

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

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Upper Colorado Region



UC Today

UC Region Big Picture Issues from the Front Office

Provo Area Office Recognized with the 2016 Federal Energy and Water Management Award



The Provo Area Office Receiving the 2016 Federal Energy & Water Management Award.

The Bureau of Reclamation's Provo Area Office in Utah earned three awards in 2016, demonstrating the Bureau's commitment to environmental sustainability and excellence. These included the Department of the Interior's Environmental Achievement Award (Building the Future Award), the Federal Energy and Water Management Award, and Interior's Customer

Service Award (Water Project Coordinator Initiative).

The office implemented a suite of energy and water conservation measures over the course of five years that earned them the first two awards. Improvements included a solar power system designed to meet a quarter of the building's electricity needs; rainwater harvesting; and xeriscape arid weather plants. Other amenities included with these improvements were an irrigation system that better manages water usage; improved heating and cooling systems; new plumbing; and more energy-efficient lighting.

The upgrades resulted in a 47 percent reduction in energy use, a 46 percent reduction in water use, and a 47 percent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions per year and earned the office 100 percent conformance with the Guiding Principles for Federal Leadership in High Performance and Sustainable Buildings-Existing Buildings.

Reclamation Civil Engineer Cary Southworth states, "The office has taken important steps over the past five years to make the building sustainable by lowering emissions and energy use by almost 50 percent. Attending the award ceremony really brought home the efforts that the federal government is making to save energy and reduce the budget spent on energy."

Constructed in 1984, the PAO building is a 57,000 square-foot facility located 44 miles south of Salt Lake City, Utah, on the southern end of the City of Provo. With office space for 140 occupants, a concrete and soils testing laboratory, and several large storage bays, the building accommodates employees from the



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Department of Agriculture, the Central Utah Project Completion Act Office, and the Central Utah Project Federal Credit Union.

Reclamation Civil Engineer Eugene Hawks adds, “These efforts had a positive impact on the comfort of the building as well as cutting down on energy costs. Simple but good design can pay off in many ways. To be recognized for this work was - as they say - the icing on the cake.”

Additionally, 18 employees from the PAO received Interior's 2016 Customer Service Award (Water Project Coordinator Initiative) for volunteering to serve as Water Project Coordinators. This initiative provides an avenue for Reclamation's customers to actively interact with staff, provide valuable information to customers regarding Federal programs, policies, and procedures, and gives customers a single point of contact who will take the time to courteously and effectively address the customer's needs.

Reclamation Civil Engineer Chad Savage said, “This award demonstrates the importance of the Water Project Coordinator Initiative. Many times, big government and customer service do not go together in the public's opinion. The Water Project Coordinator Initiative is changing that opinion and it is making a positive difference for our contracted partners as well as for the efficiency of our office.”

The Provo Area Office was awarded the Customer Service Award for the Water Project Coordinator Initiative in July of 2016. It was later recognized for the Interior Environmental Achievement Award and the Federal Energy and Water Management Award in a Washington, DC, ceremony at the Department of the Interior in December 2016.

Check out the video on [YouTube](#).

Secretary Jewell Signs Glen Canyon Dam Long-Term Experimental and Management Plan

By Marlon Duke
Regional Public Affairs Officer



Secretary Sally Jewell and Deputy Secretary Michael Connor joined other Department of the Interior leaders and employees in Las Vegas on December 15, 2016, to sign the Record of Decision for the new Glen Canyon Dam Long-Term Experimental and Management Plan. The finished plan enhances predictability and certainty for water and power users through better-defined release regimens and experimental flow opportunities while protecting

environmental and cultural resources in the downstream river ecosystem.

The signed ROD is the result of five years of focused work led by the Upper Colorado Region's Adaptive Management Group as a joint lead with the National Park Service. During the process, the Department carefully weighed economic, technical, social and environmental considerations among seven possible



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alternatives evaluated by its Final Environmental Impact Statement. Collaboration and open dialogue underscored every step of the process, with participation from 15 cooperating agencies and six American Indian tribes. The alternative described in the ROD represents a hybrid approach that combines the best elements of the original proposals by the seven basin states, Western Area Power Administration and Department of the Interior.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Secretary Jewell recognized how this approach improved the entire process. “At the end of the day, everyone wins because of the hybrid approach that’s been taken.”

“I am enormously proud of your work to get this done,” she said of the team of Reclamation, Park Service and other Department employees involved in the effort.

