The Blue Ridge Dam is located on the Toccoa River near the Tennessee and North Carolina borders, just outside the small mountain town of Blue Ridge, Georgia. Construction of the semi-hydraulic earth-filled dam began in 1925 by the Tennessee Electric Power Company (TEPCO), and was completed six years later in 1931. The dam is 167 feet high, stretches 1,000 feet in length, and is approximately 950 feet wide at the base. Soon after the dam was built, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) was established and they acquired the Blue Ridge Dam along with many other dams and reservoirs in the Tennessee River watershed.

Today, TVA is the largest public power company in the United States.

The Blue Ridge Dam was originally equipped with a 14-foot diameter steel penstock which carried water through the dam from the intake tower to the hydroelectric generator at the powerhouse. This penstock was damaged in the 1930s when a decision was made to drain the pipe without lowering the reservoir elevation on the upstream side of the dam. The extreme head pressure resulted in a bulge forming at the bottom of the penstock that extended 60 feet from end to end, and up to two feet high in the middle.

Because of the bulge and other issues that have been noticed from routine inspections through the years, as well as the need to meet modern dam safety standards and seismic requirements, TVA decided to repair the penstock while stabilizing the intake tower and both sides of the dam in the process. After several meetings with TVA to discuss planning, sequencing, budgeting, and compiling a very strong proposal, Garney was awarded this project in early 2010 and mobilized on site in May of that year.

After the proposal and most of the planning was complete, masterminds Mike Heitmann and Greg Harris passed the construction torch to the project team, led by Senior Project Manager Mark Abram, Project Manager Chris Coston, and General Superintendents David Cronister and Jerry Taylor. A handful of other Superintendents came in from all over the country to help make this project successful including Tom Hufft, Pat Bennett, and Lance Bunyan. Anthony Mravunac was on site early in the project helping with scheduling, submittals, RFIs, and setting up the project. Cedric Joor helped set up the safety program, and then Brandon Blevins stepped in and took on the role of Garney Safety Manager. Steve Culp was also on site for a few months helping out with change order billings and tracking all of the T&M work. Tyler Boehning started with Garney as a laborer foreman on this project. With a solid team in place, we were ready to take on this challenging project.
First, we installed a large dewatering system on the downstream face of the dam which included drilling eight deep wells, 29 eductor wells, two new piezometers to monitor the water level, and seven new inclinometers to monitor horizontal movement of the dam. Once the dewatering system was in place, we began installing an anchored soldier pile wall to reinforce the earthen dam prior to breaching the existing penstock. This is when we saw the first signs of unsuitable conditions in the form of a sinkhole after drilling out for one of the I-beams. This was the first of many large changes to the scope and, ultimately, the contract.

As this work was occurring, the drawdown of Lake Blue Ridge was also underway. Before the penstock could be emptied and breached, the lake pool elevation had to be lowered 65 feet. As one could imagine, the residents of Blue Ridge and tourists to the area who use the lake for recreation and relaxation were not thrilled with the drawdown. However, once the rehabilitation project is complete, TVA will no longer have to drawdown the lake for their routine inspections of the penstock like they have had to do every five years in the past.

Once the soldier pile wall was in place and the lake drawdown level was reached, Garney began excavating down to the top of the existing penstock. The location of the breach was at the downstream end of the penstock near the powerhouse. Due to more unsuitable soil conditions that were encountered here, we were able to obtain a large change order to utilize two of Garney’s largest trench boxes (34’L x 10’H) along with 28-foot spreaders that were installed around the existing pipe to allow removal of approximately 32 feet of the top half section of the existing liner. Breaching the penstock was only the beginning. Before the new steel liner could be installed, the steel bulge had to be cut out and removed, and the water coming out of the bulge and other places throughout the penstock had to be minimized.

However, the biggest challenge the project team faced prior to installing the new liner was to remove a 180-foot long concrete filled steel girder. The girder, which was located in the downstream end of the penstock, extended from the pipe invert to the crown and averaged 16 inches thick. The ultimate solution was to cut the girder into individual 7-foot square sections weighing 11,000 lbs. each, using an oxygen lance that burns at temperatures over 8,000° Fahrenheit. Then each piece was carried by a rubber tire forklift approximately 300 feet to the breach area where each piece was lifted out using a 220-ton crane. The daunting task of removing this one million pound support took crews working around the clock, seven days a week for more than a month, which ended up costing more than $2 million to execute.

Once the bulge and girder were removed, and the water intruding into the existing penstock was minimized, the installation of the new liner could begin. The new steel pipe was 12.5 feet in diameter and one inch thick. These 30-foot joints were shipped via railcar from the manufacturer in California to a rail yard in Atlanta, Georgia. Due to the limited space on site, we had to keep most of the pipe joints at the rail yard until we were ready to install them. Each joint required its own oversized tractor trailer along with escorts to make the two-hour trip from Atlanta to the job site in north Georgia. When a 50,000-pound joint was unloaded and lowered into the breach, it was placed on a custom built pipe carrier that sat on top of a custom track. The carrier was pushed upstream using a forklift until the new pipe reached its destination, and then a unique air bag system in the floor of the pipe carrier would be inflated to bell the pipe into position. Once in position, each pipe was blocked up and tack welded. The carrier would then return to the breach to receive another piece of pipe, and the welding crew would begin sealing the new joint. Here again, work only stopped twice a day every 12 hours for shift changes.

There were 30 full joints that made up the new 900-foot penstock liner. After every four joints, or 120 linear feet, a bulkhead was built between the new liner and the existing one. The annulus space of each section was then pumped full with grout to stabilize the new pipe. Although the project was delayed over a...
month at the beginning due to unsuitable conditions and restrictions beyond our control, the first major milestone of beginning the refill of Lake Blue Ridge on April 1, 2011 was obtained. This was largely due to the Garney Team’s planning, managing, and willingness to basically live on site for six months until the penstock work was completed.

