



*Northeastern Colorado*

## Progressive 15 E Update May 13, 2008

### In This Issue

**Progressive 15 Policy  
Updates**

**Membership**

**News From Around the  
State**

**Calendar**

**Progressive 15 At The Table**

**Fall Meeting Agenda Set**

**Summer Standing  
Committee Summits**

**2008 Ballot**

**Congratulations to Darlene Scott** who was the recipient of the Economic Development Achievement Award at the Economic Development Council of Colorado meeting. In the Northeast part of the state we have always known she was great - glad to see her recognized statewide.

We have all the problems fixed on our e mail address and you can now use the [cathy@progressive15.org](mailto:cathy@progressive15.org) and shouldn't have any more problems.

Remember to let Cathy know if you want a P15 Directory available in spiral bound, 3 hole punched or CD. Lots of good information in this directory - one person referred to it as "awesome". (free to members) (non members send \$3 for printing/postage)

Additionally, it will eventually be up on the website, but we are making some changes on the website and there might be a delay.

Member Caucus Meetings pending for these counties:

Douglas  
Elbert  
Adams  
Arapahoe  
Lincoln

All other counties will have their Member Caucus meetings in 2009.

## Progressive 15 Policy Updates

- The 2008 legislative session is over and the final area we worked on was helping get the constitutional reform measure put on the ballot this fall. We were most concerned about geographical distribution and were able to keep it on the bill, but it went from 10% to 8% of the signatures had to come from each of the congressional districts. There was quite a bit of opposition so am sure it will be a "hot" ballot issue this fall also.
- Currently we are reviewing the new Oil and Gas Regulations and their impact on our part of the state. Weld and Yuma county are big producers with Morgan and Washington also in the mix and new fields opening up in several other areas. David Foy, Jon Becker, Don Rutledge, Bob Churchwell, Kari Linker, Del Beattie, Greg Etl and myself met with representatives of the Northeast Colorado Oil & Gas Association on the 2nd of May to get input from them. Not only could these changes effect our local economies it could also have an impact on local government through severance taxes. We will continue to investigate, provide testimony, write letters and work to protect our region. At some point we may ask the membership to also weigh in as we get closer to the hearings.

## Membership

### New Members 2008

Jim Whitmore

Colorado Mining Association    SPONSOR: Chuck Rech

Perry Buck

Don Ament

Powertech USA    SPONSOR: Chuck Rech

Northeast Colorado Oil & Gas Association    SPONSORS: Cathy, David, Jon, Del, Kari & Bob

Frontier Airlines has again given us two roundtrip airline tickets good anywhere in the lower 48 where they fly. Each new member that joins in 2008 and each person who got them to join will be put into a drawing to win the tickets. The winner will be drawn at the Fall Meeting in Brighton.

### Renewals- April / May 2008

- Lincoln Bed & Breakfast
- Eastern Colorado Workforce Center
- Northeast Colorado Health Department
- Mike Benson
- Trevor Tuell

- Town of Limon
- Newland Communities
- Colorado Association of Realtors
- Anderson and Chapin, PC
- Allen Mitchek Feed and Grain
- CHFA
- Carol Boden
- Dean Wingfield
- Colorado Rural Health

## News From Around the State & Country

1. Ag Commissioner John Stulp will be in Wray, Colorado Tuesday May 13th at 7:30 pm at the WRAC 7th & Main
2. Colorado Department of Labor & Employment has a job opening for a Director of Management and Training on a year-to-year contract. Apply by May 19th. For details go to [www.colorado.gov](http://www.colorado.gov) The position # is 9012
3. Congresswoman Musgrave and Congressman Udall have joined a bipartisan effort to rein in budget "earmarks".
4. Colorado Rural Health Center Open House on Thursday, May 15th 2-5 pm  
RSVP 800-851-6782
5. You are invited to submit a nomination for individuals, organizations, foundations, businesses and corporations for exceptional and impactful philanthropic and volunteer contributions. [www.npdcolorado.org](http://www.npdcolorado.org)
6. 17th Annual Colorado Rural Health Conference June 18-20, 2008 Copper Mountain Resort [www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events/conference.htm](http://www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events/conference.htm)

## Calendar

	DATE	EVENT	DETAILS	FOR MORE INFORMATION
<b>2008</b>				
<b>May</b>				
	13	Ag Commissioner John Stulp in Wray at the WRAC	7:30 pm	
	15	Colorado Rural Health Center Open House		RSVP 800-851-6782
	17	2 <sup>nd</sup> annual Cajun Feed	May Farms in Byers	<a href="http://www.mayfarms.com">www.mayfarms.com</a>
<b>June</b>				
	4-6	Rural Philanthropy	Burlington	Information: <a href="http://www.northeastrpd.org">www.northeastrpd.org</a> or

