

Colorado's Voice



July 2011
Issue 1

A Colorado Agri-Women Publication

Colorado to Host 2012 AAW National Convention

Agricultural advocates from across the country will descend on Colorado November 7-11, 2012, as Colorado hosts the American Agri-Women Convention. Four officers from Colorado Agri-Women attended the 2010 AAW Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, where Colorado won the bid for 2012. The theme, "Rushing West to Find Your Fortune in Agriculture" will accentuate the uniqueness of Colorado's past and inform attendees about issues affecting agriculture's future. There is much work to be done and volunteers are needed on committees and to help with preparations. If you are interested in being involved, please contact a committee chair. The 2011 AAW Convention will be a great example of how to run the event. As many people as possible are encouraged to attend the 2011 event in Wichita, Kansas.

Colorado Participates at AAW Mid-Year Meeting

Three members of the Colorado Agri-Women traveled to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the American Agri-Women's Mid-Year meeting. President Danell Kalcevic, Vice President Janell Reid and Kelsey Helzer represented Colorado at the national working meeting. "This meeting is the heart and soul of AAW," said Kalcevic. At the mid-year meeting AAW creates their position statements on important issues facing the agriculture industry. "AAW focuses on what brings us together in agriculture. If they can't come to an agreement on an issue, they don't take a position on it," explained Kalcevic. Along with participating in the position statement discussions, CAW members updated AAW on the progress of the 2012 National Convention to be held in Denver, CO. "The theme 'Rushing West' was well received by everyone," Reid reported to members at the June CAW meeting.

Hillman to Present Legislative Training

Mark Hillman, former Colorado Senate Majority Leader will conduct a training session on the legislative processes on Wednesday, October 26, 2011 at the Limon Community Building at 7:00 PM. This event is sponsored by the Colorado Agri-Women in an effort to educate its members to more effectively communicate with law makers on behalf of agriculture. Even though he is no longer in the Senate, Hillman continues to pen articles that bring attention to the conversations happening in our state government. As a member of our agriculture community, Hillman will offer insight into the legislative process and teach attendees how to keep up to date with current issues.

Calendar Markers

August 12-13 CAW Sponsors Lincoln County Fair & Rodeo Mutton Busting. Friday at 7:00 PM, Saturday at 1:00 PM in Hugo, CO.

August 21, 2011 CAW meeting 2:00 PM at Ocean Journey, Denver, CO.

November 9-13, 2011 AAW National Convention in Wichita, KS

November 7-11, 2012 AAW National Convention in Denver, CO!

"There are good men everywhere. I just wish they had louder voices." Louis L'Amour

Colorado Agri-Women

PO Box 63
Bennett, CO 80102
coloradoagriwomen@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook at
Colorado Agri-women

Follow us on Twitter:
coagladies

CAW August Meeting:

CAW will hold its quarterly meeting at the Downtown Aquarium in Denver, August 21st.
2:00 PM - Self Guided Tours
4:00- 6:00 PM - Business meeting and dinner in the Landry Restaurant Water Room.

CAW received 20 free admissions so bring a friend and meet us 15 minutes early at the gate for tours.

CAW has pre-selected the dinner menu and members will receive special CAW pricing on the selected meal or they can order from the menu. RSVP by Aug. 16th for the dinner.

Aquarium Ticket Prices:
Adults (12-64)\$15.99
Seniors (65+)\$14.99
Children (3-11)\$9.99

(Admission ticket not required for the CAW meeting.)

Directions:

700 Water Street
Denver, CO 80211
303- 561-4450

Via I-25 Northbound

From I-25 traveling north: Exit 23rd Avenue (Exit 211). Follow the exit to the right (you will now be heading east), where you will immediately see the Aquarium on your right.

Via I-25 Southbound

From I-25 Southbound: Exit 23rd Avenue (Exit 211). Turn left at the stop sign (you will now be heading east), and you will see the Aquarium on your right just after you cross over I-25.

Corn Farmers Lend a Hand Relief Effort Submitted By Ann Cross, Colorado Corn

Is there anyone who has not been shocked by the devastation and suffering caused by natural disasters across this country? Tornadoes, flooding, fires, more flooding, more tornadoes. It seems when we are in need, it's hard to ask... and when we want to give, it's hard to know how. The "Corn Farmers Lend a Hand" project provides a clear and efficient pathway to truly make a difference for Americans who are suffering. Input and cooperation from Steve Klee of Yuma CHS and partnership with the Salvation Army have been critical in putting the project together, but any grain buyer in Colorado can facilitate if they are interested. Any person can donate bushels, cash or make a pledge, if they desire. It is totally optional, highly affective, and every single penny goes to relieve suffering.

