Happy Holidays!

Happy holidays to everyone! This is a time of great joy and festivities for all of us and provides us an opportunity to reflect on the true meaning of these celebrations. I ask that you all take a moment to remember and thank all of the courageous men and women serving our country at home and abroad. These are the people truly protecting our freedom to celebrate as we wish.

The holidays also mean we are at the end of one year and beginning a new one. And what a year we have in store for us. The new opportunities in front of us as a business entity are truly exciting. We have gone from a famine frame of mind with the Device Assembly Facility to a virtual feast. The customers who are knocking at our door to use the facility are starting to back up.

It is exciting to see the new construction taking place near the DAF that will eventually mean more work in the area of Homeland Security. What we do now and in the future to train first responders and develop and evaluate new technologies is among some of the finest work being done in this area.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your diligence, hard work and service to our country. May you have the best of holidays, safe travels, and many warm memories of this special time.

Kathleen A. Carlson
Manager
NNSA/NSO

As we enter the holiday season and begin to reflect on the past year, I just want to share my gratitude with the NNSA Nevada community.

We have a very strong team here at the Nevada Test Site that works very well together. On behalf of Bechtel Nevada, I would like to say thank you to the Nevada Site Office, the National Laboratories, Wackenhut and Stoller-Navarro for being such great partners. I also want to express my gratitude to the Nevada congressional delegation, who are also a part of our team and without whose support we would not be successful.

I am thankful for our troops, who will spend this holiday season far from their homes and their loved ones, fighting terrorism. I am also grateful to all of you who will remember that there are many needy people in this country who can benefit from our generosity during the holidays. There are those who will give their time serving meals to the homeless or donate toys to children who would otherwise have little for the holiday celebration.

I want to say a very special thank you to all of our hard-working employees of Bechtel Nevada. I have only been your general manager for a short period of time, but I already appreciate your dedication and service to our country. I am very proud of the work you do each day that is helping secure a bright future for the Nevada Test Site.

Carolyn joins me in wishing everyone a very joyous holiday season and happiness throughout the coming year.

May God bless America.

James E. Powell
President and General Manager
Bechtel Nevada

To the NNSA/NSO family,

It's hard to believe that yet another year has come and gone. As the year's end quickly approaches, the holidays will soon be upon us. We should never forget what is important to us, and remember to spend quality time with our family and friends. While enjoying our holidays, let's not forget to reflect on all the wonderful accomplishments that we have made as a team.

Current world events make this a very unsteady and potentially unpredictable holiday for us. Stressing teamwork, we can ensure our safety, enhance morale, and remain steadfast in our focus and mission goals. Your cooperation and commitment to the constraints under which we must all function help to maintain the appropriate level of security within the NSO community.

On behalf of the employees of Wackenhut Services, Incorporated, I wish you and your families all the best during this holiday season.

Thank you again for all you do and happy holidays!

Mike Ebert
General Manager
Wackenhut Services, Incorporated – Nevada

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A publication for all members of the NNSA/NSO family

Happy Holidays!

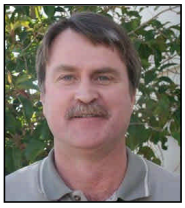
cont. from page 1

As we approach the end of 2004, we once again look forward to the holiday season. For many of us it's a time to reflect upon the past year. In reflecting back, I want to take the opportunity to thank all of the employees of the Stoller-Navarro Joint Venture for your support, dedication, and teamwork during our first year together and for making the year successful in many ways. I ask you to join me in renewing our commitments and goals for the upcoming year, with hope for a more peaceful world.

During this time of celebration, let us remember to count our blessings and honor the brave individuals that have sacrificed so much to protect our country. Let us hold a moment of silence in our hearts for both the soldiers and civilians who've lost their lives in the name of freedom. Let us remember to cherish our loved ones, both family and friends, and give thanks as we celebrate the joy of the holidays.

Thank you all, once again, with best wishes for a safe, peaceful, and joyous holiday season.

John Fowler
Program Manager



Radiological sources recovered from high schools

by Jeffrey Reed

In July 2004, the United States Radiological Threat Reduction (US-RTR) Project Team, composed of five Bechtel Nevada employees, was tasked with providing a broad range of support to NNSA's Office of Global Radiological Threat Reduction. This support includes assisting domestic organizations in the improvement of cradle-to-grave security, control, and disposition of radioactive material. Within six weeks, the team was able to mobilize and successfully recover and secure the first radiological sources by BN under this program.

photo by Kevin McNeil

An overpack container is used to transport the sealed source unit to its final destination.

The first source was recovered from Patchogue Medford High School in Medford, New York August 24, 2004. A second source was recovered from Parsippany Hills High School in Morris Plains, New Jersey August 25, 2004. These sources, which contained Cesium-137, were distributed during the Atoms for Peace Program of the 1960s for scholastic research and study. They were identified by NNSA to be of interest to national security because this type of source is considered especially suitable for use in a Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD), otherwise known as a "dirty bomb."

"It gives us a tremendous sense of pride and accomplishment to assist in such an important mission to our Nation's security and to help these institutions that are otherwise unable to resolve these potentially dangerous situations themselves," said **Jeffrey Reed**, BN deputy project manager, Nuclear Nonproliferation.

photo by Kevin McNeil

An example of a Gammator Irradiator unit recovered during the operation.

The purpose of these recovery efforts was to reduce the radiological threat to the United States by securing and disposing of dangerous radiological materials. In order to meet the mission requirements as outlined, it took a highly motivated and dedicated team of personnel with diverse specialties from a broad range of functional departments to accomplish this unprecedented work. If these specified services were not completed within defined time limitations, BN would have failed the obligation that DOE had assigned, resulting in serious consequences to the NNSA US-RTR program and United States national security. As a direct result of the team's professionalism and commitment to excellence, the project was completed five days ahead of schedule and on budget.

Members of the team include: **Michelle Miller**, BN project manager, Nuclear Nonproliferation; **Jeffrey Reed**; **Craig Lyons**, BN senior scientist, RSL Technical Operations; **Kevin McNeil**, BN radiological control technician; and **Sharon Nanez**, BN senior procurement specialist.

The US-RTR project team is currently working on another recovery mission to secure 100 sources. The timeliness and effectiveness of the work the team has completed to date has greatly contributed to the sustainability of United States national security. This work has been instrumental in leveraging critical partnerships and upgrading the radiation protection infrastructure.

