

NOAA's NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Western Region Notes

February 9, 2007

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

2006 Bronze Medal Awards:

Please join me in congratulating the following offices and individuals for their dedicated service to NOAA and selection for the 2006 Bronze Medal Awards:

WFO Phoenix, AZ - for an aggressive campaign with the media and local action agencies to raise public awareness about protective actions which needed to be taken in order to survive the extreme heat episode of June 29- July 21, 2005.

WFO Portland, OR and Northwest River Forecast Center - for Flood warnings, river forecasts, and precipitation and temperature updates provided during the Northwest Oregon and Southwest Washington flood events which occurred between December 18, 2005, and February 4, 2006.

WFO San Francisco Bay Area, WFO Sacramento, CA, WFO Reno, NV, WFO Eureka CA, and California-Nevada River Forecast Center – for life and property-saving warning services in California and Nevada during the severe “New Years” flooding of 2005 – 2006, floods which caused \$540 million in damages, but resulted in only three lives lost in an affected population area of four million.

The following WR individuals received the 2006 Bronze Medal as part of a group award to NWS staff that volunteered for FEMA post-disaster relief operations after multiple hurricane strikes in 2005:

Jane Hollingsworth – MIC - Reno WFO

Michael Khuat - ITO- San Diego WFO

Kirsten Elson – Meteorologist -Portland WFO

William Snyder - ITO - Pocatello WFO (now at WFO New Orleans)

Robert Sumpter – Electronics Technician – Spokane WFO (no longer with agency)

Retirement:



Herb Loell (ESA Elko) retired the first week in January after 41 years of federal service including over 20 years with the NWS. Herb worked at the Nuclear Support Office in southern Nevada for several years, and served as the WFO Sioux Falls, SD, Area Electronics Supervisor in the early 1990's. He moved to Elko in 1994 and filled the ESA position until retirement. Herb was honored at a luncheon in Elko with close friends and several WFO Elko staff in attendance. Congratulations, Herb! We wish you the best in your future endeavors.

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION

SERVICE OF THE WEEK: This week's service of the week goes to WFO San Diego and particularly to Forecaster Miguel Miller, and ITO Michael Khuat. Miguel Miller developed a database of ten sites across the CWFA. For each site he developed a table of normal max/min temps, records, and precipitation information for each day of the year. Also included is an "On This Day" feature. It recounts various events in weather history that occurred in the CWA on the featured date. Michael Khuat developed a way to access these 366 files for each day and post them to the Web Page. You can see the results of their efforts on the WFO San Diego Web Page. Click on "This Day in History" at the top of the page. It updates automatically at midnight. Nice work!

NWS Billings Hosts Media Day Event: NWS Billings hosted a Media Day on January 24th. The two-hour event was packed full of demonstrations and presentations. The purpose of the event was to present local media with the latest information regarding NWS products and services. Besides several short presentations, the attendees were treated to an office tour and demonstrations of AWIPS, GFE, GHG, and WarnGen. A NWS Media Guide was also distributed for use as a quick reference binder back at their stations. The event was well received. In a thank you note from Ed McIntosh, Billings KULR8 weather anchor, Ed stated, *"The one single strongest message I got from Media Day is that you are there to help. I'm looking forward to improving the quality and quantity of the information I'm disseminating by using the WFO more effectively through the phone and the internet in my day to day broadcasts."*

Boise CFC Drive:

The Boise WFO staff continued their enthusiastic support of the Combined Federal Campaign this year. Generous contributions this year totaled \$10,934. The increase in total contributions and whopping 88% staff participation resulted in BOI WFO receiving the CFC Presidents award for the second year in a row (three out of the last four years).



The campaign success can be attributed to the enthusiastic leadership of campaign coordinators, Dawn Fishler and Susan Wines, and to ESA, Mike Pereira who made a special challenge to the staff. Mike, who has not cut his hair since November of 1982, offered to have his hair cut in the office if the staff would come up with a 30% increase over last year's donations. The staff blew right past Mike's challenge goal, with a 39% increase. Keeping his word, Mike had his hair cut in front of the entire staff prior to the CFC celebration pot-luck lunch at the office. The CFC is a fun way to rally the staff and help those in need.



Reno and Pocatello Forecasters Provide Weather Lessons:



Reno General Forecaster Gina Beninato and HMT Scott McGuire provided a weather lesson to kindergarten students at Legacy Christian School in Sparks, Nevada on January 29th. Gina is shown here giving an interactive weather demonstration to the students. Scott indicated the “tornado machine” was a huge hit and the students were “mist”-ified by it.



