

Message From the President

John Head

Dear Members:

These are times which test one's soul. The City Club of Denver, if it has a soul, is being tested along with everyone else. But, with your help, we will survive just as we have through the Great Depression, wars, business cycles and political upheaval.

More so than ever before, The City Club of Denver serves an important function in our democracy. In marked change from the recent past, our government is open to input from the citizens. As technology has changed, the means by which we communicate with our political leaders has made it easier to each of us to provide input. And with the current financial and economic travails, the need for the government and citizens to talk to each other is as profound as it has ever been – at least within recent memory.

The City Club has provided interesting and provocative programs which you will find nowhere else. Given the broad range of interests and experiences of our members, there are always any number of programs to inform, stimulate, and challenge.

Our programs have certainly been interesting and provocative. The mayor of Denver and the governor of Colorado are always in the line-up. We have had debates over ballot measures. We have had lectures on various aspects of Colorado history. Whatever the hot topic is; we have had speakers to lead the discussion.

But I need your help on one aspect of keeping The City Club viable. The help I need is for you to assist in recruiting new members. Since the programs are essentially break-even, it is the initiation fee and the annual membership dues which cover the overhead and make it possible for the Club to continue its activities.

Bring a guest to lunch. If you are bashful in

Upcoming Programs in Brief

March 10, 2009

Join us on March 10th for our annual Legislative Forum with the leadership of the Colorado Legislature.

March 17, 2009: His Excellency Ambassador Said Tayeb Jawad – CANCELED. New Program to be announced shortly.

March 24, 2009: Don Childears

Don Childears, President and CEO of the Colorado Bankers Association, will give his insights into the state of banking in the United States.

March 31, 2009: William Convery

During this bicentennial year of Lincoln's birth, Colorado State Historian Convery will talk about Lincoln's lesser known connections with Colorado.

April 7, 2009: Congresswoman Diana DeGette

Congresswoman DeGette will update us on events in Congress and discuss her efforts to pass legislation bolstering stem cell research.

New Board Member

City Club Board member Mary Ann Valeska resigned in February due to personal reasons. The Board appointed Beverly Razon, a member since 2008, to fill out Mary Ann's term. A short biography of Bev follows:

Beverly Razon serves as Manager of Client Services for Dovetail Solutions. She moved to Denver from Washington, D.C. where she worked on Capitol Hill for nearly eight years. Prior to her career in government, Beverly volunteered for a state representative in Nebraska's Unicameral and worked for a small business throughout her years in college.

Beverly has been active in raising public awareness of breast cancer through the American Cancer Society and Susan G. Komen

selling them on the merits of being a member, introduce them to me or any of the other Board members. Or, give me a call, or an email, or a note, and I will invite them to membership.

The cost of membership is a bargain at twice the price. The initiation fee is \$65 (less a \$25 discount for enrolling online) and the annual fees are:

Senior:	\$130
Regular:	\$160
Spouse:	\$130
Under 35:	\$100

I hope you will help me. After all, we're in this together. Survival is not assured but, if everyone does their part, The City Club of Denver will continue to be an important part of the Denver landscape.

John Head

for the Cure both on the local and national levels. She has also supported not-for-profit organizations such as Heifer International, which strive to achieve economic advancement in under-privileged countries and has contributed to advancing outdoors education.

Locally, Beverly participates in several young professionals' organizations connecting local professionals and coordinating fundraising activities. She is also engaged in the Denver Public Schools Foundation's School Partners Program with Columbian Elementary School in Northwest Denver and is actively pursuing other opportunities within the community to give back.

New Members

The City Club is always seeking to bring in new members to enjoy our Club. We welcome new members Ryan Christ, Bill Kirton, Patty Limerick, Robert Harry, Phil Hilvitz, David Tryba, Zach Urban and Howard Zoufaly. Below, two of our new members introduce themselves.

Dr. Patty Limerick: I am the Faculty Director and Chair of the board of the Center of the American West at CU, where I am also a Professor of History. I have dedicated my career to bridging the gap between academics and the general public and to demonstrating the benefits of applying historical perspective to contemporary dilemmas and conflicts.

I have received a number of awards and honors recognizing the impact of my scholarship and my commitment to teaching, including the MacArthur Fellowship and the Hazel Barnes Prize, CU's highest award for teaching and research. I have served as president of several professional organizations, advised documentary and film projects, and done two tours as a Pulitzer Non-Fiction jurist. I regularly engage the public on the op-ed pages of local and national newspapers, and in the summer of 2005 I served as a guest columnist for the *New York Times*.

