

3/17/09

Editor's Note:

The newsletter is always available online at www.larimerdems.org/newsletter.html. As always, please submit any and all newsletter items to Anne Wilseck anneeliz73@gmail.com and Adam Bowen adambowen@frii.com. Deadline for submissions is 5:00 pm Sunday.

From the Chair:

We know many folks are out on spring break this week, but the date of our biggest annual event-- the Larimer County Democrats Annual Dinner-- is rushing towards us. We ask you look ahead to a week from Saturday, and sign up now. You don't want to miss David Sirota, and this year's Silent Auction!!

Here are a couple of "teasers."

Obama Inaugural Hope Pin: The Hope Pin was inducted into the permanent Smithsonian collection and **only 300 were made**. Fair Market Value: \$75; Minimum bid: \$55

4 Loaves of Sue Radford's Famous Homemade Bread: *Moist and freshly baked on March 28. Judged the best! Fair Market Value: \$10 each, Minimum bid: \$5.00*

From the Treasurer:

To all the generous supporters of our County Party: if you have have been Century Club members and contributed at the \$100/150 year level, it may be time to renew your commitment. You will want to be able to attend the Century (or Victory or Millenium) Club receptions preceding the Annual Dinner, where you can meet and talk with our brilliant keynote speaker, David Sirota. Congresswoman Betsy Markey will also be there to greet you, along with State Senator Bob Bacon, and Representatives John Kefalas and RandyFischer. If you make a single yearly payment and are not sure when you last did that, please send me an e-mail at ldems@frii.com and I will look it up for you.

If you are not yet a monthly donor, it is quick and easy to set that up. Just \$8.50 a month for one person, or \$12.50 for a couple and you qualify for Century Club membership. This link takes to you our website, where you can contribute using a credit or debit card <http://www.larimerdems.org/contribute.html>.

If you wish to use your checking account, please send me an e-mail and I'll set it up for you. THANK YOU! The Donkey Keeps Kicking because of you, and the hundreds of Democrats who donate their valuable time.

PARTY NEWS

Sat. Mar 21: JANE JEFFERSON DEMOCRATS HOST FORT COLLINS CANDIDATE FORUM

The Jane Jefferson Democratic Club of Larimer County will return to Catalyst Coffee in March to host a candidate forum for the Democrats running for Fort Collins City Council and Mayor. Learn more about **Tom Griggs**, candidate for Mayor, and **Kelly Ohlson** and **Ben Manvel**, candidates for re-election to Fort Collins City Council The focus will be on regional issues. Catalyst will have food available for purchase, including quiche, breakfast burritos, pastries; many kinds of coffees and teas.

Please RSVP to Kathy Batterton so we can give Catalyst a general idea of numbers. People do not have to eat or drink if they don't want to, but it would be nice to support local business.

Date & Time: Saturday, March 21, 9:00 am

Location: Catalyst Coffee, 3501 S. Sheilds, Fort Collins

Contact: Kathy Batterton at kathybatterton@q.com for reservations

Thur, Mar 26: LARIMER DEMS MOVIE NIGHT: US Healthcare

The documentary produced by the BBC looks at the US healthcare system. The inequities of a for profit healthcare system are exposed. Discussion to follow.

Movie Night is sponsored by the Larimer County Democratic Party and is free and open to the public.

Date & Time: Thursday March 26. 7:30pm

Location: 505 N. Cleveland Ave., Loveland

Contact: Larimer Dems South Office, LCDP_south@yahoo.com or (970) 461-5779

Sat, Mar 28: ANNUAL DINNER COMING UP FAST!!

Good times in store! Joining David Sirota for your enjoyment will be our own Betsy Markey, who sent Marilyn Musgrave home to the plains in Nov.! As well as our hard-working state legislators Bob Bacon, John Kefalas and Randy Fischer. Keep watching possible surprise guests.

DAVID SIROTA is a political journalist, nationally syndicated weekly newspaper columnist (*appears in the Coloradoan*) and bestselling author. His two books, *Hostile Takeover* and *The Uprising*, were both New York Times bestsellers. He appears periodically on CNN, Comedy Central's Colbert Report, Fox News, and National Public Radio. His writing has won praise from across the political spectrum. David's books will be available for purchase and book signing.