		Days		719.346.7689
	9-11	CCI Summer Conference		
	10-11	Geothermal Technologies Workshop	Westminster	<a href="mailto:energyguy@utilityforum.com">energyguy@utilityforum.com</a>
	17-21	CML Summer Conference		
	18-20	Colorado Rural Health Conference	Copper Mountain Resort	<a href="http://www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events/conference.htm">www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events/conference.htm</a>
<b>P 15 Event</b>	27	Board Meeting in Cheyenne Wells		
<b>July</b>				
<b>P 15 Event</b>	16	Committee Summit in Limon	Telecom, Trans, Health, ED & Tourism, Education / Workforce	
<b>P 15 Event</b>	22	Committee Summit in Wray	Water, Energy & Ag	
<b>August</b>				
	25-28	Democratic National Convention		
<b>September</b>				
	1-4	Republican National Convention		
	5-6	Club 20 Fall Meeting		
<b>P 15 Event</b>	17-18-19	Progressive 15 Fall Meeting with candidates forum and board meeting in Brighton	Brighton	
	22-26	CASTA Fall Conference & Expo		<a href="http://www.coloradotransit.com">www.coloradotransit.com</a>
	26-27	Action 22 Fall Conference		
<b>October</b>				
<b>November</b>				
	14 <sup>th</sup>	National Philanthropy Day in Colorado	Denver	<a href="http://www.npdcolorado.org">www.npdcolorado.org</a>
<b>December</b>				
<b>P 15 Event</b>	8	Board & Committee chair Retreat in Fort Morgan		

## Progressive 15 At The Table:

- May 6th - David Foy & Cathy Shull attended the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce State of the State where Cathy also gave a state of our region. Governor Ritter was the keynote speaker.

## Fall Meeting Agenda Set

### Sponsors:

Platinum: Qwest; Union Pacific; NE Colorado Oil & Gas Commission

Gold: CHFA

Silver:

Bronze: Bank of Colorado; Adams County Planning & Zoning

### Location:

Riverdale Golf

13300 Riverdale Rd

Brighton, CO 80601

*Riverdale Golf is located in a rural setting. No surrounding hi-rises or adjacent freeways! Peace and Quiet! But it is conveniently accessible. Some of you might want to book a round of golf Friday afternoon???*

### Wednesday, September 17th

Pro/Con Panels on Ballot Issues \*\*

Includes Lunch and Evening Reception

### Thursday, September 18th

Morning: Membership Meeting discussion & decision on support or opposition of ballot issues

Noon: Board Meeting

Afternoon: Start of Candidate Forums\*

Evening: TBA

Includes Continental Breakfast and Evening Dinner Event

### Friday, September 19th

Morning: Conclusion of Candidate Forums\*

Closing Luncheon: Alumni of the Plains & Keynote Speaker

**Includes Continental Breakfast and Lunch**

Registration for the event will be available soon.

**We are also in need of Sponsors and a mailing just went out to each member to see what level they might be able to help with. If you are not a member and want to sponsor or if you have misplaced our form go to our website at**

**[www.progressive15.org](http://www.progressive15.org)**

\*Candidate forums will be handled as follows. Each candidate can pick their time to address the group based on availability and their schedules. Each candidate will be given a certain amount of time to introduce themselves and talk about their issues. They will then be asked some questions specific to our region (every candidate for the same office will get same questions here) and then it will be open to Q & A from the audience in written form. The time limits will be set based on the number of candidates appearing before Progressive 15 and time slots will be assigned on a 1st come basis and can be reserved now. Candidates invited include all State Representative and Senators and US Senator and Representative candidates that would be representing the Progressive 15 region.

**Accepted: Rep Jeanne LaBuda; Rep Alice Borodkin**

\*\*Ballot issues discussion will be in a panel form with each side having a certain amount of time to give their views. Q & A will then follow. Panel members will not be able to question each other. Questions must come in written form from the audience. Ballot issues to be reviewed will be determined by time available. Every effort will be made to secure a speaker from each side of the issue.

## **Summer Standing Committee Summits**

The summer meetings give our members the chance to gather an look at issues rather than specific bills. It is always interesting discussion as they work through the "hot" topics. We have set aside two days for these meetings. Because so many of committee issues actually overlap the issues will discussed by the entire council.

July 16th in Limon      Business Affairs Council which includes:  
Telecommunications, Transportation, Health Care, Education/Workforce and  
Economic Development/Tourism

July 22nd in Wray      Natural Resources Council which includes: Water, Energy  
and Agriculture/Public Lands

Watch for more information as the time gets closer.

## 2008 Ballot

The following is a list of potential ballot topics for this fall's election. Currently there are more than 80 (now 100) potentials on the Secretary of State website but we have only listed the ones by general topic that most affect us. Some issues have several ballot questions. This list will be narrowed down over the summer as groups drop out.

Ballot Initiatives Set:

Amendment 46 titled Prohibition on Discrimination and Preferential Treatment by Colorado Government

Amendment 47 titled Prohibition on Certain Conditions of Employment

1. Higher Education funding fee on new construction
2. New state department and elected board for public resource conservation
3. Fees on Energy Emissions
4. Employee Discharge
5. Criminal conduct by businesses - liability
6. Water Use Classification, prioritization and conservation
7. Liability for business entities and their executive officials - criminal liability
8. Severance Tax - several
9. Employer responsibility for health insurance
10. Farm animal confinement
11. Restrictions on campaign contributions from government sole source contractors
12. Colorado Water Conservation Act
13. Health care choice
14. Judicial term limits
15. Create US Department of Peace
16. Prohibition on certain conditions of employment
17. Repeal of Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority
18. Amendment 41 Modifications / Lobbyist Tax
19. Authority of local government to regulate oil and gas activities
20. Business - labor - now about 10 different bills

## Contact Information

**Cathy Shull, Executive Director**

**(o) 970-867-9167 (c) 970-768-2230 (f) 800-521-9413**

Web: [www.progressive15.org](http://www.progressive15.org) Blog: <http://progressive15.blogspot.com>  
E mail: [cathy@progressive15.org](mailto:cathy@progressive15.org) or [shullent@twol.com](mailto:shullent@twol.com)