Water Tables 2017: Refilling the Leadership Reservoir

What do Molson Coors, the Colorado Water Conservation Board, and The Nature Conservancy have in common? Leaders from each will be table hosts at Water Tables 2017!

This annual dinner benefiting the Water Resources Archive will take place on Thursday, January 26. Held at the Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center in conjunction with the Colorado Water Congress annual convention, Water Tables 2017 provides water professionals, students, and interested individuals with a unique networking opportunity. Grounded in history yet looking to the future, this year's theme of "Refilling the Leadership Reservoir" focuses the dinner discussions on an essential ingredient of the water community's success: excellent leaders.

Colorado learned long ago the benefit of creating reservoirs to store water for dry times. Fortunately, no drought has ever threatened the supply of water leaders, yet the community must keep that reservoir full! With imminent retirements and inevitable job changes, many leadership opportunities will soon present themselves. To assist in preparing for this, the CSU Water Resources Archive has invited 22 leaders of various backgrounds to serve as hosts at Water Tables 2017. This variety includes both established and up-and-coming leaders representing business, government, and non-profit...
agencies. Guests can sign up to have dinner with:

- Ben Moline, manager of water resources and environmental compliance at Molson Coors,
- James Eklund, director of the CWCB,
- Becky Mitchell, section chief at the CWCB,
- Geoff Blakeslee, Yampa Project Director at TNC,
- or one of 18 other diverse choices.

Find the complete host list on the [Water Tables 2017 website](https://www.water-tables.org), along with registration information.

Unlike the past few years, this Water Tables will not feature a keynote speaker, instead providing uninterrupted time for dinner conversation, the highlight for past attendees (photo: guests at Water Tables 2016). No doubt that, among the hosts, two Aspinall Award recipients and six alumni of the Colorado Foundation for Water Education’s Water Leader Program will have significant insights to share about their past leadership experiences and vision for future needs.

In addition to the dinner, the $160 registration includes CWC’s Thursday evening reception, providing additional networking opportunities. If unable to join us for Water Tables, please consider making a donation. Funds raised support the Water Resources Archive's ongoing mission of preserving and making available the unique documentation of Colorado's water history.

### Archive Update: New Collections

The Water Resources Archive received donations of five significant new collections during recent months. With new people, issues, and places being documented, this increases the opportunity for Colorado water history to be studied and understood more completely. The new collections are:

- **Papers of Evan Vlachos**
  - documenting this CSU engineering and sociology professor's work on water resources planning and management, urban planning, forecasting and futurism, technology assessment, and demography

- **Irrigation Photograph Collection**
  - more than 1,000 lantern slides and glass plate negatives from the turn of the century depicting irrigation around the world and locally, along with student surveying trips, agricultural subjects, CSU campus views, and veterinary subjects

- **Records of the San Luis Valley Irrigation District**
  - documenting this district through business and legal correspondence, engineering reports, and meeting minutes and including projects such as the creation of the Rio Grande Reservoir and the Weminuche Transmountain Diversion

- **Papers of James F. Ruff**
  - documenting this CSU engineering professor’s consulting work on Halligan Dam for the North Poudre Irrigation Company

- **Papers of Diane Hoppe**
  - documenting her service in the Colorado House of Representatives, as well as for the Colorado Foundation for Water Education, the Colorado Water Conservation Board, and the South Platte Basin Roundtable

Archive staff will work on organizing and describing these collections in the coming months to make them available for research use. Please contact us with any questions in advance of detailed information going online.

### Archive in Action: Donating Dollars Made Easier

The Water Resources Archive works on acquiring both donations of collections and donations of dollars to support those collections. The first will always require interaction with the archivist. The latter need not.

A new giving page on the Archive's website helps potential donors of dollars understand the differences between the general Water Resources Archive fund and the Ruth Wright Water Archive Endowment. Information about sending in checks and planned giving is also available.

Donors are always welcome to contact us to discuss their options. Donations support the Archive's student employees,
purchase of archival supplies, and collection acquisition and digitization. We thank you for your past and future support!

Virtual Visit: First NPIC Minute Book

The cover is a bit unattractive: solid black with "MINUTES" embossed in gold at the center, above which cellophane tape holds on a handwritten label. Flip the cover up to open the volume, and the title page, carefully lettered in all caps with notes in cursive below, is taped together from having been severely ripped at some point. But the dates inscribed, "From August 8, 1901 to Sept. 27, 1904," indicate that these minutes go back to the beginning.

The North Poudre Irrigation Company, incorporated August 1, 1901, held their first board of directors meeting one week later. The minutes of this meeting, and those following the next three years, document the decisions made in setting up the company. No one at the time knew if NPIC, formed out of the North Poudre Land, Canal and Reservoir Company, could make a go of delivering irrigation water in Larimer County at the beginning of the century. One hundred and sixteen years later, we know that NPIC has built an extensive system that remains in operation.

Take a look at this minute book to get a glimpse of how it all began. This is just the first document among the dozens of boxes comprising the Records of the North Poudre Irrigation Company to be scanned. The documents will not all be attractive in appearance, but will certainly be abundant in information.

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This triannual electronic newsletter is designed to keep you informed about developments with the Water Resources Archive. If you would prefer not to receive further updates, or if you know someone else who would like to receive this, just email us.

This e-newsletter is created by Patty Rettig, archivist for the Water Resources Archive.