



## Message From the President

**John Head**

*Dear Members,*

*We're well into our 2008-2009 program year, and I hope you have had the opportunity to enjoy some or all of the luncheon programs. We started off with our traditional luncheon with the Mayor on September 2, who lived up to expectations with an enthusiastic and entertaining report of the Democratic National Convention. Since then, we've had discussions about some of the issues that appear on the November 2008 ballot, and we've tried to balance those political programs off with speakers on education, energy, and world poverty. You can read more about some of these recent programs on page 2 of this Newsletter.*

*As we consider future speakers and program ideas, I am struck by the enormity of issues challenging our state, our nation and indeed our world. The economy is in turmoil; the war and surrounding unrest continues in the Middle East; we are seeing increasing and alarming signs of a changing climate; and fluctuating gasoline prices remind us that we have yet to attain anything resembling energy security. The new administration will begin shortly to address these challenges, and we will seek to provide our Members with programs that can put these issues into context for us here in Denver. Over the coming months, we hope to bring you experts who can talk about the economic crisis and what it means for banks and businesses in Denver; we'll seek a variety of views on the direction our country has laid out with respect to*

## Upcoming Programs in Brief

**November 25, 2008**

**Tom Noel and Amy Zimmer**  
History of Denver's Performing Arts

**December 2, 2008**

**Kim Day, Manager of Denver International Airport**  
Learn more about one of the world's busiest airports, our own DIA.

**December 9, 2008**

**To Be Announced**

**December 16, 2008**

**James Grafton Rogers Award (see below)**

Please join the City Club as we present our 13th annual James Grafton Rogers Award

**Note: There will be no meetings December 23 and December 30 so that our members may enjoy the holiday season.**

**The first meeting in 2009 will be on Tuesday, January 6. Further details coming!**

*renewable energy; and we'll broaden our scope to include discussion of our country's foreign policy. Our Club has a tradition of focusing primarily on local topics, but I do not believe we can remain relevant unless we address some of these larger issues that will affect us all.*

*I hope you'll continue to provide feedback on the programs you hear and those you would like to hear. And I look forward to seeing you Tuesday*

*John Head*

## **Attention All Members!**

Please join us on December 9, 2008 as the City Club of Denver presents the 13th annual James Grafton Rogers Award. A Denver native, Rogers served as Assistant Secretary of State under President Hoover, Dean of the University of Colorado and University of Denver law schools, and was the founder and first president of the City Club of Denver. In honor of his civic accomplishments, the City Club presents an award to an organization or community member each year.

## **Membership Dues**

The City Club Board of Directors seeks to keep our dues and luncheon prices as low as possible while still providing the services our members expect. Our costs include this Chronicle, maintaining the website, and administrative support that helps us to deliver over 30 programs each year. As costs have increased, so must we occasionally raise our luncheon and dues prices.

As of January 1, 2009 membership dues will increase to \$160 for regular members and \$130 for seniors 62 and older. You can help us keep dues low in the future by bringing guests and helping to attract new members.

## **City Club Programs**

We started the year with our traditional luncheon with the Mayor. Since then, we've had a number of interesting and informative programs. A few of the recent programs are described below.

In recognition of Governor Ritter's

## **New City Club Members**

The City Club is always seeking to bring in new members to enjoy our Club. We welcome new members Tom Dethlefs, Paul Quinn, Whitey Watzman, Floyd Ciruli, Robert Harry, and

proclamation of October as “Energy Awareness Month,” the City Club invited **Tom Plant**, director of the Governor’s Energy Office, to speak to our members on October 14. Plant described Colorado’s strengths in renewable energy – our resources, our universities, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and other federal institutions, and our citizens. And he described the programs and activities his office is pursuing to advance renewable energy and energy efficiency in Colorado. Plant shared what he considers one of his favorite success stories: A middle school and high school in the Yampa valley transitioned from an antiquated coal-fired furnace to a modern geo-exchange and woody biomass heating system with the help of several state grants. The new system uses biomass pellets from beetle kill, reduces coal dust, ash and soot, as well as carbon dioxide emissions, thus benefiting the students, teachers and community.

On September 16, **Paul Polak**, founder and retired president of International Development Enterprises, gave an inspiring talk about his 25 years of working to help individuals around the world lift themselves out of poverty. Polak spoke about his beliefs that current international assistance programs will never end poverty, and that western businesses are missing out on some of the biggest market opportunities in the developing world. As an example of the work he and IDE have done, he demonstrated a treadle pump, an inexpensive human-powered device that allows farmers to better irrigate their land, thus growing more and marketable crops and increasing their income. He also explained how a simple drip irrigation system can increase a family’s production potential, again lifting them out of poverty.

In anticipation of the election on November 4 and the many ballot measures Colorado voters would face, the City Club invited **Jennie Drage Bowser** from the National Conference of State Legislatures to talk to members about how Colorado’s referendum process compares to other states. Bowser noted that Colorado’s ballot access requirements -- that is, the

Stephanie Tryba. Below, three of our new members introduce themselves.

**Tom Dethlefs** : I am a regulatory attorney for Qwest Corporation and represent the Company in regulatory proceedings before public utility commissions throughout Qwest’s fourteen state region. I decided to join the City Club after attending several lunch events as a guest of Jim McMaster. I have lived in Denver for about twelve years now. Before that I lived in Chicago. I attended college at Baylor University and law school at the University of Chicago.

