

LIBERTY

Published by the Libertarian Party of Colorado

April 2002

The next meeting of the board of directors will be held at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, April 9 at Libertarian Party Headquarters.

Party members are welcome at the meeting. Please call John Berntson for details at 719.532.0118.

www.lpcolorado.org

720.941.2344

www.lp.org

Masters Goes to Washington



Sheriff Bill Masters traveled to Washington, D.C. March 13-14 to discuss drug policy at the Cato Institute. He also spoke to several media outlets, including *The Washington Journal* on C-SPAN. Masters, author of the recently published *Drug War Addiction*, serves as the nation's first Libertarian sheriff.

Masters addressed the Cato Institute in the late afternoon of March 13. Timothy Lynch, who works on criminal justice issues for Cato, described Masters' book as "one of the most effective critiques of the drug

"Masters" continued on page 13

D'Ippolito Enters U.S. Senate Race

Steve D'Ippolito threw his hat in the ring the end of March to challenge Rick Stanley for the Libertarian nomination for U.S. Senate.

"Many people have asked me to run," D'Ippolito said, "and there seems to be a perceived need for that choice. I've already seen a lot of support come from around the state."

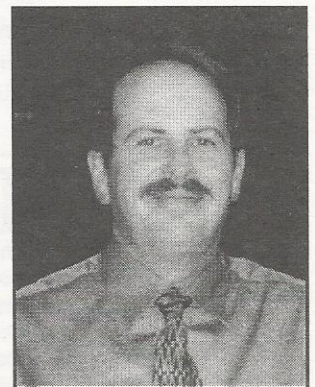
"I have a quality that they seem to be sadly lacking in Washington, D.C. I can read. Specifically, I can read the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, something most Senators seem unable to do," he added.

D'Ippolito said he wants to "return the government to its properly delegated duties." Topping his list of priorities are "ending drug prohibition, ending the assault on firearms rights, and ending the assault on property rights."

D'Ippolito, 37, has lived in Colorado for 30 of the last 32 years. He graduated from Mitchell High School in

Colorado Springs, then from CU Boulder in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. He holds a Master's degree in Space Operations and currently works as a software engineer.

A former Republican, D'Ippolito joined the Libertarian Party in 1997 when he "realized the Republican Party's only interest in smaller government was to use it as campaign rhetoric." Since that time, he has served as both Media Director and Chair for the Libertarian Party of El Paso County. He ran for El Paso County Commissioner in 2000 and earned 23.5% of the vote against an entrenched incumbent.



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Notes from the Chair: Questions for Gun Owners

How many decades has the gun lobby supported the Republican Party? Over that time, do you now have more gun rights or less? Do you have more civil rights or less?

When Republicans are in control of any level of government, do you see a marked increase in gun rights? Do Republicans propose the really juicy gun bills when they are in charge and can get them passed? Or when the Democrats can easily block them?

Why do Republicans repeatedly betray gun owners?



RINOs? Or might they have some overriding reason for that betrayal? What percentage of the vote do they need to win a race? Outside of some rural districts, can gun owners alone get Republicans to that percentage? Or do Republicans need to bring in other groups to win? Will all of these groups be pro-gun?

"How many decades has the gun lobby supported the Republican Party? Over that time, do you now have more gun rights or less?"

Which voters decide elections: the 40% that always vote Democrat, the 40% that always vote Republican, or the 20% that switch parties from election to election? Are the voters that decide elections pro-gun? Who are the Republicans more likely to try to please? The people who always vote for them or the people who might be convinced to vote for them? Who asked the question about gun owners, "What are they going to do, vote Democrat?"

If Republicans need moderate voters to win, are they more likely to champion causes that moderates like, or those that moderates do not? When Republicans are campaigning in front of groups that ARE NOT comprised mostly of gun owners, do they try to sell the audience on the benefits of guns or do they grudgingly admit that they support the Second Amendment and move on to the next question? How does your winning a few Republican primary battles change this?

Do a higher percentage of voters believe in gun rights today than did fifty years ago? Twenty-five years ago? Ten years ago? Is it likely that more or less people will believe in gun rights ten years from now? Is a political

victory more or less likely in the future, without convincing moderate voters that gun rights are a good idea?

What group, if any, is actively trying to persuade moderate voters towards gun rights? Who is running such a campaign? Who can afford to run such a campaign? Gun rights groups or the Republican Party?

If the key to winning the gun rights battle is the moderate voter and the key to winning them over is an educational campaign, how do you convince Republicans to mount this campaign? Are they more likely or less likely to do this if they believe that past strategies will continue to win in the future? Why should Republicans change what they are doing, if what they are doing already works?

Can the Republicans win the general election without the support of gun owners? Or do they need the moderates AND gun owners? How will your continued support cause them to change their past behavior? Will they be more likely to run an educational campaign if you support them or if you don't?

How many times have gun owners threatened to abandon the Republicans if the decline in gun rights was not reversed? How many times have gun owners actually done it? Can the Republicans count? Are gun owners more afraid of Republicans or Democrats? Do you think the Republicans know this? Given this history, are the Republicans likely to believe any threat you make, unless you once follow through?

