management. To help achieve this objective, the PLF has established two Public Lands Professional Awards, one for the *Technical/Operational* disciplines and one for the *Managerial/Administrative*. This is the 26th year the PLF has given these national annual awards to active or recently active BLM employees who have demonstrated outstanding professional performance during the past two years. These awards are focused on recent accomplishments rather than a career of service with BLM.

Nominations are requested by May 10, 2019 for those individuals that are deserving of national recognition. Send nominations, following the criteria provided on the Awards page of the PLF website at [www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org) >About>Awards>Awards to BLM Managers and Employees>Award Criteria to Richard Whitley, PLF Professional Awards Chairman, preferably via e-mail to [Richard\\_Whitley3@msn.com](mailto:Richard_Whitley3@msn.com). You may also send your nomination by mail to Richard Whitley at 5490 West Melinda Lane, Glendale, Arizona 85308. Last year's nominations that were not selected will also automatically be included in this year's consideration.

The PLF Awards Committee will review the nominations against the criteria for the Awards, select awardees in each category and secure concurrence from the PLF President. An Awards Ceremony, in the BLM Director's office followed by a tour, meeting the leadership of several national organizations, will honor the award recipients in Washington, D.C. early next year.

## DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS – MICHAEL NEDD

Acting Director Brian Steed on February 27, 2019, officially announced the selection of Michael Nedd as the BLM Deputy Director for Operations in the Washington D.C. office. Prior to his selection as Deputy Director, Nedd served as Assistant Director for Energy, Minerals and Realty Management. He has held numerous leadership positions within the BLM, including Acting Director, State Director, Associate State Director, Deputy Chief Information Officer and Deputy Assistant Director. Prior to joining the BLM, Nedd worked for the National Park Service, the State of South Carolina, and several private organizations. He also spent more than eight years on active duty in the military as an officer and enlisted soldier in several highly specialized units. Nedd holds a Master's Degree in Information and Systems Management from Strayer University and undergraduate degrees in Information and Systems Management and Business Administration.

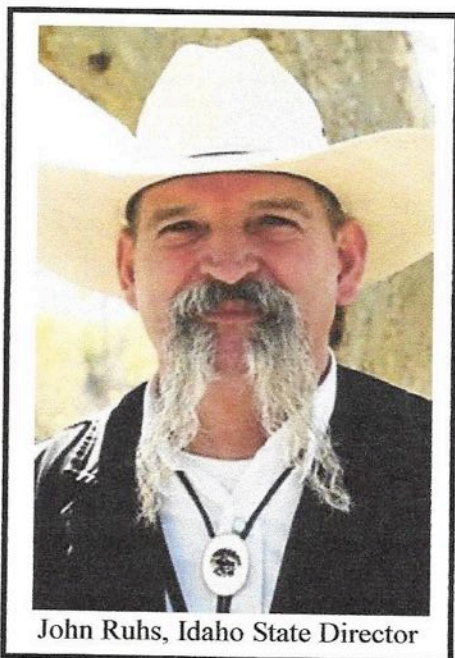


Mike Nedd, Deputy Director for  
Operations



## IDAHO STATE DIRECTOR – JOHN RUHS

Acting Director Brian Steed on February 27, 2019, officially announced the appointment of John Ruhs as the Director of the BLM Idaho State Office. Ruhs, a 30-year BLM employee, had most recently served as the Director of Fire and Aviation at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho, and prior to that as the State Director of the Nevada State Office and State Director for the Eastern States Office. He had also served for a period of time as the Acting Deputy Director of Operations in the Washington, D.C. headquarters office. Ruhs was born into a farming family in Iowa and left home at the age of 17 to join the Marines and later earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Sciences from the University of Idaho. He began his BLM career in the late 1980s in Vale, Oregon as a seasonal Range Technician monitoring livestock use on the public lands and later held field manager positions in Kremmling, CO; Ely, NV; and Rock Springs, WY. His experience includes work in the fire program, range program, wild horse and burro program, and mineral leasing.



John Ruhs, Idaho State Director

## ALASKA STATE DIRECTOR – CHAD PADGETT

Acting Director Brian Steed on February 27, 2019 announced the appointment of Chad Padgett as the Director of the BLM Alaska State Office. Padgett served

for the past 10 years as the Alaska State Director to Congressman Don Young of Alaska, and has a broad range of knowledge on Alaska issues. From 2001 to 2009, Padgett served as Alaska State Executive Director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency and also served for two years in a dual role as acting State Director for USDA Rural Development. Earlier in his career, he worked in Congressman Young's state office as Deputy District Director overseeing the operation of five offices in Alaska and working closely with many Federal agencies including the BLM. Padgett has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and International Relations from Boise State University.