Sign Up Now! Don't miss out on a rollicking evening of Democratic conversation and speeches (a little "red meat" guaranteed). If you need a special meal--kosher, vegan, gluten-free--the hotel is prepared to accommodate you with advance notice. Contact Steve Rose

srose58089@earthlink.net

Date & Time: Saturday, March 28, 5:30 pm Cocktails (cash bar), 7:30 pm Dinner

Cost: \$85 per person/\$850 per table

Location: Fort Collins Marriott, 350 E. Horsetooth Road, Fort Collins

RSVP TODAY!: <http://www.larimerdems.org/specialevent.html>

Contact: Nancy Tellez, 689-6391, ntellez@frii.com

PLEASE PITCH IN WITH SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

We still need your great items for the silent action! Please donate now.

Please e-mail a vivid, creative, enticing, description of your silent auction items to Charlotte Miller at cimiller44@hotmail.com. Make sure you include your name, phone number, address, occupation and employer. Also include a minimum bid and the fair market value.

Please see examples below:

Unique item, great for gift. Handmade predominately green patchwork quilted wall hanging

Fair Market Value: \$85, Minimum bid: \$40.00, Donated by: Charlotte I. Miller

4 loaves of Sue Radford's Famous Homemade Bread. *Moist and freshly baked on March 28.*

Judged the best! Fair Market Value: \$10 each, Minimum bid: \$5.00. Donated by: Sue Radford

"Original Obama Hope Rhinestone Pin" *which can be viewed at www.obama-bling.com. Fair*

Market Value: \$50; Minimum bid: \$35, Donated by Cheri Nichols and Deb Cape

"Obama Inaugural Hope Pin" *The Hope Pin was inducted into the permanent Smithsonian collection and **only 300 were made.** Fair Market Value: \$75; Minimum bid: \$55, Donated by*

Cheri Nichols and Deb Cape

For more information, contact: Charlotte Miller, cimiller44@hotmail.com or Martha Coleman, marthacoleman@earthlink.net.

Drop off items at the LCDP office in Fort Collins or Loveland.

Sun, Mar 29: 2009 EXPLORATIONS, VISIONS AND OUR FUTURE FORUM SERIES

The Larimer County Democratic Party presents the second in the series: **Peak Oil**
Bill Demarco will present on world energy production. A question-and-answer period will immediately follow.

Date & Time: Sunday March 29, 2:00 pm

Location: LCDP South Office, 505 N. Cleveland, Loveland

Contact: LCDP South Office, 970.461.5779

Wed., April 1: Dem Breakfast Forum: PROGRESS NOW COLORADO TAPS POST-ELECTION ENERGY

After a standing-room-only audience to hear the Fort Collins council candidates at the March Breakfast Forum, you'll want to get your reservations in early for the April 1 event--no fooling! On April 1, Dems and friends will have the opportunity to hear from one of the state's top, progressive issue-advocacy groups: Progress Now Colorado. With the high level of post-election energy among Larimer Dems, this is an opportunity to learn about an organization that advocates on the issues that matter to you. In the meantime, check www.progressnowcolorado.com. Reservations submitted to Anne Michaelson by March 25 will insure a sufficient number of breakfasts are ordered for all.

Date & Time: Wednesday, April 1, 7:45 am

Location: Columbine Cafe & Bakery, NW corner of Drake and Worthington, Fort Collins.

RSVP by March 25: Anne Michaelson, 484-9621, annemich@comcast.net

Thur, Apr 9: DATA COMMITTEE MEETING

Our new meeting time is the **second Thursday of the month**, 6:00-7:30 pm at LCDP Headquarters.

The first half hour will be used to address a current data issue or learn a new skill. The rest of our meeting time is used to accomplish work. So please come, join in the camaraderie, and bring your laptop if you have one. Refreshments provided!

Date & Time: Thursday, April 9, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Location: LCDP Headquarters, 606 S. Mason, Fort Collins

Contact: Martha Coleman, marthacoleman@earthlink.net

Thur, April 9: 2009 EXPLORATIONS, VISIONS AND OUR FUTURE FORUM SERIES

The Larimer County Democratic Party presents the third in the series: **Understanding TABOR**
This will be the first of a 4 part series on TABOR and its impact on Colorado. A question-and-answer period will immediately follow.

