

# VANTAGE

## *Legacy of the Land Award Goes to Palm Beach County-- A First in the East!*

*Story and photo by Shayne Banks, Public Affairs Specialist, Jackson Field Office*

**B**LM Director, Tom Fry, presented the Legacy of the Land Award to Palm Beach County's Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 9, 2000, at the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Tequesta, Florida. This is the first such award given, not only in Florida, but in the entire eastern United States.

On hand for the ceremony were Gayle Gordon, BLM's Eastern States Director, Jeff Arnold, National Association of Counties, Denise Ryan, BLM's Washington Office, Bruce Dawson JFO's Field Manager and staff members Faye Winters and Shayne Banks, two Eagle Scouts, 60 Jupiter High School Students, and individuals from local State and county governments.

The Jupiter Inlet Natural Area is home to more than 18 special status species. In order to preserve the unique habitat, several changes needed to be made to the tract. Therefore, local partners became crucial to the management of the 54 acres of natural scrub. Of all the partners who assisted in this effort, one partner in particular



Newly-confirmed BLM Director Tom Fry cuts the ribbon at a ceremony at the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Tequesta, Florida, where he presented the Legacy of the Land Award to Palm Beach County officials.



Photo by Joe Zilinear

On June 22, BLM's Eastern States Director Gayle F. Gordon signed an agreement with Meadowood Farm to process a land exchange that would result in an additional 900-acres of public open space and recreation in Fairfax County, Virginia.

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## State Director's Message

The high point since the spring was unquestionably the 20th Anniversary of Eastern States. The event gave all of us a chance to acknowledge the important role that Eastern States has played and continues to play in the BLM. The anniversary brought together many previous Eastern States employees, both those retired and working elsewhere. Thanks to all of you who made it such a special day.

The summer months began with a flurry of activities in Eastern States ranging from a possible land exchange to expanded cadastral survey work. Highlights include:

- \* Signing an agreement with Meadowood Farm for a possible land exchange of 900 acres of land for public open space and recreation in Virginia;
- \* Helping out at Fishing Days in Washington, D.C., Jackson, Mississippi, and Clinton, Maryland;
- \* Hosting WOW Camp Outs in Washington, D.C. and Clinton, Maryland;
- \* Conducting an Internet WH&B Adoption;
- \* Holding an Oil & Gas Competitive Lease Sale;
- \* Participating in the Outdoor Writer's Association of America Annual Conference; and
- \* Surveying islands and a lighthouse.

I also want to welcome our large group of summer students. We hope your experience here at Eastern States will be constructive and memorable.

Have a safe summer!

The BLM's Eastern States office is responsible for the stewardship of public lands and resources in the 31 States east of, and bordering on, the Mississippi River. Our office administers 20,000 surface acres of public lands and more than 39 million acres of subsurface Federal mineral estate.

Major programs include: Cadastral Survey, General Land Office Records, Wild Horse & Burro Adoptions, Energy & Minerals, and Communication.

For more information about our office, please contact us at (703) 440-1713, or visit our Web site at <http://www.es.blm.gov/> or our Kids Web site at [http://www.es.blm.gov/kids\\_new/index.html](http://www.es.blm.gov/kids_new/index.html)

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## New Deep Natural Gas Play Discovered in New York State

Story by Terry Saarela, Physical Scientist, and Jeff Nolder, Geologist,  
Milwaukee Field Office



In the past three years, oil and gas operators have discovered a new deep natural gas play located in the Finger Lakes district of central New York. Currently, leasing and drilling are escalating, with wells being drilled to depths of 6,000 to 9,000 feet into the Ordovician Trenton and Black River formations. Initial production rates have tested as high as 7 million cubic feet of gas per day from the fractured carbonate reservoirs. Little interest in oil and gas development had been expressed for most of the region until seismic surveys indicated the presence of the east-west trending linear fracture zones.

The Finger Lakes National Forest is situated within this area of intense development. BLM Eastern States has received letters from oil and gas operators requesting that the Federal oil and gas on the Finger Lakes National Forest be offered for lease.

In response to those requests, BLM's Milwaukee Field Office and the Finger Lakes National Forest are cooperating to prepare an environmental impact statement which will analyze potential impacts of the proposed leasing and possible subsequent development.



Photo by Terry Saarela

Typical drilling rig on private land in Yates County, New York, drilling to the Trenton-Black River formations.

This analysis will be used by both the U.S. Forest Service and BLM in making a leasing decision for federally owned oil and gas resources located on Finger Lakes National Forest lands. 

## A Visit to Prague

By Steve Kopach, Deputy State Director, Cadastral Survey and General Land Office Records

Don Buhler, Lead Land Surveyor, Washington headquarters office, and I recently had the unique opportunity to visit the Prague, Czech Republic as part of the American delegation attending the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) Working Week and 23<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly from May 22-26, 2000.

FIG is a United Nations recognized organization and a federation of national associations. It is the only international body representing all surveying disciplines, whose aim is to ensure that the disciplines of surveying and all who practice them meet the needs of markets and communities that they serve, promoting the practice of the profession and encouraging the development of professional standards.

