



**Mary Ann Stea**

Mary Ann Stea, from Utah, USA, is a truly adventurous person. She began her long and varied career as a racehorse exercise rider, in beautiful Hunt Valley Maryland, at Sagamore Farm, former home of the 1960's Preakness winner, Native Dancer. Her favorite memory during that time was simply patching up holes of her friend's old fishing boats, and after painting them, taking them out on the beautiful Chesapeake Bay. Boating was a favorite pastime, and she also had the experience of exploring the Everglades in Florida, where it was not only breathtakingly beautiful, but also scary being so close to all the alligators.

She also lived in Mexico, and enjoyed many fond memories of her in laws, and the gorgeous Mexican culture. It was there that she gained an appreciation for people coming to the USA, where there are so many challenges for a person coming in who doesn't know the language or the customs.

Mary has also raised three children and gone to school as a non-traditional learner. She became involved in UVU's activities through the Student Engaged Learning initiative and helped organize the Women of the Mountains International Conference, held under the Umbrella of the United Nations. This CSW69 will be the third year of her participation under the mentoring of Dr. Baktybek Abdrysaev, Ambassador from the Republic of Kyrgyzstan to the United States and Canada.

Mary enjoys walking, nature, meaningful conversations with friends, gardening, and stained-glass windowpane making, which she gives as gifts to friends and family.