

# HOW TO FEED NINE BILLION PEOPLE FROM THE GROUND UP

Soil, Seeds, Water, Plants, Livestock, Forests, Organics and People

# November 14 - 16, 2012

11th Annual Conference Albuquerque, N.M.



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Cover and back artwork by LoaTree (www.loatree.com)

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#### **SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

- David Fortson and Eric Cardenas with LoaTree for the graphics and promotion of our conference.
- Beezhan Tulu with Living Web Films for the audio and video of the speakers.
- Toni Beatty graciously donated her time as our conference photographer.
- Country Natural Beef donated the beef for Wednesday's lunch.
- Panorama Organic Grass-Fed Meats donated the beef for Thursday's lunch and the banquet dinner.
- Organic chicken for Friday's lunch is from Pollo Real.
- So many producers stepped up this year to help make our banquet dinner not only local, but also almost completely organic. We cannot thank them enough.

We would especially like to thank Chef Toni Hilty and Lee Smith, Convention Services Manager with the Embassy Suites Hotel, for taking extra steps to accommodate our goal of serving local and organic foods.

#### **CONFERENCE STAFF**

Avery C. Anderson Catherine Baca Eric Cardenas Deanna Einspahr David Fortson Tamara Gadzia Ellen Herr Mollie Walton Lois Mee Beezhan Tulu Lynne Whitbeck Courtney White

#### **CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS**

Toni Beatty Nansy Carson Marguerite Dimas Rick Martinez William Mee Tarry Pesola Jeremy Smith Patricia Jenkins

## An essay from Courtney White Regenerative Economy

The idea for this Conference came to me when Colin Seis burned our breakfast.

It happened while I visited Colin at his farm in New South Wales in September, 2011. We had fallen into an intense discussion about pasture cropping, a regenerative form of agriculture that Colin pioneered, when we smelled the eggs burning. As Colin moved quickly to chuck the burned food and turn his attention back to cooking, I jotted down a note to myself: "Pasture cropping can feed the world!" This was exciting—and important.

That's because according to the United Nations, there will be nine billion people on the planet by 2050, a matter which had raised a serious question in my mind: How are we going to feed them without destroying what's left of the natural world, especially under the stress of climate change?

Here is the heart of the issue. If humans can't find enough food, fuel, fiber and fresh water to ensure their well-being, they'll raid the environment to secure these necessities and will push many other values that we place on nature down the priority list.

It's not about poor people either. The food well-fed Americans eat comes from a global production system that is already struggling to find enough arable land, adequate supplies of water, and drought-tolerant plants and animals to feed seven billion people today. Add two billion more and you have a recipe for a devastating raid on the natural world.

Where is all this extra food and water going to come from, especially if the climate gets hotter and drier in many places as predicted? Industry has an answer. It's more of the same—more chemicals, fertilizers, GMOs, monocropping, heavy fossil fuel use, and land ownership consolidation. A second "Green Revolution" is required, they say, even though the consequences of the first one have been decidedly mixed, especially for the environment.

Fortunately, there is another way, and pasture cropping is an example. Pasture cropping has the potential to feed a lot of people regeneratively, which means it can replete, rather than deplete, land and people. Colin and his farm were living proof.

In 1979, after a wildfire burned the family sheep farm, Colin decided to rethink the way he had been practicing agriculture. His new goal was to rebuild the soil's fertility after decades of practices which had unwittingly depleted it. Colin decided first to take up holistic management, a way of managing animals on pasture that mimics the graze-and-go behavior of wild herbivores. But it is what Colin did next that really caught people's attention.

After a discussion with a neighboring farmer, Colin decided to explore a radical idea: What if he no-till drilled an annual crop into his perennial grass pastures? Meaning, could he raise two products both grain and animal—from one piece of land? This was way, way out-of-the-box thinking. According to conventional agricultural practices, crops and grazing animals were supposed to be kept separate. That's only because the traditional practice of plowing on cropland eliminates the grasses. But what if you notill (no plow) drilled oat or wheat or corn seed directly into the pasture when the grasses were dormant? Would they grow?

Fast forward to the present and the answer is a resounding "Yes!" Pasture cropping works well and has spread across Australia to some 2,000 farms. Today, Colin produces grain and wool, and, if he wanted, he could harvest the native grass seed, which was an original food source for the Aboriginals of the area. It's all carefully integrated and managed under Colin's stewardship. Talk about win-win!

As I waited for Colin to make our second breakfast, I thought, "What challenge could be bigger than feeding nine billion people?" Fortunately, pasture cropping is just one example of regenerative practices that build topsoil, increase yields and conserve the natural environment. There are many others, involving soil, seeds, water, plants, livestock, trees, organics and people as the stewards. Building topsoil, for instance, not only stores more water, grows healthier plants and feeds more people but also sequesters carbon, and that's good for nature too.

Is this pie-in-the-sky stuff? Perhaps, but consider the alternative: more of what got us into trouble in the first place. With two billion more people needing food, clothing, housing, warmth and water, contemplating alternatives is crucial. Fortunately, answers exist, as you will learn over the course of this conference.

From all of us at the Quivira Coalition, thank you for joining us.

## Quivira History and Future

Founded in 1997 by two conservationists and a rancher, the Quivira Coalition is a nonprofit organization, based in Santa Fe, New Mexico, dedicated to building economic and ecological resilience in western working landscapes.

We do so through four broad initiatives:

- 1. improving land health;
- 2. sharing knowledge and innovation;
- 3. building local capacity; and
- 4. strengthening diverse relationships.

When we started out in 1997, our goal was to expand an emerging radical center among ranchers, conservationists, scientists and public land managers by focusing on progressive cattle management, collaboration, riparian and upland restoration, and improved land health. Our original mission was "to demonstrate that ecologically sensitive ranch management and economically robust ranches can be compatible."