Chad Padgett, Alaska State Director

## BLM STATE DIRECTORS

There have been many recent changes in the leadership positions of the BLM and it seems timely to provide an update on the current State Directors that provide the day-to-day on-the-ground management for our public lands. The following are the current State Directors for each of the BLM State Offices:

Alaska State Office	–	Chad Padgett
Arizona State Office	–	Raymond Suazo
California State Office	–	Joe Stout (Acting)
Colorado State Office	–	Jaime Connell
Eastern States Office	–	Karen Mouritsen
Idaho State Office	–	John Ruhs
Montana State Office	–	Don Judice (Acting)
Nevada State Office	–	Jon Raby

(Continued on Page 7.)



## BLM STATE DIRECTORS

(Continued from Page 6.)

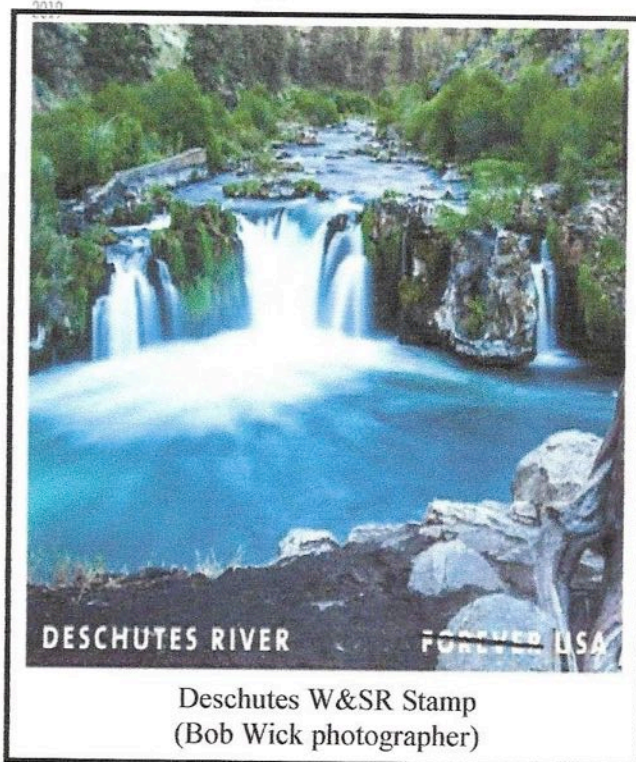
New Mexico State Office –	Tim Spisak
OR/WA State Office –	Theresa Hanley (Acting)
Utah State Office –	Ed Roberson
Wyoming State Office –	Mary Jo Rugwell

## WILD & SCENIC RIVER STAMPS

The U.S. Postal Service will release on May 21, 2019, in Bend, Oregon, a new set of stamps that celebrates Wild and Scenic Rivers in America. The pane of 12 different designs features photographs that represent the more than 200 rivers or river segments designated within the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was created in 1968 by Congress to preserve sections of rivers with outstanding natural, cultural and recreational values. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Act was celebrated in 2018. The rivers depicted on the sheet of Forever stamps include the Merced River (CA), Owyhee River (OR), Koyukuk River (AK), Niobrara River (NE), Snake River (ID/OR), Flathead River (MT), Missouri River (MT - **Bob Wick, staff photographer for the BLM**), Skagit River (WA), Deschutes River (OR - **Bob Wick, BLM, photographer**), Tlikakila River (AK), Ontonagon River (MI), and Clarion River (PN - **Bob Wick, BLM, photographer**).

Bob Wick is a household name around the BLM, and his amazing landscape photographs draw people to the public lands. His photographs have been widely used in national publications and in the media, and over the years his photographs have served as invitations to experience BLM-managed public lands. Bob began working for the BLM in Canon City, Colorado, in 1988 as a seasonal employee. He later became the District recreation and wilderness lead. In 1993, he joined BLM-California's Ukiah Field Office as the wilderness program lead. In 1995, he became the recreation planner at the King Range National Conservation Area in California, the first NCA designated on BLM public lands. He has been in the BLM California State Office since 2010 and working as a BLM Washington Office national resource. Congratulations to Bob on the selection of his photographs for 3 of the stamps in this

special recognition of some of the Wild and Scenic Rivers on our amazing public lands.



Deschutes W&SR Stamp  
(Bob Wick photographer)

## THE TALE OF THE BLM BAND – 2004 - 2011 By Chip Calamaio – BLM National Training Center (1985 – 2015)



(Continued on Page 8.)



## THE TALE OF THE BLM BAND

(Continued from Page 7.)

I clearly remember sitting on the floor at home one winter's day putting a big BLM logo on the front of my bass drum, thinking "*I never thought in a million years that these two worlds would ever come together.*" After workin' the phones, a guy at the sign shop in Rawlins sent me a big stick-on logo, because as the drummer of the newly formed BLM band, I sure wanted to "Show the Colors" at our first performance.