The final plan includes a number of important accomplishments for successful dam operations in compliance with the Grand Canyon Protection Act and other federal statutes and regulations. It enhances the involvement of Basin States. It provides more even monthly volume releases and continues protocols for High-Flow Experiments to improve and maintain sand bars and beaches through the canyons. These sandbars and beaches are important to protecting habitats, native vegetation, cultural resources and recreation in the Grand Canyon. It also provides important new tools for protecting endangered fish through Glen Canyon and the Grand Canyon such as experimental flows and mechanical methods for controlling non-native fish and improving the aquatic food base.

The LTEMP will not affect the amount of water that would be available annually for communities and agriculture based on the annual water flow between Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Colorado River Basin water allocations are unchanged by the LTEMP Record of Decision. Those allocations and annual deliveries will continue consistent with the Colorado River Compact and other existing statutes, treaties, regulations and agreements governing Colorado River water allocation, appropriation, development and exportation.

Secretary Jewell underscored how crucial work like this is for the American public, “We’ve kept politics out of it; politics belong out of this because water is life, we’re dependent on it and it’s really, really important that we get it right.”

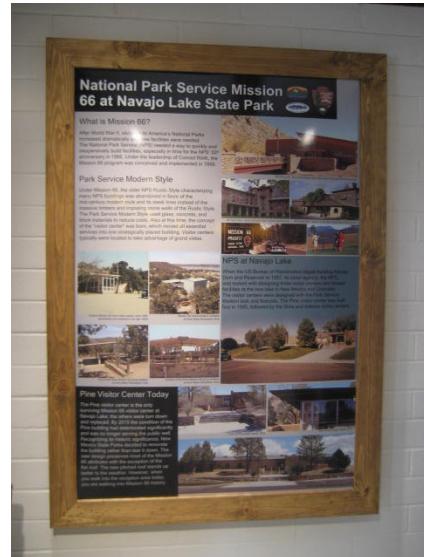
The LTEMP now moves toward a phased implementation of the alternative described in the Record of Decision. New monthly release volumes will begin this month. Adjusted ramp rates and fluctuations will be phased in by the fourth quarter of 2017. Experimental flows and non-flow experiments under this new plan will be implemented after September 30, 2017, to allow for agreements, planning and budgeting adjustments for new LTEMP priorities.



Navajo Lake Visitor Center gets a Facelift

New Mexico State Parks recently completed renovations and additions to the Visitor Center at Navajo Lake State Park and celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, December 2, 2016.

The visitor center was originally built in 1965 as part of the National Parks' "Mission 66" building program. Building renovations provide significant energy saving features, including: updated electrical and IT systems and new heating, air-conditioning, lighting, insulation, windows and doors. New water-saving plumbing fixtures were installed and renovations were designed to meet current accessibility standards for all visitors. The patio area was expanded by over three times, providing a spectacular view of the lake for outdoor events and a 30-seat indoor classroom was added for instruction and public events.



Additionally, two new pay booth stations were constructed on the entrance road to the lake to expedite visitor traffic during busy holidays and weekends. The booths provide staff with computers, radio access and a comfortable work space. There is also a new electronic billboard to alert visitors of any important messages as well as park events.

Construction began in September 2015 and was completed in October 2016. Total construction costs were \$1,215,000, with over half provided by a grant from Reclamation, the underlying land owners and the other portion provided by State matching funds.

The Art of Flamenco

By Barbara Miller
Albuquerque Area Office

On Wednesday October 26, the Albuquerque Area Office hosted a diversity program for Hispanic Heritage Month. Special guests from the Institute of Flamenco in Albuquerque came and gave a series of short lectures and demonstrations.

The director of the institute is Eva Encinias and she has been dancing since she was two years old. Her mother taught many different styles of dance, but Eva was hooked on Flamenco early on. She went to the University of New Mexico and ended up working with the school teaching Flamenco. In 1985, classes were launched. In 1995, the University of New Mexico became the first school to offer a Bachelor of Arts in Dance with a Flamenco concentration. Students now come to study Flamenco at UNM from all over the world.



Ms. Encinias spoke of the origins of Flamenco throughout the demonstration. Flamenco has its roots with the Gypsies around the 16th century. As they travelled throughout Europe, Moorish (or Arab), Jewish, indigenous Andalusians and Indian (from India) influences were added. It has been considered an outlet of the poor and oppressed, since at one time in Spain Gypsies were only allowed to live in certain areas.

Flamenco is composed of three main parts, the Baile (dancing), the Cante (singing) and the Toque (guitar), each were added at different times. One of the extraordinary things about Flamenco is that it is very spontaneous. The singer will begin a Cante, and the dancers and guitarists improvise to the song. The singer will adapt the song in response to the Baile and Toque. It requires all the artists to pay close attention to each other and to understand all aspects not just their own.

