

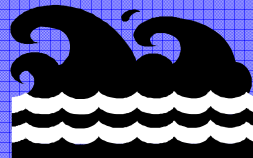
2007
Annual
Convention

5th
Annual
Convention


February
22-23,
2007

Ramada
Hotel
Sterling,
Colorado

Go
With
The
Flow



Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance


DARCA's goal is to become the definitive resource for networking, information exchange, and advocacy among mutual ditch and reservoir companies, irrigation districts, incorporated laterals, and private ditches.

Official Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance will be at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, February 23, 2007 at the Ramada Hotel in Sterling, Colorado. We will elect board members, distribute year-end financial reports, and conduct other DARCA business as needed. Your input is important, please attend.

Call for Board Nominations

DARCA will have three (3) board member terms expiring at our Annual Meeting. We're soliciting your involvement in DARCA and invite you to submit names of qualified individuals who might choose to help lead DARCA for the next three years.

To submit a nomination or to read more about what it means to be a DARCA board member, please visit our website at www.darca.org. **Nominations must be received by January 31st.**

You are welcome to submit your own name. After we receive nominations, we will contact the nominees to discuss the process. Only nominees willing to accept the nomination will be presented at the Annual Meeting on Friday, February 23, 2007.

Convention Location & Lodging

Lodging is available at the convention site. The Ramada Sterling is located at 22140 E. Highway 6, Sterling (from I-76, take Exit 125).

Room rates are \$60/night for either single or double occupancy. Your room reservations must be made by February 2, 2007 to guarantee this special rate.

Call (800) 835-7275 and mention DARCA to book your reservation.

The Ramada offers the following special amenities:

- Indoor pool and recreations area
- Fitness center
- In-room coffee makers, irons & boards, hairdryers
- On-site restaurant

Sponsor and Exhibitor Information

Introduce your product or organization to the DARCA membership by becoming a sponsor or exhibitor. We have several options for your consideration. For details, visit our website at www.darca.org or contact our convention coordinator:

Max McKenzie
Phone (303) 875-2809
Email: max.mckenzie@darca.org

Fees for exhibitor tables start at \$150.

Pre-Convention Education

February 21, 2007 — 3:00—5:30 p.m.

We are pleased to present a pre-convention workshop designed to provide concentrated focus to ditch management issues. This year, we examine South Platte River administration and provide tips for resolving conflict and water theft at the ditchrider level. Also, Grand Valley Irrigation Company's Superintendent Phil Bertrand will host a roundtable discussion on topics of interest to YOU.

- *Update on Water Administration Issues* — Jim Hall, P.E., Division Engineer, Division 1
- *Whiskey's for drinkin'... A primer on conflict resolution for ditchriders.* MaryLou Smith, Aqua Engineering, Inc.
- *Superintendent's Roundtable Discussion* — Moderated by Phil Bertrand, Superintendent of Grand Valley Irrigation Company

Cost for the workshop is \$50.

Wednesday, February 21

2:30 p.m. Convention Registration begins
3:00 p.m. Superintendent's Workshop
6:30 p.m. Opening Dinner

Thursday, February 22

8:00 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Welcome from Matt Cook

Keynote Speaker: Don Ament, Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture

Don was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture in January, 1999. He will share his unique perspective on the link between irrigated agriculture and the rich heritage of Colorado's ditch and reservoir companies.

10:00 a.m. Networking Break

10:30 a.m. Focus on South Platte River Basin Issues

- *Tom Cech, Executive Director, Central Colorado Water Conservancy District*

- *Joe Frank, Manager, Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District*
- *A representative from United Water & Sanitation District (invited)*

Let's perform an autopsy on the sudden demise of the Groundwater Appropriators of the South Platte River Basin, Inc. (GASP). What happened, and how are the affected water users moving forward? Also, Metro-area water users are becoming players in the lower reaches of the South Platte River. Are they living up to their "good neighbor" promises?

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. A Visual History of the South Platte River Basin

- *Dick Stenzel, Applegate Group, Inc.*

Dick returns with a fascinating glimpse into Colorado's past. His slide show will provide a look into the water history within the South Platte River basin.

2:00 p.m. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act — Does your ditch comply?

- *Terry Scanga, President of the New Salida Ditch Company*
- *Steve Dougherty, Principal, ERO Resources, Inc.*

Recently the New Salida Ditch Company found themselves in trouble with the feds after performing what they thought was routine maintenance on their river diversion head gate. Is your ditch vulnerable?

3:00 p.m. Networking Break

3:30 p.m. Forecasting Streamflow & Runoff — Art or Science?

- *Esther Vincent and Andy Pineda, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District*

Municipalities and irrigators count on Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District to set a quota in April that reflects runoff in June. How do they do it?

4:15 p.m. New Twists to Change in Use

- *Jeff Kahn, Esq. Bernard, Lyons, Gaddis & Kahn, P.C.*
- *Dan Brown, Esq., Fischer, Brown & Gunn, P.C.*

Learn about recent court cases (including "Jones Ditch") that affect Change in Use decrees for mutual ditch companies.

6:30 p.m. Cocktail Reception and Dinner with Live Entertainment

Dinner Speaker: Diane Hoppe, President of Colorado Foundation for Water Education

Friday, February 23

8:00 a.m. Breakfast with the Board & Annual DARCA Membership Meeting

9:00 a.m. The Value of Irrigation Systems to Colorado's Wildlife

Our "Liquid Assets" provide habitat to birds, animals, fish and plant life. Learn how irrigated agriculture has created a man-made paradise for all types of wildlife.

- *Larry Rogstad, District Wildlife Manager, Colorado Division of Wildlife*
- *Ken Kehmeier, Aquatic Biologist, NE Region, Colorado Dept. of Wild Aquatic and Amphibians*

9:45 a.m. Networking Break

10:15 a.m. Taxes! Estate Planning for Ditch Companies and their Shareholders

In-depth information regarding the structuring of water transactions to avoid taxes; conservation easements involving water; and individual tax planning issues involving mutual ditch shares.

- *Patricia Dow, Esq. The Dow Law Firm*
- *William Silberstein, Esq., Colorado Open Lands*
- *Anton V. Dworak, Esq., Bernard, Lyons, Gaddis & Kahn, P.C.*

12:00 p.m. Closing Remarks — Matt Cook

Go With The Flow

Registration Form

Mail or FAX to address shown below
-OR-
Register and pay online at www.darca.org

Registration Fees (check all that apply)	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird Registration—by January 31st	\$150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Registration—after February 1st	\$175.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-DARCA member please add (applies to dues if application received by 3/31/06)	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Please register me for the Wednesday evening workshop (includes dinner)	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Wednesday Evening Dinner Tickets _____ at \$25 each	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Thursday Evening Dinner Tickets _____ at \$25 each	\$25.00
Total: _____	

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Method of Payment

Check Check # _____

Visa

MasterCard

Credit Card # _____

Exp. date _____

Signature _____

DARCA

2170 S. Parker Rd., #255
Denver, CO 80231
Phone 303-750-9764
FAX 303-750-0085
Email info@darca.org