In addition to relining the penstock, six post-tensioned anchors were required to be installed at the intake tower foundation. The anchors extended into the underlying rock, and after installation, were stressed to provide stabilizing forces to the tower. Reinforcement plates were also installed at the dividing wall between the intake tower gates. All this work was performed inside the intake tower, and like much of the penstock work, even during the deep drawdown was still almost 100 feet below the lake surface elevation.

The other major tasks of the project were on the exterior of the dam. The upstream face of the dam was reinforced with approximately 93,000 tons of course aggregate, fine filter material, and rip rap. This work was performed during the drawdown in order to use the dry access to the upstream face. Once the penstock installation was completed and closed up, the earthwork subcontractor was able to move to the downstream face of the dam and begin reinforcement of that side. After fighting through more unexpected subsurface conditions, they were able to complete the erection of two MSE retention walls and then started hauling in reinforcement material.

To date we have installed 99,000 tons of course aggregate and fine filter material to the downstream embankment as well as 76,000 tons of rock fill. There are still 89,000 tons of rock fill that remain in order to complete the downstream face. We estimate that we will have placed more than 375,000 tons of material once the project is complete, requiring approximately 21,000 truckloads. As the project nears completion, there are only a few restoration and miscellaneous items that remain. One of the greatest achievements is that Garney and its subcontractors have worked more than 248,000 man hours to date and have had zero lost time incidents. This has been a wild ride since the beginning, and thanks to a large number of employee-owners both on the ground and behind the scenes, the Blue Ridge Dam Rehabilitation Project will end up being a very successful job for Garney and hopefully lead to more work with TVA and other owners in the power industry. Thanks to everyone who has helped support this project and sacrificed to make it successful!
ANNUAL AWARD MEETINGS: EASTERN REGION

MVP PLANT SUPERINTENDENT: Mike Gonzales
Superintendent who exhibits steadfast commitment to Garney’s goals and philosophies, and shows an exceptional ability to build a high performing crew who works safely to consistently complete high quality projects. This person shows great dedication to the company, and has the respect of their crew, engineers and owners.

MVP PIPE SUPERINTENDENT: Will Kennedy

TEAM GARNEY: J.M. Wilkerson
Vendor who exhibits the characteristics that make Garney successful: great customer service, as well as integrity and dedication to our company. The award was created in memory of Greg Sorensen, a former valve supplier who exhibited these characteristics.

SALARY SAFETY LEADERSHIP: Jason Koon
Recognizes an individual who has demonstrated great leadership in promoting safe practices and work habits throughout the company.

HOURLY SAFETY LEADERSHIP: Armando Hernandez

Superintendent CJ Cahoy accepts the award on behalf of Armando Hernandez.

Rob Fults accepts his 10-year service award.

Thad Anderson, 5 years

Brandon Blevins receives his 5-year award.

Chris Coston, 5 years

Groups hard at work on their Mock Estimates.

Celebrating Jason Seubert’s birthday! ACIPCO provided dinner for us at Michon’s Smokehouse.
ANNUAL AWARD MEETINGS: CENTRAL REGION

GOLD SERVICE AWARD: David Meyer
This award recognizes an employee-owner for excellence in equipment maintenance and operation, based upon general machine appearance, preventative maintenance work, assistance in machine repairs, knowledge of the machine, and operational skill.

SALARY SAFETY LEADERSHIP: Thom Eaton
HOURLY SAFETY LEADERSHIP: Jason Gerdes
Recognizes an individual who has demonstrated great leadership in promoting safe practices and work habits throughout the company.

MVP PLANT PROJECT MANAGER: Joey Perell
Exhibits steadfast commitment to Garney’s goals and philosophies, and shows an exceptional ability to support the projects and crews he works with. This individual shows great dedication to the company and works in concert with their superintendent to provide high quality and safe projects.

TEAM GARNEY: HME, Inc.
Vendor who exhibits the characteristics that make Garney successful: great customer service, as well as integrity and dedication to our company. The award was created in memory of Greg Sorensen, a former valve supplier who exhibited these characteristics.

GEORGE ENRIGHT LEADERSHIP & DEDICATION AWARD: Scott Parrish
Employee-owner who best exemplifies the dedication, loyalty and spirit that George brought to the company during its early days. This person places the company’s best interest ahead of her own, and is always there to provide experience and support to any employee that needs it.

Liz Strickland accepts her 25-year service award.

Steve Hermes gets 5-year award.

Matt French receives 20-year award.

Group of Garney gals enjoy the evening: Margo Smith, Angela Kearney, Sonya Puskas, Laurie Grace, Beth Gardner, Melia Pence.
ANNUAL AWARD MEETINGS: WESTERN REGION

MVP PIPE PROJECT MANAGER:
Keith Lemaster
Exhibits steadfast commitment to Garney’s goals and philosophies, and shows an exceptional ability to support the projects and crews he works with. This individual shows great dedication to the company and works in concert with their superintendent to provide high quality and safe projects.

TEAM GARNEY: Wylaco Supply
Vendor who exhibits the characteristics that make Garney successful: great customer service, as well as integrity and dedication to our company. The award was created in memory of Greg Sorensen, a former valve supplier who exhibited these characteristics.

TOP GUN AWARD: Jovan Amaya
This award recognizes the efforts of a special field employee. The recipient exhibits great skill in his or her field of expertise, has loyalty and concern for the company, is safety conscious, production oriented, and is an overall team player.