If gun owners threaten to pull their support from Republicans, but there is an important initiative or referendum on the ballot—and there almost always is—will they show up at the polls anyhow? And while they are in the booth, are they likely to vote Republican anyhow, if just out of habit or fear of Democrats? Do you think the Republicans know this? Would it not, therefore, be a good idea if gun owners had some other pro-gun party to vote for?

"Questions" continued on page 13

LIBERTY

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More Speakers Join Convention

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Several more speakers plan to join the Colorado LP Convention May 17-19 in Leadville. (See pages 4-5 to sign up.) Also, the band **Shaft** (www.shaftrocks.com) is set to play Friday evening (May 17) to kick off the event. Band member Isaac Davenport, who also plans to run for state representative as a Libertarian, is featured in this month's Activist's Corner on page 12.

Blake Harrison wants to repeal the prohibition on Sunday liquor sales. He writes on his web page (www.liquorlaws.org), "I see this primarily as an economic issue and an issue of convenience. The government has decided that they know what is best for Coloradans. Most people have busy lives and when they are told they are not allowed to purchase a legal product on one of their free days they get frustrated."

Elizabeth McKinstry of the Free State Project agreed to present her group's ideas to the Colorado LP. The Project states on its web page (www.freestateproject.org), "The Free State Project is a plan in which 20,000 or more liberty-oriented people will move to a single state of the U.S. to secure there a free society. We will accomplish this by first reforming state

law, opting out of federal mandates, and finally negotiating directly with the federal government for appropriate political autonomy. We will be a community of freedom-loving individuals and families, and create a shining example of liberty for the rest of the nation and the world."

Kris Lotikar and **Troy Dayton** are "eco-capitalists" who will discuss free-market environmentalism. They work at the Boulder-based Renewable Choice Energy (www.renewablechoice.com), which states on its web page, "Renewable Choice's mission is to make renewable technologies profitable... Renewable Choice is working to harness consumer demand to create sustainable infrastructure within the United States that meets our current and future energy needs. Working to bring renewable energy to homes across the country Renewable Choice will benefit both the environment and the economy."

Sue Armstrong, who directs the Colorado American Civil Liberties Union, had to cancel her speech because of a retreat planned with the group's board of directors that weekend.

Liberty Increases Security, Kopel Argues

by Ari Armstrong

By standing up for liberty, "you are helping to fight terrorism," David Kopel said at a February 25 event sponsored by the CU Campus Libertarians.

Kopel, who serves as research director for the Independence Institute, emphasized the importance of directing law enforcement resources appropriately. We should resist the "tendency to promote the feel-good solution" that doesn't actually address the problem of terrorism but instead only wastes resources and weakens our rights.

Americans have seen a "tremendous power grab" under the pretense of fighting terrorism, but many measures are a "bait and switch" that don't address the problem of terrorism at all.

For example, the USA PATRIOT Act didn't enable law enforcement to implement roving wire taps—those were already permitted. What it did was change the decision-making process from the judicial branch to the executive branch. The Act also allows federal agents to snoop into e-mail correspondence and web activity, all without judicial review. Information such as e-mail addresses and internet search terms is now easily monitored, even when it doesn't have any relationship to tracking terrorists.



Law enforcement has always been able to conduct secret searches, after gaining permission from the judicial branch. Now, again, judicial review has been weakened, leading to a "concentration of power in the executive branch."

Mass video surveillance is unreliable in terms of recognizing faces. Certainly it has not been used to catch terrorists. At best, it has been used to stop a few petty crimes. Unfortunately, the technology is easily abused, as when male surveyors observe attractive women. Kopel urged Americans to resist the "1984

*L-r: David Kopel,
Matt Zenthoefer,
Brian Schwartz,
John Thrasher,
Molly House,
David Wormus,
Alex Baia, and
Heather Demarest.*

"Security" continued on page 13

Libertarian

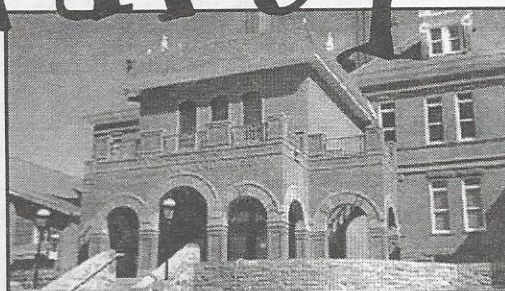
Colorado State Convention

May 17-19, 2002, Leadville, Colorado
National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum

Party



Historic school house outside of Leadville—photos courtesy of www.leadville.com



National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum

Please join us for the 2002 Convention of the Libertarian Party of Colorado! Libertarian members and those interested in the ideas of liberty are welcome. On Friday evening, we'll gather for social events. On Saturday morning, we'll vote for our candidates and state board. Voting is open to all party members. Then, starting at 12:30 pm, come hear top speakers from around the state, including authors L. Neil Smith and Boston T. Party, Douglas Bruce, and Joe Becker. Saturday evening features a banquet with Sheriff Bill Masters. On Sunday, we'll turn our attention to political strategy and activist training. Whether you can attend all three days or just Saturday, we hope to see you there!

