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OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2023

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Designed by Emmett Jordan



We hope everyone had a spooktacular Halloween filled with fun and treats!

We would also like to wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Thanksgiving! We are grateful for the opportunity to work with all of you as you continue to provide the best possible services to your local communities.

The 2023 SDA Annual Conference was One of Our Biggest Ever!



Colette Carlson shared tools and tips to connect on a deeper level.



Randall McKinnon provided great live music on Tuesday afternoon.



Tuesday's Welcome Breakfast included the Presentation of the Colors and the singing of the National Anthem.



A beautiful tribute to the late Georgia Kraemer was on display at the registration desk.



The Beau Thomas Band and casino night were both featured on Wednesday night at the Boots and BBQ event!

This year's SDA Annual Conference, September 12-14 at the Keystone Conference Center, was one of our biggest on record! We had **1,192 people join us in Keystone**, and there were another **167 people participating on our virtual platform!**



John Chmil from Lyons Gaddis had a packed session!

This year we offered **45 breakout sessions** during the course of the three-day event, featuring over **70 different speakers!** These speakers were from both district members and associate members, and their sessions covered a wide-variety of topics, from very technical subjects to overarching issues that apply to all district types.

Our **five keynote speakers** were both educational and thought-provoking (please see pages 12-13 for the full run-down of their presentations). Ross Shafer joined us at Thursday's breakfast for an encore appearance (he was also a keynote speaker at the 2017 Annual Conference), and he was a huge hit! All of the other keynote speakers were also very well received, and they were a great balance to our breakout sessions.

With our hybrid event, we were able to livestream not only our keynote speakers, but also all of our breakout sessions right to our virtual platform. This was a convenient way for folks to participate remotely, and it even made it possible for attendees in Keystone to sit outside or in a quiet place and still follow along with the sessions. And with everything being recorded, **everyone who registered for Conference can now go back and access the recordings of the breakout sessions for a full year!**

We once again had tremendous support from all of our sponsors and exhibitors (please see page 23 for the full listing). In addition to our **17 Platinum Sponsors**, we had a total of **14 Gold, 8 Silver, and 13 Bronze Sponsors** as well as **26 booth exhibitors!**

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SDA's Director of Policy Michael Valdez provided a valuable legislative update on Wednesday.



On Tuesday morning, Meagan Johnson discussed generational differences, which everyone in the audience could relate to.



This year's large attendance was really on display at each keynote presentation in the ballroom.

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Left to right: Carrie Andrew from Lone Cone Library District, Allison Ulmer from Collins Cole Flynn Winn & Ulmer, and SDA Executive Director Ann Terry all enjoyed the fun on Tuesday evening with the musical trivia!



Chris Sheafor from the Health District of Northern Larimer County was once again part of the live music lineup this year!



At the **Welcome Breakfast** on Tuesday morning, we were joined by members of the local **Honor Guard for the Presentation of the Colors**. We also enjoyed a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem.

At **Tuesday's Award Luncheon**, we had the honor of recognizing this year's **five very deserving districts, Board members, and manager** (please see pages 14-19 for the full write-up on each winner). Holding the Awards Luncheon on the first day of Conference is a perfect way for everyone to celebrate and recognize the winners throughout our time together, and we were thrilled to do that again this year.

New this year were our discussion Forums on Tuesday afternoon.

Each Forum focused on a specific topic, including recruiting and retaining firefighters, what's on the horizon in the world of water, and cultivating district leadership, and the discussions were led by experts in each of these areas. We received a tremendous, positive response to these Forums, and we were pleased to offer this dedicated time to focus on these important issues.

Following the Forums and the last breakout sessions of the day, attendees enjoyed the nice, autumn weather on the beautiful patio at the Conference Center as the **Opening Night Extravaganza**

Left to right: SDA's own Megan Lippard, Meredith Quarles, and Ann Terry enjoyed the festivities on Wednesday night!