*U.S. Energy Secretary **Spencer Abraham**, in a speech to the International Atomic Energy Agency May 26, 2004, stated, "As the global proliferation threat continues to evolve, it has become clear that an even more comprehensive and urgently focused effort is needed to respond to emerging and evolving threats. Although we are accomplishing much, there is more we can do." As part of this speech, the Energy Secretary unveiled the Global Threat Reduction Initiative to provide a comprehensive effort to secure and remove nuclear and radiological materials around the world.*

BN employee awarded patent

by B.J. Willeford Jr.

BN Senior Scientist **Robert A. Buckles**, a member of the Electro-Optics Engineering division of Livermore Operations (LO), has developed a broadband pulse transformer called a Series Transmission Line Transformer (STLT). This capability will enable relatively low-voltage/current sources to produce high-voltage/current pulses with sub-nanosecond response.

phto courtesy of Bette Culver

*LO Site Manager **Helen Hall** presents a letter of recognition, a copy of the patent, and an award check to **Robert A. Buckles**.*

Transmission Line Transformers (TLTs) have been used for decades, mostly in radio applications, and with small bandwidth. One simple example is the little box on old television sets that transforms the 300 ohm Ultrahigh Frequency (UHF) antenna to the 75 ohm video input. TLTs work by coupling power through the transmission lines rather than via lossy magnetic flux linkages as in a standard power transformer.

The STLT is a simplified, modular approach to TLT construction, which makes much higher ratios possible without a lot of complexity. The new transformer enables high-bandwidth, 50 ohm sources to efficiently drive capacitive devices like micro channel plates, Q-switches, laser diodes, and other electro-optical devices.

"It may even enable smaller, more efficient, switching power supplies and magnetic write heads," said Buckles.

Fast cameras are one of the Electro-Optics Engineering division's principle products, and the STLT can extend performance.

Buckles, Johnson Controls employee **Rex Booth**, and BN retired employee **Boris Yen** share the patent for the STLT. Buckles and Booth are currently working on other projects that have patent potential.

"I hope this inspires others in Bechtel Nevada to pursue patents and that others will find this technology useful," Buckles stated.

Key to Acronyms

The following acronyms appear frequently in *SiteLines*:

BEEF	Big Explosives Experimental Facility
BN	Bechtel Nevada
DAF	Device Assembly Facility
EM	Emergency Management
EM	Environmental Management
ES&H	Environment, Safety, and Health
JASPER	Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (gas gun)
LANL	Los Alamos National Laboratory
LLNL	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
NNSA	National Nuclear Security Administration
NSO	Nevada Site Office
NTS	Nevada Test Site
PIP	Process Improvement Project
RSL-A	Remote Sensing Laboratory - Andrews
RSL-N	Remote Sensing Laboratory - Nellis
SC	NNSA Service Center
SCE	Subcritical Experiment
SNJV	Stoller-Navarro Joint Venture
SNL	Sandia National Laboratories
STL	Special Technologies Laboratory
WSI-NV	Wackenhut Services Incorporated - Nevada

New building is dedicated to a national security visionary

by Nancy Tufano

Curtis H. Straub II, a visionary in the field of combating terrorism and homeland security for the Office for Domestic Preparedness, was honored September 23, 2004, when the newly constructed Building 163 in Mercury was dedicated to his memory. In a ceremony that recognized Straub's 30 years of public service, **Graham Giles**, BN project manager for Counter Terrorism Operations Support, noted that Straub's "vision and commitment to this nation continues to contribute to the equipping, training, and exercise of hundreds of thousands of first responders; resulting in making our country safer and more prepared to respond."

A duplicate of the commemorative plaque residing in the lobby of Building 163 was presented to Straub's mother and son during the ceremony.

Building 163, approximately 11,060 square-feet, is a modern facility built for the express purpose of providing radiological/nuclear classroom training to first responders from around the country. The building contains four classrooms allowing 200 students to receive training at one time, increasing the capabilities of the National Center for Combating Terrorism.

photo by Mary Scodwell

Building 163 has the capacity to train up to 200 first responders at one time.

photo by Mary Scodwell

***Graham Giles**, BN (left), presents **Mrs. Straub** (right), mother of **Curtis H. Straub II**, with a copy of the commemorative plaque located in the lobby of Building 163.*

Monette receives presidential award

Each year, the President recognizes and celebrates a small group of career Senior Executives with the President's Rank Award for exceptional long-term accomplishments. Winners of this prestigious award are strong leaders, professionals, and scientists who achieve results and consistently demonstrate strength, integrity, industry, and a relentless commitment to excellence in public service.

There are two categories of rank awards: Distinguished and Meritorious. Award winners are chosen through a rigorous selection process. They are nominated by their agency heads, evaluated by boards of private citizens, and approved by the President. The evaluation criteria focus on leadership and results.

The following is reprinted from a letter dated October 12, 2004, and addressed to Ms. **Deborah D. Monette**, NNSA/NSO Assistant Manager for National Security, from Secretary of Energy **Spencer Abraham**.

Dear Debbie:

It gives me great pleasure to advise you that President Bush is recognizing you as one of the Department's 2004 Meritorious Presidential Rank Award winners. This is a rare and significant honor that an exceptionally small number of individuals receive during their Senior Executive Service career.

I commend you for your outstanding leadership, strength, integrity, industry, and relentless commitment to public service. I am very proud of you for these sustained extraordinary accomplishments. Not only are you a credit to the Department of Energy, but to the entire Federal service, and I wish you much continued success.

Again, my congratulations for a job exceptionally well done!

Sincerely,
Spencer Abraham

A busy summer for TRU waste project

by Dona Merritt

The NTS transuranic (TRU) waste project recently stepped up TRU waste characterization efforts and resumed shipments to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico. Since August 27, 2004, thirteen TRU waste shipments have safely gone to WIPP.

Following the first seven TRU waste shipments in January 2004, shipments were delayed until additional drums were characterized and certified by WIPP. To accomplish this, waste personnel working at the NTS Waste Examination Facility implemented double shifts in May 2004 to accelerate the characterization of the more than 1,000 remaining drums of TRU waste. Due to their successful efforts, shipments resumed and a total of 25 shipments are expected to be completed by the end of 2004.

The NTS hopes that in 2005, all shippable legacy TRU waste drums will be moved off the test site and safely delivered to WIPP. Through hard work, diligence, and adherence to safety, NTS TRU waste project personnel look forward to closing another chapter on legacy waste resulting from the Cold War.

What is legacy transuranic waste?

The legacy transuranic waste currently stored at the NTS was generated as part of a U.S. nuclear weapons research and development program. The majority of the legacy transuranic waste stored at the site was generated by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory located near Oakland, Calif. This legacy waste, which was shipped to the NTS for storage between 1974 and 1990, includes protective clothing and miscellaneous equipment contaminated with transuranic elements.