We called this approach The New Ranch and described it as a movement that "operates on the principle that the natural processes that sustain wildlife habitat, biological diversity and functioning watersheds are the same processes that make land productive for livestock." The principles of The New Ranch were disseminated through workshops, lectures, publications, grants, consultations, collaborative land and water demonstration projects, a journal, the New Ranch Network, a small loan program, and an annual conference.

From 1997 to the present, more than one million acres of rangeland, 30 linear miles of riparian drainages and 15,000 people have directly benefited from Quivira's collaborative efforts. We have organized over 100 educational events on topics as diverse as drought management, riparian restoration, harvesting water from ranch roads, conservation easements, reading the landscape, monitoring, water harvesting, low-stress livestock handling, grassbanks and grassfed beef. We have published numerous newsletters, journals, bulletins, field guides and books, including a rangeland health monitoring protocol and a 258-page manual on riparian restoration titled Let the Water Do the Work. And lastly, we managed the innovative Valle Grande Grassbank, located near Santa Fe, eventually becoming producers of local, grassfed beef ourselves.

But most importantly, Quivira has lit sparks across the West that grew over time into small bonfires of change. Through our work, we've convinced ranchers to adopt conservation practices, environmentalists to value ranching, agencies to be more open to innovations, scientists to get more involved and the public to support all of the above.

Despite our success, the world kept changing, which meant we needed to keep changing, too. Although no one knows precisely what the decades ahead will bring, there are enough indicators of change to say with confidence that the challenges ahead will be daunting and varied. We believe that one response to these multiple challenges is to increase ecological and economic resilience of communities and landscapes.

The dictionary defines "resilience" as "the ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change." In ecology, it refers to the capacity of plant and animal populations to handle disruption and degradation caused by fire, flood, drought, insect infestation or other disturbance. Resilience also describes a community's ability to adjust to change, such as shifting economic conditions, or a steady rise in temperatures.

To help address these issues, in the fall of 2007 the Quivira Coalition's Board of Directors adopted a new mission statement: to build resilience by fostering ecological, economic and social health on western landscapes through education, innovation, collaboration, and progressive public and private land stewardship.

Today, we implement our mission through the following projects:

#### Annual Conference

This upbeat event, which regularly draws over 500 people—one-third of whom are ranchers—has become a successful forum for a "radical center" of ranchers, conservationists, public land managers and members of the public. Themes have included: *Bridging the Urban-Rural Divide, Innovation and the Next Generation, Building Resilience,* and *The Carbon Ranch: Using Food and Stewardship to Build Soil and Fight Climate Change.* Speakers have included: Wendell Berry, David Kline, Bill deBuys, Patty Limerick, Richard Louv, Deborah Madison, Jonah Western and many others.

#### **Outreach and Publications**

As part of our mission of education, the Quivira Coalition publishes journals, books, field guides and articles; maintains a vast archive of resource materials on our website; and conducts land health outdoor classrooms and volunteer riparian restoration workshops. Educational workshops are informative, fun and open to the public.

#### Land and Water Program in 2012

Quivira's Land and Water Program has for many years stewarded the Comanche Creek Watershed Group. The watershed encompasses 27,000 acres in the Valle Vidal Unit of the Carson National Forest, Taos County. This season at the annual Comanche Creek workshop, Grassy Creek and Springwagon Creek benefitted from the labor of many dedicated volunteers. Almost 500 hours were invested by Quivira volunteers in this beautiful and fragile landscape.

Quivira's Red Canyon Reserve property in Socorro County, New Mexico, is another beautiful and fragile place. We are now exploring ideas to make this property meaningful to its native inhabitants, as well as to a larger audience of people who might use the property for educational pursuits.

With funds granted by the New Mexico Environment Department, Quivira collaborated on a workshop entitled "Preparing for and Adapting to Drought in Northern New Mexico" in late September. This workshop and others conducted in 2012 represent Quivira's dedication to helping landowners take care of their land's health despite the current difficult conditions.

#### **New Agrarian Program**

With the national average age of U.S. ranchers and farmers approaching 60, and with less than 2 percent of the U.S. population currently dedicated to producing food, it is critical that we increase the number and accessibility of training opportunities for the next generation of food producers and land stewards. If we fail to take proactive measures to train the next generation of agrarians, we face food insecurity, rural instability and development of prime agricultural land. Quivira's New Agrarian Program (NAP) has responded to this challenge by creating a comprehensive leadership-training program for new agrarians—the only one of its kind in the West. NAP partners with sustainable ranch/ farm operations to implement intensive, handson apprenticeships targeted at young people who have a sincere commitment to employment and life at the intersection of conservation and sustainable agriculture. Since 2008, apprentices have been trained and graduated in fields that include sustainable ranching, grass-based dairy and artisan cheesemaking, and locally-sourced fiber production.

#### **Tribal Partnerships**

Since 2005, the Quivira Coalition has been collaborating with the Ojo Encino Chapter of the Navajo Nation to rebuild resilience in both the biological and cultural environments of the Navajo Nation. What started as a focused effort to develop grazing plans for severely degraded rangelands has since blossomed into a holistic effort to restore iconic features of the landscape, manage a feral horse population, manage erosion, re-engage youth, learn from elders, grow a local food system and build capacity in a Navajo-run nonprofit called Hasbídító. Our ultimate goal is to empower Hasbídító and the Ojo Encino Ranchers Committee as they work to create a biocultural landscape that will be resilient in the face of climate change.

#### **Carbon Ranch Project**

The mission of the Carbon Ranch Project is to explore and share climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies that sequester  $CO_2$  in soils and plants, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and produce cobenefits that build ecological and economic resilience in local landscapes. Strategies include: enriching soil carbon, no-till farming with perennials, employing climate-friendly livestock practices, conserving natural habitat, restoring degraded watersheds and rangelands, increasing biodiversity, and producing local food. Project work includes essays, outreach and an online library (*www.carbonranching.org*).

