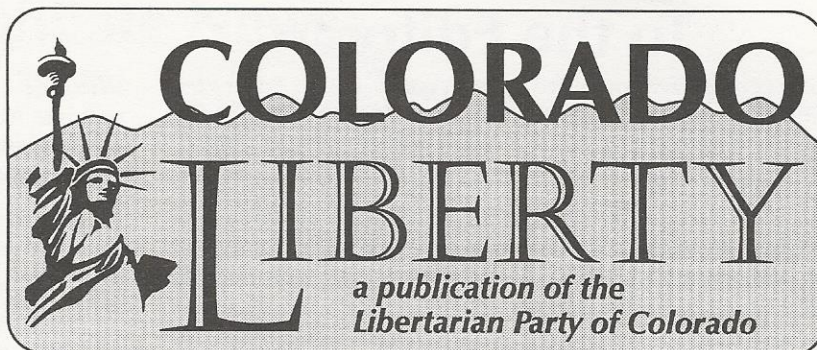


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VOLUME XVI, NUMBER 4 APRIL/MAY 1995

## Libertarians open wallets for candidate

# Browne Wows Colorado Convention

by Ron Bain, Liberty Editor Emeritus

Harry Browne, author of *How I Found Freedom In An Unfree World*, brought his campaign for the 1996 Libertarian presidential nomination to Loveland on April 1, inspiring a standing-room only crowd of 75 and raising more than \$5,000.

Browne, who didn't vote or become involved in politics for 30 years, said he is serious about the 1996 presidential bout because he believes the American people are ready to hear his message that "Government Doesn't Work!"

Such a catchy phrase ought to be the title of a best-selling book—and it will be, Browne says. He plans to raise \$2 million with the publication of *Government Doesn't Work!* and spend all of the proceeds on an intensive campaign in New Hampshire, where the Libertarians are part of the non-partisan primary election (any registered voter can vote for any party). With that

much money, Browne expects, at a minimum, to out-poll one or more of the Republican contenders, assuring that his campaign will be taken seriously.

With a strong showing in New Hampshire, Browne believes he will be able to raise \$50 million for a nationwide TV advertising campaign that will culminate in the first Libertarian inclusion in the presidential debates.

If elected, Browne says he will pardon all those convicted of victimless federal crimes and rescind virtually all presidential decrees since the Wilson Administration. He will refuse to sign any budget that Congress sends him that is over \$500 million, approximately a third of the size of today's budget.

see Browne Scores with Delegates, page 4

More convention news on page 8!

## Rally Turnout Way Down

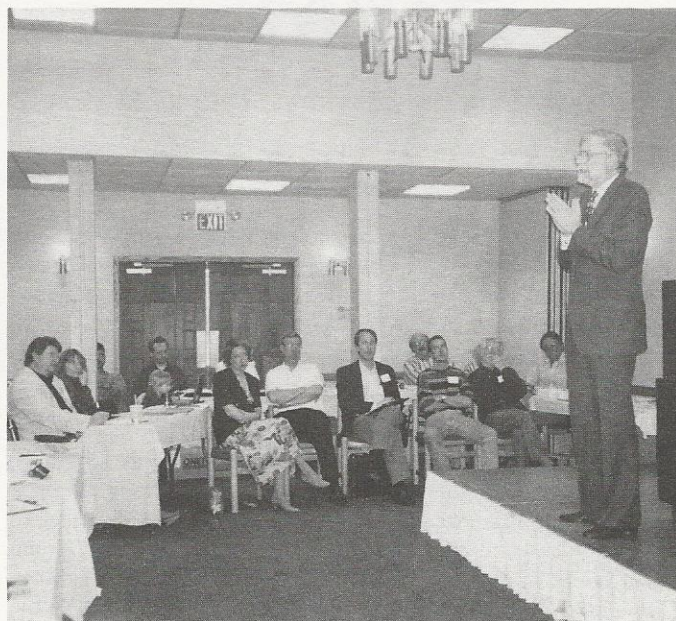
by Richard G. Combs

In the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing, the mood at the Liberty Alliance's annual Right to Bear Arms Rally was as gray and cold as the weather. Only about 150 gun rights advocates gathered for this year's rally on April 23, in sharp contrast to the 1100+ who attended last April.

Denver LP chair and rally organizer David Segal began the rally by expressing the group's anger and sorrow over the despicable act of four days earlier, and the group's satisfaction that the "heartless and probably brainless terrorists" responsible were being brought to justice.

The group also felt anger and sorrow, Segal went on to say, over what was done to the Branch Davidians at Mt. Carmel and the Weavers at Ruby Ridge, and would be happy when the "heartless and probably brainless terrorists" responsible for those deaths were brought to justice. "Our government is supposed to punish terrorist attacks on our people, not organize them," Segal concluded. He then asked the crowd to bow their heads and observe a moment of silence for the victims.

see Gun Rights Rally, page 4



Presidential candidate Harry Browne addresses the LPC state convention in Loveland. Photo by Mary Margaret Glennie.



## To the Editor:

Many people have gotten fed up with our incredible tax burden and the incomprehensible dictates of the IRS tax code. Several officials have touted a flat tax as the way out of our debacle. Although Libertarians abhor all taxes, it is doubtful that we will see an end to them in the near future.

Rep. Dan Shaefer (CO-6th dist.) and several others, including Bill Archer and Richard Lugar, are advocating consumption taxes instead of continuing income taxes.

Rep. Shaefer's proposed national sales tax is a great way to spur our dismal savings rate. It would also make people more aware of the cost of government, would not promote economic class warfare in the tax system, would totally simplify the tax system by replacing it with a system already in place, and would save tremendous costs, not only in direct governmental expense, but also in time and labor costs to businesses. If such a system were implemented, the economy would boom.

The national sales tax proposal is far superior to Rep. Armey's flat tax. The flat tax system would not reduce incentives to hide income to avoid taxes, would not get rid of the incredible bureaucracy of the present system, would still allow abuse of the citizenry by overzealous regulators, and would allow for future complicated legislation by pressure groups to exempt income from their particular pet sources.