Please visit http://www.nv.doe.gov/news&pubs/dirpdfs/DOENV_787REV1.pdf for more information on the transuranic waste project at the Nevada Test Site.

What is the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant?

The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, located near Carlsbad, N.M., is licensed for the disposal of transuranic waste resulting from the research and production of nuclear weapons. Facility operators place the transuranic waste in disposal rooms mined 2,150 feet underground in a 2,000-foot thick salt formation. Scientific studies conducted prior to the facility's opening in 1999 determined that the salt formation has been stable for more than 200 million years.

Please visit http://www.wipp.ws/ for more information on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

News Briefs

NTS receives two TA-18 shipments

NNSA successfully completed the first shipments of nuclear materials from LANL Technical Area 18 (TA-18) to the Device Assembly Facility at the NTS. The first shipment arrived September 30. The shipment was completed in accordance with federal and state transportation regulations.

"Completion of this programmatic material shipment to Nevada re-enforces NNSA's commitment to relocate TA-18 activities to a newer, more secure location," said **Dr. Everet Beckner**, deputy administrator for defense programs. "NNSA remains focused on consolidating TA-18 nuclear materials in a manner that supports safety and security requirements."

NNSA plans to have the most sensitive nuclear materials out of the TA-18 inventory by September 2005 and the rest by 2008.

The TA-18 complex has the nation's only facilities capable of performing general-purpose nuclear materials handling and criticality experiments. These experiments provide unique training to a variety of federal agencies in areas such as nuclear materials safety, emergency response in support of counterterrorism activities, and safeguards and arms control in support of programs aimed at controlling excess nuclear materials. NNSA announced in December 2002 that the TA-18 mission would move to the high security DAF.

Mercury Post Office turns 40

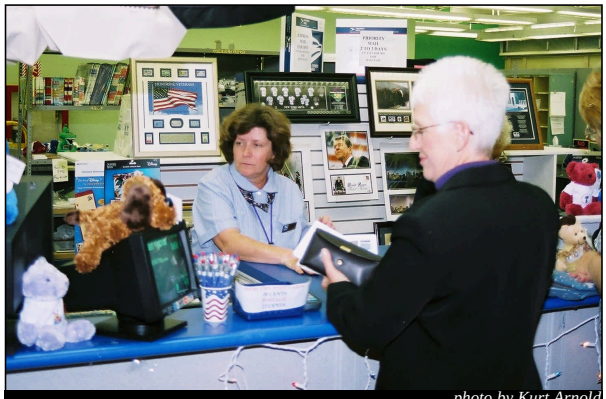


photo by Kurt Arnold

*Mercury Postmaster **Kathryn Clayton** (center) assists Nevada Test Site employees who receive a special 40th Anniversary postmark on their outgoing mail. Clayton later joined representatives from NNSA/NSO, BN, LANL, LLNL, Sandia, NTS employees, and special guests in a special recognition ceremony honoring the Mercury Post Office's anniversary.*

NTS Operations pilots new safety program

On November 1, 2004, BN's NTS Operations rolled out a new safety pilot program designed to promote safety awareness and create an atmosphere in which employees will watch out for one another. Because of the excellent safety performance achieved for NTS Operations for the month of October, the first monthly incentives will be given out in November. The program will run through November 2005 and only members of groups belonging to NTS Operations and warehouse Teamsters are eligible.

"The over-arching goal is to provide an employee-based safety program designed to have an immediate and positive impact on the existing safety culture, improve our safety performance, and keep our workers healthy," said **John Howanitz**, BN assistant general manager for NTS Operations.

At the beginning of each month, drawings are held for NTS Operations' employees, warehouse Teamsters, and supervisors who had no recordable injuries or vehicle accidents during the previous month. The monthly incentive awards are valued at approximately $400 and include such items as barbecue grills, DVD players and televisions. When the program concludes next year, a single drawing will take place for a focus incentive prize. Only groups who have achieved zero recordable accidents and zero vehicle accidents for the entire year are eligible for this drawing. Names of all individuals within these groups will be entered into the drawing, and a single person will win the focus incentive donated by Bechtel Corporate and Lockheed Martin – a 2005 Ford F150 XLT Supercrew truck valued at approximately $30,000.

The winners for the month of October were: **Jerry Bonn, D. James Daniel Jr., Toby Engle, John Gamby, Richard Hanspire, Susan Parks, Clifton Patterson, Maria Ramos, Wallace Reid, Rick Rieckmann, Ricky Tindall,** and **Dimitrois Williams**. For more information regarding this program, contact **Patrice Sanchez** at **(702) 295-2149**.

Speakers Bureau recognized

On November 4, 2004, NNSA/NSO's Office of Public Affairs and Bechtel Nevada's Corporate Communications Office were recognized by the Public Relations Society of America, Las Vegas chapter. The NNSA Speakers Bureau Program was awarded a Tri-State Pinnacle Award for the best Community Relations Program. The Pinnacle Awards are the tri-state area's (southern Nevada, northern Arizona and southern Utah) only annual awards program exclusively recognizing excellence in public relations.

WSI-NV recertified as VPP Star site

During the week of February 23-26, 2004, a DOE Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) recertification team visited Nevada and conducted an in-depth evaluation of WSI's safety and health programs for continued participation as a VPP Star site. The team consisted of safety and health professionals from DOE Headquarters, the DOE Kansas City Plant and representatives from Bechtel SAIC, Yucca Mountain Project. The evaluation focused on the four management principles of VPP: Management Leadership and Employee Involvement; Worksite Analysis; Hazard Prevention and Control; and Safety and Health Training. During the exit briefing, the team was highly positive and complimentary regarding the status of WSI's programs.

Based on recommendations from the evaluation team, WSI was formally recertified as a VPP Star site in July. **Richard H. Lagdon**, director, Office of Quality Assurance Programs, commended the organization and its employees for achieving excellence in its safety and health programs. WSI was presented with a VPP Star flag and recertification certificate in recognition of this accomplishment. The full report is available on the DOE VPP Web page at the following address: http://tis-nt.eh.doe.gov/vpp/.

In conjunction with being recertified, WSI also received additional recognition at the VPP Annual Conference held at the MGM Grand Hotel August 30-September 2, 2004. WSI was presented with the DOE VPP Star of Excellence Award. This award is presented on an annual basis to those DOE VPP Star sites who maintained injury illness rates well below national averages for their industries. In addition to the Star of Excellence Award, the WSI Environment, Safety and Health Manager, **Richard D. Shook**, was presented with the DOE VPP Contractor Champion Award for outstanding performance and leadership in furthering the advancement of the U.S. Department of Energy Voluntary Protection Program.