Flamenco is a vibrant alive dance that changes and is changed by the different people and countries it touches. It was an incredible event and we all intend to learn more about Flamenco.

Glen Canyon Field Division Dino Alaraji Gold Safety Medal



The Upper Colorado Region's Facility Safety Recognition Program assessment for 2016 resulted in the Glen Canyon Field Division receiving the Dino Alaraji Gold Safety Medal.

The Field Division takes great pride in this achievement, as it recognizes their focus on safety during a year that presented their staff with a large volume of fast-paced schedules involving major capital improvements and maintenance tasks.

Finding Where to Find Fish

Are you sick and tired of scattered fisheries data? Of phishing endlessly through mounds of incompatible spreadsheets and databases and still not finding fish? Well, have we got the map for you!

Arizona's native fish have declined over the 20th century, and aquatic habitat loss and alteration through irrigation diversions, dams, and groundwater pumping creates challenges for both sportfish and native fish. Addressing these management and conservation challenges relies on easily accessing the extensive existing information on distribution and abundance of species from Arizona Game and Fish Department's (AZGFD) ten sport and native fish programs and many other government and non-governmental sources. Yet the types of data collected and reported vary widely—comparing data across years, surveys, and investigators is difficult.

But now, thanks to this Southern Rockies and Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC) project that partnered with the AZGFD and the University of Washington, fish data for two vital watersheds in Arizona are no longer siloed in disparate program datasets but rather can be accessed via a single web-based application that supports not only data entry, but also data filtering and export, and



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report generation. With these clean digitally referenced historic fish records, future watershed based fish management efforts will have easy access to historical records. This robust geospatial fisheries database provides data for the Verde River watershed in north-central Arizona (Desert LCC) and the Little Colorado River (Southern Rockies LCC) watershed in north-eastern Arizona.

One of the greatest challenges with data management is fitting it all together. What sets this effort apart from previous data compilation efforts is both the magnitude of data compiled from each watershed and assignment of a reach code to each fish record. Reach codes allow researchers to integrate the physical and environmental geospatial data provided by the National Hydrography Dataset.

You can use this data to assess the current conservation status of native fishes, quantify the extent of species invasions, and establish baseline distributions with which to evaluate the effects changing environments. This tool can help make data driven decisions and identify important areas for water conservation at a watershed and statewide scale.

- Contact Bill Stewart BStewart@azgfd.gov for datasets
- Visit Southern Rockies LCC website for all project proposal and reports:
<https://southernrockieslcc.org>

See the results for this study (A Landscape Approach for Fisheries Database Compilation and Predictive Modeling) at: <http://tinyurl.com/Az-fish-data>



First pool encountered on Rock Creek where GINI were caught.



Slips, Trips and Falls Safety Tips

Prevention

- Wear Proper Foot Gear
- Take smaller steps when walking
- Walk slowly and never run on icy ground
- Keep both hands free for balance rather than in your pockets
- Use handrails from start to finish
- Avoid carrying loads
- Keep your eyes on where you are going
- Test potentially slick areas by tapping your foot on them
- Step-don't jump from vehicles or equipment
- Keep walkways clear of debris, water, ice and slippery materials



Safe Winter Walking

- Plan ahead; give yourself sufficient time and plan your route
- Wear shoes that provide traction on snow or ice: rubber and neoprene composite. Avoid plastic or leather soles
- Walk in designated walkways as much as possible
- If a walkway is completely covered with ice; try to travel along its grassy edge for traction



When given no choice but to walk on ice, consider the following:

- Take short steps or shuffle for stability
- Bend slightly, walk flat-footed with your center of gravity directly over the feet as much as possible
- Be prepared to fall
- If you fall, fall with sequential contacts at your thigh, hip and shoulder to avoid using your arms to protect against breakage
- Roll with the fall. Try to twist and roll backwards, rather than falling forward
- Relax as much as possible when you begin to fall
- Bend your back and head forward so you won't slam your head on the pavement as your feet shoot out from under you.
- Toss the load you are carrying. Protect yourself instead of the objects being carried.

When entering buildings, remove snow and water from footwear to prevent wet slippery conditions indoors.

Native American Heritage Month

November is designated as Native American Heritage Month by the federal government. The Bureau of Reclamation has many historical and present day projects working with various tribes and pueblos. To celebrate and learn about Native Culture the Albuquerque Area Office hosted a special diversity event on Wednesday November 16, 2016.

