

# Fence Lines

Spring 2014

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We'd love to hear from you!  
Please send story ideas, comments,  
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# FenceLines Spring 2014



Cover Photo: A pivot on Mike Noel's Flood Canyon Ranch just east of Kanab, Utah.

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*FenceLines is published for the reading enjoyment of customers and friends of Western AgCredit. Efforts are made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of information printed. However, the Association assumes no liability for inadvertent or unintended errors or inaccuracies. Servicing the Intermountain West since 1917, customer service is our commitment.*

# Dear Western AgCredit Stockholders & Friends,



Spring is an amazing time of year for production agriculture. Our customers are busy planting crops, branding calves and getting their farms and ranches ready for the upcoming growing seasons. Optimism amongst producers is very high this time of year. A lot of prayers are being said on behalf of summer rains, herd health and favorable prices this fall. It's a great time to be involved in production agriculture. Spring has Sprung (sorry Mom – she's a retired English teacher)!

As you will read in an article in this issue of FenceLines, your Board of Directors met with the three members of the U.S. House of Representatives who are up for re-election this fall (Chaffetz, Stewart and Bishop). The Board and Senior Management were able to spend approximately one hour with each member in our Board Room. The list of topics discussed ranged from the National Deficit (\$17.5 trillion), reduction of the IRS section 179 deduction limit from \$500,000 down to \$25,000, agriculture's need for a reliable source of immigrant labor, multiple use of public lands, EPA interpretation of the Clean Water Act, EPA Nutrient Management Standard, EPA Endangered Species, EPA Climate Change/Cap and Trade, and a short discussion on the potential benefits to the Intermountain Region if we could get representation on the Agriculture Committee within the U.S. House of Representatives.

From a personal standpoint, I left each of the three meetings very impressed with each Representative. Each member had a "working" knowledge of all the issues being discussed and each had a plan for addressing the issues. Unfortunately, with the current lack of bipartisan support in Congress and with the Administration, reaching a quick

solution is not possible. But, each Congressman discussed incremental advancements that may be achievable to improve the situation until the makeup of Congress changes. If I lived in any of their respective individual districts, I could endorse them whole heartedly in their reelection campaign. We're fortunate to have elected officials who are willing to meet with their constituents while they are home for the Spring Recess.

I'm very proud to report that the strong financial progress of Western AgCredit continues. We just completed the First Quarter Report to Shareholders and the results are impressive. A complete copy of the quarterly report is available upon request or it can be accessed via our website ([www.westernagcredit.com](http://www.westernagcredit.com)). As of March, 31, 2014, the Association achieved the following milestones:

Loan Volume: \$704,000,000

Net Income: \$4,147,000

Permanent Capital \$120,033,000

Loans 90 Days Past Due: \$0

Efficiency Ratio: 39.88%

Core Surplus Ratio: 16.09%

We appreciate the business and support that our membership and friends provide Western AgCredit. We feel very blessed to be able to work with the farmers and ranchers in the Intermountain West.

**Together in Agriculture,**

**Richard Weathered**  
President

# New Employees

## Chase Black

Chase Black started as a loan officer in the Evanston Branch in May of 2014. He's looking forward to the chance his new position will give him to meet customers and help them achieve their production goals.

This spring, Chase graduated from Utah State with a bachelor's degree in animal, dairy, & vet science and a minor in agribusiness management. Last summer,

Chase worked as an intern for Western AgCredit in the Evanston Branch.

Chase's family runs a mink ranch in Coalville, Utah, where he lives. Chase grew-up working on the mink ranch that was started by his grandfather. Chase enjoys working with his family in the mink. In his free time, Chase enjoys competing in rodeos, especially steer wrestling, music, playing the piano and spending time with friends and family.



## Tyler Peterson

In April, Tyler Peterson joined Western AgCredit as an evaluator in the Richfield Branch. Son of former Western AgCredit appraiser, Don Peterson, Tyler is looking forward to following in his father's footsteps and becoming an appraiser for the Association.

Tyler graduated from Southern Utah University with a degree in science and range land management. Prior to working

for Western AgCredit, Tyler worked in agriculture, as a truck driver, for the United States Geological Survey and he worked for his father in his appraisal business.

Originally from Richfield, Tyler and his wife, Tina, currently live in Bicknell. Growing up, Tyler enjoyed working for local farmers and even invested in some of his own animals. Today, he and his wife run a stocker program and help with his in-laws farm and sheep operation.



