

FenceLines

Volume: 26 Issue: 3 A Western AgCredit Publication Summer 2023





FenceLines

Summer 2023

- 3. President's Message
- 4. Association News
- 5. Richard Nielson Retires from Board
- 6. Meet Director Mark Wintch
- 8. Good Still Grows
- 10. Meet Director Boyd Bingham
- 12. Data Security
- 13. Western AgCredit Gives Back
- 15. Laughing Pen

On the cover: Neighbors working together to swath a field in Parowan. See article on page 8.

Locations

- Logan, Utah:** 435.752.2146
- Tremonton, Utah:** 435.257.0179
- Evanston, Wyoming:** 307.789.9420
- Roosevelt, Utah:** 435.722.4076
- South Jordan, Utah:** 801.571.9200
- Spanish Fork, Utah:** 801.798.7360
- Delta, Utah:** 435.864.2314
- Richfield, Utah:** 435.896.8407
- Cedar City, Utah:** 435.586.6575

Board of Directors

- | | |
|--|---|
| LaDell Eyre , Chairman
Cedar City, Utah | Robert Johnson , Member Director
Randolph, Utah |
| Kim Haws , Vice Chairman
Newton, Utah | Kate Nye , Member Director
Delta, Utah |
| Boyd Bingham , Member Director
Honeyville, Utah | Wayne Smith , Member Director
Cedar City, UT |
| Shirelle Erb , Outside Director
Salt Lake City, Utah | Scott Wayment , Member Director
Warren, UT |
| Klynt Heaton , Member Director
Alton, Utah | Mark Wintch , Member Director
Milford, Utah |

Join Us Socially!



We'd love to hear from you! Send your questions or suggestions to:

Sarah Witt
witts@westernagcredit.com

Western AgCredit
P.O. Box 95850
South Jordan, UT 84095-0850

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 1916, customer service is our commitment.



Strong Cattle Prices, Public Lands and a New Milestone

David Brown, President and CEO



Although they seemed a long time coming, the dog days of summer are finally here! Just a year ago and under extreme drought conditions, it didn't seem possible to have more grass than livestock to consume it. Other than the cold wet spring that claimed many calves and lambs, life is good! Cattle prices are strong, and feed is plentiful. Payday has arrived for the cattle industry!

That said, the conservative banker in me feels the need to offer a friendly reminder that historical high prices are often followed by sharp corrections, so please spend wisely, and keep plenty in reserves! While all signs point toward continued strong cattle prices, you never know what might disturb the market and ask for some of those profits back! I implore you to build your balance sheet as a hedge against future adversity, which will surely come. Thirty years of agricultural lending has taught me that those who keep operating costs in check and build equity and working capital during good times will most assuredly survive the bad times.

On another matter, if you are involved with grazing livestock on public lands, you are likely aware of the recent proposed rule by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) concerning "Conservation and Landscape Health." Essentially, it would make "conservation" an eligible "use" under the "multiple use" construct, thereby creating unintended consequences (or intended consequences in the minds of many, including myself) detrimental to livestock producers and others who utilize public lands in a constructive and sustainable manner, as intended.

Western AgCredit, along with other ag industry organizations throughout the west, have voiced strong opposition to this proposal and asked that it be withdrawn. Our opposition was formalized in a letter to the BLM Director on June 12, 2023, signed by Board Chairman Smith and myself. In addition, the Farm Credit Council (our national trade organization) sent a letter containing similar content to the BLM, signaling opposition on a national level.

It was gratifying to see our congressional delegation (from Utah and other surrounding states) come together in opposition

to this proposed rule. These leaders, and many before them, understand the stewardship responsibilities assumed by livestock producers to care for our nation's treasured land resources. They also understand that in most instances, true conservation practices involve sustainable use of the land, not idling it to the detriment of beneficial use and creating a fire hazard.

Western AgCredit intends to remain informed and involved in this matter until resolved to the benefit of our stockholder members. We encourage each of you to take a similar position and make your voices heard.

You will be interested to know that despite the continued consolidation and/or contraction of some industries and sectors of local agriculture, there seems to be more people than ever wanting to be involved in production agriculture at some scale. Our membership numbers continue to grow as does loan volume. For the first time in Western AgCredit history, the Association recently surpassed \$1.3 billion in outstanding loan volume. It is a great time to be a member of Western AgCredit and benefit from cooperative principles at work. After all, your collective efforts earned these results. You deserve to reap the benefits!

