

Sletten Construction Starts 90th Year

This year marks the Ninetieth Anniversary of Sletten Construction Company. The company was started by John and Hedvig Sletten in the basement of their Great Falls home in 1928. With John as president and Hedvig as secretary, the two would work through the early depression years involved in house building, light commercial construction and remodel work.

Then in 1935, Sletten Construction landed its first large commercial contract, a joint venture project with Pappin Construction, to build the Butte High School in Butte, Montana. Since the first school project, the company has built 142 major school projects and many additions and remodels. The largest school project was an \$80 million high school complex constructed in Las Vegas, Nevada.

In 1938, the company moved from the Sletten home to 1301 10th Avenue North in Great Falls. This site became office, shop and storage yard. For forty-four years this was the Company Headquarters.

In 1947, Sletten Construction became incorporated under the laws of the State of Montana. John Sletten was president, Hedvig Sletten was secretary. Upon the death of John Sletten in 1949, Owen Murphy became president.

In 1958, the company expanded its construction activities and started a bridge division. The bridge division's first project was the First Avenue North Underpass in Great Falls. The following year, Sletten was awarded its first wet crossing, the 15th Street Bridge spanning the Missouri River in Great Falls. Since that time, the Sletten Bridge Division has built 283 bridge structures in various western states and has had several bridge rehabilitation projects. Prior to establishing a specialized Industrial Division, the Bridge Division provided construction services on several industrial projects.

In 1963, the company opened its first branch office in Las Vegas, Nevada, under the leadership of J. Robert Sletten. Bob spent two years getting the Las Vegas branch up and running and then moved back to the corporate office in Great Falls.

In 1969, Owen Murphy became chairman of the board and Bob Sletten became president. M.A. Moran was treasurer and Genevieve Speck became secretary. Also in 1969, due to the company's growth and continued acquisition of equipment, it was necessary to purchase a ten-acre site on the U.S. Highway 87 Bypass in Great Falls to build a new shop and storage facilities.

The company opened the second branch office in Phoenix, Arizona, in 1972. This branch has provided a variety of construction services throughout the entire state of Arizona.

In 1977, due to the increase in infrastructure construction, Sletten started an industrial division focused on the construction of water and waste-water treatment plants. This division has constructed

92 water treatment and waste-water treatment facilities in the Western United States. These projects have varied in size from a \$230,000 water treatment plant in Basin, Montana, to a \$98,000,000 waste-water treatment plant in Las Vegas, Nevada. The division has also provided construction services for 8 dam projects and also built 7 concrete water reservoirs, ranging in size from five million to forty million gallons.

The Northern Building Division was formed in 1980. This division, headquartered in Great Falls and is responsible for the construction of the health care facilities, office buildings, multi-unit housing, institutional and educational facilities in the northwestern states.

In 1982, to accommodate the continued growth of the company, construction began on the new corporate headquarters, a two-story, 25,000 square foot facility located at 1000 25th Street North overlooking the Missouri River in Great Falls. At the time of construction, the building was twice as large as needed, but was constructed to accommodate future growth. Today the company occupies the entire building.

With the continued growth and success of the company, broad-based ownership of Sletten became a priority of both leadership and the Board of Directors in the late 1990's and early 2000's. This goal was achieved through the continued development of the company ESOP (Employee Stock Ownership Plan). In 2001, the company progressed to 70% ownership by the ESOP Trust and restructured to an S-Corporation and then in 2004, the ESOP Trust acquired the remaining outstanding shares of the company to become sole owner of Sletten Construction.

In 2002, the office location, management and name for Sletten's Wyoming subsidiary were changed. The office moved from Sheridan, where it had been located since opening in 1981, to Cody and was renamed Sletten Construction of Wyoming. Since its inception, Sletten Construction of Wyoming has built numerous health care, educational, commercial, institutional and industrial facilities across Wyoming.

Due to the nationwide demand for new and updated detention and correction facilities, Sletten Construction Company formed their Corrections Division in 2011. Since the startup, this division has constructed new facilities and updated existing facilities in Nevada, California, Idaho, Wyoming, Arizona, Texas and Montana.

In 2013, the Sletten Energy Division was formed. To date, the division has constructed utility scale photovoltaic power plants in Nevada, California and Arizona. The division continues to pursue energy projects around the country.

The most recent division to join the Sletten Companies is the Inspections Division. Started in 2015, the division services mainly the oil and gas industry throughout Montana, North Dakota, Wyoming and Alaska. Through nondestructive testing (NDT) technology, the division provides inspection services to steel fabrication, pipeline construction and maintenance, refinery operations, and numerous other operations of the upstream, mainstream and downstream sectors of the oil and gas industry.

