

Accomplishments for 2002

The year 2002 was a busy and productive year for the members of the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations Office complex. Major accomplishments and milestones were achieved in the year. In support of its mission, NNSA/NV, the national laboratories, contractors, and subcontractors share their major accomplishments for 2002.

NNSA/NV

The many successes of the Nevada Test Site are a direct result of the people dedicated to the mission. The success of the National Nuclear Security Administration this last year is a direct result of the hard work of Bechtel Nevada, Wackenhut Services Inc.-Nevada, and Shaw employees who are in the field day in and day out. Los Alamos, Lawrence Livermore and Sandia National Laboratories scientists, technicians, and support staff are also why “we” are able to report our successes to our Headquarters managers.



Carl Gertz, assistant manager, environmental management, has a federal staff he holds accountable for assuring the work is completed on-time, on-budget (or below) and safely. It is those people who rely then on the contractor staff to then go out and make that concept become a reality.

Deborah Monette, assistant manager, national security, also depends on her federal staff to reach the same goals for her organization. Again, it is the contractor staff and the National Laboratories working hand-in-glove with the federal staff to assure the mission is

accomplished.

Terry Wallace, acting assistant manager, technical services, looks to his health and safety staff to deliver on meeting the requirements that the work is done in a safe manner that assures worker and public health. His security experts assure the necessary and needed security is in place. Their success directly hinges on their contractor counterparts.

A great deal has been said about our record year of safely disposing of waste at the radioactive waste management sites or how far ahead we are on cleanups at our industrial sites. The quality of data recovered from subcritical experiments, the relocation of the ATLAS pulse powered machine, and the start-up of the JASPER Gas Gun are all being touted as successes this past year.

Our success this last year has been our people. Whether they are a federal, contractor, or laboratory employee, Nevada Test Site successes would not have occurred without each and every one of these people. From the perspective of the National Nuclear Security Administrations Nevada Operations Office there is no greater success than that enjoyed by “our” employees.

Bechtel Nevada

Construction department worked a record 168 days with no lost-time accidents.

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Christmas 2002 in Las Vegas is a long way from where I grew up in Minnesota. I do not miss those cold bitter winters, but I do cherish those times with my family. That is what this season is all about – spending time with your family and cherishing the moment.

As many of you have heard me say, like you, I will never be the same after September 11. Those memories of returning to my Washington, D.C. apartment that first night and looking out over my balcony and watching those firefighters and rescue workers work in the rubble of the Pentagon is forever with me. For a second Christmas, there are husbands, wives, and children who are forging ahead this holiday season missing a loved one who perished in that awful terrorist act.

We in the NNSA Nevada community have much to be thankful for. Whether you are celebrating Chanukah or Christmas, celebrate with your family and value every moment this season has to offer.

As an organization we accomplished so much this year and for that, I thank you. A record year of safely receiving low-level waste. Significant progress was made in bringing the JASPER gas gun online. Five subcritical experiments were conducted during the fiscal year and each yielded near- perfect data. Our Industrial Sites cleanup continued to stay ahead of schedule and again was accomplished safely. And, we were there for our nation in response to the continued aftermath of September 11.

At every turn our customers were dazzled by excellence. From the national laboratories to headquarters, to the many other customers who use the resources of the Nevada Test Site, we have gotten nothing but glowing words of thanks for the work that each and every one of you has done this past year.

As I close this message, I leave you with the one of the great poets of my generation, John Lennon. *“Imagine all the people living life in peace. You may say I’m a dreamer, but I’m not the only one. I hope someday you’ll join us, and the world will be as one.”*

Have a joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year. I look forward to what we can do together in 2003.

Kathy Carlson
Manager, NNSA/NV



It is a time of joyous celebrations with family and friends, rich with traditions and customs. It is a time when Americans open their hearts and homes to those who are less fortunate. Some of us will welcome neighbors into our homes for holiday cheer and others will serve meals or deliver toys to children who otherwise would have little to be thankful for. All of us remember those servicemen and women who will celebrate this holiday season away from home and their loved one, defending the freedoms we cherish.

It is also time to say thank you. The National Nuclear Security Administration team in Nevada has worked very hard this year. We have an important mission and everyone has contributed, regardless of organizational affiliation, be it the federal workforce, Bechtel Nevada, Wackenhut, Shaw, or any other contractor here. Thank you for all your efforts. Please know that your hard work is appreciated and know that all of our efforts this year have helped make the world a safer place.

Jasmine and I wish each of you a joyous holiday season and happiness throughout the new year.

May God bless America.

Fred Tarantino

President and General Manager, Bechtel Nevada



To the NNSA/NV family,

As an extremely busy and productive year winds down, the Wackenhut Services Inc. team would like to thank you all for your cooperation and support. It has been a pleasure to work with you on security issues, community activities, and other matters of mutual interest. We hope that you and your families have a safe and enjoyable holiday period. We look forward to the future with optimism and anticipation of continued success.

Thanks again,

Mike Ebert



As the holiday season approaches, I would like to ask each of you to join me in expressing appreciation to our colleagues, friends, and family for the support, teamwork, and memories they have provided. Yes, 2002 has been filled with change – but we have all worked together to meet the challenges and in turn for our future.

On behalf of Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc., please accept my sincere appreciation for your commitment throughout the year. We extend our best wishes to you and your family for a safe and joyous holiday season and all the best life has to offer in 2003.

Paul Gretskey



Accomplishments for 2002

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Achieved a 100% rate of data retrieval for five subcritical experiments.

Safely evacuated the NTS following severe windstorms and damage to facilities. All personnel affected by the wind damage were relocated and the facility closed and secured within one week.