With the 2023 election cycle now concluded, I want to thank each and every stockholder who participated in the election process, whether as a candidate or a voter. I also want to extend congratulations to Mark Wintch and Boyd Bingham, who were elected to represent you as new directors. I look forward to working with these fine men in this capacity. I have no doubt they will represent you well!

Customer Appreciation Barbecues are underway with record attendance to date. I hope to see you there and serve you a juicy ribeye! Have a productive and safe remainder of the summer. God bless!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Association News

New Hires



Brendan Robins joined the Western AgCredit team as a credit analyst in the Spanish Fork office in June. "I am excited to be working in a position where I will have the opportunity to stay connected to rural Utah," Brendan said.

Brendan recently graduated with a bachelor of science from Brigham Young University. Originally from Wayne County where he grew up on a small cow/calf operation, Brendan and

his wife now live in Provo and are expecting their first baby in October. Brendan loves spending time in the outdoors including hunting, fishing, camping and being on the back of a horse.



Lacie Musgrove joined Western AgCredit's loan documentation team in June as a loan documentation specialist. In this role, she will process and prepare loan documents. Lacie is looking forward to the opportunity her position will give her to learn new things.

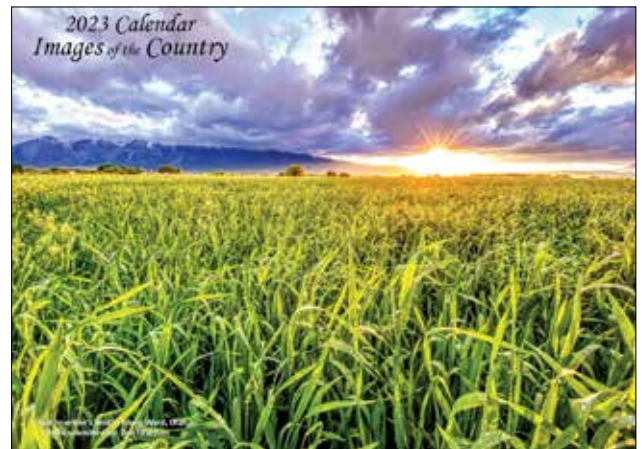
Prior to coming to Western AgCredit, Lacie worked in the mortgage industry where she held various positions including working as a closer. Lacie and her husband, Aaron, live in Kearns. In her free time, Lacie enjoys doing anything outdoors including camping, hiking and riding her side-by-side.

Calendar Photo Contest Deadline August 31!

The Western AgCredit calendar photo contest deadline is August 31st. If you'd like to submit photos to be considered for our 2024 contest, now is the time to submit them. Thirteen agriculture-related photos will be selected for the calendar, and winners will each receive a \$50 gift card for their submission.

There are no limits on submissions. High-quality digital photos are preferred, but other formats will be accepted. By submitting your photos, you give Western AgCredit the right to use photos for additional marketing purposes.

Please submit your photos on our website at westernagcredit.com/photo-contest.



Customer Survey Gift Card Winner Announced

Western AgCredit is pleased to congratulate David Madsen on winning the 2023 second quarter \$200 gift card. He was randomly selected from the surveys returned. 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.

Whistle Blower

Western AgCredit provides its stockholders, employees and the general public the opportunity to utilize a "Whistle Blower Program" (WBP). The WBP can be accessed using the Association's website (www.westernagcredit.com) or by telephone on either an anonymous or a known basis. A partial list of potential issues that may result in a WBP contact being initiated are: complaints regarding accounting practices,

internal accounting controls or auditing matters, violation of any law, inappropriate operating practices of any type, etc. WAC pledges that any individual utilizing the WBP will not encounter any form of retaliation from the Association. Direct phone contact can be made by calling the Audit Committee Chairman Shirelle Erb at 801-450-1335, or Board Chairman LaDell Eyre at 435-691-2284.

Richard Nielson Retires from the Board of Directors



After 20 years of dedicated service on the Western AgCredit Board of Directors, Richard Nielson has retired. During his tenure, Richard saw Western AgCredit's portfolio size go from about \$350 million to \$1.3 billion.

