



Arizona Section Newsletter

MARCH 2013



Photo courtesy of Doug Tolleson

President's Message:

The Winter Meeting is over and my first order of business is to thank all of you who helped make this expanded version so notable. The UA's Extension Range 101 program which preceded the SRM meeting was undoubtedly a factor resulting in the increased attendance during the three days. The Excess Horses on Tribal Land session was a precursor to presentations at the National SRM meeting this year in Oklahoma City. The Research Session once again highlighted significant current studies on rangeland subjects that pertain to us all. On Friday we listened to 5 collaborative groups from Arizona describe their membership, challenges, successes and failures. My thanks to the SRM members who made these sessions possible: Doug Tolleson, Al Medina, Frank Hayes, Jamie Wages and the 19 presenters who gave their time and shared their knowledge.



For me personally, one of the most important portions of the Winter Meeting was the membership meeting. This is where our Section membership can express their views on where our Section should be headed. A sincere thank you goes to all of you who spoke up and gave your opinions. . . I took note of what you said! At our Board of Directors meeting following the Winter Meeting two of your concerns were addressed.

First: Our students and Young Professionals. I have noticed that at our summer meeting we expect our UA and ASU students to provide meals, prepare the meals and clean up after the meals. Yes, they earn some money for doing this, but they often miss large portions of the meeting. We need to take some of the burden off them, and insure they are free to attend all of the sessions. I think we take it for granted that they are there to listen and learn, but, I think they have a great deal to offer us. Why not give them the opportunity to make short presentations to the membership on what they are studying. It may be a good opportunity for them to make a first cut at a poster presentation they will eventually take to the National SRM meeting. Simply, lets reach out to them a little more and make them an integral part of our two annual meetings. The Young Professional Committee has a wealth of rangeland knowledge and experience on the range. They do a fine job with

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Passing the reins....



Outgoing President Doug Tolleson thanking current President Mike Hemovich for his service



Current President Mike Hemovich presents outgoing President Doug Tolleson a belt buckle for his service.

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President's Message...continued

the ever popular plant ID contest at the summer meeting, but I'm certain they would like to do more. How about turning over a session at our meetings to them? They could bring in speakers they favor, or, better yet, put on the program themselves. These are just some of my thoughts and I'm sure other members have more suggestions. Let me or Willie Sommers, who is organizing the winter and summer meetings this year, know your thoughts. Secondly: Our Committee system. Several of you mentioned that you would like to see our committees play a more active role in the Section. Understandably, our committees are the vehicles members use to become more involved with the Section. Each of our Board of Directors has a responsibility to one or more of our committees, and we need to stress this function by Board members. In addition, Doug Tolleson, our past President, has offered to lead the effort to revitalize the committees. A huge help in this effort would be for many of you to join a committee and take the initiative to promote new activities and programs. While we are on the subject of our younger members, don't forget NRCWAY. This SRM summer camp for youth is one of the highlights of our Section. All of us can help with a financial donation or give some of our time helping out at the camp next summer. I look forward to working with all of you to put the Arizona Section in the forefront of all rangeland issues in the State.

Mike Hemovich

Passing the Reins...continued from Page 1



Dan Robinnett, Outgoing Director South



Erin Andrews, Outgoing Secretary



Frank Hayes, Outgoing Director North



Don Luhrsen Outgoing Past President

Congratulations and Welcome to Vice President Iric Burden, and new Directors Shai Schendel (north), and Steve Barker (south). We also have two, yes two, new secretary's, Ashley Shepherd and Sarah Noelle. We also want to draw your attention to new Student leaders at UA and ASU, Alanna Riggs and Kelly Bedson. Their contact info is on the sidebar of this page if you want to contact them personally. These people have volunteered to serve you and lead our Section into the future, make sure they know where you stand or when you are willing to lend a hand.

Larry Ellicott

Larry David Ellicott of Gilbert, AZ passed away on January 18, 2013 in Gilbert, AZ. Larry was born December 9, 1944, in Grand Junction, CO. Larry served in the U.S. Navy during the Viet Nam War and was a graduate of the University of Arizona. Larry spent 30 years working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service as a Range Management Specialist designing farm and ranch plans. Larry enjoyed

photography, his photos of Section events often made their way into this newsletter. He also enjoyed woodworking and camping trips with his children and grandchildren. Larry was talented, hardworking, and a loving husband, father and grandfather. A true gentleman, who is remembered for always having a friendly smile and a willingness to help others, we will miss his presence at section events.