Deployed Remote Sensing Laboratory personnel following the 9/11 terrorist attacks for more than 291 days for a total of 4,704 person field days.

Minimized damage to property and the environment and prevented damage to critical Nevada Test Site (NTS) assets near the U12g tunnel complex by successfully managing and containing the Egg Point wildland fire. No recordable injuries occurred during the firefighting effort.

Trained 1,258 first responder students for the Department of Justice, as part of the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) program.

Completed three infrastructure improvement projects (classrooms, video capabilities, and sensor technologies) to further increase WMD training capabilities at the NTS.

Initiated a new safety training program within site services. The training program includes the temporary formation of focus groups to provide solutions to identified problems and improving safety. Results indicate that accident rates are reduced and work is accomplished more efficiently.

Successfully participated in Sundown '02 Exercise, the second full participation exercise for Bechtel Nevada personnel.

Successfully began the relocation of Atlas from Los Alamos National Laboratory to NTS.

Provided technical support to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Collection Team. The FBI requested the use Bechtel Nevada's developed ground penetrating radar (GPR) to assist in the location of the evidence/remains of two teenagers at an Oregon City, Oregon site.

Contributed to the Department of Energy (DOE) complex's accelerated environmental clean up effort by receiving and safely disposing more than two million cubic feet of low-level waste at the Nevada Test Site.

Designed, fabricated, and installed a state-of-the-art video wall at DOE Headquarters and the National Nuclear Security Administration's Emergency Operations Centers.

RSL moved more than 950,000 pounds of cargo, twice the amount from last year, without an accident.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Los Alamos National Laboratory accomplished four major milestones for Fiscal Year 2002:

Vito, the first subcritical experiment in the STALLION series, was fired successfully on February 14, 2002, in the U1a complex at the Nevada Test Site. The experiment, also known as *Etna*, reestablished a long-standing LANL/AWE collaboration in performing experiments at the NTS.

Vito/Etna was also a highly successful demonstration of the LANL racklet concept, a much smaller version of the test assembly, or rack, that was used in full-scale underground nuclear tests, that enables the reuse of diagnostic "clean room" areas down-

hole and permits a rapid and a cost-effective turnaround between subcritical experiments. The racklet is lowered into a 35-foot deep augered hole in the drift and stemmed with selected materials to the surface of the drift.

Mario and *Rocco*, the second and third experiments in the STALLION series, were successfully executed on August 29 and September 26, 2002, respectively, in the U1a complex. Both experiments successfully used the racklet concept for deployment and provided physical-properties data for plutonium at conditions approaching those found in nuclear weapons. The data from *Mario* and *Rocco* are important both for their significance to the subcritical program and for execution of *Armando*, the fourth experiment in the STALLION series scheduled for early FY04.

Before the execution of *Mario* and *Rocco*, and for the first time in the Los Alamos subcritical experiment program, two confirmatory shots were executed at the Nevada Test Site on July 18 and August 2, 2002, respectively. These shots were identical to *Mario* and *Rocco* except the confirmatory shots were executed in 6-foot diameter containment spheres and used specially designed surrogate alloys instead of plutonium. In the past, confirmatory shots have been conducted in Los Alamos, New Mexico, but because of a compressed schedule, the NTS confirmatory scheme saved time and was a much better match to the preparation schedule.

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Accomplishments

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Shaw Engineering & Infrastructure, Inc.

Over the past months, we have dealt with several unexpected challenges—namely the full-scale relocation of our office—and we have done so without missing any milestones or deliverables.

The following are just a few other notable achievements for the year:

- Worked 337,635 hours with no lost-time accidents.
- No environmental compliance nonconformances.
- Characterized 26 and closed eight industrial sites.
- Contributed to the United States Air Force concurrence on soils project.
- Maintained rigorous drilling and well development and testing schedule as part of Underground Test Area Project.
- Completed surface characterization at off site locations in Colorado (Rio Blanco site) and New Mexico (Gasbuggy and Gnome-Coach sites).
- Finalized closure plan for Salmon Site.

- Completed Amchitka Island sub surface modeling and risk assessment.
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Wackenhut Services Inc. - Nevada

Nevada State Governor’s Award for Performance Excellence

On November 1, WSI-NV received the “Pioneer Award” which was the highest level award presented during the inaugural year of the Governor’s quality award program. WSI also received the “Nevada Award for Customer Service Excellence” in recognition of the company’s excellence in customer service. The awards were presented to WSI by Lieutenant Governor Lorraine Hunt.

Force On Force Exercise

On October 25, NNSA/SSD conducted a Force On Force Exercise to test WSI’s effectiveness and ability to counter an attack by an adversary force. The adversary force consisted of the Las Vegas FBI SWAT Team. WSI successfully conducted attack response activities and met the exercise objectives during two separate scenarios.

Safety Milestones

WSI employees achieved more than one million miles without a recordable vehicle accident, and on September 9 received the “Superior Star Award” during ceremonies at the National Voluntary Protection Program Conference for maintaining injury rates that were well below the Bureau of Labor Statistics national average. This is the second consecutive year that WSI received this award.

Security Conditions 2 and 3

The Protective Force maintained the challenging standards of DOE and NNSA Security Conditions 2 and 3 increased security requirements throughout 2002. Additionally, direct support was provided to the Tonopah Test Range and to the DOE Mound Facility (Ohio). In spite of these high manpower and equipment missions, WSI met all security requirements with no additional resources.

National OPSEC Awards

The WSI OPSEC Section received 1st Place in the multimedia award category for their “Identity Theft” and “Home, But Not Alone” videos. The section also received 2d Place in the organizational award category.

