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*The mission of the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust is to help Colorado's ranchers and farmers protect their agricultural lands and encourage continuing agricultural production for the benefit of themselves, their families and all of Colorado's citizens.*

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## **Saguache Creek Corridor Protected by GOCO Legacy Grant**

*Quarter Circle U Ranch last ranch protected by expansive conservation project*

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) and several partner organizations proudly announce the permanent protection of the Quarter Circle U Ranch in the Saguache Creek Corridor. This property is the last one to be protected with the help of a Great Outdoors Colorado Legacy Grant awarded in 2004.

The 1,575-acre property is located approximately seven miles west of Saguache along Colorado Highway 114. The Quarter Circle U Ranch easement is part of CCALT's larger efforts to partner with ranchers along Saguache Creek. Seeking the permanent protection of their land, Quarter Circle U ranchers approached CCALT for assistance. The ranch's owners ultimately donated a portion of the value of the conservation easement. In addition to support from GOCO, funding for the easement was made possible by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Farm and Ranchland Protection Program, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the San Luis Valley Habitat Partnership Program. On behalf of the landowners and CCALT, the Trust for Public Land assisted by managing the transaction.



### **Quarter Circle U Ranch in the Saguache Creek Corridor**

"Working with the landowners in this area is an honor. Here is a group of ranchers who have collectively decided that keeping their landscape intact and in agriculture is more important than the dollars that they could have received from developers to cut the land apart and sell it as ranchettes," said Chris West, CCALT Executive Director.

The Quarter Circle U Ranch, named for the landowners' cattle brand, contains over 4 1/2 miles of Saguache Creek and nearly 1,000 acres of irrigated hay meadows. In addition, the ranch has extensive native grass and shrubland pastures and is adjacent to tens of thousands of acres of Bureau of Land Management land to the east and west.

CCALT has been involved with local ranch families in the Saguache Creek Corridor for over a decade. Since 2001, CCALT has purchased 15 conservation easements, protecting more than 11,000 acres along Saguache Creek and its tributaries. Major funding for this effort has come in more than \$6 million in Lottery funds from GOCO and a similar amount from the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

## CCALT Board Member Miles Davies Inducted into the Agricultural Hall of Fame

Miles Davies is a founding member of the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust and has been a board member since the inception of the organization. Miles was inducted into the Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame by the Colorado FFA Foundation in February.

Miles was honored by the FFA for his leadership role in the cattle industry for more than six decades. He has served in leadership positions with the Colorado Grange Association, the Colorado and American Simmental Association, the Federal Land Bank Association, the National Livestock Producer's Association and the National Cattlemen's Beef Board, among others.

The Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame Banquet is held annually to honor those who have made significant contributions to our state and nation's agricultural industry. All of the members' portraits are displayed at the Colorado Department of Agriculture offices.

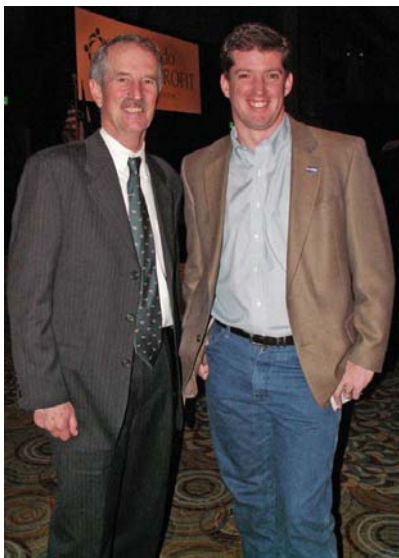
The banquet provides an opportunity to bring emerging youth leaders in agriculture together with members of the state's agricultural community.

Other inductees at the ceremony were Mr. Mel Coleman Sr., (posthumously) Mr. Rex Davis (posthumously), and Mr. Leonard Pruett. Miles and his wife Jeanne have been committed to serving agriculture for many years. Jeanne was also inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1993, and they are the first couple to have both received this award independently.



*Miles and Jeanne Davis and their children pose with the Agricultural Hall of Fame portrait of Miles*

## Jay Fetcher Receives the William Funk Award for Building Stronger Communities



*Jay Fetcher and Chris West at the William Funk Award Luncheon*

Jay Fetcher was one of the founding members and past President of the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust. He was honored on March 13, 2009 by the Colorado Nonprofit Association for all of his work not only with the land trust, but also in his Routt County Community.

The William Funk Award for Building Stronger Communities was established in 1991 to honor leaders who can unify people and organizations around a common cause. Exceptional leaders maintain a broad perspective on our communities' needs and they are capable of joining with others to define and solve problems. This award, sponsored by the Boettcher Foundation, was given to Jay in honor for his remarkable work.