At 10,430 feet, Leadville is the highest incorporated city in the United States. It is also one of Colorado's largest historic districts. With the 2001 elections, several Libertarians joined the Leadville city council. The 2002 Convention will be held in the National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum, built in 1900. The address is 120 West 9th Street.

Lodging is available to meet all needs. The Delaware Hotel on 700 Harrison Avenue is within easy walking distance of the Convention center. It was built in 1886 in a Victorian style. Call 800.748.2004. For those on a more frugal budget, the Leadville Hostel on 500 East 7th Street offers dorms and rooms for \$15 to \$20 per person. Group rates are available. Call 719.486.9334 or visit www.leadvillehostel.com. For complete information about hotels, beds-and-breakfast, campgrounds, and other lodging facilities, please see www.leadville.com or call the Chamber of Commerce at 719.486.3900.

☐ **Full-time Student Rate: \$25.**

☐ **Individuals: \$75. Couples: \$125 (for both). Children 16 and under: \$25.**

Prices include entrance to the convention for all three days, including the banquet. Lodging and other meals are not included. Space is limited, and prices increase by \$25 per person May 1.

Name(s) _____

E-mail _____

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City _____

State _____

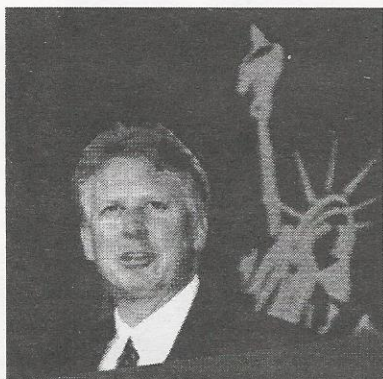
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Make checks payable to Ari Armstrong and mail to Box 745015, Arvada, CO 80006.
For more information, see www.lpcolorado.org or contact ari@co-freedom.com or 303.412.8356.

Libertarian Party of Colorado 2002 Convention

May 17-19, 2002, Leadville, Colorado

speakers, guests, and schedule subject to change



Sheriff Bill Masters — “Drug War Addiction”

Masters is Colorado’s highest-ranking Libertarian official and the nation’s first Libertarian sheriff. He is the author of *Drug War Addiction: Notes from the Front Lines of America’s #1 Policy Disaster*.

Meet other Libertarian officials: Carol Hill • Ken Cary • Lisa Dowdney • Robert Dempsey • and more!

Ralph Shnelvar and James Vance will compete for the LP’s nomination for governor. Other candidates include Steve D’Ippolito, Rick Stanley, Mark Holden, W. Earl Allen, and Norm Olsen.

L. Neil Smith — “Bill of Rights Enforcement”

Prometheus Award-Winning Science Fiction Author

Boston T. Party — “The Clad Foot”

Author of Boston’s Gun Bible and numerous other books

Douglas Bruce — “Active Citizens Together”

Author, Taxpayers’ Bill of Rights

Joe Becker — “Fighting for Liberty in D.C.”

Journal of Libertarian Studies, formerly with Ron Paul

Wayne Laugesen — “Media in a Free Society”

Editor, Boulder Weekly

Ed Quillen — “The Colorado Constitution”

Columnist, Denver Post

Gregg Stone — “Freedom and Pop Culture”

Radio D.J. on KBPI, 106.7 FM

Larry Welshon — “Market Education”

Co-founder, Alpine Valley School

Emma Phillips — “Drug War Injustices”

Families Against Mandatory Minimums

Terrence Carroll — “Dangers of Power”

Reverend, Colorado Progressive Coalition

Diana Hsieh — “Philosophy of Capitalism”

Stephen Raher — “History of the Drug War”

Other Speakers:

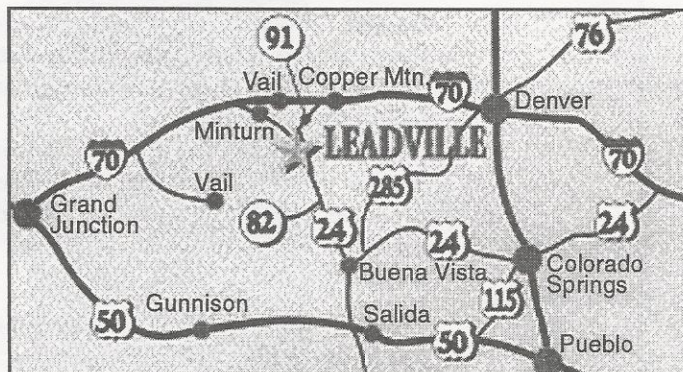
Elizabeth McKinstry — Free State Project

Kris Lotikar, Troy Dayton — Market Environmentalism

Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer — Medical Freedom

Blake Harrison — Sunday Liquor Sales

Ari Armstrong — The Coming Political Realignment



Schedule

All events at the Mining Museum,
Friday, May 17 through Sunday, May 19.

The only meal provided by the convention is Saturday’s banquet. Leadville offers a wide variety of dining options.

Friday 6:00 pm. The band Shaft will play.
Social, cash bar, suite parties.

• • •

Saturday 8:00 am. Candidate nominations, board elections, and other business. (Free to members.)