A BLM Band? Now just how did that even happen? Here's the creation myth as it was told to me.



BLM Band on Stage

In the fall of 2003, there was a national leadership meeting in Denver of top Forest Service and BLM honchos. At an after-hours get together, the finger pickin' Fiddling Foresters performed and pulled some BLM managers up on stage for some good-natured musical fun and games. With roots going back to the late 70s, those fiddlers and finger-pickers are a group of Colorado-based Forest Service musicians that started out playing for fun, then ended up doing official public outreach, interpretive and environmental education shows since the mid '90s. After they'd snapped their fiddles back into the cases, as Sally Wisely tells it, "Showing great leadership, a bunch of BLM State Directors adjourned to the bar, where the collective agreement was, "*Hey that was sure a lot of fun...let's get us one of those!*" The next morning the topic of a BLM band was added to the ELT agenda where a decision was reached to form a band with State Directors Elaine Zielinski, Henry Bisson and Sally Wisely raising their hands to take on the challenge as sponsors. And as they say, the rest is history; a unique piece of BLM history.

It's actually kind of a blur just how the first band

came together. Spearheaded by our ELT sponsors, it was mostly by word-of-mouth based on BLM musicians who knew each other.

I first heard about it from NTC's training coordinator Barb Holloway after she was told management wanted a band of BLMers to perform at the first 2004 Pathways course in February, just a few short months away. Pathways is the national professional development course for new employees offered in February and May each year. I called Randy Hayes in Denver, an old electric guitar rocker who also played the accordion, of all things. He thought it sounded like fun. From Kingman came guitar players Bob Hall, Josey Elefritz and Ruben Sanchez. Banjo player Owen Billingsley from Susanville went for it, Jake Schlapfer from Anchorage had a traveling case for his guitar and thought, "Sure why not." Eric Jones from Moab got the word and jumped in on mandolin and dobro, Bill O'Sullivan from Eugene also brought down his mandolin, and Bob's wife Michelle agreed to play stand-up base as a BLM volunteer. Geez, so with me as the drummer, we suddenly had a band.

It was quite a scramble to put together that first performance. In 2003 between Thanksgiving and Christmas we had a brainstorming and planning meeting at NTC with a handful of musicians and public affairs specialists from Alaska and Arizona. Creative juices went into high gear. We came up with an over-arching diversity theme for the band based upon BLM's diverse mission and diverse program areas, our diverse land base, our diverse customers, and our diverse workforce. We also cooked up the idea of including a cowboy poet and program narrator. Luckily Howard Lemm from Montana joined us with his inspirational "Riding for the Brand" poem and some other fun tales and cowboy yarns. We decided to augment live music with videos and visuals, including the 1980s BLM Rap Video, and to perform the wild horse song "Running in the West" live while the video of that tune was playing. Ruben Sanchez had composed a song about multiple-use, which was spot-on, and we decided to put together some BLM versions of songs by John Fogerty and the Rolling Stones. Being the Christmas season, during a lunch break we even knocked out a wacko audience participation sing-a-long

(Continued on Page 9.)



## THE TALE OF THE BLM BAND

(Continued from Page 8.)

parody, "The 12 Days of FLPMA." We also had a section of fast finger pickin' folk music and some really dumb jokes. "*So, What does BLM Stand For Anyways? – Bureau of Long Meetings!*" And we figured our kick-off song, after the national anthem, just had to be Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land."

Our ELT sponsors had given us a planning document for "band messaging" which included things like, "*Serving Communities & Partnerships – To safeguard property and financial assets while improving quality of life for communities and trust beneficiaries.*" Being not sure just how to come up with a toe-tappin' song about all of THAT, we crossed our fingers that what we'd ginned up would do the trick anyways.

After that initial planning meeting everyone went off and started working on the details. The musicians focused on the songs, custom lyrics, and arrangements. We got the NTC media production team to start sorting out the extensive audio, staging, and video tech support. The Alaska State Office put together an amazing animated PowerPoint presentation that we ran on two screens during the show, and the Arizona State Office worked up printed programs. A custom band logo for the "Multiple Use Minstrels" was created and a basic business plan was written, modeled off what those Fiddling Foresters used. To keep us squeaky clean I even arranged for a special BMI Performance License, so we were totally cool with Mick Jagger's copyright.

Travel was booked for the first show in Phoenix and in typical BLM fashion, "Pilot Test" was hung on the whole bit of business, which some fancied as quite a questionable endeavor! It was actually pretty amazing the first time we all met for a rehearsal in the NTC TV studio. We had only a few short days to put together a live performance and everybody was pretty pumped, while at the same time we were looking around at each other thinking, "Just what have I got myself into now?" As we were getting to know each other, I was immediately impressed by what an amazing group of talented musicians we had, thinking, "A lot of these folks are playing at the professional level." Bob Hall took the lead in getting the arrangements down but it was clear that creative synergy and collaborative communication between everybody was superb. We all just clicked and contributed.

