

# LIBERTY

Published by the Libertarian Party of Colorado

January 2002

The next meeting of the board of directors will be held at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, February 12 at Libertarian Party Headquarters.

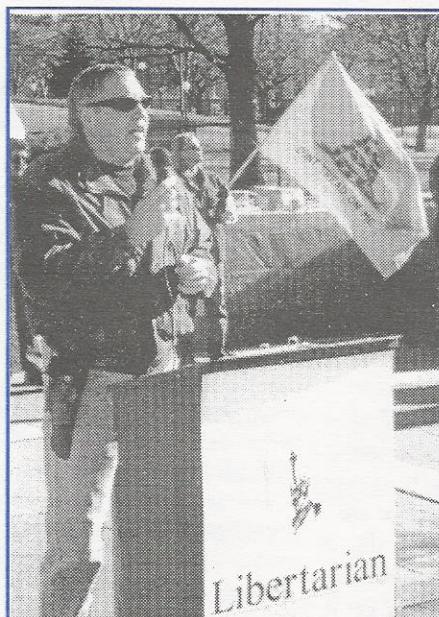
Party members are welcome at the meeting. Please call John Berntson for details at 719.532.0118.

[www.lpcolorado.org](http://www.lpcolorado.org)

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## Stanley Exercises Civil Disobedience



Rick Stanley speaks on Bill of Rights Day moments before he's arrested.

On December 16, 1773, Samuel Adams led the Sons of Liberty to toss 342 chests of tea into the Boston harbor in protest of unequal treatment by the British government.

During the summer of 1846, Henry David Thoreau spent a night in jail because he refused to pay a poll tax in order to protest slavery. In *Civil Disobedience*, Thoreau wrote, "Must the citizen ever for a moment, or in the least degree, resign his conscience to the legislator? Why has every man a conscience, then? I think that we should be men first, and subjects afterward. It is not desirable to cultivate a respect for the law, so much as for the right." He added, "Under a government which imprisons any unjustly, the true place for a just man is also a prison."

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks was arrested by local police for refusing to give up her bus seat to a white man. In the aftermath of the protests that Parks' ordeal sparked, the police harassed and intimidated members of the black community.

On December 15, 2001, on the 210th anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution, Rick Stanley added his name to the long and proud list of those

"Stanley" continued on page 13

## Sheriff Masters Criticizes Drug War at CU Event

The drug war has failed. That's what Sheriff Bill Masters told a crowd of around 400 at the University of Colorado at Boulder on December 5.

Masters, Colorado's highest-ranking Libertarian official and the nation's first Libertarian sheriff, made television and radio appearances earlier that day and gave media interviews to the *Rocky Mountain News* and the *Colorado Springs Gazette*.

His book *Drug War Addiction: Notes from the Front Lines of America's #1 Policy Disaster* was published by Accurate Press at 1.800.374.4049. Masters has served as sheriff of San Miguel County since 1979.

Masters told the audience the drug war squanders police resources and leads to police corruption. His web page is at [libertybill.net](http://libertybill.net).



L-r: Brian Schwartz, Molly House, Alex Baia, John Thrasher, Matt Zenthoefer, Sheriff Bill Masters, Heather Demarest, and Flux Neo.

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**State Convention Announced!**  
**May 17-19, Leadville**  
See pages 4-5 for details.



## Notes from the Chair: Leaden Ship

When I was a young airman, spending my first day at my first permanent assignment, I noticed a poster. It showed an old sailing ship, probably a frigate, and it had at the top, written in those squiggly old-English letters, "Leaden Ship."

Well, I was rather puzzled by that. Sure, I knew steel ships could float, but I couldn't help thinking that a ship of lead must certainly go straight to the bottom of whatever harbor you launched it in. One of the sergeants walked by right then, and I said as much to him. He responded, "It says Leadership, Berntson."



Oh.

(Well, honestly, can you really understand that old script? Can you really read those reproductions of the Constitution or the Declaration? For my part, I

might as well be reading Chinese ideograms.)

But I told you all that so that we could discuss leadership. There seems to be a belief out there, in our subculture, that leadership is passé, that it is not something freedom-loving people should need or wish for. The basic sense I get from some people on this is that free people will naturally know what needs to be done and they will naturally come together and get it done.

Poppycock! Free people need and want leaders as much as any other group. Why? Because life is filled with limitless options and opportunities, and if we do not coordinate our efforts and determine our priorities, we will be about as effective as a eunuch at an orgy. Loving freedom does not mean you know how to get it.

This is where leaders come in. Somebody has to figure out which opportunities are the most likely to yield the results we want, sell people on what he wants to do and why he is right, and then motivate them toward getting the job done. It is this second step that is the most critical. It is not always so obvious which way we should be going. Even if it seems obvious to you, it is often obvious to others that you are wrong. So, we

have to prove our ideas to other people, in order to get them to follow. It is this necessity that helps us winnow out the good ideas from the bad, to keep us from going too far down the wrong path. Sure, it is possible that everyone could be wrong, but it is not as likely.

Of course, learning to sell our ideas to each other is also good practice for what our real mission is: selling our ideas to the public at large, albeit using different arguments.

Anyway, I would like you to consider my premise, that the freedom movement needs leaders. You can be one of them. If you see something that needs doing, but it is beyond your ability to get it done by yourself, then take the following steps:

**Refine your vision.** Despite the words of Bush the Elder, a leader needs vision. Figure out what you want things to look like when you are done, so that you will know when you have accomplished your goal.

**Sell others on your goal.** Do not worry about the mechanics of getting there; just get people to agree with your end goal.

**Outline your plan.** Once they agree with your goal, you are free to map out a path. Be ready to accept change here; someone may have a better idea. If the new idea accomplishes the same goal in an easier or better way - and it doesn't involve murder or other unpleasantness - then go with it.

**Execute the plan.** Get others to take different parts of it, always with a definable goal for each part.

**Be flexible.** Conditions change, so don't be caught bringing a knife to a gunfight. Don't be afraid to change the plan if it needs changing.

**Lavish praise.** Ronald Reagan often said, "There is no limit to how far you can go, if you don't care who gets the credit." If somebody does a good job, make sure people hear about it.

One of the arguments for the free market versus central planning is that the market is comprised of millions of little decisions, made by people who have the

"Leaden Ship" continued on page 13

**LIBERTY**

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# Stanley Blasts FBI's 'Terror' Claims

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After reviewing a newly published flyer from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Rick Stanley, Libertarian candidate for the U.S. Senate, declared that the war against an unconstitutional government has just been escalated. The flyer is reproduced at [www.stanley2000.org](http://www.stanley2000.org).