Continued on page 9





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CSD Pool Administrator Joe DePaepe (left) provided an industry update and Safety and Loss Prevention Consultant Josh Barkley was the keynote speaker at the Pool's Annual Meeting on Wednesday.



Siri Roman from the Eagle River Water & Sanitation District helped lead the Water Forum on Tuesday afternoon.

began. Perennial favorite, **Randall McKinnon**, was on hand to provide live music as folks relaxed and visited with their colleagues. Chris Sheafar from the Health District of Northern Larimer County joined Randall again this year for some great duets.

Inside, there was **musical trivia and of course lots of delicious food**. Mixed in with the trivia

questions were chances for **audience "challenges"** on the stage in front of everyone. These ranged from "name that tune" to "finish the lyrics," and everyone who participated did an amazing job!

On Wednesday afternoon, the **Colorado Special Districts Property and Liability Pool's Annual Membership Meeting** featured a keynote presentation

from the Pool's very own Safety and Loss Prevention Consultant, Josh Barkley.

The CSD Pool also had their SKIDTRUCK on hand to demonstrate the immersive, driving experience offered by this unique training tool. The SKIDTRUCK prepares drivers for inclement weather and dangerous driving conditions.

Continued on page 10



Allison Ulmer from Collins Cockrel Cole Flynn Winn & Ulmer was one of the discussion leaders for the District Leadership Forum.



Chief TJ Steck (left) and Chief Brad White led the Forum focused on recruiting and retaining firefighters.





The Beau Thomas Band was back for the Boots and BBQ event on Wednesday evening!



Attendees participated in an activity as part of Colette Carlson's keynote on Wednesday morning.



Mac Clemmens (left) was greeted by SDA Board President Sue Blair as he came on stage to introduce the keynote speaker at Wednesday's lunch.



The new casino tables, including poker, were hugely popular at the Boots and BBQ event!



Chief TJ Steck enjoyed visiting with his fellow attendees.

Unused Food from SDA Annual Conference Donated to Local Community

As everyone who attends our Annual Conference knows, we work hard to provide plenty of delicious food to our attendees throughout the day. But do you know what happens to the food that we don't use?

Through a partnership between the Keystone Conference Center and CAFE Food Rescue (CFR), our untouched food that would otherwise be composted was donated to the local community. This year's unused food amounted to 455 meals! This donated food was stocked at a CFR free food access point in the Summit Community Care Clinic, and it benefited food-insecure families and community members in Summit County.

"We are thrilled that the Keystone Conference Center was able to donate the food that we did not use for our event to such a worthy cause," said Ann Terry, SDA's Executive Director.

Over the course of three days, the Keystone chefs used some pretty amazing amounts of drinks for our huge group:

125

Gallons of Coffee
(and that was just for the coffee breaks!)

67

Gallons of Iced Tea

53

Gallons of Lemonade

Conference photos by Kelly Shroads and Erin Waynick

Wednesday evening once again featured the popular Boots and BBQ event. We brought back the Beau Thomas Band for some incredible live music, and we added casino tables to the entertainment options. We had poker, blackjack, craps, and roulette, and the tables were packed all night! There were

even prize drawings with our sponsors and exhibitors!

The Grab-and-Go lunch on Thursday was also back this year, and it was a convenient way for everyone to pick out their lunch and take it with them.

All in all it was a fantastic event, jam-packed with tons of

beneficial training and plenty of opportunities to catch up with special district leaders from around the state.

And now we can't wait to do it all again in 2024! Mark your calendars and plan to join us September 10-12 back up in Keystone! 📅



The Boots and BBQ event included prize drawings with our sponsors and exhibitors, led by Ann Terry. Guests also tried their luck at craps!



Ross Shafer kicked off Thursday morning with his signature wit and charm.



SDA staff members took a break from their hard work for a photo! Left to right are Michael Valdez, Ann Terry, Anthony Sandoval, and Meredith Quarles.

Mark your calendars for the **2024 SDA Annual Conference** September 10-12 in Keystone!

