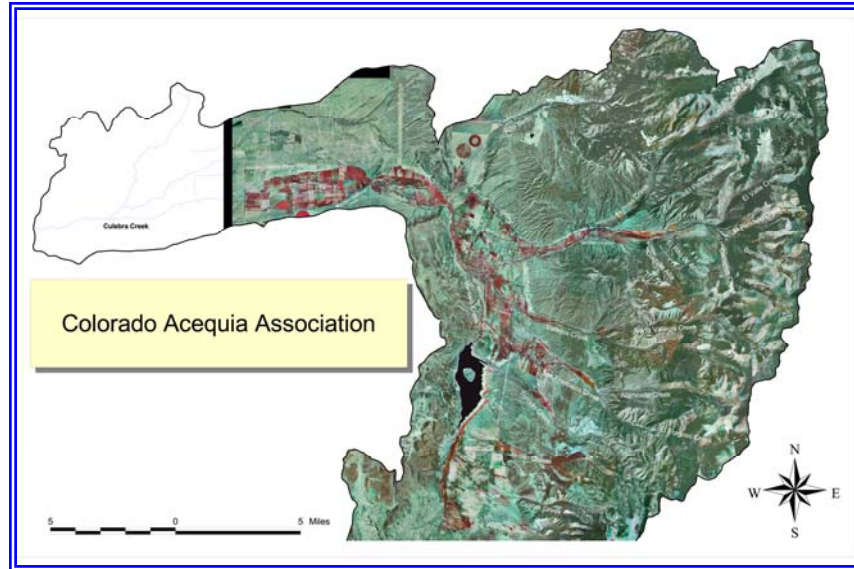


DITCH AND RESERVOIR COMPANY ALLIANCE

“DARCA IS THE DEFINITIVE RESOURCE FOR NETWORKING, INFORMATION EXCHANGE, AND ADVOCACY AMONG MUTUAL DITCH AND RESERVOIR COMPANIES, IRRIGATION DISTRICTS, INCORPORATED LATERALS, AND PRIVATE DITCHES.”



Pre Convention Workshop
Wednesday, February 20, 2008

FLOW MEASUREMENT FOR DITCH COMPANIES

Fort Garland Museum Mess Hall
9 a.m.— 4 p.m. Fort Garland, CO



Acequia Vallejos Parshall Flume

Acequia El Cerro with Adelmo Kaber irrigating his field.

2008 DARCA Annual Convention
February 21-22, 2008

Learning From Others: ACEQUIAS IN COLORADO

Sangre de Cristo Parish Hall
508 Church Place, San Luis, CO

Dinner Speaker— Dr. Devon Peña, Ph.D., The Acequia Institute, San Acacio, Colorado www.AcequiaInstitute.org
Dr. Peña is a professor of anthropology, environmental studies, and Chicano Studies and has authored several books.

Cocktail Reception and Dinner with Live Entertainment

5:30 p.m. - Thursday, February 21, 2008 ~ **American Legion Hall, 342- 4th Street, San Luis**

6 p.m. — Cocktails and dinner featuring live entertainment provided by **Mariachi de San Luis.**

Dance with **“Blue Moon Productions”** Following Dinner until — 11:00 p.m.

6th Annual

Ditch And Reservoir Company Alliance



CONVENTION

www.darca.org

FEBRUARY 2008

San Luis, Colorado



Where Colorado Began in Colorado’s Oldest Town * Home to the Oldest Water Right in Colorado

“Quien a su tierra y las acequias se aquerencia a sus nietos alimenta.

To care for your land and water, is to nourish your grandchildren.”

Become a DARCA Member! To find out about becoming a DARCA member, please visit our website at www.darca.org or contact John McKenzie at 970-412-1960, john.mckenzie@darca.org.
DARCA, 1630A 30th St., #431, Boulder, CO 80301

Experience centuries-old traditional cultural foods that comprise many households. An aromatic feast pleasing the palate, as we serve heirloom foods that produce many of the local culinary delicacies; grown by local acequia farmers & harvested from the Costilla County villages.

“Las Comadres de San Luis y el Condado de Costilla County,”
LasComadresSanLuis@yahoo.com 719.672.3152

REGISTRATION and

Sponsors , Exhibitors, & Vendors

If you would like to have a Vendor or Exhibitor table, or participate as a DARCA convention sponsor, contact Max McKenzie, Convention Coordinator at 303-875-2809, max.mckenzie@darca.org.

