

A Publication of the  
Colorado Libertarian Party



## People's Fair a Success!

By David Bryant

The Denver Libertarians sponsored an outreach booth at the People's Fair again this year, with help from our friends in Aurora. In Denver's Civic Center Park on Saturday and Sunday, June 5th and 6th, we distributed literature and sold T-shirts to the throng passing our booth. According to news reports, an estimated 250,000 people attended the event. Although we couldn't circulate the Election Reform Amendment because it had not yet been printed, we were able to present the Libertarian message to hundreds of people.

- The booth's gross receipts were about \$450. After expenses, the Denver LP cleared \$120.
- We distributed 1,200 copies of the U.S. Constitution, handed out 2,500 copies of the "World's Smallest Political Quiz," and gave away about 2,000 assorted special-subject flyers defining our positions.
- We gathered 125 new names for the mailing list, and we even signed up one new member on the spot!

Special thanks are due to Larry Hoffenberg, who supplied the canopy and tables free of charge. And thanks to all the volunteers who staffed the booth - it wouldn't have happened, were it not for you!



A busy day for Libertarians at the People's Fair

## Upcoming Events

### July

- 6 Denver LP (First Tuesday), Village Inn, 890 S. Colorado, 7 P.M. **Bumper Hornberger** will speak.
- 6 Ft. Collins Breakfast Club (First Tuesday), Wally's, Oak Street Plaza, 7 A.M.
- 12 Fort Collins FREEDOM NOW (Second Monday), 7 P.M. at Mary Margaret Glennie's, 1317 Lakewood Dr. (303) 484-8184
- 13 Western CO Libertarians (Second Tuesday), Boettcher Rm, Mesa State College, 7 P.M. Call Dann Hayes 434-5113 for details.
- 14 Boulder LP (Second Wednesday), Old Train Depot, 30th & Pearl, 7 PM.
- 17 Denver Lib Gun Club, Call Dave Segal for details, (303)296-4059
- 19 Fort Collins Social (Third Monday), 7 P.M. at Mary Margaret Glennie's, 1317 Lakewood Dr. (303)484-8184
- 20 Aurora Libertarians (Third Tuesday) Archie Malone's, Iliff & Buckley, 7 P.M. State NORML chair **Mark Culverhouse** speaking

### August

- 3 Denver LP (First Tuesday), Village Inn, 890 S. Colorado, 7:00 P.M.
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### From the Editor

Already July is upon us! Especially around Denver, this has been a busy summer for Libertarians, what with the people's fair and the activities of the various city councils. It looks like Governor Romer has shelved the idea of a special session of the Legislature, but it's no time to relax – two Denver city council members have announced they will push for a gun control ordinance patterned after Aurora's recently-enacted one, but with stronger punishments for parents and adults who do not prevent juveniles from getting access to firearms.

I wanted to apologize for last month's incorrect dates on the Self-Reliance Expo '93 – the CLiPboard had already gone to press before Expo's management decided to postpone their event because of conflict with the dates of the People's Fair. I hope you saw the correction stamp before you trekked down to the Coliseum!

By popular demand, the CLiPboard will have an affiliates section as in the past. I would ask each of the affiliates to submit material to be printed no later than the 15th of each month to be sure of inclusion in the next month's issue. If there are any corrections to the "Upcoming Events" section, please let me know. I'll try to print an up-to-date LP directory at least every other month.



### CLiPboard

A publication of the  
**Colorado Libertarian Party**

David Aitken,  
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Charles R. Bilbe,  
Publications Director and Editor



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**Editorial Policy:** The Colorado Libertarian Party fully supports the First Amendment; however, since we do not wish to invite lawsuits, we will screen materials for libelous content. Otherwise, this publication will serve as an open forum for libertarian news and commentary. All remarks made in open meetings will be considered "on the record."

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## Affiliate News

### — Boulder —

State Representative Jim Roberts from Loveland spoke at the June 9th outreach meeting at Boulder's Old Train Depot on the Fully-Informed Jury Amendment. About ten people signed up to work on this issue in Boulder County.

The BCLP was really busy during June staffing three outreach events. We worked the Pearl Street Mall on two occasions with a Nolan chart and the Freedom Festival with an outreach booth. These events generated a lot of names for our mailing list.

July is another busy month with our big outreach meeting on the second Wednesday (July 14) at 7 P.M. at Boulder's Old Train Depot, two Nolan chart events at the Pearl Street Mall, and an Adopt-a-Highway cleanup. Call Howard Lambert at 444-9435 for details on any of these events.

### — Denver —

At our June 1 meeting, our guest speaker was cable access TV producer David Bruno, who talked about how we can use local production facilities to produce an LP cable show. He extended an invitation for any people interested in producing cable access shows to get in touch with him and get signed up for the necessary training.

We also agreed that the LP Gun Club will now meet on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Call David Segal at 296-4059 for more information.

We discussed the status of the Election Reform Amendment (ERA). Petitions will be available soon and we will need to start the signature gathering process.

The next meeting will be on July 6th and will feature the ever-popular and inspirational Jacob "Bumper" Hornberger of the Future of Freedom Foundation.