The flyer states, "If You Encounter Any of the Following, Call the Joint Terrorism Task Force." According to this flyer, the FBI is attempting to identify criminal activities associated with domestic terrorists. It says that this information sheet will assist uniformed patrol officers in identifying potential domestic terrorists. Domestic terrorists are defined as groups or individuals operating entirely inside the U.S. and attempting to influence the U.S. government or population to effect political or social change by engaging in criminal activity.

The potential criminals listed in this information sheet include:

- **"Defenders" of the U.S. Constitution.**
- **Individuals identified as "Common Law Movement Proponents" who ask under what authority a patrolman has stopped or pulled him over.**
- **Numerous references to the U.S. Constitution might also mark someone as a domestic terrorism suspect.**
- **People whose political motivations are rooted in Marxist/Leninist philosophy are "Left-Wing Terrorists."**
- **If you claim that driving is a right, not a privilege, or if you attempt to "police the police" you are also a domestic terrorism suspect.**

After reading the flyer, Libertarian candidate Stanley said, "Since the unconstitutional 'Patriot' Act was passed, we have been continuously assured that our constitutional rights are not being taken away. We have been told that this is temporary; our rights will eventually be restored; and the benevolent U.S.

government will never use these new laws against its own citizens, but only against terrorists threatening our country with aggression from abroad.

"Americans, secure in their lifelong belief that their government is benevolent, do not believe that an unconstitutional threat against the Bill of Rights could be a bad thing, because the U.S. government would never abuse its own citizens. They believe that the Constitution and the Bill of Rights are antiquated documents that no longer apply to our society in 2001. People say that these documents are old and have no relevance for today, that they are "living documents," to be changed and interpreted by the bureaucrats at will.

"Unless these documents are construed in their literal word-for-word form, which frames the boundaries the people have set for our government, we will have a lawless government that can and will do anything it wants to do.

"Such an unconstrained government does not deserve the pride, patriotism and allegiance of the American people. Without the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the U.S. government has no lawful authority, because all the government's lawful authority is derived from the consent of the American people.

"As a defender of the U.S. Constitution, I have now been branded by the FBI as a domestic terrorist. The cowardice of government officials who have violated their oath to defend our Constitution by remaining silent in the face of this assault against the Bill of Rights is a slap in the face to all Americans, past, present, and future. The audacity of the FBI agents who produced this flyer is an affront to the liberty and freedom of all Americans. The birthright of all Americans is being destroyed by an unconstitutional U.S. government that acts as if our rights do not exist and the Constitution does not apply.

"Throw these scumbags out of office. Take your country back. Restore your freedoms and your Constitutional rights. Liberty is not a gift from a benevolent government. It is your birthright."

## Ptak Joins LPCO Board of Directors

Judd Ptak has joined the state board of the Libertarian Party of Colorado. He will serve as legislative director.

Maralyn Mencarini stepped down from her position as treasurer. She recently experienced health problems.

John Berntson, state chair, said, "We will miss Maralyn, but we recognize she has other priorities right

now. On behalf of the Libertarian Party of Colorado, I wish her a speedy recovery. Thank you, Maralyn, for your invaluable service to the party.

"We are thrilled to welcome Judd to the board. As Libertarians gain more prestige and a greater voice in politics, we need somebody with Judd's record to help us influence state policies."



# Libertarian

Colorado State Convention

May 17-19, 2002, Leadville, Colorado  
National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum



Historic school house outside of Leadville—photos courtesy of [www.leadville.com](http://www.leadville.com)



National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum

**Please join us for the 2002 Convention of the Libertarian Party of Colorado!** Libertarian members and those interested in the ideas of liberty are welcome. On Friday evening, we'll gather for social events. On Saturday morning, we'll vote for our candidates and state board. Voting is open to all party members. Then, starting at 12:30 pm, come hear top speakers from around the state, including author L. Neil Smith, columnist Wayne Laugesen, and radio D.J. Gregg Stone. Saturday evening features a banquet with Sheriff Bill Masters. On Sunday, we'll turn our attention to political strategy and activist training. Whether you can attend all three days or just Saturday, we hope to see you there!

**At 10,430 feet, Leadville is the highest incorporated city in the United States.** It is also one of Colorado's largest historic districts. With the 2001 elections, Leadville became home to a Libertarian city council. The 2002 Convention will be held in the National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum, built in 1900. The address is 120 West 9th Street.

**Lodging is available to meet all needs.** The Delaware Hotel on 700 Harrison Avenue is within easy walking distance of the Convention center. It was built in 1886 in a Victorian style. Call 800.748.2004. For those on a more frugal budget, the Leadville Hostel on 500 East 7th Street offers dorms and rooms for \$15 to \$20 per person. Group rates are available. Call 719.486.9334 or visit [www.leadvillehostel.com](http://www.leadvillehostel.com). For complete information about hotels, beds-and-breakfast, campgrounds, and other lodging facilities, please see [www.leadville.com](http://www.leadville.com) or call the Chamber of Commerce at 719.486.3900.

☐ **JANUARY SPECIAL! Individuals only \$49 for payments received by January 31.**

☐ **Full-time Student Rate: \$25.**

☐ **Individuals (after January): \$75. Couples: \$125 (for both). Children 16 and under: \$25.**

Prices include entrance to the convention for all three days, including the banquet. Lodging and other meals are not included. Space is limited, and prices increase by \$25 per person May 1.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

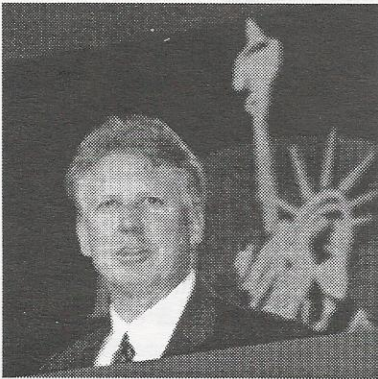
Make checks payable to Ari Armstrong and mail to Box 745015, Arvada, CO 80006.  
For more information, see [www.lpcolorado.org](http://www.lpcolorado.org) or contact [ari@co-freedom.com](mailto:ari@co-freedom.com) or 303.412.8356.



# Libertarian Party of Colorado 2002 Convention

May 17-19, 2002, Leadville, Colorado

speakers, guests, and schedule subject to change



## Sheriff Bill Masters — “Drug War Addiction”

Masters is Colorado's highest-ranking Libertarian official and the nation's first Libertarian sheriff. He is the author of *Drug War Addiction: Notes from the Front Lines of America's #1 Policy Disaster*.