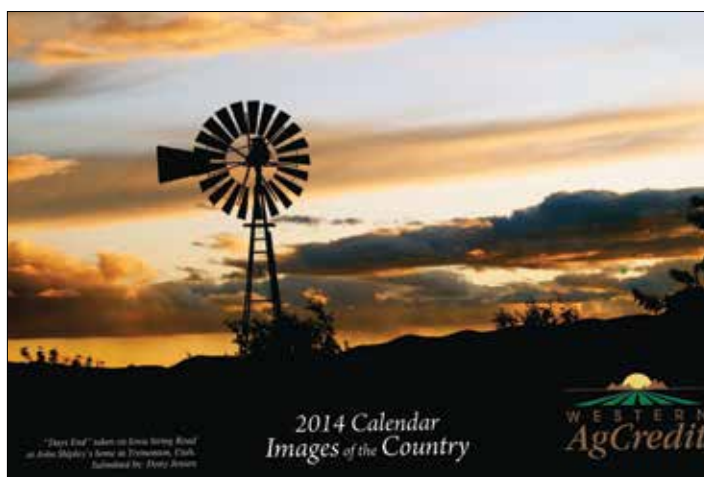
## Photo Contest for the 2015 Calendar!

We hope you're enjoying your 2014 Western AgCredit calendar featuring pictures submitted by our customers. Now is the time to start taking pictures to submit for the 2015 calendar!

Thirteen agriculture related photos will be selected for the calendar, and winners will each get a \$50 gift card for their submission. There are no limits on submissions, so enter as many photos as you would like. **The submission deadline is July 31, 2014!**

High-quality digital photos are preferred, but other formats will be accepted. Submissions will not be returned. By submitting your photos, you give Western AgCredit the right to use photos for additional marketing purposes.

Please include a brief description of the photo including location and names of individuals, if present. Entries can be emailed to Sarah Buttars at [sjb@westernagcredit.com](mailto:sjb@westernagcredit.com), or mailed to her at PO Box 95850, South Jordan, UT 84095.



Cover of this year's Western AgCredit calendar.

# New Logan Branch Office Will Be Open for Business in May

Finishing touches are underway on the new building that will house the Logan staff. The building, located at 2195 North Main just across the street from the current location, will be completed at the beginning of May.

By the end of May, employees will be in the new space. In addition to offering more work space, the new location is all on one level and will be easier for customers to access.

Sometime during the summer, there will be an open house for customers to come and tour the new office space. Invitations will be sent out to customers of the Logan Branch to notify them about the open house.

Below are a few pictures of the new building. The Logan staff is looking forward to continuing to serve their customers from this great new space!



## \$200 Gift Card Winner Announced

Western AgCredit is pleased to congratulate Tom Buzianis for winning the first quarter's \$200 American Express gift card. Tom was randomly selected from the returned surveys.

To be eligible to win this quarterly drawing, customers must complete the survey received in the mail after renewing a current loan or getting a new loan. If you choose to include your name on the survey, you'll be eligible for our quarterly drawing for a \$200 gift card.

We value your business and appreciate feedback. We want to ensure that we are meeting your needs and exceeding your expectations.

Receiving the feedback shortly after you've completed your transaction allows us to make adjustments to business practices in a timely manner. The survey is brief and should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete. We'd like to thank you in advance for completing the survey.



# FIGHTING FOR

**In addition to being a farmer and a rancher, Representative Mike Noel of Kanab, Utah uses his influence to help farmers and ranchers be successful in agriculture.**

Many might know Mike Noel of Kanab, Utah for his involvement as a representative in the state legislature, but he also has a love for agriculture that runs deep and motivates his beliefs and actions when it comes to public policy.

As a boy, he fondly recalls summers spent on his great aunt and uncle's ranch in Nevada. When he was in the eighth grade, he moved in with his grandparents. Although his grandfather lost his farming operation during the depression, Mike remembers him perusing the Sunday paper every week looking at farms for sell, maintaining the dream to get back into production agriculture. For Mike, these childhood experiences instilled in him a love for agriculture and a desire to own and operate his own farm.

After completing a master's degree in biology and beginning a PHD in the same field, Mike determined he needed a break and moved his small family from Logan, Utah where he was attending Utah State University to Kanab in 1975. Mike's wife, Sherry, had roots in the Kanab area as did Mike, and they looked forward to working in agriculture. Unfortunately, circumstances didn't allow for working in agriculture at that time.