Date & Time: Thursday April 9, at 7:00pm

Location: LCDP South Office, 505 N. Cleveland, Loveland

Contact: LCDP South Office, 970.461.5779

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The season has begun! Our first parade of the season is now in the past. We had a good showing last Saturday with about 20 folks walking with our float in the St. Pat's parade. The selection of Irish music kept everyone marching to the beat, including the bystanders on the sidelines. We outdid the other party. They only had a few walkers and a small German (not US made) sports car.

Watch the newsletter for future events.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

JOIN THE LARIMER COUNTY CAMPAIGN CORPS

The Larimer County Campaign Corps (LCCC) is a organization of Larimer County Democrats dedicated to providing campaign skills and labor in support of our local campaigns. The goal is to develop skills and elect Democratic candidates by committing a minimum of three hours on four days, between now and the elections of 2010. Everybody can participate in fund raising, walking, calling and sign management. Small commitments, for big results.

The LCCC is developing calendars of upcoming efforts, and invitations through Google and Facebook to make action easy and convenient. We already have thirty people signed up, and have completed a walk for Tom Griggs and a phone bank for Congresswoman Betsy Markey. Upcoming events include another Dine and Dial for Betsy, and GOTV action to aid in the Fort Collins City Council races. On the job training provided by our Wellstone alumni. We don't have meetings; we only have actions!

Call or e-mail William Russell, rwjr3@msn.com, 970-227-6303, or your local LCDP Office to make Larimer County blue.

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Sat, Mar 21: BETSY MARKEY AT THE EDWARDS HOUSE

SAVE THE DATE for a fundraiser honoring Betsy Markey, Member of Congress, Colorado's 4th District on Saturday, March 21, 2009, 6:30pm to 8:30 pm at The Edwards House.

Date & Time: Saturday, March 21, 2009, 6:30 - 8:30pm

Location: The Edwards House 402 W. Mountain Avenue, Fort Collins

Donation: Host: \$1,000 * Co-Host: \$500 * Supporter: \$250 * Friend: \$100

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Poudre Valley REA: CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS: PV-PIONEERS

PVREA members should have received your ballot in the mail this week. To vote, you can either mail your ballot in by March 23rd to ensure that it is received on time; or you can bring your ballot with you to the March 28th annual meeting.

The three candidates profiled below want a Cooperative where member-owners are fully informed, not manipulated and a commitment to the well-being of future generations. They want to represent your best interests; to do so, they need your vote, and ask for your support. **Learn more about PV Pioneers and candidates Roger Alexander, Steve Szabo, and Jan Peterson at www.pvpioneers.org**

Please vote NO on the Restated Articles of Incorporation.

Please vote NO on the Restated Articles of Incorporation. The revisions appear to be simply cleaning up the language in our Articles of Incorporation, but buried in Article 5 is a major change to the structure of our Board of Directors. They propose to reduce the minimum number of directors from 11 to 7 at their discretion. There is no justification or discussion of this change. There is no effort whatsoever to bring attention to this issue. It appears that they are trying to "sneak" it through with the hope that you will accept all proposed changes as nothing more than a "cleaning up" of the document. This will give the Board the power to nullify your vote by eliminating the positions for directors that advocate change.

The Board of Directors of our Co-op should be seeking more input from members they supposedly represent, not trying to insulate themselves from the vote of the membership. Please vote NO on the revised Articles of Incorporation! **If you have already mailed in your vote you have the right to change your vote at the annual meeting on March 28th.**

Wed, April 8: CLAWS FOR THE CAUSE

Save The Date for *Claws for the Cause*, a Lobster Dinner at Fish to benefit Betsy Markey. Three seatings: 5:00, 6:30, and 8:00 pm. This is our fourth cycle, for the fourth CD, and it's all 4 you and your Congresswoman, Betsy Markey.

Date & Time: Wednesday, April 8, 5:00, 6:30, and 8:00 pm

Location: Fish Restaurant, 150 W. Oak, Fort Collins

Cost: \$104

For more info or to RSVP, contact: William Russell: 970-227-6303, rwr3@msn.com, or John Morley: 970-484-6772, jmorleys@netzero.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sat Mar 21: COMMUNITY CONVERSATION WITH REP. JOHN KEFALAS

State Representative John Kefalas will host the next of his monthly Community Conversations this Saturday, March 21st. Come enjoy casual discussion and a good cup of coffee. "Public policy is a reflection of the values of those who participate, and we need to open up the system so more people can get involved." State Representative John Kefalas (HD-52).