The Denver LP meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Village Inn Restaurant, 890 S. Colorado Blvd. at 7:00 P.M.

### — Aurora —

At our May 18 meeting, Mike Zuckerman reported on the preceding night's City Council meeting and the first reading of the proposed gun control ordinance. Mike, Bill Pittman, David Allen and others spoke against the legislation. The ordinance passed in a later City Council session, but because of the efforts of Aurora Libertarians and others, a controversial "negligent-storage" provision was dropped from the final version of the ordinance.

Our guest speaker was Mr. Dee Wisor, a member of the Cherry Creek School Board, who offered an entertaining and insightful look into the local political process in relation to school funding, the guns-at-school problem and school curriculum.

The July 20th meeting will feature Mark Culverhouse, Director of the Colorado chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML).

Aurora Libertarians meet the third Tuesday of every month at Archie Malone's Restaurant at Iliff & Buckley, 7:00 p.m.

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## Cañon City to Repeal Food Tax?

Dr. Gary Moore, head of the Jefferson Society in Cañon City, has announced that he will lead an attempt to repeal the 2% local sales tax on food. Working with Dr. Moore is Phil Freytag, a Fremont County Libertarian, who has been meeting with the city attorney and other members of the city's administration to determine whether they can justify that the tax is really necessary. Freytag says, "So far, I'm not at all convinced they need this tax." The food sales tax raises approximately \$450,000 per year. This past year, Cañon City had a surplus of over \$200,000. Freytag said he expects to have more meetings with city officials in the upcoming weeks.



## Romer Recall Effort Continues

The "We the People" organization reports that their effort is still underway to bring about a recall of Governor Roy Romer. According to Sandi Neil, the group's local spokesperson, their target date of July 15th for completion of signature-gathering is within reach. "I believe we can make it. Even if we don't, we have a backup plan," she said in an interview for the CLiPboard. A well-attended fund-raiser was held at the Northglenn Community Center on June 19, featuring speaker Ken Hamblin, KNUS radio talk host and commentator. Anyone interested in helping is urged to call (303) 784-4872.

## It's Time for Election Reform

By Douglas Bruce

Contempt for politics and politicians is very high. Voter turnout is often low. People feel they have no real choice and it doesn't matter who gets elected. Why?

Because, unfortunately, the deck is stacked against ordinary citizens. To make the system responsive, we must change the rules of the game. I've proposed the Election Reform Amendment (ERA) to make democracy work by making government more accountable to the people. The ERA has four features:

- **Pay raises.** Remember the congressional pay raise that passed after the public uproar faded? Well, our state legislators voted themselves a 41% increase in their own tax-free expense accounts, making them the highest of any state. Then they gave an 84% *pay hike* to local politicians! ERA requires voter approval for future pay hikes above inflation, and prevents new state pensions or tax-free income for them. With term limits, should eight years on the job bring a lifetime pension? And politicians should pay taxes like the rest of us — not get a \$99 daily bonus, tax-free, just for showing up for work. Their aim should be public service, not “public, serve us.” Let's remind them who is in charge.
- **Campaign contributions.** If campaigns agree to take donations only from people, donors to such campaigns can take a state income tax credit of up to \$100. This is a “clean money” alternative to corporate, special-interest, and political action committee bribes that cause bad laws, scandals and public cynicism. The revenue impact would be \$1 to \$3 per citizen, a bargain for restoring citizen control of government. ERA also would ban gifts to candidates over a token \$50 from lobbyists, corporations, unions and PACs. Let's stop the payoffs!
- **Fair elections.** Government must stop using taxes on politics, such as “money laundering” of taxes through semi-private government clubs, issuing propaganda on ballot issues, and passing resolutions telling us how to vote.
- **Petition protections.** Our right to petition would be extended to all local governments. Recalling bad officials would be simplified and our taxes would no longer pay for their campaigns. Ballot titles would be developed in public and could not exceed 75 words.

Since 1912, we have had the constitutional right to petition for citizen review of bad laws. But since 1933, legislators have declared every new law an “emergency” to stop our right to petition. What abuse of power! ERA would allow six emergency exceptions per year. And 60,000 signatures in 90 days (half the regular time) would hold up a bad law for voter review on the next ballot.

An example of a bad law? A 1989 law tried to keep tax limits off the ballot by strangling the petition process. If you

needed 50,000 signers, got 75,000, and the government kicked off 25,001, you could not replace the one signature, but had to start over. Petition challenges began in secret and went on for months after the election. Attacks using hearsay were allowed. The constitutional presumption that signers of notarized petitions are registered voters was trashed by the new rule: “Guilty until proven innocent.” A machine decided which signatures were valid. (How do you cross-examine a machine?) Petition carriers who did not “encourage” signing in black ink could go to jail for a year! ERA would replace this noxious law, filled with ridiculous technicalities, with a simple, fair and prompt petition-checking process.

This year, legislators tried to require a \$50,000 bond to petition, to force petitioners to pay the government \$500 in cash, to make all petitioners wear state-approved badges, to keep citizens from knowing which names were struck, or disputing government claims that signatures were invalid.

