

The Colorado Liberty Newsletter is the official publication of the Libertarian Party of Colorado.

Having Trouble Seeing Everything In This Email?

[Click Here To View It Online \(HTML Format\)](#)

[Click Here To View It Online \(PDF Format\)](#)



# Colorado Liberty

January 2009 | Vol 38 Issue 1

## In this issue:

- From The Chair
- Letters To The Editor
  - by Leah Kelley
  - by Martin L. Buchanan
- Board Reports
  - Campaigns
  - Front Range Outreach
  - Fundraising
  - Legislative
  - Media
  - Membership
  - Publications
  - Records
  - Treasurer
- Pod Casts
- Call of the LPAC Annual Meeting
- Transparency Program

## Action Items:

- [Become An Activist Today](#)
- [Contribute To The LPCO Today](#)
- [Subscribe To The Colorado Liberty](#)
- [Subscribe To Liberty Alerts](#)
- [Join The Colorado Libertarians Meetup](#)

<http://www.LPColorado.org>

<http://meetup.LPColorado.org>

## From The Chair **Travis Nicks, State Chair**

Well, the year is over and I hope everyone is having a pleasurable holiday season.

The Libertarian Party of Colorado hosted the annual strategy session at our new office on December 6th, 2008. Guest speakers included: Brian Vincente (Sensible Colorado), Mason Tvert (SAFER), Rich DiMeo (Colorado Chapter Leader for FreedomWorks) and Natalie Menten (Transparency in Government Spending). Brian and Mason spoke about each of their respective organization's goals in the new year. Rich (a registered Libertarian) spoke of how the Libertarian Party of Colorado and Freedom Works could work together to reduce government spending, and Natalie Menton spoke about a new Government "Transparency Project".

The Strategic Plan for 2009 was completed. More updates to the LPCO Website were made. We also developed a complete list of specific and measurable goals for each board member. A membership committee and a campaigns committee were formed. Please contact us if you would like to participate in either of these committees or other projects.

If you haven't done so already, [join our meet-up group](#) and meet other Libertarians working for more freedom in Colorado. You can also become a [1776 monthly pledge member](#) and help us to fight the "ever-spending" and "ever-taxing" politicians.

In other news, we are on the lookout for candidates. Please send an e-mail to [Campaignsdirector@LPColorado.org](mailto:Campaignsdirector@LPColorado.org) if you are interested in running for office. We need to start working with you now, so that when election time rolls around, we are prepared to win.

If you are not the kind of person who wants to be in the public eye, then try writing letters to the editor of your local media outlet. [Click here](#) for a brief tutorial on "How To Write A Letter To The Editor" If you get published let us know, so that we can include your letter on our website and/or in our monthly Colorado Liberty Newsletter.

Again, I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable new year.

Yours in Liberty,  
Travis Nicks  
Chairman



## Letters To The Editor:

By Leah Kelley:



No more bailouts! Why?

1. Personal responsibility. If you run a business and make bad decisions, you're fired! No golden parachute - file bankruptcy and reorganize.
2. Fiscal responsibility. Taxes are substantially affecting my quality of life already. I'm sure that most taxpayers are in the same boat.

Washington refuses to acknowledge that most Americans don't want the Big Three automakers bailed out. Whose best interests are they operating under? Not their constituents'.

By Martin L. Buchanan:

Amending the U.S. Constitution should never be done frivolously. However repeated abuses now costing trillions of dollars make the following amendment well justified:

Amendment XXVIII

The federal government shall not loan money to, insure, or buy stocks or bonds from, any private person, any private or partly private entity, or any other government. The federal government shall not guarantee payment of any such financial instrument. The federal government shall not pay or subsidize interest, premiums, principal, dividends or any other aspect of any such financial instrument.



A real free market is a fundamental aspect of American liberty. Today's corporate bailouts that shift trillions of dollars in costs to taxpayers are the opposite policy. Libertarians opposed the Bear -Stearns bailout, opposed the Fannie and Freddie bailout, oppose the AIG bailout, and oppose the new proposal for taxpayers to put up perhaps another trillion dollars in a "cash for trash" swap, dumping all of the nation's bad mortgages onto our backs. Those who participate in markets need to learn the hard lessons that free markets include real risks, that if you make bad investments you will lose your investments, that counterparty and derivative risks are very real, and that if you fail the taxpayers will not bail you out.