Nevada hosts Seventh Biennial DOE Auditors Conference

photo by Kirsten Kellogg

*DOE Inspector General **Gregory Friedman** addresses conference attendees during the opening of the Seventh Biennial DOE Auditors Conference. The conference, which took place October 26-28 at the Nevada Site Office, attracted about 150 auditors from across the DOE complex. The purpose of the conference is to support the Cooperative Audit Strategy which started in 1992. The strategy ensures adherence to professional audit standards; audits based on assessed risk; reliance on the work of others, when appropriate; and coordination of efforts between site offices, contractor internal audits, and the Office of the Inspector General.*

In the next issue of *SiteLines*:

- 2004 Accomplishments
- Combined Federal Campaign and United Way results
- Warehouse safety

Beyond the call

NTS Fire & Rescue Honor Guard shows its true colors

by Sarah Martin

The NTS Fire & Rescue (F&R) Honor Guard recently presented the colors at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway's "A Night of Heroes" celebration held on September 11, 2004. NTS F&R also had a fire engine, an ambulance and an NTS command vehicle on display at the track. Prior to the night's race, spectators were invited onto the track for an autograph session with the drivers and to tour the NTS fire vehicles. Many of the fans took the opportunity to speak with the Honor Guard and pose for pictures with the NTS personnel and vehicles.

The Honor Guard was established in the spring of 2003 to honor, with dignity and respect, those individuals who have served in the fire and emergency medical services. Honor Guard members include Engineer **Quentin Aukeman**, Paramedic Captain **Larry Ayala**, Captain **Mike Flammini**, Paramedic **Rhonda Foss**, Engineer **Chris Hersh**, Captain **James Millan**, Firefighter **Russ Owens**, Paramedic Battalion Chief **Ronnie Peters**, and Captain **David Young**.

Since its inception, the NTS F&R Honor Guard has participated in a number of DOE and Las Vegas community activities including the 2004 DOE/Contractor Fire Protection Workshop and the September 11, 2003, DOE Flag Ceremony. The Honor Guard, along with several NTS F&R vehicles, also participated in the 2003 Las Vegas Veterans Day Parade.

photo by Teresa Aukeman

NTS Fire & Rescue Honor Guard Members (from left to right) ***Russ Owens****,* ***Ronnie Peters****,* ***David Young****, and* ***Quentin Aukeman*** *present the colors at the Las Vegas Speedway's "A Night of Heroes" on September 11, 2004.*

Teamwork wins the NOVA Award

by La Tomya Glass

A team of four from BN received Lockheed Martin Corporation's highest honor – the NOVA award – for their teamwork in developing the world's largest laser system. Los Alamos Operations senior engineers **Robert Malone** and **Morris Kaufman**; Special Technologies Laboratory Principal Scientist **Gene Capelle**; and Livermore Operations Senior Engineer **Philip Watts** were recognized for their work on the National Ignition Facility's (NIF) Velocity Interferometer System for Any Reflector (VISAR).

The NOVA award program was established in 1995, upon the merger of Lockheed and Martin Marietta, to honor 50 individuals and teams across the corporation who make outstanding contributions to Lockheed Martin's mission and business objectives. Awards are given annually in four categories – Exceptional Service, Leadership, Teamwork, and Technical Excellence.

The name "NOVA," referring to a bright star, was chosen because the star motif has long played an important role in the identities of both former companies. The definition of the term also aptly describes the contribution of the winners as the bright stars of the corporation.

The VISAR will operate as the primary diagnostic for timing the shock and measuring the velocity of a moving surface, recording its Doppler wavelength shift induced within the NIF, located at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

The VISAR team has also received the 2004 BN Science and Engineering Award and the Lockheed Martin Systems Management Premier Award. **Robert J. Stevens**, Lockheed Martin president and chief executive officer, presented the VISAR team with the NOVA award during a ceremony at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

Flu vaccine donation helps stop the sniffles

Due to a nationwide shortage of the influenza vaccine, BN recently approached NNSA/NSO with the idea of donating extra vaccines to the Clark County Health District vaccination program. These donations would help protect high-risk individuals in the community. NNSA/NSO was happy to oblige, and in October, 150 vaccines were delivered to the Health District.

NNSA/NSO also relieved some of the shortage in federal facilities by donating 200 vaccines to Nellis Air Force Base's Michael O'Callaghan Federal Hospital. The hospital was in dire need of additional supply and can now begin inoculating staff thanks to NNSA/NSO's generosity.

Face-to-Face

Name: Pete Munding

Company: NNSA Nevada Site Office

Job Title: Remote Sensing Test and Evaluation Center/HAZMAT Spill Center Program Manager

Hometown: Santa Maria, California

Hobbies/ Interests: New house in Pahrump, landscaping and my wife

WSI-NV presents ABCD award

by Sheril Hamlin

Above and Beyond the Call of Duty (ABCD) awards are presented to WSI-NV employees to acknowledge and encourage outstanding performance and contributions to the organization. The following WSI-NV employee recently received an ABCD award:

John Hazuka was awarded for his initiative in examining all dropdowns in the DAF, and once he determined that they posed a safety hazard, tagging them all out of service. John's decision was not particularly a popular one, but he had the courage to step up and speak up knowing that everyone's safety is considered above all. Upon closer examination of the dropdowns, two were determined to be at the point of imminent failure due to design issues.

Congratulations, John!

Face-to-Face

Name: Carol Starzinsky

Company: Wackenhut Services, Inc. – Nevada

Job Title: Accounting/Payroll Supervisor

Hometown: Niceville, Florida

Hobbies/ Interests: Spending time with my family and my Chihuahua, going to movies, singing, traveling, horseback riding, eating Mexican food, and drinking Starbucks – the greatest invention mankind has ever known

Diligent Warrior tests interagency response

by Kurt Arnold

A military transport truck carrying a nuclear warhead and a commercial fuel truck collide on a Montana public highway outside Malmstrom Air Force Base. The early September morning commute is interrupted by an explosion, fire, and thick, black smoke.

Although this was a simulated accident, it was designed to practice interagency coordination and to validate federal, state, and local emergency response and consequence management plans and procedures in response to an accident involving a nuclear weapon. This full-scale, three-day exercise, named *Diligent Warrior 04*, was directed by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and included representatives from NNSA's Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center.