We tried income tax simplification once. Worked great, didn't it? If we must have taxes, the time has come to stop taxing productivity and tax consumption instead. We need to replace the income tax with a national sales tax.

A grass-roots organization is working to do this. Citizens for an Alternative Tax System (CATS) can be reached at 1-800-767-7577 or 1-800-230-3567. Research information in the form of publications and videos are available. Give them a call for info and offer them your support.

Terry W. Donze  
Wheat Ridge

## Colorado Liberty

*A publication of the Libertarian Party of Colorado*

David Aitken, Chairman and Publisher

Richard G. Combs, Publications Director and Editor

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Denver, Colorado 80203

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## From the Editor:

Welcome to our combined April/May issue. Yes, I know, it's well into May already. We're reaching you quite a bit later than planned, and I apologize. Lest you think I took Jeff Wright's letter in the March issue too much to heart, I'll explain.

At our March meeting, the Board agreed that the next issue shouldn't go to press until after the convention. It made sense, we thought, to combine April and May into a twelve page issue and be able to report on the convention in a timely manner.

The idea was particularly appealing to me, as I had a tough deadline to meet for my current client. After the convention and the deadline had passed, I thought, I could take some time off from work and get this issue to press around mid-April.

Then I got sick, and working on the *Liberty* just didn't seem that urgent. Then Oklahoma City happened, and the Right to Bear Arms Rally was coming up—it seemed prudent to wait and see what happened. Then our printer, Quality Press, became short-handed and badly backed up. Then I had some production problems on my computer...

It's been one of those months. Sorry.

## LP Membership

**Join the Libertarian Party today** and help the cause of Freedom in 1995. State dues include **Colorado Liberty** subscription. National dues include **LP News**.

**Note:** Renewing with National **does not** renew your state membership.

Check One:

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I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature is required only for national membership.)

What does the above pledge mean? We ask our members to disavow the *initiation* of force. This does not mean that you cannot defend yourself; you *do* have a right to defend your life, liberty, and property. It means that you cannot use the coercive power of government to forcibly achieve your personal, ethical or religious goals.

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.

Make checks payable to:

**Libertarian Party of Colorado**  
720 E. 18th Ave., #309 Denver CO 80203



# Affiliate News

## Aurora

The Aurora LP has reorganized, and is up and running. The group recently elected Doug Newman as Chairman and Lyman Hall is the Treasurer. Brad Edison is in charge of events, and Cy Smaling is handling membership.

The group is meeting every other Monday at Shoney's on East Mississippi, just west of I-225. See the Calendar for details.

## Boulder County

Due to a scheduling problem, the May meeting of the LPBC will be on the second Sunday (May 14) instead of the third. Julie Lucas of the First Amendment Congress at CU will speak. In June, the meeting will return to the third Sunday.

## Denver County

In February, Peggy Loonan of NARAL braved near-blizzard conditions to address seven other brave souls at the Denver LP gathering. She is returning on Monday, May 8, undoubtedly to a better-attended meeting (the group has moved its meetings from the second Tuesday to the second Monday).

The May 8 gathering will be the second at the Denver group's new meeting place, Muddy's at 22nd and Champa. It is located just off Park Avenue and Broadway, and is easily reached from

the Park Avenue exit of I-25 by going east past Coors Field. Parking in the lot across the street is free after five, and meals are half price from five until six.

The meeting takes place in the basement theater of Muddy's at 7 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to eat upstairs beforehand, but latecomers are welcome to bring their food order downstairs with them.

David Aitken will be hosting a cocktail party on April 29 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at 1240 Ogden, #4. Bring a friend and some party food or beverages to share. Nonsmoking home.

## Jefferson County

The Jefferson Forum hosted a speaker from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms on April 19, the evening of the Oklahoma City bombing. We're told it was "interesting, to say the least," but don't have details. We trust that the audience directed questions at the speaker, not the other way around, and that names and license plate numbers were not exchanged.

## Western Colorado

Dale Doelling reportedly finished second in a three-way non-partisan race for Grand Junction City Council, garnering over 24% of the vote. No other details are available.

## Colorado Liberty Advertising Rates

Basic rate: \$6 per column inch (3½ inch width)

Business card (1 col. × 2½ inches) \$15

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or 2 col. × 4¾ inches) \$50

Full page (2 col. × 9½ inches) \$50

Pay for 5 insertions, receive 6th free. Pay for 9 insertions, receive 10th, 11th, and 12th free!

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# "Substantial Compliance" Atrocities Continue

by Vern Bickel

Are the scales of justice tilted in favor of the government? A recent case in Boulder, presided over by District Judge Roxanne Bailin, strongly suggests that they are—perhaps unconstitutionally.

Last September I brought a suit challenging the City of Boulder for filing its ballot issues for tax increases one day late. The law (C.R.S. 1-1-110) states that ballot issues shall be received by the County Clerk no later than September 13, 1994. However, the ballot issues were marked received, by the County Clerk, at 8:38 a.m. the next morning on the 14th. These facts were not disputed; compliance was not met.

My attorney interpreted the word *shall* in the law to imply that this was a mandatory deadline, and challenged the city in court. Judge Bailin disagreed, and she ruled that one day late wasn't too important, and would be considered to be in "substantial compliance."

As there was no case law, I raised an honest question of how the law would be interpreted. End of case, right? Wrong. Judge Bailin determined that my suit was "groundless and frivolous," even though it was based on the wording of the law. As a result, I have been ordered to pay the City of Boulder \$3,484.

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## ***Browne Scores with Delegates***, continued from page 1

Browne is campaigning as though he already holds the Libertarian nomination, which won't be formally decided until July 1996 to coincide with the timing of the other national conventions. In Colorado, petitions bearing the names of substitute candidates Ed Clark and David Bergland are being circulated now to avoid the problems Colorado experienced in 1992—the official nominees' names will replace Clark and Bergland on the actual ballot.

One long-time Libertarian commented that he noticed an unusual sense of excitement surrounding Browne, the founder of the investment newsletter industry. "I've seen the Denver metro area campaign appearances of David Bergland, Ron Paul, Andre Marrou, Russell Means, and Nancy Lord, and I've never seen this kind of enthusiasm among Libertarians 18 months before the election! Nor have I ever seen that kind of money raised before!"

