

Public Land & Resources Law Review

Volume 43 *To Make a Better Place*

Article 2

August 2020

Author Biographies

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Recommended Citation

(2020) "Author Biographies," *Public Land & Resources Law Review*. Vol. 43 , Article 2.

Available at: <https://scholarship.law.umt.edu/plrlr/vol43/iss1/2>

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BIOGRAPHIES

1) **Rick Applegate** was research analyst for the Montana Constitutional Convention Bill of Rights Committee. After that, he worked for the Montana Environmental Quality Council; founded and directed the Center for the Public Interest, a public interest research and law firm in Bozeman; served as staff director (AA) for a US Senator and a member of the US House of Representatives; Fish and Wildlife Director at the Northwest Power and Conservation Council; West Coast Conservation Director for Trout Unlimited; Administrator of the Habitat Conservation Division at the National Marine Fisheries Service; and Portland Harbor Superfund Administrator for the City of Portland. He now lives in Tucson.

2) **Evan Barrett**, retired and living on the Butte hill, is a regularly published political columnist in many Montana daily newspapers. Though never an elected official, Barrett's political and governmental experience since 1969 includes three years as Executive Director of the Montana Democratic Party and twelve years on the Democratic National Committee; senior staff positions with Governors Forrest Anderson, Tom Judge and Brian Schweitzer, Congressman Pat Williams, and Senator John Melcher; and campaign management positions with Judge, Williams, and Melcher. Barrett is an economic development professional as well as a recognized Montana historian, teacher, and award-winning chronicler of Montana's progressive past.

3) **Leo Berry** was born and raised in Anaconda, Montana. He graduated from Gonzaga University and the University of Montana School of Law, after which he went to work for the Department of State Lands which administered the mining reclamation laws. In April of 1976, Mr. Berry became acting Commissioner of State Lands, a position which became permanent in 1977. In 1981, he was appointed Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Mr. Berry was a founding member of the Prickly Pear Land Trust and was the Chairman of Helena's first Open Space Bond Committee.

4) **Dorothy Bradley**, a lifelong Montanan, received a BA from Colorado College and a JD from American University. At age 23, she helped organize Montana's first Earth Day, and won a seat in the Montana House of Representatives, where she was the only woman in 1971, and served 16 years. As Democratic nominee in 1992, she narrowly lost her race for governor after campaigning by riding her horse across Montana. She briefly taught in a small school in Ashland and worked in administrative

positions dealing with water and criminal justice. She lives in Clyde Park with retired rancher Dan Hurwitz.

5) **Bob Brown** was raised on a grain-and-cattle ranch a ninety-minute school bus ride from Kalispell. He is a Vietnam-era Navy Veteran and career high school history and government teacher. He served in the Montana House and Senate from 1971–1997 and was President of the Senate during the 1995–1996 session. Bob has been a member of the State Board of Education, Secretary of State, and unsuccessful candidate for Governor in 2004. He was a Senior Research and Teaching Fellow at the University of Montana Mansfield Center from 2005–2010 and served as President of the Montana Historical Society from 2015 to 2017. Bob and his wife Sue, a retired English teacher, live near Whitefish. He is now in his 16th year of writing a monthly column for Montana newspapers.

6) **Bob Campbell**, a native Montanan, attended high school in Sidney and Red Lodge before graduating from University of Montana in pharmacy. With grades he claims to have been marginal, he was nonetheless admitted to law school by Dean Sullivan after professing a keen desire to get into Constitutional Law. He graded well, graduated in 1967, entered private practice in Missoula, and was one of eight Constitutional Convention delegates elected by Missoulians in 1971. He later worked for more than twenty years in Helena at the job service in the Department of Labor and Industry. He lives in Missoula and is always willing to load up visitors with hilarious stories of his unlikely life.

7) **Dolores Colburg** was born in Big Timber, raised in the Billings-Laurel area, graduated from the University of Montana, and taught 9th grade English in Helena. When the incumbent Superintendent of Public Instruction chose not to run again in 1968, Dolores, with urging from educators and support from democrats across Montana, was elected to the position and served two terms. She was subsequently a visiting lecturer at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education and served as Montana Commissioner of Political Practices from 1987–1992. Since retiring, she has been a volunteer with the Red Cross and FEMA, including during the 9/11 and Katrina disasters.