2023 Conference Keynote Speakers Were Insightful and Informative!

The keynote speakers at this year's Annual Conference were the perfect complement to the 45 breakout sessions that were offered over the course of the event!



Meagan Johnson kicked off this year's Conference on Tuesday morning with her relatable and entertaining presentation, **"Zap the Generational Gap!"** Her observations and stories about differences in the generations were spot-on, and her charismatic style was a great way to get this year's Conference going.



At Tuesday's Awards Luncheon, we not only honored this year's annual award winners, but we also heard from **Paul Long**. In his enlightening presentation, **"Connecting the Workplace and Life Through FUN,"** Paul discussed his concept of FUNdamentals and shared strategies for how these practical behaviors can create more joy and fulfillment while improving business results.





Wednesday morning started off with **Colette Carlson's** witty and informative presentation, **"The Connected Leader."** Colette reviewed the positive impact of creating connections that are real and emotional on employee motivation and engagement, and she provided tools to help communicate and connect on a deeper level. She also did a hilarious daily stressors skit with help from Jodi Docheff.

Christine Porath (below) joined us at Wednesday's lunch for an educational and research-based look at the importance of civility in the workplace (and beyond). **"Mastering Civility"** was an intriguing look at the detrimental effects incivility can have on organizations as well as recommendations on how to focus on creating a more respectful work environment.



Our last day of Conference began with the always thoughtful and always funny, **Ross Shafer**. Using real-world examples, **"RATTLED...How to Go From Shook to...Solid"** delved into how to bounce back from a crisis, abandon old ways of solving problems, and embrace resiliency.

Congratulations to the 2023 SDA Annual Award Winners!

The 2023 SDA Annual Awards Luncheon took place during the recent Annual Conference, and it was once again a wonderful opportunity to honor outstanding districts, Board members, and Managers.



The Eagle River Water & Sanitation District was thrilled to accept their 2023 Safety District of the Year award.

The first award was presented to **Eagle River Water & Sanitation District** as the winner of the **Colorado Special Districts Property and Liability Pool's 2023 Safety District of the Year Award**.

Eagle River Water & Sanitation District spent 2023 demonstrating their strong commitment to loss control, risk management, and life safety. This was apparent from the first time the CSD Pool's Safety and Loss Prevention team visited their organization to assist with mitigating risk surrounding a fence removal.

Since that first visit, Eagle River Water & Sanitation has worked to round out their safety culture through rigorous policy development and extensive trainings, including CDOT Flagger

training and excavation training. Their staff and leadership remain engaged through regular Safety Committee meetings and routine site inspections, including a recent, comprehensive facility inspection performed by the CSD Pool.

Known for asking thorough questions that drive internal best practices, Eagle River Water & Sanitation is always seeking out ways to improve. They continue to grow by championing the use of the CSD Pool's safety and loss prevention resources, such as Vector EHS, an incident management reporting app, and Vector SDS, a digital replacement for physical safety data sheets, and because of their staff's commitment to online training, they are frequent recipients of the Training Credit discount.



SDA Board President Sue Blair was honored to recognize fellow SDA Board Member Leo Johnson for his years of dedicated service.

This year we also had the opportunity to recognize **Leo Johnson** for his decades of dedicated service to both the **SDA Board of Directors** and the **Board of Directors of the Colorado Special Districts Property and Liability Pool**.

Leo has served on the SDA Board two different times: once from 2002 to 2008 when he was a Board member for West Metro Fire Rescue and then again from 2012 to 2023 as a Board member for the Southwest Suburban Denver Water and Sanitation District. Remarkably, he has served continuously on the Board of Southwest Suburban since 1984, holding the position of District Secretary/Treasurer since 1988. In addition, Leo has been a member of the CSD Pool Board of Directors for nearly 20 years and has served as Vice President of the Board.

During his long tenure with both SDA and the CSD Pool, Leo has been an engaged and thoughtful Board member. Moreover, his wealth of knowledge and dedication to special districts has been a huge asset to both organizations and the members they serve.