Retirements

Stewart “Stew” Thomas - NNSA/NV

In Memory

Freddie Bouie, Jr. - Bechtel Nevada

This Six Sigma feature focuses on the Process Improvement Projects (PIPs) at the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations' complex. A different article will detail each PIP, the team associated with the PIP, and the anticipated benefits and cost savings involved with implementing the recommendations of the PIP team.

Bechtel Nevada welcomes six new black belts

On November 11, six Bechtel Nevada employees joined 31 Bechtel National, Inc. (BNI) black belts to complete an extensive training program in Six Sigma methodologies.

In addition to participating in five months of classroom training with written examinations and oral presentations, each black belt was required to complete two Process Improvement Projects (PIPs) as part of demonstrating their competence in applying Six Sigma tools.

Tom Hash, BNI president, in his opening remarks at the graduation ceremony stated that as Bechtel has reached the two-year milestone in its Six Sigma initiative, the company is moving from a "deployment" phase to an "employment" phase where the focus is on employing Six Sigma tools and methodologies. Hash emphasized that the Cost of Poor Quality (COPQ) savings is "the name of the game" for Six Sigma. The COPQ is defined in Six Sigma as the "gap" between the current performance of a business process and the desired level of performance.

Graduation activities included black belt presentations outlining four of the certification projects. **Jerry Bonn** represented Bechtel Nevada in this aspect of graduation and gave an overview of the Borehole Management PIP. It is projected that implementing recommendations made by the PIP team will reduce the project life cycle by two years for an estimated life cycle cost benefit of \$11 million. Additional information about the Borehole Management PIP can be found in the June 2002 issue of *SiteLines*.

In addition to the presentations, all of the graduating Black belts participated in a PIP Showcase in which each Black belt had a poster summarizing the highlights of one of their completed PIPs. The poster session afforded participants to circulate and discuss the showcased projects.

The JASPER Maintenance PIP, led by **Scott Doney**, examined the current Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (JASPER) maintenance management process. The process improvements developed by this PIP team will make it possible to complete and maintain 95 percent completed maintenance with a cost-avoidance of approximately \$360,000. This PIP team set a BNI record for the shortest PIP completion time (16 days). Additional information on the JASPER Maintenance PIP can be found in the September 2002 issue of *SiteLines*.

The Heavy Equipment Preventative Maintenance (PM) PIP was led by **Lorraine Marshall** and had the objective

of decreasing the number of unscheduled heavy equipment repairs by 50 percent. The PIP team identified six critical improvements to be made, resulting in an annual cost benefit of \$900,000. Additional information on the Heavy Equipment PM PIP can be found in the August 2002 issue of *SiteLines*.

Steve Cruz led the Atlas project team in a Design for Six Sigma (DFSS) project with the primary objective of designing a process that reduced the duration of the Atlas Maintenance Unit Disassembly by 20 percent. This task, which is critical to the timely completion of the relocation of the Atlas machine, yielded a redesigned process that will result in \$138,000 cost avoidance.

The JASPER Primary Target Chamber (PTC) Fabrication PIP, led by **Amy Moore**, had the objective of reducing the labor hours for PTC fabrication by 20 percent. The PIP team identified a number of process improvements that will yield annual cost benefits of \$380,000.

Jan Renfro worked with Bechtel Nevada's environmental restoration project team on improving the Field Remediation Activity Work Package Development process. The objective of the PIP was to reduce the average labor hours for work package development, review, and approval from 29 to 19 hours per work package. Process improvements will result in an annual cost benefit of approximately \$234,000.

Jude Laspa, president of Bechtel Systems and Infrastructure, Inc., noted that the PIPs highlighted by Bechtel Nevada in the graduation poster session focused on areas of concern and importance to National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations Office (NNSA/NV). He emphasized the importance of ensuring that Bechtel's Six Sigma efforts reflect the "voice of the customer."

The new black belt graduates join **Trey Johnston**, **Craig Barnes**, and **Lew Gordon** in providing black belt services to Bechtel Nevada and to the NNSA/NV. The application of Six Sigma methodology provides the analytical tools to make better decisions, the ability to implement significant improvements to our work processes, and an approach to effect and institutionalize behavioral changes in our workforce.

NEWS BRIEFS



World's first hydrogen energy station dedicated in Las Vegas

by Kirsten Kellogg

The world's first hydrogen energy station featuring the co-production of hydrogen fuel and electric power was formally dedicated on Friday, November 15 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Located at the city of Las Vegas vehicle maintenance and operation service center, the station will produce hydrogen fuel for specially equipped city vehicles and generate enough electricity for 30 homes. The station is fully operational, generating hydrogen on-site that is utilized both to fuel vehicles and produce electricity. Through a public-private partnership between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the city of Las Vegas, Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., and Plug Power, Inc., this project will serve as a commercial demonstration of hydrogen as a safe and clean energy alternative.



Photo by Mary Scodwell

(from left) **Mark Sperry**, vice president and chief marketing officer, Plug Power; **David Garman**, DOE assistant secretary for energy efficiency and renewable energy; Las Vegas mayor Oscar Goodman; **Art Katsaros**, Air Products. Group vice president, engineered systems and development; **Carl Linvill**, energy advisor for Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn; **David Riggleman**, City of Las Vegas communications director; and **Ariel Stern**, deputy regional manager for Senator Harry Reid, cut the ribbon to officially dedicate the Las Vegas Hydrogen Energy Station.

