

CCW

Colorado CattleWomen, Inc.

News

Fall 2024

From the President, Kathleen Shoemaker



It always seems like summer flies by. This summer was no exception. It has been great to see all the locals participating in county fairs and the commitment to educate the attendees about beef nutrition and cattle ranching while supporting the next generation of 4-Her's and FFA members as they participate in the fair with their projects. You should also know I have seen all the pictures of you cooking for various County Fairs and they make me hungry!

Our annual meeting was held in conjunction with the Colorado Cattlemen's Annual Convention in Colorado Springs in June. I am happy to report 18 Presidents of local affiliates attended the Board of Directors meeting and 40 members attended the General Membership Meeting. I really enjoyed meeting some new people from around the state. We are very proud our membership increased by 100 members this year thank you for all of your hard work in recruiting new members. We also kicked off the Beef Ambassador program partnering with CCA Junior Cattleman's Association and the Colorado Beef Council. We had

16 kids ages 8-18 take part in the workshop where they learned about advocating for beef. We are so excited to get this project off the ground, and I can't wait to see what these kids do!

You will be seeing information in this newsletter about how to nominate someone from your local affiliate for Cattlewomen and Rookie of the Year. The deadline is October 31st. This is my favorite project because it is so humbling and inspiring to see all the great work being done by you around the state. We are also continuing the Membership Drive Contest through Dec 31st. The local affiliate winner receives a \$150 cash prize, the locals affiliate dues paid by CCW and most importantly, BRAGGING RIGHTS!

Always remember you are what makes CCW possible and if we can do anything to help you, please feel free to contact us!

*"If you want to be successful, it's just this simple.
Know what you are doing. Love what you are doing. And believe in what you are doing."
- Will Rogers*

Colorado State Fair



CCW officers and members spent the day handing out CCW bags and beef educational material at the Colorado State Fair on Monday, August 26 during the beef show. Pikes Peak CattleWomen's Amy Goss, Lincoln County CattleWomen's Chandra Fisher, Fremont County CattleWomen's Penny McPherson, and CCW Executive Board Members Sudzy Benesch, Joanie Shoemaker,



Kathy Nelson, and Kathleen Shoemaker all came for the day. We were also treated to Beef Ambassadors helping us: Alexis Grossardt, Kaylee Simpson and Sage Shy. All in all, it was a good day! A huge thanks to livestock director Robyn Gilby Toft for making it possible for us to be there!

Colorado CattleWomen, Inc. Annual Meeting Summary

Submitted by Sudzy Benesch, CCW Secretary

The meeting was held June 25 at the Colorado Springs Marriott in Colorado Springs. There were 29 members present including officers and ANCW president Ruth Coffey. Full minutes of the meeting are available to any member.

President Kathleen Shoemaker recapped the past year highlighting the article in the Range Magazine, the gifting of two books to all affiliates from the Pearl Ann Adams Account and displayed the t-shirts available for purchase with the Aspen insignia from the 2023 officer induction. She mentioned the success of the membership drive and the popularity of the feature articles of members in the newsletter. She announced that CCW will have a booth this year at the Colorado State Fair during the beef show.

Treasurer Debbi Anderson reported that CCW membership increased from 590 to 700 members. Account balances totaled CD-\$30,584.67; Checking- \$55,227.99 and Scholarship- \$13,410. CCW saved \$10,679.46 from the original projected 23/24 budget amount. The 2024/25 budget with a projected income of

\$22,580 was approved. An additional line item of \$250 to ANCW will be added. The Beef Account remains \$8,000 for beef promotional activities.

The newly formed CCW Beef Ambassador program kicked off at the Convention with 16 participants. The goal is for students from across the state to participate in activities to promote beef. The Beef Ambassador committee envisions CCW affiliates helping to identify and coach interested youth. The Beef Council has earmarked \$7,000 for the program.

Sallie Miller explained that the Beef Council makes \$8,000 available to CCW to be used specifically for beef promotional events. She shared that affiliates can be reimbursed beef purchases that are distributed at non-fundraising functions. A receipt, a written summary of the event and pictures should be sent to her before reimbursement can be given. She also recommended contacting her BEFORE an event to see if it was, in fact, eligible for reimbursement.

Janie VanWinkle is a 4th Generation rancher and longtime CCA and CCW member, discussed her involvement with the Economic Recovery Core that is helping 15 communities across the nation to build viable economies. Janie's project focuses on agriculture in the

Grand Junction area and is the only agriculture-oriented project.

Vice President of Beef Council Operations, Julie Moore, reviewed how the Beef Check Off operates.

Money is used for research and promotion but not for lobbying or political interests. Examples of effective programs include collaborating with nurses on nutrition, arranging tours at feed lots and creating social media content on Amazon Prime, Netflix, and YouTube. A partnership between Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) and the Beef Council will lead the All School Summit for athletic directors and coaches on a healthy diet that includes beef protein. The event will be recorded and participants in all high school activities (drama, music, speech, etc.) will have access to the information. She displayed graphics that depict how different generations spend money on beef.