The meeting included technical sessions, commission meetings, technical exhibitions, as well as technical excursions and a historical symposium and exhibition.

FIG's activities are governed by a plan of work which is regularly reviewed against a longer-term strategic plan. The current plan of work focuses on the surveyor's response to social, economic, technological and environmental change and the particular needs of countries in economic transition. The plan lays emphasis on strengthening professional institutions; promoting professional development; and encouraging surveyors to acquire new skills and techniques so they may be properly equipped to meet the needs of society and the environment.

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## Law Enforcement Merges Eastern States with Colorado

*By John Z. Silence, Special Agent in Charge, Colorado and Eastern States*



**Special Agent-in-Charge, John Z. Silence, from the Colorado State Office has recently taken on duties at Eastern States for law enforcement, as part of an organizational change for the Eastern States and Colorado State Offices, merging law enforcement programs for the two offices.**

**E**astern States (ES) and Colorado State Office (CSO) Directors have merged their law enforcement programs under the jurisdiction of the CSO Special Agent-in-Charge (SAC). John Z. Silence, SAC, will report directly to the CSO Director, but will also inform, advise and consult with ES' Director and Field Managers in Milwaukee and Jackson on relevant law enforcement issues and actions.

The BLM has determined that there is a benefit to maximizing law enforcement resources across states. Without a traditional "Western" land base, ES' law enforcement needs are unique in the

*Continued on page 11*

## ES Cadastral Surveyors Receive Commendation Awards

*By Cathy Rodine, Public Affairs Specialist, Eastern States*

**T**hree BLM Eastern States Cadastral Surveyors recently received Commendation Awards at a special Department of Justice (DOJ) ceremony presided over by U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno. Accepting the awards were the members of the New York Indian Land Claims Mapping Team — Steve Kopach, Corky Rodine, and Jerry Wahl from Eastern States' Cadastral Survey and General Land Office Records Division.

The Commendation expressed DOJ's gratitude for the herculean task of mapping the New York Indian Land Claims, most of which took place in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The team devoted countless hours to mapping and producing exhibits for the Cayuga, Seneca (Grand Island and Cuba Lake), and Oneida Land Claims cases. 🇺🇸



**(From left) Corky Rodine, Steve Kopach, and Jerry Wahl, members of the New York Indian Land Claims Mapping Team, proudly display their Commendation Awards.**

## Oil, Gas Leases Offered at Mosquito Creek Lake

By Terry Saarela, Physical Scientist, and Peggy Riek, Writer-Editor, Eastern States

**A** decision allowing oil and gas leasing on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) property at Mosquito Creek Lake in Trumbull County, Ohio, was announced May 5, 2000, by BLM's Eastern States Director Gayle F. Gordon.

"The Bureau of Land Management has reviewed all data and is convinced that leases can be made available that will be environmentally safe. We as an agency are committed to environmentally safe standards and monitoring so that America's needed oil and gas reserves are produced while safeguarding the land, air and water resources," said Gordon.

The BLM, in cooperation with the COE and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, completed the Mosquito Creek Lake Planning Analysis/Environmental Assessment (PA/EA). The Assessment analyzed and documented potential environmental impacts associated with leasing the Federal mineral resource.

By letters dated July 27, 1999, and September 23, the COE provided consent to lease Federal oil and gas at Mosquito Creek Lake subject to restrictions outlined in the PA/EA and the referenced letters.

Approximately 11,100 acres of federally owned oil and gas at Mosquito Creek Lake were offered for lease at a BLM lease sale on June 29, 2000, in Springfield, Virginia. Leases were offered with the following restrictions: (1) No wells or facilities will be located on or within 200 feet of COE lands, (2) No wells or facilities will be permitted on Lakeview Local



Photo by Terry Saarela

Dee Adams, Milwaukee Field Office's Oil and Gas Inspector, explains BLM's inspection responsibilities to Eastern States Director Gayle Gordon during a visit to a typical production unit in Trumbull County, Ohio.

School District property, and (3) No wellbores will be permitted to be drilled through portions of two COE tracts located near the dam for protection of the dam structure.

The proposed leasing has raised local controversy in and around the Cortland and Warren, Ohio areas due to concerns about potential impacts to surface and groundwater. In 1998, the U.S. Geological Survey conducted a study that found no measurable impact to surface or groundwater from current oil and gas activities. In 1996, there were 178 producing oil and gas wells throughout the three township area surrounding the lake. Since 1975, approximately 120 wells have been drilled in Bazetta Township within one mile of the Mosquito Creek Lake project area. 🇺🇸

### *Prague...continued from page 3*

The 23<sup>rd</sup> FIG General Assembly was held in the National House of Vinohrady in Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic. The Czech Republic is a rapidly developing European nation undergoing profound economic and social change. Tourist facilities in Prague are quickly approaching the level of those found in most Western European countries. Outside Prague, these facilities are not as developed, and some goods and services taken for granted in other countries may not yet be available. Prague is a city of stunning physical beauty. While the capitals of other Eastern European nations were flattened or heavily damaged



A representative ART NOUVEAU building of the Municipal House (1911) and the Powder Tower (1475) in the Prague, Czech Republic.

during World War II, Prague survived intact. Gothic and baroque spires, art-nouveau facades and even cubist structures combine in a pattern that's distinctly Czech. At one time the seat of the Holy Roman Empire and at another the citadel of the Hapsburgs, Prague sustains a reputation as a vital political, cultural and economic center.