## Moving Forward in 2013 Leadership Transition at the Quivira Coalition

It is important for any nonprofit to keep an eye on the future—what challenges lay in wait, what opportunities might be coming up, and how to "keep up with the times" generally. This is best handled by a combination of new leadership, plus wisdom tempered by experience. Sometimes, this combination is difficult to find within an organization, but Quivira is fortunate—in Avery Anderson and Courtney White, it has the rare opportunity to implement a leadership transition that will enable the organization to maintain and expand its success well into the future.

As Acting Executive Director during Courtney's sabbatical in 2012, Avery demonstrated considerable skill in directing the organization, including personnel management, oversight of programs, budget administration and Quivira Board engagement. Avery also oversaw two new staff hires, as well as the reassignment of Catherine Baca as the Tribal Partnership Program Director. Lastly, Avery demonstrated growing capacity and interest in the development and fundraising duties necessary for Quivira's financial well-being. Over the course of the sabbatical, Avery's leadership skills grew, as did her confidence, to the point where she felt comfortable and capable in her new role.

During his sabbatical, Courtney concentrated his energy on developing his writing skills, expanding his contacts with other writers and researchers, sharing his knowledge and experience, broadening his understanding of natural processes and economics, and expanding personal horizons. In particular, Courtney focused on his ability to easily explain complex concepts, such as creek restoration or progressive ranching techniques, to lay audiences through compelling stories and personal narrative. All of this led to a reinvigoration of Courtney's enthusiasm and interests. It also led to a question: What is the best way to put Courtney's creative energies to work for Quivira going forward?

For the organization as a whole, the sabbatical period provided important collateral benefits, including: building new capacity within the organization, introducing new ideas and energy, stimulating increased Board participation, and creating an opportunity for succession planning. All of these activities have been a boost to the organization over the course of 2012, and now we ask ourselves: How do we keep them going?



Avery C. Anderson and Courtney White

To that end, on November 1, 2012—with Avery and Courtney's full blessing—the Board of Directors of the Quivira Coalition voted to promote Avery to the position of Executive Director. Courtney will assume a new title: Founder and Creative Director. The principal duty of Avery as Executive Director will be to direct the operations of Quivira while maintaining its reputation for excellence and innovation. The principal duty of Courtney as Founder and Creative Director will be to grow the organization through idea development, fundraising, writing, editing, speaking and other types of public outreach. These new roles closely align with Avery's and Courtney's interests and skill sets going forward.

This change also fits with Quivira's ongoing maturation and growing professionalism of both board and staff. It acknowledges that Quivira has entered an important transition period as the organization begins to grapple with questions of succession and changing staff/board relationships. On the succession front, this plan preempts difficulties that sometimes arise within nonprofit organizations when leadership passes from the hands of a founder. In informal conversations with important members of our funding community, Quivira is being commended for this proactive approach.

Transitions are always a work-in-progress. The key to its success will be good communication and constant feedback from staff, board and members of the Quivira Community. We are confident that the result will ultimately make for a stronger and more resilient organization.

ARTURO SANDOVAL Chair, Board of Directors

## SOIL, SEEDS, WATER, PLANTS, LIVESTOCK, FORESTS, ORGANICS AND PEOPLE

## Wednesday

### **Range School: Practical Skills and New Ideas for Resilient Ranching**

8:30 am – 5 pm SANDIA BALLROOM

#### **Fred Provenza**

For the past 37 years, his group has produced ground-breaking research that laid the foundation for what is now known as behavior-based management of landscapes. That work inspired researchers and managers in disciplines as diverse as nutrition and foraging behavior of wild and domestic animals and humans; phytochemical ecology; pasture and rangeland science and management; landscape restoration ecology, including targeted grazing; wildlife-damage management; animal welfare related to foraging; and rural sociology and development. Along with colleagues and graduate students, he has been author or co-author of 250 publications in peer-reviewed journals and books, and he has been an invited speaker at over 325 conferences. Their efforts led to the formation in 2001 of an international network of scientists and land managers from five continents. That consortium, which is known as BEHAVE, integrates behavioral principles and processes

with local knowledge to enhance ecological, economic and social values of rural and urban communities.

#### Julie Sullivan and George Whitten

For George and Julie, every day is a chance to bridge the gap between environmentalism and agriculture. Personally and professionally, they work to dissolve the prejudices between ranchers and environmentalists, and urban and rural people, and to build bridges between them. They strive to find real solutions to heal the planet and keep family agriculture alive in the U.S. In his 27 years as an active member of the ranching community, George has worked towards collaborative, forward-thinking management of resources in the San Luis Valley. A practitioner of Holistic Management for over 20 years, George adjusts these practices to fit the land and operation

under his management. Julie taught interdisciplinary environmental education at the college level for 15 years, including a decade at Audubon Expedition Institute (AEI) of Lesley University. Julie spent those years challenging students to look beyond surface conflicts between environmentalism and agriculture, and to see the common values and goals shared by both points of view.