Deciding to start a restaurant in Kanab to support their growing family, Mike and Sherry put their full energy into renovating the old Bowman's Mercantile on Main Street in Kanab. This proved to be a demanding business, and eventually Sherry went to work as a nurse and Mike maintained the restaurant during the height of the tourist season.

Mike recalls that while at the restaurant one day, a BLM employee asked if he could identify plants. With his biology background, Mike told him that was something he could do. He offered him a temporary job, which Mike turned down at the time. After reducing the restaurant's season to five months, Mike had time for other things and went to work for the BLM in 1976.

He started right before FLPMA, the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976, was passed. "I joined in September of 1976 and FLPMA was passed in October of 1976," said Mike. "So before that, it was the grazing service, the Taylor Grazing and the Land Office. They were still disposing of land. You still had homesteading going on then, so it was a really interesting period to be in there."

During his 20 years with the BLM, Mike enjoyed working there, spending time driving around checking the land and the water. After retiring in 1996 because he disagreed with the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Mike started his own consulting business, Mike Noel Environmental Consulting.

Although employed full-time, Mike still maintained his desire to start his own agriculture operation. "I started small; I started really with a milk cow. My oldest son and I got a milk cow and we started selling milk. We put it in these big mayonnaise jars and delivered it all over town and then we bought this ranch," said Mike, referring to Flood Canyon Ranch at the mouth of Johnson Canyon just east of Kanab, a ranch they have owned for 32 years and the location of their home.

# THE FARMER

“There was no hay, there were no lines, there was nothing,” said Mike of the condition of Flood Canyon Ranch. “There was one old well that wasn’t any good. We put in all the hay; we put in all the lines and all the headlines.”

The previous owners of Flood Canyon Ranch had used the land to run cows, and none of it had been cultivated. The challenge for cultivated land in Kanab is water. “Water is a problem down here. I’ve drilled four wells. We have two that are functional now,” said Mike. “I’ve worked on that for 30 years.”

Creating fertile farm ground in Kanab and the surrounding areas has been a goal for Mike, maintaining that the soil is good but needs water to grow a good crop. Mike’s involvement running the water conservancy district in his area has allowed him the platform for improvement of the water system in the entire area for the benefit of all farmers.

“When I started working with the water district 20 years ago, we had no customers, we owned about 10 acre feet of water, we didn’t have anything going,” said Mike. “In the last 20 years, we’ve got 3,000 customers, we’ve got over 100 miles of pipeline, 5 million gallons of storage, we took over 17 water companies, with their permission, and we built a \$14 million reservoir.”

The Jackson Flat Reservoir that Mike was instrumental in the planning, funding and construction of, holds 4,000 acre feet of water, compared to the 20 acre feet of water that was available before, and it has served to revitalize farming in the Kanab area.

According to Daren Lovell, Mike’s loan officer, he has seen an increased interest in farming in the area due to the water availability made possible by the new reservoir. “The Jackson Flat Reservoir has revitalized farming in the whole area,” said Daren. “I’ve had several requests  
*(Continued on next page)*



Mike’s loan officer, Daren Lovell, and Mike looking out over Flood Canyon Ranch.



Mike Noel

for financing equipment and irrigation systems that will enable the land to be put into production because of the availability of water.”

However, even with the increase in water storage capacity, Mike is passionate about practicing conservation and gaining efficiencies to increase water availability for other uses, and he has done this on his own operation.

“Farmers own 80% of water in the state of Utah. Now, push is coming to shove where people want that water, so you’re going to see more pressure on people to sell the water. What I’d like to see is us becoming more efficient,” said Mike. “It’s just like my water conservancy district, if I can get people to use less water, what does that mean? It means there are more connections, more income and you can utilize the water better.”

“We’ve got to figure out a way we can incentivize farmers to become more efficient, and that in turn allows them to water more acres and some of that excess water goes to urban people to either buy or whatever,” said Mike. “We’ve got to figure out a way that they benefit from saying, ‘I’m not going to just keep flooding, I’m going to go to center pivots because they’re less labor intensive, there’s more savings on water and I get a better crop because I don’t have to be on my fields as much.’”

Mike has added center pivots which not only decrease his water consumption by around 25% of traditional wheel lines, it also saves time and gives him a better yield since he can get the water on the hay faster after each cutting. “Farmers are so dang efficient. When they get to the point that they are really efficient, they are still looking for ways to be more efficient. They’re looking for ways to do it because it’s a wonderful life. It’s great to be able to know

that you produce something, you can feed people, and you can take care of people.” said Mike.