So, complete with Howard Lemm as our narrator and cowboy poet, we pulled off our first evening Pathways performance on February 4, 2004, at a hotel ballroom near NTC. It all worked, and the response exceeded our expectations. We'd nailed it. After the show I had everybody, including the crew, sign the front of my bass drum.

After the next performance at the May 2004 Pathways session, things just took off. Over the next eight years, 19 different people performed with the band during 18 performances under the guidance of 7 different ELT sponsors, and we'd put together over 20 different songs that included country, rock, folk, and blues.

Our band shows were not just some fiddler's sittin' up on wooden stools. Starting with the first performances, the shindig grew into a fairly sophisticated theatrical event involving a national anthem flag ceremony, two projection screens constantly running video and still images, custom stage lighting, and a fairly complex audio setup with three different sound mixes. The NTC media production team did the heavy lifting on the substantial tech support, augmented by some contract crew guys, including an audio engineer who specialized in live performance sound mixing. After initially renting gear, BLM Deputy Director Fran Cherry helped with funding for a proper audio mixing console, monitor speakers, and even an electronic drum set that worked much better on stage for all those folk musicians who were just not used to having real drums bangin' away right behind 'em. And to help with the logistics of each performance, we had a dedicated support staffer we called our "Band Mom" who covered a myriad of details for each show. First it was Jody Weil from ORSO and later Davina Wilkins from NTC. They sweated the behind-the-scenes logistics, which were critical for us to pull off each show with only a few days of rehearsal and prep.

After a year or so, it became clear that the "Multiple Use Minstrels" name just wasn't the image or association we wanted at all, so in 2006 a national effort was undertaken to re-name the band. There were some great ideas, including the "Our Land Band, The Buffalo Chips, Big Sage, and The Resource Ramblers," but my all-time favorite suggestion was, "Josey, Michelle and the Cheat Grass Boys." Finally, after all the hoopla about a new

(Continued on Page 10.)



**THE TALE OF THE BLM BAND***(Continued from Page 9.)*

name rattled around, in its infinite clear-thinking wisdom, upper level management decided we would officially be known as "The BLM Band." Ya just gotta love it.

Each time we got together, we did our best to work up a new tune or two, and we were constantly spinning up-to-date BLM training content and current issues into each performance for our Pathways students. Every year we tracked student evaluation data on the band's messaging and training points. We always had good numbers, which helped validate our existence beyond just being purely evening entertainment. Our enthusiastic audience reaction for those after-hours performances was often fueled by people stopping off at the hotel bar before wandering into the ballroom where we were set up. One year, in an attempt to contain costs, we performed both shows during the day at NTC. The lack of audience lubrication was obvious, since it all just seemed very, very flat. The next year we were back off-site at a hotel, where a student with a bucket of beer bottles was not an uncommon sight in our audience.

At about three years into things, that outdated old school 1980's BLM Rap video was wearing pretty thin. We learned that NTC employee Leon Thomas had an outside passion for writing original rap music and even performed as "The Wiz Kid." Leon came onboard with the band and put together an original BLM Rap with a custom sound track he composed. His first performance of "Get Out of My Way" at the May 2006 Pathways was absolutely electrifying. He jumped up out of the audience with a handheld microphone and kicked it into high gear. Here's a taste:

*262 million surface acres are managed  
We've got enough talent to manage every acre on  
the planet  
From the hottest top soil to the deepest of granite  
That's why I hit the trails hard, some say with  
reckless abandon*

*From the Agua Fria to the Grande Staircase  
From Alaska - to the Washington O  
From the smokejumpers to the mines below  
Wiz Kid and the band - what a vicious combo  
Like noxious weeds, we're killing em  
And that's the way that it goes*

The place just went nuts when he was dancing and rapping in the middle of the crowd, while the rest of us stood on stage clapping along, trying not to look too ridiculous.

In addition to our Phoenix performances at Pathways, things came full circle in 2006 when we traveled to Ogden, Utah and played at a joint BLM and Forest Service Leadership meeting. But our premiere performance was in 2008 when we played for all the DOI employees at the Main Interior Building in Washington DC in the historic Sidney Yates Auditorium. DOI Secretary Dirk Kempthorne even sat in for a while and gave it a listen. I recall sitting up on the drum riser looking out at those hundreds of people in that great old hall thinking, "Now just how did this ever happen?" There was even a blurb about us in the Washington Post, and we were all given a Cooperative Conservation Award by the Secretary of Interior. The logistics of those road show events was daunting...like having to find a place in the beltway to rent a big 'ol stand up acoustic bass.

