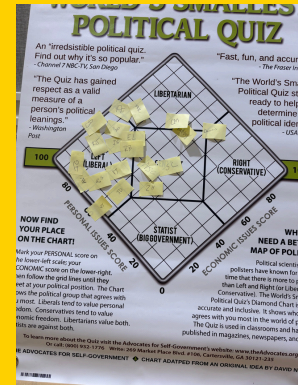


OUTREACH

## LPColorado Reaches Out to Students at CSU



Libertarians Douglas Mangeris (CD4 candidate), Robin Early (LPCO Secretary), Joe Johnson (Campaigns Director), and Doug Jones (LPCO Vice Chair) set up at a CSU student activism fair in March. The World's Smallest Political Quiz proved to be just the thing for attracting curious students to the table, where their political inclinations were measured.



# LPColorado

News

*State Convention 2026*



## ENERGY RISING

### Convention Team Delivers a Full Convention Experience

The April 17–19 convention weekend proved that a well-run event can still bring serious energy—and this year’s team delivered. Organizers Michele Poague and BetteRose Ryan, backed by a deep bench of volunteers, pulled off a convention that balanced structure, substance, and plenty of personality. At the center of it all, LP Colorado Chair Keith Laube kept proceedings disciplined and on schedule. Delegates consistently noted how smoothly the business sessions ran—no small feat for a full-day business session. The programming hit its mark as well. Friday night’s comedy set the tone with a genuinely strong lineup, and Saturday’s lunch featured an insightful address from Jo Jorgensen that gave attendees plenty to think about. But if there was one moment that stood out, it was the fundraising auction. Eric Mulder and Joe Johnson turned what could have been routine into a high-energy spectacle. If you haven’t seen them work a room, you’re missing something unique. And then there were the after-hours “Suite Parties.” Hosted in the hotel boardroom from 10 p.m. into the early morning on both Friday and Saturday, these gatherings added a different dimension to the weekend—less formal, more personal, and a reminder that conventions are as much about community as they are about business. All told, the weekend wasn’t just productive—it was memorable. The convention team didn’t just run an event; they created an experience.

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



KEITH LAUBE

We had a great 2026 Annual State Convention. I thank everyone who attended, and I hope you had enjoyable experience. I enjoyed hearing the nomination speeches from all our candidates. We look forward to the Libertarian Primary Election on June 30th and the General Election in November. Having candidates with active campaigns is the best way to grow the party. Our candidates will be the face and microphone for our party during the next 6 months. The board is committed to helping and supporting our candidates. In early May we will be doing an in-house candidate/campaign training session. We thank our donors for their support. There are many ways you can provide support besides financially. We will be looking for registered Libertarians to serve on the Bylaws Committee, Platform Committee, Audit Committee and 2027 State Convention Committee. It feels great to be a Libertarian!

Keith Laube, LPCO Chair



## STATE BOARD

Chair  
**Keith Laube**

Vice Chair  
**Doug Jones**

Secretary  
**Robin Early**

Treasurer  
**Allison Spink**

Legislative  
**Ross Metler** **NEW**

Outreach  
**John Hjersman** **NEW**

Membership  
**Jeff Orrok** **NEW**

Affiliates  
**Janet Turner**

Fundraising  
**BetteRose Ryan**

Campaigns  
**Joe Johnson**

Communications  
**Sean Vadney**

## FEDERAL CANDIDATES

US Senate  
**Blake Huber**

Congress D1  
**Chad Humphrey**

Congress D2  
**Gaylon Kent**

Congress D3  
**Cory Robertson**

Congress D4  
**Douglas Mangeris**

Congress D5  
**Mark "Marky Jr" Elworth**

Congress D6  
**Patty McMahon**

Congress D7  
**Dan Sallis**

Congress D8  
**David Wood**

## AFFILIATES

### JeffCo Annual Convention (March)

The Jefferson County Affiliate had a very productive annual meeting on March 26 where it rallied support for its initiatives. "We are working hard to unite the party in Jefferson County and were able to elect our board members, pass our bylaws revisions, and elect our candidates with unanimous consent. While the affiliate is still small we are putting new structures in place to engage our members and empower our activists." -Ross Metler

**The Jeffco group gets together each 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at The Barrel Room@ The Gallery, 1350 Colorado Mills Pkwy, Lakewood.**

### El Paso County Annual Convention (April)

The annual convention of the El Paso County Affiliate convened on April 11<sup>th</sup> with an estimated 27 delegates in attendance. The affiliate includes not only El Paso County, but adjoining counties without an organization, such as Pueblo and Teller. Jesse Campbell was elected as Chair Pro Tem to run the meeting. He in turn conducted the election of new Chair Brian Flanagan, with Vice Chair Richard Graf, Secretary Robin Early, and Treasurer John Hjersman. Immediately after the convention, the new officers met and nominated Paotie Dawson as Communications Director and Jesse Campbell as Bylaws Director. Other positions may be appointed by the elected Board. The number and enthusiasm of officers and volunteers bodes well for the future of the LP in Colorado's most highly-populated county.