Saturday 12:30 pm. Speakers.

Saturday 6:30 pm. Social, cash bar.

Saturday 7:00 pm. Banquet,
featuring Sheriff Bill Masters.

• • •

Sunday 8:00 am till 3:00 pm. More speakers, political strategy, and activist training.

Sunday 3:00 pm. New board meets.

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Time to Reform Asset Forfeiture

by Ari Armstrong and Christie Donner

Catching salmon in Alaska is hard work. A Mexican citizen earned \$15,000 working legally on a fishing boat in Alaska for the summer. On his way home he flew with the cash into DIA, where he was confronted by the police. He proved he earned the money legitimately, so the district attorney let him continue home—as long as he gave up \$9,000 of his earnings.

A woman in Denver received around \$15,000 from a personal injury lawsuit. She kept the money hidden in her car. She lent the car to her cousin, who was pulled over and caught with marijuana seeds. Even though neither was arrested or charged with a crime, the police kept \$10,000 of her money.

Douglas Bruce, the famous tax reformer from Colorado Springs, used to own an apartment complex in Denver. After he evicted one resident, Bruce says cocaine was tossed into the yard of his maintenance employee. Denver threatened to confiscate the complex unless Bruce evicted his employee. Bruce said he would evict the employee only if the man was convicted of a crime. Finally Bruce sold the property and the city backed off.

The Fifth Amendment of the Bill of Rights says no person can be “deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.” Unfortunately, Colorado’s asset forfeiture laws allow the police to take and use the property or its proceeds without even charging a person for a crime, let alone proving guilt. That makes the forfeiture laws capricious and unjust.

The good news is that Rep. Shawn Mitchell (R-Broomfield) and Sen. Bill Thiebaut (D-Pueblo) are sponsoring House Bill 1404, which would provide due process, eliminate the financial incentive for agencies to seize property, and require greater accountability of asset forfeiture for all Colorado agencies. The bill would make the following changes:

- Require a criminal conviction before property can be forfeited (except in special cases, such as if the person jumped bail and fled).
- Protect innocent owners by raising the government’s burden of proof before it can take property.
- Make sure the seized property was used in committing the crime or was the direct proceeds of a crime.
- Make sure the value of the property to be forfeited is proportional to the severity of the crime.
- Use forfeiture money to compensate victims and other innocent people with a legitimate ownership interest in the property. Then, 75% of the remaining funds would go for the state’s drug treatment program.

- Make it harder for local agencies to turn over seizure cases to the federal government attorneys.

- Tighten reporting requirements to ensure greater accountability.

Law-and-order Republican Congressman Henry Hyde helped pass federal reforms a few years ago, and since then New Mexico, Utah, Oregon, and Nevada reformed their own laws.

In 1992, then-State Sen. Bill Owens cosponsored asset forfeiture reform with Democratic Rep. Jerry Kopel. That bill didn’t pass, but now Republican Mitchell and Democrat Thiebaut have forged a broad alliance for reform: Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians, Greens, gun owners, and leaders of the ACLU have all supported reform of forfeiture laws.

The main groups to oppose reform are the ones that profit from the current system: police agencies and prosecutors. They claim unlimited asset forfeiture is needed to fight crime because their budgets are dependent on forfeiture revenues. Whenever forfeiture reform is proposed, they offer hysterical warnings that law enforcement will be crippled. But law enforcement hasn’t been crippled in Utah, Oregon, or anywhere else that has reformed forfeiture laws.

Indeed, it is law enforcement that stands to gain from the reforms. In our age of seemingly perpetual police scandals, a lot of people have lost faith in our police departments. Regulating forfeiture to ensure due process, fairness, and accountability will help restore some of that trust. By removing monetary incentives for police to take property from innocent people, the reforms will promote better priorities for police, so that protecting citizens always comes first.

Unfortunately, it doesn’t appear that being accountable regarding forfeiture is something law enforcement agencies take very seriously. Despite a law in effect since 1992 requiring all agencies that receive forfeiture proceeds to file a detailed annual report, only a handful have complied. Police must comply with the law themselves, not just enforce it against other people.

Police powers should never override basic Constitutional rights. Asset forfeiture reform will help officers and prosecutors keep their priorities straight, and it will protect the Bill of Rights and due process.

Ari Armstrong edits www.co-freedom.com. Christie Donner is the co-coordinator of the Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition (www.ccjrc.org), a statewide coalition of 85 groups. This article was originally released by the Independence Institute (www.independenceinstitute.org).

“Asset forfeiture reform will help officers and prosecutors keep their priorities straight, and it will protect the Bill of Rights and due process.”

Two-time winner of the Prometheus Award for Best Libertarian Fiction, Colorado's own **L. Neil Smith**

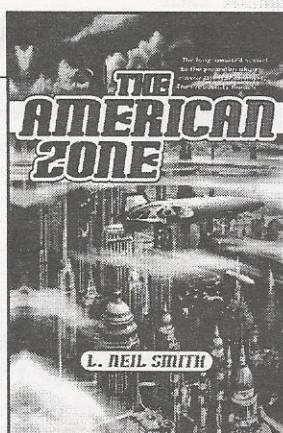
"L. NEIL SMITH

is a light,
deft stylist...