Date & Time: Saturday, March 21, 9:00 - 10:00 am

Location: Reader's Cove Book Store, 1001 E Harmony Rd # C, Fort Collins

Sun Mar 22: NAMAQUA FORUM: WHAT CAN THE U.S. LEARN FROM OTHER COUNTRIES TO REFORM OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM?

Film: "Sick Around the World" and discussion with Kevin Mabry, DPM

Veteran Washington Post correspondent, T. R. Reid, traveled to five other capitalist countries that provide health care to all -- with less cost and better outcomes than the U.S. He discovers the successes and failures of the system in United Kingdom, Japan, Germany, Taiwan and Switzerland, and raises the question "What can the U. S. learn?" Presenter: Kevin Mabry, D.P.M., a retired podiatrist, who has recently completed a Master's degree in Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. He is a graduate of the California College of Podiatric Medicine and Luther Seminary. He is a member of Physicians for a National Health Program and a Board member of Health Care for All Colorado.

Date & Time: Sunday, March 22, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Namaqua Unitarian Church, 503 East 7th Street, Loveland 80537

For more info: 484-2295

NAMAQUA FORUM: UPCOMING EVENTS

Namaqua Unitarian Church is hosting several health care events in March and April. Join us to learn about how to fix our health care system.

Sun, April 5: What Health Care Reform Proposal Is Best for the United States?

Presented by Earl Baumgartel, MD

What elements are essential for comprehensive health care reform? Which proposals are most likely to create positive change? Presenter: Earl Baumgartel, M.D. practiced as a Board Certified General Surgeon in Loveland for 27 years until his retirement in 2004. He has served as a member of the Board of Hospice in Larimer County, a member of the Larimer County Medical Society, and as Chief of Staff at McKee Medical Center.

Date & Time: Sunday, April 5, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Namaqua Unitarian Church, 503 East 7th Street, Loveland 80537

For more info: 484-2295

Sun, April 19: Imagine Action!

How can citizens get involved in shaping a sustainable health care system for our country? What are the ways congregations can help create a just and sustainable health care system? Panel discussion with representatives from Foothills Unitarian Church, Fort Collins.

Date & Time: Sunday, April 19, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Namaqua Unitarian Church, 503 East 7th Street, Loveland 80537
For more info: 484-2295

Sun, Mar 29: BIOINTENSIVE GARDENING--GROW MORE VEGETABLES ON LESS LAND

Rocky Mountain Sustainable Living Association Year Round Workshop Series: The Abundant Backyard Series

If you'd like to get optimal food production from an area as small as your own backyard (and front yard for that matter!) this workshop is for you. Learning from the work of biointensive method pioneer John Jeavons through his book, /How to Grow More Vegetables... Than You Ever Thought Possible on Less Land Than You Can Imagine, /discussion will focus heavily on soil biology, fertility and preparation. Other topics will include compost production, mulching, plant propagation, crop rotations, companion/succession/inter-planting, seasonality, localized sustainability, seed saving, tools/techniques, and more. This workshop will include lecture as well as garden time with hands-on trials, instructions, and demonstrations. This is intended for the beginners, as well as advanced gardeners interested in the biointensive method.

Date: Sunday, March 29

Location: Fort Collins

Cost: \$50, 4 hour class

More info or to register: www.SustainableLivingAssociation.org, 970-224-FAIR, Workshops@SustainableLivingAssociation.org

Sat, Apr 4: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS MEETING IN CHEYENNE

The mission of the National Association of Railroad Passengers (NARP) is to work for a modern, customer-focused national passenger train network that provides a travel choice Americans want. NARP is the largest national membership advocacy organization for train and rail transit passengers. We have worked since 1967 to expand the quality and quantity of passenger rail in the United States. Our work is supported by over 23,000 individual members.

ColoRail has a bus providing transportation from Denver to Cheyenne, and we have coordinated a stop in Loveland. The cost of the transportation, NARP membership, and the meeting, including lunch should be approximately \$50. If you are interested in joining us in Cheyenne or if you are interested in joining us in advocating for passenger rail on the North Front Range, contact Anne Wilseck.