Speakers from public and private entities, including Las Vegas Mayor **Oscar Goodman** and DOE Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency **David Garman**, talked about the hydrogen energy station as a benchmark for future natural gas-based hydrogen production systems and guests had the opportunity to tour the new facility.

"This station is helping to usher in a new era of sustainable fuel production in this country and the world," said Assistant Secretary Garman. "While there are yet technological barriers to cross, this refueling station demonstrates hydrogen's promise as a clean energy alternative to fuel vehicles and to produce power."

On display at the dedication event was a Ford F150 truck, which uses hydrogen enriched natural gas, developed in partnership between DOE and NRG Technologies, Inc., based in Reno, Nevada. Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles from Ford Motor Company and Toyota were also on display.

"One of the amazing things about hydrogen as a vehicle fuel is its emission," said Nevada Operations Office project manager **Bob Golden**. "Instead of thick black smoke you see from diesel, using hydrogen with a fuel cell, your only emission is pure water."

Under a separate, complementary project, DOE is sharing the cost of converting light and heavy-duty vehicles for use with hydrogen or hydrogen-enriched natural gas and plans, along with the city of Las Vegas, to use the new hydrogen station for refueling.

The Las Vegas Hydrogen Energy Station is on track with the Bush administration's National Hydrogen Energy Road Map, intended to reduce the country's dependence on imported oil, cut vehicle emissions and develop renewable sources of energy. Future work under this project will evaluate hydrogen operating safety and the reliability of fuel cell power and its overall economic feasibility.

For additional information, visit the DOE's Hydrogen Information web site at www.eren.doe.gov/hydrogen.



Photo by Mary Scodwell

Bob Golden, NNSA/NV hydrogen program manager, explains to Kathy Carlson, NNSA/NV manager, the workings of a hydrogen fuel cell vehicle.

BEYOND THE CALL

WSI/NV receives two Governor's Awards for Performance Excellence

by Earlie Rose

Wackenhut Services Inc. - Nevada (WSI-NV) received two awards at the first annual Governor's Awards for Performance Excellence (APEX) ceremony, the Pioneer Award and the Nevada Award for Customer Service Excellence.

Mike Ebert, WSI-NV's general manager, accepted the Pioneer Award, the highest award presented this year, for demonstrating through WSI's practices and results significant achievements in performance excellence. Ebert also accepted the Nevada Award for Customer Service Excellence for WSI-NV.



Photo by Bill Jarvey

WSI-NV also received the Nevada Award for Customer Service Excellence.

To prepare the formal application, WSI-NV formed a cross-functional team. Team members **Sheril Hamlin, Patty Hartig, Brian Musick, Kathie Nangle, Trudy**

Rocha, Earlie Rose, Terry Taylor, and Dianna Williams, gathered the required information and submitted their final application in July. The application was reviewed by a team of examiners, who later conducted a site visit to the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations Office North Las Vegas facility and to the Nevada Test Site. A panel of judges reviewed the examiners' recommendations and ranked the applications based on the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program criteria.

During the acceptance of the awards, Ebert noted that although a small group of individuals was directly responsible for producing the application, the APEX awards are directly attributed to the outstanding contributions of all WSI employees.



Photo by Bill Jarvey

The Pioneer Award, the highest award presented at the first annual Governor's Awards for Performance Excellence (APEX) ceremony, was presented to Wackenhut Services Inc. - Nevada (WSI-NV).

The Governor's Awards for Performance Excellence honor Nevada businesses that facilitate the pursuit of excellence through leadership and coordination of improvement expertise, resources and energy.

Officiating at this year's ceremony was **Lt. Governor Loraine Hunt**.

NNSA/NV raises almost \$40,000 for Combined Federal Campaign

by Kirsten Kellogg

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the annual fund-raising drive conducted by federal employees in

their workplace. Each year, employees raise millions of dollars through the CFC to benefit thousands of non-profit charities. Many charities participating in this year's campaign are

assisting disaster relief efforts in New York and Washington, D.C. Employees of the National Nuclear

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United Way

by Jennifer Morton

Bechtel Nevada's 2002 United Way campaign "Choose to Care" concluded October 31 with a total of \$318,397 raised for the United Way and \$26,600 for the Bechtel Nevada Employee Crisis Fund.

The campaign which began in early September emphasized the Bechtel Nevada Employee Crisis Fund and the importance of leadership giving. The campaign challenged employees with a goal of reaching a 51 percent contribution rate. Although, this number fell short, 44 percent contribution rate, the campaign raised approximately \$50,000 more than the previous year. The number of leadership givers, those who pledged a contribution of \$1,000 or more, increased to a record-breaking 114 employees. The overall campaign raised \$302,897 for the United Way of Southern Nevada. With a corporate donation of \$15,500, the grand total raised for United Way was \$318,397.

The Bechtel Nevada Employee Crisis Fund, which was started to meet employees' emergency crisis needs such as last minute airfare, assistance with utilities due to loss of

pay, and other family crises, raised \$22,500 from pledges and \$4,100 from the Bechtel Nevada Employee Crisis Fund drawing.

Congratulations to **Bill Delk** who is the \$1,000 grand prize winner and **Larry Bates, Cindy Dillman, Bill Keyworth, Teresa Nightengale, and Ricardo Sandoval** who are the five \$100 winners.

"Thank you Bechtel Nevada employees and keyworkers for your hard work in making Bechtel Nevada a leader in Las Vegas for Southern Nevada United Way, said **Sally Davis**, Bechtel Nevada's United Way campaign manager. "More than 140 programs will benefit from your generosity," Davis added.

The United Way of Southern Nevada is an independent nonprofit organization governed by a local board of directors. They help support more than 150 health and human service programs in Southern Nevada, connecting those in the community who are willing to help with those who need help.