Kenton Ochsner, the recently hired Executive Director of the Colorado Beef Council was introduced. His duties officially begin July 1.

The ANCW president highlighted the evolution of the ANCW from 1951 to present. She invited members to participate in committees and reviewed the WILD and WIRED programs. The Cattle Con Convention is in San Antonio, Texas February 2025.

The authors of the Ranch Raised Kids book series celebrating the next generation of ranchers explained the program and passed around their New Mexico, California and Arizona Ranch Raised Kids editions. The cost to create a Colorado Ranch Raised book is \$90,000. CKP Insurance will contribute \$20,000, leaving CCW to raise \$70,000 in a three-year period. An exploratory committee was formed to examine the contract and details.

President Shoemaker and Scott Stinnett proudly presented The Heather Hays Stinnett CCW Legacy Scholarships to the recipients. Kyli Kraft from Fort Collins received \$4,000, and Maggie Chase from McClave received \$1,000. Both young women were appreciative and honored to receive the scholarship.

Christy Hawk was appointed the Southwest Quarter Rep until another member could fill that position. A vote by acclamation confirmed Kathy Nelson, Northwest Rep; Sheron Berry, Southwest Rep; and Barb Howe, Northeast.

President Shoemaker adjourned the meeting.



Board of Directors Meeting

Submitted by Christy Hawk, CCW Vice President

The Board of Directors Meeting on June 25, 2024, in Colorado Springs, brought together 15 affiliates from around the state. Great information was shared throughout the room on new ideas for promoting beef! Beef giveaways seem to be the trend, beef cook-offs are coming back in several of the affiliates along with educational materials being handed out in local schools with Ag Day programs. Many fairs will be attended with booths, CattleWomen swag and educational materials and recipes to highlight the booths. Scholarships were also on the highlight of many of the organizations, several organizations are on a rebuilding status with membership drives, new logos, new

swag, "Long Live Cowgirls." T shirts are becoming popular form of fund raising. Beef by-product boards are popular now with the education of beef. Chef Jason will be making his rounds to several affiliates with his expertise in grilling... wow, what a treat! Fundraising is always an important part of all affiliates; these endeavors are always interesting and educational to all organizations to keep the word out about the importance of beef. The Board of Directors meeting was a great meeting with so much sharing and was refreshing to see what we all have in common to come to together in one location.

Best of the West Region V Meeting- June 7-8, 2024, Columbus, MT

Submitted by Karen Smith

Every year, cattlemen from the five states that comprise ANCW's Region V, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Oregon, and Washington gather together. This year Montana Cattlemen hosted both the Region V meeting and a WIRED event June 7-8, 2024 in Columbus, MT.

Colorado Cattlemen was represented by Carol Greer and JoAnn McEndree from Southeastern Cattlemen and Susie Magnuson and myself of Weld County Cattlemen. The Region event consisted of three wonderful speakers; Sierra Jepson of Butcher Solutions LLC of Livingston, MT went through the breakdown of a carcass and where the value-added cuts are that we may not be as familiar with. It was a great presentation, especially if you haven't had any meat evaluation classes. She definitely was a highlight of the meeting.

Next, Natalie Kerfoot and her husband, ranchers in Sunburst, MT, shared her personal story about struggling with mental health and even suicide. Her husband recognized what was going on and was able to get her help before it was too late. She shared about how farmer suicides are even higher than veteran suicide. She encouraged everyone to pay attention to the signs and to not be afraid to get help if they or a family member need it.

Suzanne Menges shared about the Forage Insurance (drought) program from the USDA; how the program works, and how it is administered by private insurance brokers like CKP. Farmers are familiar with crop insurance but many ranchers are unaware of the forage insurance.

Ruth Coffey, current president of ANCW, highlighted the importance of volunteering in your industry and that

there are many roles available in ANCW that fit all kinds of skill sets and desires. Beef Promotion, Golden Cowbelles, Collegiate Beef Advocacy, Membership, Way & Means, Legislative Policy & Alerts, and more. She shared about remarkable cattlemen she's met in her travels that are inspiring and influencing her.

After the Region V business meeting, Carol Greer and I attended the Women in Ranching Education Development (W.I.R.E.D) program held at Midland Bull Test. The two days of education included a tour of Midland and how they run their amazing program, facility design by Molly Manufacturing, carcass ultrasound on live cattle, cattle handling, and BQA Overview and Certification. Dr Marsha Goetting of MSU Extension shared a fabulous presentation on estate planning and Dr. Lacy Fahrmeier presented on veterinary best practices, whole herd health programs, and tips for best working with your vet. There were additional breakout sessions to develop greater practical skills such a taking DNA samples from ears, proper ear tagging, branding, vaccination, etc. ANCW's Region V Director, Katharine Davis, and ANCW President Ruth Coffey provided updates on ANCW activities.