The trip and the meeting were very eventful and rewarding, but there is no place like home. 🇺🇸

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

*By Staff, External Affairs, Eastern States*

**T**he BLM's Eastern States office, became an official State Office on April 8, 1980, with responsibility for managing the public lands and resources in the 31 States east of and bordering upon the Mississippi River.

The 20th Anniversary of this event was celebrated on May 4, 2000, at the Eastern States Springfield, Virginia office. Activities for the day included a picnic, baby photo contest, visits with four State Directors, and acknowledgements given to employees for dedicated service at Eastern States. With memories shared and new memories made, it was truly a remarkable celebration!



**Eastern States Director Gayle F. Gordon (left), BLM Director Tom Fry, and John Dunn (former BLM-ES employee) spend a few minutes together at the celebration.**



**Group photo of Eastern States (ES) employees having at least 10 years of service with the BLM-ES office.**



**Eastern States employees enjoy lunch at the celebration on a beautiful spring day.**



**Celebration attendees visit the outdoors, old-time General Land Office tent, set up with formerly-used equipment and plat displays.**



**Employees and guests listen to former State Directors walk down memory lane while at the helm of the ES office.**

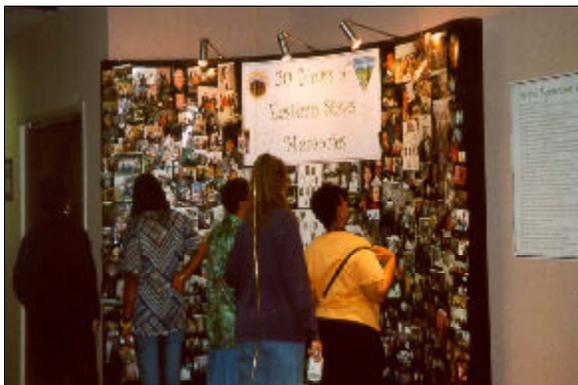
*Anniversary...continued from page 6*



(From left) External Affairs Chief Terry Lewis talks with Former State Director Curt Jones and his wife, Rebecca, about the start of the Wild Horse & Burro Adoption Program in the East.



Former ES' Directors Roger Hildebeidel (left) and Carson W. (Pete) Culp, Jr. reminisce about their tenures as "the boss!"



Dedicated employees made ES office the resounding success it has become. Nearly half of the exhibit held employee photos from years gone by.



(From left) Ida Doup, Tim Best, Steve Douglas, Sherlena Clark, Janet Hale, Nadine Watson, Barbara Beaudin, Tony Carrow, and Joe Beaudin have at least 20 years of service with the BLM-ES. Joe was recognized as having the longest tenure at ES -- 27 years!



(From left) Joe Zilincar, Jackie Choudhury, Barbara Colledge, Barbara Beaudin, and Jim Gegen spend a view minutes at the baby photo contest display to try their luck at identifying employees as babies.



## Eastern States Participates at the First National Urban Tree House Summit

By Marcella Davis, Environmental Education Program Specialist, Eastern States

**M**id May, Martha Malik from BLM's Milwaukee, Wisconsin Urban Tree House and Marcella Davis from the DC Urban Tree House (DCUTH) represented BLM Eastern States at the First National Urban Tree House Summit, representing all five National Tree Houses. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Student Conservation Service hosted the Summit which was held in Washington, D.C. at the USFS Yates Building. The Summit was co-chaired by Reginald "Flip" Hagood, President of the DCUTH and Barbara McDonald, founder and National Urban Tree House representative.

Each representative gave a presentation on the philanthropic and programmatic outlook and efforts on behalf of their site in a brainstorming session. Topics discussed included program similarities, commonalities of the five Tree Houses, differences of urban environmental education programs, the Urban Tree House as a National Organization, sustainability (funding), Internet links, reporting and accountability procedures, and what the Urban Tree House is not.

Several unanimous conclusions were reached which included (1) Getting ourselves on the maps of others (i.e., developing a list of potential resource



Pictured are Marcella Davis (center) from BLM-ES along with visiting representatives touring the DC Urban Tree House in Washington, D.C.

partners such as universities and marketing ourselves; (2) Seeking out grants; (3) Identifying short- and long-term goals; and (4) Meeting again (via gatherings, teleconferencing, listserv, etc.).

The 2 ½-day conference concluded with a wrap-up session at the National Park Service Headquarters, a visit to the DCUTH in Anacostia Park, and a visit and lunch at Union Station, all located in Washington, D.C. 🇺🇸

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### *Legacy of the Land...continued from page 1*

stood out. Palm Beach County's Department of ERM consistently built up a lot of sweat equity in the land and always went "the extra mile" in seeing this project through.

Initially, the county's ERM team realized the importance of restoring the environmentally sensitive scrub and wetlands habitat and, through a cooperative agreement, agreed to co-fund the effort. Then they began the real work.