"The NNSA Nevada Site Office has a huge responsibility in coordinating radiological data critical to decision-makers in times of emergencies; exercises such as this allow us to refine our skills and train additional staff in consequence management response actions," said **Don Daigler**, homeland security and defense director for the NNSA Nevada Site Office. "I was pleased to see how everyone performed as a team."

Local officials called upon NNSA to deploy the FRMAC to assist with field monitoring activities. Later a simulated helicopter mission from the Remote Sensing Laboratory-Nellis' Aerial Measuring System provided a survey of ground contamination at low altitudes.

Approximately 50 nuclear/radiation emergency consequence management responders from federal, contractor, and national laboratories took action establishing the FRMAC command center. Once activated, field monitoring teams from the FRMAC and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) worked together to collect soil samples. Over the three days, officials involved in the exercise evaluated the potential environmental impact caused by the mock accident. This information was analyzed and then passed on to local emergency officials.

Diligent Warrior 04 brought together a large contingency of federal, state, military, and local agencies and organizations, including:

- U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters
- National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office and Service Center
- U.S. Air Force Headquarters
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Transportation Safety Board
- Montana National Guard

Although this exercise involved more than 600 participants, a sense of a single team was apparent. This exercise enabled the discussion of issues, exchange of ideas, and a chance to share experiences and work together as a team. It is through this process that participants and organizations receive the most benefit.

photo by Kevin Rohrer

***Gary Chilton** (left), BN, and **Bill Miller**, Radiological Assistance Program Region 6, work on field monitoring routes during the Diligent Warrior 04 exercise.*

Low-level waste disposal at NTS means cleanup for DOE complex

by Dona Merritt

Fiscal year 2004 was another record-setting year at the NTS with disposal operations accepting 3.7 million cubic feet of low-level waste—enough to fill a football field more than 6 stories high. And the 150,000 man-hours it took to dispose the waste were logged without any lost-time accidents. Quite an accomplishment!

What does this mean for the dozens of DOE approved waste generators who ship to the NTS? It means that sites, such as Rocky Flats in Colorado, are that much closer to their cleanup goals. Environmental restoration activities across the DOE complex, in fact, are on the fast track to cleanup thanks to the safe, efficient low-level waste disposal operations provided at the NTS.

While receiving record volumes is a significant accomplishment, the NTS' number one priority continues to be the protection of workers, the public, and the environment. Scientists and engineers study the radioactive waste management sites to ensure that disposal cells safely perform as planned. These studies include developing computer models of the long-term performance of the disposal facilities and gathering information through monitoring activities on and around the NTS. Annually, the results of these monitoring activities are published in the *Nevada Test Site Environmental Report* which can be found on-line at http://www.osti.gov/dublincore/gpo/servlets/purl/833802-4hQT1X/native/833802.pdf.

Visit http://www.nv.doe.gov/news&pubs/dirpdfs/DOENV657_REV2.pdf for more information on low-level waste disposal at the NTS.

The safe disposal of low-level waste at the Nevada Test Site is primarily attributed to the site's ideal environmental conditions and location. Characteristics such as the extremely dry climate, the deep groundwater, and the "sponge-like" soil severely limit the likelihood of any water migrating into the disposal cells, surface water, or subsurface water. In addition, the remoteness and the security of the radioactive waste management facilities provide protection to distant population centers and against unwanted intruders.

Local small business makes the grade

by Jeanette Matthews

Getting the job done ahead of schedule and with a remarkable safety record earned ADT Construction a performance incentive check from BN for the demolition of the B-1 and B-2 buildings at the North Las Vegas Facility. ADT Construction, a local, 8(a), small Hispanic business, was awarded the subcontract for the demolition project July 30, 2004, after careful review of their qualifications, references, and an in-depth investigation of their abilities to safely perform demolition work. This included a job-site visit to the Michael O'Callaghan Federal Hospital to observe their demolition work already in progress.

Work began almost immediately following the award of the subcontract as all preparations and work control were completed in advance. Within hours after the arrival of ADT's equipment, Building B-2 was a pile of rubble on the ground. Project Manager **Susan Livenick**, Project Lead **Dwight Burch**, and Subcontract Representative **Jeanette Matthews** watched in awe as Building B-1 soon followed.

The buildings, built in the early 1980s, were steel frame structures with pre-cast tilt-up concrete walls totaling about 78,000 square feet. The demolition work took a total of 68 days with 53 actual working days. The disposal alone involved 425 loads of concrete, masonry, steel components, and building materials which equates to over 2,600 tons or 5.2 million pounds of building debris.

Because of ADT's pronounced and practiced dedication to the safety of its employees and worksite visitors and under the careful scrutiny of BN Safety Representative **Gaylene Parmenter** and BN Subcontract Technical Representative **Jamie Hawkins**, the project was completed accident free. By September 16, 2004, all remnants of both buildings were gone – 32 days ahead of schedule.

"From the get go, ADT worked to fully understand the scope and to plan the demolition work in the safest and most cost-effective manner possible," said Livenick. "From the first conceptual cost estimate through the final negotiated subcontract, the ADT proposal showed thorough knowledge of the job, a commitment to safety, core competence and competitive pricing. The job was completed without incident, well under budget and well ahead of schedule. The negotiated incentive reflected the significant savings which resulted from ADT's well-planned, well-executed effort. ADT demonstrated that an 8(a) contractor can be highly competitive in the marketplace. This job was a project manager's dream come true!"

"In demolition work, safety is always the first priority because there are too many potential opportunities for people to get hurt or equipment to be damaged," said **Jess Franco**, ADT Construction's vice president and project manager. "The key to the success of this particular project was the Bechtel Nevada/ADT cooperation in building the project, the commitment to safety by all parties involved, and the teamwork experienced during the execution of the project."

Franco also mentioned that during the B building demolition, safety was emphasized even more so because of the potential for the presence of hazardous materials. Not only was a dedicated air-monitoring program established for worker, worksite, and community safety, but all workers on the project site were involved in daily safety meetings and safety reviews. Adding to this, Franco said working with Bechtel Nevada's outstanding safety personnel ensured that many, many sets of eyes were

cont. on page 7

Local small business makes the grade

cont. from page 6

always observing the demolition and disposal work. The end result was a project that experienced no lost-time accidents and no safety incidents of any kind. It began with both BN and ADT personnel working together to develop the full scope of the project and identifying potential problem areas that might be encountered, as well as solutions, and it ended by finishing ahead of schedule.

The performance incentive, which is equal to the amount that BN saved in oversight and project management costs, was presented to **Ruben Vasquez**, president of ADT Construction, September 28, 2004, by **Kathy Vaselopulos**, BN assistant general manager for commercial management and administration.