Steve & Amy of Midland and ANCW's own Jennie Hodgen and Becca Johnson were fabulous hosts and instructors. If you ever have a chance to attend a W.I.R.E.D event, I'd highly recommend it!

Contact Us! Like Us! Follow Us!

Email: ColoradoCattleWomen@gmail.com

Website: www.ColoradoCattleWomen.org

Facebook: [ColoradoCattleWomenInc](https://www.facebook.com/ColoradoCattleWomenInc)

CCW Beef Ambassador Program Kicked Off Successfully!

Submitted by Sudzy Benesch, CCW Beef Ambassador Committee

The newly formed CCW Beef Ambassador program kicked off June 24 at the CCA/CCW Convention in Colorado Springs when Sudzy Benesch, Sara Shields and Elena Brookover gave instruction to 16 participants, ages 6 to 18, on being a beef ambassador. Youth came from Bristol, Brush, Durango, Eaton, Elbert, Fountain, Fowler, Kit Carson, Las Animas, Paonia, Rocky Ford, Silver Cliff, and Yampa.

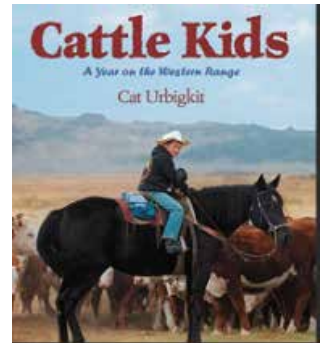
The session included hands-on activities and thought-provoking games that made the kids examine the beef and cattle industries and reflect on communicating with consumers. In addition, ambassadors received two agriculture books to use in beef promotion and a specially designed ball cap.

The goal is for students from across the state to participate in three activities if they are between the ages of 12-20 and one if they are 11 years old and younger. Activities include CCA/CCW Convention, mid-winter meetings, National Western Stock Show, Beef Council

booth, Colorado State Fair booth, speaking at community events, reading to classes, and creating social media content. The committee envisions CCW affiliates helping to identify and coach youth interested in the program in addition to including the ambassadors in their county events.

The Beef Council, seeing huge value in the program, earmarked \$7,000 for the program running July 2024 through June 2025. The Beef Ambassador Committee plans to do a beef ambassador recruitment blitz in the fall utilizing the help of Kenton Ochsner, Colorado Beef Council Executive Director.

Interested youth and adults who would like to coach ambassadors can sign up on the CCW webpage at <https://coloradocattlewomen.org/beef-ambassador-program/>



Colorado CattleWomen Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

May we send communication via email, including the quarterly newsletter and any upcoming information? (circle one) Yes No

Local affiliation:

Do you need contact information for a local CattleWomen's group?
Yes No

Amount included with application: Colorado CattleWomen
_____ \$25 for Colorado CattleWomen annual membership due
_____ \$10 for Student Colorado CattleWomen (high school/college) annual membership due

Membership year is January - December. If dues are received after July 1 they will be applied to the following year. Dues for the Colorado CattleWomen include liability insurance coverage for the member.

Colorado CattleWomen dues should be made payable to CCW and mailed to:

Treasurer Debbi Anderson; 23557 Hwy 125, Walden, CO 80480

American National CattleWomen dues must be sent to:

ANCW c/o Jill Worthington; 16799 Prairie Circle, El Reno, OK 73036 or pay online at ANCW.org

Save the Date -- 119th NWSS January 11-26, 2025

Submitted by Cindy Mangus, CCW NWSS Chair



Colorado CattleWomen and Colorado Beef Council promotion booth embodies tradition at NWSS, along with that snowy walk through the Yards or one of the shows from the infamous green seats in Stadium Arena. IT ONLY HAPPENS IN DENVER so plan to attend and enjoy opening doors, promoting, educating, one conversation at a time. Meals, mileage and event tickets offered when volunteering at the booth. Watch for sign-up information in the Winter newsletter and website.

In remembrance

of Colorado CattleWomen members who have passed in the last year

Thedus Adell Castle

September 12, 1932 - January 21, 2024
Montrose CattleWomen

Kristin Ohlson Melnikoff

May 1, 1966 - April 11, 2024
Plateau Valley CattleWomen

Gloria Jean Hudson

June 23, 1949-January 29, 2024
Montrose CattleWomen

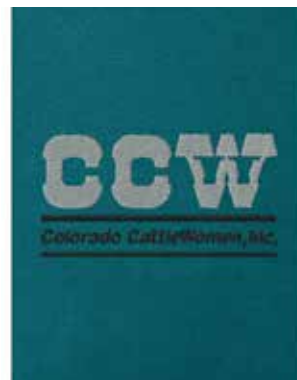
Laura Jean Castle

September 11, 1975 - March 4, 2024
Montrose CattleWomen

Get your own CCW Logo Apparel!

