

CONVENTION

The LPCO 2026 Convention
Something for Everyone

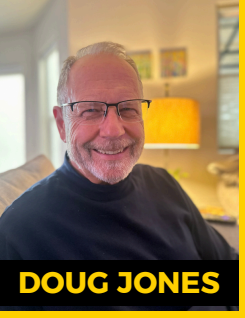
The 2026 state convention brings back the spirit of the classic gatherings from the 1990s and early 2000s—packed with fellowship, speakers, meals, seminars, and celebration in a slightly streamlined format. Friday night opens with early registration and credentialing, followed by a roundtable discussion and a lively comedy show. Snacks and a cash bar will be available, and the evening concludes with a suite party (location to be announced). Saturday morning begins with a coffee klatch and seminar for paid attendees. The business session follows, featuring elections for new board members, candidate nominations, and other official party matters. While the business meeting is free and open to the public, voting is limited to sustaining members who qualified by January 18, 2026. Silver and Gold ticket holders will enjoy a plated lunch with a choice of Plant-Based “Beef” Meatloaf or Brown Sugar Brined Bone-In Pork Chop. Our featured luncheon speaker is Jo Jorgensen, the Libertarian Party’s 2020 presidential nominee and 1996 vice-presidential nominee alongside Harry Browne. She continues to be a strong voice for liberty. The afternoon includes additional seminars and the conclusion of party business. Saturday evening begins with a vendor reception, followed by the Gala dinner featuring three entrée options: Vegetable Lasagna Roulade, Grilled Beef Tenderloin Filet, or Lemon-Herb Crusted Salmon. Our Gala entertainment includes special guest Adam Kokesh—libertarian activist, radio host, author, and 2020 presidential primary candidate. The night wraps up with a spirited live auction led by Joe Johnson and Eric Mulder, offering memorabilia, special gifts, and unique items. The celebration continues with another suite party to close out the evening. On Sunday, the newly elected board will hold a brief meeting. The public is welcome, though seating is limited (location to be announced). We’re also seeking auction donations, convention bag swag, and volunteers. It’s a great opportunity to experience what goes into running a state convention. To get involved, contact BetteRose Ryan (BetteRose@aol.com) for details.

BOARD

Libertarian Party of Colorado Nullifies
“Liberty Pledge,” Reaffirms
Commitment to Its Own Candidates

The newly elected State Board of the Libertarian Party of Colorado (LPCO) has formally denounced and nullified the so-called “Liberty Pledge,” following a vote at its February meeting. The Liberty Pledge was introduced during the 2024 election cycle by prior party leadership as a way to support certain Republican candidates described as “libertarian-leaning.” In several races, party leadership publicly backed Republican candidates who signed the pledge, even when no Libertarian candidate was on the ballot. After reviewing the matter, the current Board determined that the Liberty Pledge conflicts with the LPCO’s bylaws, which were adopted by party members. Those bylaws clearly state that the Party and its Board may endorse only Libertarian Party nominees for partisan public office. LPCO Chair Keith Laube said the pledge was built on a faulty premise—that Libertarian voters will default to Republican candidates when no Libertarian is running. “Many Libertarians simply decline to vote in races without a Libertarian candidate,” Laube explained. “And when they do vote, they are often just as likely to support another minor party as a Republican. Our voters deserve a Libertarian choice—not assumptions made on their behalf.” Laube also emphasized that Libertarians are an independent political movement, not an extension of either major party. “Libertarians are not Republicans,” he said. “We consistently defend individual liberty, equal rights, and personal freedom for all adults. The Libertarian Party has long supported LGBTQ rights, immigration reform, marriage equality, and a non-interventionist foreign policy.” The Board’s action makes clear that the LPCO will focus on recruiting, running, and supporting Libertarian candidates at every level of government. By nullifying the Liberty Pledge, party leadership has reaffirmed its commitment to offering Colorado voters a principled and consistent alternative to the two-party system.

EDITOR



DOUG JONES

I hope you enjoy the first edition of the *LPColorado News*. I invite you to become a member of the 1776 Club (see page 2) so you can stay on top of exciting initiatives and events throughout 2026 while getting the News delivered. If there are events or updates you’d like the News to cover, please contact me at ViceChair@LPColorado.org.

Doug



LPColorado

News

It's Annual
Convention
Time!



Adam Kokesh

Convention
SPEAKERS

Jo Jorgensen

Annual Convention April 17-18

To register and pay for an event package, go to <https://lpcolorado.org>

Pay before March 17 to receive a discount.