ESOP AMBASSADOR AWARD:
Steve McCandless
Recognizes an individual who promotes and demonstrates the strengths of our ESOP culture.

SALARY SAFETY LEADERSHIP: Ruben King (left)
HOURLY SAFETY LEADERSHIP: Ilay Alvarez (above)
Recognizes an individual who has demonstrated great leadership in promoting safe practices and work habits throughout the company.

Jeff Moore (25-year service award) and Heidi Haberkorn (10-year service award) pose with guest Scott Terry.

Carey Woods, 5 years
Brock Southwick, 10 years
Doug Hoopes, 10 years
Casie Deegan, 5 years
Solange Huggins celebrates her 5-year service award.

Dee Sander, 15 years

Mike Graeve, far left, was promoted to Director of Colorado Plant Operations.
In the last newsletter, this new column was unveiled that focuses on the aspects that make Garney successful—our goals and philosophies. Each newsletter will focus on a different goal or philosophy; this first one focuses on SAFETY.

To put it simply, there is nothing more important than safety. All employee-owners must understand this and be committed to it. As important as the rest of our goals and philosophies are, none of them mean anything if someone gets injured in the process. Safety must always be priority #1.

To help with your attention to safety, remember all of the resources at your disposal:

- Safety Managers – call or consult with them if you have a question.
- Your Supervisor – let them know if you encounter an unsafe condition or need additional safety resources.
- Safety Manual – a helpful tool which centrally locates all important safety policies and procedures.
- Safety SharePoint Site – a useful resource to find forms, equipment data, and manuals.

Remember that safety starts with the right mindset and awareness. Be on the lookout for unsafe conditions or practices – for you and your co-workers. If you see something, say something; it is the absolute right thing to do.

So take a moment and ask yourself if you are approaching each task with safety at the forefront. If anything else is taking priority, you need to shift your priorities and focus your attention on safety.

Written by: ESOP MAN

Ayres Associates submitted Canal Importation Ponds & Outfall Drainage Improvement Project (CIPO) for a Colorado Public Works APWA annual award and it received recognition for being selected as the Drainage and Flood Control project in a Large Community recipient. The award was presented to the project team at the annual APWA Awards Luncheon held on January 23, 2012. Pictured left to right are Andrea Faucett (Ayres Associates), Owen Randall (City of Fort Collins), Brad Anderson (Anderson Consulting Engineers), Jeff Moore (Garney Construction), and Dean Saye (City of Fort Collins).
Shoshone Municipal Pipeline Relocation Project
(Shoshone Municipal Water District)

Job 7012—$4.6 million
Project Manager: Keith Lemaster
Superintendent: Brian Duran
Project Admin: Reg Paré

Crew: Kyle Sweat, Alan Costillo, Joseph Logan, Jeryd Sisneros, Eduardo Orozco, Jorge Trejo, Nathan Lopez

We performed two tie-ins in 24 hours. All the pieces were put together and on site in order to make this happen. The crew worked 40 hours straight without sleep. It was the most difficult part of the project and was completed on schedule.

Clockwise from Top Left: Allen prepping the pipe; Step 1—removing the existing 24” to make way for the new 24” valves; Step 2—lowering the 55,000 lb. precast base into place for the new valves; Step 3—lowering in the tie-in piping.

Submitted by Reg Paré

Republican River Compact Compliance Pipeline
(Rеспublican River Water Conservation District)

Job 6603—$13.6 million
Project Manager: David Burkhart
Superintendents: Chris Roberts, Curtis Hefley

Crew: Darin Heard, Bryan Roberts, Rick Roberts, Nathan Jones, Pedro Lopez, Elwin Claros, Adrian Mejia, Hernan Mejia, Andrew Kremer, Johnny Mercer, Jose Rivas, Louis Bautista, Cirilo Correa

Top Left: Curtis Hefley’s crew installs the first 30” DIP fitting to get the project started.

Top Right: Chris Roberts’ crew installing 36” DIP.

Bottom: Chris Roberts works to backfill the ditch behind the 36” DIP installation.

Submitted by David Burkhart
Cedar Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant  
(City of Olathe, KS)  
Job 8026—$34.0 million

*Project Managers:* Joey Perell  
Phil Koehn  
*Superintendents:* Art Turner  
Tim Holliday  
Stephen Harris  
*Field Engineer:* Cole Rawson  
*Project Coordinator:* Sonya Puskas  
*Crew:* Rudy Puskas, Sean Bryson, Matt McCann, Octavio Ramirez, Terry Miller, Manuel Galvan, Eric Henderson, James Gerdes, Alex Duran  

*Left:* The 6 MG concrete EF basin is nearing completion.  
*Top Right:* Installation of the grit removal equipment at the headworks.  
*Bottom Right:* Installation of the air piping inside the BNR.  

Submitted by Joey Perell

Midlothian Water Treatment Plant No. 2, Phase II  
(City of Midlothian, TX)  
Job 4379—$18.4 million

*Project Manager:* Anthony Mravunac  
*Superintendents:* Justin Reese  
Raul Arvizu  
*Project Engineer:* Bret Crandall  
*Crew:* Luis Arvizu, Ruben Munez, Manuel Rodriguez, Arturo Torres, Javier Alvarez, David Argaondo, Rafeal Rodriguez, Essau Olvera Arredonde, Keith Neal, Thomas Serna  

*Top:* Rebar tied for pour #1 for the sedimentary basin. Starter walls being placed and getting ready for concrete.  
*Bottom Photos:* Kick-Off Party on February 10, 2012. All City officials, engineers, contractors, and suppliers were in attendance.  