Jay's dedication to the community goes beyond just CCALT. His community service includes the Boards of the Yampa Valley Medical Center, Colorado Water Trust, Colorado Environmental Coalition, the Steamboat Springs School District and Education Fund, the North Routt Fire Protection District, and he was a founding member of the Community Agricultural Alliance. He has also served as regional representative in Northwest Colorado for Senator Ken Salazar and will now serve in the same role for Senator Mark Udall. We are thankful to Jay for his incredible vision and everything he has done to bring CCALT to where we are today.

## In Memory of Those We Have Lost

Over the past several months we have lost several important people connected to our land trust. We would like to mention them here to honor their names. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

John Fetcher

Drue Hartong

James Meadow

David Meyring

## Board of Directors

Bill Fales  
*President*

Randy Rusk  
*Vice President*

Corwin Brown  
*Treasurer*

Ben Duke  
*Secretary*

Sue Anschutz-Rodgers

Reeves Brown

Miles Davies

Roger Evans

Rick Knight

Penny Lewis

C.J. Mucklow

Joanne Sinclair

Tim Wohlgenant

## Advisory Council

Jay Fetcher Pat Grant

Dale Lasater Sydney Macy

Jack Orr Max Vezzani

Ed Warner

## Staff

Chris West  
*Executive Director*

Barb Dowdy  
*Director of Operations*

Alyssa Schneider  
*Development and  
Communications Manager*

Carolyn Aspelin  
*Senior Project Manager*

Erik Glenn  
*Project Manager*

Megan Manner  
*Project Manager*

Sharon Lanyon Pierce  
*Administrative Assistant*

## Meet the New Faces at CCALT

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) has been growing in order to continue the protection of Colorado's agricultural lands. Megan Manner is our newest Project Manager and Sharon Lanyon Pierce has joined us to help us with office administration.



**CCALT Project Manager**  
**Megan Manner**

Megan joined CCALT in 2008 after spending the past two years working for the Piedmont Environmental Council, a land trust that works to promote Virginia's rural communities. Her background is in Forest Management and she has a master's in Forestry, as well as a master's in Environmental Management from the Nicholas School at Duke University. At Duke, Megan's research focused fire ecology and invasive species in both New England and the Southern Appalachians.

She will assist in project development, mapping, and writing Baseline Inventory Reports. Megan is thrilled to be working with CCALT and the ranching community to help conserve the rich cultural heritage and natural resources in Colorado's working landscapes.

Sharon is a Colorado native with a love for the land and the people who work with it. Her family has had farming experience in Kansas which inspired her to seek a position with CCALT. Sharon comes to our organization with over 20 years of administrative experience most recently with a Colorado law firm and also years spent in the Colorado healthcare system.



**CCALT Administrative Assistant**  
**Sharon Lanyon Pierce**

She was ready to make a change and truly enjoys the opportunity to learn more about the landowners of Colorado and land preservation. She looks forward to getting to know our board members and clients better and enjoys all the different aspects of the land trust.

## Save the Date!

Please join us for our annual sunset summer BBQ fundraiser. We will have cocktails, dinner and an auction to benefit CCALT and the protection of Colorado's beautiful agricultural lands. The BBQ will be held in Carbondale this year and will be hosted by Sue Anschutz-Rodgers.

**Crystal River Ranch**  
**Carbondale, Colorado**  
**Saturday, July 11, 2009**

For more information visit our website at [www.ccalt.org](http://www.ccalt.org).

## CCALT Wish List

GPS Vehicle System  
Gas Cards  
Natural Resource Reference Library  
Cell Phone  
Lightly Used Pickup/SUV

## Have you Donated Yet?

The success of our organization depends on our donors. Please take time to fill out the enclosed envelope, or visit our website at [www.ccalt.org](http://www.ccalt.org) to make an online donation. We would like to thank everyone who has supported our organization this year. We couldn't do our work without your help! Please don't forget to consider us in your estate planning as well.



## CCALT Earns National Accreditation Status

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust is pleased to announce that we have been awarded accredited status by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance.

"Accredited land trusts meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever," said Commission Executive Director Tammara Van Ryn. "The accreditation seal lets the public know that the accredited land trust has undergone an extensive, external review of the governance and management of its organization and the systems and policies it uses to protect land."

To date, CCALT has partnered with landowners in the protection of more than 320,000 acres. CCALT holds more land in conservation than any other organization in Colorado, preserving more than 200 family ranches.

"Landowners and CCA members are the reason why we are here, to preserve not only their lands, but their heritage

and the lifeblood of our rural communities," said Bill Fales, CCALT's Board President. "Our success is not possible without the devotion of the ranching families that we have the honor of working with every day."

CCALT is proud to display the accreditation seal. It is an honor to be one of the few accredited land trusts in the nation. We would not be where we are today without our partners and donors. Thank you!



***The accreditation seal recognizes land trusts that meet national standards for excellence, uphold the public trust and ensure that conservation efforts are permanent.***