Learning From Others:

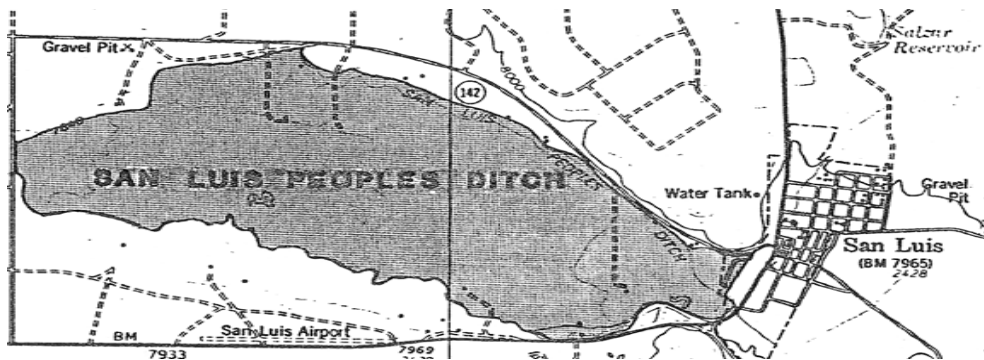
ACEQUIAS IN COLORADO

6th Annual DARCA Convention

February 20-22, 2008
Sangre de Cristo Parish Center
San Lu s, Colorado

The Villages of Costilla County and the Town of San Lu s
"Home of the San Lu s People's Ditch," the State's 1st Adjudicated Water Right
are pleased to welcome you to the 6th Annual DARCA Convention.

Please enjoy this unique part of Colorado during your stay.



San Luis People's Ditch, "Acequia por La Gente de San Lu s" (1851)
1,702 historically irrigated acres.



Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance

FLOW MEASUREMENT FOR DITCH COMPANIES

Pre-convention Workshop

Wednesday, February 20

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Flow Measurement is DARCA's pre-convention workshop. The workshop is essential for ditch company personnel interested in learning about the latest technologies of measuring, recording, and reporting water flows in canals and for on-farm delivery applications. The workshop begins with flow measurement fundamentals: the common units of measurement and the operational benefits of flow measurement. Historical measurement devices, including the Parshall flume, and basic operation of all critical flow measurement devices and details on measurement accuracy are on the agenda.

The course covers the design and installation of long-throated (Replogle) flumes and broad-crested weirs. These types of flumes have several advantages over the Parshall, They can be custom designed to the needs of the user, cost less to construct, and are more accurate. Participants are invited to bring their laptop computers to class. WinFlume, a powerful, easy to use software program will be provided. The program allows users to perform a rating analysis on an existing flume or a new flume can be designed. The participants will be instructed in the use of the software and will be able to solve exercises in the afternoon session of the class.

Flow meters for piped systems will be presented as well.

Recording devices of all types will be described and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition, better known as SCADA, will be discussed and presented for flow recording and reporting. These technologies can provide monitoring and control of canal operations from a centralized location. Data and information, such as canal flows and reservoir storage data, can be easily posted to the canal company's Web site for management and shareholder access.

DARCA member Stephen Smith with Aqua Engineering, Inc. will organize and lead the workshop. Other presenters will be engineers from other DARCA member companies and Tony Wahl from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Hydraulics Laboratory in Denver.

Where: Fort Garland Museum,
Fort Garland, Colorado
29477 Hwy. 159 (south of Hwy 160)
(719) 379-3512

Lunch will be provided: Posole, cheese enchiladas, frijoles, arroz, lettuce, tomatoes, & tortillas. Dessert will be: 'sopa', a bread pudding also known as capirotada. Morning and afternoon refreshments and snacks are also included.

The Menu for the DARCA Conference Experience centuries-old traditional cultural foods. An aromatic feast pleasing the palate, as we will use heirloom foods in the local culinary delicacies - grown by local acequia farmers & harvested from the Costilla County villages and "La Sierra." Foods are grown and raised naturally without pesticides, hormones and antibiotics.

Snacks will include biscochitos, empanaditas, and other homemade pastries indigenous to our area.

Refreshments will feature water from the local area; teas made from locally harvested plants; chocolate mexicano (deliciously hot spiced chocolate); atole (blue corn drink w/ vanilla & honey). Raven's Brew coffee, dedicated to quality, suitability and culture will be served.