I am a member of the Association for the Study of Peak Oil (“ASPO-USA”) and spend some of my spare time informing those who are interested about Peak Oil and its possible ramifications for society. I am very much interested in the efforts being made in Colorado and other states to develop sources of renewable energy.

My father was a career officer in the Army and, as a result, I spent most of my grade school years on military bases around the country. In between college and law school, I lived in Vail for a year and it was then that I decided that I would one day make Colorado my home. Most of my family lives in Omaha, Nebraska. My father, Hank, and my mother, Mary Jo, both live there as do my brothers John and Hans. I have one sister, Theresa, who lives in Cedar Falls, Iowa

**Sanford (Whitey) Watzman**: From time to time I used to cover the City Club in Cleveland as a

number of signatures required to refer an initiative to the ballot -- is easier than most other states. When looking at the absolute number of signatures required, Colorado ranks 5th among the 24 states that have an initiative process; but when put into terms of percentage of voting age population, Colorado has by far the easiest access to the ballot. She also put Colorado's 2008 ballot into historical perspective, noting that the most measures we've ever had on the ballot was in 1912, the first year we had an initiative process, when voters faced 32 questions. The 2008 ballot gets second place.

**Patty Limerick**, Director of the Center of the American West and a professor at the University of Colorado, spoke on November 18th about the history of water and water use in Denver. She framed the discussion around two early views of the Rocky Mountain region: the first, expressed by famed explorers Pike and Long, that the region would forever be limited by its geography; the other view, by Booster William Gilpin, that a great city would flourish, despite the scarcity of water. Limerick praised human technological ingenuity that built projects like the Cheesman dam in 1905, and suggested that such persistence is often less visible today.

### **Did you know...Denver is 150!\***

On Saturday, November 22, Denver turned 150 years old. Denver was established by a party of prospectors in 1858 when General William Larimer placed cottonwood sticks on the hill overlooking the confluence of the South Platt River and Cherry Creek. The founders named the city after James W. Denver, Governor of Kansas Territory, of which eastern Colorado was then a part (though unknown to the party, the Governor had already retired).

The Denver City Town Co. was thus organized and the founders -- Bassett, Wynkoop, Blake, McGaa, Larimer, Lawrence,

reporter for the Cleveland Plain Dealer (that was in the 1950s—I'm 82 years old now). I used to find it very stimulating then, and I decided only recently (but tardily—I've been in Denver since 2002) to get that same stimulation fix here. I haven't been disappointed since joining.

After those scribblings in Cleveland, I went on to Columbus in 1962 to cover the governor and the legislature, then to the newspaper's bureau in Washington, where I used to peek in at the Capitol, the White House and a number of government agencies.

I left the newspaper in 1971 to join a close friend who'd been elected to Congress, and I ran his Washington office during his three terms. Then, at the end of 1976, I joined the U.S. State Department to edit STATE magazine, finally retiring, after some extensive traveling around the world, at the end of 1995, when Newt Gingrich and his cohorts closed down the U.S. Government briefly in a budget dispute with Bill Clinton.

I moved to Denver to join a daughter here, as my other kids, too, had already abandoned us in Washington. My wife June was right to force the move. We arrived here while I was still in shape to climb the 14ers. I don't do that any more, and I don't run either (I do walk rapidly). It was only this past October that I finally gave up running after more than 40 years of it (but not until after I'd won the Colfax half-marathon in my age group two years ago).

Curtis and Welton -- named the still un-built streets after themselves.

It was a while before the city became “civilized.” In the mid 1860s, a touring English clergyman found that “it was quite usual for honest folks to be awakened from their sleep by the noise of exploding guns, and when daylight came to find that a dead body had been tossed from a window into the street.”

Denver was founded as a main supply town for Rocky Mountain mining camps. The city’s early hopes of becoming the economic center in the West were dashed when Union Pacific decided to push its transcontinental route through Cheyenne. But city leaders took it upon themselves to raise half a million dollars to build a roadbed between Denver and Cheyenne, UP built the track and the first train arrive in 1870.

From 1870 to 1890, Denver grew from 4,759 to 106,713 inhabitants. In a single generation, Denver became the second most populous city in the West, second only to San Francisco. All commerce centered around Larimer Street in the early days. The first permanent structure in Denver was a saloon. By 1910, Denver had 410 saloons.

Much of Denver’s sprawl is due to the streetcar system, begun in 1871 with a horse-drawn trolley from 7th and Larimer streets to 27th and Champa. By 1927, Denver Tramway trolleys had reached out to the “suburbs” of Congress Park, Curtis Park, Montclair, Cherry Creek, Englewood and Littleton.

Today, the Denver metropolitan area is home to over 2.5 million people, 588,000 of them within the city and county of Denver’s borders.

*\*Information from the Denver Post*

In addition to the City Club, I belong as a volunteer to the Denver Police Review Board. I read newspapers like crazy, I work out every morning, I listen constantly to jazz and classical music, and I take classes at the Colorado Academy of Lifelong Learning. I’m in love with Denver and its climate, and with Cheesman Park, which forms my back yard in the condo where I live with June.

**Stephanie Tryba:** I work with Tryba Architects and live downtown next door to our office. David Tryba and I have been married for 17 years. We have two children, a girl and a boy ages 15 and 14. I graduated from the University of Colorado in Boulder and moved to Denver 20 years ago from San Francisco. My hobbies include skiing, hiking, reading, travel and studying design. The City Club is a wonderful way to be connected to the people and events in the Denver community and beyond. The topics are always relevant and provocative. I’m delighted to be a part of this Denver institution.