"As president of ADT, I want to extend to Bechtel Nevada our thanks for extending this opportunity to our company, an 8(a) small business; our thanks also for the demonstrated commitment to working together and for the superb attitude of the Bechtel Nevada staff," said Vasquez. "We do look forward to working with Bechtel Nevada again in the near future."

ADT's management stated that they will share the incentive with their workers through bonuses and safety awards.

photo by Mary Scodwell

***Kathy Vaselopulos**, BN (left), presents an incentive check to ADT Construction President **Ruben Vasquez** (right) and ADT Construction Vice President and Project Manager **Jess Franco** (center) for their accomplishments on the B building demolition project.*

Contractors and lab personnel receive Awards of Excellence

In a ceremony November 18, contractors to NNSA/NSO and laboratory personnel were presented 2003 Defense Programs Awards of Excellence. This prestigious award is presented to individuals or teams who make significant contributions to the Nevada Site Office's nuclear weapons program.

"Your contributions have enabled the Nevada Site Office to achieve its national security missions at the Nevada Test Site," said **Kathleen Carlson**, NNSA/NSO manager. "Please accept my sincere thanks for your support."

Those receiving 2003 team awards were:

Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (JASPER) Startup Team: **Mac Baker (BN), Leon Berzins (LLNL), James Betts (LLNL), Earl Blake (BN), Robert Braddy (BN), Jeffery Cates (BN), Richard Clough (BN), George Conover (BN), Ken Courville (BN), Matt Cowan (LLNL), Grace Eyherabide (BN), Robert Fisher (LLNL), John Flam (LLNL), Eric Flynn (BN), Kim Foster (BN), Thomas Gascoigne (LLNL), Jeffrey Haeberlin (LLNL), Eric Hanson (LLNL), James Haskins (BN), Patricia Herrin (BN), Alex Jackovich (BN), Carl Konrad (BN), Chin Ma (LLNL), Joe Maridon (BN), Mark Martinez (LLNL), Lori McElroy (LLNL), John Miller (LLNL), Mark Owens (LLNL), Karen Patton (BN), Dave Prokosch (LLNL), Terry Roy (LLNL), Larry Sedlacek (LLNL), Lillie Simon (BN), Dennis Wai (BN), Donald Western (BN), Bruce Whitcomb (BN),** and **C.P. Williams (LLNL)**

WSI's OPSEC/Security Awareness Section: **Cindy Farinholt, Sarah Johnson, Gary Kostick,** and **Wayne Morris**

WSI's Security Access Control Section **Kimberly Clark, Barbara Doss, Richard Gomez, Ivory Hughes, Gayle Humes, Theresa Jefferson, Sandra Marshall, Carrie McClain, Janet Penny, Connie Ripa,** and **Dianna Williams**

WSI's Protective Force Operations Section: **John Aguayo, Manuel Almagure, Julian Almeyda, John Anderson, Lorenzo Apodaca, Lawrence Archuleta, Danny Austin, Antoine Barnes, William Barr, Hillary Bayless, Xavier Becerril, Matthew Becker, Levar Bell, Thomas Bottazzo, Kim Broadway, S.T. Brown, Thomas Brown, Louis Butler, Harold Carpenter, Mark Caudillo, Mondo Cavallero, Gregory Chadwick, Tammy Chase, Lance Cinko, Arturo Cisneros, Randy Clayton, Michael Cleghorn, Jody Coles, William Colley, Melissa Cousins, Daniel Cowan, Jeffrey Craig, Maverick Cramer, Vincent Cummings, Richard Dague, Robert Dahlberg, Keith Davenport, Cedric Davis, Dale Dean, Jr., Michael Demesquita, David Duff, David Elmore, Terrance Fagan, Robert Fletcher, Barry Flood, Walter Foster, Ronald Gaines, Raymond Gamble, Jr., Bruce Gasta, Rodger Gatdula, William Gomer, Richard Gomez, Xavier Gomez, Koni Green, Kirk Gries, Karey Guthrie, Jeffrey Haase, Michael Hailey, Chris Hammond, Willie Harris, III, Gary Hedrick, Kevin Hernandez, Kenneth Herrera, Lee Higbie, Mark Hojnacke, John Holliday, Carl Hoover, Howard Hoye, Roger Hubin, Michael Isaac, Mark Jackson, Jose Jaramillo, Matthew Johnson, Mark Koeller, Brian Kolczynski, Aaron Kramer, Lyle Lawton, James Layton, William Leal, Ward Lemons, Jeffrey Lofton, Raul Lopez, George Lozoya, William Lucero, Matthew MacDonald, Dana Mallard, Sandra Marshall, Ira Matlock, Rodney Mazion, Colin McCarthy, Philip Mertz, Ray Mix, Richard Mollus, Jeff Monty, Troy Morgan, Milton Morton, Maurice Mulcahy, Jr., Craig Nangle, Carl Nichter, Carlo Ochipinti, Douglas Osborne, Steven Pappa, David Peek, Donald Peterson, John Poulos, Michael Privitera, Darren Pruden, Bruce Radel, Anniah Randolph, Jr., Robert Ready, Gus Redding, James Riddle, Barton Roberts, Charles Roberts, Patricia Roberts, Rafael Romo, Larry Rose, John A. Ross, John B. Ross, David Russell, Carlos Saenz, Charles Sattler, August Schellhase, Lee Schmardebeck, Terry Scobee, Barry Sephas, John Simon, Angelo Smith, Darlene Smith, Roger Smith, Michael Sonne, L.R. Sommers, Craig Soucy, Eugene Stem, Patricia Stewart, William Stinson, Greg Stukes, Lloyd Sydnor, Christopher Tate, Jim Thimsen, Vernon Thomas, David Thompson, John Tome, James Underwood, Jose Valencia, Steven Verwer, Raph Vickrey, Matthew Vierig, Michael Voce, Jay Warner, Lenny White, John Whitney** and **Richard Workman**

This feature highlights various components of the Six Sigma process at the NNSA/NSO complex. A monthly article will detail the Six Sigma process, individual PIPs, the team members associated with Six Sigma, or the anticipated benefits and cost savings associated with implementing the PIPs.

Safety and Six Sigma

by Joe Honea

The BN Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) program has completed several safety-related Six Sigma PIPs in the last two years. This has led to significant improvements in the services ES&H provides for protecting the health and safety of all personnel who work at BN facilities. A recent article by Jack B. ReVelle in *Professional Safety* provides some excellent insights on how Six Sigma problem solving techniques are used by BN to improve safety.