Local vendors will make available preserves, organic baking mixes, organic flour, arts, crafts, wildcraft items and more. Vendors will be selling at the convention site & at the San Luis Museum & Cultural Center. We appreciate your support of our local economy. Take home some history and flavor from the oldest town in Colorado.

Convention Day One
Thursday, February 21

¡Bienvenidos!

- 8:00 a.m. **Registration and Breakfast** — Breakfast burritos, cinnamon rolls, & refreshments.
9:00 a.m. **Welcome**
Matt Cook, President of DARCA
9:15 a.m. **Opening Keynote**
Congressman John Salazar
10:15 a.m. Networking and Exhibits. - Enjoy Refreshments & Snacks.

Focus On. **The San Luis Valley and the Río Culebra Basin**

- 10:45 a.m. **Culebra Watershed Issues** ~ Joe Gallegos, Costilla County Commissioner & 5th generation acequia farmer on the San Luis People's Ditch.
(1st adjudicated water right in Colorado)

11:45 a.m. **Lunch** A traditional Lenten meal will be served: sopa de alberjón maduro {yellow split pea soup}, torta de huevo en chile rojo (egg pattie in red chile sauce); papas cuarteadas al horno (baked split potatoes); cacerola de pescado (fish cake casserole); calabacita con elote (steamed squash with corn); pancha con crema (Indian pudding with cream); té de manzanilla (chamomile tea).

Lunch Speaker: Rick Manzanares, Director at the Fort Garland Museum, will discuss heritage tourism and the strategies that communities can utilize to attract tourists but still maintain their cultural heritage.

Focus On. **Acequias—An Ancient Water Delivery System.**

- 1:00 p.m. **"Agua es la Vida~ Water is Life."**
Priscilla Salazar Martínez, Acequia Farmer
Priscilla will take you on a visual journey through the Acequia Villages surrounding San Luis.

1:45 p.m. **Acequia Designed Strategies for Water Conservation**
Estevan Arellano, Journalist and Novelist, Embudo, New Mexico

2:30 p.m. Networking and Exhibits.—Enjoy Refreshments & Snacks.
Focus On. **Innovations in Colorado Water**
3:00 p.m. **Colorado Water Congress Legislative Update**
Doug Kemper, Executive Director of the Colorado Water Congress

3:30 p.m. **The Super Ditch in the Arkansas Valley**
John Singletary, Chairman, and Jay Winner, General Manager,
Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District

Dinner Speaker— Dr. Devon G. Peña, Professor of Anthropology,
Environmental and Chicano Studies at the University of Washington.
The Acequia Institute, San Acacio, Colorado
www.AcequiaInstitute.org

- 5:30 p.m. **Cocktail Reception and Dinner with Live Entertainment**
American Legion Hall, 342 - 4th Street, San Luis
1 ½ blocks east of Parish Hall



For dinner you will be treated to; grass fed lamb & beef, red and green chile, tortillas de harina, bolita beans, potatoes., calabacitas made from heirloom acequia nourished baby green pumpkins. Dessert will be organic applesauce & organic carrot cake . Dinner catered by Pepitas.

Following Dinner until 11:00 p.m. Dance with the music of DJ ~ Larry Ortega

Convention Day Two Friday, February 22

8:00 a.m. Breakfast with the Board

You will be treated to chicos cooked with grass-fed pork, homemade rolls, chile caribe, and *Pepita's* pancakes, with traditional chokecherry (capulín) syrup. Chicos are heirloom white tender corn, husk-baked with piñon wood overnight in an outdoor mud-brick bee-hive shaped adobe oven called an homo. These sun dried dehydrated corn kernels are delicious when cooked.

8:30 a.m. DARCA Annual Board Meeting

Focus On: Learning From Our Neighbor to the North

9:00 a.m. Dealing with Water Shortages in Times of Drought

Jim Csabay, Chairman, St. Mary River Irrigation District
Lethbridge, Alberta

10:15 a.m. Networking and Exhibits.—Enjoy Refreshments & Snacks.

Focus On: San Luis Valley History & Future

10:45 a.m. A History of the Closed Basin

Dick Stenzel, Applegate Group Inc.

11:15 a.m. San Luis Valley Water Preservation Strategies

Christine Canaly, Director, San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council

12:00 noon. Convention Ends.

Lunch is on your own. Please enjoy one of *OUR* fine Family Restaurants

Costilla County Community invites your participation:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday ~ February 21, 22 and 23.

Special Store Hours and Events in your honor. See registration packet for details.