## Featured Speaker: Gus Speth

7 pm

SANDIA BALLROOM

Gus Speth is a Professor of Law at the Vermont Law School in South Royalton, Vermont, and Distinguished Senior Fellow with Demos and with the United Nations Foundation, both in New York City. He was Professor in the Practice of Environmental Policy at Yale University where he served as Dean of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies from 1999 to 2009. From 1993 to 1999, Speth was administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and chair of the U.N. Development Group. Prior to his service at the U.N., he was founder and president of the World Resources Institute; professor of law at Georgetown University; chairman of the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality; and senior attorney and co-founder of the Natural Resources

Defense Council. Throughout his career, he has provided leadership and entrepreneurial initiatives to many task forces and committees whose roles have been to combat environmental degradation, including the President's Task Force on Global Resources and Environment; the Western Hemisphere Dialogue on Environment and Development; and the National Commission on the Environment. **His new book, America the Possible is available in the conference bookstore.** 







## Help us grow Quivira's NEW AGRARIAN PROGRAM

Apprenticeships in Sustainable Agriculture

### New Agrarian Program Fund Drive

Thursday, November 15, 1:10 pm SANDIA BALLROOM

Agriculture drives economies, creates green job opportunities and directly affects the health of our nation. With the national average age of U.S. ranchers and farmers approaching 60, and with less than 2 percent of the U.S. population currently dedicated to producing food, it is critical that we increase the number and accessibility of training opportunities for the next generation of food producers and land stewards.

To address this challenge, Quivira is prioritizing the growth of the New Agrarian Program in 2013. Please consider making a donation at our fund drive on Thursday, November 15. Every dollar counts and helps us secure a more sustainable future for young farmers and ranchers.



**The Quivira Coalition's New Agrarian Program** partners with sustainable operations throughout the West to provide training for young people with a sincere commitment to life at the intersection of conservation and sustainable agriculture. This comprehensive, in-residence program—the ONLY one of its kind in the West—offers experiential training in all aspects of a resilient agricultural enterprise. Every graduated apprentice to date, since the program's inception in 2009, is currently pursuing a career in sustainable agriculture.

## We welcome your donations during the Quivira Conference, online or by mail. For more information contact:

Virginie Pointeau, New Agrarian Program Director virginie@quiviracoalition.org 505.820.2544 Ext. 5# www.quiviracoalition.org

## Thursday Evening

### **New Agrarian Career Connection**

#### 6:30–8 pm SIERRA ROOM

There is another way to live and think: it's called agrarianism. It is not so much a philosophy as a practice, an attitude, a loyalty and a passion—all based in close connection with the land. It results in a sound local economy in which producers and consumers are neighbors and in which nature herself becomes the standard for work and production. —WENDELL BERRY

Quivira is hosting a "New Agrarian Career Connection" event to provide an opportunity for new agrarians to connect with potential employers/mentors.

Quivira recognizes the urgent need to connect experienced land managers and conservation leaders with the next generation of people who will be responsible for growing our food and stewarding our planet. The purpose of this event is to pack the room with agrarians of all sorts—new and old, urban and rural—and create the ideal conditions for conversing with like-minded people, contemplating apprenticeship, exploring partnerships, learning about land transfer programs, and more! We will start off the evening with a short presentation by Dan James, experienced New Agrarian Program mentor from James Ranch Artisan Cheese, followed by brief introductions of all employers/producers in the room. We will then kick off the meet-and-greet.

This gathering of ranchers, farmers, conservation leaders and new agrarians will take the form of an informal evening of open mingling, with prospective employers/mentors clearly identified. Prospective employers/mentors will include (but are not limited to) private ranches and farms, conservation groups, food advocacy organizations, government agencies, land use service consultants (for example, Holistic Management), and related private-sector businesses.

All potential mentors and employers are asked to come prepared with business cards and any helpful information they may have regarding their agricultural operation or business. New agrarians are encouraged to come with a résumé and contact information.



This event is free and open to all interested agrarians.

### Screening: 350, The Most Important Number, by Beezhan Tulu

#### 8-10 pm SANDIA BALLROOM

The extra CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, beyond the upper safe limit of 350 parts per million, is trapping heat and threatening LIFE on our precious planet. This documentary—**350**, *The Most Important Number*— is about the visionaries, scientists, farmers and communities who are focusing on solutions that can help create a healthier planet for all of us. The film depicts lifestyles that regenerate soil; create healthier food; build communities; and, most importantly, increase topsoil—the skin of the earth. It is the origin of plants and the source of our food. According to many scientists, ranchers and environmentalists, increasing the topsoil can pull extra CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere, thereby reducing the effect of global climate change.

This film, from Living Web Films, features past Quivira conference speakers, including Bill McKibben (author, environmentalist), Jeffrey Creque (agroecologist) and John Wick (molecule manager at the watershed scale). Visit Living Web Films at *LivingWebFilms.com*.



## Agenda

#### WEDNESDAY november 14

7 am

Check-in | LOBBY

8 am – 5 pm Range School: Practical Skills and New Ideas for Resilient Ranching SANDIA BALLROOM (Breaks at 10 am and 3 pm in Lobby)