**National Forest Service Awards**

The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Rangeland Monitoring Program was presented with the National Rangeland Research and Development Award from the US Forest Service at the Society for Range Management meetings in Oklahoma City last week. Individuals recognized for "your outstanding scientific achievement as an External Partner in the field of rangeland ecology and rangeland management" were Del Despain, Kim McReynolds, George Ruyle, Jim Sprinkle and Doug Tolleson.

The award states "these individuals have a thorough understanding of the science and art of rangeland management as well as the tenacity to be leaders in their field and provide consistency in thought and methods regarding rangeland management across the various counties and National Forests in Arizona. They are "committed leaders cooperating with the Forest Service with the goal of positive movement towards ecological restoration." Among the specific efforts highlighted are the following:



Pictured from left to right are – Dr. Del Despain – Arizona Strip, St. George Utah; Dr. Jim Sprinkle – Payson, AZ; Dr. Doug Tolleson – V Bar V Ranch, Camp Verde, AZ; Dr. George Ruyle – Tucson, AZ; and Kim McReynolds – Willcox, AZ with Charlie Richmond, Jim Pena and Dave Stewart.

- Developing the "Guide to Rangeland Monitoring and Assessment"
- Conducting interagency training to provide consistent application of protocols and collection of data
- Development of the Vegetation GIS Data System (VGS)
- Implementing the "Reading the Range" program
- Participation in the Natural Resources Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth
- Development and implementation of the youth program "Range Rocks"
- Coordination with the National Riparian Service Team and the "Creeks and Communities" programming
- Coordinated Resource Management activities
- Initiation of the "Wallow Fire Forage Response" project
- Development of the "Burning Risk Advisory Support System"

Again from the nomination: "These individuals working within their counties and across the state of Arizona build collaboration and consensus to address resource management concerns. With the goal of education and outreach they utilize many avenues to provide outreach in neutral settings to address issues and concerns in local communities surrounding National Forests in Arizona."

AZ SRM Annual Awards

2012 Range Manager of the Year

Congratulations to Fred Ruskin for 2012 Range Manager of the Year! On behalf of Arizona Section, Society for Range Management, we appreciate his sustained outstanding achievement in the art and science of rangeland education and management. As Fred would say, his team of dedicated CRMP members deserve the recognition just as much, so congratulations to all those who have helped Fred earn this special award. Fred has been managing the Yavapai ranch, which is a combination of checkerboard Forest Service and Private land, since 1980. Upon initial inspection of his ranch, much of the water systems and fences were not functional, greatly affecting a balanced rotation system. Uncertain of where to start, he met with Forest Service personnel to find out the best and most progressive way to run cattle, Holistic Management. Since this valuable conversation, his goals match those of Alan Savory, and he continues to master his form of all-encompassing resource minded management.

In 1994, he coordinated a group of people that soon signed a CRMP, which turns out to be his best decision ever. With his team, and other assorted volunteers, he has dramatically improved his water and fencing situation, which has increased vegetation production throughout his ranch. This also allowed for more intensive rotations, often having livestock in pastures for no more than a month.

He stays in close contact with the daily operations on his ranch. His philosophy is to have a good team, to bounce off ideas and receive input, and an open door policy. Nothing is off the table, but essentially it has to be good business.



Outstanding Service Awards



Ernest Gipson , US Forest Service

As our Globe Ranger District Range Staff, Ernie took on Range Management as a second career. His first job was in Payson, Cave Creek and then to Pennsylvania before moving to his first Range Management position in Douglas, WY. Four years ago, Ernie came to Globe, and has since made an impression on all co-workers and permittees throughout our area. Ernie works with permittees to develop plans, assists in monitoring, brings fresh ideas and a smile to his daily job at the Globe Ranger District. Since he started in Globe, he has spent considerable time working with each permittee to reduce tension and build some great working relationships. Ernie is honest and compassionate, setting the example

for others to follow.

Dr. Del Despain, University of Arizona

In recent years, people have thrown around the word, Reading the Range monitoring, but without the dedicated efforts of Dr. Del Despain, the monitoring program we often use would not exist. His understanding of the challenges of data collection from years of field work, and understanding of computer technology and platforms coupled with the time constraints of today's land managers guided him to this revolutionary data collection application, Vegetative GIS Data System (VGS). Post Wallow Fire, Del coordinated a group to collect data to address fire affects, assess forage availability and when livestock could make an ecologically sound return to the landscape. Dr. Del Despain's dedication to the art and science of range management will be felt for many years to come.