Six Sigma has demonstrated that data driven decisions provide more predictable results than decisions made by intuition or "professional judgment." The ultimate goal in any given process is to achieve "0 defects" with the use of data driven analysis and improvement processes. "0 defects" is typically expressed as "Defects per Million Opportunities (DPMO)." DPMO is calculated as follows:

$$\text{DPMO} = \frac{\text{Number of Defects X 1,000,000}}{\text{Total Opportunities}}$$

The primary safety goal for BN is to reduce occupational accidents with the ultimate goal of achieving "0" accidents. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standard for reporting accidents is based upon calculating a Total Recordable Case Rate as follows:

$$\text{OSHA Total Recordable Case Rate (TRC)} = \frac{\text{Number of Accidents X 200,000}}{\text{Number of Hours Worked}}$$

For example, during the months January 2004 through September 2004, BN experienced 45 recordable accidents, and the current rate can be calculated using the following:

$$\text{OSHA Total Recordable Case Rate (TRC)} = \frac{\text{45 X 200,000}}{\text{4,276,853}}$$

BN Calendar Year To-Date TRC Rate = 2.10
BN experiences 2.10 accidents per 200,000 hours worked

As previously mentioned, one Six Sigma metric is based upon the number of defects per 1,000,000 items or DPMO. Safety statistics can be related to Six Sigma metrics via a simple substitution in the TRC Rate calculation:

$$\text{DPMO (Accidents)} = \frac{\text{Number of Accidents X 1,000,000}}{\text{Number or Hours Worked}^{(1)}}$$

For BN, the number of accidents per million opportunities (hours worked) can be calculated as follows:

$$\text{DPMO (Accidents)} = \frac{\text{45 X 1,000,000}}{\text{4,276,853}}$$

In Six Sigma terminology, BN has experienced 10.5 accidents per 1,000,000 hours worked.

In manufacturing, the goal is to achieve Six Sigma capability of three defects per one million opportunities, or 99.99966 percent defect-free, with the ultimate goal of achieving "0" defects.

For calendar year 2004, BN has experienced 10.5 accidents per one million

cont. on page 8

Partnering for Education

Quannah McCall update

by Sheril Hamlin

Proud to be Americans . . . and Nevadans

Focus School partner, Quannah McCall Elementary School, recently requested the donation of a U.S. flag and a state of Nevada flag. Happy to oblige, **Sheril Hamlin**, WSI-NV, presented the flags to Quannah McCall Principal **John Villarreal** during an Open House at the school September 30. Faculty, students and parents were in attendance.

Quannah McCall will proudly fly the flags at their school to demonstrate their commitment to the country and the state.

WSI-NV gets crafty

Always looking for ways to positively impact the students at Quannah McCall, WSI-NV's latest discovery revealed that the school is seriously lacking in physical education equipment. In order to respond to this need, some of WSI-NV's "craftier" employees went to work organizing a Craft Fair. The Fair was a huge success, and in a very short time, Quannah McCall will have much needed equipment to keep all those little legs moving and burning energy.

photo by Adrienne Anderton

***Sheril Hamlin** (right) presents an American and state of Nevada flag to Quannah McCall Elementary School Principal **John Villarreal**.*

Lessons Learned

Safety at work

An independent safety professional performed an assessment to verify that safety requirements defined in the work package for the New Integrated Fire Alarm System Project at the North Las Vegas Facility were adequate and that they were being met in the field. This project consisted of three crews: A subcontractor, a BN day crew and a BN night crew. Each crew was observed in order to verify that they were working safely. The outcome of the assessment of the three crews was seven observations by the safety professional of notable safety conscious actions and four observations of potentially unsafe conditions. Two of the observed potentially unsafe conditions were suggestions that were reclassified as Best Management Practices after their implementation; i.e., a suggestion to use a defogger on their safety glasses and one to immediately repair a switch that changes the speed on a man lift.

No unsafe actions by workers were observed by the safety professional. This is attributed to a diligent project manager performing daily, if not more often, safety walk-throughs and having a full-time construction superintendent onsite and in the work areas. Another contributing factor is the consistent availability of the same construction superintendent throughout the construction phase of the project. Workers constantly seeing management show interest in the work and in the employees themselves provide an avenue of direct communication to discuss issues as they arise in an informal atmosphere with supervision they know and trust.

The moral of this assessment? Addressing safety issues on a continuous basis during a project with input from management, safety professionals and workers provides for immediate solutions to safety issues as they arise and provides for positive feedback on good work practices.

For more information on this and other Lessons Learned, contact **Doris Burnett** at **(702) 295-5580**.

Safety and Six Sigma

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opportunities or one million hours worked[(1)]. This would relate to a sigma level of approximately 5.5. An interim goal for safety at BN could be to achieve a Six Sigma level of performance of three or fewer accidents per million hours worked or a TRC rate of 0.5 with the ultimate goal of achieving an accident-free work place. Six Sigma processes are also invaluable in helping us evaluate safety incidents and related statistics. Safety incidents and related statistics are inherently complex and multivariate, but Six Sigma tools can be applied to help sort through this complexity. For example, as delineated by ReVelle in the *Professional Safety* article, different Six Sigma tools could be utilized for the following:
- To help pinpoint and rank root causes;
- Identify common root causes for multiple incidents;
- Pinpoint predominant accident locations or physical contributors; and
- Analyze possible relationships among variables or in this case contributing causes

Also, according to ReVelle, Six Sigma problem solving techniques have been used with significant success in reducing accidents at Honeywell International, DuPont, General Electric, and Bechtel Jacobs.

If you would like to read ReVelle's article in its entirety, it is located in the October 2004 issue of *Professional Safety*, pages 38-46.

Footnotes:
(1) There is no assumption that one hour represents only one opportunity for an accident, "hours" is only used as a standard, which is consistent with OSHA.

Retirements

Michael Pelan - Bechtel Nevada

In Memory

Jack Burkes Sr. - former contractor employee
Robert Campbell - former LANL employee
Irene Cessna - former contractor employee
William Cross - former contractor employee
John Dobyns - former contractor employee
Donald Ecker Jr. - LLNL employee
Peter Horner - former contractor employee
Phyllis Howland - former contractor employee
Richard Mickey - Bechtel Nevada employee
Dennis "Denny" Selleck - former contractor employee
Lawrence Watson - former contractor employee
Hillon Ward - former contractor employee

Editor's Note

An article entitled "Bechtel Nevada acquires U.S. Customs vans" that appeared in the October 2004 issue of *SiteLines* contained misleading information added by the editor.

At Bechtel Nevada, the Second Line of Defense work is accomplished in 24 countries but does not include Russia or the Russian Federation. In addition, Bechtel Nevada is not currently involved in the rapid deployment of radiation detection equipment, jointly developed training modules, or integrated communications systems. These activities are accomplished at the NNSA Headquarters level.

