

Colorado's Voice



March 2012
Issue 4

A Colorado Agri-Women Publication

CAW Holds Annual Meeting

The Colorado Agri-Women held their annual meeting March 10, 2012 at the Renaissance Hotel in Denver. Registration opened at 8:00 a.m. and the hotel served a continental breakfast. President Danell Kalcevic opened the meeting promptly at 8:30 a.m. with an energetic welcome to members and visitors.

One of Colorado Agri-Women's goals is to educate members on a variety of issues. Those in attendance enjoyed educational presentations on HICAHS (High Plains Center for Agricultural Health and Safety) from Allison DeVries and changes in workman's compensation and how that effects the bottom line for farms and ranches from Brian Schiller.

The most riveting presentation was given by Debe Bell. She shared her story about the animal rights movement and how fragile property rights can be in the judicial system.

After lunch, the members of CAW focused on business. The business meeting was productive with the members voting to sponsor the Muttin' Bustin' at the Lincoln County Fair again this year and to hold a donation drive for an area shelter. Collect blankets and clothes and CAW will pick them up and deliver them to a shelter in need later this spring or summer. Updates from previous events were given by various members. Janell Reid gave a lengthy legislative update as there are many things happening right now. Becky Ravenkamp announced her resignation as secretary and the executive committee will serve as the nominating committee so interested members should submit their nominations to them and a new secretary will be elected at the next meeting. Members were reminded of upcoming AAW events including the AAW mid-year meeting in Nebraska City, NE., the Syngenta leadership training and Washington D.C. Fly-In.

After the business meeting was adjourned, the 2013 AAW Convention Committees met. Updates from the committee chairwomen were given. The schedule was reviewed. Fundraising efforts are needed to raise the amount of sponsorships required to cover the cost of hosting the event. Fundraising resources are available in print or by email by contacting coloradoagriwomen@yahoo.com. After all committee reports were given and other discussion was done the meeting was adjourned.

Calendar Markers

Next CAW Meeting:
Thursday, April 19th,
2012 8:30 PM via
Conference call. Dial
in number: 1-270-400-
2000 Participant Access
Code: 6038973

AAW Mid-Year Meeting:
March 29 - April 1, 2012
at Lied Lodge in Nebras-
ka City, NE. The Mid-Year
meeting is when AAW
debates the position
statements. If a consen-
sus cannot be attained,
an official position state-
ment is not adopted.
Get involved and get to
Nebraska City!

AAW Washington D.C. Fly-In

June 4-7, 2012
www.americanagriwomen.com

Colorado Agri-Women

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

Find us on Facebook at
Colorado Agri-women

Follow us on Twitter:
coagladies

Colorado AgriAbility Program

Fort Collins, CO.- Northeast Colorado Farmers are fortunate to have access to the Colorado AgriAbility Program. This program is a partnership between Colorado State University and Denver Goodwill Industries to promote success in agriculture when a farmer or rancher is challenged with a health issue that hampers agricultural activities.

The Colorado AgriAbility program is a free service, with the goal of helping people to remain actively involved in agriculture. The program features on-site work area and task assessments. The AgriAbility Occupational Therapist will identify what modifications can be made and suggest solutions in each individual case in an effort to keep that farmer in the field. In addition, AgriAbility staff will work to identify funding resources if equipment modifications are needed. For example, there are ways to make it possible to hitch an implement without getting down out of a tractor or manure vacs make it easier to clean pens without the strain of scooping.

AgriAbility has helped farmers with arthritis, amputations, back pain, depression, diabetes, low vision, stroke, hearing loss, brain injury, impaired balance, multiple sclerosis, depression, finger loss, chronic fatigue and knee and joint pain.

Colorado State University sites the fact that there are estimated 6,965-10,882 farmers/ranchers with disabilities in Colorado. If you are a producer or know of a producer that has a disabling condition, please contact us. Calls are confidential. The AgriAbility Program Managers realize that many producers feel that they are fine without help, but why continue to struggle if AgriAbility can make your life easier and ease stress for you, your family and your hired hands. For more information on the program, contact Lorrie Boyer at 970-370-3381.