8) **Mae Nan Ellingson** is a proud mom to Nathan and Mark, nana, University of Montana Alumnus, and happily retired in Missoula. In addition to her work on the 1972 Constitution, she is proud of her service as Missoula City Attorney and 30 years as public finance lawyer with Dorsey

& Whitney, during which she helped the State of Montana develop financing programs leveraging the State's Coal Severance Tax for local governments, economic development, and health care facilities. She worked on countless public projects throughout the State. She is grateful for every opportunity that has come her way.

9) **Harrison Fagg**, born 1931; graduated from the University of Oregon with an Architectural Degree. Served as Lieutenant USAF. National accreditation as an architect and as a land use planner by the Federal Government. Republican legislator 14 years, Assistant Minority Leader, 1977, and Majority Leader, 1981. Three children, Sherril Burk, Russell Fagg, and Grantland Fagg. Wife is Susan. First person, along with son Grant, to climb all Montana mountains over 12,000 feet (28) including Granite Peak 7 times. Avid kayaker of rivers including the Smith River, the last time at age of 87. Backpacked over 3,000 miles in the Beartooths, the Sierras and Glacier Park.

10) **Polly Homes**, D-Billings (served 1973–79) started flying bi-planes at age 16; taught instrument flying to seasoned war pilots during WWII. Yet the Billings Gazette labeled her a “housewife” when she filed for state office in 1972. She married Harley-riding minister Bob Holmes in 1951 on condition she would not speak in public: sons Steve and Tim and daughter Krys. Long-time House Dean, Francis Bardanouve, called Polly “the Conscience of the House.”

11) **Hal Harper** was a close friend of Polly's and began 26 years of service in the Montana House of Representatives the same year she was elected. He was Floor leader, Majority Leader, Speaker, Chief Policy Advisor to the Governor.

12) **Krys Holmes** is Polly's daughter, author of the Montana History book: *Montana: Stories of the Land*, and Executive Director of the Myrna Loy.

13) **Greg Jergeson** served 24 years in the Montana Senate from 1975–2015, and eight years on the Montana Public Service Commission with six as chair, from 2003–2011. Greg holds the record as the youngest person elected to the State Senate in Montana, doing so at age 23. Greg and his wife Barb operated a family farm south of Chinook until mid-1995, when he went to work for the Montana State University-Northern Foundation as a fundraiser until the end of 2002. Greg and Barb are the parents of two grown daughters.

14) **Daniel Kemmis** grew up on a small dryland farm in Richland County, attending grade school in Richey and high school in Sidney. He got a degree in government at Harvard, and after four more years on the East Coast, returned to Montana to do graduate work at the University of Montana. Succumbing to his lifelong fascination with politics, he ran for the legislature in 1974, where he eventually became Minority Leader and then Speaker of the House. He served as mayor of Missoula and translated his political experience into a handful of books about community and democracy. His latest book is *Citizens Uniting to Restore our Democracy* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2020).

15) **Peter M. (Mike) Meloy**, born and raised in Helena, Montana. His great grandparents migrated from Ireland to Radersberg, Montana in 1879. He was elected to two terms in the Montana House of Representatives, 1975–1979,. He served as Majority Whip, 1975–1977, and House Majority Leader, 1977–1979. He continues his active practice of law, next year marking his fiftieth year as an attorney. He has been involved in many of the key court decisions construing the right to know. He has also been the head varsity coach, of the Helena High girls soccer team since 2008. He is married to Jan VanRiper and has three children, Maile, a writer, Colin a writer of both songs and books and Leah, a speech pathologist.

16) **Jim Moore**, born and raised in Helena, Montana. Graduated from the University of Colorado (1968); US Army Res; Graduated from University of Montana School of Law (1972, with honors): President, NW Montana Bar Assoc: Member, Montana House of Representatives (1975, v.chair Judiciary): President Montana Trial Lawyers Assoc: Delegate to American Trial Lawyers: Published in the Montana Law Review on issues relating to Environment, Land Use, Municipal Law, and Constitutional Issues: Faculty for Trial Lawyers in Alaska, Arizona, Washington, Montana and Colorado; Special Prosecutor for Mt Supreme Court: Designed and directed America's Youth Classic (1989 US National Youth and Children's Road Running Championship); MHSA Basketball Referee; Co-Director Flathead Youth basketball program - 25 years (~800–1000 children/year).

17) **Jim Posewitz** spent 32 years with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, leading the agency's ecological program for 15 years. He then founded Orion the Hunter's Institute dedicated to the preservation of ethical hunting. Jim published five books: *Beyond Fair Chase*; *Inherit the Hunt*; *Rifle in Hand*; *Taking a Bullet for Conservation*;

and his latest, *My Best Shot*. Jim served as executive director of the Cinnabar Foundation, a conservation philanthropy, from its inception in 1983 until May of 2010. In 2015 the National Wildlife Federation named him their Conservationist of the year; and in 2018 he was inducted into the Montana Outdoor Hall of Fame.

