



# VANTAGE

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## U.S. Senate Confirms Kathleen Clarke as BLM's New Director

*By Larry Finfer and Celia Boddington, Washington Office*

In mid-December 2001, the U.S. Senate confirmed Kathleen Clarke, former director of Utah's Department of Natural Resources, as the new director for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), an agency in the Department of the Interior.

Interior Secretary Gale Norton praised Clarke's appointment. "Kathleen Clarke brings a highly successful record of innovative public lands management to the BLM," Norton said. "Her background and experience will be a tremendous asset in addressing natural resource issues and providing policy direction to this important agency."



New BLM Director,  
Kathleen Clarke

*Continued on page 4*

## Eastern States Holds Flag-Raising Ceremony at Meadowood Farm

*By Joe Zilinear, Public Affairs Specialist, Eastern States*



Photo by Don Cabrera

(From left) Former Acting BLM Director Nina Hatfield, Congressman Tom Davis, Congressman Jim Moran, and former Eastern States Director Gayle Gordon shortly after the Flag-Raising Ceremony at Meadowood Farm, Virginia.

On December 18, former Eastern States Director Gayle F. Gordon and now Acting State Director Mike Nedd welcomed Congressman Tom Davis (R-VA, 11th) and Congressman Jim Moran (D-VA, 8th), along with former BLM Acting Director Nina Hatfield and 40 guests to a flag-raising ceremony at Meadowood Farm near Lorton, Virginia, about 25 miles south of Washington, DC.

The ceremony marked BLM's acquisition of the property on October 18, giving the agency a presence near the Nation's capitol. Plans for the area

*Continued on page 5*



## Acting State Director's Message



**O**n behalf of the Eastern States employees, let me begin by formally welcoming our newly-confirmed Bureau Director Kathleen Clarke. I am proud and humbled to have been asked to be the Acting State Director for the BLM's Eastern States office until a new State Director is selected. We will miss our former State Director, Gayle Gordon, and we wish her well with her new endeavors.

Even though we are in a time of transition, the important work we do must continue. I want to take this opportunity to express a personal "thank you" to all of our employees and partners. As "Guardians of the Past and Stewards for the Future," we certainly have a lot to be proud of, especially with the recent land acquisitions of Meadowood Farm in Fairfax County, Virginia and the Lower Potomac tract in Charles County, Maryland.

Our priorities for the near future are guided by Secretary Gale Norton's four C's philosophy—communication, cooperation, and consultation—all in the service of conservation. Accordingly, we have developed the following as our priority work for this coming year:

- \* **Meadowood Farm** - Acquired on October 18, 2001, we will complete the land use and activity plans, participate in cooperative resource management efforts with other land managers on Mason Neck, and manage this area for public use and recreation consistent with the authorizing legislation;

- \* **Lower Potomac** - Acquired on December 21, 2001, we will develop interim management guidelines for on-the-ground management until a Coordinated Resource Management Plan is completed;

- \* **Wild Horses and Burros** - Continue to be the Bureau's leading office in placing adoptable wild horses and burros in caring homes;

- \* **Energy and Minerals** - Place top priority on issuing leases and ensuring operations on existing leases continue in an environmentally sound manner to contribute to meeting the President's National Energy Policy;

- \* **General Land Office Records** - Ensure the viability of this extremely popular program as we continue automating the serialized land patent records from the 30 Public Domain States;

- \* **Human Resources** - Provide accurate, timely, and responsive human resources management services for the Bureau's Headquarters Office and Eastern States employees; and

- \* **Employee Safety and Security** - Effectively address safety and security issues of our employees, our most valuable resource.

This priority work will certainly help us meet the challenges ahead, strengthen our many valuable partnerships and explore ways to form new ones, especially as we continue our efforts to manage our resources for a healthy and strong environment as articulated in Secretary Norton's vision for the Department.