Next we were pleased to honor this year's **Manager of the Year Award winner, Kirsten Howard** from **Poudre Valley Fire Protection District/Poudre Fire Authority**.



Kirsten Howard (right) was all smiles as she received her Manager of the Year award.



Mike Applegate was proud to receive his Board Member of the Year award.

Kirsten has been with the Poudre Valley Fire Protection District/Poudre Fire Authority (PFA) for the past 34 years, quickly rising through the ranks and currently serving as the Finance and Administration Manager. Kirsten has played a vital role in developing and updating the District's mission, vision, and principle documents that help define their cultural philosophy and moral declaration. She has been instrumental in supporting the strategic planning process as well as ensuring that the District goals are addressed regularly with the District constituents. In addition, Kirsten continually advocates for the alignment of goals and budgets to support the District's strategic plan.

An example of Kirsten's outstanding contributions and leadership focuses on a time when PFA experienced a lack of trust between labor and management prior to the 2021 negotiation cycle. Having been a respected and trusted leader by her union members, Kirsten was able to step into the conflict and efficiently articulate funding availability for the list of requests from the labor union, including salary adjustments. Due to Kirsten's dedicated commitment and impenetrable honesty, the labor union was able to reach an agreement on the

Collective Bargaining Agreement within three weeks. Having developed a good relationship with the union in the previous negotiation cycle, she was able to work with the finance committee and enable the union to reach an unprecedented three-year contract.

Kirsten faced a significant challenge when she updated the inter-governmental agreement (IGA) with the City of Fort Collins which had been previously created in 1981. The lack of financial support from the City for PFA created a serious impact on the District's budget that needed to be remedied. Kirsten worked diligently for almost 10 months with the City of Fort Collins finance director to not only update the funding but create safeguards in the contract to protect the District's interests. As a result, the IGA was updated in 2014 due to Kirsten's advocacy and tenacity, providing protection and adequate funding for the District moving forward.

Kirsten oversees the District finances with a steady, consistent, and data-driven focus, all while managing to connect with others as a supportive, compassionate, and thoughtful co-worker. She strives to achieve the District's vision of being a trusted and respected community leader while holding

true to her qualities of dependability, trustworthiness, and vision.

Turning to our **Board Member of the Year Award**, we were proud to honor **Mike Applegate from the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District** as this year's winner.

Mike is currently the President of the Board of Directors for the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District (Northern Water). His service with the Board began in 1991, and he has served in his most recent position of President of the Board since 1998, resulting in the longest-serving Board President in District history. A professional engineer by trade and a native Coloradan, Mike's lifetime of experience in the water industry has made him a perfect fit for his work within the District.

During his tenure on the Board, Mike has led the District through profound growth, specifically through his assistance in the construction of the Southern Water Supply Project which delivers water via a pipeline year-round to Boulder, Weld, and Morgan counties as well as the Pleasant Valley Pipeline project to deliver water to treatment plants in Larimer County. During his tenure as President of the Board, Northern Water has obtained federal, state, and local

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The Ute Pass Regional Health Service District brought a great crew to accept their 2023 J. Evan Goulding District of the Year award, including the district's CEO Tim Dienst (holding award).

permits through its Municipal Subdistrict to build the \$750 million Chimney Hollow Reservoir. This 90,000-acre reservoir will be the largest of its kind to be built in the Western United States in the past 25 years and will bring reliable water supplies to 12 participating communities on the growing Front Range. Moreover, Mike, along with the Northern Water Board, participated in the securement of permits for the Northern Integrated Supply project, which supplied a reliable water source to 15 emerging communities on the Front Range and Eastern Plains of Colorado.

Mike has been the motivating source behind influencing change management and driving rapport across Board members, regional project participants, and staff as they faced numerous regulatory and legal challenges for both of the aforementioned projects. Rather than allow these challenges to derail both the Chimney Hollow Reservoir and Northern Integrated Supply projects, Mike's calm and thoughtful demeanor during this challenging time fostered cooperation that helped to avoid expensive and time-consuming litigation.

