



Inside this issue:

Stranded in Peru	1
A Community In The Making	2
A Bridge With The Past	2
It's An Office On Wheels!	3
Utah Mining Association Education Golf Tournament	3
Stranded in Peru, Cont.	4
Restoring and Preserving	5
ASCE Virtual Game Night	6
Employee Anniversaries	6
Employee Spotlight	7

Stranded in Peru

Let me set the scene.

You have planned out a beautiful trip to Peru to visit friends, see cultural sites, enjoy the delicious cuisine and explore a new place that you've always wanted to see. The day has come, you've packed your bags and boarded the long flight down to South America and you're finally there, you're ready to enjoy your vacation.



Just as you get into the swing of things and begin traveling around the country, BOOM, the Covid-19 Pandemic breaks out, the borders close to all travel and you suddenly find yourself stranded in a foreign country in the middle of a crisis, all under the dictates of Martial Law. Sound like a dream turned quickly into a nightmare? Well this situation was a reality for one of our very own civil engineers here at McNeil Engineering, Daniel Markus.

Things started off wonderfully at the beautiful Lima beach club *Country Club de Villa*, where they relaxed and enjoyed some of the best accommodations that Lima has to offer. Daniel described the club as heaven on earth and said the fresh Ceviche they served was some of the best food he has ever had. So far so good.



Ted Didas, P.E.
President
801-255-7700 x. 114
ted@mcneileng.com



The next day Daniel and his friends boarded a flight to Cusco where upon landing he was shocked by the effects of the altitude. Even being from Utah, landing in a city at over 11,000 feet above sea level was a big change. After adjusting to the altitude and regaining their energy they boarded a bus for a tour of the temple ruins of Cusco, Peru. The trip was really paying off as Daniel described the day as "one of the best of my life, maybe the best." They finished off the day at a little souvenir shop in Cusco where Daniel purchased a little Alpaca toy to remember the day.

Now I'm not a very superstitious person but Daniel described this moment as the turning point for the entire trip and where things all went wrong, Cont. on Page 4





A Community in the Making

Another exciting project that our Landscape Architecture and Civil teams are working on in the South Jordan area is a new state-of-the-art retirement community.

One of the most exciting parts of the beginning of a project is when the drafts and renders are created. It allows for a sneak peek into the future and really shows off the creativity and imagination of those responsible for bringing a project to life before it's even built!

We are really looking forward to helping bringing this beautiful facility to fruition and will share more as the development begins.



RETIREMENT COMMUNITY SOUTH JORDAN, UT
 CANALON MCNEIL ENGINEERING



Scott Schoonover, PL, ASLA
 Principal Landscape Architect
 801-255-7700 x. 152
 scott@s@mcneileng.com

A Bridge with the Past

In the Summer of 2018, Matthew Roblez, Manager of our Structural Engineering Department spent fourteen business days inspecting twenty two bridges maintained by the Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division. The purpose of these inspections was to evaluate the current conditions as well as determine the structural integrity and prioritize repairs for the bridges.



Working with the Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division it was decided that 5 of these bridges would be retrofitted and upgraded to meet current code. Using several different methodologies it was determined that the abutments were acceptable to remain with minor repairs. The existing cast in place concrete decks will be removed. The decision was made to

replace them with precast prestressed concrete hollow core members. The precast decks could be fabricated while the existing decks were being demolished and then placed in a day minimizing the "down time" of the bridge. It is expected that the retrofits of these bridges will be completed by the end of the summer.



Matthew Roblez, SE, SECB
 Structural Manager
 801-255-7700 x. 128
 matt@mcneileng.com



FUN FACT

Did you know? The Internet is the fastest-growing communications tool ever. It took radio broadcasters 38 years to reach an audience of 50 million, television 13 years, and the Internet just 4 years.



UTAH MINING ASSOCIATION

EDUCATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

August 4, 2020

Wasatch Mountain State Park
(Mountain and Lake Courses)
Midway, UT



McNeil Engineering is very
proud to be a part of the Utah
Mining Association.



Michael Hoffman, PLS
Survey Manager
801-255-7700 x. 138
mike@mneileng.com



It's An Office On Wheels!

The South Jordan Office Move

Just off of the Bangerter Highway in South Jordan, Utah, there is an unassuming office building. It looks like many of the other offices in the area, but there is something that makes it unique, it was built somewhere else!