Young Professional Award

Andrea Jamie Wages, US Forest Service



As a Rangeland Management Specialist with the US Forest Service Globe Ranger District, Jamie Wages exemplified herself and her profession in 2012. Jamie is an active member of the Arizona Section SRM, acting as Director North, Chair of the Young Professional Enclave, and Chair of the Awards and Honors committee. Jamie is always willing to assist with permittee issues. She works tirelessly to develop relationships with permittees building trust with agency. Eager to learn new things, Jamie completed the AZ Cooperative Extension Master Gardner program, and attended Quivera Coalition conference this year. These thing only fuel her appetite for action. Look out, here she comes!

Native Range Report by Alvin Whitehair, Native Range Committee Chair



A lot of time and effort was put in by Al Medina and I, also undying support from Doug Tolleson, to revitalize the Native Range Program. At the 2013 Prescott, AZ meeting I observed many new faces from different Tribes. I had an opportunity to meet with members from the following Tribes: Chemehuevi, Hopi, Hualapai, Navajo, Quechan, San Carlos Apache, and White Mountain Apache. I probably missed a few Tribes, but this list represents Indian Tribes from every corner of Arizona. I really appreciated the turn-out. If you are a Tribal member reading this or know of Indian Tribes in your area please pass word that we are interested in them and want to learn from them.

Robert Adams of the Hopi Tribe did a presentation on Grazing Utilization. Al Medina also talked about Arizona and New Mexico Tribal Perspectives of Excess Horses on Tribal Rangelands. My old Range cohort Tom Frolli, talked about Management Challenges of Excess Wild Horses and Burros on National Forests. All of them were very informative and gave us a lot to think about.

As time goes by I hope to see a continual increase in attendance from all the Tribes in the Southwest, so that we can learn from each other, and also lead by being good examples to our young generations to come and restore *Hozho'* (harmony).

Director North Report by Alvin Whitehair

I have always loved both Utah and Arizona. My love of both states grows daily with the knowledge gained working with farmers and ranchers, (Caucasians, Hispanics and American Indians) with deeply rooted rich backgrounds. Together, we have endured through painful and joyous years with highs and lows.

It was in Prescott that I got to see all the familiar faces with a talent pool from every corner of the state - Federal, State, and Tribal employees. After a tremendous wildfire season 1 ½ years earlier and losing a large portion of her grazing allotment to the Wallow fire, Ms. Wink Crigler still managed to bring a smile from Springerville, AZ. I shall definitely learn another lesson from her about being humble and having an unassuming disposition about nature's wonder. Wink, you are a great teacher!

On April 6, 2012 I made the move to Hanksville, Utah after acquiring a new job with the BLM on the eastern half of the Arizona strip. Some say it is the land of outlaws, like Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, and others claim it is the missionaries sent there who have forged the land. I was glad to see a new SRM member, Mr. Martin Esplin at the meeting whose kinfolk have for many generations made a living on the strip. He made the trek down with Mr. Del Despain from beautiful downtown St. George, Utah.

I was glad to see the conference room filled to capacity and often beyond capacity through the whole Section meeting composed of young and old from different ethnic backgrounds. I would like to see us keep doing that, as we have set the foundation for our future generations of land stewards. We garnered their interest, let's not lose it.

Calendar of Events



- March 15-16, Cattleman's Weekend, Prescott Livestock Auction, Chino Valley
- March 20, Rangeland Monitoring and Assessment workshop, Cliff Castle Casino, Camp Verde.
- March 23, Yavapai Cattle Growers' Annual Meeting, Antelope Hills - Prescott
- June 24-28, Natural Resources Workshop for Arizona Youth, James 4-H Camp at Mingus Springs
- July 25-27 ACGA Summer Convention, Wild Horse Pass Resort & Casino, Chandler

Student Scholarship Recipients Recognized at Annual Meeting

At the Annual Meeting in Prescott on 24 January 2013, recipients of the Section's three scholarships were announced. Those scholarships are Outstanding Undergraduate at Arizona State University and University of Arizona, and the S. Clark Martin Memorial Scholarship. The Outstanding Undergraduate Student Scholarships recognizes the outstanding student in a degree program emphasizing rangeland management. Each recipient received a check for \$330. The S. Clark Memorial Scholarship recognizes the undergraduate student at either university with the highest rank score for a competitive contest at the national meeting of the Society for Range Management. The recipient received a check for \$300 in Spring 2012.