Browne raised more than \$5000 in Loveland, the highest per-capita fund raising performance of any state convention he had attended, according to Mary Margaret Glennie, organizer of the 1995 Libertarian Party of Colorado Convention. Although he originally had not planned any further campaign appearances in Colorado, Browne has said he'll be back for some more of that Colorado green, according to Glennie.

Whether he comes in person or on TV, you'll be wanting to watch for announcements of Browne's appearances in this publication. Remember, that's BROWNE with an E!

"Substantial compliance" necessarily must be decided on a case-by-case basis. Under this standard, a citizen cannot know whether something is in compliance with the election statutes until a court decides the issue.

To award attorney fees against a citizen who is requesting an interpretation of the law will unduly chill his First Amendment rights to:

- a) petition the government for redress of grievances.
- b) speak up against an allegedly illegal government action.
- c) bring good faith litigation to reform illegal government action.

This case threatens our most precious freedom—to make government accountable to the citizens. I have filed an appeal.

LPC member Vern Bickel is Chairman of the Colorado Union of Taxpayers. He was one of the leading supporters of the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights (Amendment One). This article originally appeared as a letter to the editor in the March 12 Boulder *Sunday Camera*, and is reprinted here with Mr. Bickel's permission.

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## ***Gun Rights Rally***, continued from page 1

Several of the speakers focused on the Oklahoma City bombing and the administration and media attempts to connect it to everyone who is critical of the government. David Kopel warned the crowd of H.B. 896, an "anti-terrorism" bill before the Congress, and now apparently on a fast track. It would allow the President to declare any organization to be a "terrorist" group, Kopel said, without any provision for judicial review of his decision. Members of such groups would lose all Fourth and Fifth Amendment rights, and could be tried in secret without the opportunity to confront their accusers.

Firearms Coalition head Bill Pittman and super-lobbyist Frieda Poundstone, who has been volunteering her services to SWARM, described the current status of and prospects for the Chlouber concealed carry reform bill. Poundstone urged everyone to return to the Capitol the following morning, when a citizens' delegation, led by SWARM, would descend on the Governor's office to express their support for concealed carry.

Although the focus of the rally was the Second Amendment, the LPC also used the occasion, as in the past, to present its annual "Friend of Liberty" award. David Segal presented the plaque to Douglas Bruce, who then addressed the crowd briefly, outlining his new initiative to cut taxes (the full text of the initiative appears on page 5).

Bruce received the award for his Election Reform Amendment effort, defeated last November. He had previously won the award in 1993 for his successful 1992 TABOR (Amendment One) effort. David Kopel was honored in 1994 for his many efforts on behalf of firearms freedom, including an initially successful challenge of the Denver "assault weapon" ban.



# TABOR II: It's Short, Sweet, and Cuts Taxes!

by Richard G. Combs

Douglas Bruce, author of the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights ("Amendment One," now Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution), appeared at the April 23 Right to Bear Arms Rally to receive the Libertarian Party's "Friend of Liberty" award and to introduce his new initiative to cut taxes.

The proposal would abolish taxation of telephone services and apply a \$40 credit, increasing \$40 per year, to each income, ownership, and personal property tax. Credits are limited to the amount of the tax due.

The initiative contains three other short sections. One tightens the rules for ballot titles, currently skirted by many districts. Another forbids the "substantial compliance" excuse that the courts have used to reject recent suits over Article X, Section 20, and requires "strictest scrutiny and full enforcement."

Finally, the proposal limits future tax and revenue increases to a ten year life and authorizes local initiatives on revenue under the same guidelines that apply to state initiatives.

Bruce said he expects opponents to challenge this version to the State Supreme Court as a delaying tactic, but he is confident that the challenge will fail. He expects to be able to begin petitioning in August.

As reported earlier in this publication, Bruce is planning to pay for the bulk of the petitioning. He announced that TABOR was looking for individuals and organizations that would commit to a sizable number of signatures at a rate of 40 cents per signature. He suggested to the diverse crowd that this petitioning would be a good fund-raising project for their groups.

In response to criticism of last year's Amendment 12 and the urging of his friends and supporters to keep it simple, Bruce has produced what he proudly declared "one of the shortest initiatives ever," less than half a typewritten page. The entire text is as follows:

## Position Wanted

40 year old male Libertarian with experience in

- broadcast and print copy writing,
- audio and video production,
- electronics,
- food service, and
- transportation

seeks permanent or temporary, part-time or full-time employment with cash remuneration.

Offers may be tendered through voice mail at:

**800-915-5688**

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

Article X, section 20, The Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, is amended to add:

(10) **Revenue changes.** Starting next July 1:

- (a) Any state or local sales or use tax shall exempt telephone use, half at once and the rest in one year. A \$40 tax credit, to increase \$40 or more yearly above its level the year before, shall uniformly apply to each state income tax return, specific ownership tax, and business personal property schedule total tax due in each year. No such credit shall exceed the tax due. The state shall replace quarterly these revenue impacts on local districts.
- (b) Tax or revenue increase ballot titles shall state as a fixed number only the specific dollar amount of increase in spending limits. Each new tax, tax rate or mill levy increase, ratio increase, or extension rate of an expiring tax shall be stated in a tax increase ballot title as a fixed number only. Voter approval shall be valid only for fixed numbers so stated. All subsection (4)(a) issues are tax increases and shall require tax increase ballot titles. A tax increase shall be a separate ballot issue from bonded debt.
- (c) Future tax or revenue increases shall expire within 10 years of voter approval. Ballot issues affecting district revenue shall be voted on only at any subsection (3)(a) election date. Applying to any district the circulation periods and minimum signature formula for state initiatives, citizens shall be able to initiate petitions affecting district revenue.
- (d) In (10), "shall" means mandatory. In future suits filed at any time, violations of section 20 involving tax or revenue increases shall not be balanced away or harmonized, nor excused by substantial compliance or good faith, but shall void illegal ballot issues and require strictest scrutiny and full enforcement of these fundamental taxpayer rights.