As we celebrate our Nintieth Year of Business, the entire Sletten Team extends a sincere thank you to our clients, business associates, subcontractors and suppliers for making our growth and longevity possible.

Employees of the Quarter

Congratulations to **GREG GIFFORD**, Project Manager for the Corrections Division for being selected Employee of the Quarter. Greg has been with the company for nearly 4 years. While he works on projects in multiple states he continues to have a positive attitude and meets all his deadlines. He's always looking at different methods to save money and recover lost funds through change orders. His calm demeanor and ability to communicate well with others is a great strength. Greg thank you for your service, contributions to the division and the company!

Phoenix Office News

by Ron Chamberlain

In Tucson, we will be refurbishing the existing Reynolds Elementary School, once owned by the Tucson Unified School District that has been shuttered for 10 years, bringing it up to code. Project scope includes: new spray foam roofing, upgrades to the electrical, new HVAC, adding six new classrooms, and a new student drop-off drive. Project completion is set for this summer. The owner is Sonoran Schools, Chandler, Arizona with Chris Felton, MBA. The architect is a.23studios, Buark Bekat is AIA principal. The superintendent is Doug Pauly and the project manager is Ron Chamberlain.

In Chandler, we are working on the Sunset Athletic Center, a new 8900 square foot pre-engineered metal gym with two classrooms being built on the existing Sunset Campus. The owner is Sonoran Schools, Chandler, Arizona with Chris Felton, MBA. The architect is a.23studios, Buark Bekat is AIA principal. The superintendent is Doug Pauly and project manager is Ron Chamberlain.

Sletten Great Falls Holiday Giving Delivery Team



Top picture, left to right: Brandi Voss, Matt Popa, Karlene Lindquist, Michelle Cohens, Jamie Czech, Jennifer Roberts, Kyle Blunn, Lucas Gunderson and John Bowlin.

Bottom picture left to right: Brandi Voss, John Bowlin, Matt Popa, Lucas Gunderson, Thad Pederson, Jamie Czech, Michelle Cohens, Letisha Tonkovich, Jennifer Roberts, Kyle Blunn.

Hats Off

This quarter's "Hats Off" recognition goes to the combined efforts of the Sletten Marketing Department under the direction of Dane Carter and Stephanie Habel, and the Estimating Department under the direction of Wes Jackson.

These two groups have gone the extra mile to develop a team working relationship to assist all Sletten divisions with proposals and budget numbers.

In the past few months, these people have prepared a record number of proposals and budget numbers without failing to meet the stipulated deadlines.

A big thanks to all members of these two departments. They have shown the importance of team effort.



Employee News by Michelle Cohens

Congratulations to **QUENTIN REED** who welcomed another granddaughter Nova Janae Small on December 15.

Congratulations to **ASHLEY FARMER** with the Boise office for being elected Director of the NAWIC (National Association of Women in Construction). The Boise office sponsored the Block Kids event in January that Ashley chaired and organized.

DUSTIN KEYES passed his ASHE Certified Healthcare Constructor Exam which makes him one of only eight in the State of Idaho. **BILL SHARP** is also one of those eight as well. Congratulations to both of you! **DUSTIN KEYES** was voted in as the Chair-Elect for the Professional Development Work Team for the Boise Young Professionals.

RICK REYNOLDS has been promoted from Carpenter to Assistant Superintendent for the Winnemucca Project and is now working on Wal-Mart's and the Bi-Mart's for the Boise office.

KELLY REYNOLDS will be joining Rick in the Boise office in January as a Project Manager Assistant. This husband and wife team are relocating from lovely Winnemucca to Boise.

RUSS VALLINE, a long time Sletten Superintendent, has been battling life threatening medical issues but is a true fighter and making positive progress. Keep Russ and Farah in your thoughts and prayers.

SHAUN and **JENA TATARKA** welcomed their daughter Everly Sharon on December 4th. All are healthy and doing well.

Congratulations to **JAKE** and **ANDIE THARES** who welcomed their baby girl, Amelia, on December 16th. They will call her Milly.

Welcome to the newest Sletten employees, **ERIN LOVELADY** to the Wyoming Division, **BILLY BARLOW**, **ERIC MATTEN** and **ALEC PINERO** to the Northern Building Division, **JESSICA RICHARDSON** to the Inspection Division, **CAM WALKER** and **RAY RICHARDSON** to the Las Vegas Division, and **MATTHEW HERNANDEZ** to I.T. in Las Vegas.

RUSS and **BONNIE ROBERTSON** welcomed Emma Raye much earlier than expected. Emma was born on September 4, 2017. She weighed 3 lbs, 7 oz, and was 16.25 inches long. As a preemie, there's many hurdles and they are making great strides. Congratulations.