Watch for an article announcing the results of the outlying areas' campaigns in the January issue of *SiteLines*.

ABCD Award winner

by Sharil Hamlin

Above and Beyond the Call of Duty (ABCD) Awards are presented to Wackenhut Services Inc. Nevada (WSI-NV) employees to acknowledge and encourage outstanding performance and contributions to the organization. The following WSI employee has received an ABCD Award:

Lil Moore, human resources, received an ABCD Award for her ingenuity in developing a solution for proper record retention and storage of hundreds of receipts and travel itineraries related to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Thanks to Lil's solution, countless man-hours marking each piece of paper was avoided. Congratulations Lil!

NNSA/NV raises almost \$40,000 for Combined Federal Campaign

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Security Administration Nevada Operations Office (NNSA/NV) raised \$38,380.00 for the Combined Federal Campaign. A total of 113 employees made donations, and seven of them earned Eagle Leadership Awards by giving \$1,000 or more as an annual gift.

Special thanks to **Andrea Kato**, CFC coordinator for NNSA/NV, and the keyworkers **Ron Burchett, Justina Fleetham, Karen Hatch, Tammie Henderson, Kay Henry, Gina Hill, Elaine Jimenez, Kelly Kozeliski, Ed Martinez, Liz Palagi, Allen Roberts, David Sesma, and Kevin Thornton**.

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In the Next Issue of SiteLines ...

- **NNSA/NV's reorganization**
- **Performance Award winners**
- **NNSA/NV complex employees make the holidays brighter**

Bechtel Nevada returns to the Magical Forest

by Linda Middaugh

Bechtel Nevada employees, their families, and friends returned to Opportunity Village’s Magical Forest on Saturday, November 16 to decorate the company-sponsored holiday tree.

The Magical Forest was an extremely busy place as hundreds of volunteers crowded into the Magical Forest to decorate trees and finalize their displays in preparation and anticipation of the November 28 grand opening.

Decorating the tree this year was **Linda Middaugh** and her friend Earl Stage, along with **Ken Machynia**, who manned the ladders. **Jennifer Morton** photographed the tree before, during, and after the decorating. **Joy Peck** furnished extra ornaments which were quickly hung on the tree’s branches. **Ann Sexton**, her husband Charles and daughters Jeanie, Crystal, and friend Erika Burkes made on-the-spot decorations.

This is the 11th year for the Opportunity Village’s Magical Forest, their largest fund-raising event of the year. More than 200,000 visitors are expected to visit the Forest, considered one of the largest outdoor holiday attractions in the United States. Two fully functional children’s trains, visits with Santa in his gazebo, an arts and craft village, a Gingerbread House exhibit and much more await excited children and adults.

Opportunity Village is a nonprofit organization and is nearly 100 percent self-funded. All the proceeds from this event

are used to fund programs for Southern Nevada individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Mark your calendar and plan to take your family to this wonderful event. The Magical Forest, located at 6300 West Oakey (between Jones and Torrey Pines), opened on Thursday, November 28 at 5:00 p.m. The Forest remains open until Saturday, December 28, opening at 5:00 p.m. each evening until 10:00 p.m. Admission is \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children ages 12 and under, and children under 18 months get in free.

A special “thank you” to all who participated in decorating this year’s tree and to BEAT for furnishing decorations. Look for Bechtel Nevada’s tree, the second on the right at the entrance.



Photo by Jennifer Morton

Bechtel Nevada employees, their families, and friends decorate the Bechtel Nevada-sponsored tree for Opportunity Village’s Magical Forest, their largest fund-raising event of the year.

Face-to-Face



Name: Hilda Guerrero
Employer: National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations Office
Title: Physical Scientist
Hometown: Covina, California
Hobbies/
Interests: Running, mountain biking, charity work for nonprofit organizations, visiting the elderly, and spending quality time with my boyfriend

Face-to-Face



Name: Lee Watson
Employer: Bechtel Nevada
Title: Principal Engineer
Hometown: Mer Rouge, Louisiana
Hobbies/
Interests: Singing, studying American history, and traveling

use becomes a home

by Kurt Arnold

Through a significant financial contribution from Bechtel Nevada and the help of numerous volunteers, a single mother of two has a new home.

Habitat for Humanity Las Vegas, a not-for-profit organization, received funding for the future home's land through Clark County. Volunteers from a variety of corporations, community organizations, church groups, and clubs donated their time and materials to construct the North Las Vegas house from the ground up.

Back on a warm Saturday in May, volunteers worked side-by-side to erect the home's structure on Framing Day. Working alongside the volunteers from the community, and Habitat for Humanity, was the future homeowner, Patricia Sanders. Ms. Sanders, a single mother of two, worked with volunteers as part of her "sweat equity" requirement. Sanders was required to complete 250 hours of work on her home.

On November 15, a short dedication ceremony was held to officially present Ms. Sanders with the keys to her new home. **Susan Mackert**, executive director of Habitat for Humanity Las Vegas (HFHLV), representatives from HFHLV board of directors; **Marv Wollin**, Bechtel

Nevada's vice president and assistant general manager for business services; contractors; other Habitat homeowners; volunteers, and neighbors, joined Ms. Sanders and her two daughters, Ashley and Chelsea.

Habitat for Humanity Las Vegas, active since 1991, is a not-for-profit organization that builds simple, decent, affordable homes with the help of countless people donating time, materials, and funds to each project. Each home is sold at no-profit and with no interest-to Las Vegas area residents who might otherwise be forced to live in sub-standard housing. In addition to paying a modest mortgage based on their monthly income (these payments are recycled into a revolving fund which helps build more houses), prospective homeowners contribute "sweat equity" toward their own home ownership by aiding in the labor and construction of Habitat homes.