Submitted by Bret Crandall
Whites Creek WWTP Optimization & Disinfection
(Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson Co.)

Job 3040—$5.5 million
*Project Manager:* Jordan Brooking
*Superintendent:* Mike Terry

Top Left: Micro-strainer demolition.

Bottom Left: Micro-strainer bay demolition for the new UV channels.

Right: Crew from left to right: Danny Clawson, Billy Haggard, Jeremy Felts, Mike Terry, Daniel Peery, and Jeff Felts.

Submitted by Jordan Brooking

Harold D. Thompson Regional Water Reclamation Facility
(Lower Fountain Metropolitan Sewage Disposal District)

Job 9103—$17.9 million
*Project Manager:* John Jacob
*Superintendent:* Jeff Burst
*Project Engineer:* Tyler Ammerman

Crew: Kurt Walters, Bill Burst, Gordon Cole, Adam Roeder, Tyler Ammerman, Gerry Buckner, Eric Klopfenstein, Matt Brady, Craig Wold, Bill Howard, Matt McBride, Jeff Burst, Chris McBride, Doug Bloss and Danny Recktenwald

Top: Aerial view of the aeration/digester basin, clarifiers, pumping and disinfection structure, and headworks building.

Bottom: The crew in front of the headworks building.

Submitted by John Jacob
**City of Fruita Wastewater Reclamation Facility**  
*(City of Fruita, CO)*

**Job 6517—$22.8 million**

**Project Manager:** Keith Hinds  
**Superintendents:** Juan Torres, Bob Grivy  
**Project Engineers:** Paul Duesterbeck, Nick Campbell, Michael Huff

This 2.33 MGD plant will replace the existing lagoon system that will soon not be able to meet EPA regulations. The plant consists of five structures: operations building, headworks building, secondary clarifiers, oxidation ditches, and solids processing building, which included a UV disinfection system, NPW supply system, a lab, blowers, ATAD system, rotary drum thickeners, and centrifuge. Plant effluent follows 3,175 LF of 30” RCP that leads to I-70 where Garney tunneled under the highway and out to the Colorado River.

Submitted by Michael Huff

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**Prairie Waters Project North Campus BPJ1**  
*(City of Aurora, CO)*

**Job 6029—$53.0 million**

**Project Manager:** Joel Heimbuck  
**Superintendents:** Lance Bunyan, Tino Alvarez  
**Project Engineer:** Stephen Hagy  
**Safety Engineer:** Dan Stanton  
**Project Coordinator:** Casie Deegan  
**Crew:** Jose Canales, Javier Canales, Dustin Cronin, Pedro Cartell, Ilay Alvarez, Duke Marion, Hugo Montanez, Jesus Pavlo, Arturo Moreno, Francisco Yriarte Sr., Francisco Yriarte Jr., Tobias Santoyo, Raul Ballesteros

Bottom: Garney placed 27 precast inlet structures, nine per basin, for the distribution of water for the three infiltration basins. All wing walls, aprons, and additional concrete were formed and poured in place. Gates were installed on each inlet structure.

Submitted by Dan Stanton

**Left:** SW basin infiltration center cell was the first location to receive water from the vertical well field along the South Platte River. The water percolates through the sand membrane and collects in the ARR site inside of the low permeability barrier that was installed, leak tested, and accepted. The first water flowed into the ARR site toward the end of January.
**JOB SHOTS**

**Gun Club 42” Waterline**  
*(City of Aurora, Colorado)*

Job 6599—$2.4 million  
*Project Manager:* Keith Lemaster  
*Superintendent:* Phil Werner  
*Project Admin:* Taylor Osgood  
*Project Coordinator:* Janel Tannatt

*Crew:* Rick Craig, Eloy Ortega, Vicente Govea, Jr., Jose Diaz, Manuel Diaz, Victor Diaz, Abel Espinoza, Andrew Macias, Jr.

*Top:* 42” steel pipe strung out along the alignment.

*Bottom Left:* The crew installs the 42” steel waterline while working on the shoulder of Gun Club Road adjacent to overhead power lines.

*Bottom Right:* Completion of the Coal Creek crossing and installation of the pipeline up the south slope towards the overhead power crossing.

*Submitted by Taylor Osgood*  

**JOB SHOTS**

**Forsyth County Water Treatment Plant Expansion**  
*(Forsyth County Department of Water & Sewer)*

Job 3009—$19.8 million  
*Project Manager:* Andy Brown  
*Superintendent:* Johnnie Ornelas

*Crew:* Rene Enriques, Miguel Soto, Jose Armente, Jorge Sanchez, Benjamin Santoyo, Jose Leon, David Ellis, Demetrio Cardenas, Luis Cruz

*Top Left:* Pipe gallery for the six trains being placed into service, consisting of 18” carbon steel and stainless steel pipe feeding the membrane tanks.

*Top Right and Bottom:* Pump gallery which takes the finished (treated) water and pumps it to the clear well which is a new 8 MG Crom tank.

*Submitted by Andy Brown*
48” Water Main Improvements, Phase II
(City of Oklahoma City, OK)
Job 4358—$9.3 million
Project Manager: Chad Sharbono
Superintendent: Mike Swift
Project Admin: Kahle Loveless
Crew: Truitt Thompson, Fletter Stoudemire, Jay Robertson, Juan Nino, Alfonza Stoudemire, Charles Griffin

Top Left: Truitt Thompson and Charles Griffin check the alignment on a section of 48” water main before Jay Robertson pushes it through a 64” boring.

Top Right: Alfonza Stoudemire guides Jay Robertson as he swings a section of 48” DIP into the trench.

Bottom: Setting a temporary stand underneath a 36” butterfly valve before sliding the solid sleeve in place. This interconnection is between an existing 60” main and the new 48” main.