8 am

**Opening Remarks** *Courtney White*, Quivira Coalition

#### 8:30 am

**PART I Fred Provenza** How Behavior Links Soil and Plants with Herbivores and People

Noon –1:30 pm LUNCH Beef donated by Country Natural Beef

1:30 pm – 5 pm PART II Julie Sullivan and George Whitten

Drought as Inspiration

#### 5 pm

Southwest Grassfed Livestock Alliance (SWGLA) Annual Meeting SIERRA ROOM

#### 7 pm

**Featured Speaker and Book Signing Gus Speth** *America the Possible - Manifesto for a New Economy* 

SANDIA BALLROOM

#### THURSDAY november 15

7 am

Check-in | LOBBY

8 am – 5 pm PLENARY SESSIONS SANDIA BALLROOM

8 am

**Opening Remarks** *Courtney White,* Quivira Coalition

#### ► SEEDS

8:25 am

**Dr. Molly Jahn** From Seeds to Resilient Systems: a Global Perspective on Sustainable Agriculture

9:10 am

**Dr. Michael Mazourek** The Quiet Vegetable Rebellion

9:55 am Snack Break | LOBBY

## ► SOIL

10:20 am

**Dr. Jill Clapperton** Healthy Soils: The Foundation for Food

11:05 am

**Gabe Brown** Holistic Regeneration of Our Land: A Producer's Perspective

11:50 am – 1:10 pm LUNCH Beef donated by Panorama Organic Grass-Fed Meats

#### 1:10 – 1:30 pm

New Agrarian Program Fund Drive

## After the conference, speaker presentations will be posted on

our website: www.quiviracoalition.org

#### ► WATER

#### 1:30 pm

Sandra Postel

More Crop per Drop: Securing Water to Feed 9 Billion

#### THURSDAY november 15 (cont.)

#### 2:15 pm

#### Lisa Shipek

Transforming Food Deserts by Harvesting Urban Waste Streams

#### 3 pm

Snack Break | LOBBY

#### ► PLANTS

#### 3:30 pm

#### **Dr. Miguel Altieri**

Who Will Feed Us on a Planet in Crisis?: Agroecology, a Viable Path to Food Sovereignty

#### 4:15 pm

#### **Colin Seis**

Pasture Cropping and Vertical Stacking: Regenerative Practices from Down Under That Can Feed the World From the Ground Up

#### 6:30 – 8 pm

#### NEW AGRARIAN CAREER CONNECTION SIERRA ROOM I AND II

#### 8 – 10 pm

#### 350, The Most Important Number

Screening of a documentary by Beezhan Tulu, Living Web Films, featuring past Quivira conference speakers. SANDIA BALLROOM

#### FRIDAY november 16

#### 7 am

Check-in | LOBBY

#### 8 am – 4:30 pm

PLENARY SESSIONS SANDIA BALLROOM

#### 8 am

#### Opening Remarks

Avery C. Anderson, Quivira Coalition

#### LIVESTOCK

#### 8:30 am

**Allan Savory** *Removing the Barriers to Feeding 9 Billion People and Sustaining Our Cities* 

## Agenda

#### FRIDAY november 16 (cont.)

#### 9:15 am

#### Jim Howell

Can We Do It on Grass Alone?: Beef Production and the Unrealized Capacity of Grasslands

#### 10 am

Snack Break | LOBBY

#### ► FORESTS

#### 10:30 am

**Gloria Flora** Eat a Tree: the Promise of Edible Forest Gardens and Agroforestry

#### 11:15 am

Gordon Tooley

Holistic Orchard Management for Diversity, Habitat and Food

#### Noon – 1:30 pm

LUNCH

#### ORGANICS

#### 1:30 pm

Katherine DiMatteo

Organic Practices Can Feed the World!

#### 2:15 pm

#### Don Bustos

The Role of Organic Agriculture and Sustainability in New Mexico by 2050

#### 3 pm

Snack Break | LOBBY

#### ► PEOPLE

#### 3:30 pm

#### **Courtney White**

All local meal.

Thinking Outside the Holocene: Paul Gauguin's Question and Aldo Leopold's Answer

#### 6:30 pm (Doors open at 6 pm) AWARDS BANQUET SIERRA ROOM

SOIL, SEEDS, WATER, PLANTS, LIVESTOCK, FORESTS, ORGANICS AND PEOPLE

#### **Books and Products Sales** Conference Extras Ocotillo Room

#### PUBLICATIONS BY SPEAKERS

#### Dr. Miguel Altieri

- Agroecology: The Science of Sustainable Agriculture, second edition
- Genetic Engineering in Agriculture: the Myths, Environmental Risks, and Alternatives
- Manage Insects on Your Farm: A Guide to Ecological **Strategies**

#### Jim Howell

• For the Love of Land

#### Sandra Postel

- Pillar of Sand: Can the Irrigation Miracle Last?
- 2011 Worldwatch Institute's State of the World: Nourishing the Planet, "Getting More Crop per Drop"

#### Allan Savory and Sam Bingham

• Holistic Management Handbook, Healthy Land, Healthy Profits

#### Gus Speth, Featured Speaker

- America the Possible: Manifesto for a New Economy (American Crisis) [NEW RELEASE]
- The Bridge at the Edge of the World: Capitalism, the Environment and Crossing from Crisis to Sustainability
- Red Sky at Morning: America and the Crisis of the Global Environment

#### **Courtney White**

• *Revolution on the Range* 

#### **RECOMMENDED BY SPEAKERS**

#### Dr. Jill Clapperton

- Coleman, Crossley and Hendrix, Fundamentals of Soil Ecology, second edition
- SARE Handbook, Managing Cover Crops Profitably

#### Gloria Flora

- Albert Bates, The Biochar Solution: Carbon Farming and *Climate Change (Sustainable Agriculture)*
- James Burges, The Biochar Debate: Charcoal's Potential to Reverse Climate Change and Build Soil Fertility (Schumacher Briefings)

#### Gordon Tooley

- Phillips, Michael, The Holistic Orchard: Tree Fruits and Berries the Biological Way
- Phillips, Michael, The Apple Grower: A Guide for the **Organic Orchardist**

#### **RELATED PUBLICATIONS**

#### Brian Halweil

• Eat Here: Reclaiming Homegrown Pleasures in a Global Supermarket

#### Jack and Celestia Loeffler

• Thinking Like a Watershed - Voices from the West [NEW RELEASE]

#### **Deborah Madison**

• Local Flavors - Cooking and Eating from America's Kitchens

#### Gary Paul Nabhan

• Where Our Food Comes From

#### SARE Handbook

- Building Soils for Better Crops Sustainable Soil Management
- Transitioning to Organic Production Bulletin

#### **Burt Smith**

• Moving 'EM - A Guide to Low Stress Animal Handling

#### Jenna Woginrich

• The Incurable Longing for a Farm of One's Own

#### **QUIVIRA PUBLICATIONS**

#### Kirk Gadzia and Nathan Savre

• Rangeland Health & Planned Grazing Field Guide

#### Quivira Coalition and Dryland Solutions, Inc.

• Erosion Control Field Guide (flip cards)

