



**Welcome** to the team of business and industry leaders who are dedicated to promoting Southwest Wyoming manufacturing and technology.

[Visit our website](#)

## SOUTHWEST WYOMING MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP

### OUR MISSION AND GOALS INCLUDE:

**Awareness** of career opportunities.

**Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths.

**Planning** for what is needed now for future opportunities.

**Results** for how to measure success.

## Manufacturing ROCKS!

### Greetings!

Welcome to the SWMP newsletter and Happy St. Patrick's Day! We all hope you are enjoying the newsletter and welcome any feedback you have or new information you would like to share.

Please take a moment to look over the notes from the February Meeting. The March meeting will be held next Wednesday on March 24th.



*This Issue Sponsored By:*  
**Wire Brothers**



## Register now!

Register for the "How to Accelerate and Elevate Your Business" webinar series presented by Manufacturing Works and Timberline Training.

This 8 series training has already begun but you can still register for any of the webinars and pick and choose which will work best for your business.

[Click Here](#) for more information and class schedule!

WHAT	WHEN
How Innovation can jump start your Business	Feb 24th
How to Facilitate an Atmosphere of Innovation	Mar 10th
Listening and Communicating	Mar 30th
Time Management	Apr 14th
How to Sell on Value	Apr 20th
How to Deal with Price Objections	Apr 27th
Building Trust in your Operations	May 4th
Delegation	May 12th

**Register Now:** Email Michael Grundy @ mgrundy@uwyo.edu

Description: This 8-part webinar series is designed to help accelerate and elevate business for Wyoming Manufacturers. The COVID-19 pandemic has been hard on many of us, and the implementation of new ideas and business tools may just provide the edge we need. This webinar series is paid for by an award made available to Manufacturing Works in Response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The award is to allow NIST MEP centers to help manufacturers reach new suppliers or markets, recover from workforce and supply chain interruptions, and achieve greater resilience. The funding provided through MEP will also help to reenergize the economy and, in particular, improve the competitiveness of our small and medium-sized manufacturers and those in rural locations.

MEP • MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP® UNIVERSITY of WYOMING

## How to Enable Youth (Age 16-17) to Participate in Workplace Learning Experiences in Wyoming's Construction and Manufacturing Industries

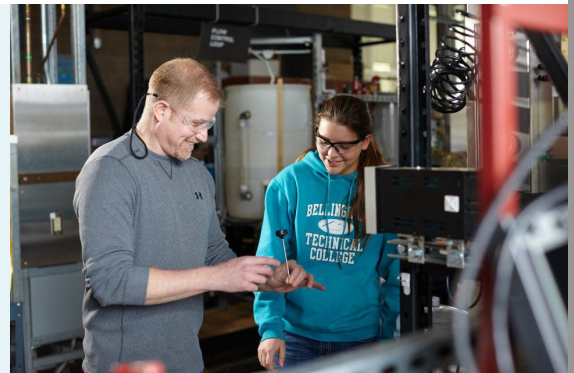
### The Challenge

High school students (ages 16-17) interested in potential careers in construction and manufacturing would benefit immensely from having workplace learning experiences—as would companies looking to expand the local talent pipeline. However, federal child labor law, which reasonably forbids minors from participating in “hazardous” jobs, tends to discourage workplace experiences for high school youth in industries such as construction and manufacturing, which have a number of what the U.S. Department of Labor considers hazardous jobs.

### The Goal

The goal is to recommend a new approach in Wyoming—a change, clarification, or exemption—that would reduce this disincentive, and enable more 16-to-17-year-old high school students to have work experiences in construction and manufacturing.

To learn more about this project, [Click Here](#).



Imagine what could happen if we had 50 leaders looking for opportunities to promote Southwest Wyoming every day and working to make tomorrow better than yesterday for our communities! These small efforts will change our future and although this newsletter is a small part of the partnership, it is a great tool to get people connected and keep people up to date on what we're working on. Please ask one other person to join us and



get the newsletters!

*All we need is their name and email address!*

Genesis Alkali recently donated a work vehicle to the Green River High School automotive department. Two others are expected in April.