Submitted by Kahle Loveless

Lime Treatment Unit No. 2 Rehabilitation
(City of Boca Raton, FL)
Job 3030—$1.3 million
Project Manager: Jeff Gorman
Superintendent: Jay Rivera
Project Engineer: Matt McKinnon
Crew: McKinley Wallace, Ronald Mayes, Patrick Williams, Pedro Clemente, Duane Dennis, Grover Ryans

Top Left: Rehabilitated Lime Treatment Unit #3 impeller.

Top Right: Lime Treatment Unit #2 impeller rehabilitation and structural steel replacement.

Bottom: Sludge blow-down pit replacement piping.

Submitted by Jeff Gorman
Delray Beach, Florida

Secondary Clarifier Rehabilitation & Stormwater System Improvements
(South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment & Disposal Board)

Job 3027—$1.8 million

Project Manager: Jeff Gorman
Superintendent: Jay Rivera
Project Engineer: Matt McKinnon

Crew: McKinley Wallace, Ronald Mayes, Patrick Williams, Pedro Clemente, Duane Dennis, Grover Ryans

Right: Completed Clarifiers 2 and 3. Substantial completion was achieved in January 2012.

Inset: Stormwater road crossing with one acre of dry detention pond.

Submitted by Jeff Gorman

Woodland Park, Colorado

Pine Valley Pipeline Improvements
(Colorado Springs Utilities)

Job 6601—$1.1 million

Project Manager: Bill Williams
Superintendent: Alvino Roybal
Project Admin: Dennis Van Auken

Crew: Leopoldo Soto, Victor Varela, Antonio Rico, Nemeicio Lopez Vega, Santiago Soto, Luis Angel Cruz, Alfredo Solis, Alejandro Guzman, Felix Alarcon Loya, Jon Backman, Dustin Hayward

Right: Final completion of the PRS vaults.

Inset: PRS vaults before construction.

Submitted by Dennis Van Auken
**JOB SHOTS**

**WICHITA, KANSAS**

**ASR Phase II BP-B3 Northern Diagonal Transmission Main**  
*(City of Wichita, KS)*

Job 4370—$10.5 million  
*Project Manager:* Ed Rolf  
*Superintendents:* Joe Lewis, Jr.  
Humberto Del Cid  
Charles Woody  
*Project Admin:* Bryan Muench

*Top Left:* Taking 48" tunnel pipe to tunnel for installation under the guidance of Hanson field representative Ron Maybell.  
*Top Right:* Charles Woody and crew cutting in a 66" butterfly valve into the existing line during shut down.  
*Bottom Left:* Interior welding of 48" steel pipe.  
*Bottom Right:* Joe Lewis and crew making final fit up of steel piping during shut down.  
*Submitted by Ed Rolf*

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**HIALEAH, FLORIDA**

**Hialeah Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant**  
*(City of Hialeah, FL)*

Job 3016—$6.8 million  
*Sr. Project Manager:* Mark Abram  
*Project Manager:* Josh Petro  
*Superintendent:* CJ Cahoy  
JP Bourgogne  
JB Wright  
*Crew:* Armando Hernandez, Jeff Griffin, Kevin Nauss, Tyler Boehning, Zach Trombly, Nathaniel Walker, Manuel Bencomo, Miguel Luna, Carlos Alvarez

*Top Left and Right:* Clearwell, biofilter, CO₂ pad, and lime silo pad (not pictured). JB’s four-man crew reached substantial completion in 12 weeks.  
*Bottom Left and Right:* Setting RO skids at RO building. Our crews set 5 RO skids (two-piece) and feed pumps in 4 days.  
*Submitted by Josh Petro*
HARTSEL, COLORADO

Spinney Line Turnout Isolation Valve
(Colorado Springs Utilities & City of Aurora, CO)
Job 6596—$683,264
Project Manager: Bill Williams
Superintendent: Alvino Roybal
Project Admin: Dennis Van Auken

Crew: Leopoldo Soto, Antonio Rico, Victor Varela, Nemecio Lopez Vega, Santiago Soto

Both photos: View of the isolation valve.
Submitted by Dennis Van Auken

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

Highway 265 Water & Sewer Main Replacement
(City of Fayetteville, AR)
Job 4364—$5.1 million
Project Manager: Chad Sharbono
Superintendents: Jackie Gass, Butch Crawford
Project Admin: Casey Nelson
Crew: Ignacio Marquez, Manuel Fernandez, Chester Rigsby, Bobby Ledbetter, Charles Hem, Richard Morris, David Shade, Chris Manes, Brad Pack

Right: Crew sets 50 LF of 48” casing in the creek. Chester Rigsby (operator) and helpers Butch Crawford, Ignacio Marquez, Bobby Ledbetter, and Manuel Fernandez
Inset: Hammering Arkansas limestone for 36” ductile iron pipe and 48” casing.
Submitted by Casey Nelson
**Cherokee Silo Elevated Walkway**

*(Xcel Energy)*

Job 6610—$97,000

Sr. Project Manager: Mike Graeve

Project Manager: Wayne Barker

Safety Manager: Neal Timmons

Project Engineer: John Miller

Subcontractors: Mountain Man Welding and Applewood Painting

*Right:* Walkway being welded into position on top of two silos.

*Inset:* Prefabricated 30’ long walkway being hoisted into position approximately 110’ above ground.