This project involved several departments at McNeil Engineering, including Structural, Survey and Civil. Here is what McNeil structural engineer Layton Asmus had to say about the work that he did for this ambitious project.

“The structural department at McNeil Engineering was given the complex task of designing the footing and foundations for an office building to be moved from one site to another. In addition to basic concrete design, the design for the footing and foundation also includes wall hold downs to resist seismic and wind forces, these are the forces that would be imposed on the building during an earthquake or wind event. Through our professional experience we were able to design a footing and foundation plan that met current code by reviewing the existing footing and foundation plans, having a thorough knowledge of code requirements, and reviewing unique designs.”

Mike Hoffman, Manager of our Survey department had this to say about his team’s role in the project.

“Our task in the building move was to survey the location of the existing foundation wall so that this position could be staked at the new building location. We were able to capture this information as well as the elevator pit using our Laser Scanning equipment. This equipment collects over 1,000,000 x,y,z data points per second within 1/8 inch tolerance. After the data is processed, we are able to depict the exact location of the foundation wall and pit. This building was not constructed with walls exactly 90 degrees nor to its record dimensions, which is typical for construction, which made this project more challenging. By taking our measured Laser Scanned position of the building, we could then overlay on to the new Civil site plan and stake the building at it’s new location. The staking occurred in multiple steps. First for the dig, second for the footings, third for the foundation walls, and fourth for the elevator pit. When the building was moved, it was positioned over the new elevator pit location and all other walls fit as surveyed.”

Civil engineering Manager Ted Didas shared the following, “Our team coordinated with the contractor to understand the orientation of the building on the new pad site. We assembled original design plans for the office complex, to review existing topographic survey and evaluate how to modify the pad to accommodate the relocation and to establish proposed elevation for the floor of the building on the new pad site. We designed modifications to the existing parking area to facilitate new sidewalks and pedestrian access to the building were made and we provided design for the new utility services to the building.”

Stranded in Peru

Cont. from page 1

And if this is the case, Daniel just might have a cursed little stuffed Alpaca on his hands. The reason I say that is that moments after purchasing it, they boarded a bus back to their hotel and were greeted by the driver with the news that the entire country was going under national lockdown the following evening at 12am Midnight due to the Covid-19 worldwide pandemic.

They were stunned and they were stuck in Cusco, 300 miles from Lima.

As they rode the bus back to their hotel, they began to frantically try and plan a way to make it back to Lima where their friends and the family of Daniel's friend live. They made it back to the room and try as they might, they could not find a way back to Lima. It seemed like they were going to be stuck in Cusco indefinitely, but as they sat watching the "Estado de Emergencia" address from President Martín Vizcarra, they were lucky enough to find and book two of the last three tickets on the final flight back to Lima the following morning. They both breathed a sigh of relief as they packed their things and tried to get some sleep before their trip the next day.

Awake at 5am they took a bus to the airport and were greeted with an extremely crowded Cusco airport, unfortunately despite the growing crowd of tourists, there was not a single employee to be found. Tensions mounted and the crowd grew as flights came and went and people were forced to leave the airport, stuck in Peru with no way to get back to their countries or their homes. Daniel explained the situation by saying the following. "We had no other option, so we stayed at the airport, but I had absolutely no hope that we were going to make our 10:50am flight that morning."

From 6am until 10:30am Daniel and his friend waited at the airport, trying to plan what they would do next and how they were going to get home, now only a few hours from the start of the lockdown. Just as they began to pick up their luggage and prepare to leave the airport, just 10 minutes before their flight was scheduled to check-in, an employee suddenly showed up and started checking people in. The crowds surged toward the desk and Daniel said he and his friend literally had to stand their ground to make sure they made it through the check-in line. Once through the line they ran to their plane and safely boarded. Exhausted, but grateful to be heading back to Lima and a safe place to stay.



For almost 3 weeks they waited in quarantine for news on how they were to return to the United States, until finally after a trip to the US Embassy and waiting in lines all day long, they were contacted about a flight and were escorted by Military Police to a charter plane which took them to Washington D.C.. Upon arriving Daniel managed to book a flight back to Salt Lake City and we are glad to report that he is healthy and back with us here at the office!