**Meet other Libertarian officials:** Carol Hill • Joe Swyers • Ken Cary • Lisa Dowdney • Robert Dempsey • and more!

**Bob Glass and James Vance** will compete for the LP's nomination for governor. Other candidates include Rick Stanley, Mark Holden, W. Earl Allen, and Norm Olsen.

## L. Neil Smith — “Bill of Rights Enforcement”

Prometheus Award-Winning Science Fiction Author

## Wayne Laugesen — “Media in a Free Society”

Editor, Boulder Weekly

## Gregg Stone — “Freedom and Pop Culture”

Radio D.J. on KBPI, 106.7 FM

## Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer — “Medical Freedom”

M.D., 2000 Libertarian Candidate for State House

## Joe Becker — “Fighting for Liberty in D.C.”

Lawyer, formerly with Congressman Ron Paul

## Dianna Hsieh — “Philosophy of Capitalism”

Lecturer for the Objectivist Center

## Ed Quillen — “The Colorado Constitution”

Columnist, Denver Post

## Larry Welshon — “Market Education”

Co-founder, Alpine Valley School

## Emma Phillips — “Drug War Injustices”

Families Against Mandatory Minimums

## Stephen Rahe — “History of the Drug War”

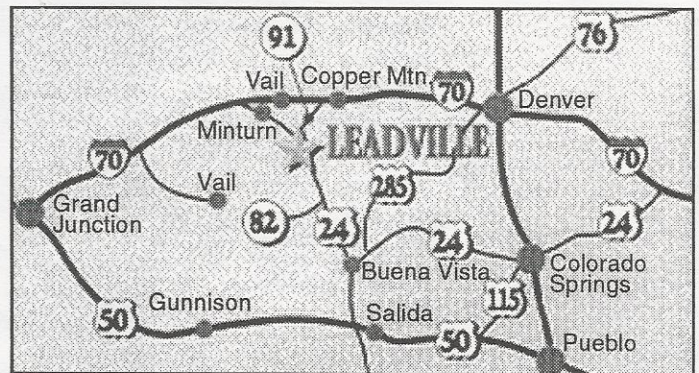
Epimethian Press

## Terrence Carroll — “Dangers of Power”

Reverend, Colorado Progressive Coalition

## Sue Armstrong — “Unpatriotic ‘Patriot’ Act”

Colorado Director, American Civil Liberties Union



## Schedule

All events at the Mining Museum,  
Friday, May 17 through Sunday, May 19.

*The only meal provided by the convention is Saturday's banquet. Leadville offers a wide variety of dining options.*

Friday 6:00 pm. Social, cash bar, suite parties.

• • •

Saturday 8:00 am. Candidate nominations, board elections, and other business. (Free to members.)

Saturday 12:30 pm. Speakers.

Saturday 6:30 pm. Social, cash bar.

Saturday 7:00 pm. Banquet,  
featuring Sheriff Bill Masters.

• • •

Sunday 8:00 am till 3:00 pm. Political strategy, activist training, and sessions on theory and practice.

Sunday 3:00 pm. New board meets.



## Candidates Share Vision for Future

Candidates seeking votes statewide shared their visions for the future of Colorado on November 13 at the Doubletree Hotel in Denver. The event was organized by the Libertarian Party of Denver.

Two Libertarian candidates spoke at the event: Rick Stanley for U.S. Senate and James Vance for Governor. They were joined by Alison Maynard, who is running for Attorney General under the banner of the Green Party. All other candidates for those offices were also invited.

The exchange between the Libertarians and the Greens at the forum highlighted both the similarities and the differences between the groups.

Stanley began by criticizing the view that we must learn to live with shootings and terrorist attacks. "We wouldn't have school shootings if adults were able to keep and bear arms, as the Constitution guarantees," he said.

Gang shootings are largely the result of drug prohibition and the violent black markets it creates, Stanley added. "No profits, no drive-by shootings." He said drug prohibition violates the U.S. Constitution and should be repealed.

Stanley said the U.S. government didn't have its guard up prior to September 11. He agreed the proper course now is to "hunt down terrorists." However, putting U.S. troops in 145 foreign nations and bombing 19 countries made us more prone to an attack.

The current government has created war, economic controls, a loss of civil liberties, and "ever-expanding government," Stanley charged. "Republicans and Democrats won't make the necessary changes for a Constitutional and free society."

"Elect one Libertarian Senator," Stanley challenged. "Change the world you live in."

Vance began by stacking up the numerous volumes of the Colorado Code. "This is not my vision of Colorado's future," he said. Unfortunately, many old-party politicians want only to add more laws to the books. A Libertarian governor would "get rid of as much of this as he can."

Bill Owens is a reactionary, Vance argued. After the murders at Columbine, Owens killed a concealed-carry bill and backed new gun restrictions. After Bush decided to create an office of homeland security, Owens decided to create a similar office. But the Democrats offer nothing better.

"I don't want to be a politician," Vance said. "I'd rather be a statesman. I want to be a representative of the people."

Vance said he'd count his stay in office a success if he could eliminate one or more volumes of statutes. "I don't hold any sort of idealistic perspective on this election," Vance said he wants to take a "step-by-step" approach and achieve "more liberty" in office.

Vance pledged to take no money from corporations, special interest groups, or political action committees. Instead, he would accept funds "only from living, breathing human beings."

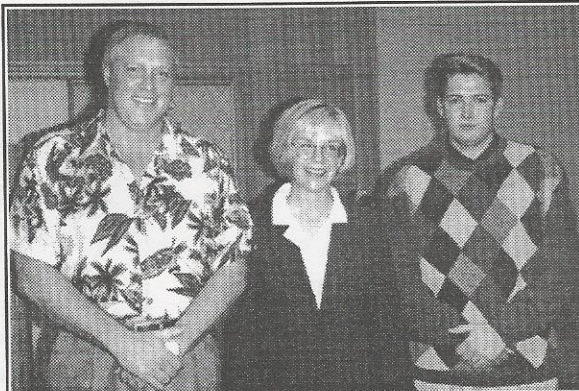
Because the audience consisted mostly of Libertarians and Greens, the discussion often led to issues of mutual interest. Some of Maynard's comments had Libertarians nodding their heads in

agreement, though several times audience members asked pointed questions of the candidates.

Libertarians and Greens have joined in limited political cooperation in Colorado. For instance, both parties protested the *Rocky Mountain News* when that paper mentioned only Republicans and Democrats in its 2000 voters' guide. Lloyd Sweeny represents the LP in the Colorado Coalition of Independent Political Parties, a group the Green Party also joined.