To be a voting delegate, you must have been an LPCO sustaining member as of January 18, 2026. Credentialing of convention delegates will take place Friday evening and Saturday from 7:00 am until the convention is adjourned.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Social Event & Comedy Show

SATURDAY

April 18th Events

Luncheon speaker:
Jo Jorgensen

Evening gala speaker:
Adam Kokesh

Seminars during Business Sessions

BUSINESS

Saturday April 18th
9am to 5pm

Morning: election of LPCO state board members, Judicial Committee, and delegates to the National Convention.
Afternoon: nomination of the 2026 candidates for public office

Register for Convention



STATE BOARD

Open Positions Legislative Membership

Board Positions up for Election at the April 18th Annual Convention

Treasurer
Outreach
Affiliates
Secretary
Legislative
Membership
Fundraising

Current Board

Chair
Keith Laube

Vice Chair
Doug Jones

Secretary
Robin Early

Treasurer
Allison Spink

Affiliates
Janet Turner

Fundraising
BetteRose Ryan

Campaigns
Joe Johnson

Outreach
Kirsten Lauren

Communications
Sean Vadney

AFFILIATES

New Energy in Arapahoe County

In January, the Libertarian Party of Arapahoe County gathered for its annual convention, marking an energizing step forward for the affiliate. Members came together to reflect, reorganize, and set the stage for a strong election cycle ahead. The convention featured guest speaker Jason Bailey of Citizens for No New Debt, who addressed a crowd of 14 attendees. Bailey shed light on how long-term bond issues often function as massive subsidies to banks, with extended payment schedules dramatically increasing the total cost to taxpayers. His presentation sparked thoughtful discussion and reinforced the importance of fiscal transparency and responsibility at the local level.

Members also approved changes to the county bylaws and elected a new board to lead the organization:

- Chair: Jeff Orrok
- Vice Chair: Cory Robertson
- Secretary: Eric Mulder
- Outreach: Joe Johnson
- Treasurer: Bennett Rutledge

In addition, the convention introduced Libertarian candidates running for public office.

Chair Jeff Orrok closed the convention by demonstrating the use of geocoding voter registration data to create detailed maps of registered Libertarians at the county, precinct, and other levels. This powerful organizing tool will help the affiliate better target outreach efforts and strengthen grassroots engagement across Arapahoe County.

With fresh leadership, motivated candidates, and new organizing tools, the Arapahoe County affiliate is clearly rejuvenated and ready to advance Libertarian principles in 2026 and beyond.

AFFILIATES

Former National Chair Nick Sarwark Speaks at Douglas County Libertarian Social

The Libertarian Party of Douglas County hosted its monthly social on Monday, March 2, 2026, featuring special guest speaker Nick Sarwark, former three-term Chair of the Libertarian National Committee.

About the Speaker

Nick Sarwark is an experienced criminal defense attorney who has argued more than 35 jury trials, including cases before the Colorado Supreme Court. During his tenure as national chair, he became known for his principled defense of libertarian values and his willingness to engage in thoughtful debate.

About the Topic: "Immigrant Solidarity: An Opportunity for Libertarians"

Immigration remains one of the most debated issues in American politics. Libertarians have long supported the free movement of peaceful people, grounded in the principles of individual liberty and free association. While there can be differences in how those principles are applied—for example, 2024 Libertarian presidential nominee Chase Oliver advocated an Ellis Island-style immigration approach—the core commitment to human freedom remains consistent. Sarwark explored how Libertarians can articulate a clear, principled position on immigration and why this issue presents a unique opportunity for outreach and coalition-building. He suggests:

- Volunteering to work with immigrant rights organizations.
- Contacting local, state, and federal officials to advocate for immigrant rights.
- Running campaigns that make immigrant rights a key issue.
- Reporting and documenting ICE activity.

Douglas County meetings are held the first Monday of each month at Wild Blue Yonder Brewing Company, 519 Wilcox St. Castle Rock. Meetings start at 6:30.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



KEITH LAUBE

The new LPCO Board elected in October has been working to build a solid base from which the Party can grow. This includes things that happen behind the scenes such looking at cost-benefit ratios to reduce our expenditures and improving our website and database. Our public image and messaging are especially important. Since October we have been on several radio and podcast shows. We have significantly increased our media contact list. I collaborated with **Robin Early, our board Secretary**, to update the website so that it is current and functional.

A favorite saying in local government is "do more with less." Our Board **Treasurer Allison Spink** has been finding ways we can do more with less. She has found more efficient methods to run our operation which has resulted in ongoing monthly savings. We are fortunate to have a person with great financial skills on our team. Thank-you Allison!

Campaigns Director Joe Johnson has been meeting with people and candidates. Running great candidates is the best way to grow our party. We plan to have a slate of great candidates in 2026. Joe is looking for more people to help with campaigns. If you want to help, please email Joe at campaignsdirector@lpcolorado.org.

Affiliates Director Janet Turner has been attending County affiliate meetings and working to make other affiliates more active. If you live in a County without an affiliate and want to help start one, please contact Janet at affiliatesdirector@lpcolorado.org.

The Convention Committee and BetteRose Ryan have planned the 2026 State Convention, which will be April 17-18 in Aurora. We are looking forward to a fun, productive convention. We will be electing several new state board members and nominating the 2026 candidates. This is your best opportunity to meet the 2026 candidates. I hope to see you there.

Finally, thanks to **Vice Chair Doug Jones** for creating a monthly Newsletter so we can keep our stakeholders informed. Our donors are the backbone of the Libertarian Party of Colorado. We appreciate your support.

It feels good to be a Libertarian!

Keith Laube, LPCO Chair

1776 CLUB

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