San Luis Cultural Center and Museum 402 Church Place, 719-672-3611 will hold special hours for DARCA participants to visit, shop for gifts and meet local vendors. *Come on in and take home some history and flavor from Costilla County!*

Sacred Circle Tours www.sanluispreservation.com Brochure in Packet.

Hosted by The Sangre de Cristo Parish and the Costilla County Economic Development Councils;

1:30-3:30 p.m. 'Mini' Sacred Circle Tour Friday only.....\$15 (lunch not included)

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Sacred Circle Tour Saturday only.....\$40 (lunch not included)

R & R Market, 367 Main. 719-672-3346 Colorado's oldest continually operated family grocery and hardware business. Originally 'Gallegos Mercantile', later 'Gallegos & Salazar' and now "R & R Market" is at the same site where it was founded by José Dario Gallegos in 1857.

Dario Gallegos (1830-1883) -- One of original seven settlers who founded San Luis, Colorado's oldest town, in 1851. He helped dig the five-mile-long "Acequia por La Gente de San Luis", the San Luis People's Ditch, the State's first adjudicated water right.

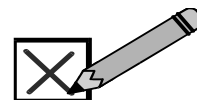
Official Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance will be in San Luis, on **Friday, February 22, 2008 at 8:30 A.M.** Please join us for Breakfast. We will elect board members and conduct other DARCA business. Your input is important.

Join us for "Breakfast with the Board" to help plan DARCA's future!

Request for Board Member Nominations

DARCA has four 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.



DARCA Thanks It's 2008 Convention Sponsors:

- * Applegate Group, Inc. * Aqua Engineering, Inc. *
- * Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, P.C. *
- * Colorado Water Conservation Board *
- * Hix Insurance Associates, Inc. * Leonard Rice Engineers, Inc. *

Please register early - the Convention is limited to 120 participants due to space constraints.

DARCA 6th Annual Convention
February 20-22, 2008
San Luís, Colorado

Name _____
Company/Organization _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
Email _____

Early Bird DARCA/CWC Member Registration by Jan 20.....\$100
Early Bird non-members by Jan 20.....\$150
Partial Scholarships for Acequia Farmers and Ranchers.contact John McKenzie
Regular DARCA/CWC Member Registration.....\$125
Regular non-member Registration.....\$175
Flow Measurement Pre-Convention Workshop DARCA/CWC Member\$100
Flow Measurement Pre-Convention Workshop non-member.....\$150
(If you are registered for the Convention, please subtract \$25 from the workshop price.)
Sacred Circle Tour Mini Tour - Friday only.....\$15
Sacred Circle Tour Full Tour - Saturday only.....\$40

Payment Information

- Check enclosed for full amount (payable to DARCA)
 Credit Card: Card Number _____
Credit Card Total \$ _____ Type of Card: MC VISA
Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

Register Today By Phone: (970) 412-1960

By Mail:

DARCA
1630A 30th St., #431
Boulder, CO 80301



By Fax:

303-516-1202

Or, on the Web:

www.darca.org



Convention Location

Sangre de Cristo Parish Center, 508 E. Church Place, San Luís, CO 81152 (719)-672-3685
Hwy 159/Main Street, turn East on Church Place, go straight one block into the parking lot.

Overnight Accommodations

- * Special room rates have been contracted with the following motels/hotels: mention DARCA**
* San Luís Inn, San Luís 138 Main ~ Hwy 159 1 877-672-3331 or 719-672-3399 \$39 + Tax
* The Lodge Motel, Ft. Garland 205 4th Av. ~ Hwy 160 719-379-2880 \$45 + Tax
* Ft. Garland Motor Inn, Fort Garland 605 4th Ave ~ Hwy 160 719-379-2993 \$75 + Tax
* Best Western Alamosa Inn, Alamosa 2005 Main St. (Vicki) 1 800 459-5123 \$60 + Tax
* Inn at the Río Grande, East Alamosa 333 Santa Fe ~ Hwy 160 719-589-5833 \$65 + Tax
* Some local residents are renting rooms in their homes. Please contact DARCA.

For more information: visit www.darca.org.

Contact: Max McKenzie at max.mckenzie@darca.org, (303) 875-2809.

Contact: Priscilla Salazar Martínez at LasComadresSanLuis@yahoo.com (719) 672-3152

Sponsorship & Vendor Opportunities

If you would like to be a sponsor or wish to offer your services or products at a vendor table, contact Max McKenzie.

See You in San Luís, February, 2008 at the DARCA Convention!