In Pocatello, Senior Forecaster Mike Huston provided a talk to twenty-two 1st grade students at the Holy Spirit Catholic School. The topic focused on winds. Mike explained how winds are the result of differential heating caused by the sun and used a simple experiment to demonstrate the concept. He also used wind vanes constructed out of cardboard to discuss the concept of wind direction. And for the big finale, Mike talked about tornadoes. Using a simple experiment, each child was provided an opportunity to produce a mini-tornado. After the kids settled down from the thrill of developing a tornado, he discussed tornado safety procedures. Great fun was had by all!



(L to R): WCM Ryan Sandler, Forecasters Frederic Bunnag, Mike Johnson, Katie Burtis and Sven Nelaimischkies prepare for their trip on a 47 ft Motor Lifeboat

Medford Fam Float: On January 17th the USCG Lifeboat Station Coos Bay hosted a group of Medford forecasters on a familiarization trip over the Coos Bay Bar and to the near shore coastal waters. Forecaster Sven Nelaimischkies “mistakenly” informed the Coxswain that the group wanted to experience bar crossing conditions, a request to which he complied with bearing a wry smile. After almost an hour of bobbing about on differing locations between the jetties and just offshore, the group came to appreciate the hazards of a bar crossing as their ruddy windblown complexions become infused with shades of green. The Coast Guard

crew gave very good insight into the local wave conditions, and this experience help Medford’s staff to develop a special wave forecast too for the Coos Bay Bar.



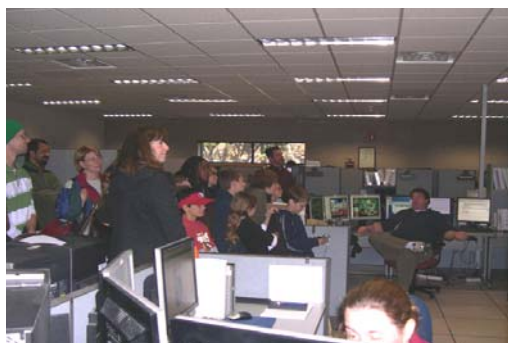
Eastern Idaho Emergency Coordinators sample and grade the culinary delights

Is it Chilly or Chili? - A Ground Hog Day Celebration:

In order to promote team spirit, WFO PIH hosted their fourth-annual Ground Hog Day (Chilly) Chili cook-off. The morning began with twenty-seven emergency coordinators, sheriffs, Eastern Idaho Interagency Fire Center, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security emergency coordinators, NOAA ARL from Idaho Falls, Pocatello Airport TSA, Southeast Health District and TV weathercasters / reporters listening to a spring hydrologic briefing and seasonal outlook by Service Hydrologist Sherrie Hebert. Western Region Fire Program Manager, Roger Lamoni,

discussed services and the use of IMETs for all-hazards situations. Next, WCM Vernon Preston gave the official "Pocatello Phil" ground hog outlook. After the chili cook-off, General Forecaster Mike Cantin provided an overview of outreach ideas developing for Idaho. Vern Preston finished the event with a rousing "Weather Jeopardy" session to test the participants' weather information skills.

TV reporters used the opportunity to talk about how they would use the outlook information to assist their communities and prepare for potential flooding. Combining the hydrologic outlook with emergency manager preparedness and the fun of Ground Hog's Day into one story made for great copy during the evenings TV news.



Map Briefing to Fifth Graders: Lead Forecaster Mark Strobin (in photo, seated at right) gave a map briefing to a group of 5th Grade Students from Rio Del Mar School in Aptos, CA. WCM Dave Soroka organized the tour, providing students the "bigger picture" about National Weather Service. The students were also provided with an up-close look at AWIPS, CRS, and Weather Observing Equipment.



Monterey County Tsunami Workshop: WCM Dave Soroka (photo, standing at center) provided a presentation detailing the role of the local WFO during a tsunami event at a Monterey County Tsunami Workshop, sponsored by California State Office of Emergency Services (OES). About 30 people were in attendance, including county Monterey County Sheriffs, Monterey County OES, first responders from coastal cities, and response

personnel from neighboring counties. Bruce Turner from the West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center (WCATWC) also attended and provided a presentation on WCATWC operations. The workshop proved highly successful in moving Monterey County forward in preparation to becoming "TsunamiReady".