Photo by Kurt Arnold

*New homeowner **Patricia Sanders** (far right) and her daughters **Ashley** and **Chelsea** join **Bonnie Ballard**, a Habitat for Humanity volunteer and assigned family partner, to officially cut the ribbon on the Sanders' new home. Sanders' home is the 35th one built through Habitat for Humanity Las Vegas.*

Face-to-Face



Name: Katherine "Katie" Reynolds

Employer: Wackenhut Services, Inc. - Nevada


Title: Administrative Assistant

Hometown: Las Vegas, Nevada

Hobbies/

Interests: My biggest accomplishment was losing 95 pounds. My greatest challenge has been keeping it off, so I am in the gym A LOT. I love to cook. I would like to make it through all 50 states. I enjoy thrill rides (especially roller coasters), cosmic bowling, and I thoroughly enjoy the solitude of boating at Lake Mead. I enjoy being with my friends, family, and Fat Face Fannie The Cat.

Partnering for Education



Financial donation to Focus Schools

by Linda Middaugh

Administrators, librarians, teachers, and students were smiling when Bechtel Nevada made a financial donation to two Focus Schools' libraries.

On November 20, Bechtel Nevada's external affairs and strategic communications representatives, **Kurt Arnold** and **Linda Middaugh**, presented checks to Kit Carson

and Jim Bridger Junior High School. The schools received fair judges, speakers, and role models to the students. These types of activities help to inspire students to perform and achieve at higher levels. In addition to providing volunteer support, Bechtel Nevada also provides financial support to other school activities including student council, Reading is Fundamental, incentives for the Accelerated Reading Program, field trips, and other activities that their schools' budgets cannot cover.

Bechtel Nevada's School Supply Drive provides needed supplies to the teachers and students at both schools. School supplies are needed throughout the year. For additional information about the Focus School Program or to donate school supplies, contact **Linda Middaugh, Bechtel Nevada (702-295-6489)**.



Photo by Jennifer Morton

Student Council members at Kit Carson Elementary School insert book plates into library books. A financial donation from Bechtel Nevada will enable the school to purchase additional books and research materials for their library.

Elementary School and Jim Bridger Junior High School for the purchase of books and research materials for their libraries. The principals at both schools gladly accepted their check and were eager to purchase new books for their libraries.

Throughout the school year Bechtel Nevada provides a variety of support to both schools. Bechtel Nevada employees volunteer their time as mentors, readers, sci-

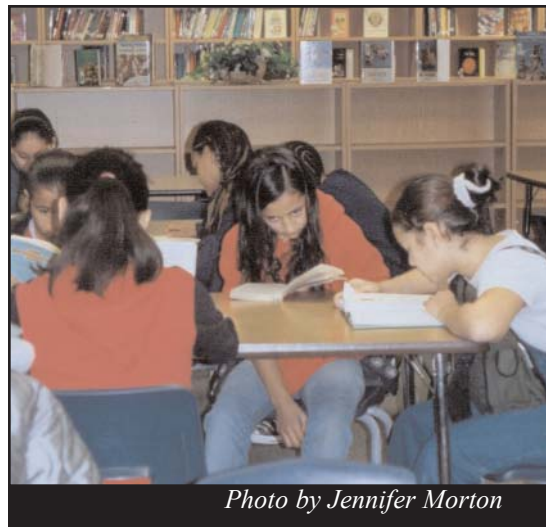


Photo by Jennifer Morton

Students at Jim Bridger Junior High School spend 15 minutes each day reading a book. Teachers and administrators also join the students in the mandatory reading time. To help keep the students interested in reading, a financial donation from Bechtel Nevada will help the library add to its selection of library books.

Halloween fun at Quannah McCall

by Connie Barricks and Kirsten Kellogg

Halloween is always fun for kids and this year’s Annual Fall Carnival at Quannah McCall Elementary School made it even better.

The carnival was held October 31 and volunteers from the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations Office (NNSA/NV) along with Wackenhut Services, Inc. (WSI) were there to share in the festivities. **Carolyn Roberts**, Carolyn’s mom Lois Braswell (visiting from Indiana), and **Diane Dillard** volunteered at the ever popular Pumpkin Sucker Pull Booth (there was never a time when the line wasn’t long). Prizes included T-shirts, frisbees, and candy.

There was a problem this year with the jumper; it never showed up. However, **Peter Munding** and **Sheril Hamlin** were available to assist as needed. Drinks were provided by NNSA and **Yulonda Paige** and **Betty Donnelly** provided support in that area. **Connie Barricks** took pictures and worked in different areas as relief was needed.

The school raised almost \$4,000, which was divided among the participating teachers for use in their class-

rooms. A “huge thanks” goes to everyone who supported the carnival by purchasing raffle tickets, donating candy, cakes, crayons, markers, and money. Your generosity helped make this a fun and memorable experience for the students at Quannah McCall.



Photo by Connie Barricks

Carolyn Roberts, NNSA/NV (seated,) and **Diane Dillard**, NNSA/NV (center) assist a Quannah McCall student at the Pumpkin Sucker Pull booth during the annual fall carnival.

Traveling safely during the holiday season

by Nancy Tufano

As the holiday season approaches, more people will be traveling the highways and flying. With the increased travel flow also comes an increase in accidents and accident fatalities.