If you or your group are interested in circulating petitions, call the TABOR Committee at (303) 869-6306 or write them at PO Box 1900, Arvada, CO 80001. Let's cut taxes!

**Nothing is politically right  
if it is morally wrong.**

**— Thomas Jefferson**



# On the Road to Somewhere

by Jeff Wright

Spring always lends itself to that desire to get out and see some of the glorious marvel that is the Colorado landscape. Recently, during the spring school break, my sons, Travis and Alex, wanted to take a road trip to Trinidad. A gunsmith acquaintance who lives there had been refurbishing an antique rifle that has been in my family for four generations. We could pick it up and take in some of the sights on the round trip.

I thought that Douglas Bruce, spending way too much time on the people's work as usual, could use a break. And indeed, he was eager for the chance to dump things for a couple of days and hit the road. So we loaded up the camper and headed south on a typically spectacular southern Colorado morning.

The first stop was Walsenburg, a serene, yet vibrant small town with a million dollar view of Spanish Peaks. Douglas wanted to check with a local real estate broker to get a sense of where the market was heading. He owns a house there and wanted to get it fixed up to rent or sell, depending on market conditions.

The real estate office we visited just happened to be run by the Huerfano County Republican chairman. Of course, he was a fan of Douglas and interested in doing more to limit government. During the ensuing discussion, he explained that the county was in a boom. People are moving in faster than the local construction and housing market can keep up. There are virtually no available properties except building lots, and they are in short supply. This was good news to Douglas. They exchanged cards, and the broker agreed to help find a contractor to fix up the house.

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**Travel is one of the  
few great freedoms  
we have left that is  
largely unfettered.**

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We checked out Douglas' property before leaving town. It is in a neat, well-kept neighborhood and had suffered no vandalism while standing vacant. Douglas noted that if only his properties in Denver were left alone by the vandals (of both the street and government kind) until he had the chance to work through his inventory, his life would be much easier.

From Walsenburg, we traveled southwest along the Highway of Legends through the town of La Veta and the villages of Cuchara and Stonewall. These are classic Colorado mountain villages. This area's economy appears a little slow, since the Cuchara Ski resort is closed again. However, that may change with the increased activity in the Walsenburg area.

Outside Stonewall, we stopped for lunch at an old vacant house by a pasture and creek. Travis, Alex, and Douglas tried feeding the horses, but they were more interested in trying to bite the hands that wanted to feed them. After lunch, the boys pulled out their firearms and plinked away at bottles and cans set up behind the house. Douglas proved his dead-eye aim, much to the amazement of my sons, who thought him just a city boy.

We descended out of the mountains and into Trinidad, intending to check out the two main architectural attractions in town, Bloom and Baca Houses. However, they were still closed for the season, so we could only look from the outside. We went across the street to an antique shop located in one of the other distinguished-looking homes on the block. There were many fine items on the first floor, and the home itself was indicative of the craftsmanship before the turn of the century. Douglas received a warm response from patrons in the shop who recognized him. As always, cards were exchanged, and we also got a couple of recommendations for good places to eat that night.

After wandering around, we decided to spend the night at the Budget Inn on the south end of town. It was a fortunate pick. The owners are big fans of tax limitation and Douglas, so we were their guests for the night. One of the owners went with us to dinner at his favorite place, Bob and Earl's. The food was good, and we had some interesting conversation on small town politics and how to agitate for change.

The next morning, we headed for Walsenburg, then Great Sand Dunes National Monument to the west. The Sand Dunes seem to be the "dust bunny" of the San Luis Valley. Prevailing winds cause most of the dust kicked up in the valley to land there on a 60 square mile heap. It was a great place to take a walk and let the boys get wet and muddy in Medano Creek. The scenery is quite amazing and very soothing to the eye. The solitude of the dunes is impressive to the soul.

Heading back east over North La Veta pass again put us en route to the last stop, Bishop Castle, just outside of San Isabel. This man-made marvel of Jim Bishop, with the long support of his wife Phoebe, is a sight to behold. Jim Bishop, the man, is also someone to hear. He was very excited about meeting Douglas, and he talked about the masterpiece he is building and his fights with the government. Listening to this extraordinary individual rail against the State and Federal idiots he has had to deal with to build his dream, I was deeply struck by his struggle to leave a lasting monument for the ages. People like Mr. Bishop are the "canaries in the coal mine" in the fight for personal freedom against the ever-encroaching state. If the politicians and the bureaucrats succeed in squelching the dreams and freedoms of the Jim Bishops in this country, we may all be doomed.

On the way home, Douglas and I continued the wide-ranging discussion we had started upon our departure from Colorado Springs. Jim Bishop and his Castle were the capstone on a 400

see *Somewhere*, page 7



# Late-breaking Story—Roy Romer: Libertarian?!#!?

by Larry Hoffenberg

Colorado's two-term Democratic Governor Roy Romer scorned the Republican Party on April 11th by announcing he would sooner be a Libertarian than a Republican.

The Governor was making his regular monthly talk radio appearance on The Mike Rosen Show (KOA 850-AM, also simulcast on a statewide radio network). At about 10:15 a.m., the standard banter took a curious turn:

**Rosen:** Governor Romer, I saw in the news today another Democrat congressman, I think this is the third member of Congress now, has switched over to the Republican Party. Do you feel like making any kind of announcement this morning?

**Romer:** No, I don't, I don't, I...

**Rosen:** All right, I just wanted to give you the opportunity. If you were in the mood, this would be a good place. Have you been considering the switch?

**Romer:** Oh, na, no...

**Rosen:** I mean they're coming over in droves!

**Romer:** No. But if I were to switch, it wouldn't be to Republican, it would probably be to the (lb...le...) Libertarian Party. You know that.

**Rosen:** That's not bad. That's a cousin of the Republican Party.

**Romer:** No, I'm not considering a switch.

## *Somewhere, continued from page 6*

mile trek around southern Colorado. Travel is one of the few great freedoms we have left that is largely unfettered. We met and shared thoughts on these and other freedoms with people who just want to be left alone to pursue liberty, property, and happiness. We talked of upcoming battles to be waged against those who spend their lives trying to figure out ways to control the rest of us. Most importantly, perhaps, we talked of why so many people seem so willing to go "quietly into the night" without standing up to fight for their freedoms. This is a problem that needs a solution soon if we are not to become the drones of a collectivist state, unaware of what real personal freedom is and what it is not.