CAW Recipes

Slow Cooker French Onion Soup

from www.onions-usa.org

Special notes: Prep time 10 Minutes

Makes 1-1/2 quarts or 6-1 cup servings.

Ingredients:

2 pounds yellow onions, trimmed, halved and sliced (2 quarts)
1 box (32 ounces) beef broth, less-sodium version if desired (1 quart)
2 teaspoons dried thyme
1/2 cup white wine or water
2 tablespoons flour
6 thick slices sour dough bread or peasant/rustic loaf, crusts trimmed
1/2 cup grated Parmesan or Swiss cheese
Cracked pepper (optional)

Directions:

Place sliced onions into a 5 or 6-quart slow cooker. Add broth and thyme and stir. Cover cooker with lid and cook on high setting 3 to 4 hours or until onions are tender.

Mix white wine (or water) with flour and stir into the slow cooker. Cover and continue to cook on high setting for 1 hour longer or until thickened.

Before serving, place bread slices on a baking sheet and top with cheese. Broil until cheese is bubbly. To serve, ladle soup into shallow bowls. Place one slice of hot cheesy bread into each bowl. Sprinkle with pepper to taste.

AAW Position Statements

ANIMAL WELFARE

189. AAW supports the responsible treatment of animals and live-stock industry participation in the development of any new policy to regulate treatment practices.

190. AAW opposes any legislation or regulations that would allow HSUS, PETA, or any other anti-animal activists access to slaughterhouses and private animal handling facilities for any reason at any time. Only highly qualified and uniformly trained states' department of agriculture employees should have access to properties for inspections at slaughterhouses or any other animal handling facility; that the animal processing industry by its very nature is vulnerable to attacks by animal rights groups.

191. AAW respectfully asks legislators, when they are approached by animal rights representatives to carry bills pertaining to animal health, to talk with actual livestock producers about the legislation in order to learn why producers use these practices for the well being of their animals.

192. AAW supports the responsible use of animals in research.

193. AAW supports strong federal criminal penalties and civil remedies for violent, threatening, obstructive, and destructive conduct that is intended to injure, intimidate, or interfere with animal enterprises and research.

194. AAW supports legislation that establishes assistance for security programs at research facilities.

195. AAW supports the right of farmers to protect their records from public scrutiny.

196. AAW supports the legalization of horse slaughter plants to guarantee the humane and environmentally sensitive disposition of aged and infirm horses in the US.

197. AAW supports the sale, possession and humane transportation of horses for processing across state and international borders.

198. AAW supports the use of standardized best management practices in livestock carcass disposal.

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

Within Range

The Within Range Website (<http://range.colostate.edu>) now has Range and Livestock News and an updated Library as well as Online Calculators that you can use to determine stocking rates, estimates of range forage production, and seed mixes for planting. Feel free to check it out!

Dr. Casey Matney
Regional Range Extension
Specialist (CSU) for NE
Colorado
Kit Carson, Logan, Morgan,
Phillips, Sedgwick, Washing-
ton, and Yuma Counties

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Hearing Loss on the Farm

Hearing loss on the farm is a very real danger for your young farm children. An educational program developed to educate youth is being offered by a CAW member's daughter.

Dangerous Decibels® is an educational program that involves entertaining interactive activities for the children and parents. The participants have an opportunity to play with tuning forks, pipe cleaners and sound level meters. From these activities the participants will learn about the physics of sound, how we hear, how loud sounds damage hearing, consequences of hearing loss and hearing loss prevention strategies. You can learn more about Dangerous Decibels® at www.dangerousdecibels.org. The program has been very well received in classrooms and proven effective in this teaching environment. We wish to deliver the program in an alternative learning environment and involve parents.

Amanda Clark can be reached at 719-439-3899 or by email at: clar0425@bearsalumni.unco.edu

2012 Legislative Issues

By Janell Reid

CAW Vice-President

The 2012 legislative session is in full swing in Washington DC and here in Colorado. There are many issues being debated that concern keeping our rights according to the US Constitution. It is my hope that every CAW member will begin following what is happening in both places.

