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August 2015

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**ANNUAL MEETING — AUGUST 22 2015**



Ed Shackelford left and Bob Epstein right with recipients of the Colorado Senior Lobby **Serving Our Seniors** recognition.

Representatives Primavera, Lebsock and Roupé



Senator Crowder  
 Receiving the  
**Serving our Seniors** recognition  
 Prior commitments prevented him from attending the Annual Meeting.

Reproduction of newsletter provided by Ed Shackelford, REALTOR®: Real Living CO Properties 720-353-3775 *National Award Winner, Premier Service*



“I was thrilled to represent Senator Gardner at the Colorado Senior Lobby Annual Meeting, and to learn how the Senator can continue to support Seniors throughout Colorado.”

Andrew Dunkley



Representative Kathleen Conti spoke about her commitment to the aging population, legislation she introduced in 2015 which was not successful and her plans for 2016 legislation benefiting seniors.



Representative JoAnn Windholz spoke about her support for legislation that would benefit the senior population and her interest in attending the Senior Lobby annual meeting.

The three honorees who were at the meeting graciously agreed to a panel — mostly responding to questions.

Moderator Rich Mauro is standing at the left. This panel session was very informative and greatly appreciated.



LEGISLATION BEGINS WHEN THE FEAR OF DOING NOTHING AT ALL FINALLY TRUMPS THE TERROR OF DOING IT BADLY, OR NOT AT ALL.

Paraphrased from Alain De Botton, author



Rich Mauro welcoming Congressman Mike Coffman to the Colorado Senior Lobby Annual Meeting.

Congressman Coffman talked about two important issues: the construction of the new VA hospital and the sustainability of the Social Security program.



Republican State Chairman Steve House.

Chairman House discussed his background in the health care industry, and his interest in senior issues.



Ed Shackelford, Muriel Arvay, Senator Carroll and Rich Mauro.

Senator Carroll was President of the Senate, and after the last election became Senate minority leader. To focus on her campaign for Congress, she resigned her position as minority leader, but is still a Senator.



Representative Beth McCann discussing the 2015 legislative session and what we might anticipate in 2016. She participated in the Senior Lobby annual meeting.

Representative McCann has announced her candidacy for Denver District Attorney.

# REPORT ON THE ANNUAL MEETING

The slate of directors presented for approval by the members was elected at the annual meeting, held on August 22, 2015. The current directors are shown on page one.

The event was successful with one of its primary objectives to continue to have important dialogue with state legislators and our representation in Washington.

The impact of the increasing senior population in Colorado does not get the attention it should, considering the potential impact on the budget over the next 30 years and beyond.

At the last election neither party's platform recognized the size of potential increase in state spending if we continue doing the same things, even if we do them better. The increase in the senior population (the over 80 population will double by 2030) could very likely increase the state budget by well over \$1 Billion by 2030<sup>(1)</sup>. This is measured in today's dollars. With inflation it would be significantly larger over time.

Even though legislators acknowledge the prospect: I (Ed Shackelford) have yet to hear any mention of this in the typical stump speech.

We honored 4 legislators this year because they have an understanding of the issues, and the impact if the state does not take strong action.

Senator Crowder and Representative Primavera were primary sponsors of legislation that established a planning group to document the potential impact and formulate steps to mitigate the potential unsustainable increased costs. The Colorado Senior Lobby is committed to doing all we can to insure the successful results of this planning group.

Senator Crowder, and Representatives Lebsack and Roupé, were primary sponsors of legislation to improve the stability of financing for the Older Coloradan's Fund — which provides many services — most recognized being Meals On Wheels and Transportation. This legislation was killed on a party line vote in the Senate Finance Committee. **(Senators Neville, Hill and Holbert voting no.)** But because of the extraordinary effort made by the sponsors the importance of stable funding has become more apparent. We would expect that the groundwork laid by these forward thinking legislators will result in wiser legislative results in the future.

Stable, increasing funding for the Older Coloradan's Fund is a key to managing the FUTURE budgets. The Older Coloradan's Fund is the front line, "boots on the ground" effort to keep people in their homes and delaying the much more expensive time spent in nursing homes and/or assisted living facilities.

<sup>1</sup>Approximately \$1 billion of Medicaid funding (state and federal funds) was spent this past fiscal year for individuals 65 and older who used Long-term Care services, this includes home based and nursing home care. This is only 5.98% of the Medicaid caseload but approximately 10 percent of the total Medicaid budget. This does not include other programs for seniors.

<sup>2</sup>*Bell Policy Center estimates Seniors could account for half of Medicaid costs by 2025.*

# Me, Micro-Manage? Certainly Not!

Executives and business leaders often don't see themselves through their employees' eyes, as this tale illustrates:

A Hollywood mogul became president of a struggling new television network. With his career on the line, the CEO was determined to oversee every aspect of program development—right down to the set design.

One day a television producer at the network called his lawyer to complain about the CEO's overbearing ways. He was fearful that the debut of his new show would be delayed because the CEO was obsessed with the design of the sets.

The attorney, who had worked with the executive before, agreed to help. He invited the CEO to lunch.

As they finished their meal, the attorney opened his briefcase and began taking out carpet and drapery swatches. "I have a question for you" he said to the puzzled executive.

"My wife and I are redecorating and I'd like your advice on the best carpet to coordinate with this drape."

The savvy CEO was quick to see the point. "You think I'm micro-managing, don't you?"

Thanks to his creative approach, the attorney helped the CEO see that his energy would be better spent focusing on his strengths—and letting his employees focus on theirs.

Sometimes you have to *be creative in getting others to see how they affect you!*



*Tell me what you eat and I will tell you who you are.*  
—Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin

*One ought never to turn one's back on a threatened danger and try to run away from it. If you do that, you will double the danger. But if you meet it promptly and without flinching, you will reduce the danger by half.* —Winston Churchill

*My own prescription for health is less paperwork and more running barefoot through the grass.*  
—Leslie Grimmer

*The chief danger in life is that you may take too many precautions.*  
—Alfred Adler

*People of excellence go the extra mile to do what's right.* —Joel Osteen

*Imagination and fiction make up more than three quarters of our real life.*  
—Simone Weil

***SAVE THE DATE***

***SENIOR DAY  
AT THE CAPITOL***

***WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 30, 2016***

***DETAILS WHEN AVAILABLE***

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*The ultimate folly is to think that  
something crucial to your welfare is being taken  
care of for you.*  
—Robert Brault, American operatic tenor

“Healthy citizens are the  
greatest asset any  
country can have.”  
— Winston Churchill

**Go Green:**

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**MEMBERSHIP: Single \$30 Family \$40 Organization \$75** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Organizations: Attach three names and contact information

**Additional contribution to support our vision for seniors' quality of life** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total (This payment is not tax deductible)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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