Several members of the Albuquerque Area Office staff are Native American and wished to share their tribal heritage with the office. They worked together to teach and share some of their traditions with their office family. The event began with Archeologist Mark Hungerford, who gave a brief lecture on cultural sensitivity. Hungerford explained how cultural bias and the blindness that accompany it keeps people from understanding others. Each tribal member shared a bit about their particular tribe and offered a few words in their languages. Participants then headed to the warehouse and outdoors for the various demonstrations.



Liza Yazzie is a Navajo of the To'hajiilee chapter (about an hour from Albuquerque) and she brought in and shared a rug her grandmother, Gladys Platero, had woven. Adrienne Wilson is from the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and a basket maker. Her basket making class was popular and several folks worked hard to make their own baskets. Todd Kirkpatrick is Choctaw and introduced Stickball, the Native (and original) version of field hockey to the AAO. Barbara Miller is Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and a potter. Several folks, unafraid of getting muddy, learned how to make their own pinch pots.

All the presenters also brought in and shared some traditional foods. Jonathan Aubuchon's wife, Jenie, is a Navajo from Gallup and brought in a batch of frybread dough. Everyone enjoyed trying to make their own piece of frybread, especially the tasting part. Liza shared Navajo Tea (sweet and fragrant), Adrienne brought grape dumplings (wonderful!) and Barbara brought a squash stew. Todd made a marvelous Three Sisters dish. Three Sisters refers to corn, beans and squash, which were traditionally grown together. Squash was grown in a mound, with corn in the center so the bean vine could wrap around the corn stalk and use it as a natural stake.

For those who wish to understand more about various Native peoples, it is recommended that you contact the individual tribes or pueblos. Today most of the federally and state recognized tribes have tribally made and run websites that share information with the public. In addition, PowWows.com offers information about attending pow wows, many videos to enjoy and contacts for educators.

“šaaye niihka” (Shy ah / Nee ka) -goodbye my friend in Miami

Please visit-

<http://www.cherokee.org/> (Adrienne Wilson's Tribe)

<http://www.navajo-nsn.gov/> (Liza Yazzie's Tribe)

<https://www.choctawnation.com/> (Todd Kirkpatrick's Tribe)

<http://miamination.com/> (Barbara Miller's Tribe)



Participants weaving baskets.



Top 10 List for Preparedness on a Budget

1. Plan for the types of disasters that can happen in the area where you live. You may need to plan for a snowstorm instead of a hurricane.
2. Create your own personalized list. You may not need everything included in “ready-made” kits and there may be additional items you need based on your personal situation. For example, if you have pets, you may need special items. Don’t forget to have supplies in your car and at work.
3. Budget emergency preparedness items as a “normal” expense. Even \$20 a month can go a long way to helping you be ready. Buy one preparedness item each time you go to the grocery store.
4. Save by shopping sales. Make use of coupons and shop at stores with used goods. Don’t replace your ready kit items annually, just replace and cycle through those items that have a shelf life (e.g. batteries, food). You may want to test the radio and flashlight every September to make sure they are in good working order.
5. Store water in safe containers. You don’t have to buy more expensive bottled water, but make sure any containers you use for water storage are safe and disinfected.
6. Request preparedness items as gifts. We all receive gifts we don’t need or use. What if your friends and family members gave you gifts that could save your life? Don’t forget to protect them by sending preparedness gifts their way too.
7. Think ahead. You are more likely to save money if you can take your time with focused and strategic shopping. It’s when everyone is at the store right before a storm hits that prices are going to be higher. Use a list to avoid duplicating items when you are stressed or panicked.
8. Review your insurance policy annually and make necessary changes. When a disaster strikes, you want to know that your coverage will help you get back on your feet. Renters need policies too, in order to cover personal property.
9. Update contact records. Have an accurate phone list of emergency contact numbers. If you are prepared, you may be able to help friends and neighbors who need assistance. By sharing preparedness supplies, you can help each other.
10. Trade one night out to fund your 72-hour kit. Taking a family of four to the movies can cost upwards of \$80-\$100. Just one night of sacrifice could fund a 72-hour ready kit.

Congratulate yourself. The majority of Americans are not prepared. Pre-planning will help you and your family better survive a disaster.

EMERGENCIES HAPPEN. ARE YOU READY?



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Who's New

Tyler Spencer

Acquisitions Management Division



I applied for an internship in the Provo Area Office. Honestly, prior to working here, I had never even heard of Reclamation.

Some stuff about me, I have a family of 6. My parents, an older brother and sister-in-law, and an older sister, and myself.

I enjoy competition, so I love playing any kind of sport or game that allows my competitiveness to come out. Umm, I guess you can throw video games in there as a hobby of mine.

I wouldn't say I have a specific favorite book, a few series that I enjoyed are the Giver series, Harry Potter series, Divergent, Hunger Games and Maze Runner.