**Michael D. Nedd**  
Acting State Director, Eastern States

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*Front page: New BLM Director and Meadowood Farm Flag-Raising Ceremony*



## Gayle Gordon Says Farewell...

**I**t is with mixed feelings that I leave the BLM's Eastern States office. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the outstanding BLM staff and our many government, non-profit, and private partners. Today there are infinite opportunities for natural resource management agencies to positively impact the quality of life for those in the East. And at the same time, I believe that the private sector has unprecedented interest and a willingness to work with us to pursue our public lands' stewardship responsibilities.

I have returned to Colorado to take a new position with the BLM as their National Program Liaison working with key State organizations, including the Western Governors' Association, the Western States Land Commissioners, the Eastern Lands and Resources Council, and the National Association of Conservation Districts. My initial responsibilities will be to ensure that State initiatives relating to BLM are addressed appropriately, to bring BLM issues to State organizations, and to identify and foster joint initiatives between BLM and key State organizations.

I will be working closely with Kit Kimball, the Secretary of the Interior's Director of External and Intergovernmental Affairs, to promote and support BLM's



Photo by Peggy Rick

**Former Eastern States Director Gayle F. Gordon receives a gift at her farewell party in mid-January 2002 from Stephen Douglas ES' new Deputy State Director for Cadastral Survey and General Land Office Records.**

efforts to carry out Secretary Norton's four C's philosophy—communication, cooperation, and consultation—all in the service of conservation. I can be reached by email at [gayle\\_gordon@blm.gov](mailto:gayle_gordon@blm.gov) or by phone at (303) 239-3783.

I am proud of the many accomplishments all of us have achieved in the last 2+ years. Thank you for your support, and I wish all of you the best for the future.

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## Associate State Director Completes SES Training

**O**n November 30, BLM's Eastern States Associate State Director Michael "Mike" Nedd graduated from the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Senior Executive Service (SES) Candidate Development Program (SESCDP). "This experience has been highly productive and rewarding, and I am so very thankful for the opportunity—especially for being able to meet and work with some of the Department's finest leaders," said Mike.

He was one of 31 candidates who represented a cross section of Interior's workforce to graduate from a year-long program and become certified by the Office of Personnel Management to possess the Core Executive Qualifications for the SES.

The rich learning experience included executive seminars, field visits, developmental activities, and an 80-hour Senior Executive Development Program offered at the

University of George Washington, School of Business and Public Management, Washington, DC. The curriculum for this program was tailored specifically to address each of the SES executive core qualifications of Leading Change, Leading People, Results Driven, Business Acumen, and Building Coalitions/Communications.

As a major requirement of the SESCO, Mike served a 120-day developmental assignment as the Acting Staff Director, Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF), State and Private Forestry at the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Forest Service office in Washington, DC. The U&CF program, in partnership with State forestry agencies and national and local grassroots organizations, assists communities in managing and improving the livability of communities through stewardship of urban natural resources. Senior Forest Service management reported, "Mike exhibited sound leadership in bringing a group of key internal and external stakeholders and partners



## Accomplishments Under Gayle F. Gordon

Some of the accomplishments we saw at Eastern States under the direction and leadership of former Eastern States Director Gayle Gordon, from October 1999 through January 2002 include:

- \* Raising the profile of Eastern States as an active partner in the 31 Eastern States through continued work with Federal, State, and local agencies, and groups dealing with the Meadowood Farm—the first-ever land acquisition east of the Mississippi River—and the Douglas Point land acquisition.
- \* Inspiring the message for Eastern States' Vision and Mission Statements and using the slogan "Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future."
- \* Improving customer service, both internally and externally, and addressing concerns raised in the 2000 Customer Survey and recommendations resulting from Eastern States' review called "Design for the Future."
- \* Reorganizing Eastern States' Cadastral Survey and General Land Office Records Division.
- \* Developing the Urban Tree House at Lynden Hill in Wisconsin involving America's Outdoors and partners, which offers environmental education workshops, community plantings, site cleanups, and site tours for the community.
- \* Stepping up compliance inspections for the Wild Horse and Burro Program.