"During my time as Director, I enjoyed learning about the banking industry, seeing new things and meeting new people," Richard said. "A few of the highlights for me were interviewing and selecting the new CEO and seeing the portfolio reach the \$1 billion mark."

Richard and his wife, Marcea, call Ephraim home. They have a beef cattle and farming operation, and Richard plans to continue working on the farm. They look forward to spending more time with their 13 grandchildren, ranging in age from 13-22, and their one great-grandchild.

Richard will also devote more time to one of his passions, which is coaching the high school shooting team, Trigger Therapy, at this personal shooting facility. "I love teaching kids, especially kids that don't have a lot," Richard said. "It's really exciting to

take kids that aren't the elite athletes of the school and make them state champions. I think in four years I've had at least 10 individuals that have won state championships. I'm in it totally for the kids."

To thank Richard for his service, he was recognized at a luncheon with the Board of Directors and spouses. Former Western AgCredit President, Richard Weathered, and his wife, Mary Ann, made a surprise visit to Utah for the occasion. He was also recognized by President David Brown.

"During his 20 years as a Director, Richard's leadership has been invaluable to the success of the Association," President David Brown said. "I appreciate his thoughtful input and conscientious decision making that has helped Western AgCredit grow into the strong association it is today. Richard will be missed."

We would like to thank Richard for all the contributions he made to Western AgCredit during his tenure and wish him well in his future pursuits.



Marcea and Richard at his retirement luncheon.



President David Brown recognizing Richard at his retirement luncheon.



Past president, Richard Weathered, thanking Richard for his service and friendship.



Meet Director Mark Wintch

In the recent Director Election, Mark Wintch of Milford, Utah was elected to serve on the Western AgCredit Board of Directors as a representative from Region 3.

Mark comes to the Board with a wealth of knowledge about the cattle industry, which is the largest industry Western AgCredit finances, and he's looking forward to serving on the Board.

"I like working with people who are motivated to provide a good product to support customers who want to do what they love, and I think that's the greatest thing about Western Ag," Mark said. "You've got a lot of customers that are looking for a way to do exactly what they want to do in life, and they have a partner with Western AgCredit."

Mark, his wife Nicki, and their family live on the Wintch Livestock Company Wah Wah Ranch located 25 miles west of Milford. The couple has six children, a son-in-law and one grandchild.

"We've owned the Wah Wah Ranch since my great-grandfather bought it right before the Taylor Grazing Act came into being in the mid-1930s," Mark said. "My family has run out here since 1898."

Traditionally, the Wintch family raised sheep on the ranch, but the sheep were sold in 1995 and today they focus on cattle. Mark works with his father, John, and his brother,

Paul. Together with their families they run about 1,200 head of mother cows. The cows winter and calve in the Wah Wah Valley and summer primarily in Salina Canyon, except for their heifers that summer up Chalk Creek in Summit County.

At the Wah Wah Ranch, they also have 220 acres of irrigated farmland where they grow hay to supplement their cows during the winter. This irrigated farmland is an oasis in the desert and can be spotted miles away. "This desert is funny. It can be the hottest place on the planet, it feels like, or it can get bitter cold," Mark said. "I've seen it get 25-30 below for a couple of days."

In order to survive these conditions, the Wintch family focuses on genetics to produce cattle tough enough to withstand the harsh environment. "We run a Hereford-Angus cross. The Hereford cattle, out here on this desert, haven't been as big and they have breed-back capabilities and genetics with a stronger survivability," Mark said. "If they're on the range, they better not weigh more than 1,250 pounds because they are not going to bring me a calf, it's too dry."

They wean their calves then transport them to Nebraska to custom feed yards where they are finished and sold. They generally maintain ownership throughout the process, from birth to finish. Maintaining ownership until final sell has worked well for the family, managing the genetics of their herd to make the program profitable.

“Dad’s philosophy, and I guess it’s become my philosophy, is if you’re going to sell to somebody, he’s believing that he can take your product and make it better than you’re making it. So, we’ve invested in bulls that have feed efficiency values to them, and we hunt carcass and merit bulls. We’ve done stuff that way and bet on ourselves,” Mark said.