A WILD
AND FUNNY
SERIES WELL
WORTH
READING.

One wishes that
all politically
oriented fiction
were this
much fun."

—Reason

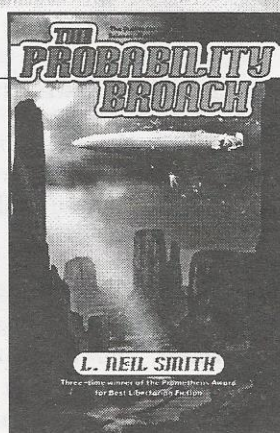


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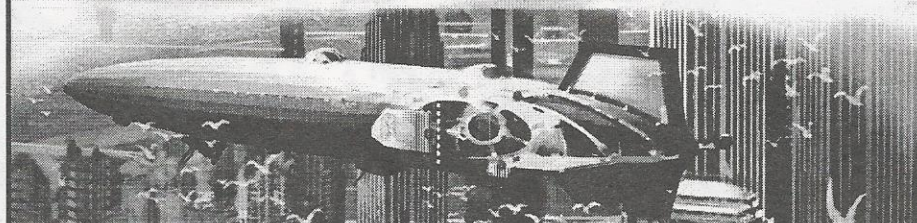
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LP News from Around Colorado

Montrose Hosts Rights Rally

The Montrose LP hosted a Bill of Rights rally in conjunction with a local gun show March 23. "We had a nice time, and I thought it went well," said JoJo Ping, chair of the group. Gubernatorial candidates Ralph Shnelvar and James Vance attended, as did former state chair BetteRose Ryan. (Congratulations to BetteRose and Tony regarding their recent marriage!)

Allen Earns Column

W. Earl Allen, a long-time Libertarian activist and candidate for state representative, recently agreed to write a column for *The Broomfield Enterprise*. Allen's column will appear the third Wednesday of each month.

Swyers Switches to Unaffiliated

Joe Swyers, once the ranking Libertarian on the Leadville city council, announced March 21 he had switched his voter registration to unaffiliated that day with the county clerk.

Carol Hill, a long-time LP member, was elected to the council in November of last year. Lisa Dowdney, a sitting council member, and Ken Cary, who was elected with Hill, also switched their affiliation to Libertarian. With a four-person majority, Leadville became only the second Libertarian city-council majority in the nation.

Referring to the "beleaguered" members on the council, Swyers said he changed affiliation because the

mayor of the town and other individuals had attacked Libertarians.

Hill emphasized the need for the council to move slowly and build consensus prior to any change. She noted elections for city council are non-partisan, which means the position is about representing the community, not a political party. She emphasized the need to educate and reassure the people about proposals, and she said most people sympathize with many libertarian positions, such as free speech. Hill expressed confidence that the council will be able to reduce needless contention and focus on the important issues confronting the town, including the budget and animal control.

LNC Meets in Evergreen

The Libertarian National Committee met March 16-17 in Evergreen. Steve Givot lives in that town and serves as secretary for the national LP. The committee passed a resolution calling for the repeal of the USA PATRIOT Act.

LPEP Elects Board

On January 30, the Libertarian Party of El Paso County elected Ross Glidewell as its new Chair. Joining Glidewell are Scott Graves as Vice-Chair, Carol Geltemeyer as Secretary, and Jessica Wheeler as Treasurer. LPEP also hosted Suzanne Shell, who discussed the Department of Human Services. Previously, LPEP had supported House Bill 1275, which sought to create better standards regarding DPS's ability to take children away from parents.

*"House Bill
1275... sought
to create better
standards
regarding
DPS's ability
to take children
away from
parents."*

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Profess your Political, Philosophical or Personal Passion!

Press Watch: Libertarians in the News

9

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Michael A. de Yoanna wrote an article for the *Colorado Daily* about third parties. He wrote, "[T]here is at least one other party that gets some respect from mainstream parties—the Libertarian Party of Colorado. That party has occasionally struck fear into the hearts of Republicans as surely as the Greens have with Democrats. According to the chairman of the party, John Berntson, it is not the Republican Party that is fighting for less government, it's Libertarians."

Berntson told de Yoanna, "We're the pro-freedom party. We don't believe people need a lot of government. A government should protect people's rights and protect them from harm."

De Yoanna continued, "The influence of the party, Berntson said, is growing. Statewide, there are 4,885 registered Libertarians, slightly more than Greens."

Patriotism or Indoctrination?

The Daily Camera printed the following letter March 25.

So Republicans Sen. John Andrews and Mike Rosen want to see our children forced to pledge allegiance to the flag, and they are calling it patriotism. Since when does patriotism come at the passing of a law, and at the point of a gun? Indoctrination is not the same as patriotism. But perhaps even more incredible is that the Democrats are up in arms about this proposed law. What exactly did they think would happen when they stole away our power to educate our children (along with the money to do such) and handed it to the government?

As any Libertarian can tell you, freedom is a package deal; you can't hand over the responsibility to educate your children, and then expect the freedom to make the rules on such. George Orwell would be proud of both the Republicans and Democrats.