- \* Transferring lighthouse properties in the Great Lakes area, specifically in Michigan and Wisconsin.
- \* Cleaning up a tract of land in Louisiana formerly used as a dumping area, and coordinating surface reclamation work for abandoned oil and gas wells and orphan wells in Mississippi and Ohio.
- \* Receiving E-GOV 2000 Trail Blazers awards for the General Land Office (GLO) Records Automation Project and the Wild Horse and Burro Internet Adoption Program.
- \* Sharing in BLM's receipt of the Vice Presidential Hammer Award for the 2000 National Public Lands Day.
- \* Participating in the opening of the award-winning Hatfield-McCoy Trail to the public.
- \* Receiving DOI's Environmental Education Award for America's Outdoors and the Washington, DC Wonderful Outdoor World.
- \* Expanding the GLO Web site to offer information on historic land patents from all 30 public lands states (those not included in the original 13 colonies), east and west.
- \* Entering into an agreement with the State of Mississippi's Forestry Commission to build a Regional Fire Training Facility. Gayle even passed the physical fitness pack test for firefighting.



### Clarke...continued from page 1

Clarke will be responsible for overseeing 262 million surface acres of BLM-managed land located primarily in the West, more than 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate across the Nation, a budget of about \$1.8 billion, and the agency's 9,000 employees.

"I am deeply honored to be appointed as Director of the BLM," Clarke said. "This is a particularly challenging and important time for our country, and I'm proud to take part in managing our Nation's great natural resources."

Clarke has served as executive director of the Utah Department of Natural Resources since 1998. Before that, she served that department as deputy

director, starting in 1993. During her tenure with the Department of Natural Resources, Clarke was instrumental in working with the Utah legislature to secure \$3 million a year in funding to protect and recover endangered species. She also worked closely with diverse interests to formulate the Great Salt Lake Resource Management Plan, a comprehensive program to conserve the lake's resources.

Clarke also worked for Representative James V. Hansen (R-Utah) from 1987 to 1993 as director of constituent services and executive director of Representative Hansen's office in Ogden. Prior to that, she was co-owner of a construction and real estate business in Kaysville, Utah. In addition, she served as staff assistant in the Washington, DC Office of Senator Wallace F. Bennett (R-Utah).



*ASD's SES Training...continued from page 3*

together and revitalizing the implementation of the Forest Service's Urban Forest Resources Stewardship Strategy."

Mike also completed a one-week shadow assignment within the DOI's Assistant Secretariat, Office of Policy Management and Budget (PMB), where the Assistant Secretary for PMB discharges the authority of the Secretary for all phases of management and administrative activities and serves as a principal policy advisor to the Secretary. During this time, Mike participated in Secretarial-level meetings with the Assistant Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretaries of PMB, Office of Management and Budget representatives, and the Department's Budget Director.

*Meadowood...continued from page 1*

include providing public open space, recreation, environmental education, and interpretation of BLM resource management programs, particularly the Wild Horse & Burro Adoption Program.

Currently, we are preparing a Management Plan which will consider public input. The Plan is targeted for completion in the fall of 2002 and will be a specific prescription for the implementation of planning decisions at Meadowood Farm. Pending completion of the planning process, the farm has been temporarily closed to the general public.

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## New Deputy State Director for Support Services Arrives from the West

*Story and photo by Peggy Riek, Writer-Editor, Eastern States*



**Theresa Coleman—New Eastern States Deputy State Director for Support Services**

**A**t a recent Eastern States All Employees Meeting, employees were introduced to Theresa Coleman, our new Deputy State Director for Support Services. She has been warmly welcomed to Eastern States from the beautiful State of Nevada, where she worked for 2 1/2 years as Deputy State Director at the BLM's Nevada State Office.

Prior to this, Theresa spent 17 years working with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), which is the nation's agency that aggressively addresses ways to prevent and/or control disease, including chronic illnesses, intentional violence, biological terrorism, and other threats to the nation's health. She held CDC positions in 8 different States.