Today, in addition to running Flood Canyon Ranch, Mike has invested in a couple of other ranches. In partnership with others, including his son and son-in-law, they cultivate over 400 acres of ground and have about 150 mother cows.

Mike and Sherry’s family, which now consists of five children, 19 grandchildren and one great-grandchild enjoy working on the ranch. Mike also has one hired man to help with the workload. However, Mike enjoys performing the labor on the farm as well. Although he’s busy with his other commitments, he still feeds, harvests, waters and he’s the ranch mechanic, taking care of repairs and maintenance.

Currently, Mike is running for another two years in the legislature, and he has another project in the works. They are now in the planning stages and have the rights to build a 6,500 acre feet reservoir in Orderville, Utah. “I’ve got all the documentation, we’ve done all the studies and everything, I’ve just got to figure out how to do the funding,” said Mike. “That’s one last project I want to do before I really hang up the spurs and give it up.”

Mike also plans to continue to do what he loves and help others do the same. “I can’t think of anything else I’d rather do. I love farming, I absolutely love it,” said Mike. “I don’t just do the farming, I try to protect it, too. That’s been my goal for the last 12 years, to keep farming and agriculture going, to enhance farming, to get kids interested in farming, to make farming more profitable and to protect our water rights.”



*The 4,000 acre Jackson Flat Reservoir in Kanab, Utah.*



# Leopold Conservation Award 2014 Call for Applications

## Criteria

The Leopold Conservation Award Review Panel will be evaluating properties based on responsible and sustainable land management, economics, innovation, overall land health, and community outreach and leadership.

## Applications

If you, or someone you know, is a Utah landowner who is committed to land management practices that increase conservation, we invite your application for the Leopold Conservation Award.

Please provide the following information:

- Name, Address, Contact information (phone and e-mail address, if available) of the landowner
- Name, Address, Contact information of the nominator (if different).

Please answer each of the following questions, based on the criteria of the award. Each answer must be clearly numbered and limited to 1,000 words. Answers must be typed on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper (standard size). Please paper clip or binder clip your answer document, so they may be easily copied for the panel.

1. **Responsible Management:** Describe the applicant's approach to land and resource management and how it may have changed over the years.
2. **Sustainable Revenues:** Describe how the applicant is generating additional revenue or lowering production costs in ways that help achieve long-term sustainability and conservation outcomes.
3. **Leadership:** Describe any significant achievements the applicant has made within the agricultural community in Utah.
4. **Overall Land Health:** Describe specific conservation efforts that contributed to improved land health.
5. **Innovation:** Describe any innovative techniques that the applicant has used to improve natural resources on their land.
6. **Outreach:** Describe any efforts where the applicant has shared their management techniques with others inside and outside of agriculture (examples: research, educational and media tours, et cetera).
7. Describe any other factors the review panel should take into consideration.
8. Provide at least three letters of recommendation.

With your application, we encourage you to include supporting materials such as news articles, photos, maps, or any resources that would assist the panel in reviewing your application. **Please do not send DVD's or video clips.** If you would like the application materials returned to you, please indicate this in your application.

All materials must be mailed to:  
Leopold Conservation Award  
c/o Utah Farm Bureau Federation  
9865 S. State Street  
Sandy, UT 84070



 **Application Deadline: August 1, 2014**

For further information, please see the Leopold Conservation Award website:  
[www.leopoldconservationaward.org](http://www.leopoldconservationaward.org)

National  
Program Sponsors:



The Utah award is sponsored  
by **Western AgCredit**, Utah  
Farm Bureau Federation and:



Utah Wool Growers Association



# In Memory of *Jay Holt*

**May 23, 1969 - March 23, 2014**



Family, friends, customers and coworkers of Jay Holt are all saddened by his passing on March 23, 2014 after a courageous battle with cancer. Jay worked for Western AgCredit as a loan officer in the Richfield Branch for 18 years.

At Jay's funeral services, held at the Richfield LDS Stake Center on March 29, 2014, he was remembered by his brothers, children, and wife Michelle, as a fun-loving man, always positive and doing his best to live a good life and be a good influence on others.

Many in attendance remarked on Jay's ability to make everyone feel special. He remembered everyone's names, the names of their children and what was going on in their lives, and he genuinely cared about the people he came in contact with.