From left to right are Vice-President of Manufacturing of Genesis Alkali Fred von Ahrens, Dayne Vaught, Aaron Walker, GRHS Auto Instructor Justin Milles, Director Corporate Communications and Public Affairs of Genesis Alkali David Caplan, and GRHS Principal Darren Heslep.

## ROADTRIP NATION



Roadtrip Nation is coming through Southwest Wyoming! Three young people have been selected to take the ride around Wyoming to meet with those who have elected to tell their story!

Go to [roadtripnation.com](http://roadtripnation.com) to learn more and watch for their story.

Are you interested in participating in the sub-committee meetings?

Please Contact:

Training: [Fred.vonAhrens@genlp.com](mailto:Fred.vonAhrens@genlp.com)

B2B: [CJLembke@wyomingcat.com](mailto:CJLembke@wyomingcat.com)

Marketing: [Ron.Wild@rockymountainpower.net](mailto:Ron.Wild@rockymountainpower.net)



### Executive SWMP Meeting Notes 02/24/2021

Attendance: Fred, Carl, Ron, Lauren, Jed, Craig B., Craig R., Pam, Jessica, Kelly,

**Safety Shares:** An employee in one of the mines was hanging curtains in the mine and had a pop in his elbow just doing a routine task- Just a reminder to pay attention to body positions.

Moving to new offices, be aware of your surroundings and your set up, etc. Chairs, desk, keyboard, and posture throughout the day. It could affect how we work.

#### Marketing-

Carl was successful in signing up Searle Brothers to be our next sponsor for six months.

o Feedback from Wire brothers on being our Newsletter sponsor for the first few months was favorable, they reported receiving additional work.

- o Sponsorship for the 6 months is \$1,000
- Ron is working on the Community spotlight feature for Rocky Mountain Power to go in the next Newsletter
- Fred will work with Paul or Dr. Dale at WWCC to start working on a write-up about the upcoming "Open House" and what the College is doing to get in the Newsletter.
- Ron met with the Chamber director and economics director in Rawlins and also the museum board in Hanna
- Ensure we are putting the SWMP Logos on communications and getting the word out about our efforts and the Newsletter.
- Road trip Nation is moving forward- The Road trip is taking place in April and will be coming to Southwest Wyoming
- Anyone interested in being added to the Newsletter's distribution list can reach out to Ron, Carl, or Jessica.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the full meeting minutes



The Platte Valley Regional Expo will enable participants to maximize their business exposure with influential decision makers, build new business relationships, introduce new products to the community, generate publicity, make on-the-spot sales and engage in networking opportunities. We invite exhibitors representing all fields of business in our community including restaurants, banking, retail, industrial, agriculture and crafters, just to name a few. Not only is the expo an opportunity to expand business to business relationships, but it is also a great way for the public to learn more about the businesses operating in our area. We will also have a wonderful line-up of guest speakers, including Senator Cynthia Lummis, to inspire, inform and educate those in attendance.

On May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, we have extended an invitation to all school districts in Southern Wyoming to participate in the Career Day portion of this three-day business expo. The students will have an opportunity to learn about the vast array of business and career opportunities in Southern Wyoming & can apply for locally offered scholarships. This is a great opportunity to inspire the students, teach them what you do, or to find a great worker for your business.

If you would like to participate by having a booth, you are welcome to present samples, products & services for purchase. Since the expo will also serve as a job fair, please be sure to notate if your business has open positions on your entry form so your booth will be distinguished for the job seekers in attendance. Click Here to download a booth application form.

Email applications to: Yvonne Johnson, Executive Director  
[info@ccwyed.net](mailto:info@ccwyed.net)



## Industrial Technology Department Open House

- First CTE Month "Open House" at WWCC
- Over 25 businesses and community members attended



- SWMP Executive Team was well represented
- Instructors led tours of 12 shops; Electrical, Mechanical, Welding, Hydraulics, Diesel, Plant Process Operator



In 2018, SWMP created an initiative to create a Plan Process Operator Certificate. We wanted a two year degree program and Western Wyoming Community College responded with a willingness to move forward and had the program up and running within one year.

In 2019-20, each student who completed the program successfully landed jobs and now, the 2020-21 class is at capacity with a waiting list.