On her second tour to New York City, she temporarily worked for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) through an intergovernmental personnel act agreement, where she served as project officer for its global Polio Eradication Program. There she coordinated up to \$80 million in funds and activities to support the mass immunization campaigns in more than 60 countries in Africa, Europe, and the Middle East.

Theresa holds a graduate degree in public health from the Medical College of Virginia and majored in Epidemiology and Administration. She also has an undergraduate degree in Business and Industrial Psychology from the University of Detroit-Mercy in Detroit, Michigan, her hometown.

Some things she hopes to accomplish at Eastern States include ensuring that we have a positive team work environment, enhancing employee morale, marketing ourselves to ourselves so that we are proud to be a part of Eastern States, and leaving a positive trace. In her spare time, Theresa will also perform duties as Chairperson of BLM's Deputy State Directors for Support Services.



## Jackson Field Office Conducts Site Inventories at Florida's Lighthouse Properties

*Story and photo by Faye Winters, Wildlife Biologist, Jackson Field Office*

Site inventories of four Florida lighthouse properties being relinquished by the U.S. Coast Guard were conducted in mid-August by Jackson Field Office employees—Natural Resource Manager Clay Moore, Realty Specialist Mary Weaver, and Wildlife Biologist Faye Winters. The four sites included: 73-acre Ponce de Leon tract, 55-acre Egmont Key tract, 7-acre Boca Grande tract, and the 62-acre Sanibel tract. The data and resource contacts made during this trip provided much of the information needed to facilitate the transition of these tracts to the most appropriate management entity.

The 1.5-mile boardwalk at Smyrna Dunes Park provides access across the Ponce de Leon tract and protects gopher tortoise burrows, nesting habitat for sea turtles, and potential least tern and Florida scrub jay habitat.

Spectacular Egmont Key, 1.6 miles off the coast from St. Petersburg, is packed with history, scenery, and wildlife. Historic Fort Dade was established on Egmont Key when the Spanish-American War was imminent. When construction was completed in 1906, Fort Dade was a small city of 300 residents with electricity, telephones, movie theater, bowling alley, tennis courts, hospital, and a guardhouse. The fort was deactivated in 1923.

### Hotshot Crew Looks Forward to a Permanent Home

*By Shayne Banks, Public Affairs Specialist, Jackson Field Office*

The Jackson Field Office has entered into an agreement with the State of Mississippi's Forestry Commission to build a Regional Fire Training Facility in Pearl, Mississippi, which would not only provide the crew with office space, dormitory rooms, parking, and storage space, but also would be the base of operations for the Jackson-based Interagency Hotshot Crew.

Additionally, the Southwest Regional Training Center will be used by the BLM, Mississippi State Forestry, U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to provide multi-agency, fire-related training on a regional basis.



**Sanibel Lighthouse in Florida**

The fortified gun batteries and winding brick roads remain, even though approximately 2,000 gopher tortoise and over 4,300 box turtles vie for the right-of-way with the islands' few vehicles. The island also supports nesting shorebirds, nesting sea turtles, and occasionally manatee. Although the only access is by private and commercially-hired boats, annual visitation ranges from 80,000 to 100,000 people.

The Boca Grande Rear Entrance Lighthouse and property lies just south of a small city beach park on quiet Gasparilla Island, and encompasses a stretch of strand and back dune area along the Gulf of Mexico. Invasive, exotic vegetation has become well-established here, as have a few very healthy, large green iguanas nicknamed Boca Grande "dragons." A loggerhead sea turtle nest is located in the higher reaches of the beach within the tract boundaries.

The Sanibel Lighthouse property (pictured above) has been incorporated into a county park. Boardwalks provide easy access through the tangle of red mangrove and cabbage palm in the interior of the tract, and the area is popular for surf fishing, hiking and shelling, for which Sanibel Island is famous.