Submitted by Wayne Barker

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**Southern Delivery System Raw Water Pipeline, S2**

*(Colorado Springs Utilities)*

Job 6597—$25.9 million

Project Manager: Bill Williams

Superintendents: Gil Duran, Jeff Riddle

Project Admin: Ryan Schulte

Crew: Gene Lopez, Alice Duran, Ramon Cortez, David Garcia, Lorenzo Reyes, Noe Avila, Ondray Johnson, Clayton Hoff, Iram Aragon, Diomedis Avila, Victor Cortez, Dustin Hayward, John Backman, Larry Pacheco Jesus Chavez, Nicolus Flores, Arturo Moreno, Cory Walker

*Top:* Brand new CAT 390 excavator hoisting the pipe.

*Bottom:* One of two trenchers used to trench the rock.

Submitted by Ryan Schulte
Ward County Water Supply Expansion Project—Pump Stations CMAR
(Colorado River Municipal Water District)

Job 4383—$27.0 million
CMAR Project Manager: Marcus Grace
CMAR Superintendent: Richard Scholz
CMAR Assistant Supt: Charley Senne
Bid Package 5 PM: Jeff Cohen
Bid Package 5 Supt: Ubaldo Esparza
Bid Package 5 PE: Ronnie Leyvas
Project Coordinator: Laurie Grace

Crew: Leonel Gomez, Joel Carbajal, John Yazzie, Kevin Charvea, Frank Renteria, Profirio Diaz, Mario Longoria, Adalberto German, Juan Tapia, Jesus Rivera, Jose Luis Mendoza, Eric Poole

Top Left: Well field pump station.
Top Right: Odessa pump station.
Bottom: Transmission pump station.
Submitted by Marcus Grace

North Slope Pipeline Rehabilitation and Valve Replacement
(Colorado Springs Utilities)

Job 6594—$342,000
Project Manager: Bill Williams
Superintendents: Alvino Roybal, Jeff Riddle
Project Admin: Dennis Van Auken

Crew: Leopoldo Soto, Antonio Rico, Victor Varela, Nemecio Lopez Vega, Santiago Soto, Jon Backman, Dustin Hayward

Submitted by Dennis Van Auken
ECCV Northern Water Supply Project Membrane Water Treatment Facility
(East Cherry Creek Valley Water & Sanitation District)

Job 3019—$25.0 million
Project Manager: Ruben King
Superintendents: Les Cushman
Chuck Krier
Jeff Dickhausen
Project Engineers: Matt Davis
Solange Huggins
Mike Duesterbeck

Top: ECCV pump station.
Bottom: View of the membrane building.
Submitted by Solange Huggins

Republican River Compact Compliance Pipeline—Subcontract to WFG
(Republican River Water Conservation District)

Job 6604—$1.5 million
Sr. Project Manager: Mike Graeve
Project Manager: Wayne Barker
Project Engineer: John Miller
Subcontractors: Sessions Construction, Engineered America, Applewood Painting

Top: Overview of discharge flume and outfall channel prior to final grade and placement of rip/rap in channel.
Bottom: Concrete placement of 42' diameter bolted steel water storage tank footer.
Submitted by Wayne Barker
LONE TREE, COLORADO

Lone Tree Reservoir Basin No. 2
(Denver Water)

Job 6593—$7.5 million

Project Manager: Brock Southwick
Superintendent: Brad Juracek
Project Admin: Lou Jauregui
Project Coordinator: Heidi Haberkorn


Pipe Crew: Steve Chandler, Jason Brown, Reyes Esquivias, Luis Aldana, RJ Clarke

Submitted by Shane O’Brien

In addition to the already stringent schedule, record snowfall and freezing temperatures have plagued us for months.

Garney was recently nominated for a 2012 Community Outreach Award for our cooperation and support of the nearby residents and elementary school. As you can see by the aerial photos, the project is located adjacent to the elementary school with homes surrounding the site. Every aspect of this project has been observed by the public, so being nominated for this award is a great achievement.

PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA

Regional Integrated Loop System, Phase 1A Interconnect Project
(Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Auth.)

Job 3019—$16.0 million

Project Manager: Dan Smolik
Superintendents: Curtis Hefley, Chris Vanlerberg
Project Admin: Rob Fults

Top: Site work for the retention pond at the high service pump station and GST.

Bottom: Installation of 24" ductile iron pipe on Capricorn.

Submitted by Rob Fults
**Pollution Control Facility Improvements**

*(City of Midwest City, OK)*

Job 4382—$47.2 million

*Project Managers:* Bart Slaymaker
Steven Hermes

*Superintendents:* Wade Pierpoint
Chris Hannaford

*Project Engineers:* Jesse Dull
Bryan Clark

*Crew:* Jeff Jones, Terry Miller, Danny Servan, Miguel Ramirez, Brad Bohl, Curtis George, Joe Morris

*Top:* Removing one of the four existing coil filters.

*Bottom:* View of the jobsite office.

*Submitted by Wade Pierpoint*

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**Ozone Disinfection System Improvements**

*(City of Springfield, MO)*

Job 8023—$12.0 million

*Project Manager:* Bart Slaymaker

*Superintendent:* Tim Diamond

*Project Coordinator:* Sally Miller

*Top Left:* First of two ozone generators (left), closed loop cooling water pumps (right), and the interconnecting piping.

*Top Right:* Cryogenic oxygen generation area. This piping was added to allow for the installation of two oxygen booster compressors in series with the existing compressors to meet the increased demands of the new ozone generators.

*Bottom Left:* Ozone flow control injector rack holds four ozone gas flow control valve trains.

*Bottom Right:* Ozone destructor units reduce the ozone off-gas into pure O².