18) Bob Raney, a lifelong Livingston resident, served in the Montana House of Representatives from 1985 through 2000. While in the legislature, he focused on several priority issues from taxation to waste management to fish and wildlife and state parks. He successfully passed legislation protecting wild fish populations (Future Fisheries) and primitive and island parks. He was a conservation champion and ardent defender of the Coal Tax Trust Fund. He represented southwest Montana on the Public Service Commission from 2005 through 2008. Bob, a trainman for 25 years, business owner and consultant, and his wife Jeanne-Marie Souvigny are retired to Livingston.

19) Robin Tawney Nichols is a writer, community activist and long-time board member (1995–present) and chair (1997–2019) of the Cinnabar Foundation. She is the author of four books, including two guides to Yellowstone National Park, a how-to about hiking with kids, and a biography of Cinnabar’s founders, Leonard and Sandy Sargent. During the 1970s, Robin and her late husband Phil Tawney lobbied and helped found the Montana Environmental Information Center, receiving the American Motors Conservation Award for their work in 1976. Both received the Don Aldrich Fish, Wildlife & Conservation Award (Phil-1989; Robin-2000). They were inducted into the Montana Outdoor Hall of Fame in 2018. Robin and her husband, William Nichols, live in Missoula.

20) Ted Schwinden was born in Wolf Point, MT, in 1925, and attended the Montana School of Mines and the University of Montana where he received a B.A. and M.A. He was elected to the Montana House of Representatives in 1958; was named Commissioner of State Lands by Governor Forrest Anderson in 1969; was reappointed by Governor Tom Judge in 1973; and became a candidate for Lieutenant Governor in 1976. He served as Montana’s Governor from 1980–1988. Ted Schwinden married Jean Christianson in 1946, and they have three children. He is retired in Phoenix, and still owns the family farm in Roosevelt County.

21) Thomas E. Towe: Earlham College (1959), University of Montana Law School (1962), Post Graduate work at Law Schools in Georgetown University and University of Michigan. Towe Law Firm,

Billings (1967–present). Montana Legislature: House 1971–1974, Senate 1975–1986, 1991–1994. Washington Monthly: one of 12 Stars of the States (1983); Mother Jones: one of 10 best state and local officials in the U.S. (1984); Missoulian: 26th of the 100 most influential Montanans of the 20th century; Democratic nominee for Congress (1976); Chairman, Montana State Parks and Recreation Board (2015–2019); Coal Board (2015–2017); Guest lecturer: Law Schools in Ufa, Russia, and Punjab, India.

22) John Vincent John Vincent moved to Bozeman in 1971 after graduating with honors in American Government from Seattle University and teaching a year in Washington State. He began teaching government and history in Bozeman in 1971 and ran for the Montana House in 1974. He won the Democratic primary and the general election. Besides a 30-year career in teaching, he was a Representative, 1975–1990; Speaker of the House, 1985–86; Bozeman City Commissioner, 1992–95; Gallatin County Commissioner, 2001–2006; and Montana Public Service Commissioner, 2009–2012. John made an auspicious start in the Montana House by becoming the chief sponsor of HB666.

23) Ron Waterman graduated from the University of Montana in 1966 and from the University of Montana Law School in 1969. After a year serving as Law Clerk for the Hon. W. J. Jameson, United States District Court, Montana (Billings), he, his wife Mignon, and eldest son moved to Helena in 1970 where they had their second child. He joined a Helena law firm which became Gough, Shanahan, Johnson & Waterman, where he remained a partner until he retired. The firm dissolved at the end of 2015. Waterman focused on insurance defense and business litigation; later in his career he shifted his concentration to civil rights advocacy and litigation. After 50 years of active practice, Waterman retired in 2019.

24) Gary Wicks served in the USAF before graduating from University of Montana in 1967. Hired by Governor Forest Anderson in 1969, worked on natural resource and environmental issues; appointed by Anderson as the first Director of Montana's Department of Natural Resources in 1971, reappointed by Judge in 1973. Was responsible for development and approval of the 1973 Water Use Act, implementation of the Utility Facility Citing Act, working with the Constitutional Convention on state water rights language. Was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Water in the Carter Administration in 1977. Appointed State Director of BLM in Utah in 1979. Director of Montana's Highway Department under Governor Schwinden from 1981–1988.