Bakersfield School Receives Meteorology

Career Information: Kevin Durfee recently spent a day speaking about careers in meteorology to approximately 200 students at Beardsely Intermediate School in Bakersfield. This was Kevin's 11th trip to the school in the 12 years that he has worked at WFO San Joaquin Valley as a forecaster. Kevin only missed one of the annual events when he was in the middle of a string of midnight shifts several years ago. Each winter, he looks forward to visiting his adopted school.



HYDROLOGY AND CLIMATE SERVICES DIVISION

Dave Brandon, WRH Chief of Hydrology and Climate Services Division attended three meetings last week at the NWSTTC:

- (1) The National HIC Meeting
- (2) The National HSD Chiefs Meeting
- (3) The National AHPS Review Committee (ARC) Meeting.

There was spirited discussion on Services Evolution in the Hydrology Program, Concept Operations (CONOPS) and possible relations to the RFCs. Gary Carter, Director, Office of Hydrologic Development (OHD), provided an excellent presentation on NOAA's Integrated Water Resources Services and STRESSED the importance of the recent SES summit and the emphasis that was placed on the water and hydrology programs.

Jon Roe, the branch Chief of the Software Development in OHD provided an update on AWIPS and the future of AWIPS-II (service oriented architecture) and explained how the Community Hydrologic Prediction System (CHiPS) program and development currently going on would fit into the future. There was a session on the GFE and its current use at the ABRFC and NWRFC. There was also considerable discussion on the AHPS web services and the plans to move them into the consolidated IT services. The target date for implementation is FY 2008.

Outreach Workshop

The WR Outreach Workshop for WCMs, Senior SHs and RFC Outreach Focal Points is planned for June 18-21st. Most of the meeting will be held jointly with possibly ½ day for

hydro and WCM specific items. Jeff Lorens, WRH/MSD and Scott Dummer, WRH/HCSO are working on the logistics of the workshop. They are close to selecting a hotel and will send out the necessary information as soon as it becomes available. Please feel to contact Jeff, or Scott with any possible agenda topics or ideas.

HPM Conference

Dan Matusiewicz is working to formulate the agenda for the National portion and the regional portions of the Multi-regional Hydrologic Program Manager's Conference to be held July 8-13th in Kansas City. There is a team of WR Hydrology Program Manager's working to formulate the WR break-out portion of the agenda.

Training Developed to Assist WFOs with L3MTO QC

Jenna Meyers, in partnership with OCWWS/CSD, has developed a short GoTo training session, which is designed to provide; a step by step guide through the secondary QC checklist, information on issuing trouble tickets, review of the content on the L3MTO Analysis Resource Center (ARC) webpage, and some examples of various issues that have been found and how they were investigated. Jenna will conduct 2 WR sessions on February 12 at 11:00am MST, and February 16 at 3:00pm MST. After these dates, Jenna will open the training to all WFOs around the country, for 7 additional sessions. WR offices that cannot make the sessions on February 12 or February 16 will be able to sign up for one of the other seven sessions on a first-come-first-serve basis. This GoTo training will eventually be turned into an online presentation.

New Climate Website for Outreach Resources

OCWWS/CSD has created a website for NWS internal use, which contains outreach and climate related fact sheets for both public/external outreach and internal NOAA only information. The website is password protected, meaning you will need your noaa login (example: andrea.bair) and password to access the site at: <https://ocwws.weather.gov/intranet/climate/>. The latest fact sheet released is about ThreadEx, and the next fact sheet to be released will be about Datzilla.

ThreadEx debuts very soon!

ThreadEx is a project to reconstruct fragmented data sets that result from station moves during a period of record. Each WFO was given the opportunity to approve which stations could be threaded together to create this threaded database. This dataset of 270 stations is intended to help report extreme values at prominent observing sites around the country, to reduce media and public confusion about what constitutes an official daily extreme record. The ThreadEx dataset is **NOT** to be used for research purposes, which likely requires data from one specific site. The ThreadEx database can be accessed via <http://threadex.rcc-acis.org>. ThreadEx will be implemented in AWIPS in April 2007 after a beta testing period of February and March. Western Region's beta test site is WFO Monterey.

Heritage Award:

WFO Flagstaff MIC Brian Klimowski and DAPM Byron Peterson traveled to Walnut Grove, AZ, to present the Carter Family with their Family Heritage Award. The Carter Family has been providing meteorological observations to the NWS since May of 1889, an impressive 117 years of service!