Colorado CattleWomen has an opportunity for CCW members to purchase Land's End apparel with the CCW logo! Simply open up the website and you can choose from all kinds of clothing options with the CCW logo.

Happy Shopping!



To shop, go to: <https://business.landsend.com/store/ccw/>

QUARTER MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS



Introducing our New Northeast Quarter Rep, Barb Howe

Hello all! My name is Barb Howe and I live in Evergreen, Colorado! My husband and I have a small cow/calf operation here and we direct market our beef to our community. I have been involved with CCW for about 2 years now, and am so honored to get to be your new NE Quarter Rep! I follow in the amazing footsteps of Britt Pratt! I am really looking forward to getting to know more of you and helping advocate for beef production!

Northwest Quarter Member Spotlight—Sheridan Myer

Sheridan Myer's story is one of tradition, resilience, and connection to the land. Born into a lineage of ranchers that spans seven generations in Grand County, Colorado, Sheridan reflects "It's been in my blood," noting that ranching has always been a way of life for her and embedded in her identity.

She balances ranching with her roles as a mother, hunter, and community volunteer with long days and short nights fueled by caffeine and the occasional whiskey. Sheridan finds joy in her responsibilities and cherishes the sense of community that ranching fosters, yet, she's also acutely aware of the difficulties facing the industry, particularly the waning agricultural support in Colorado. The push for locally sourced food has been a beacon of hope, but Sheridan knows the fight for the survival of ranching is far from over.

Hunting, another of Sheridan's passions, is an extension of her connection to the land. Introduced to the sport by her grandparents, hunting is more than a hobby; it's a way to immerse herself in nature with bowhunting elk and lion hunting being particular favorites. Her husband teases she has a "real addiction" to the sport.

As a hunter and rancher, Sheridan sees herself as a caretaker of the land, always mindful of her impact on the environment, and she is committed to passing on her values to the next generation. As a 4-H leader- teaching shooting sports and Western heritage, she also serves as the president of the local Cowbelles organization, Sheridan volunteers to give back to the community that supported her and to keep those traditions alive.

"Raising kids is probably the most important job anyone has," she says, noting that teaching them traditions like ranching and hunting is vital for preserving these ways of life, and she hopes to pass along values of humility, hard work and kindness. If there's a motto that encapsulates her approach to life, it's this: "Do dumb things wisely." It's a fitting mantra for a woman who has navigated the challenges of ranching, hunting, and community service with a blend of grit, humor, and wisdom.



By Deborah Fitch August 13, 2024

Southeast Quarter Member Spotlight—Mona Atwood



The Southeast Quarter and Fremont County Cattlewomen are proud to introduce you to Mona Atwood. She is our newest lifetime member. She has remained active in our local affiliate for more than 25 years and served in several offices. Most recently, she graciously served for several years as the Secretary. Mona is the kind of member we all hope to have as she is always willing to assist the organization. She willingly contributes her time, energy and skills to promote the cattle industry in Fremont County.

Mona and her husband Aaron live in Canon City and proudly raise cattle. Aaron belongs to the Fremont County Cattlemen's Association serving in several offices and on committees. Not only do they support our organizations, but they support the community especially 4-H program. Their granddaughter was one our scholarship winners this year. Fremont County Cattlewomen is blessed to have strong members like Mona.

Southwest Quarter Member Spotlight—Lena Whitworth



Lena Whitworth, at 89 years young, is a remarkable member of the Montrose CattleWomen, embodying the spirit of dedication, community, and joy. Born and raised in Montrose, Colorado, Lena grew up on a bustling farm as one of 13 children. Her family raised cattle, sheep, pigs, and cultivated crops like sugar beets, corn, and hay. With roots deeply embedded in this land, Lena's life has been a testament to hard work and resilience.

Her father, who immigrated from Italy at the tender age of nine, and her mother, a native of Lake City, Colorado, instilled in her the values of perseverance and community. These values have stayed with her throughout her life, especially in her roles as a mother of three, grandmother to six, and great-grandmother to four.

After retiring from the Montrose School District, where she was a beloved figure in the school cafeteria, Lena sought new ways to stay active and connected. She joined the Montrose CattleWomen 15 years ago, quickly becoming an invaluable member and was recognized as Rookie of the Year. Her incredible work ethic, often outlasting women half her age, and her infectious sense of humor have made her an inspiration and joy to be around.

Lena served many years as Treasurer and has contributed to numerous committees, always with a smile on her face. Her expertise in food preparation and serving has made her the go-to person for the annual chuckwagon event during Montrose County Fair week, where her efforts help raise funds for scholarships. Lena's contributions are instrumental to the success of this event, and her presence is a cornerstone of our organization.