#### Quivira' s Resilience, Journal

- Lessons Learned, January 2012
- A Place Worth Calling Home, October 2012

#### Quivira's New Agrarian Handbook

• New Agrarian Education: A Handbook for Mentor and Apprentice

#### Bill Zeedyk

• Water Harvesting from Low-Standard Rural Roads

#### **Bill Zeedvk**

• Introduction to Induced Meandering Field Guide

#### **Bill Zeedyk and Van Clothier**

• Let the Water Do The Work: Induced Meandering, an Evolving Method for Restoring Incised Channels

#### QUIVIRA PRODUCTS



#### **EXHIBITORS**

- AG New Mexico FCS ACA
- Animal Welfare Approved
- Bat Conservation International
- Craig Sponholtz, Dryland Solutions, Inc.
- Reba D. Epler, Attorney
- Farm-to-Consumer Foundation
- GMX Magnetic Water Treatment
- **Green Fire Times**
- The Greenhorns

Hasbídító

Holistic Management International (HMI)

National Young Farmers' Coalition

National Center for Appropriate Technology - ATTRA

New Mexico Land Conservancy

New Mexico State Land Office - "When we take care of our land, our land takes care of us."

## Conference Extras

New Mexico Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative **Ojo Encino Ranchers Committee** Permaculture Design Certificate Progressive Asset Management Group **Ranchlands** Rangeland Hands, Inc. Santa Fe Honey Salon Shining Horizons Land Management Soil Carbon Challenge Southwest Grassfed Livestock Alliance - SWGLA Sweet Grass Cooperative Tooley's Trees US Fish and Wildlife - Partners for Fish and Wildlife



## The Clarence Burch Award

The Clarence Burch Award is given by Andrew Dunigan and the Dunigan Family to honor the memory of Andy Dunigan's grandfather, an innovative and enterprising rancher who courageously embraced new ideas and methods of doing business. The award recognizes individuals, organizations and others who have led by example in promoting and accomplishing outstanding stewardship of private and/or public lands. The goals of the Burch Award are consistent with the mission of the Quivira Coalition and its New Ranch paradigm, i.e., to explore innovative ideas in ranch management and build bridges between ranchers, environmentalists, public land managers, scientists and others with the goal of restoring western rangelands collaboratively.

#### **2012 NOMINEES:**

- Lesli Allison and the Chama Peak Landowner Alliance Santa Fe, N.M.
- Apache Foundation Clearmont, Wyo.
- Clark Fork Coalition
   Dry Cottonwood Creek Ranch Project
   Missoula, Mont.
- James W. Crosswhite EC Bar Ranch Nutrioso, Ariz.
- Diablo Trust Flagstaff, Ariz.

- Earth Care Santa Fe, N.M.
- Walter Fahlenkamp Goldendale, Wash.
- Greg and Kyle Moore Moore Land & Cattle Company Springer, N.M.
- Dennis and Deb Moroney 47 Ranch McNeal Ariz.
- Joe Morris Morris Grassfed San Juan Bautista, Calif.

- Lyle and Viola Nissen Nissen Farms, LLC Mosca, Colo.
- Brendon and Sheldon Rockey Rockey Farms LLC Center, Colo.
- Paul Schwennesen Double Check Ranch Winkelman, Ariz.
- Taos County Economic Development Corporation (TCEDC) Taos, N.M.

#### **CLARENCE BURCH (1906-2000)**

Rancher, teacher, conservationist, activist, international diplomat and public servant to five governors, Clarence Burch lived an enviable career full of innovation, dedication, curiosity and good humor. He was a man very much of his time, and yet miles ahead of it as well.

The eldest of nine children, Clarence was born in Bromide, Oklahoma, in what was then Indian Territory. Raised on various farms and ranches, he developed a love of the land that grew to become a passion for a lifetime. "My grandfather had an innate sense for natural forces," says Andy Dunigan. "Land was in his blood. Every discussion always started with a question about the weather."

One area to which Clarence applied his "cando" attitude was water. While serving as director of the Division of Water Resources in the 1940s, he traveled to every seat of Oklahoma's 77 counties to assess municipal and rural water needs. Shortly thereafter, with Clarence's encouragement, and over the objections of the oil companies, Governor Roy Turner signed the state's first groundwater restrictions into law. He was a careful steward of his own land as well. "He knew that all he had to sell on his ranch was grass," recalls his son Tom. "So, he took care to do the job right." His grandson agrees. "He understood that land has its limits," recalls Andy, "and he emphasized collaborative solutions to natural resource problems."

Clarence's people skills extended to his family as well.

Andy remembers him as an "extremely warm, charismatic man who got along with people from all walks of life." A son-in-law, Jim Wilson, says Clarence could "carry on a conversation on any topic" and did so right up to the end of his life.

Perhaps Andy sums up his grandfather's qualities best: "Clarence embodied what we call today 'The Radical Center.' He was more than just a rancher. He was a public servant, an activist and a man very concerned about the land and sustainable practices. He was a remarkable man."

The Quivira Coalition is proud to honor Clarence Burch with an Annual Award presented in his name.



## 2012 Clarence Burch Award Winners

## Joe Morris

Joe Morris and his wife, Julie, have owned and operated Morris Grassfed Beef since 1991 when Joe took over the management of his grandparent's 200-acre ranch near San Juan Bautista, just south of San Jose, California. Today, they lease an additional 7,000 acres and run 250 cows to serve their grassfed beef direct marketing business, as well as approximately 1,800 stockers.

