Water Tables Raises Record Amount

Water Tables 2010 was the biggest and most successful annual fundraiser for the Water Resources Archive yet, hosting 170 guests and raising more than $45,000. The Colorado water community enjoyed a night of archival treasures, collegiality, and dinner conversation at the Colorado State University Libraries in February.

The event's theme was "Across State Lines: Sharing the Resource," and the 19 table hosts included not only Colorado water experts, but also experts from Wyoming, Nevada, and Montana. Mario Lopez Perez, Engineering and Technical Standards Manager at the National Water Commission of Mexico, brought an international view to the event with his table topic "The Colorado River as an International River: Mexico's Perspective." This unprecedented gathering enabled collegial discussions about the sharing of western water in a historical context.

The evening began with a reception in Morgan Library and tours of the Water Resources Archive. An exhibit, "Finding Buried Treasures: Maps of the Colorado River," was on view, displaying a small portion of the historical maps, publications, and photographs of this highly used western river held by the archive. Also on display were highlights from new collections donated in 2009, including materials from the Papers of Arthur L. Littleworth (read more below).

Following the reception, guests made their way through accumulating snow to the Lory Student Center ballroom for dinner and topical conversations. "This event is a unique forum for educating people on a variety of subjects in a small venue which provides a very personal dialogue with the participants," said Steve Vandiver, general manager of the Rio Grande.
Thanks to the generosity of many individual and corporate sponsors, 30 graduate students were able to attend the event and interact with current leaders in the water industry. The funds raised will help the archive continue to prepare historical materials for public use, digitize and deliver materials online, and increase outreach to potential donors and researchers.

**Special Announcement: Archivist Honored with Award**

Archivist Patty Rettig is being honored with the 2010 CSU Libraries Faculty Award for Excellence. The award is a recognition of Patty's outstanding contributions to the Libraries, the University, and the library profession. All are invited to the award reception, which will be held May 3, 2010, 3-5pm, in the Morgan Library courtyard.

**Archive Update: New Donations**

Donations came flooding into the Archive this spring. The largest was the Papers of Colorado Supreme Court Justice Gregory J. Hobbs. The 30 boxes largely contain files from Justice Hobbs' days as a law partner, a time when he was doing work for the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District. In addition, the boxes contain a number of his speeches, articles, and books, including his poetry.

A second donation arrived on flash drives rather than in boxes. The Ditch Project, which lives on as a website, originally took form in Boulder, Colorado, last year as three extensive exhibits featuring artwork, photo essays, and educational materials about area ditches, as well as a public symposium. Local artist Elizabeth Black brought together historians, scientists, and other artists to make this happen and compiled substantial information about and numerous photographs of Boulder-area ditch companies, more than would fit on the website! To share this wealth of information, Black loaded the digital files onto flash drives and donated them to the Archive.

The third donation will be added to an existing collection, the Climate Data Collection. The fifteen boxes of Fort Collins weather data are from Jim Wirshborn, founder of Mountain States Weather Services, who began collecting hourly temperature, precipitation, and wind data in Fort Collins in 1976. His set of data is continuous since that year, making it remarkable for its time span, consistency, and completeness. The new addition also contains a small cache of information about Fort Collins' most recent significant weather event, the 1997 flood.

And a special update: The Colorado Foundation for Water Education has a new publication: the Citizen's Guide to Colorado's Interstate Compacts. There is a wealth of information in its 32 pages, including a photograph of Delph Carpenter from the Water Resources Archive.

**Looking Forward: Forthcoming Finding Aid**

Archives staff are close to completing work on the recently donated Papers of Arthur L. Littleworth. Mr. Littleworth, a California water lawyer, served as the special master for Kansas vs. Colorado, a U.S. Supreme Court case over the Arkansas River that lasted 25 years. His collection documents the case in its entirety, and a portion of the transcripts, pleadings, and other materials were on display during the Water Tables reception. A finding aid to the collection, which will be approximately 90 boxes when work is complete, will be online in early summer.

**Virtual Visit: Water Tables 2010 in Pictures**

A great time was had by all at Water Tables 2010. To view this year's event photos, visit the online gallery.

If you would prefer not to receive further updates, or if you know someone else who would like to receive this, just drop a line to us at development@library.colostate.edu.
This e-newsletter is created by Patty Rettig and Jane Barber.