A devout Christian, Lena is also very active in her church, where she helps with funeral dinners, decorates tables, greets attendees, and assists with the annual Christmas shoeboxes. Despite her busy schedule, Lena makes time for her morning coffee with her "Coffee Club," baking, and working in her yard.

Lena Whitworth is not just a member of the Montrose CattleWomen; she is a shining example of what it means to live a life of service, joy, and community.



Northeast Quarter Member Spotlight— Susie Magnuson

Susie Magnuson learned about the Weld County Cowbelles while at a meeting with her husband Ted for the Weld County Livestock group. She was encouraged to get involved by Ted as "the Cattlewomen do great stuff to promote the industry". That is how her legacy with CCW started! After joining the Weld County Cowbelles, she soon was a part of the Colorado CattleWomen in 1986, and was on the board by 1988!

While on the CCW board, she served as the Ag Day Chair and Treasurer and then in 1994 and 1995 Susie was the CCW President! While serving CCW gave her great pride, she also joined ANCW where she served as the Region V Director, Membership Director, and then President in 2004.

Today, she is still an active member of the Weld County CattleWomen, and there is no doubt Susie's passion for CCW is membership, with her experience and welcoming personality, she is still encouraging women to get involved!

Susie's first exposure to cattle was in the Belgian Congo (the Democratic Republic of Congo today)! Her father a missionary, introduced Watusi cattle to the native people. While the environment in the Congo was not suitable for cattle, this initial introduction seemed to prepare her for her future life as an Owner/Operator of a feedlot! When they returned to the USA, they lived in Denver until her father was called to be the Pastor at the Cope Community Church. She graduated from Grace Christian University and then returned to Colorado. Susie met her husband Ted at church, and they began their life together owning and operating a feedlot north of Greeley and raised two sons. Their sons are now farming that same land. Ted passed in 2008 and Susie credits her faith and the cattlemen for helping her through this very difficult time.

Now, as a retired feedlot operator, she travels and told me that her favorite place "is the next place she is going". She spends her winters in Florida and loves coming back to Colorado and spending time with her family...and the cattlemen!



Membership Drive

This last year, Elbert County won the honor of being the biggest recruiter in the state! What local wants to claim the honor of being number one in the state for new Colorado CattleWomen members? We are having a membership drive from July 1, 2024 until December 31, 2024. **What is in it for you?** We will be awarding the winning affiliate a \$150 cash prize as well as your CCW affiliate dues paid for the year. You will also be recognized in the newsletter, and on our website. **The best part?** You get to claim the title of being Number One!!

We will keep track of numbers added to your affiliate so that it is fair to everyone and announce the winners at Mid-Winter Convention in January 2025. So start inviting those women in agriculture to be a part of the premier women's beef advocacy group in Colorado!

CattleWoman of the Year and Rookie of the Year nominations due October 31!

Do you have someone in your local CattleWomen's organization that you would like to celebrate as a great Colorado CattleWoman of the Year or Rookie of the Year?

Nominations are due October 31 and forms can be found on our website, coloradocattlewomen.org, under the About Us tab on the Colorado CattleWoman of the Year page.

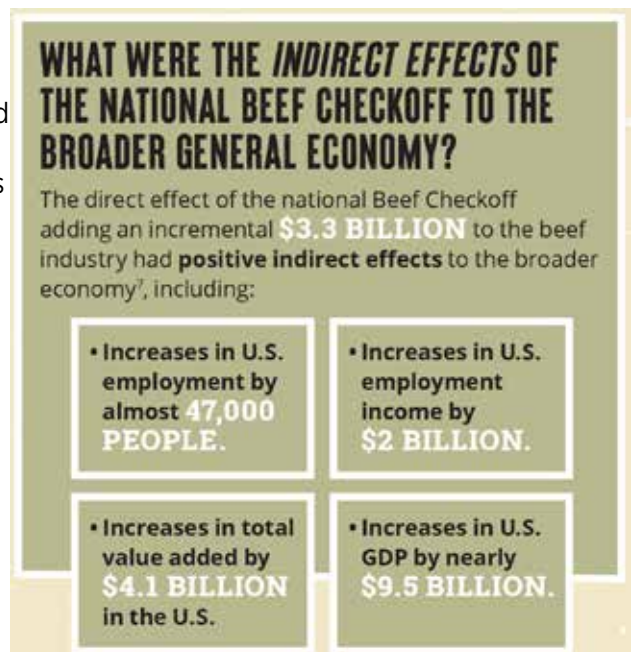
If you would like a form emailed to you, please request one at coloradocattlewomen@gmail.com.

National Beef Checkoff 2019-2024 Return on Investment Study- What Was the Impact?

To estimate the impact of the national Beef Checkoff program, the average return on investment (ROI) measured the incremental financial impact to producers and importers for each \$1 invested in the national Beef Checkoff demand driving initiatives. This report was conducted by the Cattlemen's Beef Board.