Additionally, they finish out about 40 steers annually to sell direct-to-consumer. “We have a handful of steers that we sell directly,” Mark said. “We’ll finish them out and sell directly to customers in halves, wholes and quarters; or through the Red Barn retail in Santaquin or Washington City.”

Mark and Nicki both grew up in Manti, Utah. Although they are only three months apart and were neighbors growing up, they didn’t date until Mark returned from a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in London. After they wed, Mark completed an associate degree at Snow College then the couple moved to Logan to attend Utah State. After the first semester, Mark got a call from his father letting him know that he needed to move to the family ranch in the Wah Wah Valley and manage that portion of the family’s livestock operation, or it would be sold. Married barely over a year, the couple moved to the ranch February 1, 1999.

Moving to the Wah Wah Ranch where they are 25 miles away from their nearest neighbor and ranching full-time was a bit of a culture shock, especially for Nicki. “We moved here, and Mark and I and his dad, who would come out during the week and stay, started calving like 200 heifers. The first night we pulled a heifer calf in the middle of the night,” said Nicki. “That first year was wild. I didn’t know how to drive a stick. I didn’t know how to back up a trailer.”

Nicki quickly learned the skills she needed to help support the ranch, and she got through the transition with frequent calls to her mother. Growing up on the ranch, Mark and Nicki’s children have also learned how to work hard and accomplish the tasks necessary to support the family’s livelihood.

Due to their remote location, the Wintch family is off the grid when it comes to utility services. In 1988, John brainstormed

ways they could have better access to power and water on the ranch, and he developed a way to permanently solve both problems.

The family constructed a hydroelectric plant where they used water from their mountain spring to generate energy that feeds their electrical needs and delivers water from their mountain springs to the ranch that sits in the valley below.

Their mountain spring runs through a hydro plant that generates enough electricity to meet the family’s electric needs as well as powers both of their pivots, and has been doing so with only a few minor repairs and equipment replacements for 35 years.

Their home is heated with propane, diesel and electricity; and cooled with electric air conditioning. They also have a diesel-powered generator in case their hydroelectric plant gets disrupted.

Director Wintch has served in the Cattlemen’s organization both at the state and national level. He was president of the Utah Cattlemen’s Association and chaired the Utah Beef Council. He also had the opportunity of serving on the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association Board. He currently serves as a member of the Utah Livestock Brand Board.

Mark loves the beef industry and is proud of the product they produce. “One thing I love about the beef industry is we continue to get tighter and tighter on the quality of the product that we’re producing,” Mark said. “Where chicken, turkey and pork are raised in a shed, it’s a controlled environment, and they can nail it repeatedly. For the beef industry to funnel in and find what works for a guy in Florida and the guy from Utah and a guy in Alaska, it’s amazing that our product continues to get closer and closer to being consistent.”

“I would like to thank the members for supporting me in the election. I look forward to learning a lot of new things, serving wherever I can, and keeping Western Ag’s membership healthy. I hope that they’re successful, and if they have ideas or concerns, they can call me,” Mark said.



The Wintch family- Kody, Mark, Jack, Nicki, Olivia, Brixton and Kason Abbott, Alyssa, & James



Jack and Mark Wintch riding horses.



Good Still Grows

By Ashlin Gay, Intern

Cutting a 120 acre pivot of alfalfa hay usually takes a farmer roughly eight hours to complete. In Parowan Valley, a group of farmers cut a field of that size in thirty-five minutes. How? With fourteen swathers strategically positioned and cutting away. Why? To show their love and concern for a fellow farm family.

Kelly and Rosa Evans of Parowan experienced the loss of their son in February of this year. Friends and farmers in the surrounding area heard about the devastating news and wanted to help out in any way they could. On June 4th, Mike

Adams, a local farmer in the valley, sent out a text message to more than 20 farmers in the area inviting them to join in a memorial harvest on the following day. At promptly 10:30 a.m. the next morning, swathers could be seen coming down the county roads and heading into the Evans' field. Mac Hatch, a loan officer for Western AgCredit, stated, "When they all started cutting together, you could just feel the strength of the community."

Summer is a busy time for agriculturalists, and with just a day's notice, it can be even harder to change plans or spend time



Drone images of swathers cutting the Evans' field in Parowan, Utah. Photos taken by Shawn Roundy.



away from an operation. That did not matter to farmers in the Parowan Valley. According to Mike, around forty people came out to cut, watch or provide food for the group. As mentioned earlier, there were fourteen swathers total that attributed to the speed of the harvesting. “It’s amazing when you put some good people in a swather what comes of it,” Mike said.