This note came in after our DOI performance:

*Aldo Leopold said, "there are two things that interest me: the relationship of people to their land and the relationship of people to each other." Yesterday's program in the Yates Auditorium meshed these two interests and raised everyone's spirits. Your music provides the agency with an esprit d' corps that is much needed. What you capture in some of the songs is unique and integral mission of the BLM and the special role the agency has relative to our Nation's past and future.*

*Without a doubt, yesterday was the best couple of hours with the BLM that I have ever spent in some 30 years! What a wonderful gift you have given to the old timers and the new employees coming into our not so well-known outfit. Thanks again to all of you for a wonderful event. Happy Trails, Indeed!*

*Doug Blankinship, on extended detail to DOI*

*(Continued on Page 11.)*



## THE TALE OF THE BLM BAND

*(Continued from Page 10.)*

Around the time Bob Hall made it known he was looking at retirement, we kept thinking our future might be on borrowed time. Then one spring, Sally Wisely suddenly wanted to meet with the band between the last rehearsal and our Pathways show. We figured the end was near. To our surprise we didn't get the hook; instead Sally told us that we were considered a "National Asset" and that the band would survive and thrive. So, yeah, we kept at it.

In 2011 there was a major turn over of band members after the retirement of our creative musical director, Bob Hall, and cowboy storyteller, Howard Lemm. Four new people joined the band that year, and Theresa Joseph from NTC took over as narrator and national anthem singer. We even got some really cool denim shirts with the band logo embroidered on 'em. As it ended up, Eric Jones and myself were the only two musicians who performed at every show, yet four musicians from the original band were with us for the duration.

The new version of the BLM Band had a good tight sound, and we played at both 2011 Pathway sessions. We had no clue when we wrapped it up and loaded out on May 18, 2011, that it was to be our last performance. It's still a bit murky how and why we faded away, but in June, a few weeks after that last Pathways show, I walked into NTC one morning and somebody said to me in passing, "I hear Obama is going to take out the BLM Band." Say What?!

I started to investigate and learned that the White House had rolled out a cost-savings initiative to eliminate many federal websites, and they'd put together a somewhat cutesy video in which Barack thumped those Fiddling Foresters, "I might put their music on my Ipod, but I'm not paying for their website." Well, the BLM Band didn't even HAVE a website, and he sure didn't say those fiddlers shouldn't exist. But maybe that's what planted the seed in the shifting winds of management concern and bureaucratic paranoia. Things just started to run pretty cool about the band until right before Christmas in 2011. I was told that the band wouldn't be funded for Pathways in 2012; it would be an evening keynote speaker instead. Nobody said they're completely killing the band, just that funding would be pulled for next year. And that was how it all unexpect-

edly ended. That central funding just never came again. Looking back, that was about the time that smart phones, social media, and things going "viral" ramped up. I speculate that within that changing landscape there was a concern that bits of a band performance could get pushed out into cyber-land, completely out of context, and a nasty external affairs dust up could ensue...who knows.

Ironically only a few short weeks after we learned the band wouldn't be funded, I took a bad fall in the NTC parking lot, completely shattering my left arm and messing up my shoulder, so it was surgery and months of recovery. There'd been no way I could have played drums at a February show if it had even happened. But the irony is that with my arm in a sling, at the February 2012 Pathways, I was given a leadership award by BLM Director Bob Abbey for all my years as band manager. When looking back on my DOI time and what I think of as my major accomplishments, like putting in the BLM Satellite Network, building the NTC media team, and working to get the new training center facility built, it ended up that the highest recognition of my entire federal career was for running a band and playing the drums!



**The First BLM Band 2004**

L to R: Eric Jones, Owen Billingsley, Josey Elefritz, Bill O'Sullivan, Randy Hayes, Chip Calamaio, Jake Schlapfer, Bob Hall, Michelle Hall, Howard Lemm and Rueben Sanchez.

*(Continued on Page 12.)*



## THE TALE OF THE BLM BAND

(Continued from Page 11.)

As our closing Rolling Stones song about multiple use proclaimed, "*You can't always get what you want... but if you try some time...you just might find... you get what you need.*"

I think the BLM Band was one of those rare cases in life when all the right people come together in one place, at one moment in time, to create something truly extraordinary. And that just kinda happens...you really can't order it up on-demand.