"Jay was a dedicated employee of Western AgCredit for the last 18 years, and his role of being an advisor, councilor and friend will be missed by his customers and coworkers alike," said President Richard Weathered.

Jay is also remembered fondly by his customers. "Jay was relatively young when we started doing business. At first, I was pretty guarded. I didn't think a banker needed to know all my business," said Chris Fullmer, long-time customer and friend of Jay's. "Over the years as I worked with Jay,

he demonstrated that he didn't just care whether or not we made our payment, he cared if we were successful. We came to value Jay's opinion, which gave us a whole different perspective. We trusted him and he trusted us. Jay had a lot of integrity in his work ethic. Jay took care of us very well, but Jay took care of Western AgCredit as well. He made sure he did things ethically so there wasn't any question. Jay was a good friend; we'll miss him."

In addition to helping his customers, Jay was instrumental in training several employees. "I was able to train with the Richfield staff, and I spent a considerable amount of time with Jay. Jay taught me a lot about credit, but he taught me more about people and attitude," said Matt Hirschi, Western AgCredit loan officer. "Everyone loved Jay. I think that it was because he always had a smile on his face and he made everyone feel like the most important person in the world. He always had time for me. Jay is one of my heroes and although he is gone, his memory and attitude towards life will forever be embedded in my soul."

Please contact Robert Wheeler, Richfield Branch Manager (435.896.8407), with any business questions or concerns. All those who had the privilege of knowing Jay were touched by his caring, cheerful attitude and his desire to serve. He will be missed by all, and our thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this difficult time.



*Jay Holt (center) with customers Cory and Steve Gillins*



*Robert Wheeler, Jim Christensen, Don Peterson and Jay Holt*



*Jim Christensen, Jay Holt, Robert Wheeler and Tonia Nielson*

# Representatives Chaffetz, Stewart and Bishop Attend Western AgCredit Board Meetings

Three members of Utah's congressional delegation, Representatives Jason Chaffetz, Chris Stewart and Rob Bishop, recently joined the Western AgCredit Board of Directors during their monthly meeting to discuss agricultural issues and learn more about the Association.

Among issues discussed, the Board of Directors touched on the following:

**Immigration** – Utah producers of agricultural products face a severe shortage of qualified workers who are willing and able to work on farms, ranches and agribusinesses that are involved with production agriculture. There are not adequate numbers of domestic workers willing to fill the job openings that industries such as dairy, sheep, poultry and greenhouse currently have.

**Continuation of Multiple Uses on Public Lands**

Approximately 75% of Utah is managed by one governmental agency or another. A majority of livestock operations in Utah are reliant on public lands for a portion of their grazing activities. Continued access to these lands is necessary if we are to have a viable livestock industry within our state. Scientific studies (by Utah State University and others) show that cattle and sheep grazing on rangeland can (and does) increase the total carrying capacity of the land.

**Congressional Support in Congress** – Agriculture is very important to the economy of Utah. The most recent statistics published (December 31, 2011) show agricultural processing and production sectors together account for \$17.5 billion in total economic output in Utah. These same sectors account for 78,000 jobs and income of approximately \$2.7 billion. The agricultural industry accounts for 14.1% of Utah's total output. If opportunities arise, Western AgCredit would encourage members of the Congressional Delegation to seek positions on their Agriculture Committee.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** – The directives and positions published by the EPA need to be balanced in their approach and the solutions need to have a scientific basis. As currently operated, the EPA is unbalanced when dealing with issues. If the Obama Administration will not utilize sound science when drafting their resolutions, then Congress is encouraged to withhold funding to the department.

Western AgCredit appreciates the representation we have in Washington, DC, and want to thank the representatives for taking the time to meet with the Board of Directors and learn more about important issues impacting agriculture today.



*Rep. Chaffetz with the Board of Directors*



*Rep. Stewart with the Board of Directors*



*Rep. Bishop with the Board of Directors*

# Customer Scholarship Winners

Western AgCredit would like to congratulate this year's \$1500 Customer Scholarship recipients. Applicants were evaluated on their academic performance, service, leadership, involvement in agriculture and their response to an essay. Below is information on the winners.