City Club Programs

The City Club Program Committee has been hard at work bringing you a diverse and interesting line-up of programs. Below please read about some of our recent programs.

- **Governor Bill Ritter** continued the City Club tradition of speaking to Club members and guests on the first Tuesday in January. He gave a preview of his State of the State Address, to be delivered two days later. He spoke about the need to focus on jobs and the economy, while continuing to build on the progress the state had made in other areas, such as in education and in building the New Energy Economy. Ritter also spoke about recent conversations he and other governors had had with President-elect Obama and about his hopes for some economic assistance to the state from the Federal Government through the economic stimulus package. Ritter answered numerous questions, including about his recent appointment of Michael Bennet to the U.S. Senate.
- On February 3, **Robert Cohen**, Founder and Executive Chairman of the Metro Denver Sports Commission, amazed members with a discussion about all the various sporting events Denver has coming its way-- from the US National Curling

I joined the City Club after giving a Tuesday luncheon talk to members last Fall.

Robert Harry: I moved to Denver about three years ago after retiring as a general surgeon in Nebraska. We had a place in Keystone and two of our four sons living in Denver so we sold our mountain house and moved to Denver and certainly have not been disappointed. We go to the Symphony, Denver Center Theater, Rockies baseball, and many other activities offered by your fair city.

I attended the University of Nebraska where I played Basketball. I had the pleasure of playing the entire game when we beat the University of Kansas and Wilt Chamberlin. What a thrill. Following college I spent three years in the U. S. Marine Corps as an artillery officer. Then it was off to Medical school. Specialization in Surgery followed. I then spent 3 years on the faculty of the Surgery Department. I then spent 20 years small town Nebraska in solo practice. We felt it would be a good place to raise four boys and it turned out great. During that time I was instrumental in developing the Nebraska Statewide Trauma System. It took a long time fighting through State bureaucracies and various vested self interests, but it was worth it. The incidence of civilian trauma has reached nearly epidemic proportions. Trauma systems save lives by transporting patients to the closest appropriate hospital in the most expeditious way.

For the last ten years of my career, I moved to Kearney Nebraska in the central part of the state and established a trauma center there. It is an amazing hospital seemingly in the middle of nowhere. They now have three neurosurgeons, open heart surgery, nearly all the other specialties, and the latest equipment. If you should have a car crash in Central Nebraska you will be well cared for.

My wife Maryanne and I are enjoying our retirement very much.

Championship in February to the “SportAccord” in March, an international conference that may include President Obama and other world leaders, to all the planning and work going on to put in a bid for a Denver Winter Olympics in 2018 or 2022. Not only are these events of interest to sports fans, Cohen also noted the benefits of the events to Denver’s and the region’s economy. One self described “life-long ardent Denver sports fan” said after the program that he “was totally blown away” by all that the Commission is involved in and all the events coming to Denver.

- On Tuesday January 27, former Denver **Mayor Wellington Webb** spoke to Club members and guests about the politics of race in the United States. Reflecting on his attendance at the inauguration of Barack Obama the previous week, Webb said that the country had changed and that there is a new generation at the helm. He gave credit to Martin Luther King Jr. and other black politicians who had set things in motion, also noted that Denver had been ahead of the curve, having elected Federico Pena as Mayor and had two African Americans (himself and Norm Early) in the primary for Mayor in 1991, the year he himself was elected. Webb then introduced Denver Councilman Michael Hancock and Angela Williams. Williams used the occasion to hint that she had plans to run for Colorado House Speaker Terrence Carroll’s seat in the Colorado legislature, with Carroll being term limited. Hancock and Williams commented on the inter-racial and inter-generational aspects of the Obama campaign, and suggested that Obama had won because he had a vision for the country, was able to convey that vision and empowered the public.
- **Dr. Bill Scoggins**, President of the Colorado School of Mines, gave an overview of the college, its role in energy research, and an impassioned plea for the United State to pay more attention to getting kids interested in math and science at an early age. He noted that if current trends continue, the United States risks falling behind other countries – notably China and India—in engineering and economic competitiveness. Scoggins accepted the position of president after retiring from a

A Reminder to all Members

Annual dues were increased by \$30 as of January 2009. While the Board never likes to raise dues, this increase was necessary to keep up with rising costs associated with this Chronicle, maintaining the website, and administrative support that helps us to deliver 30 programs each year. Please help us keep our costs down in the future by bringing more guests and helping to attract more members.

successful career with Mobil and Exxon Mobil. He compared the challenges of his current position with those of his past positions, noting jokingly that the most difficult adjustment has been having to fly in the middle seat in coach class, as opposed to the corporate jet.