WFO Flagstaff DAPM Byron Peterson (far left) presents the Carter Family with their Family Heritage Award.

SCIENTIFIC SERVICES DIVISION

General

Hydromet Testbed (HMT) Update: HMT is approx 50% through field test period. It has been unusually quiet so far this winter. IOP #4 will start Thursday, February 7 and will likely continue through the weekend. OAR has deployed an experimental next generation AWIPS workstation at Sacramento, Reno and Monterey to evaluate experimental model data sets. For more information, please refer to <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/programs/2007/hmt/>

CIRA's Blended Total Precipitable Water Web Imagery is back: To access: <http://amsu.cira.colostate.edu/gpstpw> There have been budget issues in supporting the GPS-MET experimental data set. The data appears to be back for now. NWSHQ is still working on long term operational support

Upcoming Science Workshops

PAC NW Workshop: *March 2-3* This year's workshop will be held on **March 2 and 3** at the Sand Point/NOAA campus in Seattle. Pre-registration is requested for all attendees. You can check for the latest information and register on-line via at: www.atmos.washington.edu/~cliff/PNW2007.html.

WR SOO/DOH Workshop: April 17-19 The next WR SOO/DOH Workshop proposed for April 17-19

AMS Conference: June 24-29 The AMS on Weather Analysis and Forecasting/18th Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction, will be held 24-29 June 2007 at The Yarrow Resort Hotel & Conference Center (Hotel) in Park City, Utah. The WAF conference is focused on the "Analysis and Prediction of High-Impact Weather". Authors of accepted presentations will be notified (via e-mail) by **13 April 2007**

Hydro-Science: (Kevin Werner)

Debris Flow training module: Kevin Werner (WR/SSD) has produced a Debris Flow training module that explains the difference between flash floods and debris flows and summarizes the "lessons learned" from Oxnard/San Diego USGS debris flow experiment. The training module is available at <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/wrh/prism/debrisflow/>

Technology Infusion: (Mike Doney, Jim Pelton)

Instant Messaging: Testing of the Akonix IM device is proceeding. A combined test with Active Directory at Boise is scheduled for second week of February.

Cell Project - Work on the first version will include the integration of text and graphics. Target for Version 1 is March 1.

StormLog - The StormLog database is up and working. A working team conference call has been planned for February 16.

FLARE Version 1 was sent to the WR ITOs and WCMs last week.

Service Evolution/Verification Project: (K. Pomeroy, D. Myrick, A. Sutula)

This winter, WFO's across WR have been broken into 6 working groups to examine the performance of official and model forecasts using BOIVerify during different weather regimes. Important accomplishments from this winter's project thus far include:



Integration of BOIVerify into Operations

- Four rounds of working group conference calls (23 calls) have been held. On these calls, WFO's have shared case studies

contrasting official forecasts to model guidance during different weather regimes. Local case studies are beginning to examine newer products:

- A special team was formed to evaluate methods for verifying **high impact events**. The team has started to look at the issue of QPF verification. On a recent [GoToMeeting](#) conference call, Kevin Werner outlined the pros/cons of the different QPE analyses currently available. The results from this winter's regime-based verification project will be used to justify adopting new forecasting practices.

- The Digital Services Support and Service Evolution Project web pages were redesigned. The web page can be found at: http://ww2.wrh.noaa.gov/ssd/digital_services/

New Western Region Technical Attachments:

- **WR TA 07-03**
[Developing a Wind-Wave Relationship at Buoy 46088 in the Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca](#)
Andrew Haner and Todd Enders, WFO Seattle, WA
- **WR-TA 07-04**
[Analysis of the 22-23 July 2006 Extreme Heat In San Diego County](#)
Brandt Maxwell, WFO San Diego, CA

Training Update:

WDTB: Two new training opportunities from the WDTB

AWOC Core and Severe Tracks – for new hires.

- **Target Audience:** All NWS meteorologists and hydrologists who use the WSR-88D for decision making and who have not yet completed AWOC Core and Severe Tracks. Generally these students will be those graduating the WSR-88D Distance Learning Operations Course (DLOC); however, there may be additional students.