I think it says a lot about Daniel when I asked him if he would be returning to Peru after all the craziness he endured. He smiled as he said "Oh definitely, it was so crazy but I loved it and I love the people. Plus, I still need to see Machu Pichu!"

Keep that great attitude Daniel, we're glad to have you back!



Restoring and Preserving

In 1996 an LDS chapel and social hall that stood for nearly 100 years in the city of Bear River, Utah had to be torn down following a wind storm that previous summer. Now buildings come and go with time and we all know that, but this felt different to the people of Bear River, so much so that the Deseret News actually published an article that same year eulogizing the building and paying homage to it's heritage in the small town.

This type of nostalgia may seem peculiar in this day and age. Most of us now primarily live in suburban or metropolitan areas and old buildings can seem useless or out of place, but for people in rural areas and smaller communities, these structures are the only ones of their kind and preserve a history of community, friendship and a place where all are able to gather together.

With this history in mind it's no surprise that when it came time to make some repairs on the Howell Ward chapel, just 25 minutes from Bear River, the focus was on preserving a meetinghouse that carries that same weight for its community.

After determining the extent of the necessary repairs, our team got to work to bring this great building back to it's former glory. Along with the roof, the siding, steeple and other areas were also repaired. Given the old age of the structure, special care was taken to ensure that this great building will be able to continue being a place of gathering for the city of Howell for many more years to come and we think the results truly speak for themselves!

Before



After



We are delighted with how this project turned out and hope the people of Howell, Utah really enjoy the hard work we put into it! Here's to many more years of making memories in this wonderful meetinghouse!

Carl Greene
Consulting Manager
801-255-7700 x. 118
carl@mcneileng.com





**HOSTED BY THE UTAH
AND SOUTHERN IDAHO
SECTIONS OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
CIVIL ENGINEERS**

*Time together is important,
even when we're apart!
Join us in the spirit of
Happy hour with your fa-
vorite drink to see old
friends and make some
new ones!*

- **Night 1 - Wed. June 10
5 - 6 pm MST**
- **Night 2 - Tue. June 23
6 - 7 pm MST**
- **Night 3 - Wed. June 24
7 - 8 pm MST**

RSVP Here -
Lauren Nuxoll
lnuxoll@kittelson.com

Spring/Summer Employee Anniversaries

Name	Anniversary	Years of Service
Scott Schoonover	01/01	9
Jeanette Zimmer	01/04	4
Cody Palmer	02/05	13
Michael Hoffman	02/13	25
Shad Seitz	02/18	6
Aaron Valentine	02/19	1
Layton Asmus	02/29	4
Dave Sumner	03/11	18
Matthew Roblez	03/18	18
Shane Brower	03/25	7
Jacob Felshaw	04/07	12
M. Shey Bailey	04/10	1
Dan Schaugaard	04/21	21
Kent Withers	04/26	19
Walter Travis IV	04/26	14
Greg Ostermiller	05/01	3
Tevi Lawson-Avla	05/07	8
Jon Poirier	05/14	2
David Draper	05/22	20
Noel Enriquez	06/04	6
Elizabeth McReynolds	06/07	10
Zachary Hoffman	07/05	9
Aarika Burling	07/18	4

Thank you to each of our wonderful employees! We're so glad to have you and thank you for all of your hard work and your dedication to make McNeil great!





Rob Poirier; Civil Department; Engineering Project Manager

How long have you worked at McNeil Engineering?
16 years.

What do you find the most challenging working at McNeil Engineering?
The number of projects to manage.

What do you like most about working at McNeil Engineering?
Easy going environment with reliable employees.

What has been your favorite project at McNeil Engineering?
Millrock Technology Park.

Where were you born and raised? *Massachusetts*

Favorite vacation location? *Southern Utah*

Motto or personal mantra? *Be a little better than the competition.*

What are three career lessons you've learned thus far?
Hard work pays off, Don't win the battle just to lose the war. The best marketing is a job well done.

What is something you've always wanted to try and never have? *Hang gliding*

What do you like to do in your spare time? *Spending time with my son building Lego city in the basement, building and racing my car, skiing/snowboarding, dirt biking, golfing, jet skiing.*

What are your top 5 bucket list items you want to accomplish?
See my son become a success, Scuba diving around the world, racing at Leguna Seca.

What is your hidden talent?
Auto mechanics



Rob Poirier