In terms of political goals, the points of both convergence and opposition are striking. In an interview in the November/December *Colorado Liberty*, LP founder David Nolan referred to a realigned political spectrum with Libertarians on one end and Greens on the other. However, at the forum, Steve Gresh, a Libertarian activist from Colorado Springs, noted the intersections between the parties.

Libertarians and Greens both call for the repeal of drug prohibition. Maynard said the drug war is a waste of resources; Stanley said the drug war also eats away at our Constitutional rights.



Libertarians Rick Stanley for U.S. Senate and James Vance for Governor attend the November 13 forum in Denver. Alison Maynard, a Green also spoke.

"Elect one  
Libertarian  
Senator.  
Change the  
world you  
live in."



All three candidates lamented loss of civil liberties, especially in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks.

Maynard called for an end to corporate welfare, a goal Libertarians share. Maynard argued developers in Colorado are often subsidized by the taxpayers. However, while Libertarians want to end corporate welfare in all forms, some Greens want to provide corporate welfare for things like alternative energy production.

Libertarians are also big fans of well-protected property rights, backed up by civil liability. Maynard argued legal suits by property owners against polluters are bogged down by "a million technicalities." She cited an example of a mine that polluted a stream—the taxpayers ended up paying most of the cleanup bill, while the polluter got off with a relatively minor fine.

On issues like election reform, the rifts between Greens and Libertarians became apparent. Of course both groups share the broad goal of fair vote counting. "It is going on in this state," Maynard charged. "There is election fraud." For that reason, Maynard calls for an end to voting by mail, preferring instead a "one-day-only polling election where everything is observed."

However, Libertarians were unwilling to accept Maynard's suggestion to fund campaigns with tax dollars. Mark Holden, a representative for State House, argued tax-funded elections would violate freedom of speech without doing anything to clean up the election process.

While Libertarians see the right to bear arms as a natural extension of the right of self-defense and the right to life, and an integral part of the Bill of Rights, Maynard said Greens usually disagree about the significance of the Second Amendment.

Maynard referred to a "rich-poor divide" in America. For Libertarians, the important issue is not wealth differentials, but increases in wealth for all people. Libertarians argue that even in America's mixed economy, most people are able to significantly better their lives through appropriate effort. However, government interventions in the economy make it more difficult for some people to succeed, and those impediments to progress should be removed, Libertarians note.

While Libertarians blame the government's economic interventions for the difficulty some people have in earning a good living, Greens tend to look to a more powerful government to address such problems. Libertarians believe the Green Party advocates socialist policies rooted in the failed doctrines of Marxism.

Stanley's campaign issued a November 14 press release that referred to the "common ground" between the parties. That sparked a spirited e-mail debate between

Gresh and Mike Rosen, the Republican apologist and radio personality who had received the release.

Libertarians and Greens share similar goals in some areas of public policy. They also disagree strongly about other policies and about the general role of a proper government. Libertarians face the problem that all political activists face: how can they join broad coalitions to achieve specific policy goals while remaining true to their core philosophy?

Regardless, the fact that Libertarians started fielding candidates and hosting forums more than a year away from the 2002 elections, and that the LP won some significant victories in the past election, shows the party is no longer content to play the role of back-seat advisor to the Republicans and Democrats.

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# Take a Stand for Liberty ★ Vote Libertarian

# Bob GLASS

## For Governor

### A Time to Honor America's Bill of Rights

"We watched in horror as the World Trade Center collapsed. New York City, the city where I grew up, was attacked by terrorists who hate us simply because of the values we celebrate as Americans. These terrorist monsters murdered thousands of innocent men, women, and children, regular Americans just like you and me.

"Now is the time to reaffirm those values of liberty that make us Americans, the principles upon which our nation was founded.

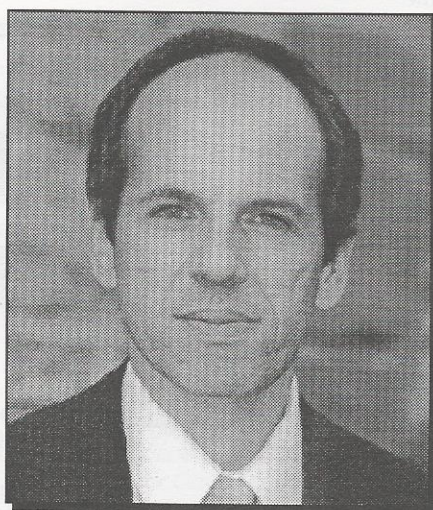
"Unfortunately, many Republicans and Democrats are only too eager to use the tragedy of the terrorist attack as a pretext to increase their own power at the expense of individual liberties.

"An authentic American patriotism demands that we root out terrorist threats, defend our soil, and protect American freedoms. American citizens must beware of those politicians who would sacrifice individual liberties for the illusion of security.

"Handing over more power to politicians and bureaucrats to invade our privacy, tax our wealth, and control our lives will not make us safer. It will only make us less safe, and less free.

"As Governor of Colorado, I will stand up against increased national powers that come at the expense of individual liberties. I will use the office as a 'bully pulpit' to champion the principles of individual civil liberties. And I will call on elected officials everywhere to take their oaths of office seriously and respect the Bill of Rights, rather than merely pay lip service to it.

"Our rights and freedoms are slipping away now faster than ever. Liberty is too precious and too valuable to end up on the scrap heap of history. It is up to us to rescue Her. The time for complacency is over. Now is the time to take a stand for liberty."—Bob Glass



[www.GlassForGovernor.com](http://www.GlassForGovernor.com)

### Vote Libertarian Bob Glass

Bob Glass is a lifelong libertarian who has been relentless in his defense of the the entire Bill of Rights, including the Second Amendment.

Meanwhile, Bill Owens climbed into the back pocket of Colorado's anti-gun lobby, signing Amendment 22 on the

very first line, thereby expanding Brady gun registrations.

Bob Glass will protect your right to keep and bear arms. He'll also demand the repeal of drug prohibition, the failed policy that kills innocent people and destroys many of our fundamental rights. Glass will fight for a free economy and uphold all libertarian principles.

Glass has been featured regularly in the Colorado press as well as in the national media. Glass publishes *The Partisan*, a no-holds-barred libertarian journal featuring such writers as L. Neil Smith, Claire Wolfe, Vin Suprynowicz, and David Kopel.

We have a historic opportunity to welcome thousands of gun owners into our ranks and show all who value freedom that ours is a party that will not play politics with their rights.