ERA also says that laws passed by voters can no longer be repealed by politicians and our restored right to petition cannot be sabotaged again by the politicians without voter approval.

Are you mad yet? You should be. Yes, the system works — for politicians and special interests. Election reform is the way to fight the public apathy that breeds political corruption. If our precious heritage of democracy means anything to you, call (303) 869-6306 or (719) 550-0010, or write to ERA, Box 1900, Arvada 80001.

Even more than money, we need 1,000 registered voters to spend five hours this month getting 96 petition signatures each. A realistic insurance policy is a core of 50 people who get 1,000 signatures each. Their effort will help put election reform on the ballot.

But you must first decide a personal issue: Do you want to clean up politics? Do you really care?

### Get Involved!

Petitions are now ready to circulate. Call (303) 869-6306 to find out how you can help!



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## Carol Ward Fights Back

by David Bryant

Last month I recounted the story of Carol Ward and her son Tristan, whose property was illegally seized by agents of the IRS. Here is an update on the continuing effort to reclaim their property.

The property seizure action was widened to include the house where Carol's mother lives, after the IRS discovered that Carol is named in the deed as a joint tenant with right of survivorship. Carol's mother had recorded this deed as a simple way to let her house pass directly to her children when she eventually dies. Apparently, some revenue agents regard a joint tenancy as evidence of an intent to defraud the government!

Mr. Paul J. DesFosses, CPA, a retired IRS agent now living in Idaho has intervened in the case. He has supplied information to congresswoman Pat Schroeder, who has also been asking questions. In Paul's expert opinion, the entire seizure action was motivated by personal antipathy between Carol and an IRS agent, Paula Dzierzanowski. The pretext for the seizure was provided when Carol called a radio talk show and discussed her dislike for the IRS with a member of the Pilot Connection, a tax protest group which is the target of an ongoing IRS investigation. This conversation "proved" that Carol is a dangerous tax protestor, and "justified" the ensuing property seizure.

Although Carol has been making some progress, she and Tristan have not yet regained their property, because the IRS is not willing to admit its mistake. Mr. DesFosses addressed this problem in a letter to Pat Schroeder's office: "As the Nation recently witnessed in Waco, all powerful government agencies often prefer to compound their own errors and continue to brutalize the innocent along with the guilty rather than admit they were wrong."

Carol did fail to file a timely income tax return for 1989, the year her husband left her. She has now prepared a return for 1989, and she is claiming a refund of \$24. She has also been in touch with Senator David Pryor, who is sponsoring new legislation to protect the taxpayer's rights. She may be called to testify when Pryor's bill is introduced. And she will probably get her property back - eventually. The question of when - or if - she will obtain just recompense for the injustices perpetrated upon her family by the IRS is still open.

No one is immune! Someday, you may have problems with the IRS yourself. In case that happens, you will need knowledgeable people to help you. Paul DesFosses is willing to help people who are abused by the IRS. Keep his address handy.

Paul J. DesFosses, CPA  
530 North Arthur Avenue  
Pocatello, Idaho 83201  
(208) 232-8593

## Business Opportunity Notice

I am considering starting a new business, which would provide administrative, project development, organizational, membership and marketing services to freedom-oriented groups which are unable to justify full-time paid employees for such services.

I am seeking a worker / assistant / partner for this venture. The individual would be one who is dedicated to the freedom movement who is willing to work 3/4 time, for low wages now but a bright future later. This individual will have good oral and writing skills, be self-motivated and available to work in Lakewood. This individual must be a flexible and quick learner, willing to take direction and work hard.

In addition to my business experience, I have had broad connections with conservatives in the Republican Party, people at the Libertarian Party, and supporters and activists in the Independence Institute. I have dealt with gun-rights groups, professional economic groups and the State Legislature. Call or write to discuss the details of this business opportunity.

Penn Pfiffner  
11011 West 6th Ave, #101  
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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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**Take a Free-Market Economics Class**

Penn Pfiffner will be teaching a course in Macroeconomics, Econ-202, during the fall semester at Arapahoe Community College. It is a 3 semester-hour course, and credits will transfer to any college in Colorado. Classes begin near the end of August. Call Arapahoe Community College for registration information.

**Just My Opinion**

By Jean Marie France-Kraak

Wouldn't it be wonderful, wouldn't it be marvelous if we could pass laws and cure all our social ills? We have laws that do not allow children to drive cars or to purchase alcohol, yet alcohol-related motor vehicle deaths involving teenagers have claimed many young Coloradans.

We have also seen many children die and become maimed as a result of the reckless misuse of guns. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we all expanded our insight and focused our energies on guiding and preparing our children and ourselves for the future?

Common-sense safety habits begin at home. Children require consistent, everyday parental reminders. It is our job as parents to keep an all-around vigilance on what is happening to our children and be available when their curiosity requires our wisdom. Wouldn't it be wonderful, wouldn't it be marvelous if we could just pass a law to cure all our social ills?

*Jean Marie France-Kraak is the founder of "United we hold the Future in our Hands," a grassroots, independent statewide organization focused on common-sense gun safety for kids, parents, and communities. She is a retired educator who has spent considerable time researching teen violence. She may be reached at (303) 933-2961*

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