

NCAO Guides Reach Out to the Community

By Tami Corn, Reclamation Guide Supervisor

With local school budgets getting cut, Redding area teachers are finding it harder to fund their annual field trips to Shasta Dam- so the dam is going to them.

Shasta Dam, the second largest concrete dam in the country, is a major part of the Central Valley Project- and the curriculum for the 3-5 grades. To keep the connection with the students, the tour guides at Shasta have been busy visiting the classrooms to provide information on the dam and to stress the importance of water conservation. Christine Olsen, one of the guides at Shasta, has taken the lead on this important outreach and developed programs on water forms and water conservation. Working with tour guide Hal Taliaferro, Christine is also able to offer a presentation on electricity and magnetism to the students.

In addition to visiting the schools, NCAO also has an active Senior Outreach program. Guide Antoinette Garrett has been working with the local assisted living facilities to visit and present them with a program on Shasta Dam. Using PowerPoint, Antoinette has taken Shasta Dam to senior citizens who most likely would not be able to make the trip to visit in person. The audiences often have wonderful stories to share about Shasta Dam, many having lived in the area during construction. "This is wonderful! Even though they are older and don't get around like they used to, they still have stories, and this really is special for them. It helps keep them mentally sharp!" one of the local facilities caregiver noted.

The outreach programs are available during the slower winter months.



Christine Olsen talks to 3rd graders about the importance of water.



Antoinette Garrett brings memories of Shasta Dam to senior citizens.