But we cannot do it without your help. Bill Owens is clearly being groomed for national political office. He stands for nothing save the acquisition and maintenance of his own power. Now those betrayed by Owens have a viable option. They can vote Libertarian. **Take a stand for liberty. Support Bob Glass for governor.**

#### ☐ YES! I want to support Libertarian BOB GLASS in his fight to restore freedom and defeat Governor "Gun Control" Bill Owens!

☐ I want to volunteer! Please contact me. My contact information is below.

☐ I'm sending a check, made out to "Glass for Governor" and mailed to the address below.

☐ \$1000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I'll pay by credit card. Visa / Mastercard No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Glass for Governor, 6773 Welch Court, Arvada, CO 80004.  
Full name and address required. Contributions limited to \$5,000 total per person.



# Libertarian News from Across the State

9

## Affiliate Conference Set for Jan. 19

Running a party affiliate can be tough. There are so many things you need to know. Whom do you ask? Where do you go?

Come to the Affiliate Conference. There, you can ask people who have done it elsewhere. You can swap ideas. You can find out what works and what does not.

We shall try to answer the following questions, in four one-hour sessions: What is an affiliate for? What does an affiliate do? What should its goals be?

Topics of discussion will include meetings and activities, recruiting and outreach, and finding candidates.

Who should come? Leaders and activists from all Colorado affiliates. Those who want to start an affiliate. Others who have an interest in party affairs. However, this meeting is for party members only and is not open to the general public. It is also not recommended for new members or those trying to understand basic libertarianism in general.

The conference is free. It will be held on January 19 from noon to 4:00 pm, at the Country Inn & Suites, 7380 South Clinton Street, Englewood. This is just northeast of I-25 and Dry Creek Road, in the Tech Center. The number there is 303.662.0777. For more information, contact John Berntson at 719.532.0118 or jkbcolosp@aol.com.

## Shnelvar Speaks at Fairview High

by Tom Parker

Ralph Shnelvar was invited back to Boulder's Fairview High School on November 7 to present his third seminar on Libertarian ideas. Over a dozen students voluntarily attended the talk as part of their Social Studies class.

Ralph's topic was "A Personal View of Libertarianism" and was a fine introduction to Libertarian ideas. There was a lively discussion with the students, some of whom were particularly aware of issues. To others, who were probably hearing Libertarian ideas for the first time, the seeds were planted.

Ralph started off by giving his three "simplified" Libertarian principles: leave people alone, governmental rules generally have bad unintended consequences, and the market always wins. Then he went on to give numerous practical applications of these principles. He discussed minimum wage laws, the war on drugs, and gun control.

The fast-paced, 50-minute session was marked by equal measures of humor and seriousness. Ralph managed to engage the students with his knowledge of history, his understanding of problems facing today's youth (Ralph's own daughter attends Fairview) and his flamboyant style.

## Bain Calls for Arms

In a November 8 article distributed through the Independence Institute, Ron Bain wrote, "I respect the Second Amendment and all that it stands for. I love the freedom that the use of guns against tyranny has time and again brought us. I have always supported concealed carry, mostly on behalf of women, because it is proven that sexual assaults go down in communities where carrying concealed weapons is allowed (see *More Guns, Less Crime* by John Lott, Jr., page 137). Gun control just ensures that guns will only be in criminal hands, and not in the hands of good righteous citizens willing to defend freedom and social order with their lives.

"Now we face a time as a nation where another form of tyranny—terrorism—has raised its ugly head. Never have I, a pacifist, felt so strongly the call, the need to arm myself in defense of our nation. Think about it for a moment: what better defense can there be against an unidentifiable enemy who has infiltrated our borders than an armed citizen militia?"

## L. Neil Smith Wins Prometheus

Colorado's own L. Neil Smith won the Prometheus Award for best novel of 2000. *Forge of the Elders* tells of a socialist earth that encounters alien capitalists.

Smith won the award from the Libertarian Futurist Society for two previous novels, *The Probability Broach* in 1982 and *Pallas* in 1994. A sequel to the former, *The American Zone*, was recently published.

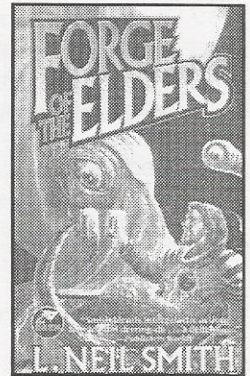
Smith co-authored a recent release with Aaron Zelman entitled *Hope*, about a Libertarian who wins the presidency in 2008. Zelman, who heads Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership, also co-wrote *The Mitzvah* with Smith.

Smith will speak at the Colorado Libertarian Party Convention, May 17-19. See pages 4-5 for details.

## Deepest Sympathies

The Libertarian Party of Colorado expresses deepest sympathy for the Caldaras, who lost their daughter in November.

The Activist Corner will return next month.





## Press Watch: Libertarians in the News

### Ewegen Gives LP Major Coverage

Bob Ewegen wrote two columns for the *Denver Post* about the new Libertarian majority on the Leadville city council.

Ewegen's November 17 article is titled, "Leadville puts poetry into practice." Then, on November 24, he published the column, "Will Libertarians bolt The Stupid Party?"

Both articles were published in the Saturday *Rocky Mountain News* on the *Post's* editorial page. The paper is now one of the largest in the United States. The articles were linked and cited nationwide. Free-market.net, the national Libertarian Party, and Advocates for Self-Government spread the word about these major articles.

In his first article, Ewegen wrote, "Big Government America, epitomized by the Clinton administration's jihad against Microsoft and the Bush administration's attempt to overturn Oregon's death with dignity law, desperately needs some Libertarianism antibodies in its system. And Leadville may soon provide a practical example of how to convert Libertarian poetry into real world political practice."

Ewegen called Joe Swyers and Carol Hill, both Libertarians on the council, and Sheriff Bill Masters. For his second article, Ewegen called San Miguel County Coroner Robert Dempsey, who switched to the Libertarian Party to protest John Ashcroft's "assault on the Oregon 'Death with Dignity' law."

Dempsey said, "I've been a Republican all my my life, believing in less government and more freedom. I was on the San Miguel County Republican Party Central Committee for 15 years. But the religious right has taken over the Republican Party, putting in more laws to take away your freedom. Here are the Republicans pushing for state's rights—and trying to take them away in Oregon. I want less government spending, more freedom... I've had it with the Republicans and their hypocrisy."

Ewegen concluded, "Those are strong words and constitute a strong warning to The Stupid Party. If the GOP doesn't wise up and back off its assault on personal freedom, its influential small 'l' libertarian wing may desert to its uppercased namesake."