In addition to his Northern Water Board responsibilities, Mike has been an active leader of the community, serving as both a CSU advisory Board member and guest

lecturer on ethics at the College of Engineering since 2008. In 2005, Mike received the George Washington Award for Community Service from the American Council of Engineering Companies. He has not only done a tremendous job leading Northern Water to great success, but has also dedicated his time and knowledge to the surrounding communities in inspirational ways.

We were pleased to present our final award to the **Ute Pass Regional Health Service District** as the **2023 J. Evan Goulding District of the Year**.

The J. Evan Goulding District of the Year Award was established by the SDA Board of Directors to recognize a district's major accomplishments, specifically within the areas of community spirit and leadership. This year's winner has made incredible strides in both of these areas.

The Ute Pass Regional Health Service District consistently emphasizes both spirit and leadership in their community, as is demonstrated in their District mission: *"In times of need, we will answer the call with expediency and professionalism, treating life and property with unprejudiced dignity and respect, and to meet and exceed the public's expectations, as well as our own."* The

District has embodied the understanding of leading with heart. The Ute Pass Regional Health Service District are leaders within the community they serve and are a driving force of support in their administration.

As a sole provider of emergent and nonemergent ambulance services, the Ute Pass Regional Health Service District has grown and adapted over the years to ensure they provide the highest levels of care possible to the community. Leading the charge in patient care and advocacy, the District has effectively worked alongside their sister first response agencies to ensure that high-quality care is being consistently provided.

Through the services they provide, as well as the community events in which they participate, the District always goes the extra mile to listen and adapt to ensure the highest quality of care is available to the community in which they live and serve. One of the most recent examples of this was when the county public health department identified four primary concerns in the community. The District immediately began their assessment of the concerns and took action with the help of the Paramedic Advance Care Team, resulting in the implementation of the Community Paramedic, Mental Health Assistance (MhAP), and Mobile Crisis Response programs.

The Ute Pass Regional Health Service District has a long history of superior community service. In December of 2014, the District was the first rural agency in the state and the nation to implement a mobile mental health assessment and crisis response program. Their process utilizes specially trained Community Paramedics to respond and de-escalate situations that require crisis care for patients through medical screening and appropriate mental health services. Community Paramedics successfully connect in numerous ways to help navigate patients away from hospital and emergency departments

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and direct them to more appropriate and less costly mental health services, referrals, and follow-ups. Transportation for these patients is also provided when necessary. MhAP is an essential program that has experienced tremendous growth and is now integrated in primary and secondary schools, religious institutions, chambers of commerce, and other organizations within their community.

During the COVID pandemic, the Ute Pass Regional Health Service District was faced with the need to further grow and address the unmet healthcare needs of their community. A solution was found in the establishment of the Health Options Mobility and Engagement (HOME) Program. During the pandemic, the District saw an increased number of patients who feared going into emergency departments and other facilities. Providing a mobile service allowed the District to arrive on the scene, perform patient assessments, complete electrocardiograms (ECGs) exams, and obtain mobile lab results. They were able to connect patients to emergency physicians via telehealth services, who then considered exam findings, interpreted ECG and mobile lab results, established diagnoses, wrote prescriptions, and recommended referrals to patients all without the patients leaving their homes.

Another pillar of Ute Pass Regional Health Service District's success was their ability to acknowledge food insecurities that existed and contributed to individual patients' social and healthcare needs within their community. Through training of the onsite response crews, patients with food insecurities can be recognized and referred to the District established Food Insecurity Support and Help (FISH) Program which partners with local hospitals and various food banks to provide food for those in need.

For over 80 years, the Ute Pass Regional Health Service District has had a community presence that has grown substantially year over year and is considered an internationally renowned and comprehensive Community Paramedic Program. With the help of state-of-the-art equipment and guidelines, they have the most concentrated pools of skilled and talented individuals in the industry. The Ute Pass Regional Health Service District strives each day to keep its mission alive while continuing to be an innovative paramedic provider, and we are delighted to have them as our 2023 J. Evan Goulding District of the Year recipient.