- **Prerequisites:** Completion of the Distance Learning Operations Course (DLOC) or the WSR-88D in-residence course.
- **Course Length:** 28 - 42 hours of course material (depending if the student or course facilitator wants to take the optional modules)
- **Delivery Method:** To meet this requirement WDTB has established new 2007 AWOC Core Track and AWOC Severe Track Learning Paths in the LMS.
- **Enrollment:** WDTB will automatically enroll current DLOC FY07 students into AWOC. If you have additional students who wish to enroll in the 2007 version of Core and Severe AWOC tracks contact WDTB at: awochelp@wdtb.noaa.gov

Data: Quality: Radar Sampling Issues

- **Target Audience:** All NWS meteorologists and hydrologists. The stand-alone lesson is encouraged for those who have already taken previous versions of AWOC.
- **Prerequisite:** Previously completion of the AWOC Core Track. (These were offered in 2005 and again in 2006).
- **Delivery Method:** LMS stand-alone lesson. Please see "AWOC IC Core 4: Data Quality, Lesson 6: Radar Sampling Issues" in the LMS. Otherwise, the lesson is included in the 2007 AWOC Core Track learning path.
- **Module Length:** 30 minute lesson.

COMET:

Snowmelt Processes: Snowmelt Processes is a new foundation topic in the Basic Hydrologic Science course. This webcast reviews the hydrologic concerns associated with snowpack development and subsequent snowmelt characteristics. The presentation is delivered by Matt Kelsch of COMET, and is based on classroom lectures by Don Cline and Tom Carroll of NOAA's National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center (NOHRSC). The webcast reviews the important snow hydrology processes including the development of the snowpack, the evolution of the snowpack, the contributions to snowmelt, and the fate of the melt water. A few cases are reviewed, including rain-on-snow cases. The module may be found at <http://www.meted.ucar.edu/hydro/basic/Snowmelt/index.htm> and requires approximately 1 hour to complete.

Introduction to Ensemble Streamflow Prediction: The second new release is also a webcast entitled, "An Introduction to Ensemble Streamflow Prediction". In this presentation, Dr. Richard Koehler, the National Hydrologic Sciences Training Coordinator for NOAA's NWS, presents basic information on probabilistic streamflow forecasting. Dr. Koehler discusses

the types of organizations that might use probabilistic streamflow forecasts and introduces foundation concepts and background for ESP methods. The webcast begins with a brief review of hydrologic models including deterministic, stochastic, and scenario-based approaches. It then provides an overview of time series approaches including a summary of traditional techniques such as flood frequency, flood analysis, statistical analysis, and trend analysis. Finally, the module presents the basics of ESP techniques including an explanation of its strengths, weaknesses, and appropriate application. The webcast also provides guidance on how to interpret ensemble forecast products. The webcast may be found at <http://www.meted.ucar.edu/hydro/ESP/Intro/index.htm> and requires approximately 1 hour to view the presentation and take the quiz.

COMET Registration: : As of 30 Jan 2007, users are required to complete a secure, one-time registration to use COMET instructional materials and to log in when using modules or quizzes on the MetEd Website. This measure was taken at the request of our sponsors. NOAA's NWS employees can still access COMET modules through the E-Learning@NOAA system (<http://e-learning.doc.gov/>), with the additional step of logging into the MetEd system when prompted. More information on the registration process can be found at http://www.meted.ucar.edu/mandatory_reg.htm.

Teletraining Sessions: The teletraining calendar is now at: <http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/visit/ecal.asp> Offices can register for the teletraining sessions by sending email to: visit@comet.ucar.edu.

The current sessions planned for February 2007 are:

- NEW - Conditional Climatology - AvnFPS 3.2 (Basic, Feb 8,13,15,20,27)
- New - Satellite Interpretation of Orographic Clouds / Effects (Basic, Feb 22)
- MODerate resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) Products in AWIPS (Basic, Feb 5,16,27)
- CRAS Forecast Imagery in AWIPS (Basic, Feb 20)
- Utilizing GOES Imagery within AWIPS to Forecast Winter Storms Parts I & II (Intermediate, Feb 6,7)
- Cyclogenesis: Analysis utilizing Geostationary Satellite Imagery (Basic, Feb 15)
- TROWAL Identification (Basic, Feb 9)
- Water Vapor Channel Satellite Imager (Basic, Feb 21)

All previous sessions including those with recorded instructor audio and annotations are available at: <http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/visit/ts.html>

SYSTEMS OPERATIONS DIVISION

SOD/OOS Meeting: Bob Tibi, Bob Diaz, and Steve Brueske attended the SOD/OOS meeting held in Gulfport Mississippi (Jan 29 to Feb 2). Topics covered during this meeting were: Sterling WFO move, FAA ASOS Comms, NOAA Collaborative Suite, PRH Facilities status, tour of NDBC, Active Directory, IT Certification and Accreditations, IM, HCN-M/MADIS, RRS Interconnectivity Agreement, AWIPS, NCF Support, AWIPS 2 Training, EMRS, ASOS. HazCollect, NEXRAD, NWR, and RRS to mention a few.

