



# Chronicle

December 2007 \* Our 84th Year



## Upcoming Programs in Brief

### December 11, 2007

James Grafton Rogers Award  
Honoring the 2007 Recipient Clayton Early Learning

### December 18, 2007

No Program Scheduled  
In observance of the holidays

### December 25, 2007

No Program Scheduled  
In observance of Christmas

### January 1, 2008

No Program Scheduled  
In observance of New Years Day

### January 8, 2008

Governor Bill Ritter

### January 15, 2008

Professor John Straayer  
A political science professor at CSU, Prof. Straayer will discuss issues that the state legislature will address in its 2008 session.

### January 22, 2008

Dan Ritchie  
Chairman and CEO, Denver Center for Performing Arts

## James Grafton Rogers Award

The City Club of Denver will present its 2007 James Grafton Rogers award to the Clayton Early Learning Center on December 11, 2007. The award, named for the Club's first president, will honor the Center's work in early childhood education. The Center is a state-of-the-art preschool that each year serves approximately 300 low-income children from infancy to age five.

## Message From the President Steve Wright

*The City Club of Denver is off to another great year. We had our traditional opening day luncheon with Mayor Hickenlooper, and since then have had numerous interesting and educational programs. I hope you have been able to attend all or some of the programs, at which speakers have covered such wide-ranging topics as homelessness, the use of DNA in prosecuting crime, Colorado's fast-growing biosciences industry, and the activities of the Peace Corps, just to name a few.*

*We held one of our programs (October 9 Debate on Denver's Infrastructure Ballot Issue) at the Denver Botanic Gardens; we would be interested in your feedback on whether holding an occasional program at a site other than the Brown Palace is to your liking. We just had one special event at the Anschutz Medical Campus and plan at least one more in the Spring. Stay tuned for details.*

*Other members of the Board of Directors and I are working to update and improve our website. We're also working to increase membership and at the same time streamline our membership process. And we'd like to explore the possibility of more joint programs*

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## Special Event for City Club Members and Guests held at Anschutz Medical Campus

Over 30 City Club members and guests participated in the club's first special event of the season on December 7 at the Denver Anschutz Medical Campus. Participants were treated to an overview of the development of the former Army Medical Base and a rooftop visual tour by City Club Board Member Jeff Thomson, who serves as government and corporate relations director for the University of Colorado Hospital. The group also toured the Eisenhower Room, where President Eisenhower spent 7 weeks recovering from a heart attack in 1955, enjoyed a reception sponsored by the Hospital and a discussion about wellness and preventive health care with Dr. Steve Kicks.



### Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is dedicated to serving and growing the membership of the City Club of Denver. The Club is always looking for ways to expand the membership base and to improve the experience for all members. Members of this Committee greet club members and guests, follow up with guests and seek out new members. It is very clear that the most effective way to get new members is through existing members who bring guests and recruit friends, colleagues and contacts. We ask each member to invite as many guests as they can to City Club programs and that each member commit to bringing at least one guest per month to a City Club program. We also ask that each member actively seek out new members. If you have a prospect, let the Membership Committee know; we'll take it from there. The co-chairs of the Membership Committee are Kathy Holmes (kathy-holmes@comcast.net; (303) 399-3314) and Bill Slamkowski (bslamkowski@hkh-law.com; 720-289-3228). If you are interested in joining the Membership Committee, please contact either Kathy Holmes or Bill Slamkowski. See listing of new members on page 4 of this *Chronicle*.

### Program Committee

The Program Committee has been hard at work lining up an exciting year of programs for you. See upcoming programs on page 1 of this *Chronicle*; a few recent programs are summarized below. Co-Chairs Mary Anne Valeska and John Head welcome comments and suggestions for future programs.



*RMCO President Stephen Saunders (center) with City Club President Steve Wright (left) and City Club member Jeff Hart*

- On December 4, **Stephen Saunders**, President of the Rocky Mountain Climate Organization (RMCO), told City Club members that climate change is having an impact in Colorado, will have an even greater impact in the future, and there are things that we Coloradans can do about it. He summarized the recommendations

of a blue-ribbon Climate Action Panel, convened by the RMCO, that developed recommendations for reducing of greenhouse gases in Colorado and preparing for changes that may be coming.

- On November 20, **Nancy Curren**, Regional Manager of the Peace Corps, spoke to the City Club. She showed some of the Peace Corps' informational videos, emphasizing the organization's efforts in business development. She explained that the Peace Corps also devotes a significant amount of effort to work in health and HIV-AIDS and to teaching English. In addition to its youth volunteers, the Peace Corps is actively recruiting volunteers over the age of 50, as they bring more life experience and advanced training in particular fields.
- On November 6, Colorado Republican Party Chair **Dick Wadhams** and Colorado Democratic Party Chair **Pat Waak** each gave their views on the upcoming political year. Pat Waak highlighted the Democratic National Convention, to be held in Denver in August 2008, as evidence of the growing influence of the West in national politics and of the Democratic party in Colorado. Dick Wadhams said he looks forward to the upcoming political races and to the Republicans taking back a number of seats in the state legislature and other local and national races.

### Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee A Thank You to our 2007 Donors

Inta Morris, Craig Mills and Jeff Thompson, co-chairs of the Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee, would like to thank the following individuals for their generous contributions to the City Club in 2007:

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Fred Bender             | John Maslanik      |
| Isabelle (Izzie) Bowman | Patricia Mcclernan |
| Lucy Black Creighton    | Robert Rich        |
| Alan Gass               | Mary Ann Tavery    |
| Nora Kelly              | Carl Wells         |
| John Low                |                    |

We also thank our corporate sponsors Koncilja & Associates, P.C. and Isaacson, Rosenbaum, Woods & Levy, P.C. for their support.