### Preble Gains 'Colorado Voice'

Tom Preble has joined the *Denver Post's* "Colorado Voices" panel. In the past, he participated in libertarian discussion groups. On November 4, he wrote an article titled, "Slowing the downfall of the American Idea."

Preble told the story of how his father got a pair of binoculars from a German prisoner. His father insisted on trading cigarettes for them. Preble relates, "The man was breathlessly pleased, but puzzled: 'You could just take the binoculars,' he said. Dad replied: 'You may be my prisoner, but you are still a human being. We will trade, if you'd like.' And so they did."

Preble continues, "You see, when a person has the complete upper hand and has utter freedom of action, that is when we see what he is made of. That moment so many years ago, my dad, my father, was humanity and America at its best."

"As I grew older, I realized that to truly be honorable, decent and charitable, one must be free to not be. Our optional behavior continues to be narrowed. 'That which is not forbidden is compulsory' is becoming less of a humorous comment, more of a reality and so we are robbed of our humanity bit by bit. Men like Dad (Men? They were 18, 19, 20 years old!) fought and many died horrible deaths for the American Idea: The idea that we can decide for ourselves better than others can decide for us..."

"Now we are faced with the products of societies run by elites. Terrorists are testing our commitment to the American Idea. The idea of maximum freedom for ordinary folks is a new and fragile one in human history. The idea of security over freedom is an obvious and poor choice and, indeed, is why none of the passengers, save the terrorists, were armed on those flights!"

"Trading freedom for supposed security. There are many at home and abroad who are eager for us to make such a trade. Incrementally sliding into a police state, one 'reasonable' new law at a time would really be the downfall of America."

### Post Reports Civil Disobedience

*The December 16, 2001 edition of the Denver Post contained the following information.*

Rick Stanley, a Libertarian candidate for the U.S. Senate, was arrested on a gun charge Saturday for carrying a loaded weapon to challenge a city gun-control ordinance.

Stanley, 46, had the weapon in a holster, said his spokeswoman, Michelle Konieczny. A Denver ordinance bars openly carrying guns.

Stanley and a supporter arrested on the same charge were being held at the Denver jail awaiting booking Saturday night. They plan to seek a jury trial to challenge the constitutionality of the ordinance, Konieczny said.

"Big Government  
America...  
desperately  
needs some  
Libertarianism  
antibodies  
in its system."



## Letter Supports Sheriff Masters

*The following letter by Michael M. Dutcher appeared in the Colorado Springs Gazette December 14.*

Thank you for the Dec. 11 Our View, "Odd man out," which addressed the attempt by U.S. Attorney John Suthers, El Paso County Sheriff John Anderson and Gov. Bill Owen to marginalize San Miguel County Sheriff Bill Masters and his call for a more rational approach to our nation's drug problem.

From 1984 to 1990, I was privileged to serve as deputy district attorney in charge of prosecution of all criminal cases in Ouray County, San Miguel County and the west end of Montrose County. During my tenure, I worked closely with the San Miguel County Sheriff's Office on numerous cases, including drug cases. I wish to add the following additional support for *The Gazette's* editorial position.

Contrary to Suther's assertion, San Miguel County is not some backwater in the drug war. Telluride was (and probably still is) on a major drug-smuggling route. I would estimate that ten percent of the felony cases that crossed my desk were drug related. I don't imagine that percentage has changed since I left.

The San Miguel County Sheriff's Office is an absolutely first-rate law-enforcement agency, largely due to the efforts of Masters. I would gauge the training and professionalism of San Miguel County deputies as high or higher than any other Colorado county, including El Paso County.

Masters is not some ski-town hippie. He is a four-square, straight-shooting, law-and-order kind of guy. If he tells you something is wrong with the law, it would pay you to listen.

Listening to Masters is, of course, the last thing Suthers, Owens and Anderson want you to do hence all the harrumphing, hand-waving and sad stories about looking "in the eye of a mother whose daughter has died of an Ecstasy overdose." How come nobody wants to look in the eye of a mother whose child has been locked up for decades for possessing less than an ounce of crack?

I don't know if I agree with Masters' thesis as I haven't read his book, and God knows he and I have disagreed about a lot of things. I do know that Masters has earned a respectful hearing from his brother law-enforcement professionals. Owens, Suthers and Anderson do their argument no credit and themselves no honor by attacking the messenger.

## Lost Liberties Hard to Regain

*The following letter appeared in the Rocky Mountain News on December 11.*

In Mike Rosen's Nov. 23 column, "Threat justifies civil restrictions," he states, "history repeatedly demonstrates that when the danger passes, full civil liberties and then some have been diligently restored." As a Libertarian, I know the smell of government expansion when I smell it. I suppose that if you repeat the lie often enough, maybe it will become truth, right Mike? Our government imposed an income tax in our time of "need" (World War I), which was much smaller than it is today. How is it that our civil liberty to keep the fruit of our labor has not been restored close to a century later? Does anyone remember when conservatives espoused less government intrusion?

Joe Johnson, Chair, Boulder County Libertarian Party

## WSLP Thanks Supporters

*The following letter appeared in Grand Junction's Daily Sentinel on November 23, 2001, page 5A.*

The Western Slope Libertarian Party, in the wake of the last election, owes a debt of gratitude to so many even though we were unsuccessful in repealing the Montrose anti-smoking ordinance.

The citizens and merchants who supported us in so many ways, the courteous county employees, the numerous volunteers, and most of all, the voters all have our thanks. They make us proud to be a part of our community and eager to move forward to promote personal liberty and individual responsibility.

Tim Jacobs, co-chair, Western Slope Libertarian Party

## Owens the Taxoholic

*The following letter was published November 6 in the Rocky Mountain News.*

S.P. Williams writes in his letter of Nov. 3 that Gov. Bill Owens' reference to "Sen. Taxunaka" supposedly "smacks of racism." That's a ridiculous charge.

I understand only too well how false charges of racism can be used as a political club.

Owens isn't a bigot, he's just a hypocrite. According to the Oct. 31 *News*, Owens was rated even worse than the Democratic Senate on tax issues by the Colorado Union of Taxpayers.

Rather than vote for "Sen. Taxunaka" or "Gov. Own-us," the people of Colorado should vote for me, Libertarian Bob Glass, because I take freedom seriously. I will defend your pocketbook, your right of self-defense, and the entire Bill of Rights.

Bob Glass, Libertarian candidate for Governor

See [www.lpcolorado.org](http://www.lpcolorado.org) for more. Send Press Watch updates to [ari@co-freedom.com](mailto:ari@co-freedom.com).