## Local Business Champion Spotlight



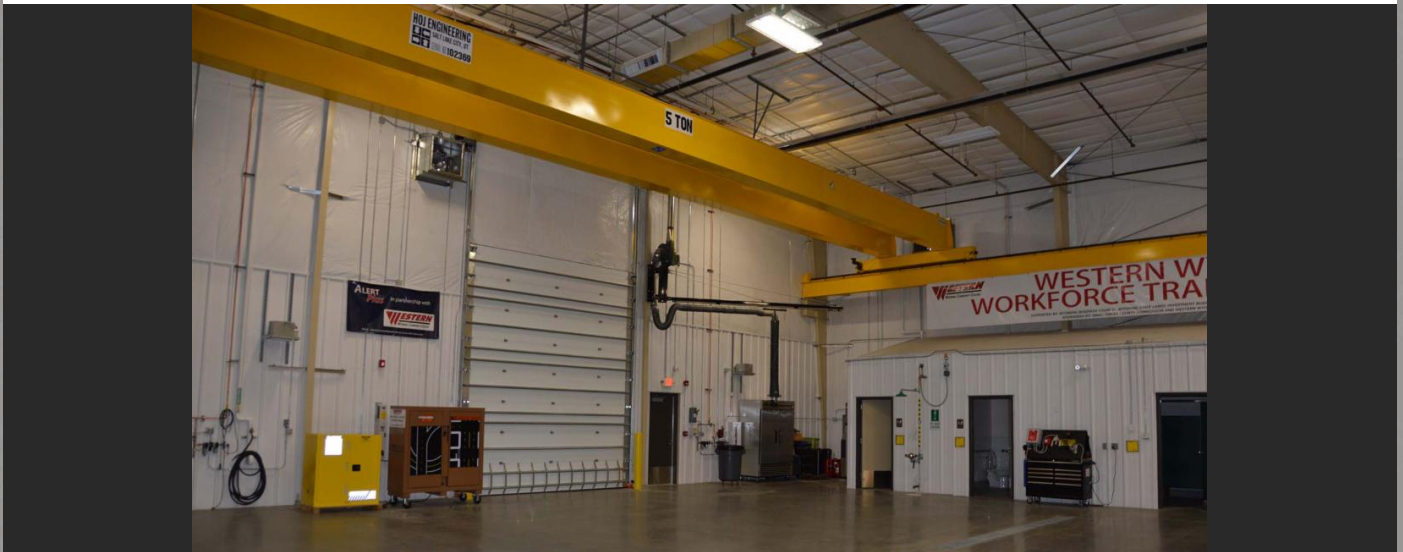
The new Bachelor of Applied Science degree at Western is finally underway this semester. This online bachelor's degree will provide those currently working in various industries to succeed in leadership and management positions. Those enrolled in the program can expect to build interpersonal and leadership skills, as the program emphasizes personal leadership, human resource management, operations management, organizational change and psychology, data analysis, and training and development. The coursework will help expand the ability to listen, think critically, resolve conflict, lead, manage your and others' time and projects.



## Western's Plant Operations

Associate's degree is another versatile degree for industry professionals. Geared toward building a quality workforce in any manufacturing and processing operations, students learn to operate equipment efficiently and effectively. Students are trained on various equipment, including, but not limited to, pumps, gearboxes, conveyors, augers, punch presses, and more.

Those interested in becoming shop teachers in the K12 environment now have an exciting opportunity to earn a CTE Generalist Certificate combined with a few education courses through Western and the University of Wyoming that will qualify them through the Professional Standards Teaching Board to teach all high school shop classes.



Alongside Western's academic degree programs, dozens of workforce classes are tailored toward industry and ready to respond at your convenience. Regularly scheduled MSHA, OSHA, First Aid/CPR, mobile equipment operations, H2S fit-testing are only the beginning of a very robust training program. Customized training programs to fit your workforce are always an option.

We sincerely value our community partnerships. We welcome any feedback or suggestions on how we can better serve our manufacturing industry and partnerships.