The recipient from Arizona State University was Rachael Cernetic. She was born and raised in Phoenix. She has been Vice President of ASU's Wildlife and Restoration Student Association, and she represents the student association in the Arizona Section of SRM. She is a member of Arizona State University's Rangeland Plant Identification Team competing at the SRM Meeting in Oklahoma City in February of 2013. She plans to begin her studies for a PhD in the Fall of 2013 and her intent is to study the effects of invasive plants on herpetofauna in the Sonoran desert.

The recipient from the University of Arizona was Kelsey Hawkes. She was born in Glendale, AZ but raised in Tucson. She became interested in

joining the Range program at the end of my second year at the University of Arizona and jumped right into it without any background experiences. She was drawn into the School of Natural Resources and the Environment because of a desire for a career path that included working outside with nature. She has become very interested in Watershed Conservation and Management, and therefore hopes to find a Master's program to pursue those interests. She is a member of the University of Arizona team competing in the Undergraduate Range Management Exam at the SRM Meeting in Oklahoma City in February of 2013, and she was a member on the team last year in Spokane. Finally, Ms. Hawkes won the plant identification contest at the Section Summer Meeting in 2012.

Bridger Skaarer earned the S. Clark Martin Memorial Scholarship by placing 4th out of 203 contestants (top 2%) in the Undergraduate Range Management Exam at the annual meeting in Spokane, WA in 2012. Mr. Skaarer graduated from the University of Arizona in May 2012 with a degree in Rangeland Ecology and Management.

On a related topic, Alanna Riggs and Eric Wagner were selected by the University of Arizona faculty to receive the Marcelle E. Schmutz Memorial Scholarship given in memory of Erv Schmutz's father. Erv was a longtime faculty member in Range Management at University



Pictured left to right Rachel Cernetic, Eric Wagner, Kelsey Hawkes

of Arizona. Ms. Riggs was born and raised on a working cattle ranch in southeastern Arizona, which is what inspired her to pursue a degree in rangeland ecology and management. She wanted to continue the family tradition and take care of the ranch by combining the wisdom of her grandpa, who has worked the ranch all his life, and the knowledge gained from academia. Mr. Wagner was born and raised in Tucson. He has always had an interest in rangeland ecosystems and the species that inhabit them, and believes that the study of rangelands is important because they are used so extensively as resources. He is planning on pursuing a Master's degree in rangeland science with an emphasis on botany and plant population dynamics, with the eventual goal of pursuing a doctoral degree in a similar field. Both students are members of the University of Arizona team competing in the Undergraduate Range Management Exam at the SRM Meeting in Oklahoma City in February of 2013.

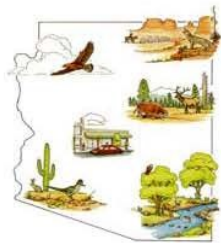
Found on the Web.....

Here is a link to a neat video, essay and still photo collection from the Altar Valley that may be of interest to our membership, especially after the Altar Valley Conservation Alliance talk at the Prescott meeting.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/nikon/fullstory.html>.

Submitted by Dan Robbinett





Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth

June 24 - June 28, 2013 James 4-H Camp

Highlights

- Learn lifelong skills and create lifetime friendships.
- Explore and study Arizona's forests, streams, rangelands, soils, plants, and wildlife with expert instructors who will intrigue and challenge you!
- Lots of small group learning activities in the forests of the Prescott National Forest.
- Gain hands-on experience with hi-tech equipment, field testing, data collection and project design.

Details

Dates: June 24 - June 28, 2013

Where: James 4-H Camp at Mingus Springs between Prescott & Jerome

Tuition: \$150 per student (Financial assistance is available. Please indicate on application if assistance is needed.)

Open to all youth entering **grades 8-12** in the fall of 2013.

Limit: 35 participants.

Deadline for Applications: Postmarked by **May 1, 2013**.

Applicants will be notified of selection results no later than June 1, 2013.

Upon notification of acceptance, the \$150 fee is to be paid unless other aid has been requested and awarded.

An exciting opportunity for you to explore the great outdoors and experience the thrill of a unique adventure. The 50th Annual Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth is an interactive camp bringing together the latest in science and natural resource technology.

Mingus Mountain, in the Prescott National Forest, is the setting for learning about water, soils, plants, and other natural resources. You will discover nature by conducting experiments and completing outdoor projects. This is a hands-on workshop! Youth will have many opportunities to discuss and debate natural resource and management issues. Various group activities such as fishing, hiking, swimming, volleyball & horseshoes will be available during your free time.