My favorite genre of books is Fantasy/Fictional and movies would be Horror/Suspense. A television character you simply adore would be Leslie Knope and Andy Dwyer, both from Parks and Recreation. My taste in music is mostly 70's, 80's and 90's rock, but enjoy some modern rock.

My favorite place, holiday and activities are Halloween season and Disneyland and sometimes both together.

The one word to describe myself, what would it be driven.

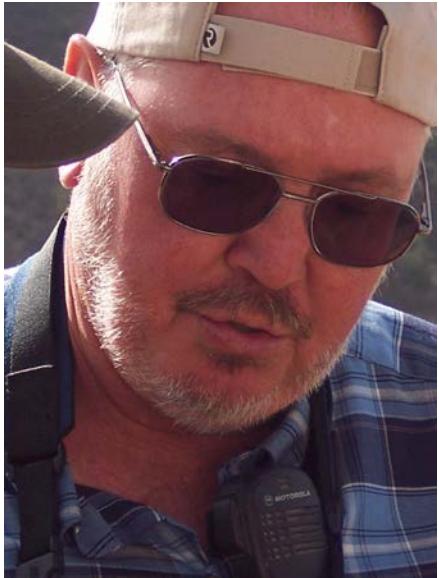
“Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak – courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.”
Winston Churchill



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In Transition

Dave Gates, Four Corners Construction Office Photographer, Retires



Dave Gates, longtime photographer with the Four Corners Construction Office (FCCO), retired at the end of 2016 with over 40 years of Federal service.

Dave started his career in Denver, Colorado, in 1973 as a Photographic Lithographer with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) where his work involved making the photographic press plates for USGS topographic and geologic maps. He went through a Reduction-in-Force (RIF) in 1981 from that position, but was rehired by a contractor for the USGS doing the same job through 1984.

Dave was then subsequently hired back to the USGS as a Cartographic Technician, working in that position until 1988 when he was hired as a Photographer for Reclamation's Grand Junction Projects Office, which later became part of the Western Colorado

Area Office. He served in that position until 1994, where he experienced another RIF, but was rehired by the USGS to work in the Earth Science Information Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, with no break in service. He held this position until 1997, when he was selected for the Photographer position with the Farmington Construction Office, now Four Corners Construction Office, in which he served the remainder of his career.

During his nearly twenty years of service with the FCCO, Dave was responsible for the photographic documentation of construction on the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project, Animas-La Plata (A-LP) Project, Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project and numerous Safety of Dams projects. Additionally he served as an inspector on A-LP's Ridges Basin Dam and also conducted over 600 public outreach tours during the construction of the that project.

The span of his career witnessed dramatic changes in technology from the use of dark rooms and chemicals for developing lithographs and photographs and the use of a stereoscope for the production of maps, to that of digital photography and computer imaging. His knowledge of the Reclamation projects and history throughout the Upper Colorado Region will be missed.

In retirement, Dave has many home projects to complete and plans to continue his interest in wood working. Congratulations, Dave and thank you for your service!

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Lynette Rock New Contracting Supervisor

During my junior year at the University of Utah, I asked my career counselor for some business opportunities that were open at the time. It was August of 2009. She had a SCEP announcement for a Student Trainee in procurement. It sounded interesting so I came in for an interview. I thought that I had not received the job, as 30+ days had gone by and I had not heard anything from Reclamation. I did,



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however, get a call offering me the position in October, which I hesitantly took since I had no real idea what the position required. Also, the tall grey cubicle walls did not help. I decided to take the job and see where it took me. Since then, I have been with Reclamation...8 years, 2 months, and counting.



I love spending time with my two sweet dogs, Chip and Jake. They are both black lab mixes and rescues. I like to read Forbes and the Wall Street Journal. I also just built a house, so there are several projects that are on my to-do list. My family consists of me, my husband, Patrick, and my two little pups, Chip and Jake.

A talent that I have is that I can move my ears. Yep, that's about it.

I try to catch every episode of good dog trainers, like The Dog Whisperer, and Caesar 911, to help me be a better human to my dogs. If they are misbehaving, it is typically because I am doing something wrong. I love to watch HGTV. I want to try several cool projects that have been shared on their shows or online. One day, I'll have the time to work on some of them.

I am fluent in Spanish, and sometimes English, depending on the day.

I really love Isabelle Allende's *The House of the Spirits*. It really speaks to my soul. I also enjoy the *Shopaholic* Book Series by Sophie Kinsella as they are quirky and fun.