Joe comes from a lineage of ranchers stretching

back five generations, the most recent of whom was his grandfather who ranched into the 1980s. Joe has been inspired and educated by ranchers, biologists and community builders from around the world, including experts in holism, decision-making, business management, livestock and horses, and consensus building. The primary common quality of these educators is that they incorporate practices that produce peacefulness, harmony and thriving communities. One of the specific methods he uses is holistic grazing planning, a practice he learned from Allan Savory. The result has been a widespread resurgence of native perennial grasses on his grasslands where he has seen

a shift from European annual grasses to perennial bunch grasses and oaks as well as a greater waterholding capacity of his rangeland soils.

For the past 20 years, Joe has used holistic decision-making to direct his ranching tools toward his vision of a thriving community. For example, he uses conventional fencing and water systems to manage large, dense herds of cattle and goats to mimic the grazing patterns of herds of herbivores as they coevolved with California's native grassland ecosystems over millennia. By intensively and adaptively managing water and grazing patterns, he gets higher rangeland utilization, maximal forage productivity and enhanced ecosystem health.

One of the most important vehicles for raising awareness about the role of livestock in maintaining



Joe Morris. (Photo by Dean Eyre)

healthy land is the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) aspect of the Morris Grassfed operation. The business currently serves about 800 members in the greater Bay Area and increasingly in Southern California. It also direct markets its meat at seasonal farmers markets in Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties. Joe views the direct marketing business as both an opportunity to educate consumers about their interconnections with ranchers and the ecosystems

they steward, and an indicator and reflection of what the community needs, wants and will support in their food system.

Over the past decade, Joe has hosted perhaps two thousand people at the ranch, including researchers, students, conservationists and individuals interested in food issues and food systems. For example, he hosted a tour for about 130 people at the Spring 2011 annual meeting of the Central Coast Rangeland Coalition (of which he is a founding member) which focused on rangeland management and the water cycle. Later that year, he hosted a workshop for approximately 75 participants in which Peter Donovan of the Soil Carbon Coalition discussed

the impacts of Holistic Management on soil carbon sequestration.

With his portion of the Clarence Burch Award, Joe plans to invest in two interrelated projects with the goals of expanding his educational impact and of using his cattle to more effectively manage the land for carbon sequestration, water infiltration and beauty. First, he wants to start an intern program to train young people in Holistic Management. Second, he plans to expand his collaboration with Peter Donovan (Soil Carbon Coalition) by adding more soil carbon monitoring transects on his land as well as continuing to raise awareness among ranchers about opportunities to achieve multiple benefits from more effective management of their role in the carbon cycle.

## Taos County Economic Development Corporation



Pati Martinson and Terrie Bad Hand

Terrie Bad Hand and Pati Martinson are the founders and directors of Taos County Economic Development Corporation (TCEDC), a community-based organization that has supported the food, land, water and cultures of the peoples of Northern New Mexico for 24 years.

Terrie and Pati's lifelong work has focused on maintaining equity and ownership for land-based people; overcoming poverty; and providing access to education, business and other opportunities for ranchers, farmers and food-sector entrepreneurs. They have quietly and efficiently provided resources in this historically agrarian region to land-based people striving to hold on to their traditions, culture and quality of life while maintaining ownership and stewardship of their land and water.

Their work exemplifies Quivira's dedication to building economic and ecological resilience on Western working landscapes. Their work on community food systems at TECDC has been successfully replicated in tribal and other land-based communities of color. Their model of Kinship and Extended Family Development led to the creation of a Small Business Incubator, the Taos Business Park and the Taos Food Center as well as the unique and illustrative Mobile Matanza described here.

The Mobile Matanza is a processing facility on wheels. (A "matanza" is a traditional celebration of the livestock harvest.) It provides an important opportunity for small-scale ranchers who do not have the option of slaughtering livestock for commercial sale to get a USDA-regulated-and-certified organic slaughter service brought directly to their ranch. The Matanza eliminates the need for ranchers to purchase their own transportation equipment and haul their livestock hundreds of miles to sale barns and Contained Animal Feeding Operations. The Matanza serves ranchers in a 100-mile radius of Taos and is equipped to harvest cattle, bison, goats, pork, sheep and yak. It can handle as few as one and as many as 18 animals in a single visit.

Before the day of the Matanza visit, animals are preselected by the rancher and separated from the rest of the herd so they can be harvested individually without being traumatized by the transport process or by their proximity to other animals being harvested. The actual slaughter is done in a humane manner. If the rancher is interested in commercial sales of the meat, the USDA inspector travels with the Matanza and certifies the entire harvest process. The meat is prepared on-site for processing and hung in the refrigerated compartment of the Matanza to be transported to the TCEDC's cut-and-wrap facility at the Taos Food Center.

The rancher makes arrangements to have the meat packaged and labeled with their ranch name and logo for sales, or custom wrapped for family use. By using the Matanza, the rancher saves fuel and transportation costs and ultimately has a value-added product—the cut, vacuum-wrapped and labeled meat products—that he/she can sell at a much greater profit than by taking the animals to the auctions and selling them by the pound on the hoof.

The Matanza is just one example of Terrie and Pati's commitment to social justice, institutional change and leading by example.

Terrie and Pati, who are of mixed Native American ancestry and from diverse backgrounds of challenge, are able to move successfully between many worlds with consistency and with integrity.



Working in a "shared leadership and kinship" style, they have organized their communities to challenge systems that perpetuate injustice by creating policy and demonstrating practical models that work.

## 2012 Outstanding Leadership in the Radical Center Awards

The Fifth Annual Recognition Awards for Outstanding Leadership in the Radical Center are dedicated to the "four legs" of the Quivira Coalition's original "chair" —ranchers, conservationists, civil servants and researchers. We wish to recognize those individuals in each category who have shown remarkable and enduring leadership in the difficult job of working in the radical center — the place where people are coming together to explore their common interests rather than argue their differences, as described by author and conservation leader Bill deBuys.