The El Paso County group is in the process of setting up regular member meet-ups. The May board meeting will be on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm at **105 West Brewing**, 1466 Garden of the Gods Road.

### Larimer/Weld County Affiliate?

Douglas Mangeris, who is seeking the Libertarian nomination for US House District 4, is interested in starting a group to become an affiliate for Larimer or possibly Larimer and Weld counties combined. Anyone interested please contact Doug at Mangeris4thepeople@icloud.com.

### Pueblo County Affiliate

During the State Convention, a number of Libertarians came forward to start (or rather RE-start) the Pueblo affiliate. Donald Vermillion, who is seeking the Libertarian nomination for Colorado House District 62, leads that effort and was elected acting Chair. Anyone interested can contact Donald at 719-415-0867.

### Douglas County Affiliate

The Douglas County Affiliate meets on the first Monday of every month at Wild Blue Yonder Brewing Company in Castle Rock at 519 Wilcox Street. For more information, contact Wayne Harlos at 303-229-3435

### Your County Affiliate?

If you don't have an affiliate in your county and would like to see one, your first message should be to Janet Turner, the state Affiliates Director, at AffiliatesDirector@LPColorado.org.

## JUNE OUTREACH

The LPColorado will have an outreach Booth at the **Montrose Pride Festival** from 3 pm to 6 pm, Saturday, June 6 at the **Amphitheater in Cerise Park**, Shanes Way, Montrose. If you want to help with this event, please contact Keith Laube at [Keith.Laube@lpcolorado.org](mailto:Keith.Laube@lpcolorado.org).

## CAMPAIGNS

In each issue until the November election, we will highlight one or more of the key campaigns for Colorado Libertarians.

# Mark Elworth Launches Congressional Campaign in Colorado's 5th District



Colorado's 5th Congressional District is seeing a new entrant in the race: longtime activist Mark Elworth, who is running on a platform centered around personal liberty, limited government, and economic freedom.

Elworth's political involvement stretches back to his youth, when he began pushing against establishment politics in high school. He wrote in support of Ross Perot's presidential campaign and organized locally for the construction of a skateboard park in his hometown—early signs of a pattern that would define his activism: challenging authority and advocating for individual choice.

By the mid-1990s, Elworth expanded his efforts nationwide, collecting petition signatures for medical marijuana initiatives across multiple states. That work placed him at the forefront of a then-emerging movement focused on patient rights and personal autonomy. Over time, those principles led him to align with the Libertarian movement, particularly during Gary Johnson's presidential campaign, where he found a political philosophy consistent with his long-held views.

Elworth's campaign is built around three core priorities:

- **Personal Liberty:** Emphasizing the protection of civil rights, privacy, and individual freedom against government intrusion.
- **Limited Government:** Advocating for a return to constitutional constraints and a reduction in federal overreach.
- **Economic Freedom:** Supporting lower taxes, reduced regulation, and the elimination of tariffs that increase consumer costs.

At the heart of his message is a broader critique of the current political landscape. Elworth argues that the two major parties are failing to represent the interests of everyday Americans and are increasingly disconnected from constitutional principles.

As the race develops, his campaign will test whether a message rooted in civil liberties and restrained government can gain traction in a district long dominated by major-party candidates.

## MAY OUTREACH

**The Libertarian Party of Douglas County** will be at **PrideFest** on May 17, 2026, and we need volunteers to help us run our Outreach Booth. An experienced person will be there to help train you, and it is easy, just talking to people about liberty. The address is at **11920 N Motsenbocker Rd, Parker CO**. (The soft grassy multi-purpose field and playgrounds at Salisbury Park). Please copy the following link into your web browser to go to the volunteer signup sheet: [volunteersignup.org/BBDY4](https://volunteersignup.org/BBDY4)

To sign up, just follow the instructions on the page. It only takes a few seconds to do. Also Douglas County Pride does require free registration to enter the event which you can find at the bottom of their page: <https://www.dougcopride.org/pridefest>

Our LGBTQ friends and neighbors need to hear the message of liberty now more than ever.