I like lots of different genres of movies, if the movie is good. I would, however, say my preferred genres are Historical and Documentary type films. As for books, I do not have much time to read books unfortunately, since I am typically reading the FAR or WIFCON (holla to my Contracting Peeps) on my iPhone, before bed. When I do download a book to read, I will typically get a biography, autobiography, or self-help type book that someone has recommended.

The television character I simply adore is Betty White in Golden Girls. I mean, she is just so cute!

I grew up with music in my life, so I can appreciate every kind of music, except screamer or bluegrass. My favorite music is anything in a minor key that sounds melancholy, like the Secret Garden sound track. It relaxes and refocuses me.

I play the piano and the cello. I've also dabbled in the flute. My very first instrument was the clarinet. I was in several choirs growing up and sang with the University of Utah choirs. I was a voice student from the time I was in high school throughout my undergraduate years.

As for dance, when I was a kid I was super shy and had a hard time going to parties and dancing. This was very difficult as I grew up in the Hispanic culture where dancing is a main event at any party or gathering. I actually started teaching Zumba to conquer my fear of dancing in front of people. I taught Zumba classes for about 2 years. I don't feel strongly about dancing, one way or another, eh...



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My favorite place is the northern shores of Oahu. I love grabbing a book or a magazine, going down to the beach, and just relaxing. My favorite holiday is Thanksgiving. I love the food and there is no gift pressure. It's also fall, which happens to be my favorite season.

One word to best describe me would be, confident. I am confident in my abilities in my work life and in my personal life. If I am not confident in myself, then why should others trust me and my abilities? I have to believe in myself first and foremost; everything else will fall into place.

"Every minute of every day, you are interviewing for your next job." – Someone
"Give a Girl the Right Shoes, and she can Conquer the World." – Marilyn Monroe

###

Connie Jean Oberhansly Bybee (1944-2016)



"Hi Honey, I'm Home"

Connie Jean Oberhansly Bybee. At age 65 she was diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic breast cancer. At age 72, she passed away at home surrounded by loving family. During this time of challenging trials, there were also 7 years of God's inspiring miracles that were undeniable, and extended her life, medically speaking, because, in all actuality according to doctors, she shouldn't have been here. She beat the odds for 7 years.

Connie was a faithful member of the LDS church; doting grandma, loving mother, beloved sister and aunt. She was also a retired U.S. government regional realty specialist. She was known as "the auditor's auditor" because of her participation in the 5-yr O&G financial audit, her ability to find old historical documents, and her love of administering the land inventory program and protecting both private and public land assets.

She was positive thinking, non-judgmental, without guile, and lived life for her family and the friendships she cherished. She was passionate for daily devotionals, eating Jim's cooking, family activities, horses, genealogy, and politics. Last year she learned how to plant zinnias and a garden "in honor of Jim." Her all-time favorite movie is Sound of Music. She loved the piano and had one in her home at all times, exposing her grandkids to their first piano lessons.

She cherished her roles as youngest rodeo queen and land steward. She honored her grandparents who were pioneers to the Uintah Basin through her work in land stewardship. She spent many hours helping landmen and attorneys solve complex title issues. This love of country land led her to love city land in Salt Lake.

Connie was born to Kenneth LeRoy Oberhansly and Marjorie Ellen Roberts Oberhansly on May 28, 1944, in Vernal, Utah.

Shortly after graduating from Union High School in 1962, she moved to Salt Lake and enrolled in LDS Business College to further her college pursuits. Because of her business acumen and skills she was



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selected to work for the U.S government in the oil and gas division of the geological survey. Since she was known as the blonde who kept running out of gas, it was just natural that she would meet her sweetheart, and future husband of 47 years, at his brother-in-law's John Sharich Chevron Service Station.

They were married on July 27, 1971. Their marriage was solemnized 43 years later in the Salt Lake Temple on October 19, 2013. Their love was blessed by the arrival of two amazing children Jen and Jeff; and four precious grandchildren Paige, Chase, Jonah, and Malia. Connie has left a legacy of love through the many miracles that have occurred in the Bybee family.

Connie is preceded in death by her parents, brother, and husband.

She is survived by her children Jen (Jason) Rollins, Jeff (Crystal) Bybee, grandchildren Paige and Chase Rollins, Jonah and Malia Bybee, and many beloved nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

The family expresses heartfelt thanks to the Huntsman Cancer Institute dream team, Dr. Ward, Rosalee Conder, Dr Lor Randall and Robert. Radiation team, Millcreek Hospice, and the nurses who provided tender, loving care for her.