The study found that:

- The national Beef Checkoff had a positive and significant impact on beef demand in the U.S. compared to not having the program. Without any national Beef Checkoff demand-driving activities over the most recent five-year period (2019-2023), total domestic beef demand would have been 2.4 billion pound (8.5%) lower per year than actual results.
- The national Beef Checkoff has a positive and statistically significant impact on U.S. beef exports over the recent five-year period (2019-2023). Had there not been national Beef Checkoff program funds spent on export demand-driving activities, U.S. beef export demand would have been 372 million pounds (11.5%) lower per year than actual results in the seven major importing countries/regions (Mexico, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, China and European Union) in the study.
- For every national Beef Checkoff program dollar invested in domestic and export demand-driving activities for the most recent five-year period (2019-2023), the program had a positive effect on beef demand, resulting in a total financial impact of \$13.41 back to each producer and importer who pays into the program.
- Additionally, the national Beef Checkoff adding \$3.3 billion to the beef industry also had a positive indirect impact on the broader economy:
 - Increased employment by 47,000 people.
 - Increased employment income by \$2.1 billion.
 - Increased U.S. GDP by \$9.5 billion.



LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Black Mesa CattleWomen Connecting with Consumers while Promoting Beef

Submitted by Bree Pearce, BMCW Secertary

As I reflect on the busy summer that the Black Mesa CattleWomen have had I find it hard to believe that we are already in the middle of August. Our organization has been absolutely rocking the beef promotion throughout our local community. To wrap up the

school year in May we sponsored the final round of beef cook-offs, The Iron Chef. We were able to put a unique spin on it this year and challenge the students to cook



with bison meat. The students all presented excellent dishes.

In June, we celebrated Crawford Pioneer days and had the privilege of visiting with locals and visitors at our booth. We handed out beef literature and had free beef themed giveaways. In celebration of Earth Day, we partnered with multiple restaurants in our area to display table tents that had

local beef statistics. We are also currently in the process of sponsoring beef themed coloring mats w/ crayons for local restaurants!

In celebration of the 4th of July, we had a fantastic opportunity to participate in a beef and wine pairing



at Black Bridge Winery in Paonia. Some of our talented members prepared beef fajita meat that paired delightfully with the Pinot Noir. We were able to connect with a large variety of individuals where we had multiple very fulfilling discussions on the cattle

industry. This event was very successful for all parties, and we plan to do it again for the Paonia Harvest Festival coming up in the last week of September.

The Delta County Fair was the first week of August. We put together a fun and interactive booth where we handed out lots of beef literature, had three generous giveaways and connected with the youth through face painting and a fresh butter making station! We certainly did not anticipate such excitement for making butter!



As summer winds down we continue to have a fulfilling schedule as CattleWomen and are looking forward to the next few months!

Elbert County CattleWomen Support Youth in Agriculture

Submitted by Nan Auhll

The Elbert County CattleWomen have been involved with the Fair BBQ for as long as anyone can remember. The BBQ is held before the Elbert County JR Market sale on the second Saturday of Fair. The kids that plan to sell at the market sale invite prospective buyers and pay for their lunches. Elbert County is one of the largest market sales in Colorado. We are so proud that we are a part of the sale and helping the kids be successful. In addition to the buyers eating at the BBQ, it is a wonderful time to visit with friends and acquaintances.

The tablecloth that you see in the picture features the brands from the ranches in Elbert County. The brands for the tablecloth were used from the napkins that ECCW sells. ECCW is privileged to promote the brands of Elbert County!



Fremont County CattleWomen Association Summer Recap

Submitted by Lydia Lara

We celebrated Mother's Day with a potluck meeting and presented the Helen Shoemaker Scholarship to Miss Kameron Atwood. Also in May, random Mothers were given free beef meals as well as Fathers in June! That was followed by beef promotion and slider and swag giveaway at Tractor Supply. Our annual clean up/set up Sloppy Joe day at the Fremont County Fair was another success and we were able to present Jacob Brooks our \$1,000 Scholarship and Miss Abby Lawson her Belt Buckle for Bred by Exhibitor.



Gunnison Valley CattleWomen Participate in Cattlemen's Days Parade

Submitted by Lucy Waldo

Gunnison Valley CattleWomen were pleased to award a college scholarship to local graduating senior Ryann Nordberg, who will be majoring in Agriculture Education at Montana State University. In June, President Lucy Waldo presented an update on CattleWomen's activities at the annual Gunnison Valley Stockgrowers Banquet. In July, local Cattlewomen and their families walked and rode in the Cattlemen's Days Parade. Kids handed out beef sticks to the crowd. Gunnison Valley CattleWomen also sponsored prizes for Master Beef Producer and Reserve Champion Beef Breeding at the county fair.



Kit Carson County CattleWomen Wear Pink!