## Marie McClaren

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Hometown: **Kemmerer, Wyoming**  
Parents: **Trudi Julian and James Hoffman, Bradly McClaren**  
Family Farm: **Julian Land and Livestock & Hoffman Ranches, LLC**

A senior at Kemmerer High School, Marie devotes much of her time to playing volleyball and basketball. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, active in the 4-H and involved in Target, an anti drugs/alcohol club, as well as the Catholic Youth Organization. Marie is actively involved in two family ranching operations. Among the list of her duties include shearing, docking, hauling and trailing sheep. She also helps calf, vaccinate, haul and trail the cows. Marie plans to study rangeland management at the University of Wyoming. After college, she hopes to work at different ranches across the country before returning to her family's ranch.

## Shan Sherwood

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Hometown: **Nephi, Utah**  
Parents: **Mathew and Sheila Sherwood**  
Family Ranch: **Cedar Ridge Farms, LLC**

Shan is a senior at Juab High School. Along with being very involved in the FFA, including serving as an officer for three years, Shan is vice-president of the Spanish Club, a member of the National Honors Society and a member of the Spirit Team. He is the Agriculture Science Sterling Scholar. Shan is also involved in the community, performing various service projects. He has achieved the rank of an Eagle Scout. Shan enjoys working on his family's dairy farm, and is involved in all aspects of animal care. Shan plans on earning a degree in animal and dairy science and a master's in animal reproduction from Utah State. Ultimately, he would like to start his own animal reproduction center in Utah.

## Madelyn Money

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Hometown: **Spanish Fork, Utah**  
Parents: **Brent and Kris Money**  
Family Ranch: **Money Farms Inc.**

Madelyn is currently a senior at Spanish Fork High School. She has served in student government, including currently serving as a student body officer. She has also been captain of both the track and field and soccer teams, president of the REACH club and lettered in track and soccer. She also participates in the choir, PTSA, and Lettermen's Club. In her community, Madelyn raises agriculture awareness by educating elementary students as well as other fund raisers and service events. Madelyn helps on her family's fifth generation cattle ranch including feeding, bailing hay, irrigating and branding cattle. She also teaches piano lessons and works at Chick-fil-A.

## Lacey Papageorge

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Hometown: Ogden, Utah  
Parents: Ted and Debbie Papageorge  
Family Ranch: Pappy's Farm

Lacey is currently a sophomore at Utah State University studying animal, dairy and veterinary science. After graduation, she hopes to continue on and get a master's degree. After completing school, she would like to work at Gossners as a field man. While attending college, Lacey has worked for Gossners Food as a clerk in their retail store. While in high school, she served as an FFA officer. She has also served as a collegiate 4-H officer and as a member of the Dairy Science Club and Animal Science Club. Lacey was selected to represent the dairy industry in Utah as a Utah Dairy Ambassador, which she did in 2013. She is also president of the Weber County Dairy Women's organization.

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## Western AgCredit's FFA Scholarship Recipients



*Bethany Lamb*

At this year's FFA Convention held in Logan, Utah, Western AgCredit awarded two scholarships, one in cooperation with IFA. Each scholarship was \$1500 and students were selected based on their application, record book, letters of recommendation and a personal interview. Scholarships were awarded at the first general session of the convention on March 13, 2014.

Bethany Lamb from the Wayne FFA Chapter was the recipient of the 2014 Western AgCredit Scholarship. Bethany is from Loa, Utah and the daughter of James and Toni Lamb.

Bethany has served as an FFA officer and represented Utah at the 2013 International Society of Range Management High School Youth Forum. Her Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) was working with the Department of Wildlife Resources. In addition to her FFA involvement, Bethany participates in high school musicals, speech, debate, drama, yearbook and the National Honor Society as the secretary. Once in college, Bethany plans to study wildlife biology.



*Kylee Jo Stokes*

For the second year in a row, Western AgCredit and IFA teamed up to provide an additional \$1500 scholarship. This year's combined Western AgCredit/IFA scholarship recipient was Kylee Jo Stokes of the North Summit Chapter. Kylee is the daughter of Brandon and Jennifer Stokes of Coalville, Utah.

Kylee is the current president of the North Summit FFA Chapter. She has also served as vice-president and sentinel. For her SAE, she raised market hogs. She is on the volleyball and basketball teams, a member of the National Honor Society, FBLA, choir and band. After graduation, Kylee plans on attending Utah State University to study agriculture communications.