Joe Johnson, Chairman, Libertarian Party of Boulder

Homeland Insecurity

Jeff Wright offered the following remarks, which were published in the March 20 *Colorado Springs Gazette*.

Experts in and out of government are raising multiple alarm bells over the loss of civil liberties from the [USA PATRIOT] Act... Those who push us forever forward into the ultimate police state will make the case that all the monitoring of financial transactions, online conversations, travel, associations, and home life of American citizens is necessary... Already the Treasury Department is seeking radio frequency identification

tags technology to track every single dollar in cash released into the economy. Tied to a national ID system, there will be nothing the government will not know about every citizen from cradle to grave... The America of our antecedents is quickly being tossed into the dustbin with the complacency of most citizens thinking they receive security in exchange for their liberty...

The Million-Dollar Candidate

Michael A. de Yoanna wrote March 5 for the *Colorado Daily*, "Ralph Shnelvar, the Libertarian software developer from Boulder who is running for governor, said on Monday that he is asking his followers to cough up at least \$1 million so that the state's voters—and media—will take his campaign seriously."

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Who is going to give the Libertarian Party of Colorado its best chance EVER of winning 10% OR MORE of the Popular Vote, Making it the *Major Party* it should be?

☒ **Jim Vance**

☐ None of the Above

Who has been working tirelessly for a year to build support from the forgotten target markets like Generation X and Generation Y and those disenfranchised by the two "major" parties and the generic status quo politicians?

☒ **Jim Vance**

☐ None of the Above

Who could actually shock America and pull out a surprise Jesse Ventura style victory in November by winning the hearts, minds, and VOTES of the general populace?

☒ **Jim Vance**

☐ None of the Above

Who Can Show Colorado -- and the Nation -- that Libertarian Candidates Can Be Realists Who Care About the Citizen's Ability to Live Free and Fruitful Lives and Provide PLANS FOR ACTION that Will Spark Their Imagination and Patriotism?

☒ **Jim Vance**

☐ None of the Above



The Choice is Obvious.

Nominate, Support, & Elect Jim Vance
for the Victory of the LPCO... for the VICTORY of ALL of Colorado!

Jim IS Ready to FIGHT to Win Back the Rights YOU HAVE LOST Through Years of Incremental Intrusions by the Government.
He Will FIGHT So You KEEP MORE of YOUR Hard Earned Money in YOUR Pocket By Eliminating the State Sales Tax.
He Will FIGHT to Make Sure YOU and the Ones You Love Are SAFE at ALL TIMES in Colorado!

Jim Vance is a Man of Principles, a Man of Ethics, and a Man of Honor WHO IS NOT NOW NOR WILL EVER BE influenced by
Big Corporation Pressures, Political Action Committee Contributions, Special Interest Group Agendas or
Ethically Questionable Soft Money Favors that the "Major" Parties Like to Use.

He Believes in Giving EVERYONE -- ALL the PEOPLE -- Legitimate Goals to Look Forward To While He Is In Office!
He Believes in Bringing Real Representation and True APPLICATION of the Libertarian Philosophy into Colorado's Government,
and Will Give the Libertarian Party of Colorado the MAJOR PARTY RECOGNITION We Have Fought to Have for So Long.

YES! I DO WANT TO HELP the Vance for Governor Campaign Effort!

☐ I would like to be a Vance for Governor Team Member and Volunteer! (See my contact information below)

☐ I would like to help with a contribution! by check!

Make checks out to "Citizens to Elect Vance," and fill out the information below for our records. Please do not mail cash.

I am sending you: ☐\$20 ☐\$50 ☐\$100 ☐\$250 ☐\$500 ☐\$1000 ☐\$2500

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During the Course of the Election Cycle Under Colorado State Law)

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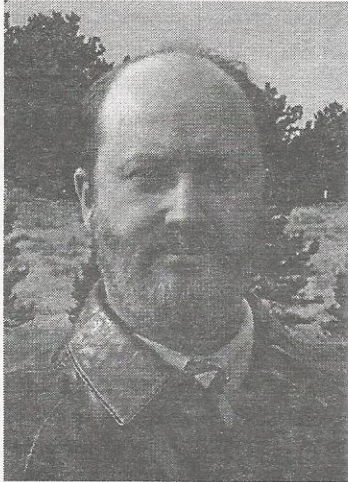
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James Vance for Governor
Working to "Take the State" Back for the Citizens of Colorado!
Visit Our Campaign Web Site at: <http://www.JamesVance.com> or Call: 303-667-1823

Imagine raising \$1,000,000 by July 4, 2002!

Don't send money. Just Pledge that you will send money if we reach our goal of \$1,000,000 in Pledges.



Ralph Shnelvar
Gubernatorial Candidate
Colorado

If you want to be taken seriously then you need to raise serious money.

Ralph Shnelvar

Imagine:

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Shnelvar faces a weak Democrat candidate and a pro War On Drugs and anti-gun-rights Republican. With your help he could build a coalition that can win the governorship.