Projects In Progress

MOUNT CARMEL MONASTERY CMAR
Meeteetse, Wyoming
Architect: A & E Architects
Project Manager: Casey Waltari
Superintendent: Rich Dowell

CLARK COUNTY DETENTION CENTER, PHASE II
Las Vegas, Nevada
Architect: DLR Architects
Superintendent: John Bales
Project Mgr.: Zach Woodward

HUMBOLT COUNTY HOSPITAL ADDITION (CMAR)
Winnemucca, Nevada
Architect: CTA, Boise, ID
Supt: Vaughn Murinko
Project Manager: Bill Sharp
Field Project Mgr: Dustin Keyes

FORT WASHAKIE SCHOOL (CMAR)
Fort Washakie, Wyoming
Architect: Ward Blake
Superintendent: Gerry Glaser
Project Mgr.: Casey Waltari

CAPITAL INTERCHANGE
Helena, Montana
Engineer: Montana Dept. of Transportation
Superintendent: Miles Breider
Project Manager: Chad Mares

GREAT FALLS WTP
Great Falls, Montana
Engineers: Black & Veatch, TD&H, L'Heureux Page Werner
Superintendent: Tim Farmer
Project Mgr: Brian Logsdon
Asst. Project Mgr: Kyle Blunn

ARENA AUDITORIUM ADDITION
Laramie, Wyoming
Architect: Architectural Means / Mason Dale
Superintendent: Trent Urwiller
Project Manager: Austin Allen

KOOTENAI COUNTY JAIL
Coeur d'Alene Idaho
Architect: LCA
Superintendent: Todd Azingar
Project Manager: Joe Donovan

LIVINGSTON BRIDGE REHAB
Livingston, Montana
Engineer: Montana Dept. of Transportation
Superintendent: Scott Breider
Project Mgr: Russ Robertson

AGUA FRIA SENIOR LIVING CENTER
Peoria, Arizona
Architect: Tyson and Billy
Superintendent:
Project Managers: John Jones, Ron Chamberlain

WEST PARK HOSPITAL CANCER CENTER
Cody, Wyoming
Architect: JJCA
Preconstruction Mgr: Austin Allen
Superintendent: Gerry Glaser
Project Mgr: Jake Schrickling

COLD SPRINGS SCHOOL
Missoula, Montana
Architect: A & E
Superintendent: Dave Navarro
Project Manager: Mike Guelff

BILLINGS WWTR ADDITION
Billings, Montana
Engineer: HDR
Superintendent: Earl Heddeston
Project Manager: Rob Balock

SUTTER COUNTY JAIL
Yuba City, California
Architect: Dewberry Architects
Superintendent: Steve Knapp
Project Manager: Greg Gifford

ROOSEVELT SCHOOL
Great Falls, Montana
Architect: L'Heureux Page Werner
Superintendent: Guy Burgess
Project Mgr: Colter Dahlstrom

WYOMING STATE PEN REHAB
Rawlins, Wyoming
Architect Dept. of Corrections
Superintendent: Josh Guisti
Project Manager: Austin Allen

PARK COUNTY SCHOOL MAINTENANCE
Powell, Wyoming
Architect: Arete Design Group
Superintendent: Trevin Allen
Project Manager: Austin Allen

HUNGRY HORSE BRIDGE
Hungry Horse, Montana
Engineer: Montana Dept. of Transportation
Superintendent: Todd Fried
Project Manager: Russ Robertson & Zac Zupan

WILLARD SCHOOL
Missoula, Montana
Architect: CTA
Superintendent: Dan Shanahan
Project Manager: Brad Malm

NASHUA – EAST & WEST BRIDGES
Nashua, Montana
Engineer: Montana Dept. of Transportation
Superintendent: Jason Plouffe
Project Mgr: Russ Robertson

PORCUPINE CREEK BRIDGE
Opheim, Montana
Engineer: Montana Dept. of Transportation
Superintendent: Jason Plouffe
Project Mgr: Mike Anderson

WEST LAUREL INTERCHANGE
Laurel, Montana
Engineer: Montana Dept. of Transportation
Superintendent: Levi Plouffe
Project Mgr: Mike Anderson

BI-MART STORE
Star, Idaho
Architect: SSW Engineers
Superintendent: Russ Valline
Project Manager: Dustin Keyes

ACE HARDWARE
Great Falls, Montana
Architect: Nelson Architects
Superintendent: Jake Navarro
Project Manager: Mike Guelff

CATH LABS
Missoula, Montana
Architect: Davis Architecture
Superintendent: Dave Heston
Project Manager: Brad Malm