An ongoing Brazilian pepper control project seems to have been very successful near the Sanibel property and may be one of the few areas in south Florida not inundated by this aggressive plant. The non-native Australian pine, however, remains a dominate component of the back dune area.



## Eastern States Acquires Highly Desirable Open Space in Charles County, Maryland

By Joe Zilincar, Public Affairs Specialist, Eastern States

**B**LM's Eastern States acquired about 550 acres of land on Douglas Point in Charles County, Maryland, on December 21, 2001. These acres will be managed cooperatively with the State of Maryland, which acquired about 720 adjacent acres. The property is located north of and adjacent to Purse State Park, along the shore of the Potomac River. The total acquisition adds 1,270 acres of some of the most highly desirable open space near the expanding Washington, DC metropolitan area to existing parks and recreation areas.

Eastern States is working with its partners—the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Charles County, and The Conservation Fund to initiate a conservation strategy for the this area. The BLM will lead a collaborative planning effort for southern Charles County. This effort seeks to outline the partners' commitment to preserve this area, which contains some of the most ecologically pristine and culturally significant sites remaining in Maryland.

“Our land-use planning is designed to work with the public to keep this area in harmony with



Photo by Ed Ruda

**Eastern States recently acquired 550 acres on Douglas Point in Maryland in an effort to keep the land from urbanization and to protect the Chesapeake Bay watershed and associated habitat.**

surrounding land-use and community interests. This action represents BLM's first Land and Water Conservation Fund acquisition east of the Mississippi River,” said Mike Nedd, Eastern States Acting State Director.

### Retirements....



Photo by Cathy Rodine

**On October 31, Eastern States employees and friends wished Ron Fox, former Deputy State Director for Support Services, a fond farewell at his retirement luncheon. We wish you well, Ron!**



Photo by Peggy Riek

**Long-time Eastern States Public Affairs Specialist Cathy Rodine enjoys a farewell luncheon at her retirement party held at the State Office in early November. We will all miss you, Cathy—especially your generous help!!**



## Employees Help with Pentagon Relief Efforts

By Char Hannigan, Staff Assistant, Eastern States



Pictured are some of the Eastern States employees who helped the Salvation Army during the September 11 tragedy. (From left) Marge Rothenberg, Char Hannigan, Sheila Johnson-Curry, and Laurie Toney.

Following the attack of September 11 on the Pentagon, BLM's Eastern States employees wanted to help make a difference and to show how "we" as Americans can come together in a time of need.

The Salvation Army in northern Virginia needed volunteers to assist with the large volume of donations for the disaster victims, and the BLM employees were ready for duty. With support from former Eastern States Director Gayle Gordon, some energetic employees spent 4 hours assisting many other people in the area to sort and box the donations—truly a rewarding an experience.

Employees also joined in to donate 85 whole units in support of a special Red Cross Blood Drive, and collected medical supplies and blankets for the Pentagon relief workers.

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### Eastern States Remembers. . .



Dear Friends,

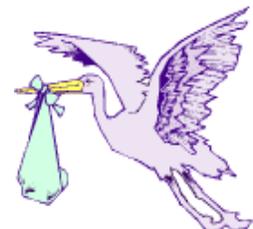
*I cannot begin to thank you enough for everything that you did for Jim and myself during his illness. He loved people and always wanted everyone to know how much he appreciated their*

*friendship. When he could not work and had used up his leave, many people donated leave in order to keep his check coming. We did not even know everyone who donated to this program, but right now I want to say "THANK YOU" for being so unselfish. Jim was a fighter and never grew bitter through his illness. When the doctors said they had done all they could, he said he was ready to meet Jesus. We do not understand why certain things happen as they do, but I know Jim is not suffering anymore and is praising the Lord right now.*

*Thank you for your cards, phone calls, thoughts, and most importantly your prayers. Jim finished his race in this life, and we are all still running ours. Just remember how short life is and how important it is to love one another. Again, thank you and God bless each one of you. Love, Paulette Goodnight*

### ES Welcomes New Lives

**Congratulations** to General Land Office Quality Assurance Specialist Pam Mozina and Public Room Legal Assistant Jennifer Spencer on the arrival of their new baby girls. McKayla Rose Mozina was born on September 28, 2001, and Danica Leigh Spencer was born on October 5, 2001.