Examples of accomplishments through the stewardship of the county's ERM team included a wetlands construction project of which many acres

of exotic plant species, such as Australian pine and Brazilian pepper, were removed; thousands of native plants were replanted; a prescribed burn on 5 acres was successfully planned and implemented; and a perimeter fence and entrance sign were added.

Not only did Tom Fry acknowledge the county for their important role in ensuring that future generations will be able to enjoy great open spaces in urban Florida, but he also cut the ribbon to officially open the wetlands construction project which has already been visited by two federally endangered manatees. 🇺🇸

## Wild Horses and Burros Promoted at Carolina's Classic Horse Expo

Story and photo by Jinx Fox, Wild Horse & Burro Program Lead, Eastern States

**E**quitanna in Kentucky, *Equine Affaire* in Massachusetts and Ohio, *World Horse Expo* in Maryland, and the *Mid West Horse Fair* in Wisconsin offer equestrians in the East a look at the latest in all equine matters, from clothing and trailers to training demonstrations by nationally renowned trainers. BLM's Eastern States participates in many expos with a booth and exhibit promoting the Nation's wild horses and burros. When possible, we arrange for a stall or two to be located next to our booth and bring BLM mascots or ask local adopters to bring and display their animals. The stalls are always a knockout with the crowds, many of whom have never touched or seen a mustang or burro up close, and are quite impressed with our well-behaved animals.

This past May, Eastern States participated for the first time in a newer regional equine expo, the Carolina Classic Horse Expo, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. This 3-day event gathered equestrians and horse lovers from Virginia to the Carolinas, and even from Florida. Top trainers gave clinics and educational seminars covered topics from health care to purchasing a new trailer.

BLM's volunteers played a crucial role representing our "*Living Legends*" at the Carolina Classic. Due to Eastern States' heavy adoption and special event schedule during the spring, we could not bring a BLM mascot to North Carolina. Volunteers Mikey Porter and Judy Henderson of Tennessee, and Joey Burnett of North Carolina, all pitched in, bringing their exceptionally trained horses. Along with Shelia Strickland of the North Carolina Wild Horse Association, these volunteers logged countless hours in the BLM booth talking with the public, as well as participating in the evening Parade of Breeds.



Mustangs "Carmilla," "Zima," and "Satriani" pose for a photo at Carolina's Classic Horse Expo.

All three volunteer mustangs come from Nevada's wild horse herds. Judy's mustang mare, "Carmilla," patiently stood in our booth stall as inquisitive potential adopters admired her calm and gentle nature. More feisty by nature, Mikey's black mare "Zima" impressed all in her musical reining or "Western dressage" performance during Saturday's evening show. And the sleeper of the Expo, Joey's black stud "Satriani," impressed all who saw him. The most common comment we heard when people saw Satriani, a 15.2-hand-refined and well-mannered stud, was "Is that really a mustang?" Satriani was Joey's first horse, and Joey gentled him using trainer John Lyons' methods. When John Lyons saw Joey and Satriani at the Expo, he was so impressed with the well-behaved stallion that he asked Joey to ride in the arena while he gave a clinic.

Congratulations and many thanks to all our great volunteers for making this an exceptional event! 🐾



## Wonderful Outdoor World Goes Camping

By Paulette Baldwin and Marcella Davis, Environmental Education Program Specialists,  
Eastern States



**B**LM's Eastern States Director Gayle F. Gordon could not have had a more beautiful morning to greet and welcome everyone to the season's first DC Wonderful Outdoor World (WOW) Overnight Camp Out. The kick-off ceremony was held at the DC Urban Tree House (DCUTH) in Anacostia Park, southeast Washington, D.C., on May 6, 2000. The opening ceremony included brief remarks by State Director Gordon and other WOW partners, including Major Horsey, National Park Service's (NPS) Site Administrator at the park, Reginald "Flip" Hagood, Student Conservation Association's (SCA) Regional Director and host, and Ramie Lynch, NPS' Youth Services Director. Once the youths were registered to begin their weekend of environmental learning, fun and games, they loaded the bus and were driven to the Brunswick Family Campgrounds, in Brunswick, Maryland, located along the C&O Canal.

The WOW Camp Out was hosted by the SCA and sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Eastern States Environmental Education Program Educators, Charles Bush, Marcella Davis, Paulette Baldwin, and Theresa Walls, played major roles in coordinating the Camp Out. Twenty-nine youths between the ages of 8-12 from the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area schools participated in the Camp Out.

Prior to leaving for Brunswick, Environmental Education Program Advisor and Coordinator Charles Bush held a short meeting with the trained counselors on emergency preparedness and safety. Each counselor was assigned a group of 5-6 kids.

Upon arrival at the campground, the youngsters were treated to lunch and then began the weekend's activities of setting up their individual camp sites and participating in the famous Urban "Leave No Trace" activity, conducted by BLMers Theresa Walls and Marcella Davis.

The youths were taught what types of "trash" were biodegradable, recyclable, toxic, or hazardous and how to dispose of each in a safe manner. They also participated in "Pathways to Fishing," with assistance from Charles Bush. The SCA performed the "Ground Water Gripes" activity," and the NRCS performed the "Soils Activity." The 80-degree temperature was just right for the trail hike.