**MY DEAR STEEL MAGNOLIA FRIEND,
CONNIE BYBEE**

Written by Evelyn Rogina Doussard

I have been so very blessed to have had Connie as my dear friend for over 30 years. She, I and Barbara Taylor went to see the movie, "Steel Magnolias." Connie immediately gave the three of us the title of "The Steel Magnolias." From then on, all correspondence to one another was signed as "Steel Magnolia." Connie defined each of us as one of the actresses in the movie. I can't remember who she said I represented. She only said I had to be that particular actress as I was the strong one. But I was not. Connie easily proved herself the strongest and most resilient of the three of us. Two weeks before her passing, I sat and visited with her. I wanted to do something for her ...to let her know I loved her....but what? Then I knew. She asked me to start writing again, I went home and wrote this gift of love for her and took it to her home the next day.

FOR CONNIE BYBEE, MY DEAR STEEL MAGNOLIA FRIEND,

I wanted to give you a special gift
So I looked and I sought,
For the gift that I had planned to find
Could never be made nor bought;

It had to express the friendship
We have shared these many years,
From "Ruth's Diner" and "Epic" lunches
To our sorrows shared with tears;

No price can be put on friendship,
We can choose to give or hold;
We each have a treasure that's ours alone
A gift not to bought nor sold;



One night I knew what I wanted for you
So I walked up a grassy hill
And sat upon a low, flat rock
Below heavens sparkling and still;

In the velvet darkness I waited
When suddenly the gift appeared,
Quickly I reached to grab it,
This gift that was so dear;

But it slipped right through my fingers
And swiftly passed me by,
This bright and beautiful glowing star
Falling through an endless sky;

And so I continued my search
For the perfect gift for you,
When on a stormy day I saw
A shimmering colored hue;

A glowing rainbow had appeared
Against the blue-grey sky
Gently, my hand closed around it,
This beauty before my eyes;

I would wrap it in flowing ribbons,
Reflecting the shimmer of each band,
But when I looked to see its colors,
The rainbow floated from my hand.

Sadly I hung my head
For now my quest was through;
Neither twinkling star nor rainbow,
I had nothing, nothing to give to you;

Quietly I sat on a mossy knoll
When suddenly I knew!
Why, I held your gift all this time,
This gift I'd give to you;

It couldn't be wrapped in paper
Or flowing ribbons of colored hues,
It couldn't be put in a box or bag
This gift that's meant for you;

I give to you my gift of love
And my friendship tried and true,
Should you ever need me, call,



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And I will come to you;

But you heard another voice...
A gentle voice none of us could hear;
Speaking to you with love,
His hand reaching down to take you there

It was time for you to leave us
And move on to his heavenly realm
Your loving Jim was waiting
Surrounded by family and friends;

You broke earth's bonds
Of pain and strife
To live with the Lord
In his comforting Light;

So now my friend, I say farewell,
But only for a while
For one day I will join you
With laughter and a smile...

###

**Evan Rudd
(1930-2016)**



Evan N. Rudd of Murray, Utah, passed from this life on December 14, 2016. Evan Nish Rudd was born in Plymouth, Utah, March 8, 1930, the second son and third child of George Clark & Electa Margaret Nish Rudd. Siblings, Leora Penhorwood, (Gene), Oris (Delphia Bunderson), Ross (Bonnie Hansen), Norman George (DeAnn Wood) He attended grade school in Fielding and Garland, UT. He graduated from Bear River High, Garland, UT in the class of 1948.

He married Carolyn Brough in the Logan Temple on Nov. 12, 1948. To that union came 4 children, Bradley C, Julie Ann, Paula Kaye & Barry Lynn. Sadly, that union came to an end 24 years later.

On August 19, 1950, Evan was activated with the 204th F.A. Battalion of the Utah National Guard. They were shipped to Fort Lewis Washington and trained until Jan 1951 when the Unit was shipped to take part in the Korean War (euphemistically called the Forgotten War). After ten months of combat, he returned to Fort Carson CO. to train other men as replacements in Korea. He was honorably discharged from the Army in April. 1952. In the fall of 1952, the family moved to Logan, Utah and enrolled at the Utah State University, where he made lifelong friends. He graduated in 1956 with a BS degree in Agronomy and went to work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), in Spokane, Washington. While working for the BIA, he was transferred to Grand Coulee Dam, Washington, where he mapped the soils or the Colville Indian Reservation, then transferred to Fort Hall, Idaho as a Farm planner. He was instrumental in renting



large acreage on the Fort Hall Reservation, which were idle at that time, thus providing an income for the Indian Land owners. In 1962, he left the Government and over the next 10 years, held several positions including the County Extension Agent in Randolph Utah; fertilizer salesman for Phillips Petroleum Co.; field man for Utah Idaho Sugar Co.; farmer in Blackfoot, Idaho; farm adviser for American Oil; a stint at Hill Air Force Field as a Mechanic; and then he went to work for the Government at the Bureau of Land Management in the Salt Lake Area Office. After 10 years, he transferred to the Bureau of Reclamation as a Negotiator. While there, he was instrumental in obtaining the land for the Jordanelle Reservoir and other projects in the Upper Colorado Region, and finally retiring in Jan 1993.