- Members and guests who attended the luncheon on February 24 were treated to a wonderful preview of the art and artist's story soon to be on display in the Clyfford Still museum. **Dean Sobel**, the future museum's director, took members through Still's life, from his early painting years in Washington state to his "reclusive" years in Maryland, all set against the broader background of art movements and world events. The program was an "American Art of the 20th Century 101" course, covering realism, abstractism, abstract expressionism, and primitivism. Sobel said that Still had retained some 2400 pieces of artwork, of which 945 will be housed in the new museum. Sobel clearly was not alone in his appreciation of Mayor Hickenlooper's and the city of Denver's commitment to being the "American city that will maintain permanent quarters exclusively for the collection."

James Grafton Rogers Award

On December 16, 2008, the City Club of Denver made its annual James Grafton Rogers award. This year's award went to Daniel Ritchie. Following are comments made by City Club president John Head.

Today we take some time to recognize an individual who has made extraordinary and timeless contributions to the quality of life in the Denver region. This recognition is, of course, the annual James Grafton Rogers Award. The James Grafton Rogers Award is named after the founder of The City Club of Denver. A Denver native, Rogers was a true Renaissance Man. He was an attorney and educator, as well as a poet, playwright, author, musician, and composer. He served as Assistant Secretary of State in Washington under President Herbert Hoover. He was Dean of both the University of Colorado and University of Denver law schools, and served as President of the Colorado Bar Association. In addition to founding The City Club of Denver and serving as its first president, he was also the founder, chairman, or president of several organizations including the University Club, Colorado Mountain Club, Denver Civic League, Denver Council of Boy Scouts, and the Historical Society of Colorado. People like this are rare indeed.

Our 2008 honoree is one such person. Between graduation from Harvard with undergraduate and MBA degrees and his 1987 retirement as CEO of Westinghouse Broadcasting, Dan Ritchie held various executive positions with MCA, Inc. In that year, 1987, Dan Ritchie moved to the Grand River Ranch, a large property he had owned near

Kremmling for many years. But he didn't really retire. Dan Ritchie became a trustee of the University of Denver in 1983. Later, his association with DU deepened. He served as vice chairman of the board and chaired the development committee before becoming the 16th Chancellor in 1989, a position he served with distinction until 2005. From 2005 to 2007, Mr. Ritchie served as Chairman of the Board of the University of Denver. In his nearly 20 years of involvement with DU, the oldest private university in the Rocky Mountain region, the school has steadily gained in stature.

For example, during his tenure, the University pioneered in the teaching of ethics at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. Chancellor Ritchie collaborated with Bill Daniels to incorporate ethics, values and social responsibility in the business school curriculum. In 1994, Dan Ritchie announced a personal gift to the University of \$15 million, to be achieved through sale of some 19,600 acres of his Grand River Ranch. Since then he has given the University the remainder of the ranch, and its sale has netted more than \$50 million. In 2001, the University concluded the largest fund-raising campaign in its history, surpassing a \$200 million goal by nearly \$74 million. A \$450 million construction and renovation program, mostly funded by private contributions, has changed the campus's culture and skyline. Among improvements are new buildings for student residence, business, science, law and music education; a center for athletics, recreation and wellness; a performing arts center; and more funds for scholarships.

But he still didn't retire. In January 2007, Dan Ritchie became Chairman and CEO of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, one of the largest cultural complexes in the United States. Dan Ritchie currently serves as President of the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation, which focuses on early childhood education and development, and he is Chairman of the Board of the Daniels Fund, which supports programs that encourage personal responsibility and achievement by funding college scholarships and community programs.

Dan Ritchie has also served as chair of the Education Committee of the National Park System Advisory Board. Some of Dan Ritchie's awards include: The Citizen of the West Award given by the National Western Stock Show to an individual who exemplifies the spirit and determination of the Western pioneer; the National Samaritan Institute Award; the Gold Medal Award of the Poor Richard Club; Outstanding Philanthropist at National Philanthropy Day; the National Human Relations Award from the American Jewish Committee; a Laureate member of the Colorado Business Hall of Fame and the Ethical Leadership Award from the University of Denver. Chancellor Ritchie, you are indeed a giant in this community.

The members of The City Club of Denver thank you for your leadership, your spirit, your example and your many contributions. Please accept the 2008 James Grafton Rogers Award with our deepest appreciation. This award is accompanied by a check in the amount of \$2,000 from the City Club of Denver payable to Samaritan Shelter, as Dan Ritchie has requested.