Eligibility

Youth entering grades 8-12 in the fall of 2013 are eligible to apply. Youth must have an interest and desire to learn more about the environment in which we live. No applicant will be denied attendance because of financial need. Selection is made based on the merit of the application.

How To Apply

Complete the application or type the following on a single sheet of paper: Name, address, phone number, grade entering in the Fall of 2013, and email address (if available). Answer the following questions: 1) Explain why you would like to attend this camp. 2) Describe your interests and activities related to natural resources. 3) Describe any other special interests, hobbies, and involvement in community or school activities. 4) If appropriate, indicate the need for financial assistance. Application: <http://azrangelands.org/nrcway/NRCWAYflyer.pdf>

Mail application postmarked by May 1st to:

Kim McReynolds, Workshop Director,
AZ Section Society for Range Management
450 S. Haskell, Willcox AZ 85643

Questions: Contact Kim at 520-384-3594 or kimm@cals.arizona.edu

Location & Accommodations

James 4-H Camp at Mingus Springs is located on a secluded 88 acre wooded site at an elevation of 6,500 feet on Mingus Mountain in the Prescott National Forest. Participants will be housed in rustic cabins with a central bathhouse consisting of modern bathrooms and showers.



Faces in the Crowd

Donata DuPree

My name is Donata DuPree and I'm the Range Specialist for the Hualapai Tribe's Department of Natural Resources, we are the caretakers of a little over 1 million acres of Tribal land along the southern edge of Grand Canyon. I grew up in Kansas and spent my childhood at the small farm next door. I loved that life and I have always wanted to work with nature and animals. But, following two years of wildlife-related college courses I took a detour that would last almost 25 years – I became a Critical Care RN. Despite my exciting career I always had a longing to return to the path I didn't take. So I went back to school for a Bachelor's of Science degree in Field Biology. I previously enjoyed work as an RN in Peach Springs and Havasupai and, since I was not finding work in my new field, I decided to return to nursing on the Hualapai Reservation. That is when I was told of a job opening at Natural Resources. May 2012 I met the team, interviewed, and accepted the position of Range Specialist. It's been only 9 months but I have learned so much and I have worked alongside some wonderful people from all over the Southwest. A few weeks after starting this position, a fire consumed over 18,000 acres of land and I quickly experienced post-fire rehabilitation requirements – an ongoing task as the land heals. Besides range monitoring and battling noxious weeds, I work with our Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks department on their water projects and Big Game surveys. At the 2013 Arizona Section SRM winter meeting in Prescott I sat in awe of the presenters' knowledge and accomplishments. I hope one day I also will be able to confidently share wisdom gained from years of hands-on experience. In the meantime, I look forward to starting new, and continuing ongoing, working relationships with everyone at SRM.



Marquez Munis

I am a Rangeland Management Specialist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Douglas, Arizona. Conservation planning has been a rewarding experience enabling me to work at the interface of science and on the ground management.

As many people in the range management field my early experience growing up on a ranch shaped my desire to work in the field. I grew up on the Schou Ranch, a small registered Red Angus operation at the foothills of the eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains in California. I left the ranch to attend college at Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado where I double majored in economics and environmental studies. While attending school I worked as a range technician for the US Forest Service, chasing yellow toadflax, a dirty word, on the White River National Forest and the Flat Tops Wilderness area. However, a winter of outfitting and saddling horses at 3 a.m. on cold Colorado mornings in November encouraged me to head back to school and work towards a graduate degree in Rangeland Ecosystem Science from Colorado State University. In graduate school I served as a research fellow studying cheatgrass invasion and persistence on rangelands around Laramie, Wyoming. The broad scope of my project allowed me to develop skills in plant inventory and monitoring, statistics, grant writing, GIS and yes even computer programming and simulation modeling. I am hoping to finish up with my graduate work later this summer.

As you might have picked up, range management is one of the great passions in my life and I enjoy sharing it with anyone and everyone who will listen. Most recently this has been as the Elfrida FFA range team coach and as a guest lecturer in the Introduction to Range Management class at Cochise Community College. In the future I look forward to continuing to work with people to improve resource conditions on rangelands and inspire the same passion I have for range management in others.