The editor apologizes for any confusion resulting from the added information.

MILESTONES

Bechtel Nevada

35 years *Las Vegas* - **Jerome Blair**

30 years *Las Vegas* - **Lawrence Cohn, James Walker, Jr.**

25 years *Las Vegas* - **Rosslyn Brass, Ronald Chaney, Dorothy Flangas, Steven Goldman, Marc Rivera;** *Nevada Test Site* - **Kenneth McCoy, Russell Svab**

20 years *Las Vegas* - **Melody Cawthon, Carrie Johnson-Booker, Delayne Jones, Lorraine Marshall, David Smith, Edward Vahlbruch, Lee Watson**; *Nevada Test Site* - **Agnes Anderson, Cletus Pierce, Max Smith, Frey Tibbits, Bradley Van Cleave, John Woods**; *Los Alamos Operations* - **Noor Khalsa**

15 years *Las Vegas* - **Bert Cochran, Phillip Dever, Robert Hampton, Latrelle Smith, Kathleen Tefft**; *Nevada Test Site* - **Thomas Folk, June Girolamo, Robert Grossman, Joseph Holden, Alan Marchand, Earl M. Sorom, Neal Westphal, James Wilsher, Alan Wittig**

10 years *Las Vegas* - **Jennifer Politano**; *Nevada Test Site* - **Craig Barnes, Oswald Fout III, Derek Hall, Priscilla Royer**

5 years *Las Vegas* - **Kristy Amasaki, Patricia Bangerter, Michael Bryant, Savitra Candley, Cherri French, Alan Klawitter, Christopher Long, Felicidad Reyes, Joseph Tumminia**; *Nevada Test Site* - **Valente Guerrero, Wesley Halbert, Laura Harris, Cindy Heller, Joseph Honea, Bobbie Poole, William Pyzyna, Eric Robison**; *Livermore Operations* - **Jessica Bronson**

New Hires *Las Vegas* – **Christopher Blancher, Frances Castillo, Mark Ferda, Daniel Meche, Bernard Meehan**; *Nevada Test Site* – **Lewis Allen, Jr., Gary Garrett, Andrew Huie, Robert Kanning, Jr., Lawrence Morris, Shawn Mooney, Kurt Murdock, Thai Nguyen**; *Los Alamos Operations* – **Stephanie Archuleta, John Hellier, David Schwellenbach**; *Remote Sensing Laboratory – Andrews Operations* – **Emanuele Avaro, Alvin Gogue**; *Special Technologies Laboratory* – **Edward Miller**

National Nuclear Security Administration - Nevada Site Office

15 years **Kathleen Lynn**

10 years **Ronnie Alderson**

ARL/SORD

35 years **Don Bullard**

Desert Research Institute

20 years **Todd Mihevc**

5 years **Christopher Ardans, Hilary Crowley, Jeramie Memmott, Julianne Miller, Phil Oberlander**

Environmental Protection Agency/R&IE

15 years **Douglas Evans, Andrea Stafford**

Los Alamos National Laboratory

10 years **John Dinsmoor, Eugene Pokorny, Allen Wood**

Sandia National Laboratories

20 years **Lorenzo Salgado**

Team CNSI

25 years **Ann Bell**

10 years **Bertha Calvan, Cynthia Fishbourne**

Wackenhut Services Incorporated - Nevada

15 years *Las Vegas* - **Mark Kucera**; *Nevada Test Site* - **Richard Church**

5 years *Las Vegas* - **Sharon Humes**; *Nevada Test Site* - **Michael Voce**

— Compiled by Kirsten Kellogg

Wanted: Volunteers

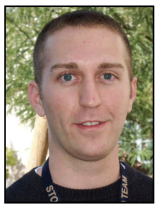
for the

14th Annual Nevada Regional Science Bowl

February 11-12, 2005

We need scientific judges, scorekeepers, timekeepers, moderators, rules judges, room monitors and runners. If you are interested in volunteering, please call **Steve Curtis** at **(702) 295-0901** or e-mail **curtiss@nv.doe.gov**

Face-to-Face



Name: John Myers

Company: Stoller-Navarro Joint Venture

Title: Industrial Sites Preliminary Assessments

Hometown: Cleveland, Ohio

Hobbies/
Interests: Traveling, hiking, real estate, swimming, pina coladas, getting caught in the rain and champagne

Face-to-Face

Name: Linda Jensen

Employer: Bechtel Nevada

Job Title: Accountant

Hometown: Born in Carlsbad, New Mexico, but have lived in Las Vegas most of my life

Hobbies/
Interests: Reading, camping, fishing, traveling and spending time at our cabin in Utah (Duck Creek Village area). The summer months are enjoyable for fishing, four-wheeling, and hiking, and in the winter months I love to snow-mobile.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 9
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**.

December 24
NNSA/NSO and contractor offices closed in observance of Christmas holiday.

December 31
NNSA/NSO and contractor offices closed in observance of New Year's holiday.

January 17
NNSA/NSO and contractor offices closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

January 31-February 5
JASON Expedition – Disappearing Wetlands. Community College of Southern Nevada, Cheyenne Campus and Valley High School. Contact **Kurt Arnold, BN (702) 295-5792** or **Sheril Hamlin, WSI (702) 295-0804**.

February 11-12
NNSA/NSO's 14th Annual Nevada Regional Science Bowl. University of Nevada, Las Vegas campus. Contact **La Tomya Glass, BN (702) 295-1134**.

February 17
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**.

February 21
NNSA/NSO and contractor offices closed in observance of Presidents Day.

March 22
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, call **(702) 295-4015**. For information on declassified film showings at NTS Yucca Mountain, contact **Rod Rodriguez (702) 295-5825**.

Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Trade Shows

December 6-7
National Contract Management Association's 23rd Annual Government Contract Management Conference. Sheraton Premiere, Tyson's Corner, Virginia. For additional information, visit www.ncmahq.org/meetings/GCC04/.

January 22-27
Photonics West 2005. San Jose Convention Center, San Jose, Calif. For additional information, visit spie.org/Conferences/programs/05/pw/.

January 24-26
Geo-Frontiers 2005. Hilton Austin Convention Center Hotel, Austin, Texas. For additional information, visit www.asce.org/conferences/geofrontiers05/.

February 27-March 3
Waste Management Symposium (WM'05). Tucson, Ariz. For additional information, visit www.wmsym.org/deafult.asp.

December is:

National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

January is:

National Eye Care Month

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