Sincerely,

Martin L. Buchanan  
Libertarian Candidate  
First Congressional District

## Campaigns Report

By Norm Olsen, Campaigns Director

I am working on strategy for our 2009 and 2010 campaigns. If you are considering a future campaign, there are several things you can do now to improve your chances for success;

1. Apply to serve on a Board or Commission either locally or at the state level.
  - a. For Colorado Boards and Commissions, one application stays on file for any position that you may be interested in.
  - b. Please visit the [Governor's website](#) for more information.
  - c. [Click here](#) to find your county so that you can contact them about available Board or Commissioner's offices

2. Attend City, County, State or Special District Meetings and testify there.
3. Visit Town Hall meetings and get to know your elected officials.
  - a. Town Hall meetings are posted on our [Calendar](#)
    - i. Check our [Calendar](#) often to find Town Hall meetings in your area.
    - ii. [Inform us](#) if your Town Hall meeting does not appear on our [Calendar](#).
4. If you have a "Homeowner's" or "Neighborhood Association" where you live:
  - a. Attend their meetings
  - b. Consider joining the Board of Directors.
5. Visit schools and join panels.
6. Consider joining your local Chamber of Commerce.

In a nutshell, a credible campaign begins with community involvement.

## F.R. Outreach Report By Jeff Orrok, Front Range Outreach Director

One of the benefits of our new headquarters is that it allows us frontage for a sign. We were not able to have one at our previous location. I have received several estimates and we hope to raise the necessary funds to have this advertising. Please [Click Here to contact the Board Of Directors](#) if you are able to contribute to the LPCO Sign fund.

I would like to help your local affiliate grow. Please [click here to contact me](#) if you are interested in participating or starting a local affiliate.

If you are interested in speaking in public on behalf of liberty, [please allow me to help you do so](#).

There are several events and fairs we would like to do this year pending availability and funds. As always, you are encouraged to check our [Calendar](#) often, and sign up for any events you find there. [Click here to check our January 2009 Calendar](#).

## Monthly Pledge Program

Monthly donations are the best way to help make a political difference. Although contributions are not tax-deductible, we have fixed expenses. Campaigns and events cost money. Choose an amount per month below, and PayPal will automatically send us your donation each month. Don't have a PayPal account? Click any button below and use your credit card or bank account instead. We've made it so easy, there really is no excuse for not contributing right now.

### Join the "Nickel Club!"

Donate \$5.00 each month easily using PayPal.



### Join the "Copper Club!"

Donate \$10.00 each month easily using PayPal.



### Join the "1776 Club!"

Donate \$17.76 each month easily using PayPal.



## Join the "Silver Club!"

Donate \$25.00 each month easily using PayPal.



### Legislative Report

By David K. Williams, Jr., Legislative Director

I have been working on identifying next session legislation that either positively or negatively impacts liberty. If you know of upcoming bills that we should support or oppose, please [click here](#) to let me know. If you are interested in testifying before the Colorado General Assembly regarding such legislation, please [click here](#) to contact me.

Also, feel free to [Subscribe To LPCO Legislative Liberty Alerts](#)

~ ~ ~ Pod Casts Click Here! ~ ~ ~

## POD CASTS

Last year, our media group began producing a regular series of [PodCasts](#) that are available for download from the [LPColorado.org](#) web site. These PodCasts cover pertinent topics relevant to Colorado Libertarian activists, such as legislative issues, ballot initiatives, campaigns and more.

Our most recent PodCast, [Transparency Project with Amy Oliver and Natalie Menten](#), is Natalie Menten & Amy Oliver discussing the importance of transparency and accountability in government spending.

If you have an idea for a PodCast - or would like to volunteer to help us produce them, please contact the [LPColorado Media Director](#)

~ ~ ~ Pod Casts Click Here! ~ ~ ~

### Media Report

By Richard Randall, Media Director

With media interest low during the holiday season, I've been working on strategy for 2009 and 2010. There are several things we have been working on to develop media for outreach and campaigns which depend heavily on available resources. Contributions of your skills are always appreciated. If you frequently write letters to editors, please let me know if you would be interested in coordinated efforts to address specific and current issues in those letters.