THERMOPOLIS HOSPITAL
Thermopolis, Wyoming
Architect: Plan One
Superintendent: Monty Wardell
Project Mgr: Casey Waltari
Precon Manager: Austin Allen

SUPERIOR I-90 BRIDGE REHAB
Superior, Montana
Engineer: Montana Dept. of Transportation
Superintendent: Scott Breider
Project Mgr: Russ Robertson

SWAN RIVER BRIDGE
Big Fork, Montana
Engineer: Montana Dept. of Transportation
Superintendent: Craig Robertson
Project Mgr.: Zac Zupan

SHELBY I-15 BRIDGE REHAB
Shelby, Montana
Engineer: Montana Dept. of Transportation
Superintendent: Dusty Varty
Project Mgr.: Mike Anderson

UNLV STUDENT HOUSING
Las Vegas, Nevada
Project Mgr.: Tim Kusz

WALMART REMODEL
Richland, Washington
Architect: BRR
Superintendents: Matt Wiedemer, Greg Borg
Project Mgr.: Ashley Farmer

REYNOLDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REFURBISHING
Chandler, Arizona
Architect: a.23 studios
Superintendent: Doug Pauly
Project Mgr.: Ron Chamberlain

SUNSET ATHLETIC CENTER
Chandler, Arizona
Architect: a.23 studios
Superintendent: Doug Pauly
Project Mgr.: Ron Chamberlain

Holiday Giving

On December 24th over 300 families visit Toyland in Phoenix Children's Hospital to select a toy and other items to give their hospitalized child for the Holidays. Phoenix Division had a toy drive at their Holiday Party and combined \$1000 worth of charity funds to donate \$1300 for toys and gift cards to Toyland.

The Las Vegas office raised \$2,475 from their raffles at their holiday party to donate to Make-A-Wish. Jose is an active six-year-old boy despite being diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), the most common childhood cancer. When asked what he would wish for, Jose immediately said, "I want to have house so my parents don't have to move back to Mexico." This selfless little boy's first response was to make life better for his family. His wish granters had to tell him to wish for something for himself. He then decided on having a shopping spree and described this wish in detail. "I want a big (40 inch) TV so I can play my [new] Xbox and watch movies, three Xbox games, an iPad, an organizer for my toys, a Lightning McQueen bed, a fidget spinner, green Jell-o, dinosaur toys, clothes and shoes, and a meal at McDonald's!"



The Great Falls Charity Committee worked with the counselors at North and East Middle School to provide gifts to 90 middle school students. Along with the funds raised at the company holiday party of over \$5500 and donations from businesses the committee successfully worked to make these students holidays more enjoyable. Each student received a backpack that included essentials from toothbrushes to shampoo, snacks as well as each student received a \$10 Wal-Mart gift card and coupon for free gallon of ice-cream. Students provided wish lists to help the employees and committee provide gifts each desired. Gifts ranged from shoes, snow boots, blankets, clothing, books, arts/crafts, jewelry, make-up and sporting goods.



We are truly appreciative to our employees and families for donating gifts and giving back. Thank you to those who volunteered their time to help make this possible: Thad Pederson, Bo Scott, Paul O'Neill, Karlene Lindquist, Rachel Schrock, Sharey Morris, Jennifer Roberts, Jamie Czech, Karen Enseleit, Lisa Evans, Maryah Schrock, Scot Houston and Pat Rash. Lastly, thank you to Santa helpers on delivery day: Thad Pederson, Savana Pederson, Kyle Blunn, Matt Popa, Lucas Gunderson, Brandi Voss, Karlene Lindquist, Letisha



Tonkovich, John Bowlin and Michelle Cohens.

We would like to recognize the following businesses for their generosity in donating funds or gifts to help us make a difference: Albertsons, Blue Cross Blue Shield of MT, Bern & Pugh, Inc., Bighorn Outdoor Specialists, Big Sky Dental, Big Sky Water Park, City Brew Coffee, Cogswell Insurance Agency, Cripple Creek Casino, Crooked Tree Coffee & Cakes, Edward Jones, Eklund's, FAB Fusion, Feather Your Nest, Happy Tails Lodge, IGA, Meadow Gold Dairies, Morning Light Coffee, Nobles Liquor, North 40 Outfitters, Pacific Steel & Recycling, Pasta Montana, Peak Health & Wellness Center,

Pizza Hut, Pro Build, S. Conley Sales, Sam's Club, Schulte's, Sletten Construction Shop, Sound Air, Sports City Cyclery, The Do Bar, The Firebrand Hotel, Tire Rama West, Trane Commercial Systems, US Bank, Vemco, Western Ranch Supply and Whalen Tire.

It goes without saying we love to give back to our communities and it is always better to give than receive!



SIR
SLETTEN INC. REVIEW
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