Submitted by Patty Ziegler

We wear pink for PINK night at the Kit Carson County fair, but our mission is it to help aid all those living with cancer in Kit Carson County. Chaps were made by Joe Wamsley and were a beautiful pink with shimmering purple. Chaps were auctioned off and purchased by Cody & Cassandra Hoover, left leg, Matthew Hamilton, left leg, Hitchcock Family, right leg and Davis Family, whole chaps. This event helps us keep our mission alive with raising over \$12,000. We are fortunate to live in such a caring and giving community.



Photo: left to right, Cody Pettibone-Langley, Patty Ziegler, Katie Dobler, English Powell, Lindsey Mills, Carrie Wollert, Monica Weiland, Jasalyn Hays, Tierney Stinnett, Jolynne Richards, Jaclyn Griebel, and Autumn Bancroft.

Lincoln County CattleWomen Getting Beef into Hands of Consumers

Submitted by Kelsey Pope

The focus of the Lincoln County CattleWomen this summer was to promote beef by getting it directly into the hands (and mouths!) of our consumers. In May, we helped sponsor a regional Ag Fest put on by Colorado Extension, where we purchased Beef Sticks for Backpacks (beefsticks.org) to hand out to the kids who came to Ag Fest, along with promoting the program to the schools involved. This was a great way to get beef into the hands of kids/teachers while also supporting the Beef Sticks for Backpacks program!

For May is Beef Month, LCCW partnered with the Limon restaurant, Oscars Bar & Grille, to offer a Prime Rib special. Each Friday and Saturday night in May, Prime Rib was discounted to \$19 a plate, first-come-first serve. Not surprisingly, they sold out of prime rib every night! Even if people didn't come for the prime rib, we had table tents on each table with beef trivia and fun facts for people to read while they sat. This was the third time we've done a promotion like this and it was a great success again!

In June, we were privileged to partner with renowned grilling expert, Chef Jason Morse and our local Pronghorn Country Ace Hardware, Limon, for a beef cooking demo and free beef samples. Chef



Jason prepared and demonstrated how to make Shredded Chuck Roast Sliders. A large crowd came for the demonstration and even more stopped by from the smell of smoked beef to talk to us as our booth. Thanks to many local sponsors and the Colorado Beef Council, we also had door prizes for attendees, including ribeye steaks.

The Lincoln County Fair theme was "Country On", so LCCW put a twist on it with our "County StrONG" theme to promote being "Beef Strong". To help publicize the Ranchers Pen of Three event, LCCW prepared and served 120 beefy breakfast burritos to serve free of charge to fair attendees to get them over to see the beautiful heifers on display from local ranchers. We again participated with the Lincoln County Stockmen and their steak fry fundraiser, making and serving 330 servings of homemade cobblers. The next day during the youth Round Robin event, we handed out free beef sticks to participants and attendees. During the parade, we made and handed out 250 roast beef sliders on the parade route - they were a big hit!

We are excited to turn our focus this fall into beef education, working with local schools to promote beef and cattle production.



Rio Blanco CattleWomen Provide Beef Swag, Library Ag Books

Submitted by Connie Nelson



We have had quite the summer here on the western slope. In June, we worked with the Black Sulphur Tavern to provide two Father's Day beef meals and beef swag to local dads. We participated in the county fair by once again decorating the show ring area with our branded wooden bulls. We continue to update the bulls and have five new bulls added to the "herd." We also gave all beef participants in the fair beef sticks, an eat Colorado Beef sticker, and an RBC Fair Custom-made showbox sticker.

We donated napkins to the Pioneers Dinner. We are currently working with the public library to purchase more agriculture books for the children's book barn as the librarians are having a hard time keeping it stocked with books.



Logan County CattleWomen Report Heifer Feeding Contest Results, Ag License Plate Plans

Submitted by Jenny Breuer, LCCW reporter

Greetings from the plains of Colorado! Logan County CattleWomen have been busy this summer. Our 2023-2024 Heifer Feeding Contest hosted by LCCW and friends is in the books! We couldn't have done it without the help of many generous donations, hard work put in by members, and individuals who entered heifers. Results were as follows, and you can read more on our Facebook page.

Grand Champion Fed Heifer was the Grove Pool number 59. This heifer finished with a ADG of 4.5584 and had a carcass value of \$2,971.20, graded Prime and was a yield grade 3! This was a home raised heifer by Grove Livestock (Levi and Amanda Grove). Reserve Champion Fed Heifer was



the South Siders #1. This heifer finished with a ADG of 4.54 and had a carcass value of \$2,970.93, graded Select and was a yield grade 3. First Place in ADG went to the Mitchell Ranch with a home raised heifer. She finished with a ADG of 4.63 and had a carcass value of \$2,911.80, graded CA-Choice, and was a yield grade 3. First Place in Carcass Value went to Performance Plus. She finished with a ADG of 4.34 and had a Carcass value of \$3,149.27, graded Choice, and was a yield



grade 2. The entire pen of 55 heifers had an impressive ADG average of 3.76!