Daren Lovell, who is the branch manager of the Cedar City branch, shared that everyone involved donated their time, equipment, fuel and more to be there to provide support and service to their neighbor in need. Western AgCredit and IFA attended after being contacted by Norm Howard, who brought his own swather to support the Evans. IFA generously brought lunch for everyone involved in the service effort.

This thoughtful act that started as a simple text message touched the hearts of the Evans family. Kelly shared that it was completely unexpected. When asked if he would like to comment on the experience, he expressed his appreciation for the love, support and friendship of the community and valley.

This kind of service was not the first, nor will it be the last, that has happened in the agriculture community throughout Parowan Valley. According to Alan Adams, who also participated in cutting the Evans’ field, there have been two other organized projects of cutting hay for families around the area in previous years.

The first was for a family that lost their son in a tragic car accident. The second was to show support for a family that welcomed their son home from a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. As for the future, those involved are planning to do similar acts of service at least once a year going forward.

It does not take a planned project for these farming neighbors to help each other. Jeff Wood, who also cut hay for the Evans family, shared several experiences of times when he would be out working in his fields when another farmer would start steaming or baling beside him. It did not matter if it was two in the morning or at any other hour. That is just the character of the farmers in the valley. “Nobody wants recognition for it,” Jeff said. “They truly care about their neighbors.”

When asked his thoughts on the farmers in his community, Howard said, “All of our farmers are top notch. They all care. At a drop of a hat, they would be there to help any of us.” There is a special camaraderie between farmers in the Parowan Valley. They strive for the success of each family’s operation and consistently look for ways that they can help their neighbors.

Life can get stormy and difficult, especially with the uncertainty of agriculture, but good still grows when we plant it. Mike said it well when he stated, “Hay prices are going to go up and down. Rains are going to come. We’re going to have rain, and we’re going to have drought, but we can always be kind. We can always help out. We can always serve and lift someone else’s burden. We’re never going to run out of opportunities to do that.”

Ashlin Gay is Western AgCredit’s summer intern where she is helping with a variety of projects, including customer appreciation barbecues. Originally from Aurora, Utah, Ashlin and her husband, Austin, are currently attending Southern Utah University in Cedar City. In her free time, she enjoys riding horses, hiking, swing dancing and traveling.





Dalan, Boyd, Mary, Dusty and Brance Bingham

Meet Director Boyd Bingham

During the recent election of the Board of Directors, Boyd Bingham of Box Elder County was elected to serve as a new Director from Region 1. From Honeyville, Utah, Boyd and his wife, Mary, have four sons, two daughters and 23 grandchildren.

Boyd runs a cattle feeder operation with his sons, Dusty and Dalan, and the help of other family members including Dusty's son, Brance. Their operation, Earl L Bingham Ranch, LLC, is named after Boyd's father. Today, their business model is purchasing, weaning and feeding calves. Some they finish, and others they feed and sell the next fall.

Originally, the Bingham family farmed in Weber County. The Farmstead they now call home in Box Elder County was

purchased by Boyd's grandfather in 1917 and paid off in seven years.

In 1939, he bought a 8,900-acre piece of grazing property with cash. A conservative farmer and a good businessman, Boyd's grandfather continued growing the operation and purchased other properties that he spun off to a few of his children to help them start their own agriculture operation.

In 1974, the family purchased sheep from the rancher that was utilizing their grazing ground, and they grew the operation to over 5,000 head of ewes. They raised sheep for a few decades as well as had beef animals. Based on changes to sheep markets in the mid-nineties that greatly reduced the value of their wool and lamb crop, they pivoted to a beef feeder operation.



Photo credit: Timari Bingham

Boyd Bingham (center) riding with his sons Ryan, Dusty, Dalan and Brett.

"We buy weaning calves in the fall. We take the corn off our corn fields, put up temporary fencing and feed the cattle in these corn fields through the winter," Boyd said.

They like to purchase calves that weigh about 500 pounds, which will give them optimal profit when they resale. "We try and buy calves weighing about 500 pounds because if we buy them any heavier than that, the way the market works, they're going to be too heavy when we sell them the next fall, so we have to give that weight away."