The City Club is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization, and survives in part due to contributions from our members and members of the community. Please consider giving a donation to help support City Club's mission of public discourse.



## New Board Member Profiles

## John Head

Board Members of the City Club of Denver serve three-year terms, with three new Board members elected each year. Board members commit their time, energy and enthusiasm to our Club. Below find the biographies of two of our newest Board members, Kathy Holmes and John Head.

John F. Head, a Denver trial lawyer, grew up on a farm in Nebraska. The first eight years of his education was in a one-room school house in the Nebraska sand hills. After undergraduate studies at the University of Nebraska and Colorado State University, he enlisted in the Army and obtained a commission through Infantry Officer Candidate School. In Viet Nam, he served as an intelligence and infantry adviser. His decorations include the Combat Infantryman’s Badge, Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

### Kathy Holmes

After discharge from the Army, he obtained a law degree from the University of Denver in 1972. Since then, he has been a practicing attorney in Denver where he specializes in the litigation of mortgage fraud and predatory lending practices; securities fraud claims; shareholder derivative suits; oppression of minority shareholders; building construction and mechanic’s liens; quiet title, boundary disputes and foreclosures; as well as suits involving breach of contract, fraud, negligence, and breach of fiduciary duty.

After spending 24 years in the Washington D.C. region, Kathy traded in the National Monuments for the Rocky Mountains seeking a lifestyle change. As President of Holmes Communications, a business consulting and executive coaching practice, she works with a wide range of organizations and professionals in the areas of marketing, communications and business development.

He has been a Republican since registering to vote in 1964. His political activities range from passing out campaign literature for Richard Nixon to serving as the Colorado Coordinator for John Anderson’s 1980 campaign for president. In 1999, a week after the Columbine shooting, he cofounded SAFE Colorado with his long-time friend, Arnie Grossman (a hopeless Democrat). Strictly bipartisan, SAFE Colorado sponsored Amendment 22, which, with over 70% voter approval in November 2000, closed the gun show loophole in this state.

A large segment of her practice back east included large land development projects where she served as a strategist and developer liaison by working with local government, communities and the media throughout the development process. After completing a three-year program she added executive coaching as a response to a burgeoning client demand. She moved from California to the East Coast to join a sports marketing firm where she represented professional athletes by securing product sponsorships and golf and tennis events at luxury resorts.

Kathy has served on numerous boards and committees in areas such as economic development, affordable housing, women’s issues, community affairs, Alzheimer’s respite care, youth mentoring and pain management advocacy. While serving on the board for a homeless shelter she stepped in and ran the shelter for four months after the unexpected death of the executive director. She currently serves as programs co-chair for the Rocky Mountain Legal Marketing Association.

An avid cyclist, runner, hiker and certified AFF skydiver, Kathy has turned the great outdoors of Colorado into her health and fitness center.

**Did you know.....**

- that the City Club of Denver was established in 1922?
- that the Brown Palace, where the City Club meets each Tuesday, opened its doors in 1892?
- that every president since Teddy Roosevelt has visited the Brown Palace, with the exception of Calvin Coolidge?

## 2007-2008 City Club Officers

- Steve Wright, President
- Libby Fay, Secretary/Treasurer
- John F. Head, Program Committee Co-Chair
- Mary Ann Valeska, Program Committee Co-Chair
- Kathy Holmes, Membership Committee Co-Chair
- Bill Slamkowski, Membership Committee Co-Chair

- Craig Mills, Fundraising/Sponsorship Co-Chairs
- Inta Morris, Fundraising/Sponsorship/Special Events Co-Chair
- Jeff Thompson, Fundraising/Sponsorship/Special Events Co-Chair
- Frances Koncilja, Ex Officio/Nominations Committee



**Message from the President  
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*with other Denver-area organizations.*

*While the Board of Directors and I are thrilled about all that has been going on this program year, we need your help.*

*First, the Board of Directors is seeking an individual to help prepare the Chronicle. Responsibilities would include soliciting short articles from Board members and others and doing some basic layout of the newsletter. Please contact me if you are interested.*

*We also are always looking for members who would like to serve on any of our standing committees, namely, the Program Committee, Membership Committee, Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee or the Special Events Committee. You can let me know if you are interested in helping out the Club by serving on any of these committees.*

*I hope that you are enjoying your membership in the Club. As always, please feel free to contact me or any of the Board members with your comments or suggestions for ways of improving our Club. And I look forward to seeing you next Tuesday!*

*Steve Wright*

City Club of Denver  
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**New Members of the City Club**

On behalf of the City Club of Denver, the Board of Directors welcomes the following new members who have joined the City Club during the 2007-2008 program year\*. We hope you are enjoying your membership in the City Club!

- Sally Anderson**, Attorney at Law
- Peter Blake**
- James Campbell**, Medical Device Manufacturer
- Ryan Chase**, UMB
- Charles Farrell**, Northstar Investment Advisors
- Francois Goyer**, EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc.
- Larry Gray**, Health Talent
- David R. Hammond**, Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP
- John Hancher**, OTM, Inc.
- Irwin Horwitz**
- John Holman**, Swift Air ING
- Dennis Humphries**, Humphries Poli Architects
- Valli Thayer**
- Bryan Morelock**, Gevity
- Nanine Odell**, Merrill Lynch
- Enid Slack**
- Jeremy Story**, LeGrand Hart
- Patricia Vardaman**, Senior Housing Options
- Robert Wamsley**, Golden Tiger LLC
- Willis Wood Jr.**, Trade Show Emporium

\*Listed are members who joined as of June 1, 2007. We apologize for any mistakes in this list; please let us know if we inadvertently missed your name or otherwise have incorrect information so that we may correct our records.

**Help Needed!**

The City Club is seeking a volunteer to assist in putting together the Chronicle.