*Submitted by Bart Slaymaker*
APPLAUSE FOR FLORIDA CREW

Would just like to tell you what a great job Steve Mertz and his crew are doing laying the sewer line in front my home. Steve gave me his card and said to call him if I had any problems or concerns. Your crew are all very polite. When talking with them, it is “Yes, sir” or “No, sir” and are all very, very hard workers. You never see them standing around; they are always working, rain or shine. They clean up every day and you don't even know they buried any pipe. What a great group of guys.

Thank you,
Don Hero

Recently, a septic line had been laid in front of my home out by the road. A man named Steve is in charge. I have been so impressed with the job they have done, and great country boy hospitality with the way he spoke to me and my family. My wife and I decided to cook hamburgers and all the fixin’s for the guys. Steve said that would not be necessary. I told him that it would hurt our feelings if he refused. He and the guys all ate well. We feel that it is great to instill great workmanship here in the USA. I know; I have been running our family business for over 20 years. Keep up the great work to better our country and our county.

Doug and Linda Norris

**Steve Mertz and his crew are working on the Hudson to Shady Hill Wastewater Diversion Project for Pasco County Utilities**

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Dear Mike:

I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation for the work that Garney does. As you are well aware other wastewater projects in Sioux City have not gone as smoothly as phase 2 and I truly believe this is a reflection of Garney’s expertise in the field and focus on customer service. This customer service aspect is what sets many contractors apart and it is apparent through the professionalism of your field staff and project management that this philosophy is carried at every level of the organization.

I would like to specifically commend Thom Eaton for his Superintendence of the job. Thom is not only willing to work through field issues but has a remarkable ability to identify and implement effective solutions in a very timely fashion. Thom has demonstrated an ability to manage the job very effectively and get the most out of his field staff. He and Charley Senne have given a great deal to ensuring that this job has been completed to meet all of the City’s expectations. These two have also demonstrated a fantastic understanding of the importance of keeping a wastewater project going and providing operational continuity regardless of the difficulty surrounding the work.

I would be remiss if I did not also acknowledge Mike Halbur’s efforts as a project manager. Mike has consistently demonstrated his willingness to go the extra mile for the benefit of the job and the customer. This is something I have grown to expect from Mike and was certainly not disappointed on this job. As a result of all of the above mentioned individuals, their crews and everyone’s understanding of the goals of the project, we are now operating an incredibly effective and efficient wastewater process.

With sincere thanks,

Jade S. Dundas
Utilities Director
January 5, 2011

Mike Heitmann, President
Garney Construction
1333 NW Vivion Road
Kansas City, MO 64118

Mr. Heitmann,

On behalf of the staff and citizens of the city of Wichita, I wanted to take the opportunity to recognize several of your employees, whose performance on a recent city project was exemplary.

Your firm is currently performing work on a project for the city of Wichita’s Aquifer Storage and Recovery program, which required the tie-in of a new production surge tank. The project required that the entire Equus Beds wellfield be taken out of service, which could potentially impact the entire city because it temporarily eliminated the redundancy of its water supply.

Due to the very critical nature of this project, it was essential that the waterline tie-in be completed quickly and without complications. Your staff more than met our expectations. Their high level of commitment to professionalism, preparation, staffing, planning and thoroughness were impressive, effective, and very much appreciated. The project was executed without any major complications.

In particular, our thanks and recognition goes to Ed Rolf and his staff: Joe Lewis Jr.; Humberto Del-Cid; Charles Woody; and Bryan Muench.

These folks went beyond our expectations and delivered a superior product. Due to the extremely critical nature of this project, we wanted to be sure their highly responsible effort was acknowledged.

Sincerely,

Alan D. King
Director of Public Works & Utilities
**SAFETY SEGMENT**

*by Neal Timmons*

*In the previous newsletter, we left off with Vinny and his crew heading up to the third level to determine moving the steel erector’s beams…*

**VINNY’S STORY**

**PART II**

**Part II: The Accident**

When Vinny woke up this morning, he had no idea how much his life was about to change. As his crew approached the beams, Vinny was angry and wasn’t about to wait another second, let alone a day for crane time to move the beams! His plan was to move the beams by hand on an angle far enough to allow concrete to be poured around the floor opening sides (see diagram below).

Vinny quickly positioned himself and one crew member on one end of the beam, and the other two guys on the opposite end of the beam stretched across the opening.

When the crew attempted to move the first beam, the end opposite of Vinny slipped from the employee’s hands and began sliding into the opening. Vinny tried to move clear of the beam and let it fall, but the base plate on the beam caught his leg and drug it to the guardrail post. Vinny’s leg was trapped between the beam plate and the guardrail post. The sharp edge of the base plate cut into his leg whenever he attempted to move, or his crew tried to remove the beam. His leg remained wedged unable to move almost for almost 10 minutes before the crane was able to lift the beam and free his leg. Vinney was conscious and in tremendous pain until the ambulance and the paramedics arrived.

Vinny had lost a lot of blood and his leg was nearly severed, but he was alive, stable and on his way to the emergency room.

**The Aftermath**

After the accident, the project was in chaos and shock. The attitude and morale of the employees, which the company’s and the owner’s had been great up until today, turned ugly. I just remember a lot of fighting, bickering, and blame. Production suffered, and everyone couldn’t wait for the job to end.

In an effort to gain back the control of the project, the Project Superintendent and steel erector were replaced. This had little effect; the project finished two months behind schedule and at a loss.

Vinny spent three weeks in the hospital and underwent four surgeries to repair the badly damaged leg. He had extensive damage to the muscles, tendons and nerves below the knee of his right leg, as well as a fractured fibula.

During the next six months, I kept in contact with Vinny. He worked hard to rehabilitate but it was very apparent, he would never be the same. He could walk, but with a severe limp. He could not put pressure on the leg for very long, which meant he could only stand for a short amount of time.