In early January, they'll weigh the animals when they boost their vaccination and pull the ones that weigh over 650 pounds. The larger animals will go to their farm in Corinne where they'll finish them. The steers are finished on feed the Bingham's raise on their 550 acres of crop ground. They also process their own feed in a mill they own and operate. These animals are ready in the summer to sell as locker meat to returning customers in a four-state area and others that hear about their beef from satisfied customers.

In April, the steers that aren't set-aside for finishing will move to their desert lease in the Holbrook, Idaho area. Their summer range, which Boyd's father purchased the first shares in and the family has expanded their ownership in over the years, is the Gentile Valley Cattle Company Grazing Association located about 35 miles north of Soda Springs, Idaho. They also own shares in the Eastern Idaho Grazing Association, which neighbors the Gentile Valley Association.

"We run in one pasture, and that pasture is not fenced on the property line. It's both of those associations together," Boyd said. "We are the only people in either of those grazing associations that run stocker cattle, which are yearling steers, so we turn them out when they're about 800 pounds."

The Bingham's have worked hard over the years to perfect their grazing program to optimize uniformity in the cattle they raise. Since they aren't purchasing large numbers of animals from one place, this can be challenging. "Instead of going out and buying 150 head from one owner, we're picking up cattle that are sometimes in lots of three to five from different owners to get a truck load," Boyd said.

"What's amazing to me is a lot of the weaner calves that they get are coming through the auction and aren't as loved as others. By the time they sell them, they are beautiful. They're uniform," Mary said.

Boyd attributes their success in part to their range ground. "The grassland my dad bought into so many years ago is some of the best in the country. It's really good quality grass and the cattle really grow out well," Boyd said.

Another factor that impacts the uniformity of their cattle is what they're fed on the farm. "We've learned a little bit over the years. When I was young, we fed hay and corn silage to these cattle and they did okay, but they'd put too much flesh on them, and they'd go out to grass and they'd lose weight," Boyd said. "Now we feed triticale when they first come in, because it gets them on feed fast and they eat it. They eat that easier than they eat good quality green hay."

During the winter months when the cattle are on the farm, they'll also feed them haylage, corn silage, straw and corn stocks. "They've done well, and it's grown their frame without putting a lot of flesh on them," Boyd said. "Then, when they hit out there on the range, they start growing. They grow frame instead of just plumping up."

Boyd has also held various leadership positions in his community. He is currently serving as a Box Elder County Commissioner, and has previously served as a city councilman and mayor of Honeyville.

Boyd's focus is preserving agriculture and rural living. "I feel like there's a lot of pressure on the ag culture in the state of Utah to develop all this culinary water and put homes on this amazing farm ground," Boyd said. "The only reason I'm really involved in any of this is I'd like to see ag preserved. I think we're crazy if we don't. If we can't provide for our own people, I don't know who we think is going to provide for us."

We're looking forward to Boyd's service as a Director and would like to welcome him to the Board!



Photo credit: Bingham family

Cattle enjoying one of the water improvements the Bingham's have made to their range ground.



Photo credit: Annie Ellertson

The Bingham family.



Data Security- Working To Do Our Part!

By: Elyse Kunzler

If you've made a call to one of our offices in the past couple of months requesting account information, odds are you've been asked several security questions before you can receive any information on your account. This may lead to mass fumbling for the notebook where you keep all your passwords and security answers or causes you to holler across the room to your spouse or family member to see if they remember the answers. All in all, it feels like a lot of obstacles and steps just to obtain information on your own account.

It can be incredibly frustrating to go through this process, especially if you call often and go through this process every time. Despite it feeling like you are required to jump through unnecessary hoops, these procedures are for your safety and the confidentiality of your accounts and information. According to Legal Jobs, we live in a world where one in ten adults in the US will be a victim of a scam every year. That's why here at Western AgCredit we do our best to pinpoint these threats and use measures to combat them.