Visit our website,  
[www.westernwyoming.edu](http://www.westernwyoming.edu) for further information.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Upcoming Next Gen Community of Practice Learning Opportunities

\* **Next Gen 101 Workshops:** New to Next Gen? Have team members who need an orientation? In need of a refresh yourself? We will be holding a two-part Next Gen 101 virtual series. This is an ideal opportunity for anyone new to Next Gen to get a crash course in the what, why and how of Next Gen Sector Partnership-building. The training is open to anyone interested in learning more. Hold the dates May 11th & 12th, 11:00-2:30 PST. Registration fee is \$380 per person. Registration details coming soon.

\* **Level Up Next Gen Training** Been at this for a while and looking for ways to grow, strengthen and sustain your Next Gen Partnership? Our two-day Level Up Next Gen Training is designed for regional teams of 6-10 practitioners and business leaders with active Next Gen Sector Partnerships. This year's Level Up will be September 28th & 29th, 11:00-2:30 PST. The registration fee is \$450 per person. Registration details coming soon.

\* **Topical Webinars:** During the spring and summer of 2021, we will hold three special interest webinars covering hot topics within our Community of Practice and drawing on the best practices of our more advanced Next Gen Partnerships and on the insight from expert Next Gen Coaches. These webinars will be held via Zoom. Mark the following dates on your calendar:

- \* Stories from Six Best-in-Class Partnerships, April 13th, 2021 from 10:00-11:30am PST
- \* Tips and Tricks for Partnership Website Building, July 13th, 2021 from 10:00-11:00am PST
- \* Lessons from our Rural Learning Network, November 16th, 2021 from 10:00-11:30am PST

\* **Peer-to-Peer Calls:** What Works, What Doesn't in COVID Economic Recovery: We'll be continuing our Peer-to-Peer Best Practice calls from 2020. This year, we will dive into how partnerships around the country are approaching economic recovery during a COVID era, highlighting the strategies that are making an impact and the challenges along the way. We'll hold two All-Partnership calls and two sector-based cohorts to focus on the nuances of healthcare and manufacturing. Please share with your business and support partners. These webinars will be held via Zoom. Mark the following dates on your calendar

- \* All Partnership Peer-to-Peer Best Practice Call, March 2nd, 2021 from 10-11:00 am PST
- \* Manufacturing Peer-to-Peer Best Practice Call, June 8th, 2021 from 10:00-11:00am PST
- \* Healthcare Peer-to-Peer Best Practice Call, June 9th, 2021 from 10:00-11:00am PST
- \* All Partnership Peer-to-Peer Best Practice Call, August 3rd, 2021 from 10-11:00 am PST

To be added to the waiting list for any of these events, email:

[info@nextgensectorpartnerships.com](mailto:info@nextgensectorpartnerships.com)

## Job Opportunities

Explore the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services website for current job openings or to post an opening within your company.