## National Public Lands Day in the East

In late September, Eastern States held 7 National Public Lands Day (NPLD) events. These events were held in the States of Florida, Louisiana, Missouri, Virginia, and Wisconsin. Work at the sites included building and maintaining trails, halting erosion, planting trees and reseeding, cleaning up our public lands, removing invasive plant species, and restoring wetlands.



A group of volunteers stabilize an eroding hillside with materials found at the Pohick Bay Regional Park site in Virginia on National Public Lands Day (NPLD).



The Jackson Field Office sponsored an NPLD event in Chilton County, Alabama. About 125 people, including Girl Scout troops, a horse club, prisoners, and a local clean-up group called "Chilton Pride," came together to take down trees and clean up litter.



Milwaukee Urban Tree House Coordinator Todd Lundberg gets a helping hand from neighborhood children with a ceremonial tree planting project as part of NPLD in Wisconsin.



About 22 volunteers from the Division of Solid Minerals in Rolla, Missouri spent NPLD working with U.S. Forest Service representatives, the Venture Crew, boys and girls from the local high school, and local citizens to clean up the Current River in Missouri.



Girl Scouts once again spent a day at Jupiter Inlet in Florida to clean up the tract and to do some planting in celebration of NPLD.

## Partnerships and Collaboration Efforts Continue to Grow at the Milwaukee Field Office

By Martha Malik, Public Affairs Specialist, Milwaukee Field Office

During 2001, the America's Outdoors (AO) Storefront and Information Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, expanded its partnership among the BLM-Eastern States, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service-Eastern Region, and the National Park Service-Midwest Region to include the

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS). The center has three focus areas—environmental education, urban conservation, and recreation.

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### *Partnerships and Collaboration Efforts...continued from page 9*

Under the AO interagency agreement, the roles and responsibilities of the five agencies are defined for the operation and service of the center. The agencies are involved in programs pertaining to natural resource management which have similar mandates, where mutually beneficial projects can be developed and implemented as a team using the skills, abilities, and funding of the agencies involved. Partnering efforts have resulted in more comprehensive and effective services, with the objective of improving agency efficiency and continuing to provide better service to the public.

A very unique, collaborative effort in Milwaukee is the Urban Tree House (UTH) partnership which facilitates a land stewardship ethic involving community residents, non-profit organizations, middle and high schools, neighborhood associations and youth-serving organizations, and the city of Milwaukee. This partnership establishes the roles and responsibilities of the parties to plan, develop, and operate facilities and programs at the UTH site at Lynden Hill. Its goal is to ensure the long-term preservation of Lynden Hill as an open green space and for diverse programming such as environmental education, performance and visual art, and promotion of sustainable “green” practices. The effort also provides youth with an opportunity to learn about careers in natural resource management.

Through AO, the BLM’s Milwaukee Field Office has also entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse’s Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center (MVAC) to develop and facilitate a Project Archaeology Teacher’s Workshop in the city of Milwaukee. This effort is expected to enhance the teaching of Wisconsin Archaeology in public and private schools using the Wisconsin Archaeology-Digging and Discovery teacher’s guide and student materials such as the archaeology educational trunk and artifact illustrations.

BLM’s AO also has an MOU with the Betty Brinn Children’s Museum (BBCM) in Milwaukee. The agreement establishes the general framework of cooperation and to work on issues of common interest for environmental education. The agreement renewal is contingent upon BBCM hosting a Magic School Bus educational, traveling geologic exhibit called, “Inside the Earth,” where a fictional character named “Ms. Frizzle” (a BLM female geologist, in prescribed costume and

persona) resides on-site at the school room at the BBCM to explain the geologic displays, answer questions, and lead the microscope “hands-on” activities.