We will be taking more trips like this during the summer. Doing so hones an appreciation for the people and places of Colorado away from the metro buzz of Denver and Colorado Springs. Sometimes, one just needs to get lost in things other than the immediate to see how important the fight really is.

As it turned out, the gunsmith had already finished the rifle, and a friend of mine from Colorado Springs had picked it up, along with one of his own being repaired. I retrieved it from him later in the week. If I had known, we would have lost an excuse to take the trip, and thus would have missed out on many things vastly more interesting than a weekend around the house. I am really glad I didn't bother to call ahead.

(And on to more mundane conversations on concealed carry permits, emissions testing, growth, etc.)

Over the years, Rosen and Romer have had an amicable but uneasy on-air relationship, and Rosen appeared to be taunting and provoking the Gov just a tad. Rosen is a staunch Republican, but he frequently supports libertarian and quasi-libertarian viewpoints in the economic and tax arenas. Romer's unexpected retort caught Rosen off-guard. Calling the Libertarians cousin to the Republicans was a pretty lame response for the normally quick-witted and sharp-tongued Rosen.

For the record, the Libertarian Party is not a cousin of the Republican Party. The ideologies may be parallel on some issues, but mainstream Republicans are closer to Democrats than to Libertarians. Perhaps Rosen was alluding to the flourishing republican-libertarian wing of the GOP, inspired by the likes of State Rep. Penn Pfiffner (Lakewood) on the local level and Colorado's US Senator Hank Brown on the national scene.

Romer, a down-homesie-yet-slick-as-a-used-tractor-salesman orator, clearly struggled to enunciate the word "Libertarian." Perhaps this was the first time ol' Roy-boy ever tried to speak the word "Libertarian!" Certainly, Roy Romer is no Libertarian, at least not in terms of his past voting record. He's not even close.

## Perhaps this was the first time ol' Roy-boy ever tried to speak the word "Libertarian!"

Matt Sugar of the Governor's press office would not comment upon why the Governor made reference to the LP. He would only confirm that "the Governor has absolutely no plans to change his party." And no, the Governor wouldn't be interested in explaining or elaborating upon his remarks.

To borrow from Mike Rosen's own quip regarding Ben Night-horse Campbell's recent defection from the Democrats, "Romer may want to join our party, but do we have to take him!?"

Who knows, maybe Roy Romer has had a political "religious experience." If so, we'd certainly have to welcome him to the Libertarian Party. But not until he can pass "The World's Smallest Political Quiz" with a libertarian score. Not until he is willing to sign the national Libertarian Party Membership Pledge:

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

And not until he's practiced saying "Lib-er-tar-i-an, Lib-er-tar-i-an, Lib-er-tar-i-an..."



# More News from the 1995 LPC Convention

by Richard G. Combs

## Hornberger Subs for Ailing Szasz

Convention-goers reacted with disappointment and concern to the news that featured speaker Dr. Thomas Szasz would be unable to attend. Szasz, who is in his seventies, was suffering from a severe case of pneumonia.

Convention organizer Mary Margaret Glennie provided a several-foot-long "get-well card" for everyone to sign, and promised to send it to Szasz right away.

Former Coloradan Jacob "Bumper" Hornberger, founder and head of the Future of Freedom Foundation, filled in ably for the ailing Szasz. Between Hornberger and Libertarian Second Amendment Caucus founder L. Neil Smith, there was no shortage of hard-core, uncompromising Libertarian rhetoric.

## Membership Shuns Change

Delegates to the LPC convention were not in a mood to make changes in 1995. Most of the proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws had virtually no support. Only one board member running for re-election was defeated.

State Chair David Aitken proposed that board members be elected to two-year staggered terms and that they be limited to three terms in office. Both motions failed for lack of a second.

Todd Wasserman presented a set of changes that would implement a membership council which, by getting proxies from the membership, could exercise control over the board of directors. The plan failed for lack of a motion, however. Wasserman chose not to bring it to the floor himself, explaining that if no one else wanted to do so, then clearly there was no need to waste time on further discussion and a vote.

The convention did approve two minor changes. The first corrected a grammatical problem in the definition of membership set forth in the By-laws. The second added language to Article 6 of the Constitution making it clear that the Presidential slate and electors could be nominated by the convention in either the year of the Presidential election or the preceding year.

## Convention Chooses 4 New Directors, Keeps Chair

Rejection of David Aitken's proposals did not translate into rejection of his leadership. He easily defeated challenger Ron Bain of Boulder, a former board member.

The only other office that was contested (by other than NOTA) was Legislative Director. Incumbent Dale Doelling did not attend, but sent a message asking to be re-elected. He was easily defeated by Judd Ptak of Boulder County, whose plan for the next legislative session seemed to impress the delegates.

Bert Wiener (Affiliates), David Bryant (Membership), and Dann Hayes (Public Information) chose not to run for re-election. Elected in their place were, respectively, Sandra Johnson of Ft. Garland, Larry Hoffenberg of Aurora, and Dan Cochran of Loveland.

The remaining four positions were unchanged. The directory on page 11 lists all the board members, with their addresses and phone numbers.

## Other Convention Business

Bette Rose Smith, Fund-raising Director, reported that we now have about \$1500 for the purchase of the voter registration list. She also announced that the next fund-raising letter would go out in April and that more members are needed for the monthly pledge program.

The convention nominated Ed Clark and David Bergland as candidates for President and Vice President. Eight electors and a vacancy committee were also nominated.

These nominations were necessary to permit petitioning for ballot access to begin. Clark and Bergland agreed to act as stand-in candidates until formal nominations are held at the national convention in July, 1996, when they will step down. At that time, the vacancy committee can replace them with the candidates nominated by the national convention.