In other exciting news, the Colorado agriculture license plate will be available January 2025. Logan County CattleWomen and community members advocated and got thousands of signatures to make this possible to the residents of Colorado. Along with the help of endorsement from legislators. Thank you to

all who helped push this through!

With the impressive fundraising that we did throughout the year, we were able to award four scholarships instead of our usual two this year. Our scholarship recipients were: Wyatt Butler, going into the welding field. Grace Wernsman, who is attending Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture to major in livestock industry management and beef production. Kyle Brandt will be attending the John Deere technical program. Lastly, Slatyer Goss, who will attend Colorado Mesa University to be an electrician.

We would like to also congratulate Britt Pratt of McEndaffer Cattle Company, and our LCCW president, who received the Colorado Cattleman's Association volunteer of the year award.



Weld County CattleWomen Focus on Growing, Promoting T-Shirts and Wild Rags

Submitted by Lisa Herickhoff



Growing, selling T-shirts and wild rags, and re-organizing has been the focus of the Weld County CattleWomen. Our membership continued to expand as we focus on developing a group that appeals to our new members (set meeting periodicity, time and location) while having two Saturday morning events each year (focusing on our original members). We are blessed to have a great set of engaged members. Our mentor

members and new, willing members both jump in and volunteer when needed.

Jodi Corless designed our great, "Long Live Cowgirls" T-shirts and sold them at her boutique at the Little American show and the Weld County Fair as well as on our Facebook page.

We awarded our Heather Hays Stinnett scholarship funds for 2024/25 to Makannah Tucker, a junior at OSU, majoring in both Animal Science and Ag Education. She has a herd of Charolais and Maine cattle. We are excited about supporting her aspirations to expand agricultural education to include school barns and engaging non-ag students also.

In August we had the pleasure of hosting both Kathleen Shoemaker, and our quarter rep, Barb Howe. All the new members had the pleasure of learning more about CCW, and how WCCW can help support the larger mission.

Our focus for Q3 will be to support Beef Sticks for Backpacks. We also are forming some committees to start a community funding campaign.



Yuma County CattleWomen Promote Beef and Byproducts

Submitted by Teri Mekelburg

Yuma County CattleWomen have been busy, members help serve a meal during Yuma County Ag days, designed and had wild rags made with our members brands, handed out beef sticks to all the area schools, had a float in the county fair parade and handed out Eat Beef bumper stickers and 1000 beef sticks, had a promotional booth at the fair with Steve the steer showing beef byproducts. We were honored to have 14 of our handmade brand quilts on display at a local venue along with CCW information and handouts promoting beef and the Cattlewomen. The quilts were viewed by 150 people from 9 different states.



Western Colorado CattleWomen Coalition Gather at Colorado's Newest Livestock Auction

Submitted by Bunny McComb and Lanea Donahoo, SWC/C President

On August 13th, the Western Colorado Cattlewomen Coalition (WCCC) gathered at Yellow Jacket Livestock Auction, for a meeting hosted by the La Plata CowBelles and the Southwestern Cattlewomen/CowBelles. The event was a collaborative effort that transformed the venue into the perfect setting for an informative and engaging day.

The meeting began with a welcome by CCW President, Kathleen Shoemaker. WCCC President followed with a legislative update and organization business. Joanie Schoemaker gave a presentation on a new project for Colorado called "Ranch Raised Kids." This is a coffee table book being created using pictures of kids being raised on ranches across our state. Lauren Ames from the "Good Food Collective" presented a tax credit program available to food producers. This tax credit has the potential to provide significant financial relief to those in the agricultural industry, making it a topic of keen interest among the attendees.

The event also featured a delicious all-local meal prepared by Chef John Fravel with foods donated by SWC/C members and beans donated and raised by Kam Farmer Dolls from LaPlata County and smoked brisket donated and raised by Podunk's Ranch.

The meeting was packed with discussions on important Colorado legislation that could have far-reaching effects on agriculture. Two critical bills will be on the ballot this November:

1. The Slaughterhouse Ban: A proposal to close the Denver processing plant, which could have significant implications for meat processing in the state.
2. The Trophy Hunting Ban: Aimed at protecting mountain lions and other predatory cats, raising important questions about wildlife management and conservation.

These legislative proposals prompted a broader conversation among the attendees about the origins of our food and the future of agriculture in Colorado. Additionally, there were handouts and discussions regarding the Farm Bill and the Colorado Cattlemen's Association alignment, ensuring that everyone left well-informed on these key issues.

The highlight of the meeting was a presentation by Zane Odell, who not only served as our speaker but also guided us on a tour of Colorado's newest livestock auction. He explained how the livestock auction came about and the building process. He also provided information about livestock marketing. His insights were invaluable, offering a firsthand look at the auction's operations and its significance to the local agricultural community.

We extend our deepest thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of this meeting. Your efforts and participation made it an event to remember.



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