The SDA Board of Directors and staff would like to congratulate all the 2023 award winners! 🍷

The audience "challenges" during the musical trivia on Tuesday night tested everyone's knowledge on lyrics, riffs, and artists. It was a great time all the way around!



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Tim Kauffman and Bob Krug (left to right) from CSAFE joined in on the sponsor prize drawings on Wednesday night!

A Big Thank You to the SDA Annual Conference Volunteers!

Each year at Conference we are joined at the registration desk by a fantastic group of volunteers who all lend a hand to check people in, answer questions, and anything else that comes up. And this year was no different!

SDA's Executive Director, Ann Terry, was thrilled to see our volunteers again this year. "We are always grateful for this group of helpful and friendly folks who assist our attendees in any way they can."

We would like to take a moment to say thank you to the 2023 Conference volunteers:

- » Rick Chase from Colorado Retirement Association
- » Molly Couture from Community Resource Services of Colorado (CRS)
- » Lane Melott from Centennial Consulting Group
- » Whitney Miller from Mulhern MRE, Inc.
- » Steve Ravel from Merrick & Company

Congratulations to the 2023 James T. Walker Leadership Scholarship Winner!

SDA is pleased to congratulate Jessica Zeisler from Bancroft Clover Water and Sanitation District as the 2023 James T. Walker Leadership Scholarship winner! Jessica was recognized as this year's winner during the recent SDA Annual Conference.

This leadership scholarship is presented in honor of James T. Walker, one of SDA's founding Board Members.

"We were pleased to choose Jessica as this year's winner," said Ann Terry, SDA's Executive Director. "She demonstrates SDA's high standard of leadership and is very deserving of this award."

Congratulations, Jessica!



The RH Borden exhibitor booth included a VR demo.



TCW Risk Management enjoyed visiting with everyone in the Platinum Hall (and check out those matching shoes!).



Chad Alevras from Gregory and Associates



Left to right: Duane Tucker, Beth Justice, and Sharon Trilk from Colorado SIPA and Jason Bovee from Istonish



Left to right: Annelise Spargo, Madison Wallace, Maria Lara, and Daelon Arriola from Streamline



Wayne and Linda Ramey from Ramey Environmental Compliance



Left to right: Joe DePaepe, Cheyenne Wheeler, Paula Lowder, and Alex Terlecky from the CSD Pool

Sponsors and Exhibitors Play a Key Role in the Success of the 2023 SDA Annual Conference!

SDA would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of this year's sponsors and exhibitors! From the 17 Platinum Sponsors to the numerous Gold, Silver, and Bronze Sponsors as well as all of our exhibitors, these fantastic organizations were a huge part of this year's success.

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Colorado Energy Office Implementing New Clean Air Program

Guest article by the Colorado Energy Office

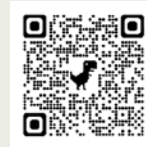
Air quality and climate action are a top priority in Colorado. The Colorado Energy Office (CEO) is implementing the Clean Air Program (CAP) to provide funding for project implementation and technical support to the industrial sector, including sanitation districts, water districts, and more, with the aim of reducing air pollution and decreasing energy consumption. Here is a summary of the key offerings supplied by the program:

» **Technical Assistance Offering (TAO)**—subsidized Scope 1 Emissions Assessments and personalized engineering support to find direct greenhouse (GHG) reduction opportunities, prioritize impactful projects, and identify cost-coverage opportunities (grants, rebates, etc.). Scope 1 emissions are direct greenhouse emissions that occur from sources that are controlled or owned by an organization (e.g., emissions associated with fuel combustion in boilers, furnaces, vehicles). CEO is providing coverage of 70% of the assessment cost, or 100% cost coverage for applicants with a public net-zero target by 2050 or sooner. For more information, please visit <https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/cap-technical-assistance-offering>

» **Clean Air Program Grants**—funding for voluntary industrial and manufacturing air pollutant emission reduction projects in Colorado. For more information, please visit <https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/cap-grants>

Funding can be used for projects such as upgrading equipment to electric alternatives, changing industrial processes to reduce GHG emissions, fuel switching, carbon management, and many more!