### Participating Musicians and Performers 2004 – 2011

Howard Lemm - Narrator and Cowboy Poet, Assoc. State Director, Montana State Office  
Bob Hall - Guitar, Lead Vocals/Musical Director, Public Affairs Officer, Roseburg District Ofc.  
Michelle Hall - Bass, BLM Volunteer and Registered Nurse, Roseburg, OR  
Randy Hayes - Accordion, Electric Guitar, Videographer & Webmaster, National Operations Ctr.  
Ruben Sanchez - Guitar, Lead Vocals, Field Office Manager, Kingman Field Office  
Bill O'Sullivan - Mandolin, Backing Vocals, Field Office Manager, Eugene District Office  
Jake Schlapfer - Guitar, Lead Vocals, Southern Alaska Safety Specialist, Alaska State Office  
Eric Jones - Mandolin, Dobro, Lead Vocals, Petroleum Engineer, Moab Field Office  
Josey Elefritz, Guitar, Vocals, GIS Specialist, Kingman Field Office  
Owen Billingsley, Banjo, Field Manager, Surprise Field Office, Susanville, CA  
Chip Calamaio - Drums, Percussion, Harmonica, Backing Vocals, Band Manager, NTC Program Manager  
Leon "Wiz Kid" Thomas - Rapper & Performance Artist, NTC Branch Chief  
Margot O'Sullivan - Bass, Fiddle, Vocal Coach, BLM Volunteer, Registered Nurse, Eugene, OR  
Joan Suther - Guitar, Backing Vocals, Field Office Mgr Three Rivers Resource Area, Burns, OR  
Nancy Ady - Fiddle, Vocals, Range Management Specialist, Burley Field Office  
Rem Hawes - Acoustic Bass, Electric Bass & Backing Vocals, Manager, Agua Fria National Monument, AZ

Mike Herder - Guitar, Banjo Lead Vocals, Associate District Manager, Ely District Office  
Ed Heffern - Keyboard, Guitar, Lead Vocals, Geologist, Wyoming State Office  
Theresa Joseph - National Anthem, Narrator, NTC Division Chief



**The Last BLM Band 2011**

L to R - Mike Herder, Ed Heffern, Bill O'Sullivan, Rem Hawes, Nancy Ady, Eric Jones, Jake Schlapfer, Chip Calamaio, Theresa Joseph and Randy Hayes

### **Riding For The Brand** By Howard Lemm

The old time cattle ranches weren't known by the owners name  
 but they were labeled and distinct just the same  
 Known instead by the brand for which they'd ride  
 and that brought expectations and whole lot of pride

These cowboys had a phrase they'd coined 'Ridin' For The Brand'  
 It's an oath in terms of loyalty from tenderfoots  
 through the top hands

Based on just one simple single fact  
 for the outfit paying your wage  
 your allegiance you owe them back

All them hands were free to choose their work and to come and go  
 but once they chose there was something they needed to know

(Continued on Page 13.)



## THE TALE OF THE BLM BAND

(Continued from Page 12.)

Their new spread name for the brand they'd use  
required their best work and loyalty - that wasn't to  
be abused

Sure deciding to quit and move on was a guaranteed  
right of this free land  
but as long as you stayed, loyalty was to the brand  
It seems that that's a principle that still applies today  
maybe you just haven't thought of it in quite that  
manner or way

Now your brand is this multiple use outfit  
to this job you've decided to commit  
You were hired 'cause we needed your kind  
all of your skills, your background, and a clear  
thinking mind

So welcome, we're pleased you're here  
we need the best you've got - that's perfectly clear  
Cause now your ridin' for the nation's biggest spread  
and our mission is the most complex many have said

We've got to pull together to fulfill the public's trust  
It's a big big job and many are depending on us  
So keep your focus on the landscapes  
to that always remain true

You oath is now to everyone under the red the white  
and the blue  
After all we're the crew that manages the public lands  
so stand tall, be proud  
because there is no better brand

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR CREDIT UNION

**M**embers of the Public Lands Foundation continue  
to enjoy the benefits of Credit Union membership!  
The 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. We also  
announced in the last edition of the newsletter a special

limited-time offer (offer ends April 30) of a special rate  
for new Share Certificates and discounts on a Loan from  
the Interior FCU for members of the Public Lands  
Foundation. Learn more at [www.interiorfcu.org](http://www.interiorfcu.org).

### DONATIONS

**Y**ou can make a designated donation by credit card  
on our website at [www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org), or by check  
sent to the Public Lands Foundation, P.O. Box 7226,  
Arlington, VA 22207. In your transmittal, please make  
sure to mention that your donation is for the George Lea  
Founder's Scholarship or for the Student Congress Fund.  
Remember, if you are making a donation in memory of  
somebody who has passed away, you can designate your  
donation to go to one of these funds. The PLF is a  
501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Your do-  
nations are tax-deductible to the maximum extent per-  
mitted under the law.