ESA Conference: The 2007 ESA conference will be held March 6-8 at the Red Lion in Salt Lake City (with travel days on March 5 and 9). Glen Brome, founder of the Broume Company - Facilitative Leadership Practitioners, will be the guest speaker. The topic is "holding everyone accountable including yourself". Other guests include Joe Duran and Minh Trinh who will be covering environmental and safety issues and Mike Brown will be covering EMRS for a full day. SOD is hosting the conference and the POC for any information is Joe Lachacz.

IT Security Training: The 2007 NOAA IT Security Awareness Training has now been officially released (<http://noaa.learnsecuritywith.us/sa2007/access/login.asp>). This is a mandatory requirement for all NOAA employees and contractors. If you have not completed the 2007 version yet, please do so ASAP. There is an absolute deadline of March 15th.

Although similar to previous years training, it is extremely important to stay abreast with the ever changing IT security issues we all face, at work and at home. The link below will take you to an article on what is being called the "Super Bowl Infection", a relevant and timely example. (<http://www.networkworld.com/news/2007/020507-super-bowl-infection-much-more.html?nlhtsec=0205securityalert2&company=>)

This particular article highlights Web Surfing as the primary vector for the introduction of malicious code (surpassing email infection). What is even more alarming is the fact that simply being directed to a malicious Web site can cause an infection.

Technical controls alone can not keep NOAA IT systems secure. It requires training and awareness on the part of every employee. It's a jungle out there, so please take the training seriously. Also, feel free to seek out and ask questions of your WFO IT Security Officer (ITSO).

(Contributing thanks to Joe Nemeth, WFO VEF, ITSO)

New Facilities Technician: During the week of January 29th through February 2nd, Facilities Engineering Technician (FET) Dean Rackham and FET Randy Miller visited WFOs Reno and Elko to perform facilities maintenance. As Dean has just joined the NWS, it was an excellent chance to meet the staff at those locations. Randy and Dean also went to Blue Canyon to make repairs to the ASOS backup generator and performed maintenance at the Reno RDA site.



Snow-Cat and Winter Survival

Training: A number of WR employees attended the Snow-Cat and Winter Survival Training held on January 22-26, 2007 in the Sierra Mountains of California. There were 3 days of classroom instruction and two days in the field. Attendees included: Steve Kusyj ESA, Les Libby ET, Steve Leedy ET, Shelia Deiotte ET, Merri Richmond RMS, Gerry Deiotte RMS, and Jim Chaisson FET.

Safety Tips

Lifting and Carrying

Eight out of ten adults will have problems with their lower backs. You can increase your odds of being one of the twenty percent who escape these pains by following the following tips.

- Injuries usually occur because of two reasons. First, when back muscles are weak; second, because of poor techniques for lifting and carrying.
- Take a few minutes each day to strengthen and stretch your back muscles.
- Wear shoes that offer good support and good traction.
- Keep a wide stance and make sure of your footing.
- Keep the load close to your body.
- Lift steadily with your legs, not your back. Keep your head up and your back straight.
- Point your feet in the direction you plan to move. Don't twist.
- Put down the load by squatting down, not bending over.
- If you are using a cart or dolly to move a heavy load, push it, don't pull it.

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

ASA Conference

The Western Region Administrative Support Assistant Conference will be held in Salt Lake City on March 27-29, 2007. The location of the conference is the Radisson Hotel in downtown Salt Lake City. Items of discussion will be hands-on training in C.Request, as well as other changes in administrative functions and duties.

Diversity Action Committee Conference

The Diversity Action Committee (DAC) is holding a workshop February 20-23, 2007. The workshop is being held at WRH in Salt Lake City. Charly Wells, the head of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management will attend a portion of the workshop. Some workshop topics include:

- Diversity Orientation briefing
- Special Emphasis Program Manager (SEPM) training and discussion
- Briefings on WR activities and issues related to diversity.
- Vacancy Improvement Team briefing
- Discussion of Special Recognition for WR EEO Accomplishments Award and other awards.
- Review of Charter, Action Plan, Strategic Plan and Annual Operating Plan
- Update Charter, Roles, AOP and Action Plan
- Update WW2 Diversity Page