Great weather, good food, fun and games made this season's first 2000 WOW Camp Out a success! 🐾



Photo by Paulette Baldwin

Eastern States Director Gayle Gordon kicks off the season's first DC WOW Camp Out at Anacostia Park in southeast Washington, D.C.

### *Law Enforcement ...continued from page 4*

the Bureau and stem mostly from violations by wild horse and burro adopters. With the retirement of former ES SAC, Ev Newnam, an opportunity arose to re-assess program needs and law enforcement capabilities.

Consistent with the June 7, 1996, Deputy Director's memorandum "Assignments Related to Budget Planning for the Future" which identified a recommendation to "... review the need for maintaining a criminal investigator force in all state offices of the BLM to achieve its core mission responsibilities, and develop a plan for achieving efficiencies in numbers and locations of the BLM criminal investigator force," the "Special Agent Criteria Study" was developed.

From that study, option 3, Regionalization - Consolidating two or more state law enforcement programs under one special SAC was selected. This option was selected because it reduced duplication of specialized training and personnel, while sharing resources and enhancing program consistency and accountability.

The intent of the ES-CSO organizational change is to streamline the law enforcement program, and make it more productive, customer oriented, cost efficient and effective for the management of the natural resource programs, which will meet the goals of the 1996 assignment issued by the Deputy Director.

There will be some costs associated with this merger, however, they should be minimal. Records, case files, and equipment have been transferred to appropriate locations as needed. Anticipated cost efficiencies to be gained by the merger will be addressed at the completion of a budget and workload analysis.

This merger will not adversely affect any sectors of the public, and should enhance service, both in quality and responsiveness, as well as communication over the long term. Eastern States Special Agents will report directly to the SAC/CSO. Communications between the ES Agents, ES Field Office Managers and Program Leads will continue. 🐾

## **Wild Horses Go to School**

*By Lisa Flanagan, Public Affairs Specialist, Jackson Field Office*

**O**ver 300 7th graders at Olive Branch Middle School in Olive Branch, Mississippi, got a chance to make an unusual career discovery. The students are required to take Career Discovery Classes periodically to introduce them to the different job opportunities available.

On March 29, students had an opportunity to meet a public affairs specialist and an "honest to goodness" wild horse. Lisa Flanagan and Logan met with students for almost 2 hours. Lisa and the students discussed just about

everything from wild horse gathers to freeze marks to adoptions. For many students, it was the first time to see a horse up close, not to mention a wild horse. And Logan was a perfect gentlemen, and patiently stood by to allow the students to "ooh and ahh" over him. Some students were even brave enough to pet him.

This was truly an excellent vehicle, not only to talk about wild horses and adoptions, but also to promote BLM and its many programs. 🐾

### **Biographical Sketch**

#### **John Z. Silence**

***Career Experience:*** *Joined BLM as a Special Agent in May 1987. Selected as the Special Agent in Charge for Colorado in January 1995.*

***Resource management career began in 1970 as a seasonal with the U.S. Forest Service in the Grand Junction Ranger District, Grand Mesa and Uncompahgre National Forests in Colorado.***

***Supervised hundreds of seasonal/full-time employees; managed small timber sales, range and wildlife projects, road and trail inventories; developed travel management programs; managed 27 developed campgrounds/picnic grounds (10 fee areas), and dispersed a recreation program; winter sports programs included downhill and cross-country skiing and snowmobiling; fire suppression (1971-86) and prescribe fire management.***

***Performed law enforcement as a collateral duty in the early years with my first criminal case presentation in 1975. Received my law enforcement commission in 1980 after attending the 9-week basic law enforcement training course at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Brunswick, Georgia. Became the first Resource Protection Officer for Region II. Completed the criminal investigation training course also at FLETC.***

***Family/Interests/Hobbies:*** *With help from my two sons, Justin and Jeremy, I manage a small cattle operation (40 head of commercial/registered Black Angus cattle) in western Colorado.*

***Winter on 10 acres in Grand Junction, Colorado, with 160 acres of summer range north of Silt, Colorado.***

## Hotshots Gear Up for Fire Season

Story and photo by Shayne Banks, Public Affairs Specialist, Jackson Field Office

**O**n May 15, old and new Jackson Hotshot Crew members arrived in Jackson, Mississippi, to begin their 80 hours of required training prior to “hitting the board.”

The day started with the dreaded physical fitness pack test that is required of all firefighters, which was immediately followed by the additional physical requirements of the Hotshots. Not only did all 19 crew members pass the pack test, but so did Eastern States Director Gayle F. Gordon and several members of the Jackson staff, including Bruce Dawson, Duane Winters, and Shayne Banks.

Also on hand to oversee the training was Kathy Karpan, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, DOI. During her first visit to a BLM Office, Kathy mingled with the Hotshots, became familiar with fire operations, and visited the JFO for an All Employees Meeting.