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*"Owens isn't a bigot, he's just a hypocrite."*



## Focus on Congress, Nolan Urges LP

*I conducted an interview with LP founder David Nolan on September 7, 2001. The complete interview is available at [www.lpcolorado.org/cl/2001/11nolan.html](http://www.lpcolorado.org/cl/2001/11nolan.html). Here, Nolan makes the case we in the LP ought to focus more resources on Congressional races. —Ari Armstrong*

We received somewhere between seven and nine times as many votes per Congressional district at the Congressional level as we did at the Presidential level [in 2000]. We got 1.7 million votes for Congress, even though we covered only 60% of the country. If you project that out across the whole country, you'd see if we had run Congressional candidates in every district, we would have gotten about three million votes.

That prediction could be either high or low. You could argue we wouldn't have gotten three million, because we'd already covered most of the districts where we have most of our support. Those are the areas where we were able to find candidates and get the necessary signatures or otherwise get on the ballot. That is certainly a reasonable argument.

The counter-argument is the synergy argument. If we'd been on the ballot in every district, we would have had nationwide reinforcement. We would have been able to run (which I think we should have done anyway) national television spots saying vote Libertarian for Congress. We might have gotten more than three million votes. It would have increased our credibility, our visibility, and our fundraising. It would have made it more plausible to run national TV spots. We might have gotten four or five million votes.

You're always on thin ice when you make big projections like that. But certainly the three million number is not ludicrous. So contrast that with the number of votes that Harry Browne got, a little under 400,000, and you're looking at about seven-to-one. If you look at results per dollar, it becomes something more like 25-to-1.

The Harry Browne campaign and the Libertarian Party spent something like \$3 million, to get around 390,000 votes — about \$7-\$8 per vote. Contrast that with the 1.7 million votes we got at the Congressional level. I don't have precise figures because you don't even have to file with the FEC unless you raise and spend \$5,000. We had 255 or 256 Congressional candidates, and I would be very surprised if they spent even \$1 million.

As far as I know, only about a dozen raised and spent more than \$5,000 (I was one of those). The great majority of them ran line-holder type candidacies. They got on the ballot, they went to interviews on local TV and radio stations, they went to local forums and answered questionnaires and did what they could, but

I would suspect that the great majority of them spent less than \$1,000. I would suspect that altogether our candidates spent about half a million dollars. They got 1.7 million votes, which works out to about 30 cents per vote.

Congressional candidates are taken far more seriously than Presidential candidates, for a couple of very good reasons. First, although it's unlikely that our Congressional candidates are going to win, it cannot be categorically ruled out. A newspaper editor or TV reporter is not going to start rolling on the floor laughing when the candidate says he or she could win, given enough support and coverage and dollars.

We can raise a proportionately greater percentage of money in a Congressional race. A good candidate with a good campaign team who makes a serious effort can raise \$10,000. That's not a lot of money, but concentrated in one Congressional district, and allocated strategically, it can create a significantly greater presence in the race, enough so that our candidate can at least be the balance of power. Witness all the Republican hand-wringing over our Senate candidate in Washington who helped to defeat Senator Gorton. We can be a player. Our candidates can capture the swing vote; they can be the deciding factor.

Also, in some cases our Congressional candidates are people who have already gotten some kind of recognition, visibility, and credibility in the area where they're running. They're successful businessmen, or they've run for a local office. You can find a candidate who has a greater degree of recognition among the constituency than any of our Presidential candidates have ever had.

In Congressional races, we have greater name recognition, greater credibility, greater ease of getting into debates and forums, and the ability to raise a greater proportionate amount of dollars. That all helps explain the greater bang for the buck.

More importantly, the Congressional level is where national issues and local activism intersect. You can address national issues in a relatively local race. Running for water commissioner is all very good, but all you get to do is talk about water. You can't really talk about the war on drugs and why we should not be in Macedonia. You can certainly do that at the Congressional level. It's on the national issues where the libertarian position can be most clearly delineated.

*If you are a registered Libertarian who would like to run for U.S. Congress or some other office in 2002, please contact Norm Olsen at 303.277.9967 or [norm@rockware.com](mailto:norm@rockware.com).*

*"The Congressional level is where national issues and local activism intersect. You can address national issues in a relatively local race."*



# Olsen Urges Candidates to Step Forward

# 13

In the year 2000, the Libertarian Party of Colorado grew by about 30%. While there are many reasons for this, one of the major factors was having 87 candidates on the 2000 ballot. We got a *Denver Post* endorsement, extensive media coverage throughout Colorado, and hundreds of thousands of Libertarian votes in the state.

Let me repeat what I said many times 18 months ago: "The best place to advertise the Libertarian Party is on the official November election ballot."

This year, Libertarians will be have the opportunity to be nominated for over 210 partisan "state" races.

We may not be able to run 210 candidates, but we damn well will have more than 100.

Commit to being a candidate now. Refer to the web site [http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/reap/Map\\_Disclaimer.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/reap/Map_Disclaimer.htm), find your new district, and let me know which district you will run in. (If you don't have access to the web, simply call me and I'll have someone figure it out for you.) Being a candidate is fun and effective. You could help the LP grow by another 30% this year. And remember, "You got to be in it to win it!" You can contact me at 303.277.9967 or [norm@rockware.com](mailto:norm@rockware.com).

"Stanley" continued from page 1

who practiced civil disobedience in the name of justice. Stanley led a rally in celebration of Bill of Rights Day at Lincoln Park next to the State Capitol.



*Denver police take Rick Stanley to jail for exercising his Constitutional rights.*

Stanley, the Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate, gave a speech about the historical significance of the Second Amendment. Then he holstered a loaded firearm in willful violation of Denver city ordinance 38-117.5(b), but in harmony with the constitutions of the United States and the state of Colorado. Denver police arrested him and Duncan Philp,

another man who chose to exercise his Constitutional rights of self-defense.

The U.S. Constitution states, "A well-regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." Article 2, Section 13 of the Colorado Constitution states, "The right of no person to keep and bear arms in defense of his home, person and property... shall be called in question..."

Stanley plans to take his case to a jury and to sue the City of Denver for violating his civil rights. Paul Grant,

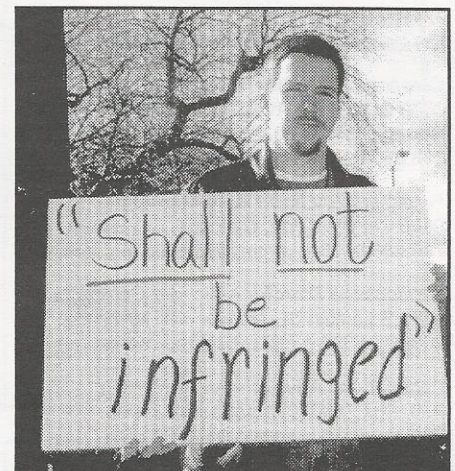
a civil rights attorney who successfully defended Laura Kriho and who ran for governor as a Libertarian in 1982, has accepted Stanley as a client.