In Oct 1975, he married Ethel Lynn Pease Hampton, in the Salt Lake Temple. Ethel brought to the union 2 children, Kollynn Pantuso, Michael Joseph Hampton, (preceded Evan and Ethel in death, July 2002,) Three grandchildren, Angela Smith (Rustin), Justin and Melissa Pantuso. Evan loved these children as his own. Ethel preceded Evan in death, Aug 29th 2014.

Evan was devoted to family; he loved his parents, siblings, children, step children, grandchildren and great grandchildren very much. Evan was faithful and true to his religion. He was active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints all of his life, and kept dear to his heart a love for the gospel. He served in many callings including Bishopric, Scoutmaster, and Mutual President. He and Ethel served as ordnance workers in the Jordan River Temple. He served as host and usher at the conference center downtown, and really enjoyed that job. He loved to be of service. Evan was never happier than when someone came to visit; he kept life longs friends. He loved traveling and farming most. He was a marvelous gardener, craftsman, and musician. He loved being busy and engaged. Later in life, he and Ethel spent their winters first in Yuma, Arizona, and then St George, Utah. He loved being in St George where many of friends also resided. Evan thought we all should be patriotic for he loved his country. Evan is survived by his children, Bradley (Betty Krens), Julie, (Scott Cordon, preceded Dad in death Sept, 2007), Paula (Peter Strohmeyer), Barry (Kathy Moosman), Kollynn Pantuso. Fifteen Grandchildren, Russell, Jenny, Natalie, Gary Cordon, Melanie, Lindsay, Shannon, Paul, Jonathan Rudd, Adam, Holly Rudd, Mercedes Yuschak, Angela, Justin, Melissa Pantuso, and 27 Great Grandchildren. He will be greatly missed.

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Orin B. Winn (1940-2016)



Orin B Winn of Salt Lake City, Utah, passed away November 30, 2016.

Loving father, grandfather a friend will be truly missed. Succeeded in death by his parents (Marion and Erma Winn) sisters (Deyon Cazier and Ermadean Winn) and brother (Carl Winn). Survived by brothers (Paul Winn and Clair Winn) and sister (Idella Winn) and sons (Douglas and Pam Winn and David and Christina Winn). Orin was born in Winder, Idaho, and raised in Preston, Idaho, before moving to Salt Lake City. As an avid golfer, Orin enjoyed spending his days swinging away and brining smiles to everyone he met.



Upper Colorado Region's Employee Photo Contest



January 2017 Winner!



Carolyn Donnelly – Elephant Butte Dam



Stacey Smith – The Tree



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Pat Page - Glen Canyon Dam High-Flow Experiment



Scott Branham - Navajo Dam



Robert Stump - Canon Largo, near Bloomfield, NM



Ann-Marie Hicks - Two Elves



Dave Winslow - Scanning at Glen Canyon Dam



Chico Quintana - Cutter Reservoir



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Chico Quintana - Cutter Reservoir



David Klein - Morrow Point Stilling Basin Inspection



Jeff Painter - Ken Browning's Surprise Birthday



Chico Quintana - Cutter Reservoir



David Klein - Morrow Point Stilling Basin Inspection



Ryan Christianson - Grand Valley



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Ryan Christianson - Grand Valley



Victor Salazar – New Mexico / Colorado Border

Reclamation Trivia

Here's this week's set of questions:

1. November is designated as _____ by the federal government.
2. Flamenco has its roots with the _____ around the _____ century.
3. The visitor center was originally built in _____ as part of the National Parks' “_____” building program.

Last week, We asked,

1. The Curecanti Field Division (CFD) received the Dino al-Araji Gold Safety Medal (formally the **Regional Director's Gold Safety Medal**).
2. According to the National Fire Protection Association, **860** home fires caused by holiday decorations occur each year. An additional **210** house fires are caused by Christmas trees per year.
3. There are only four steps required to become less stressed and more resilient: **Wake up (and stay awake), Control your attention, Detach, Let go**

Last winner was – **Marie Nybo**

Please use this [link to send your answers](#). To be fair we will draw names from the winners and one person will receive a prize. We will reach into the prize bin for something suitable for the winner...as long as supplies last.

[Return to UC Today](#)



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