During January we will begin stepping up our PodCast production with David Williams (LPCO Legislative Director) taking an active role as host supported by Wes Long as Technical Director. David will be interviewing Colorado state legislators and activists throughout the coming legislative session. Be sure to check out our PodCasts regularly!

Also, I am delighted to report that I have been selected to serve on the 2010 LP National Platform Committee.

### Membership Report

By Clint Jones, Membership Director

I am in the process of organizing our membership database. I am hoping to have a volunteer coordinator to assist with the organizing of our volunteers in their various interests and specialties.

~ ~ ~ Please Get Involved - Click Here! ~ ~ ~

## BECOME A VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

OPPORTUNITY to help liberty: Volunteer Coordinator for the Libertarian Party of Colorado. This person will use their people skills to find, motivate, and guide the various volunteers that contact the LPCO, matching the volunteer interests to the needs of the organization. This is a volunteer position for a political party that showed 40% growth in the past year and has a Board of Directors that is committed, interesting, and active in the community. A one year commitment with an average of 4-6 hours per week needed. Please contact [membershipdirector@lpcolorado.org](mailto:membershipdirector@lpcolorado.org) with interest and questions

Clint Jones  
Libertarian Party of Colorado  
6989 S. Jordan Road  
Second Floor, Suite 5U  
Centennial, Colorado 80112  
(303) 936-3874

~ ~ ~ Please Get Involved - Click Here! ~ ~ ~

### Publications Report

By Jaime Brown, Publications Director

Since our December 6th annual strategy session, we have been working on increasing the newsletter distribution, creating a membership survey, and preparing for 2009 campaigns and initiatives.

Vote Hemp, the organization that rated the Libertarian presidential candidate with an A+ rating, has a question for our president-elect, Barack Obama, who received a "hopeful" B+;

"Agricultural hemp is oilseed and fiber varieties of *Cannabis* that are low in THC and high in CBD. Hemp cannot currently be grown on a commercial scale in the U.S., it is mis-classified in the Controlled Substances Act, and it must be imported from Canada, China, and other countries in the world. The Congressional Research Service (CRS) report, *Hemp as an Agricultural Commodity*, which is dated March 23, 2007 and has the order code RL32725, contains a wealth of good information on the subject. What is your position on supporting farmers in the U.S. having the opportunity to once again farm hemp, an important agricultural crop?"

With trillion dollar deficits and an economy in recession, we wait with baited breath to see if hope and change involve the end of the drug war, which is an assault on democracy, our republic, and our civil liberties. Legalize freedom and behold the greatest cash crop America has at its disposal.

For more information on this topic, [click here](#).

To submit your own question to president-elect, Barack Obama, [click here](#).

### Records Report

By Steven Gallant, Records Director

I compiled and filed the minutes and reports for the previous Board meeting.

Jim Frye spoke to the DonorPerfect representative. The cost of purchasing the system outright is approximately \$3,000. The other option is to allow DonorPerfect to provide online hosting for \$329 per month for a database of 15,000 names.

The search continues, but it would be helpful if the LPCO set a maximum amount it is willing and able to spend on a database.

I have still not received official FEC confirmation for our recent application but I assume we will be approved.

I am hoping to have an assistant treasurer to assist me in managing treasury duties. I am also working on ways to reduce operational spending.

--- Call of the LPAC Annual Meeting - Click Here To RSVP YES Using Email! ---

## CALL OF THE LPAC ANNUAL MEETING

The Libertarian Party of Arapahoe County Is Having Its Annual Meeting On:

February 15th, 2009 at 5:00 pm.

The Annual Meeting Will Be Held At:

Libertarian Party of Colorado Headquarters  
6989 S Jordan Rd  
Suite 5U  
Englewood, CO 80112

Please RSVP For This Event Using The Colorado Libertarians Meetup!

--- Call of the LPAC Annual Meeting - Click Here To RSVP YES Using Email! ---

## Government Transparency Program

RSVP Now For The January 14th, 2009 Transparency Briefing At The State Capitol Meetup.

The Colorado Liberty Newsletter was sent by:

- The Libertarian Party of Colorado • • 6989 S. Jordan Road, Suite 5U • • Centennial, CO 80112 •

Phone: 303.837.9393

Contact the LPCO [Online](#)

[Subscribe](#) To The Colorado Liberty Newsletter