Have any initial questions? Please reach out to capassessments@clearesult.com or follow the link below.



2024 SDA Leadership Academy Applications Available Soon

The planning process is already well underway for the 2024 SDA Leadership Academy! This popular training fills up quickly so don't miss your chance to be a part of this year-long program that is scheduled to kick-off early next year.

We would like to thank COLOTRUST for sponsoring the 2024 Leadership Academy, which is sure to be another exciting year of education and growth.

Since the SDA Leadership Academy began in 2012, over 560 Leadership Fellows have graduated from this unique leadership program that features a variety of speakers discussing issues centered around personal and professional development.

As a Leadership Academy Fellow, you will participate

in at least four events throughout the year plus the SDA Annual Conference in Keystone in September if you are able to join us. You will also receive weekly leadership themed emails which offer keen insights and lessons on leadership from a wide variety of sources.

Applications will be available soon so please watch your emails and visit the SDA website at www.sdaco.org if you are interested in applying. The class size will be limited to 45 people, which is a great size for group conversations and interactions.

"This is a remarkable opportunity you don't want to miss," said Ann Terry, SDA's Executive Director. "We look forward to receiving your applications and welcoming our next class of Leadership Fellows!" 🍷

SDA Formally Opposes Proposition HH

At their meeting in August, the SDA Board of Directors formally adopted a resolution opposing Proposition HH due to the detrimental effects it will have on special districts across the state.

To read the full resolution, please visit the SDA website at www.sdaco.org and click on the SB23-303/HH Property Tax Resources button towards the bottom of the front page. 🍂

2024 SDA Membership Renewal Opening Soon...Online Only!

The 2024 SDA membership renewals will open in mid-November so watch your emails and the SDA website for all the information. (Remember, the entire renewal process is done online; we won't send paper invoices.)

Did you know that if you are a district and you renew by March 1, 2024 (and pay by July 1, 2024), you will receive a 25% discount?

Don't miss out! Renewing is quick and easy. Once the renewals open, simply go online to the SDA website at www.sdaco.org (and if you're a district, remember to have your 2024 budget information handy as you go through the process).

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please feel free to contact Karla Boughey, Membership Services Coordinator, at 303-863-1733. 🍂

Colorado Municipal League Celebrates Its 100th Anniversary!

All this year the Colorado Municipal League (CML) has been celebrating 100 years of serving Colorado's cities and towns!

According to CML's website, in April of 1923, representatives from 15 Colorado municipalities gathered at the University of Colorado in Boulder to discuss the issues facing their communities and tap their network of municipal colleagues to develop new solutions.

After three days of meeting, representatives from 11 of the 15 municipalities stayed to establish what is now known as CML. These 11 included: Arvada, Boulder, Brush, Cañon City, Fort Morgan, Grand Junction, Haxtun, Loveland, Pueblo, Trinidad, Windsor

When creating the League, delegates charged it with benefiting municipal governments



across the state by serving as an agency for cooperation; advocating on behalf of or opposing legislation; and holding an annual conference to encourage cooperation and education.

In its first decade, facilitating municipal collaboration was a driving force for CML. They also began achieving success in their advocacy efforts, and in the decades that followed, CML would continue to establish itself as a strong advocate for the state's cities and towns with the Colorado State Legislature. They

also strengthened their network of municipalities and served as an information resource for cities and towns across the state.

As the years went by, CML continued to dedicate its efforts to ensuring that the voices and interests of municipalities have been heard, and the rest is now history!

"SDA has maintained a strong partnership with CML for many years, and we have worked together closely on a number of issues affecting local governments," said Ann Terry, SDA's Executive Director. "We are honored to congratulate CML on their century of service to Colorado's cities and towns, and we are looking forward to many more!"

To read the extensive eight-part series on the full history of CML, please visit their website at www.cml.org. 🍂



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