Petitions had been prepared in anticipation of the nominations, and were made available at the convention. Earl Allen is coordinating the petitioning effort and will visit the affiliates in the coming months. David Aitken urged that we finish this task in 1995 so that we can concentrate on campaigning in 1996.

Several years ago, the state convention adopted as its platform the national platform plus two planks specific to Colorado, dealing with water rights and the legislature's use of the safety clause. No one is certain of the precise text of these two planks. Chris Bogart, Ron Bain, and Todd Wasserman were appointed to a committee to research the matter and report back to the membership.

Members authorized L. Neil Smith to draft a letter to Governor Roy Romer informing the governor of our opposition to any laws restricting our right to keep and bear arms. The letter was signed by all the board members and sent to Romer and the news media.

A resolution requiring the board of directors to obey the Constitution and By-laws passed on a 14 to 6 vote.

In the least surprising decision of the convention, Mary Margaret Glennie was awarded the job of organizing next year's convention. She has since already provided preliminary information about that event. It will take place April 26-28, again at the Coach House Resort of Loveland.

The first choice of those expressing an opinion, the Comfort Inn in Castle Rock, did not have adequate meeting facilities, she explained recently, and no other place could match the Coach House's combination of price, facilities, and accessibility.

Glennie hopes to invite Dr. Szasz again next year.

*Chris Bogart and David Aitken contributed to this story.*



# Handgun Instruction: a Special Offer for Libertarians

by Len Jackson

*An armed society is a polite society.*  
— Robert A. Heinlein

Everybody ought to know how to shoot a gun. Even if you never intend to own or use one, it's a skill a civilized person should have—along with a short list of others, like survival cooking and changing your own oil.

To that end, I will be teaching a beginning handgun class. I am a Libertarian and an NRA-certified firearms instructor, and I've been teaching people how to shoot (successfully) for three or four years now.

This class for beginners will cover:

- Ammunition – caliber, types, etc.
- Revolver and auto-loader parts and operation.
- How to shoot – stance, sight acquisition, grip, etc.
- How to clean your firearm.
- What to buy and from whom.
- Other related topics as they come up.

The class will be organized as follows:

- Initial classroom session, 1½ to 2 hours.
- 3 range sessions, 1½ to 2 hours each.
- Final classroom session, 1½ to 2 hours.

Classroom sessions will be held at Paladin Arms in Boulder or another mutually agreeable location; range sessions will be held at a range to be agreed upon.

Classroom sessions are limited to 12 students; range sessions will be limited to 2 students per instructor (I have associates who can help when necessary).

Sessions will be on the first Saturday of the month (and other times by arrangement), except for May—we'll hold the first classroom session before the end of the month. Non class members will be welcome to shoot with us.

Costs are as follows:

- Students will pay their own range fees and those of their instructors (\$5 or \$6 per session for students, \$3 or \$5 per instructor).
- Students can bring their own ammunition or purchase it from me (at my cost).
- If you're using my guns, the fee is \$35 (\$7 per session); if you're using your own gun(s), the fee is \$20 (\$4 per session).
- If you want a book, we'll buy them from the NRA for \$7.95.

FYI, this is very like the class that most ranges teach for \$65 plus ammo costs (not individualized), and that I usually teach for \$80 plus ammo costs. Therefore, this offer is for LP members only!

Please call me at 665-3413 for more information or to register.

## We Are Not Terrorists

by Jim Bohan

The terrorist attack in Oklahoma City is the most sickening thing that has happened in this country since the carnage outside Waco. I don't care to know anyone who would condone or be an apologist for such action, the same way I don't care to know anyone who would condone or be an apologist for Waco. Whoever did it, organized it, paid for it, aided or abetted it, and/or conspired to do it should be executed. Period.

However, I have seen something that, on a political level, is almost as sickening as the OK City attack is on a physical level.

The joy with which Peter Jennings, et al., blame the event on "white men with guns."

I do not advocate joining a militia. There are better ways, in my opinion, to work toward re-establishing our freedoms. This statement comes as no surprise to my militia friends.

That does not mean I don't respect their right to differ with me, to join a militia and to do what they think is right for America within a system of law. I do.

For them, and by extension, us, to be demonized by the media as racists and hate groups is unacceptable and unforgivable. Their unabashed glee at having a bloody flag to wave in our faces is almost as immoral as the act itself.

I don't know about any of you, but I didn't blow up any building, and I'm not going to be tarred and feathered as a terrorist because someone else did.

Rather than assume that it's over and that there will be no gun ban repeal, rather than hang our heads because some nutcases who may or may not be on the far edges of our movement may or may not have committed an atrocity, we need to go about our business.

We have a legitimate agenda, we do not advocate terrorism or the violent overthrow of government, we vote, we pay our taxes, we are good citizens, and anyone who expects us to do or act otherwise should be prepared to kiss our ass.

I suggest we confront/correct the media where we can and continue to work, as we have, for legitimate reform of government.

And I suggest we not walk around acting like the world is going to fall down upon us, because it will do so only if we cease to hold it up. It will do so only if we go on some kind of guilt by association trip and allow the opposition to have its way.

We are not killers. We are not terrorists.

We are citizens who care about our country.

We need to quit the wailing and caterwauling among us and go on about our business.

If we don't, we'll be out of business in more ways than one.

Jim Bohan ("The Old Blue Howler" <loboazul@ICS1.Net>) is founder of NOBAN, a grass-roots group in cyberspace dedicated to repeal of the Feinstein Amendment. He helped organize the highly successful "De-Foley-ate Congress" campaign, and described those efforts at the recent Liberty Alliance activists' seminar. This article was posted on the internet. NOBAN can be reached via the internet address NOBAN@tomahawk.welch.jhu.edu.



# random notes

## Plan Now to Attend Campaign Workshop

If you are considering running for office in the next several years, Campaigns Director Doug Anderson wants to talk to you about the benefits of attending campaign consultant Sal Guzzetta's three-day political campaign seminar (in Denver Friday, July 7 through Sunday, July 9). He stresses that the time to start planning to attend is now. Financial assistance from the LPC may be available for qualified applicants.