The first step to combating fraud is becoming familiar with the ways that a scammer can try to access your information. One of the most common methods is called Phishing. This is where the attacker, through email, calling, or texting tries to convince you to give them personal information. They do this by pretending to be someone else such as a bank, the government, etc. In the same vein as Phishing is Spear Phishing. This is when the attacker targets you specifically, using the identities of companies or people you're familiar with to gain your trust and give them important information. These scammers use a method called Spoofing to enact these attacks. Spoofing is when the bad actor (hacker) identifies as someone you know through caller ID, email, or even text. They can make their number look just like one you're familiar with.

So, what are we at Western AgCredit doing to combat these vicious attacks and keep your information safe and secure? One of our protocols comes in the form of a document you've probably received with some of your loan documents called an Identity Theft Procedure Sheet. This sheet has you provide unique information that allows us to confirm your identity. If giving out this information feels private, that's because it is. Once we input that information into our system, the form is then shredded. When you call in to one of our locations, we use the information that you provided to verify you are who you say you are before giving out any account-specific information. Repeating the unique information that you previously provided assures that you are privy to the information requested. The information is incredibly helpful for wire requests. If you call in to wire money to a new or third party account we do a callback verification on one of your established phone numbers as an added security measure.

One of the newest protocols we've enacted has to do with wiring funds. To counter potential wire fraud or potential errors, if a wire amount is \$50,000 or more, we require written wire instructions. This extra step assures us that not only are you who you say you are, but that your money stays your money, goes where it is meant to, and that we are sending the correct amount.

Wiring money is risky because when it leaves your account, it is gone. That means being more cautious than ever when doing a wire transfer. When sending money to your bank, the preferred method is an ACH. Although it takes a little longer (around 1-2 days) it doesn't come with a fee like wiring does, and it is more secure. When needing money fast though, we do a wire. But due to the extra risk, with every wire request we need a call back verification. Calling you back on one of the secure numbers you gave us helps us confirm that your caller ID hasn't been spoofed.

One way you can keep your account secure while skipping many of these steps is to utilize our new Online Banking program. This program has built in security measures and provides 24-hour access, meaning if you need to request a transfer when our offices are closed you can do so on your own. This also has the convenience of being available on your phone or electronic device so you can access reports and account information at any time.

All of this can seem overwhelming with the multitude of different ways hackers can try to get your information. Rest assured, Western AgCredit is aware of these threats and has your best interest at heart. Our mission statement is "To provide the most dependable source of constructive credit and related services to agriculture and the rural community". As part of these related services, we strive to protect your money and your identity. We appreciate your understanding as we work together to enact both new and old protocols to combat scam attacks and be the most dependable that we can be.

Elyse Kunzler is the credit support specialist in Spanish Fork. Elyse started working at the Association after completing a bachelor's degree in English from BYU last spring. Originally from Richfield, UT, she now lives in Provo. In her free time, she enjoys reading, writing, hiking and four-wheeling.





Utah Agricultural Products
BBQ 2023
 Ticket Information: AGBBQ.USU.EDU



College of Agriculture & Applied Sciences
 UtahStateUniversity

**SATURDAY
 SEPT. 23**

3 hours
 before kickoff
**USU VS
 JAMES
 MADISON**

**CRAIG ASTON
 PARK**
 1307 N. 800 E.,
 Logan, Utah

Western AgCredit Gives Back

In May, Western AgCredit team members prepared and served a steak dinner during the Black and White Days Holstein Dairy Show in Richmond, Utah. This annual event is the longest running Holstein Dairy Show west of the Mississippi, and we're pleased to be able to support this event in our territory. Attendees included those participating in the dairy judging contest, exhibitors and individuals attending the cow sale held that evening.



In 2022, Lewiston Elementary was awarded a \$2,000 Community Partnership Grant to assist in purchasing a grow station to help students get a first-hand look at the process of growing a seed into a plant. This grow station was utilized this last spring when students grew a pollinator mix crop. Giving children the opportunity to participate in hands-on learning about agriculture is a great utilization of the grant program.



In April, loan officer Robbie Masterson (left), delivered a \$2,000 Community Partnership Grant to the Kanarrville Fire Department. This contribution was to help purchase a jaws of life tool. "This will increase our ability to serve our rural community and outlying areas. When extrication is required, we currently have to wait on a municipal department to provide tools to complete the task. The jaws/cutters/spreaders will be a great asset to our department," Kanarrville Fire Chief Tyler Allred said.