In Nevada, there is an average of 300 traffic accident fatalities per year, most of which occur during holidays. At the Nevada Test Site, 23 vehicle accidents were recorded in Fiscal Year 02. Many of these accidents can be avoided by practicing safe and defensive driving techniques.

Follow these automotive safety tips to reduce your risk of travel accidents whether going on a long trip or driving to work this holiday season:

On the road

- Prior to departure, take your car in for a pre-trip inspection by certified auto mechanic. Brakes, battery and charging system performance should all be tested. Have all fluid levels inspected including: antifreeze, oil, transmission, brake, battery, power steering and windshield washer.

- Check the air in your tires. They lose about a pound of pressure for every 10 degrees the temperature drops. Vehicle owners can extend tire life by checking the air in the tires every time the oil is changed.
- Inclement weather, especially fog, makes it difficult to see and to be seen. Some colors, especially gray, tend to blend into misty backgrounds during dusk and dawn. Replace any inoperative light bulbs and repair any dimly lit bulb circuits.
- Seat belts save lives and help prevent serious, disabling injuries. Nonfatal disabling injuries are estimated to climb to 27,700 over the Christmas holiday period.
- Thoroughly prepare for your trip. Plan your itinerary and route for travel carefully. Obtain maps and directions prior to leaving home.

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Traveling safely during the holiday season

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- Make sure all children are placed in an age-appropriate safety seat in the back seat.
- Leave early for your destination to avoid frustration and speed-related collisions in case of heavy holiday traffic or inclement weather.
- Do not let drinking and driving wreck your holiday celebration. Even moderate consumption of wine or beer impairs a driver's ability to make the proper decisions on the road.
- Unfamiliar roads may have potholes, railroad crossings and rough terrain that have potential for destroying tires and certain suspension parts. Remaining alert at all times and avoiding obstacles is important for the longevity of your vehicle.
- Make sure you are well rested before a long journey. Stop every two hours and walk around to get your blood flowing. Occasionally roll down windows for a gust of fresh air. Designate a co-captain to stay alert with you.
- During long distance driving, avoid stopping to sleep at an unsecured highway rest stop.

And remember . . .

- Clean out your wallet before leaving home. Limit the number of credit cards you take and utilize travelers' checks rather than cash when possible.
- Pack light. Multiple, cumbersome bags can slow you down and make you more vulnerable to robbery. Mail large gifts to your destination ahead of time.
- Keep a separate record of the contents of checked luggage. Pack expensive gifts such as jewelry or cash in your carry-on luggage.
- In most cities, the holidays tend to draw out large crowds and pickpockets are usually out in force. Men should carry wallets in a front inside pocket

- women should keep a tight grip on purses.
- In hotels, utilize all auxiliary locking devices while in your room. Valuables should be stored in the hotel's safety deposit box when you leave your room.
- While traveling, do not forget to practice the same safety awareness habits that you normally use at home. Remember, crime can occur anywhere and anyone can become a victim.

Banned items on airplanes

In the wake of the events of September 11, 2001, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has prohibited the following items from airplane cabins (though they can be carried as checked luggage):

- Knives of any length, composition or description.
- Cutting instruments of any kind and composition, including carpet knives and box cutters (and spare blades), any device with folding or retractable blades, ice picks, straight razors, and metal scissors with pointed tips.
- Corkscrews
- Baseball/softball bats
- Golf clubs
- Pool cues
- Ski poles
- Hockey sticks
- Explosives and firearms
- Other weapons including: knives of any kind, throwing stars, swords, or other items commonly used in martial arts competitions.
- Gases and pressure containers
- Flammable liquids and solids
- Oxidizers and organic peroxides
- Poisons
- Infectious materials
- Corrosives
- Organics
- Radioactive materials
- Dry ice (frozen carbon dioxide)
- Magnetic materials
- Other items: Wet-cell batteries, chemical oxygen generators (either used or unused), or any equipment containing fuel or other flammable liquids

Remember, when in doubt, check with your departing airport and pack any items about which you are unsure in baggage to be checked.

Nevada Traffic Accident Statistics			
Drivers (Thousands)	Vehicles (Thousands)	Fatalities per 100,000 Drivers	1996 Total Killed
1, 117	1,096	31.15	348

Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned: Report out-of-place items

by Dawn Starrett

A recent lessons learned issued by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) discusses the importance of employees reporting out-of-place items to the correct organization.

A shipment of Freon 134A and sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) was scheduled to be moved from the Nevada Test Site (NTS) to Edwards Air Force Base in California. An off-site organization had been tasked with the transportation of the chemicals, stored in compressed gas cylinders. Somewhere between the shipment origination point and the main gate to the NTS, a cylinder of SF6 jostled out of the straps and fell off of the truck. The cylinder loss was

not discovered until the driver was at the main gate. The lost cylinder was later discovered by the driver of a different truck heading to the forward areas of the NTS. The second driver recovered the cylinder and took it to his work location, believing it might belong there. The cylinder was returned after discovering that it did not belong there.

Personnel should notify the proper personnel to retrieve the item instead of taking it upon themselves to retrieve and transport the item. In this case, the fire department should have been contacted. The potential existed that the cylinder cap had been fractured and the substances in the cylinders could have leaked out. Had the substance been

hazardous, the second driver could have been exposed to a hazard when he retrieved and transported the cylinder.

Workers are encouraged to report out-of-place items to the appropriate organization and to avoid handling any items they encounter that could be potentially hazardous.

If you have an example of a lessons learned that can be used to prevent a hazardous condition, submit a lessons learned to your organization's lessons learned point of contact or **Dawn Starrett, site lessons learned coordinator (702-295-4297)**.