## Volunteers Wanted

Campaigns Director Doug Anderson is looking for volunteers who can help with the following:

- Taking minutes at LPC board meetings
- Attending RTD meetings
- Locating winnable local and county races

If you can help, call the LPC office or contact Doug directly.

## Ballot Access Reform Nears Success

HB1022, which would make it easier to get on the ballot in Colorado, passed the Senate in March. As we go to press, the conference committee has just reconciled the two chambers' versions, and it will soon return to both houses for final approval. The only known hurdle is Sen. Tebedo's promise to keep fighting for a minimum 3% signature requirement (the conference committee sided with the House at 1.5%).

In addition to easing petition signature requirements, the bill would allow us to put our Presidential slate on the ballot by paying a \$500 filing fee instead of petitioning.

## LP Activist Opens Law Office

Denver LP member Wayne White has opened his own legal practice, focusing on real estate, construction, tax, bankruptcy, and small business matters. (And maybe some pro bono pro-Liberty work, Wayne?)

Wayne also operates a computer bulletin board, Astra Online (388-5668), that features information related to outer space, as well as seven CD-ROMs of Windows and DOS shareware.

In connection with his bulletin board, Wayne does graphics and text scanning and optical character recognition. Call him at 333-1880 for more information or just to wish him luck. His office is located at 1751 Franklin Street in Capitol Hill.

## Rally News from Washington

The Committee of 1776 is sponsoring a Gun Rights Rally in Washington, D.C. on June 4, 1995. Details: 508-939-4867.

The White House easter egg hunt was moved to the back yard because of a demonstration to commemorate the Waco atrocity.

## Censorship in Aspen???

Tom Peckham of the Aspen Liberty Coalition reports that censorship has reared its ugly head in the area. Seems that an art gallery specializing in tasteful nudes had a display case at the Aspen airport which contained a picture of a nude woman's

back and buttocks. The airport manager ordered the offending item removed. The picture was subsequently featured in the local newspaper. The art gallery owner is making libertarian literature on censorship available to his patrons!

## Organizations of Interest to Libertarians

Advocates for Self-Government	800-932-1776
Cato Institute	202-842-0200
Foundation for Economic Education	914-591-7230
Freedom's Forum Bookstore	415-864-0952
Institute for Humane Studies	703-934-6920
International Society for Individual Liberty	415-864-0952
Laissez Faire Books	800-326-0996
Liberty Tree Network	800-927-8733
Reason Magazine	310-391-2245

## Kudos to...

David Segal, Ed Cole, and everyone in the Liberty Alliance who helped them with the activists workshop on March 18. Despite the last-minute move to Muddy's coffee shop (due to the planned location going out of business!), they pulled off an outstanding all-day program of speakers and discussion. It was attended by more than 70 people from throughout the state and as far away as Texas. Bravo!

David Aitken, who gave a fine speech at CUT's Balanced Budget Amendment rally on April 15. He told the crowd that if they want the budget balanced at much lower levels and sooner than 2002, they should support a Libertarian such as Harry Browne for President.

Bette Rose Smith for a speech to high school students at Community Involved Charter School.

Chris Bogart for taking minutes of the convention business.

Carol Hill of Leadville, who was appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission in Lake County last August.

Bette Rose Smith, Michelle Bethke, and Bill Fargo, who, despite an intense snow shower, distributed literature to last-minute tax return filers at the post office in Denver; also to Curtis Thompson, who braved the rain in slightly warmer Boulder to do the same thing.

Marc Bouchie of Purvis Jewelers for donating a fax modem for the office!

Attorney William Zimsky of Durango, who has offered the party his professional assistance in regard to election law questions. (If you have such questions, direct them through Campaigns Director Doug Anderson.)

Marla Huizinga, who had two letters to the editor published in March. One, in the *Park County Republican and Fairplay Flume*, was an outstanding short introduction to the Libertarian Party and overview of libertarian ideas.

Jim Phelps and Bette Rose Smith, who each had a letter appear in the April 6 *Rocky Mountain News*.



# Libertarian Party Directory

## Libertarian Party - US

National HQ (202) 543-1988  
1528 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington DC 20003

National Chair  
Steve Dasbach (219) 432-7145  
4523 Morning Wind Pl., Ft. Wayne IN 46804

LNC Regional Representative  
James Dan (702) 626-1776  
Box 10833, Reno NV 89510

New Member Info 1-800-682-1776  
LP Nat'l Newslne 1-900-4Libert  
\$1.95/minute (454-2378)  
Election results, Congress Watch, LP news

## Libertarian Party of Colorado

State LP Office (303) 837-9393  
720 E. 18th Ave. #309, Denver CO 80203

State Chair  
David Aitken (303) 831-4334  
1240 Ogden #4, Denver CO 80218

Affiliates Director  
Sandra Johnson (719) 379-2767  
HCR 68 Box 51, Fort Garland, CO 81133

Campaigns Director  
Doug Anderson (303) 698-2651  
531 Washington, #1, Denver, CO 80203

Fund-raising Director  
Bette Rose Smith (303) 228-4456  
Route 2, Box 87, Merino CO 80741

Legislative Director  
Judd Ptak (303) 258-3457  
185 Eldorado Ave., Nederland CO 80466

Membership Director  
Larry Hoffenberg (303) 755-4843  
520 S. Corona, Denver CO 80209

Publications Director  
Richard Combs (303) 871-8824  
1382 S. Lincoln St., Denver CO 80210-2209

Public Information Director  
Dan Cochran (970) 667-7557  
1029 21st Street SW, Loveland CO 80537

Treasurer  
Cooper Jager (303) 473-9655  
2888 Bluff St., #247, Boulder CO 80301-1200

## Local Organizations

Aspen "The Liberty Coalition"  
Tom Peckham (970) 925-6027  
P.O. Box 9766, Aspen CO 81612

Aurora Libertarians  
Doug Newman (303) 363-4172  
1057 S. Troy, Apt. 113, Aurora CO 80012

Boulder County LP  
Kevin Wilkerson (303) 443-1870  
4849 Baldwin Place, Boulder CO 80301

Denver LP  
David Segal (303) 296-4059  
2943 Vine St., Denver CO 80205-4635

El Paso County LP  
Jeff Wright (719) 598-9241  
PO Box 36000-207, Colo. Springs CO 80936-3600