There are three ways farmers can lend a hand: 1) simply donate a portion of any load of corn at a participating elevator, 2) pledge corn by calling the Colorado Corn office at 970.351.8301, or 3) donate cash by going to www.imsalvationarmy.org and click on the Colorado Corn button. Donations will be accepted through November 25, 2011. Grain donations for relief efforts are not subject to the one-penny-per-bushel grain assessment. Therefore, 100 percent of the proceeds will be sent to the Salvation Army.

For details on the fundraiser, grain elevator locations, or questions on how you can be involved, call the Colorado Corn office at 970.351.8201 or check on-line at www.coloradocorn.com.

Fundraising

CAW is currently fundraising to encourage more members to attend the 2011 AAW National Convention in November in Wichita, Kansas, by covering the costs associated with attendance.

CAW is accepting cash donations from businesses and have created a fundraising letter for your use. Email Heidi at kathrens@esrta.com to request that letter.

CAW members who have a personal business that have already committed to donate a percentage of the retail sales to help pay for CAW members to attend are: Becky Ravenkamp, Ann Cross, Janell Reid and Kelly Polzin. More to be added so be sure to check CAW's facebook page for new additions!

If you would like to donate from your business post on facebook and email Becky Ravenkamp to be added to the fundraising sheet!

Syngenta Leadership Program
Attended by Janell Reid, CO Agri-Women Vice President

Leadership at Its Best is a leadership program sponsored by Syngenta, a company which specializes in crop production products. The program was held April 10 – 13 in Phoenix, Arizona and was attended by Colorado Agri-Women Vice President, Janell Reid. The program is an intensive effort to help members of American Agri-Women and the National Association of Wheat Growers do a better job of promoting agriculture. The program included a half-day session on media training in which, each participant did a live interview on camera. Four hours studying Dimensions of Behavior taught participants their special behavior patterns and how to effectively deal with others. Other sessions included a lunch program on etiquette, being a leader on the board of directors for any organization, giving speeches with energy and a program on Social Media and how it can be used to speak out for agriculture. The program also included an evening out at a fine restaurant in downtown Phoenix and a trip to the Desert Botanical Gardens with dinner in an outdoor setting.

"I was privileged to attend this program," Reid said. "It was an incredible experience where I learned much about how to be a better spokesman for agriculture." Scholarships are awarded to members of American Agri-Women who apply. This was an all expense paid trip with accommodations at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Phoenix. "I would encourage all members of CO Agri-Women to apply for the scholarship and attend this program. It will change your life in ways you cannot imagine."

Legislative Notes

The Colorado Association of Wheat Growers Legislative Alert reported that Colorado State Reps. Jon Becker, R-Fort Morgan, and Jerry Sonnenberg, R-Sterling, joined Gov. John Hickenlooper as he signed House Bill 1005 into law on May 23, 2011. The bill restores the state sales tax exemption on agricultural compounds, and was effective July 1, 2011. The sales tax exemption will save Colorado wheat and agricultural producers \$3.7 million annually and also benefit agricultural chemical dealers and the rural infrastructure and economy.

From the AAW Website: www.americanagriwomen.org

The House of Representatives passed H.R. 872, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011. It states that National Pollutant Discharge Eliminations Systems (NPDES) permits are not required when applying pesticides according to their EPA approved label. Historically, pesticide applications have been regulated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), rather than NPDES permits under the Clean Water Act. AAW supported the passage of this legislation. "AAW was pleased to join with other farm organizations in support of this important measure, and we hope the Senate will move quickly to pass this bill"

President Obama signed the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act. AAW Food Safety Chair, Ruth Jensen, has a section-by-section description of the bill on AAW's website.

CAW Officers

President: Danell Kalcevic

dkkalcevic@aol.com

Vice President: Janell Reid

jrreid@coairnet.com

Secretary: Becky Ravenkamp

bravenkamp@rebeltec.net

Treasurer: Heidi Kathrens

kathrens@esrta.com

Farm Credit Tunes in to America's Heartland National Contributions Grant

Helps Fund Season Seven
By Michael Sanford, Vice President of
Content Creation
KVIE Public Television

Sharing positive stories about American agriculture with a diverse, growing and influential audience is critical to the success of farmers and ranchers across America. The more distanced consumers become from their food source, the more important it is to provide a place to turn to for accurate information about how food products make their way from farm to table. By sponsoring America's Heartland, Farm Credit has joined an initiative to provide that resource. Through the National Contributions Program, Farm Credit will help connect public television viewers across the nation, both rural and urban, to the American agriculture experience. Farm Credit's financial support directly enables production of the seventh season of America's Heartland.

Farm Credit joins the American Farm Bureau Foundation and the United Soybean Board as the first underwriters for season seven with episodes airing in summer 2011.