He attempted to return to construction but could no longer perform or tolerate the physical demands. He eventually took a job as a warehouseman. He hated this job and began to drown himself in alcohol. Vinny became increasingly bitter, distant, and belligerent to the point everyone, including his family, avoided him. His wife could not tolerate the constant turmoil, drunkenness, and abuse, so she left him. Vinney attempted suicide nine months after the accident.

*(…to be continued in the next newsletter)*

*Drawing of beams and leg position*
EMPLOYEE-OWNER SPOTLIGHT: RITO MATA

Rito started with Garney in El Paso, Texas, in 1998 as a general laborer and in 1999 he agreed to move to Orlando, Florida. Under the leadership of Joe Monteleone and mentoring of Billy Burks, he transitioned from laborer to operator. When Billy retired in 2005, Rito took over as lead excavator operator. His first job in this position was on the 84” Cypress Creek Project for Tampa Bay Water where he ran a PC1250. As with many Garney employee-owners, Rito’s dedication has been unwavering and his personal sacrifices are immeasurable. Rito’s belief in Garney has lead him to recruit other dedicated, long-term personnel which has added tremendous value to the entire organization. Rito has been an excellent example of Garney’s goal of allowing all employee-owners to achieve their full potential.

BABY CORNER

Meggan and Ryan Krase welcomed their smiling baby girl, Katelin Michelle Krase (below), on January 13, 2012. She weighed 8 lbs., 7 oz. and was 20.5” long. This is the first child for the Krases.

Chris Coston and his wife, Laura, pose with their baby boy, Luke Daykin Coston (below). This is the first child for the Costons. Luke was born February 6, 2012 at 9:01 PM. He was 21” long and weighed 8 lbs., 10 oz.

Jordan and Leslie Brooking welcomed their first child, Harrison Lee Brooking (above), on January 12, 2012. He came in to this world at 8 lbs., 9 oz. and 20.5” long, and wearing a Garney hard hat with pride!

“Congratulations to all the newborns and their families!"

“The Garney goal of SAFETY is to create the safest work environment possible for our employee-owners. I think it’s very important that we all get home safely to our families at night. I think one of the biggest keys to doing that is communication; we should all identify certain safety risks on projects, get a plan together, and then communicate that plan to the guys in the field. We should be communicating about safety on a daily basis. In turn, I think that will give the company a great safety record, which will allow us to maximize our opportunities in different markets, which will lead to bigger and better ESOP statements for everyone.” - Chad Sharbono, Garney Project Manager
Dear Mike Gardner,

It was a pleasure working with you and your staff on the Water District No. 1 of Johnson County, Kansas (WaterOne) Wolcott Water Treatment Plant. Construction of the $72 million state-of-the-art water treatment plant presented your team with a multitude of challenges. From our perspective, some of the more prominent project challenges and the actions taken by Garney Construction to address these challenges include:

- Coordination, integration and commissioning of the microfiltration membrane system, which was procured by the Owner and assigned to the contractor, required a significant amount of effort by Garney Construction. Although the level of effort was more than anticipated by all project stakeholders, Garney remained committed to expending the manpower necessary for the successful integration and start-up of this system.

- Garney Construction was requested to perform a significant amount of additional work throughout the project. The additional work was not only performed at the Wolcott Water Treatment Plant site but also at the Owner’s other water treatment and supply facilities. Garney Construction consistently provided competitive pricing for performing the additional work and often did not request an extension in the Contract Time. The amount of additional work requested by the Owner is a direct testament to the quality of work performed by Garney.

- All projects are affected by periods of inclement weather. However, construction activities were often hampered by extended periods of inclement weather. Although Garney Construction could have submitted weather delay claims, it was not unusual for Garney to continue to perform work while accepting the fact that production efficiency was adversely impacted. Without Garney Construction’s willingness to work during these time periods, the project would not have been completed in a timely manner.

- The project included the installation of a significant amount of complex equipment and an extensive supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system that would enable the plant to be remotely operated. The complex systems required the contractor to perform a significant amount of pre-planning to ensure the successful integration of all project components. Garney Construction’s attention to detail and communication protocols with the equipment suppliers and subcontractors made the process appear effortless.

In summary, the project was considered a success by all project stakeholders. The success of this project is directly attributed to Garney Construction’s dedication, experience, communication skills, and team work. Again, it has been a pleasure working with you and your staff and I look forward to teaming with Garney Construction on future projects.

Very truly yours,

BLACK & VEATCH CORPORATION

James G. Winger
Project Manager
ASIC 2012 Presidents Day Classic National Club Volleyball Tournament in Omaha, Nebraska, was held on February 18-20. Norco Volleyball Club Girls Team 15 Black, Club Division are pictured above. Jayce Moore, top row, second player from left, is the daughter of Jeff Moore, Sr. Project Manager. The girls went undefeated in the tournament. Their overall record for the season was 23-1 (at the Omaha Tournament, Norco beat the team that beat them in Denver.....paybacks!) Go Norco!

On the left is the cover of the recently released Caterpillar marketing brochure for their new 329E Hydraulic Excavator. The photo was taken last February on our Cross County project. Garney was using a pre-production 329E for Tier 4i and machine emissions and durability testing, under an agreement with Cat. The testing was successful, and as the machine was just recently released into the world marketplace. Thanks to our Cross County field team for being helpful and supportive to one of our leading equipment vendors. A win/win for both Garney and Cat!

Roscoe, Anthony Mravunac’s English Mastiff, models his XL safety vest, while Dexter (aka “Taco”), Laurie Grace’s Yorkie, tried his homemade vest on for size. These guys are helping out the crews on the Midlothian and Ward County projects, respectively.