Sharing common ground, the National Park Service and the BLM’s AO are currently in the process of entering into a partnership agreement with the Milwaukee River Basin Partnership of Wisconsin. This agreement will include several other businesses, non-profit groups, public agencies, educational institutions, and individuals who are concerned about the environmental quality and economic well-being of the Milwaukee River watersheds. The partnership will also promote comprehensive resource management, information exchange, shared expertise, intergovernmental coordination, and citizen involvement—enabling stewardship of land and water resources.

### **ELRC Meets**



Photo by Cathy Rodine

**Some 40 land and resource managers met October 14-17, 2001, in Tidewater, Virginia at the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) fall conference. A host of experts from across Virginia and the East Coast led discussions about land trusts, green space, sustainable development, land and historic site preservation, and partnerships involving Federal, State, and local land managers. One field trip included a visit to the Jamestown Settlement, where Eastern States’ Deputy State Director Walt Rewinski (far right) got a close up look at facility management. BLM’s Eastern States has played a pivotal role in supporting ELRC since its inception in 1983. The ELRC provides a collaborative and unique forum for enhancing land stewardship and conservation, and promotes sound policies and practices among those involved in the management and administration of public lands, records, and natural resources.**



# Employee Scene

(October 1, 2001, through December 31, 2001)

## Star Awards

**Singh Ahuja, Physical Scientist, Milwaukee Field Office,** for making timely and critical contributions to the expedited environmental assessment and remediation work at Meadowood Farm in Virginia.

**Randall Anderson, WH&B Program Specialist, Milwaukee Field Office,** for work done with WH&B adoptions—press relations, creating new post cards, and advertising on the radio and in magazines and newspapers.

**Rebecca Chase, WH&B Program Specialist, Milwaukee Field Office,** for her work and dedication to the WH&B program—site selections for adoptions, willingness to assist fellow employee's, working with the animals and adopters, and extra hours worked.

**Steven Meyer, WH&B Program Specialist, Milwaukee Field Office,** for his efforts in doing compliance work and follow-up in finding animals and adopters, and for doing an outstanding job at the Michigan adoption as Lead WH&B Specialist.

**Lynda Nix, State Office Equal Employment Opportunity Manager,** for her excellent work to ensure that all Special Emphasis programs were fully planned for and held, responding to employee concerns, and coordination of counselors to deal with complaints.

**Ed Ruda, State Office Realty Specialist and Project Leader for the Lower Potomac River Project, James Engstrom, GIS Specialist, and Marcia Sieckman, Realty Specialist, both from the Milwaukee Field Office,** for their exemplary service for the Lower Potomac River Project.

**Karen Ryan, State Office Chief, Branch of Personnel, and her staff specialists—LaShawn Barber, Barbara Colledge, Sheila Johnson-Curry, Anita Lancaster, Heddy Lozano, Lynda Nix, Dawn Phillips, Vaneshia Powell, Marge Rothenberg, Philesa Spencer, and Laurie Toney,** for their diligent work in facing numerous challenges this year, high customer demands, and reduced staff capability.

**Paul Salvatore, Realty Specialist, Milwaukee Field Office,** for doing an excellent job of assuming the responsibilities and coordination of work associated with the Douglas & Judith Mauler, et al. v. BLM, et al. lawsuit filed in the western district of the U.S. Federal Court of Wisconsin, which enhanced the credibility of the Milwaukee Field Office.

**John T. Scheumbauer, Mining Engineer, Division of Solid Minerals,** for his valued experience in inspecting six Missouri lead/zinc mines and identifying the misallocation of 12,660 tons of ore at one mine and approximately 10,000 tons at another mine.

## ES Happenings

In October, Ms. Heddy Lozano, Eastern States Hispanic Employment Program Manager, organized another outstanding Hispanic Emphasis Program in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. Guest Speaker Angela Zavala, President & CEO for TIYM Publishing Company, Inc., talked to the employees about her own hispanic cultural experiences in the United States. Following Ms. Zavala, Latin dancers Huberto & Susana provided entertainment with dances such as the Tango, Merengue, and Salsa.