Since completion of training, the 19-member Jackson Hotshot Crew has been deployed to their first assignment to the Lakeland



(From left) Hotshot Crew Superintendent Lamar Liddell accompanies Eastern States Director Gayle Gordon and Jackson Field Manager Bruce Dawson across the finish line during the fitness pack test prior to the fire season.

fire in central Florida, east of Tampa. There the crew encountered 85 new fire starts in that general area, 47 caused by lightning with an additional 6,000 acres being burned.

After Florida, the crew will be deployed to a western state to await their next assignment. As a national resource, the Jackson Hotshots serve as an initial attack force and can be sent to any wildfire in the United States. 🇺🇸

## Career Awareness Fair Held for Miner Elementary School

By Marcella A. Davis, Environmental Education Program Specialist, Eastern States

**M**iner Elementary School, Eastern States’ adopted school, celebrated the new millennium at their Career Awareness Fair Day on May 19. The theme, “A New Millennium: New Focus!,” embraced the American School Counselor Association’s theme, “Multiculturalism: It’s Time.”

For the event, BLM Eastern States Environmental Outreach Program Advisor, Charles Bush, set up a “mock” WOW Camp Out site and talked with the youths about our DC Wonderful Outdoor World (WOW) program.

Marcella Davis, Environmental Education Program, and Theresa Walls, Technical Assistant from Eastern States’ Information Resources Management Branch, taught Urban “Leave No Trace” activities to the youngsters.

The benefits received from this event not only increased opportunities for us to participate actively in our adopted school’s programs and further collaborate with the school staff, but it provided environmental education and natural resources information to the youth community, our future work force. 🇺🇸

## *ES Pauses to Reflect on the Life of Larry Johnson*

Photo by Sylvia Jordan



**L**arry Johnson, former employee of the Milwaukee Field Office, passed away on May 30, 2000, after a long battle with cancer. If one thinks about Larry, many images are brought to mind. For many of us, Larry's love of the outdoors holds a prominent place in our memories. Hiking, canoeing, picnicking, camping, cross-country skiing — Larry did it all. Larry was a die-hard Chicago Bear and Cub fan and took many a ribbing from his fellow employees in Milwaukee over the years! His love of lemon meringue pie was also a trademark! Wherever one traveled, Larry always knew where to find the best pie!

Larry's education as a forester and duties as a realty specialist enabled him to spend much time in the field. Larry started BLM in 1967 in Eagle, Colorado. During his 33-year BLM career, Larry also worked in Lander, Wyoming and Duluth, Minnesota. He spent the past 17 years in Milwaukee, where he retired in March as a realty specialist/appraiser.

In his early years, he spent countless hours canoeing the rivers of Wisconsin, inventorying public islands. In recent years, Larry's love of Great Lakes' lighthouses was evident as he worked on BLM's behalf to transfer many of these structures to other State/Federal or local entities better able to manage and care for them. Above all, Larry's love of God served as a focal point in his life. For many years, Larry was a deacon at his church and in his gentle, caring way he served to help others.

During a memorial service held on June 1, Larry's son Jared paid a wonderful tribute to a Dad, friend, and mentor. He shared many fond memories of Larry and the times they spent together as a family, expressing deep appreciation for his strong faith. Larry will be missed by his friends at BLM, wife Julie, son Jared, daughter-in-law Ronda, daughter Kristin, and other countless friends and family members. *(Story by Terry Saarela, Physical Scientist, Milwaukee Field Office)*

## **BLMers Race for the Cure**

*By Joy Pasquariello, Volunteer Coordinator, Eastern States*

**O**n Saturday, June 3, 34 Eastern States employees and their family members and friends in tow hit the streets of the Nation's Capitol to "Race for the Cure." Running, walking, or strolling the streets of Washington, D.C., as did Ruth Bundy with her grandson Jacob, without traffic was a rare treat, and the cause made it an extra special day!

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation National Race for the Cure attracted a record field of more than 69,000 runners and walkers of all ages and backgrounds, who blanketed the streets of Washington, D.C. to champion the cause of breast cancer research. Breast cancer is the leading cancer among American women. This world's largest 5 kilometer footrace raised more than \$3.0 million to be designated for research, education, screening and treatment programs.



Photo by Anita Huffman

Pictured are some of the BLM participants with family and friends at the race. BLMers included Shelby Huffman, Alanda Crawford, Kate Marks, Josie Gyurik, Linda Abbott, Pat Tyler, Cathy Rodine, Tammy Bundy, Joy Pasquariello, Myra Musialkiewicz, Andrea Nygren, Gayle Gordon, and Linda Brooks (registered but couldn't participate).

*Continued on page 16*

## General Land Office Featured at Land Commissioners Meeting

Story and photo by Cathy Rodine, Public Affairs Specialist, Eastern States

**F**ish and wildlife issues dominated the agenda for the joint spring meeting of the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and Western States Land Commissioners Association (WSLCA) Conference held in Washington, D.C. in early April. However, BLM's Eastern States took center stage when State Director Gayle Gordon and GLO Project Manager Jim Gegen demonstrated the recently enhanced GLO Web site at <http://www.glorerecords.gov>.