Other Libertarians spoke out in defense of the Bill of Rights at the rally. Kent McNaughton explained the significance of the Ninth and Tenth Amendments. Judd Ptak described the flaws of the so-called "Patriot Act." Gubernatorial candidates Bob Glass and James Vance touted the virtues of civil liberties.

In his speech, Stanley said, "The Bill of Rights is the crown jewel in the Constitution of the United States. And the Second Amendment is the linchpin of the Bill of Rights... Today, 210 years after the Bill of Rights became part of the Constitution, the Second Amendment is in tatters."

Stanley added, "Today I am taking a stand against an unconstitutional city ordinance. There are thousands of unconstitutional laws on the books today. Now is the time to force their repeal. We need to hold another rally here in Denver in January, and in February, and every month after that, until all the unconstitutional laws have been repealed. And we can't just do it in Denver. We need support in this effort from people all across the country... If we don't act now, our last best chance to preserve liberty in America will be lost. Do not let that happen!"

Stanley's web page is at [www.stanley2002.org](http://www.stanley2002.org).



"Leaden Ship" continued from page 3

knowledge needed to make those decisions. Central planners cannot possibly know enough to make those decisions wisely. Likewise, neither can your board hope to discover, never mind remedy, all of the obstacles in our path to liberty. It needs hundreds of

people, working in committees, working in affiliates, and working in campaigns.

And every one of these is going to need leaders. Why not you? Without leaders, our party will sink, like a leaden ship.

—John K Bertson



# Contacts—The Libertarian Party of Colorado

Please send updates and corrections to Ari Armstrong at [ari@co-freedom.com](mailto:ari@co-freedom.com) or 303.412.8356. Meeting times and locations subject to change without notice. For information on how to start a local affiliate or campus organization, contact Brian Rachocki at [rachocki@earthlink.net](mailto:rachocki@earthlink.net) or 303.814.0272.

## National

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MEETING: Mondays, noon, Hunan Garden  
BOARD: 2nd Thursday, 6:30pm,  
call Tom Parker, 303.665.2150

**Broomfield Libertarians** • Wright Morgan  
52 Ruth Road East, Broomfield, CO 80020  
303.465.9676  
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LePeeps (Mexico&Colo.Blvd.), call David Aitken,  
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303.688.8624  
MEETING: Weekly, see web page for details.  
BUSINESS: Monthly, see web page for details.

**El Paso County** • Carol Geltemeyer  
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719.596.6799 • [info@lpep.org](mailto:info@lpep.org)  
<http://www.lpep.org>  
MEETING: Tuesdays, 7 pm. Meetings are also  
held on Saturdays at 10:00 am at various  
locations.  
BUSINESS: Last Wednesday, 7pm

**Fort Collins** • Lee Smith  
970.635.0395  
MEETING: 1st Tuesday, 7 am

**Grand Junction** • Linn&Sharon Armstrong  
970.464.5177

**Greeley / Weld** • Lester W. Edgett  
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**Routt County** • Mike Zuckerman  
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970.870.8104  
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**San Luis Valley** • Robert Johnson  
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719.379.2767 • [sdj@amigo.net](mailto:sdj@amigo.net)

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**Southern Colorado Libertarian Alliance**  
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719.738.5792 • [sdj@amigo.net](mailto:sdj@amigo.net)  
MEETING: 1st Saturday, 9:00 am,  
Chamber of Commerce Boardroom, 400 Main,  
Lunch after meeting

**Southside Denver** • Bennett Rutledge  
4264 E. Maplewood Way, Littleton, CO  
720.529.8024  
<http://msnhomepages.talkcity.com/CapitolDr/acb9955/index.html>  
MEETING: 2nd Tuesday, 7 pm

**Southwestern Colorado** • Bill Zimsky  
P.O. Box 3005, Durango, CO 81302  
970.385.5107 • Fax: 970.385.5226

**Summit County** • John Sabal  
P.O. Box 958, Frisco, CO 80443 • 970.262.6369

**Western Colorado** • Brent Shroyer  
P.O. Box 292, Rangely, CO 81648 • 970.675.2337

**Western Slope LP (Montrose)** • John Duncan  
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970.249.9523 • [westernslopelp@yahoo.com](mailto:westernslopelp@yahoo.com)  
Also Tim Jacobs, 970.249.6242  
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## Campus

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# LIBERTY CALENDAR

## January • February 2002

PLEASE SEE THE ADJACENT CONTACTS PAGE FOR MEETING TIMES AND LOCATIONS.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>January</b>		1 El Paso County Fort Collins	2 Broomfield	3 Jefferson County	4	5 Denver Breakfast Fort Morgan El Paso County SoCO Lib. Alliance
6	7 Boulder Lunch	8 El Paso County Southside Board of Directors	9	10 Boulder Board	11	12 Denver Breakfast Fort Morgan El Paso County
13	14 Boulder Lunch Fort Collins	15 El Paso County	16 Routt County	17	18	19 Affiliate Conference Denver LP Rally Denver Breakfast Fort Morgan Four Corners
20	21 Boulder Lunch	21 El Paso County	23	24	25	26 Denver Breakfast Fort Morgan El Paso County
27	28 Boulder Lunch	29 El Paso County	30 El Paso Business	31		

### Key Dates:

- Affiliate Conference, January 19. See p. 9.
- Denver LP Rallies, January 19 and February 16.
- Colorado LP Convention, May 17-19. See pages 4-5.

				<b>February</b>	1	2 Denver Breakfast Fort Morgan El Paso County SoCO Lib. Alliance
3	4 Boulder Lunch	5 Fort Collins El Paso County	6 Broomfield	7 Jefferson County	8	9 Denver Breakfast Fort Morgan El Paso County
10	11 Boulder Lunch	12 El Paso County Southside Board of Directors	13	14 Boulder Board	15	16 Denver LP Rally Denver Breakfast Fort Morgan El Paso County



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**I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

What does the above pledge mean? We ask our members to disavow the initiation of force. This does not mean that you cannot defend yourself; you do have a right to defend your life, liberty, and property. It means that you cannot use the coercive power of government to forcibly achieve your personal, ethical, or religious goals. This commitment helps us maintain our principles and provides us with a measuring stick to determine if we have strayed from our common goal: a society where all relationships among persons are based on voluntary cooperation.

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