One of the big issues in Washington DC concerning agriculture is the formation and debate on the 2012 Farm Bill. CO 4th District Representative Cory Gardner recently held Ag Forums in various locations in eastern CO. If you didn't have a chance to attend one of these Forums you may access a form and give your input on Congressman Gardner's web site. This site is dedicated to Farm Bill Specific Feedback. To access the form go to <http://gardner.house.gov/2012-Farm-Bill>. Please access this site and give your input on this important topic.

In Colorado the legislature is going full blast. With such a short session every day is packed full of committee hearings, floor debate and voting on bills. Some of the bills worth watching include HB-12-1159. This bill lets smaller counties elect their county commissioners be elected by the district they will serve. There are several counties in CO where one large city elects all the commissioners and elects commissioners that work with the city. The rural areas are then left out of any debate that will benefit them. This bill is now in the Senate and has been assigned to a committee. Next is HB-12-1036, commonly called the CORA bill. This bill is a clarification of the open records act and has passed the CO house. This bill limits access to some open records. A landowners group who is working to overturn their conservation easements is opposed to this bill because they will not be allowed to have access to the documents they need to prove their cases. HB-12-1309 is a bill that will make mandatory the E-Verify Act in CO. The bill forces all employers to use the Federal E-Verify system. Even if an employer only hires one or two workers per year they will be forced to pay for the program. The bill has been introduced in the House. SB-12-059 is a bill that will increase weights of trucks and trailers who haul Colorado Agriculture Commodities from 10,001 pounds to 26,001 pounds without increasing the number of axels under the truck or trailer.

Many other things are being discussed in the CO Legislature. I hope you will take some time to go to the CO House and Senate web sites and look at what is being debated.

The 2011 AAW Convention was attended by women from all over the United States. All AAW events celebrate agriculture and the things that bring us together. For more information visit AAW's website: www.americanagriwomen.org

American Agri-Women Activities



The 2011 AAW Convention was attended by women from all over the United States.



2012 American Agri-Women Convention

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



Colorado Agri-Women invite you to attend the 2012 AAW National Convention in Denver!

Arnold's Custom Seeding



at First National Bank & Colorado First National Bank
"We're Just a Click Away"
Kansas Locations: Bartola, Clark, Goodland, Olathe, Quinter & St. Francis
Colorado Locations: Bennett & Kola



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: Kelly Polzin
Hotel: Danell Kalcevic
Menu / Room Setup: Janell Reid
Tours: Ann Cross
Decorations: Phyllis Mellott
Publicity/ Communications: Vacant
Hospitality: Debby Lewton
Trade Show: Janell Reid
Registration Packets: Heidi Kathrens
Silent Auction: Janell Reid
Invocation / Sunday Service: Danell Kalcevic

Updates:

Seven CAW members attended the 2011 Convention in preparations to host the 2012 National Convention. We would like to thank our sponsors who helped make that happen! Thank-you to Simplot, Rabo Financial, Mountain Plains Farm Credit, Colorado First National Bank, and Arnold's Custom Seeding! Thank-you to Colorado Corn for the use of the suburban and the fuel sponsorship!

Newly revised fundraising letters are available and all members are encouraged to use them when contacting potential sponsors for the 2012 Convention!

7 months until 2012 Convention!!!

**Book your hotel now:
www.denverrenaissance.com
Group Code: aawaawa**

2012 Convention Committees

Registration: Heidi Kathrens
Budget: Heidi Kathrens, to be overseen by officers
Fundraising: Lori Helzer, Heidi Kathrens
Program / Speakers: Kelly Polzin
Hotel: Danell Kalcevic
Menu / Room Setup: Janell Reid, Diane Clark
Tours: Ann Cross, Kelly Polzin
Decorations: Phyllis Mellott, Diane Clark
Publicity/ Communications:
Hospitality: Debby Lewton, Lori Helzer
Trade Show: Janell Reid
Registration Packets: Heidi Kathrens, Phyllis Mellott, Lori Helzer, Kelsey Helzer
Silent Auction: Janell Reid, Sally Miller
Invocation / Sunday Service: Danell Kalcevic

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 \$100

\$35 American Agri-Women, \$65 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.