Face-to-Face



Name: Yolanda S. Fuchs

Employer: Shaw E & I, Inc.

Title: Property Administrator

Hometown: Illinois

Hobbies/

Interests: I like to collect books, all kinds of books. I don't read them, I just collect them, well maybe when I retire I'll read some.

Help local schools by recycling inkjet cartridges

by Al Karns

With the kick off of a new recycling project in November, Bechtel Nevada has hopes to help the environment and raise money for its Focus School partners.

On November 15, 2002, America Recycles Day, Bechtel Nevada kicked off a new recycling project – recycling used inkjet cartridges. Working with a local company, Inkjet Recycler, the pollution prevention group wants to recycle used inkjet cartridges.

The used cartridges are sent to Inkjet Recycler, who takes refillable cartridges and cleans them out, steams the print heads, and refills them with the appropriate ink. Refilled inkjet cartridges are thoroughly tested to ensure that they work properly. Inkjet Recycler then sells the refilled cartridges for a savings of up to 70% of the original cost. Although the vendor only donates money for refillable cartridges, they will accept all inkjet cartridges. Cartridges that

are not refillable are sent to another vendor where they are taken apart and the parts are recycled.

For each refillable inkjet cartridge, Inkjet Recycler will donate one dollar to Bechtel Nevada’s Focus School partners, Kit Carson Elementary School and Jim Bridger Junior High School. If you have used inkjet cartridges at work or from home, simply place them in a plastic bag so that ink does not leak out and get all over everything. Place the plastic bag into an interoffice envelope (a pony or holey joe), and send to mail stop **NLV082**. Pollution prevention will send the collected inkjet cartridges to Inkjet Recycler.

If you have questions about which cartridges are recyclable or additional information about pollution prevention, contact **Al Karns (702-295-5689)** or **Dodie Haworth (702-295-0656)**.

It takes two and a half ounces of oil to make an inkjet cartridge. Each year, more than 350 million cartridges are thrown away. Recycling would allow approximately 38,000 tons of cartridges to be used again, conserving more than 13 million gallons of oil a year. Do your part for the environment and recycle your inkjet cartridges.



Bechtel Nevada

- 40 years *Las Vegas - **Kent Brooks***
- 30 years *Nevada Test Site - **Deborah Balch***
- 25 years *Las Vegas - **James Walker, Jr.***
- 20 years *Las Vegas - **Andrew Ashbaugh, Vivian Fernandez, Jerry Stackhouse; Nevada Test Site - Marion Trone***
- 15 years *Las Vegas- **Theodore Cook; Nevada Test Site - Jackie Short***
- 10 years *Las Vegas - **Michael Adkins***
- 5 years *Nevada Test Site - **Stanley Benson, Yolanda Coleman, Donald Cox, Glen Frost, John Gerard, Lewis West, Mark Wyatt***
- New Hires *Las Vegas - **Kathryn Baker, Nicole Bauer, Aaron Kimmel, Christopher Reynolds, Stanley Wroten; Nevada Test Site - Andrew Lacey, Lisa Ortowski, Don Walton; Los Alamos Operations - Howard Dexter; Livermore Operations - Paul Zapata***

National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operation Office

- 30 years **Philip Monette**
- 25 years **May Pinion**
- 20 Years **Susan Stickel**
- 15 years **Allan Miller**

Desert Research Institute

- 5 years **Joel McCann**

Shaw

- 10 years **Jeffery Sanchez**

- 5 years **Robert McCall**

U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA ARL/SORD

- 45 years **Michael Rondeau**

Wackenhut Services Inc.

- 10 years *Las Vegas - **Connie Ripa***
- 5 years *Nevada Test Site - **Bradley Anderton, Gary Glazier, Terry Taylor***

— Compiled by Tamiko Brown

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 25

NNSA/NV and contractor offices closed in observance of Christmas holiday.

January 1, 2003

NNSA/NV and contractor offices closed in observance of New Year's holiday.

January 8

Community Advisory Board meeting. Grant Sawyer Building, 555 E. Washington, Avenue, Room 4401, Las Vegas, Nevada. Contact **Kelly Kozeliski, NNSA/NV (702-295-2836)**.

January 15

NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, HAZMAT Spill Center, Bilby Crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702-295-0944)**.

January 20

NNSA/NV and contractor offices closed in observance of Dr. Martin King Jr.'s birthday.

January 27 through February 7

JASON XIV Project: From Shore to Sea, Community College of Southern Nevada's Cheyenne Campus. Contact **Elizabeth Donnelly, NNSA/NV (702-295-1640)**; **Kurt Arnold, BN (702-295-5792)**; **Sheril Hamlin, WSI (702-295-0804)** or **Heather Emmons, Shaw (702-295-1774)**.

February 8

National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations Office's Twelfth Annual Regional Science Bowl Competition. University of Nevada Las Vegas. Contact **Elizabeth Donnelly, NNSA/NV (702-295-1640)**.

February 25


NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, HAZMAT

Spill Center, Bilby Crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702-295-0944)**.

Declassified Film Showings

For information on declassified film showings at NTS CP-1, contact **Denise Langendorf (702- 295-4015)**. For information on declassified film showings at NTS Yucca Mountain, contact **Rod Rodriguez (702-295-5825)**.

**JANUARY IS:
NATIONAL
EYECARE MONTH**




*Published monthly for all members of the NNSA/NV family.
Kathleen A. Carlson, Manager, NNSA, Nevada Operations Office.
Darwin J. Morgan, Director, Office of Public Affairs and Information.
Submit articles or ideas to the editor at 702-295-5792 or M/S NLV 106.*

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