### About Western AgCredit Scholarships

As part of Western AgCredit's commitment to the future of agriculture, Western AgCredit sponsors various scholarships to help educate future leaders that will be committed to the agriculture industry. Deadlines for most scholarships sponsored by Western AgCredit are between January and March. Watch for scholarship details in the Winter edition of FenceLines. You can also email Sarah Buttars at [sjb@westernagcredit.com](mailto:sjb@westernagcredit.com) for more information.



# GIVES BACK

Western AgCredit is committed to supporting agriculture and being a good corporate citizen. Below is an overview of community support and financial support given in recent months.

## Western AgCredit Gives Cache Community Food Pantry \$2,500



Rhett Nielsen and Danny Hansen with Western AgCredit give a check for \$2,500 to Matt Whitaker, Cache Community Food Pantry director.

Western AgCredit was pleased to present Matt Whitaker, Cache Community Food Pantry director, with a check for \$2,500 to match the food donated during the Farmers Feeding Families Food Drive in late 2013.

“We are grateful to have the opportunity to give back to the communities that have helped build our company through the Farmers Feeding Families Food Drive,” said Western AgCredit President Richard Weathered. “Producing food is a passion for our customers, the farmers and ranchers in the Intermountain West, and we want to do our part to ensure that all of our neighbors have access to food.”

As an ongoing commitment to supporting the local communities that Western AgCredit operates in, the Farmers Feeding Families Food Drive, along with matching funds, will happen again in late 2014.

## Tremonton Staff Paints Cook Shack

On April 10, 2014, employees from the Tremonton Branch painted a cinder block cook shack at the Tremonton City North Park ballpark.

According to Becky Christensen, Tremonton Branch secretary, “This building hasn’t been used for over six years and they want to begin using it again for community ball games and other functions.”

The Tremonton staff were happy to take the time to help make improvements to city parks that the entire community can benefit from.

Western AgCredit is committed to giving back to the communities that support our business, and branch service projects are one way to give back.



Travis Palmer, Clint Ward, Kelsey Story, and Becky Christensen in front of the newly-painted building.

### RECENT SPONSORSHIPS

- UTAH FARM BUREAU
  - UTAH DAIRY CONVENTION
  - URBAN AND SMALL FARMS CONFERENCE
  - UT/AZ RANGE LIVESTOCK CONF.
  - WEBER COUNTY DAIRY DAYS
  - UTAH STATE SCHOLARSHIPS
  - CUSTOMER SCHOLARSHIPS
  - UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING SCHOLARSHIP
  - BYU-I SCHOLARSHIPS
  - UTAH FFA FOUNDATION/ASSOC.
  - VARIOUS FFA CHAPTERS
- 
- ### DONATIONS
- 
- HUMANITARIAN TRIP
  - ROAD HOME HOMELESS SHELTER



# Laughing Pen

“Piles of gold are not as good as stores of grain.”

- Unknown

## A Sure Bet

A strong young man building fence on a ranch was bragging that he could outdo anyone in a feat of strength. He made a special case of making fun of Morris, one of the older ranch hands. After several minutes, Morris had enough.

“Why don’t you put your money where your mouth is?” he said. “I will bet a week’s wages that I can haul something in a wheelbarrow to that end of the fence that you won’t be able to wheel back.”

“You’re on, old man,” the braggart replied. “It’s a bet! Let’s see what you got.”

Morris reached out and grabbed the wheelbarrow by the handles. Then, nodding to the young man, he said, “All right. Get in.”

## Cooking Instructions

According to the Knight-Ridder News Service, the inscription on the metal bands used by the U.S. Department of the Interior to tag migratory birds has been changed.

The bands used to contain the address of the Washington Biological Survey, abbreviated: “Wash. Biol. Surv.”

Until the agency received this letter from an Arkansas camper:

“Dear Sirs: While camping last week I shot one of your birds. I think it was a crow. I followed the

cooking instructions on the leg tag and I want to tell you, it was horrible.”

The bands are now marked Fish and Wildlife Service.

## Purpose of the Dog

A Sunday School helper was delivering a station wagon full of kids home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children began discussing the dog’s duties.

“They use him to keep crowds back,” said one youngster.

“No,” said another, “he’s just for good luck.”

A third child brought the argument to a close. “They use the dogs,” she said firmly, “to find the fire hydrant.”

## The Army of the Lord

A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

The Pastor said to him, “You need to join the Army of the Lord!”

My friend replied, “I’m already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor.” Pastor questioned, “How come I don’t see you except at Christmas and Easter?”

He whispered back, “I’m in the secret service.”



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