Almost 40 AAW member flew to Washington, DC in June to take agriculture issues to Capital Hill, and meet with agency representatives for issue updates. (AAW Press Release, June 2011)

American Agri-Women Activities



2011 AAW Convention

November 10-13, 2011
Hyatt Regency Wichita
400 West Waterman St.
Wichita, KS 67202
316-293-1234

Room Rate: \$105 / night

(Reservations made before Sept. 15th receive free wifi & parking!)

Convention Registration Cost \$250
(Early Bird Special \$200 before September 1
Register on AAW's website soon)

AAW Mid-Year Meeting

Videos of the AAW Mid-Year speakers are now on AAW's website!

You may also read affiliate reports from the Mid-Year Meeting online.

www.americanagriwomen.org

2012 American Agri-Women Convention

November 7-11, 2012
Renaissance Denver Hotel
3801 Quebec Street, Denver, CO, 80207

Convention Chairs

General Co-Chairs: Danell Kalcevic, Lori Helzer, Heidi Kathrens

Registration: Heidi Kathrens

Budget: Heidi Kathrens, to be overseen by officers

Fundraising: Lori Helzer

Program / Speakers: Becky Ravenkamp

Hotel: Danell Kalcevic

Menu / Room Setup: Janell Reid

Tours: Ann Cross

Decorations: Phyllis Mellott

Publicity/ Communications: Vacant

Hospitality: Debby Lewton

Trade Show:

Registration Packets: Heidi Kathrens

Silent Auction: Janell Reid

Invocation / Sunday Service: Vacant

Updates:

During lunch at the 2011 Convention CAW must present, to all present, an invitation to the 2012 National Convention. We need you to bring your ideas to the next CAW meeting so we can put that invitation presentation together. Bring pictures or aids to help get your idea across!

Speakers: The speakers committee has met and is arranging keynote speakers. If you have suggestions for breakout training session speakers please email the contact information to Becky Ravenkamp or Kelly Polzin and they will contact speakers.

Fundraising: If you have a business that would like to donate a percentage of sales to CAW for the purpose of members attending the 2011 AAW National Convention please email Becky Ravenkamp and a list will be published August 1st and sent to members.

15 months until 2012 Convention!!!!

2012 Convention Committees

Registration: Heidi Kathrens

Budget: Heidi Kathrens, to be overseen by officers

Fundraising: Lori Helzer, Heidi Kathrens

Program / Speakers: Becky Ravenkamp, Kelly Polzin,

Hotel: Danell Kalcevic

Menu / Room Setup: Janell Reid, Diane Clark

Tours: Ann Cross, Becky Ravenkamp, Kelly Polzin

Decorations: Phyllis Mellott, Diane Clark

Publicity/ Communications: Need a Chair, Becky Ravenkamp

Hospitality: Debby Lewton, Lori Helzer

Trade Show:

Registration Packets: Heidi Kathrens, Phyllis

Mellott, Lori Helzer, Kelsey Helzer

Silent Auction: Janell Reid, Becky Ravenkamp,

Sally Miller

Invocation / Sunday Service:

Colorado Agri-Women Membership Application

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Fax _____

Email Address _____

Person who referred you _____



Membership Options

_____ Individual Membership \$45
\$30 American Agri-Women, \$15 Colorado Agri-Women

_____ College Student \$25
\$10 American Agri-Women, \$15 Colorado Agri-Women

School Name: _____

_____ Business Membership \$515
\$500 American Agri-Women, \$15 Colorado Agri-Women

Send your check or money order to:

Colorado Agri-Women
PO Box 63
Bennett, CO 80102

Colorado Agri-Women Membership Benefits

Membership includes but is not limited to:

American Agri-Women Benefits:

- Access to the latest industry news and information
- Networking opportunities
- Participation in advocacy efforts in legislative and regulatory issues
- Opportunities to serve on committees with AAW members and other organizations
- Experience leadership Training
- Bi-Monthly AAW newsletter "The Voice"
- Annual Washington D.C. Fly In invitation
- Annual conventions sponsored by affiliates throughout the country showcasing agriculture

Colorado Agri-Women Benefits:

- Opportunity to be as active as you want in advocating for agriculture
- Education on important agricultural topics
- Educate and inform others about agriculture
- Learn more about the legislative process
- Experience leadership training
- Prepare to host the 2012 AAW National Convention
- Receive Colorado Agri-Women's newsletter "Colorado's Voice"

Mission

Our mission is: "We, as women's agriculture organizations and individuals, made up of farmers, ranchers, lawyers, goat herders, moms and more, all uniting to communicate with one another and with other consumers to promote agriculture for the benefit of the American people and the world." Thru this mission we have obtained the slogan: A Voice of Truth to the Public for Agriculture.