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Also in October, Eastern States employees observed National Disability Employment Awareness Month with a program to reflect on the millions of Americans in our workforce with disabilities. Mr. Davis Nelson, a Diversity Advocacy Specialist with Amtrak, spoke about disability awareness.

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The new BLM-sponsored fire exhibit at the Mississippi Natural Science Museum has been completed. The collaborative venture highlights three fire-dependent habitats in Mississippi and the role of prescribed fire in simulating natural fire regimes. A touch-screen kiosk gives

visitors simulated practice in dropping fire-retardant slurry from a plane and in selecting the parameters for prescribed burning. The exhibit also features dioramas of fire dependent plant communities and a red-cockaded woodpecker cavity tree, along with everyone's favorite, a fully-outfitted hotshot mannequin. The \$18 million facility provides a valuable forum for BLM's national message on fire management, with approximately 260,000 visitors in the first year. For more information on the new museum, visit the Web site <http://www.mdwfp.com/museum/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

A Competitive Oil & Gas Lease Sale was held at Eastern States office in Springfield, Virginia, on December 13. Oil and gas development rights on 13 parcels of Federal land were offered for sale in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, and Mississippi, and 12 parcels were sold, generating revenue of over \$26,500. Bonus bids, filing fees and rentals amounting to over \$15,500 will go to the U. S. Treasury, with over \$10,900 to be shared with the affected States. Mr. Edwin T. Stitt paid \$10,560 for a 120-acre parcel in Arkansas at \$88 per acre, the highest bonus per acre bid.

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*Continued on page 12*



### ES Happenings...continued from page 11

Once again, Eastern States employees helped the United Community Ministries Gift Room in Alexandria, Virginia, by offering a Sharing Tree to help needy families to 'shop' for gifts for the holiday season.  
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On January 10, 2002, BLM Eastern States and U.S. Customs employees donated 44 whole units of blood at the Greater Chesapeake & Potomac Regional Red Cross blood drive.  
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**Eastern States Mission** — We will continue to play a central role in fostering the acquisition, management, and conservation of public lands and their resources spanning the 31 States east of and bordering the Mississippi River. Major programs include: Cadastral Survey, General Land Office Records, Wild Horse & Burro, Lands, Renewable Resources, Minerals, and Fire.

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                                 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203

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### Comings & Goings

(October 1, 2001, through December 31, 2001)

**Transfers.**—*Theresa Coleman, Deputy State Director*, Support Services, from BLM's Nevada State Office.

*Troy Ferone, Archaeologist*, Milwaukee Field Office from the U.S. Forest Service.

**Retirements.**—*Cathy Rodine, Public Affairs Specialist*, External Affairs; *Ron Fox, Deputy State Director* for Support Services.

**(Correction):** *Cheryl Hansen, Surveying Technician* and *Stephen Hansen, Land Surveyor* are employed by the Eastern States' Division of Cadastral Survey.

### Comment Card/E-mail Briefs

**General Land Office**—“Thank you....thank you....thank you....for this marvelous resource! Can you teach other federal agencies -- states and counties -- how to do this for birth certs, marriage licenses, death certs??? Mail orders are the greatest!! *Wanda*”

**America's Outdoors**—“We requested materials on wild flowers, etc. Martha Malik of your office did a fine job of expediting these materials to us. Thank you.”  
*P. Silverman*

**Wild Horse & Burro**—“The BLM Wild Horse & Burro Program is excellent. It provides a wonderful opportunity for dedicated individuals to care for and train and eventually own a wonderful animal and partner. The BLM people at the Windom, Minnesota auction were very informative and helpful. The horses were much more than I expected, “Magnificent Animals.”  
*Dale Torun*”



*Eastern States — committed to sustaining the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands in the 31 States east of and bordering on the Mississippi River for present and future generations.*