For more information, contact Anne Wilseck, anneeliz73@gmail.com, 970-484-4399

SAVE THE DATES

Sat., Mar. 28	Larimer Dems Annual Dinner, Marriott Hotel
Sat., Aug. 22	Larimer Dems Annual Picnic

REGULAR MEETINGS

Larimer County Democratic Party Monthly Meeting (All are welcome!)

Date & Time: Third Thursdays, 6:30 pm social, Meeting at 7:00 pm

Location: LCDP Headquarters, 606 S. Mason, Fort Collins

Contact: Anne Wilseck for more information anneeliz73@gmail.com

Democratic Breakfast Forum: Fort Collins

Monthly Meeting. No meeting in December or January.

Date & Time: First Wednesdays at 7:45 am

Location: Columbine Cafe & Bakery, NW corner of Drake and Worthington, Fort Collins.

Contact & RSVP: Anne Michaelson, 484-9621, annemich@comcast.net

Estes Park Meetup for Democracy: Estes Park

The Estes Park Meetup for Democracy is open to anyone interested in a return to progressive government. The group supports candidates who are fiscally responsible, socially progressive, and who promote honesty and candor in political discourse.

Date & Time: First Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Contact: John Ericson, 586-5042

Larimer County Jane Jefferson Democratic Club

The Larimer County Jane Jefferson Democratic Club is going to be moving around this year! We are going to try some new activities and locations: breakfast, lunch, happy hour; Loveland, Fort Collins. Check the newsletter often and please join us!

Date & Time: Saturday, March 21, 9:00 am

Location: Catalyst Coffee, 3501 S. Shields, Fort Collins

Contact: Kathy Batterton at kathybatterton@q.com for reservations.

Democratic Business Coalition: Fort Collins

Monthly Luncheon

Date & Time: Second Tuesday of each month. 12:00 noon, Guest presentation. Doors open at 11:30 am to socialize and start lunch.

Location: Home State Bank, 303 East Mountain, Fort Collins.

Contact: M.L. Johnson, 482-4979 or mjohnson@lamar.colostate.edu for reservations and to order catered lunch.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Larimer County Democratic Party

Chair	Adam Bowen	481-6806	adambowen@frii.com
1st Vice Chair	Charlotte Miller	207-1933	cimiller44@hotmail.com
2nd Vice Chair	William Russell	227-6303	rwjr3@msn.com
Secretary	Anne Wilseck	484-4399	anneeliz73@gmail.com
Treasurer	Lynn Alldrin	490-2772	lynn@ravenwindjewelry.com
HD49 Director	Martha Coleman	221-2581	marthacoleman@earthlink.net
HD51 Director	Bob Massaro	402-3678	massaror2001@yahoo.com
HD52 Director	Nancy Tellez	689-6391	ldems@frii.com
HD53 Director	Kristina Bulik-Hocum	266-8562	fromtinatoyou@aol.com
SD14 Director	Kevin & Julie Caffrey	225-9424	kcaffrey98@aol.com
SD15 Director	Eric Weedon	218-3742	eweedin@hotmail.com
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CSU Young Dems President	Mandi Asay		manman@holly.colostate.edu
CSU Young Dems Vice President	Alesia Gifford	303-519-2281	avsangel@simla.colostate.edu

Colorado Democratic Party

Colorado Democratic Party	777 Santa Fe Dr. Denver, CO 80204	(303) 623-4762 (866) 400-3367	www.coloradodems.org info@coloradodems.org
Colorado House Democrats	200 E. Colfax Denver, CO	(970) 221-1473	cohousedems.typepad.com

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

If you have items to submit, PLEASE READ!

Due to the length of the newsletter, we are limiting the body of most items to 75 words (not including title and "date & time, location, contact" type information). If your submission is longer, it will be cut. We suggest including a link for additional information. **Our deadline for newsletter items is Sunday at 5:00 pm** for publishing by e-mail on Tuesday mornings. To be effective, send us your notices at least a week early, so that they can appear twice. This will give potential attendees time to put your events on their calendars. We would like to include House District meetings, committee meetings, neighborhood coffees or picnics, etc. Such notices may increase your attendance. Please send newsletter items to anneeliz73@gmail.com and adambowen@frii.com. Thank you.