#### General Fund

John Case	James Hickerson
Gregg & Mary Simmons (3 donations)	
Scott Simpson	George Stone
Larry Woodard	

#### Scholarship Fund

Steve Dondero	Jeff Holdren
Gregg & Mary Simmons (3 donations)	
John Stephenson	

#### Student Congress

Linda Hofman

### MEMBERSHIP DUES ABOVE \$35.00

#### Contributing Member

Bob Anderson	Robert Archibald
Dick Barbar	Kemp Conn
Pete Culp	Mike Gardner
Earl Hindley	John Husband
Christina Miller	Myra Musialkiewicz
William Neitro	Phillip Paterno
Felicia Probert	James Rhett
Alice Stephenson	Kent Tresidder
Clark Whitehead	

(Continued on Page 15.)



## IN MEMORIUM

**Note:** Putting together this list in the *Monitor* and maintaining the Memorial Wall on the PLF website and updates in the Remembering BLM Facebook page takes a lot of work by a dedicated group of PLF volunteers, led by Bob Conquergood. If you find errors, or if you know of something we may have missed, we apologize, and will correct the record. If you have concerns, please let Ray Brady know at [rbrady@publicland.org](mailto:rbrady@publicland.org).

**Clarence "Clay" Bridges**, on February 5, 2019, in Canon City, CO. Clay spent his career in Canon City, CO as a Wildlife Biologist working for the BLM until he retired in 1998.

**Robert (Bob) Thomas Caughey**, on July 24, 2017, in Puyallup, WA. Bob was a Programmer/Analyst on the IRM staff at the Alaska State Office for several years before he retired.

**Gordon Cheniae**, on January 20, 2019, in Cobden, IL. Gordon worked for the BLM in Las Vegas District Office (Realty Specialist), Washington, DC (Realty Specialist), Oregon State Office (Chief Branch of Lands and Recreation), Roseburg District (Associate District Manager) and Phoenix District Office (District Manager). Upon retiring, he created a consulting business to assist companies maneuver through the federal land law process.

**William Dawson**, on February 5, 2019, in Sterling, AK. Bill worked at the Alaska State Office in the Print Shop.

**Jayne Itsuko Tanaka Doyle**, was born on January 8, 1944 at the Heart Mountain Internment Camp, WY, and passed away on January 23, 2019 in Phoenix, AZ. Jayne worked many years in the Worland District Office, Worland, WY, in Administration.

**Jack Eaves**, on March 27, 2012, in Springfield, MO. After 40 years of service with the BLM Cadastral Survey organization he retired as the Chief Land Surveyor for Colorado.

**Joseph H. Essert**, on January 8, 2019, in Anchorage, AK. Joe retired from the BLM in Anchorage (1977-2008) where he worked in Automated Data Processing as a beginning programmer-analyst and retiring as a Section Administrator.

**Robert C. Fisk**, on August 16, 2014, in Wasilla, AK. Robert was a BLM Petroleum Engineer, Anchorage, AK, 1982-2011.

**Shirley Ann Folger**, on January 10, 2019, in Las Vegas, NV. Shirley retired as a Contract Specialist in the Las Vegas District Office.

**Thomie Gardner**, on December 28, 2018, in Idaho Falls, ID. Thomie worked in the McGrath Resource Area, Anchorage, AK and the Branch of Land Records within the Division of Geographic Sciences, Alaska State Office.

**Charles Hancock**, on January 23, 2019, in Reno, NV. Charles worked over 36 years for the BLM. He wore several hats in a variety of jobs in land classification, lands and minerals use and disposal, and as an economist, planner, and Chief BLM appraiser for Nevada. There are few people that knew the backroads and land history of the state of Nevada as well as Charles.

**Ralph "Steve" Stephen Healy**, on January 4, 2019 in Springfield, OR. Steve began his BLM career as a Forester in the Roseburg District Office, OR and retired as the District Appraiser in the Eugene District Office, OR.

**Douglas Higgins**, on January 5, 2019, in Des Moines, IA. Doug was a forester in the Medford District, OR in the 70s and 80s.

**Richard Elledge Hubbard**, on December 14, 2018, in Spokane, WA. Rich began his career as a temporary Range Conservationist with the Rock Springs District Office and Kemmerer District Office, WY and accepted a permanent Range Conservationist position in 1976 with the BLM in Havre, MT. In 1979 he was selected for a Range Conservationist position with the Spokane District and spent the remainder of his career in Spokane, where he served as District Range Conservationist, District Rangeland Management Specialist, and for a time Acting Director of the District Scarce Skills Team. Rich retired from the BLM in 2005.

**Becky Johnson**, on November 6, 2018, in Anchorage, AK. Becky worked as a Land Law Examiner in Alaska State Office adjudicating statehood land selections for decades and had a hand in conveying millions of acres to the State of Alaska.

(Continued on Page 15.)



## IN MEMORIAM

*(Continued from Page 14.)*

**Raymond Edward McDonald**, on February 20, 2019, in Anchorage, AK. Ray retired in 1994 after working in the Alaska State Office, IRM Support Section and then supervising the Alaska State Office Photogrammetry Section until he retired.