How we are going to do it:

We are trying to raise \$1,000,000 in pledges (not money) by July 4th, 2002. If we get the pledges then we will expect to collect the pledges. If not, you owe us nothing. Of course, we also need seed money in order to promote this idea so, if you can, please do both. Please pledge generously and also provide us with the seed money to continue.

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The sheer audacity of the plan has piqued media interest. If we do not meet our goal, then resources that would otherwise have been allocated to the Libertarian governor's race can be spent on other worthy races.

Shnelvar for Governor!

A man with a plan to win!

Libertarian , Innovative, Principled

The IRS requires us to tell you that contributions are not tax deductible.

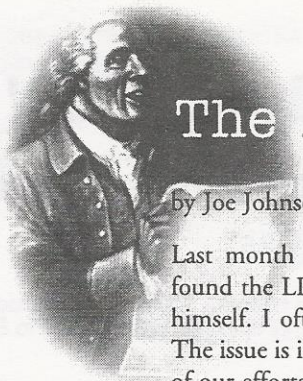
How to Pledge:

Online: www.shnelvar.com, pledges@shnelvar.com

Phone: 303-546-6125

Mail: Send your name, address, phone number, email address, and pledge amount to:

***Shnelvar For Governor
c/o Lori Van Buren, Treasurer
1264 Madeline Ct.
Loveland, CO 80537***

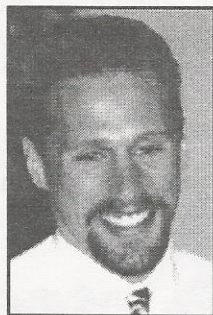


The Activist's Corner

by Joe Johnson

Last month I wrote about how one Coloradan first found the LP and then went on to become an activist himself. I often think about how people find the LP. The issue is important because it helps us realize which of our efforts at activism work and which do not.

In fact, whenever I meet a new Libertarian, I now find myself asking how he or she first discovered the LP and libertarian ideas. Every Libertarian found us somehow, and by recognizing that, we can hone our own skills to further attract others to the cause of liberty. This month I want to expand on that concept to give you an idea of just how important outreach is in ways we might not have thought about before.



A new member to the LP Boulder County affiliate not only recently joined the LPBC, but announced his intention to run for office as a Libertarian in Boulder County. He was wondering what office would help to further the libertarian cause

best. I took the opportunity to meet him and ask him a little about himself in hopes of answering his questions. What I found out excited me, even startled me.

He was politically aware from the age of 16. Once he even asked his mother, who was not going to vote that year, if she would place his votes for him if he did the research and made a "cheat sheet." It did not take him long to discover that his choices were often between "tweedle-dee and tweedle-dumb."

Yet he persisted, spending his limited time researching the issues and candidates. He found that he was left with little choice other than to vote for the non-incumbent candidate in hopes of sending the message that what we have now isn't working. Because neither major party candidate expressed his political views, he just tried to stir up the system by constantly voting against the incumbent.

Something happened while he was in a voting booth in Georgia, however. He discovered the LP.

"I saw candidates from a party I had never heard of before—Libertarian." As he could not find any information about them in his pre-election research, he decided to dig deeper after the election. On the web, he discovered a political party that he can agree with, the Libertarian Party.

"I still don't have all of the answers. I assume I never will" there are many questions out there whose complexity cannot be ignored or reduced to simple slogans. However, one phrase that resonates louder and louder for me is Jefferson's: "The government that governs least governs best."

In the short time that he has been a member of the LPBC, Isaac Davenport has become very active. He meets each Monday with other LPBC activists in Boulder and helps bring others into the fold. As outdoor outreach season approaches, I suspect that we will see Isaac working at the LPBC booth at town carnivals and city fairs all over Boulder County. Or we may see his name at the end of letters to the editors of Colorado's newspapers, or hear his voice on local talk radio.

But just as important, as his story shows, if you live in Boulder County, you will also see Isaac Davenport, Libertarian, on the ballot as a candidate for Colorado House district #11. If you live in his District, you will have yet another chance to vote for liberty. And more voters who have not yet discovered the Party of Principle will be introduced to it!

As Isaac's example proves, people must first discover that we exist before they can discover just what it is that we stand for. Isaac Davenport isn't just talking about showing voters that there is another choice, he's doing it: he's running for office.

If you, kind reader, would like the chance to welcome thousands of voters to the LP (or tens of thousands, depending upon the race), contact LPCO Campaigns Director Norm Olsen at norm@rockware.com or 303.277.9967 and run for office as a Libertarian. Remember, one of the voters who sees you on the ballot this November just might be the next Isaac Davenport.

Liberty in my lifetime!

Joe Johnson

Isaac Davenport lives in Boulder. He grew up in the suburbs of Houston and San Francisco. He spent his undergraduate years in Georgia and earned a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the biomedical group at CU. He currently teaches physics at Front Range Community College. Isaac fences through a club at CU and plays guitar in the local band Shafi, set to join the convention.

Joe Johnson chairs the Libertarian Party of Boulder County. You can share your story of LP activism with him at joejohn@us.ibm.com or 303.604.9153.

"Isaac Davenport isn't just talking about showing voters that there is another choice, he's doing it: he's running for office."