Tierra Seca Club members receive team and individual honors at the 2013 annual meeting of the Society for Range Management



The University of Arizona Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME) Team receives team and individual awards at the annual SRM meeting held in Oklahoma City, OK, Feb 3- 8, 2013: (L-R) – Andrew Ramirez, Kelsey Hawkes, Erin Boyd, Gary Frasier (SRM President), Eric Wagner, Stephen Tham, Keith Arnold, J. C. McDonald, Megan Hurrell, Alanna Riggs, and Beth Freniere. Hawkes, Boyd, Arnold, Riggs, and Freniere are returning members from the 2012 URME Team which also received team and individual awards in Spokane, WA.

Ten undergraduates from the Tierra Seca Club participated in the Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME) at the 66th Annual Society for Range Management Meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on February 4, 2013. The University of Arizona's URME Team placed 4th overall among 24 competing schools from across North America. Ms. Kelsey Hawkes was the top finisher from the University of Arizona placing 5th individually among 219 URME contestants. The URME Team is coached by Dr. Larry Howery and team members are Keith Arnold, Erin Boyd, Beth Freniere, Kelsey Hawkes, Megan Hurrell, J. C. McDonald, Andrew Ramirez, Alanna Riggs, Stephen Tham, and Eric Wagner (see photo). Scoring in the top 10% of all URME students automatically qualifies URME contestants to apply for Certified Professional of Range Management (CPRM) status. Hawkes (top 2%), Riggs (top 6%), and Wagner (top 10%) each met this stringent criterion. The purpose of the SRM-sanctioned CPRM program is "To certify individuals who have the professional credentials required to plan and implement sound management of rangelands as a means of improving the standards of professional expertise used in managing public and private rangelands."

Tierra Seca is the University of Arizona Student Chapter of the International Society for Range Management (SRM). Dr. Mitch McClaran serves as Tierra Seca student advisor. Students raised funds for their travel through contracted data entry and fieldwork for the Pima National Resource Conservation District, processing and scanning samples on a mule deer diet quality study at the V Bar V Ranch, through t-shirt sales, and by assisting the AZ Section of the SRM with their Summer 2012 meeting. They also received donations from the School of Natural Resources and the Environment (SNRE), the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) Alumni Association, and from the Phil Ogden Endowment. Additionally, the students received donations at the Research Insights for Semiarid Ecosystems (RISE) Symposium in 2012, as well as from a variety of private individuals.

Congratulations to these folks for their hard work and dedication to SRM and for the many contributions of Tierra Seca to SRM and SNRE.

Director North Report by Jamie Wages

My last winter meeting as Outgoing Director North was a great one. I enjoyed helping Erin Mathews in registration, and as she moves on to bigger and better things, I will miss greeting everyone at the registration table.

As I moderated our final talk Friday afternoon, it really resonated with research and other society meetings I attended. An idea of collaboration that reaches across disciplines, resource areas, land types and many others unites everyone on the same front. It's the power in numbers idea, especially for the greater good. I see these groups as the new wave of the future, focusing on the bigger picture. With groups like this among us, I am inspired that we will continue moving in a positive direction. Thank you to everyone who presented.

I also am proud to have been a part of the Annual Section Awards. I am now serving as Chair and Sarah Noelle is my trusted co-chair. We spent many weeks, with the gracious assistance of Doug Tolleson, to conduct ranch tours and make the hard decision of Range Manager of the Year. We ordered awards, wrote up ranch reports, created power points, all for some very deserving people.

And last but not least, maybe a good way to express my appreciation for my role as Director North, Young Professionals and Awards Chair and employee of US Forest Service, was my receipt of the *Young Professionals award*. This reminds me of the importance in receiving special awards, it is that pat on your back often overlooked, that we sometimes need to keep a positive and creative outlook into the future. This is the same outlook we will hand off to the next generation.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



NOVEMBER

Greg E. Jones	Kayenta
Douglas Rudolph Watson	Scottsdale
Matthew Jin Soo Lee	Tucson
Douglas Whitbeck	Tucson
Stephen Robert Tham	Tucson
Andrew Paul Ramirez	Tucson
Megan Hurrell	Tucson
John Cameron McDonald	Tucson

DECEMBER

Calvert L. Curley	Window Rock
Marcus B. Jernigan	Tucson

JANUARY

Dusty L. Glidewell	McNeal
Kerri Lange	Williams

FEBRUARY

Dan Daggett	Scottsdale
Martin Esplin	St. George
Brian Gewecke	Scottsdale
Sue Johnston	Chandler
Joelle Nicole Walker	Kingman
Sarah Knight	Tucson
Jackson Leonard	Flagstaff
Cheyenne Stetson	Tucson



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