

## ***HISTORY and YOU!***

The establishment of the General Land Office (GLO) in 1812, and the Homestead Act of 1862 were significant historical events in the growth of our nation and in particular, the Western expansion. The Public Lands Foundation's project to commemorate the anniversaries of these events is well into the planning and implementation phases. The goals are to document the history of the GLO and Homestead Act and their relationship to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), educate the public about the newly named National System of Public Lands (NSPL), and publicize PLF and its objectives. The PLF is working closely with the BLM, news media, history museums, and universities. In doing so, the following activities are being considered and/or planned:

--A Discovery Channel type program on the history of the General Land Office, the Homestead Act, and the National System of Public Lands.

--A symposium in Denver to be led by Patricia Limerick, a professor of History at the University of Colorado, which will focus on the history of the National System of Public Lands and make recommendations for the future of these lands.

--Traveling exhibits on the history of these commemorative events and the NSPL to be shown in schools, museums and other organizations.

--A genealogy project that will inform the public how they can use the BLM public records to help trace family history.

--A quilt with the commemorative themes to be displayed and auctioned.

--Updating the PLF's "Historical Record of the Offices and Managers of the BLM," printed in 1998.

--Helping the BLM update the "Opportunity and Challenge: the Story of BLM," which was published in 1988.

Other PLF initiatives, events and updates, such as PLF's Position Statements and the Memorial Wall, can be viewed on [www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org). Help us spread the word by sending this link to your friends, other retirees, citizens and organizations interested in the PLF mission and progress.

### **Your help is requested**

We are appealing to you, and all retired BLMers and other interested parties, to help by sending a tax-deductible donation to the Public Lands Foundation for the **GLO Special Project Fund**.

To date, PLF members have contributed more than \$5,000 to this commemorative project, and a \$5,000 grant has been received from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

And, we are offering you an incentive. If your donation (in addition to your annual dues) is \$100 or more, you will receive a free GLO Commemorative T-shirt.

Your help would be greatly appreciated and put to good use.

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Please fill out the following and send it along with Check or Money Order to:

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

MY DONATION TO THE  
PUBLIC LANDS FOUNDATION GLO SPECIAL PROJECT FUND

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

In the amount of:     \$35             \$50             \$100             Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to: **Public Lands Foundation**

Method of payment:     Check # \_\_\_\_\_     Money order # \_\_\_\_\_

For those of you donating \$100 or more, please indicate your T-shirt size so that we can send you a complimentary GLO Commemorative T-shirt.

Small                       Medium                       Large                       Extra Large

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS UNIQUE ONE-TIME OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A PART OF AN HISTORICAL COMMEMORATION OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, HOMESTEAD ACT, AND 245 MILLION ACRES IN THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS.

(Those who have already contributed \$100 or more will be contacted regarding their T-shirt size).