**Frank B. Miller**, on November 7, 2006, in Phoenix, AZ. Frank began working for the BLM in 1979 in the Vale District. After he moved to Shoshone to teach, he worked summers for the BLM Upper Snake River District, Shoshone Field Office. He held various fire fighting positions in Shoshone as he continued his teaching career. Frank loved aviation fire fighting, a love which began when he was assistant helitack foreman and eventually was appointed manager of the Shoshone Interagency Dispatch Center. His fire and aviation background prepared him for selection as the State Aviation Manager for BLM Arizona in 2000, a position he held until his death.

**Ervin Podrabinsky**, on January 26, 2019, in Vsetin, Czech Republic. Ervin worked at the Mine Safety and Health Administration, Minerals Management Service and ultimately retired from the BLM where he worked in both Cheyenne and Rock Springs, Wyoming.

**Carolyn Diane Sands**, on January 21, 2019, in Salem, OR. Carolyn spent over 30 years working for the BLM where she retired as a planning and environmental coordinator.

**Robert A. Teegarden**, on January 2, 2019, in Billings, MT. Bob worked in Montana for many years including the Miles City Field Office and the Montana State Office in Billings.

**Clarence Tieszen**, on February 24, 2019, in Miles City, MT. "CT", as his shopmates knew him, was the welder and heavy equipment mechanic at the BLM Campbell Tract Facility, Anchorage, AK, for many years. Among many other jobs, he fabricated several fire tankers on truck chassis (for roadside firefighting) from scratch. He retired from the BLM in about 1983.

**Stephen L. Toth**, on February 13, 2019, in Billings, MT. Stephen retired from a 30-year career with the BLM as a land surveyor.

**Mike Trent**, on January 19, 2019, in Kabba Wash, AZ. Mike devoted 26 years with the BLM before retiring as

the BLM Colorado River District Fire Management Officer. Mike's work ethic was second to none. Safety for his firefighters' lives was always of paramount importance, but he also elevated their lives by helping them realize their full potential.

**Frank L. Walter**, on March 26, 2011, in Dickinson, ND. Frank was a petroleum technician for the BLM in Wyoming and North Dakota. He retired from the BLM at the age of 71.

## MEMORIAL DONATIONS

### Received from:

Jan Bederosian

Mike Gardner

Gordon Knight

### In Memory of:

Joyce Hastey and

Holden Brink

Bill Herbst, Lacel

Bland and Bernie

Hostrop (Scholarship Fund)

Stuart W. Gearheart

## MEMBERSHIP DUES ABOVE \$35.00

*(Continued from Page 13.)*

### Sustaining Member

James Hickerson

Cecil Roberts

### Family

Bill & Billie Civish

Meg Jensen & Mike

McQueen

Joanie Losacco & Mike Taylor

Robert & Karen

Sherve

Jeff Gardetto & Karen Rice

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*The Monitor generally reflects ongoing PLF activities, events, updates, awards, and information on former BLM employees. We encourage articles and discussions of issues by posting quality content that also provides a positive exposure of the goals, objectives and mission of the PLF. However, we need to take some precautions when posting information to the newsletter and other forms of social media to ensure appropriate rules of behavior. In keeping a positive experience for our members, we reserve the right to publish only comments, photos, and other material deemed appropriate by the PLF. We intend on maintaining a friendly and professional tone in the articles in the Monitor and any postings of Letters to the Editor. Thank you for your contributions to and interest in the Public Lands Foundation.*





# Public Lands Foundation

P.O. Box 7226 Arlington, VA 22207

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

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

### **Public Lands Foundation Goals**

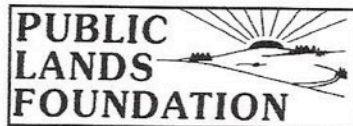
- Keep lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in public ownership and open to use by the public.
- Support multiple use management under the Federal Land Policy & Management Act.
- Encourage professionalism by BLM employees.
- Increase the public's understanding of and support for the proper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

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE - \$350

### **Public Lands Foundation**

P.O. Box 7226

Arlington, VA 22207



For America's Heritage

Non-profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
McLean, VA  
Permit No. 681

### **Return Service Requested**

<b>WHAT'S INSIDE?</b>	
2019 Annual Meeting	1,3
President's Column	2-3
Membership Survey	3-4
Request for Nominations for PLF's:	
Landscape Stewardship Awards	4
Lifetime Service Awards	4-5
Professional Awards	5
Deputy Director for Operations	5
BLM State Directors	6-7
Wild & Scenic River Stamps	7
The Tale of the BLM Band	7-13
DOI Credit Union	13
Donations	13, 15
In Memorium	14-15
Letters to the Editor	15

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