Western AgCredit Gives Back

In May, South Jordan team members prepared and served dinner to about 200 men, women and children at the Road Home Shelter in Midvale, Utah. Preparing and serving meals at area homeless shelters has become a tradition for the South Jordan team's service projects, and it was nice to be able to participate in this again after a long hiatus due to the shelter's Covid restrictions.



In June, the Cedar City team members volunteered at the Summer Games held in Cedar City. Their duties included setting up for the Opening Ceremony and the Block Party. The Utah Summer Games have been held in Cedar City since 1986, and the Cedar City crew enjoys helping at this event in their community.



The Tremonton team members helped at Farm Field Day for the elementary schools in North Box Elder County. For their portion, they read the book "Who Grew My Soup?" and talked with the students about where their food comes from. 390 students from three different schools participated in this event held in Howell, Utah in May.



In May, Spanish Fork team members cleaned up trash and debris along a two mile stretch of highway on the Sanpete/Utah County Line. The branch adopted this highway several years ago, and they typically clean it in both the spring and fall to make sure trash doesn't take away from the beauty of the area.



Recent Sponsorships

- Utah Cattlemen's Summer Conference
- Utah Wool Growers Summer Conference
- Utah Farm Bureau YF&R
- Utah FFA Foundation
- Farm Fresh Advertising grants to:
 - Cache Valley Gardeners Market
 - Farmers Market Ogden
 - Festival City Farmers Market
 - Spanish Fork Farmers Market

Community Partnership Grants

UP TO \$2,000 AVAILABLE FOR...



Schools



Service Groups



Communities



Non-Profits

Western AgCredit is pleased to offer the Community Partnership Grant Program, which is funded by employee and director contributions and matched by Western AgCredit. For more information or to apply for a Community Partnership Grant, please visit westernagcredit.com.

Laughing Pen

Send your submissions to witts@westernagcredit.com.
If your joke is used in *FenceLines*, we'll send you a Western AgCredit hoodie!



Summer Humor

Why does ice cream always get invited to the party?
It's cool.

Where do sharks go on vacation?
Finland!

Why did the robot go on vacation?
He needed to recharge his batteries.

What did the reporter say to the ice cream?
"What's the scoop?"

Where do math teachers like to go on vacation?
Times Square

Why did the elephants get kicked out of the pool?
They kept dropping their trunks.

Why did the teacher jump into the pool?
He wanted to test the water!

Why are mountains the funniest place to vacation?
They are hill-arious.

What did the kid say when the instructor told him he'd missed summer school?
"No, sir. I didn't miss it at all."

Why didn't the sun go to college?
He already had a million degrees.

How does a cucumber become a pickle?
It goes through a jarring experience.

Where do sheep go on vacation?
To the Baa-hamas.

Contentment

A gentleman had a board put up on part of his land, on which was written: "I will give this field to anyone who is really contented."

Whenever a suitor to the land came forth and was asked "Are you contented?" the general reply was always, "Yes, I am."

"Then," the gentleman would respond, "what do you want with my field?"

Farmers Market

Two cows out talking in the field...

"Daisy, have you heard?" Buttercup said.

"Moo. Heard what Buttercup?" Daisy responded.

"There's going to be a Farmers Market at the town hall next week," said Buttercup.

"That's good, let's sell our farmer and see if we can get a better one," Daisy responded.

Eye Exam

The shepherd took his cross-eyed dog to the vet. The vet picked the dog up to examine him and said, "I'm going to have to put him down."

"It's not that bad is it?" said the shepherd.

"No," said the vet, "He's just very heavy."



P.O. Box 95850
South Jordan, UT 84095-0850
westernagcredit.com



PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Salt Lake City, UT
Permit #7148

Our Mission: To provide the most dependable source of constructive credit & related services to agriculture and the rural community.

Sign-up Today To Receive Text Alerts

- 1** Scan the QR code & complete form
- 2** Respond "Yes" to the text received
- 3** Start receiving exclusive offers & event info straight to your phone!

Signing up to receive messages from us is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

We are always looking for better ways to serve our customers. With this goal in mind, we have implemented a new text message system to relay urgent messages such as a sudden drop in interest rates, reminders about upcoming events such as our customer appreciation barbecues, and our equipment rate specials. Don't miss the opportunity to receive these timely reminders, sign up today!