# Thank you to our sponsor!



## *Mission Statement*

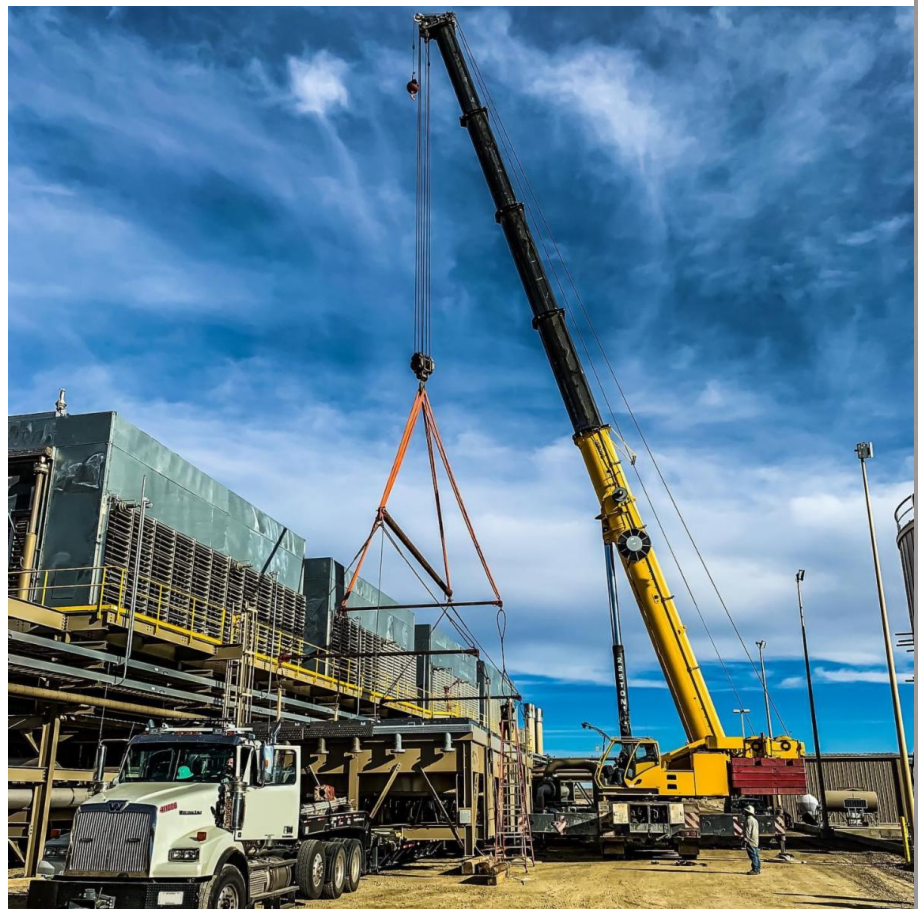
Wire Brothers Inc. endorses the following Safety Mission Statement, which supports our belief that safety is everyone's responsibility. Providing a safe environment for our employees, our customers, and families is a primary mission for all of us at Wire Brothers, Inc. We will strive to eliminate unsafe conditions and minimize related risks by identifying and supporting safe work practices, promoting safety awareness, furnishing necessary tools and equipment, and providing employee training and education. We will work together to protect our customers, ourselves, and each other by promoting a culture of shared responsibility and the open exchange of suggestions, ideas, and concerns. Our safety mission benefits us all by minimizing exposures, reducing injuries, preventing property damage, and enhancing the environment at Wire Brothers, Inc.

### Core Competencies

- Reclamation
- Environmental Remediation
- Process gas construction and maintenance
- Pipeline Services
- Well pad construction and hookup
- Location abandonment
- ASME plant maintenance and construction
- Pressure testing services
- Crane services
- Custom fabrication
- Welding Services
- General Dirt Work
- Road Maintenance

### Differentiators

- 30 years of customer satisfaction
- OQSG certified workforce
- "R" stamp for vessel repair projects
- On Staff C.P.W.I.
- Extensive inventory of specialty tools
- Hazwoper capabilities
- Variety of recent model equipment
- Specialty fab shop with plasma CNC
- Extensively trained employees
- ASME certified mobile welders



## *Friendly Reminder . . . .*

## **What is our Purpose and How do we Get There?**



## ***Purpose:***

### **Improve outcomes for our students and those seeking career changes**

· **Business, Educators, Government Services and the Community working together to improve:**

- **Awareness** of career opportunities
- **Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths
- **Planning** for what is needed now and for future opportunities
- **Results** for how to measure success

· **Awareness**

- Increase awareness of career opportunities within our community
- § Students, Educators, Counselors, Government Agencies, Parents and the Community
- Engagement events and opportunities
- § Career Fairs,
- § Jr. High and High School events
- § Mentoring and job shadowing etc.
- § Engagement & Dialog with the stakeholders

· **Alignment to better prepare our students for careers in our community and beyond**

- Direct from high school including career technical training
- Secondary education, certificate programs, two-year degrees, CTE
- University alignment (pathways and career paths)

· **Planning**

- What is needed now,
- Where will the opportunities be
- What will we do to prepare and fill the pipeline?
- § Promotion, Communication processes, Scholarships, etc.
- § Measurements; Create metrics such as % Secondary Education, % successful career changes

· **Membership**

- **Southwest Wyoming: Carbon, Fremont, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta, Lincoln**

**Membership:**

- **Exec. Core Team:** Fred von Ahrens, Ron Wild, Craig Rood, Pam Heatherington, Carl Lembke, Lauren Schoenfeld, Kim Dale, Kelly McGovern, Craig Barringer, Joan Evans, Jed Vigil
- **Co Conveners:** Bridget Stewart & Lacey Bluemel



Rock Springs, Wyoming  
Phone: 307-251-3980

Get In Touch