Fort Collins "Freedom Now"  
Mary Margaret Glennie (970) 484-8184  
1317 Lakewood Dr., Fort Collins CO 80521

Fremont County LP  
Philip C. Freytag (719) 275-3115  
750 Cone Ave., Cañon City, CO 81212

Jefferson County LP  
Dick Reseigh (303) 232-3960  
1505 Arbutus St., Golden CO 80401

Park County / 285 Corridor LP  
Marla Huizinga (303) 838-4152  
P.O. Box 637, Bailey CO 80421

Routt County LP  
Robert Jahelka (970) 879-4127  
P.O. Box 881987, Steamboat Springs CO 80488

Summit County LP  
John Sabal (970) 262-6369  
P.O. Box 958, Frisco CO 80443

Western Colorado Libertarians  
Dale Doelling (970) 241-7869  
P.O. Box 60143, Grand Junction CO 81506

Please indicate quantities to left of each item.

## The LPC Curio Shop

Make checks payable to:  
**Libertarian Party of Colorado**

### T-Shirts (indicate size M,L,XL)

- ☐ Make Sense Not War (\$15)
- ☐ Legalize Freedom (\$12)
- ☐ I'm From The Gov't (\$12)
- ☐ Question Authority (\$12)
- ☐ Screw IRS (\$12)

### Leaflets (10¢ ea. or 5¢ ea. for 10+)

- ☐ National LP Program
- ☐ In Pursuit of Liberty
- ☐ The LP Represents You
- ☐ Bill of Rights
- ☐ Break Free from Taxes
- ☐ Responsible Gun Ownership
- ☐ Should We Relegalize Drugs?
- ☐ Ending Our Drug Nightmare
- ☐ New Hope for Freedom
- ☐ Privatization: Shrinking the State

### Leaflets (10¢ ea. or 5¢ ea. for 10+)

- ☐ Free Trade vs. Protectionism
- ☐ Death by Regulation
- ☐ Gun Control, Patriotism & Civil Disobedience
- ☐ Freedom of Speech under Siege
- ☐ Civil Asset Forfeiture
- ☐ Curing Our Sick Economy
- ☐ Peace, Prosperity & Freedom
- ☐ Affordable Health Care

### Bumper Stickers (\$1 each)

- ☐ Defenders of Liberty
- ☐ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything
- ☐ Legalize Freedom
- ☐ Vote Libertarian
- ☐ Peace, Prosperity, Freedom
- ☐ Thank You Doug Bruce (\$2 Ea, \$5 For 3)

### Bumper Stickers (\$1 each)

- ☐ The United States Is under Attack and It's an Inside Job
- ☐ If Pro Is the Opposite Of Con Is Progress the Opposite of Congress
- ☐ Fight Crime - Shoot Back
- ☐ I Don't Dial 911 (w/ hand holding pistol)
- ☐ Prohibition Doesn't Eliminate the Product It Only Raises the Price
- ☐ Take Guns Away & They'll Use Knives Take Away the Motive and Make a Difference
- ☐ Take Guns Away from Rational People and Only Irrational People Will Have Guns
- ☐ If You Are Not Part of The Solution, You Are Part of the Problem. Help Restore the Bill of Rights
- ☐ Education - Not Legislation
- ☐ Life Is Hard. If You're Apathetic, Life Is Harder. Think Before You Vote.

Please include 50¢ for shipping & handling on orders under \$5; 10% on larger orders.  
Send check or money order to: Libertarian Party of Colorado, 720 E. 18th Ave., #309, Denver, CO 80203



# Calendar of Events

## May

- 2 Ft. Collins 1st Tue. Breakfast Club, Tony's, 224 South College, 7 a.m. Speaker. Pat Hartman, (303) 224-3116.
- 3 LPC Board of Directors meeting, LPC office, 7 p.m.
- 3 & 17 CSU Campus Libertarians, CSU Student Center. Bruce Lockhart, (303) 223-7504.
- 8 & 22 Aurora LP, Shoney's, 13700 E. Mississippi, 7 p.m. Doug Newman, (303) 363-4172.
- 8 Denver LP, Muddy's, 22nd and Champa, 7 p.m. Speaker: Peggy Loonan, NARAL. (303) 296-4059.
- 9 Summit County LP. Call John Sabal at (303) 262-6369 for time and location.
- 9 & 23 Routt County LP, Off the Beaten Path Bookstore & Coffeehouse, Steamboat Springs, 7:30 p.m. Robert Jahelka, (303) 879-4127.
- 10 Northeast Colorado LP, Branding Iron Cafe at the Super 8 Motel, I-76 at Exit 125 (Sterling), 7 p.m. Bette Rose at (303) 228-4456 or Trent at (303) 522-0328.
- 14 Boulder LP, Old Train Depot, 30th & Pearl, business meeting at 5 p.m., outreach meeting at 7 p.m. (303) 443-1870. Note: meeting on second Sunday this month only.
- 15 Ft. Collins 3rd Mon. Social, 7 p.m., Mary Margaret Glennie's, 1317 Lakewood Dr. (303) 484-8184.
- 17 Jefferson Forum, Lakewood Library, 10200 W. 20th Ave., 7 p.m. Speaker. (303) 232-3960.
- 25 Aspen Liberty Coalition, Pitkin County Library, 7 p.m. Tom Peckham, (303) 925-6027.
- 27 Cocktail party, 7-10 p.m., 1240 Ogden, #4, Denver. Bring a friend. Non-smoking home. David Aitken, (303) 831-4334.

## June

- 5 & 19 Aurora LP, Shoney's, 13700 E. Mississippi, 7 p.m. Doug Newman, (303) 363-4172.
- 6 Ft. Collins 1st Tue. Breakfast Club, Tony's, 224 South College, 7 a.m. Speaker. Pat Hartman, (303) 224-3116.
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Please **mail** any additions or corrections to Calendar of Events, c/o the LPC office. Changes must be received by the 15th for the following month's issue. For instance, the deadline for the June issue, which will list June and July events, is May 15.

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