The GLO Automation Project was the catalyst for the partnership between the ELRC and BLM's Eastern States. The partnership has flourished over the years and has resulted in better decision making among key state officials and the BLM. Eastern States provides registration desk assistance, audio-visual equipment and vehicle support to the WSLCA and ELRC during their spring meeting and has hosted several tours for interested members. 🇺🇸



Eastern States Director Gayle F. Gordon (center) speaks to the conference attendees at the Joint Spring ELRC/WSLCA Conference in Washington, D.C. as David Dowling, Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation (left) and Kevin Carter, Utah Trust Lands Association (right) listen. Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management Sylvia Baca and BLM's Director Tom Fry also addressed the group, comprised of the top elected and appointed State land managers from across the Nation.

## Employee Scene

### Awards

**Stephen G. Kopach**, Deputy State Director for Cadastral Survey, received a Citation for Meritorious Service in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the BLM in the field of cadastral surveying, land records preservation, Indian Trust Responsibilities and interagency partnerships.

### Comings & Goings

**New Employees** -- *Diana LaMonica*, Staff Assistant, ES, Business Practices

**Transfers** -- *John Butterfield*, ES-IRM to USFS

**Summer Students** -- (STEP: Student Temporary Employment Program; SCEP: Student Career Experience Program; DEU: Delegation Examining Unit)

*Chiquita Buck*, ES-020, STEP  
*Erica Blackman*, ES-020, STEP  
*Aarion Brown*, ES-020, SCEP  
*Jerica Richardson*, ES-020, SCEP  
*Chris Hood*, ES-030, SCEP  
*LaGrase Kelly Murphy*, ES-030, STEP  
*Manisha Ghorai*, ES-030, STEP  
*Shiona Bullock*, ES-910, 30-day assignment  
*Roya Vassy-Yeganeh*, ES-910, STEP  
*Michelle Alvarez*, ES-912, DOI Diversity Intern  
*Keisha James*, ES-914, STEP  
*Latisha Swinson*, ES-930, STEP

**Retirees** -- *Sharon Exarhos*, Program Specialist, MFO, WH&B Staff

*William Herbst*, Land Surveyor, ES, Cadastral Survey

*Bobby Patterson*, ES-930, SCEP  
*Milli Alam*, ES-950, STEP to SCEP/2000  
*Jahleel Hudson*, ES-951, STEP  
*Juan Pablo Veizaga*, ES-951, STEP  
*Elon Hudson*, ES-953, Fairfax County Summer Youth Program  
*Jared Schwartz*, ES-953, Fairfax County Summer Youth Program  
*Jesse Hicks III*, ES-954, STEP  
*Alanda Crawford*, ES-954, STEP  
*Benjamin Blixt*, ES-961, SCEP/2000  
*Yenisee Reyes*, ES-961, STEP  
*Aaron Holmes*, ES-963, STEP

*William Hudson, Ernest Neil Ward, Michael Conley, Dakari Lenear, Brian Parsons, Brandon Bossen, Jason Wacque, Otis Robertson, Tony Jordan, Ryan Hagenah, Aaron Gornick, Wade Irish, Sean McAfee, John Brooks, Leroy Kelly, Nicholas Randal, and Fred Ashford*, ES-020, DEU

# ES Happenings

**A**bout 100 people attended a public scoping meeting on April 12, 2000, on the proposed Lorton-Meadowood Farm land exchange at the BLM's Eastern States office in Springfield, Virginia. The meeting began with an overview of the BLM mission and major programs in the East, then participants were divided into smaller groups to provide opportunities for conversation and comment on the proposed Northern Virginia land exchange and environmental assessment.

\*\*\*\*\*

Lars Johnson (JFO) and Martha Malik (MFO) represented BLM in the annual National Science Teachers Association Conference in Orlando, Florida, April 6-9. BLM is one of a group of Federal Agencies which comprise Partners in Resource Education.

\*\*\*\*\*

Fourteen ES employees completed an introductory course to ARC VIEW GIS at the Jackson Technical Branch of Hinds Community College. The course was presented by Leonard Paulding, former BLMer. ARC VIEW is a geographic information system (GIS) program referred to as a desk top GIS which allows users to query GIS data and conduct a variety of GIS analysis applications. ARC VIEW will play a critical role in querying and viewing data in our lands status collection.

\*\*\*\*\*

In celebration of National Fishing Week, the Jackson Field Office, the Mississippi Bass Club, and the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science cast a fishing event called "Pathways to Fishing," a hands-on program that teaches youth how to catch fish, aquatic ecology, and angler ethics on June 3, in Jackson Mississippi. Over 60 youths and almost as many adults came to the event. For the first time, Girl Scouts who completed the program were able to earn a patch which was designed by a local troop. Nearly 30 Girl Scouts earned the patch this year, and we hope to expand this idea for the Boy Scouts next year.

\*\*\*\*\*

Eastern States represented BLM's WH&B program at a booth at the June 2000 Equitana, the world's largest equine trade show and exhibition in Louisville, Kentucky. EQUITANA USA is North America's international equine exposition, featuring hundreds of exhibitors of every imaginable product and service for the horse, rider, stable and home.