We believe that the radical center is where real change happens. As Aldo Leopold said, it happens on the "actual landscape of the back forty." But change needs strong leadership, especially in this era of seemingly endless partisanship. We continue to honor those who have advanced the cause of the radical center with integrity, vision and determination – sometimes against long odds. Each has inspired us with their dedication to family, community, healthy lands and advancement through their teaching, writing, research, service, work and good humor. Through their efforts and leadership they have been a strong voice for the common bonds that unite us. We are proud to recognize these fine individuals.

On behalf of the Board and Staff of the Quivira Coalition, in 2012 we are honored to present the Outstanding Leadership in the Radical Center Awards to the following recipients:

#### RANCHING

Sweet Grass Cooperative was formed in 2010 as a marketing and production cooperative of several small family ranches in Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado. Dedicated to the sustainable production of grassfed, grass-finished cattle, Sweet Grass Cooperative subscribes to the triple bottom line as a guiding principle:

All our business and land management practices are designed to be ecologically, economically and socially beneficial to our members, suppliers, communities and the planet. Cooperative members collaborate to create a truly sustainable and resilient future for small-scale agriculture that reconnects people to the source of their food: the people, plants, animals, land and ecological processes on which all life depends.

As individual ranches, co-op members had each been raising, finishing and marketing their own grassfed beef. Wanting to avoid competing with friends and



100% Grass-Fed

neighbors, co-op members determined that working together, pooling resources and sharing expertise, would offer them a more reliable way to produce a consistent year-round product that could be marketed to larger entities.

From New Mexico, current Sweet Grass Cooperative members include: El Morro Valley Ranch, Ramah; Hobo Ranch, Las Vegas; Piojo Ranch, Watrous; and Soaring Eagle Ranch, Los Ojos. From Colorado they include: KW Farms, Alamosa; Maytag Mountain Ranch, Hillside; Salazar Ranch, Manassa; and San Juan Ranch/Blue Range Ranch, Saguache. Many of the member ranches are certified organic.

Cooperative members collectively created and agreed to the following guiding principles, to be sure business decisions are made within the framework of their values and purpose:

- Sweet Grass Cooperative obtains a sufficient return on our products to support the operations of the Co-op, to expand the reach of the Co-op, and to ensure the sustainability of small, family ranching;
- · Sweet Grass Cooperative provides the highest-quality products to consumers at a fair price;
- Sweet Grass Cooperative uses objective measures of quality as implemented by the protocols that products must meet;
- Sweet Grass Cooperative maintains the highest degree of honesty and integrity in our marketing to our customers; and
- Sweet Grass Cooperative ensures all member-producers an equal opportunity to provide products to the Co-op.

More information can be found at the Sweet Grass Cooperative website at www.sweetgrasscoop.com

#### **CONSERVATION**

Seth Roffman is editor of *Green Fire Times*, a monthly newsprint publication devoted to issues of bioregional sustainability—the interrelationship of community, culture, environment and the regional economy of North Central New Mexico. This publication, now four years old, distributes 20,000 copies for free each month and is also available online at *www.GreenFireTimes.com*.

As a writer and photojournalist, Seth's work has also appeared in the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Native Peoples*, *Weekly Reader*, *New Mexico Magazine* and many other publications.

Seth has been involved in community development in the Southwest for many years. He is executive director of

the nonprofit Southwest Learning Centers, Inc., which does cultural documentation and archiving, develops curricula, and publishes the acclaimed American Indian Art Series of reference books for the Center for Indigenous Arts & Cultures. Through SWLC, Seth co-founded a native food crop seedbank, which won an award from the United Nations Environment Programme in 1985; and from 1996 to 2008, he produced or co-produced Native Roots & Rhythms, a Native American performing arts festival at the Paolo Soleri Amphitheater in Santa Fe.

#### **CIVIL SERVICE**

For more than 23 years, Marcy Leavitt worked for the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), primarily in the areas of water quality protection and environmental management. During her career at NMED she helped develop and implement many new initiatives. These include New Mexico's first groundwater investigation and remediation regulations for leaking underground storage tanks; the state's Voluntary Remediation and Brownfields program to facilitate cleanup and reuse of underutilized properties; improved regulations for better public access and involvement in water quality protection permits; and rules and associated policies for mine closure permits and Outstanding National Resource Waters. Marcy also led efforts to get the state's headwater streams approved as Outstanding National Resource Waters and oversaw implementation of the first years of the state's River Ecosystem Restoration Initiative, which ultimately awarded more than \$8 million to more than 40 projects statewide. Marcy is currently employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division as the New Mexico/Texas Branch Chief where she oversees Clean Water Act permitting.



#### RESEARCH

Rick Danvir received an Associate's Degree in Fish and Wildlife Management from the State University of New York at Cobleskill in 1975. After working as a wildlife research technician for several years with the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, the Colorado Division of Wildlife and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Rick received a bachelor's degree in Wildlife Science from Utah State University in 1982. He began his career as a wildlife biologist at Deseret Land and Livestock ranch in 1983 and has been the wildlife manager since 1990. His wildlife research experience includes studies of black bear, prairie dog, cougar, mule deer, elk, pronghorn and greater sage grouse ecology. He has managed wildlife on ranches and reservations throughout the Intermountain West; the Great Plains; Maine; Florida; Alberta, Canada; and Argentina. Rick has



served as a Utah Fish and Game Commissioner, on the Utah Habitat Council, as a board member of the Utah Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit Association, on the Utah Foundation for Quality Resource Management, and on the BEHAVE (Behavioral Education for Human, Animal, Vegetation and Ecosystem Management) Advisory Board. His principal management interest is integrating agricultural production and wildlife management for ecological and economic sustainability.



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- All 150 participants who attended or volunteered (2056 hours) at Quivira Coalition educational events in 2012
- The entire Quivira Community!

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