\*\*\*\*\*

In March, several hundred people attended the 2000 Minorities in Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences Conference at the Kentucky Horse Park. BLM is the primary sponsor for the conference, which focused on introducing minority students to possible job opportunities available through Federal Government Agencies.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Eastern States WH&B Internet Adoption Program was selected as an E-GOV 2000 Trail Blazer, and will receive an award at the E-GOV 2000 Exposition in July in Washington, D.C. The WH&B program was one of 24 programs chosen out of 93 applications to be distinguished as an exceptional solution that merits recognition within the E-Government community.

\*\*\*\*\*

Linda Brooks and Cheryl Washington represented BLM Eastern States and demonstrated the GLO Records Web site at the National Genealogical Society's Annual Conference in Providence, Rhode Island from May 31-June 2. Of particular interest to genealogists was the Web site at <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov>, where information about ancestors who purchased, homesteaded or received land from the Federal Government during the early settlement of our country can be researched.

\*\*\*\*\*

State Office employees and families recently spent a beautiful day in early April volunteering a few hours to participate in the Adopt-A-Highway pickup in Virginia.

\*\*\*\*\*

BLM-ES hosted a Wonderful Outdoor World (WOW) Camp Out in late June at Louise F. Cosca Regional Park in Clinton, Maryland. WOW is an innovative program whose goals are to introduce inner-city children to the fun and wonders of outdoor recreation and to teach the importance of protecting the environment through a safe and controlled camping experience. Forty WOW campers learned about teamwork, outdoor skills, enhanced community values, respect for the outdoors, and gained a recognition of how much fun the outdoors can be.

\*\*\*\*\*

The latest Internet WH&B Adoption began on June 28. Applications were accepted through July 12. Bidding took place for 44 animals from July 5-19. Five saddle broke horses, 3 halter broke geldings and 3 mares with foals came from Wyoming, and 5 mares with foals, 3 halter broke horses, 7 studs, 5 mares, and 5 jack burros came from Colorado. Coloration included a palomino, buckskin, grulla, gray, pinto, and the usual solid colors. Jacks were black, pink, blue and brown. These animals were captured in California, Arizona, Nevada, and Wyoming.

\*\*\*\*\*

A Competitive Oil & Gas Lease Sale, was held at the State Office in Springfield, Virginia on June 29. Seventy-nine parcels of Federal land were offered in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, and Ohio. Thirty-eight parcels were sold at the sale, generating revenue totaling over \$140,900 from bonus bids, filing fees, and rentals. The highest per acre bid of the auction was in Louisiana: the bonus bid was \$525 per acre for 80 acres, totaling over \$42,500.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ES Happenings...continued from page 15**

Eastern States showcased BLM's Watchable Wildlife Program at the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) Annual Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina June 24-28. OWAA is a professional organization of journalists and industry public affairs professionals dedicated to the conservation of our natural resources and sound outdoor education. BLM has been a supporting member of the OWAA and has actively participated in its annual conference for the last 9 years. This year exhibits on display featured recently-designated monuments in Arizona and Utah.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Race...continued from page 13**

It was truly an amazing site — a sea of pink. Survivors were honored in pink hats, and t-shirts, together on one day, in one place to congratulate each other and continue to fight this terrible disease.

Special thanks to Shelby Huffman for organizing this event--collecting the money, handling the registration forms, bib numbers and t-shirts, and



**BLM-Eastern States helped youngsters from the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area enjoy a day of fishing at Constitution Gardens June 5 on National Fishing Day.**

providing the group maps of the race site. Also, a special thanks to the BLM participants and their relatives and friends who helped to make a difference in the world. 🇺🇸

**COMMENT CARD/E-MAIL BRIEFS**

**GLO** — (Web site at <http://www.glorerecords.gov>)  
 “There is only one thing to say about your pages and services: It’s absolutely fantastic! (from Norway)

“Just wanted to write a quick note to say a huge THANKS, THANKS, THANKS!!!! for such a great site! What a TREASURE for genealogists! This is just AWESOME!!!! This is truely a wonderful resource, and I want to thank you for all the time and effort that went into making this a success. (Barb Wise)

“I would like to thank you for such a nice site and a site that is so easy to use!!! Your efforts are GREATLY appreciated!!!! (Carol Nelson)

**WH&B** — (Web site at <http://www.adoptahorse.gov>)  
 “Our burro “Walter” is everything I expected. Walter is fit, handsome, and has a bray that will curl your hair. We love him!”

“My filly is doing good... I trimmed her feet (hooves) and she didn’t kick me and she comes to the fence to meet me every day when I go to feed her. We are great buddies!”

“All BLM people at the N.C. (Wild Horse) Workshop were excellent. I sincerely believe after attending these events that any new adopter should have at least a weekend workshop similar to the one in N.C.”

*(Note: Wild Horse Workshop ‘99 was held in North Carolina in November 1999. Wild Horse Workshop ‘00 will be held in Golden, Colorado this fall. The BLM is considering ways to incorporate similar training sessions at future adoptions.)*

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
 Bureau of Land Management  
 Eastern States  
 7450 Boston Boulevard  
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS



**Rediscover and Tread Lightly on your Public Lands**