"Masters" continued from page 1

war I've seen." Masters' talk is archived at <http://cato.org>.

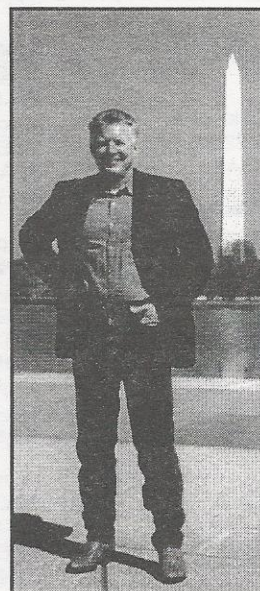
Masters argued that drug prohibition is ineffective and creates severe social problems. For instance, prohibition alienates law enforcement from the public and leads to corruption. It is also enforced unequally, depending on class and race. Wealthy people with political connections either get off of drug charges completely or else end up in treatment. Meanwhile, poor people languish in jail. Masters also noted the hypocrisy of running drug war ads between ads for beer, Viagra, and Prozac, even as large numbers of school children are doped up on Ritalin.

William Otis, a former federal prosecutor invited by Cato to respond to the Sheriff, said, "There is much to admire in Masters' book, as there is much to admire in the libertarian philosophy which Masters champions." However, he believes the problem of drug abuse requires the policies of prohibition.

Ron Crickenberger, LP Campaigns Director, said of Masters' talk, "It does me proud that we have somebody with such sincerity and authority speaking up there."

Earlier that day, Masters joined Alan Nathan, whose show "Battle Line" airs on Radio America. George Getz at the national LP office helped arrange that and several other media events. Masters spoke with Jeff Johnson of the Conservative News Service, and later that night he attended an interview at a local television station. The next day, Masters joined Roger Arnold to discuss the economics of prohibition on Arnold's radio program.

On March 14, Masters joined C-SPAN for a half-hour interview. Masters recapitulated his main reasons for questioning prohibition, then answered callers. One woman called in and said, "I celebrate hearing these words." That night, Masters addressed a crowd at an LP-sponsored banquet.



"Security" continued from page 3

vision of constant surveillance." Under the Taliban, Kopel reminded the audience, women were under such constant surveillance. "Don't make our society more like theirs."

A national identity card would similarly expand government powers and divert resources away from fighting crime to harassing the innocent. Current government databases are "riddled with errors," Kopel noted. At least when one information system fails—such as when a woman on Medicare was falsely listed as deceased—the error doesn't cascade through the entire system.

Under a unified national database, a single error could ruin a person's entire life. A national database would also fall prey to corruption as some agents sold false identities or other favors. With the "flood of information coming into the government" under a national ID system, it would actually be "harder to pinpoint terrorists."

"Questions" continued from page 2

All things being equal, following current trends, will there be more gun rights supporters ten years from now, or less? Is it likely that, ten or twenty years from now, Republicans could win elections even without your support? Do you have more power now than you likely will in the future? Would you rather see your gun

Unfortunately, disarmament groups such as the Violence Policy Center have used the terrorist attack as a pretext to advocate the same anti-gun laws as before. For instance, that group has used the label "terrorist weapons" to describe .50 caliber rifles, even though there is no such link. The group has also claimed American guns have ended up in the hands of Taliban fighters—but the group neglected to mention that the U.S. government provided those guns. Again, inane laws threaten to waste resources by targeting peaceful American citizens instead of dangerous criminals.

"Our country is at war," Kopel said, and it is "essential that we win this war." But we can do that only by protecting civil liberties. "Our strength as a society is our openness, our non-hierarchical structure, and the willingness of individual citizens to help."

Kopel praised America's "spirit of liberty." But the Constitution "only goes so far"; it is up to every generation to protect individual rights against intrusive and abusive government. "Don't give up. Keep a strong, independent, and optimistic spirit."

rights dwindle away, as they have under the status quo, or would you take a higher risk, if it could lead to victory?

Would you rather win a few small battles? Or would you rather win the war?

—John Berntson

"Our strength as a society is our openness, our non-hierarchical structure, and the willingness of individual citizens to help."

Contacts—The Libertarian Party of Colorado

Please send updates and corrections to Ari Armstrong at ari@co-freedom.com or 303.412.8356. Meeting times and locations subject to change without notice. For information on how to start a local affiliate or campus organization, contact John Berntson at jkbcolosp@aol.com or 719.532.0118.

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2600 Virginia Ave. NW #100
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202.333.0008 • <http://www.lp.org>
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804.973.5958 • jwlark@virginia.edu

Libertarian National Committee Rep.
Ed Hoch • 907.479.4593 • edsway@sprynet.com

Colorado

Libertarian Party of Colorado
6280 East 39th Avenue, Suite L
Denver, CO 80207-1319
720.941.2344 • <http://www.lpcolorado.org>
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719.532.0118.

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303.814.0272 • rachocki@earthlink.net
Please contact David Bryant or John Berntson,
as Rachocki is out of the country.

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303.288.8648 • jptak@wcox.com

Fundraising Director • Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer
tuesdayj@yahoo.com

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Aspen Liberty Coalition • Tom Peckham
P.O. Box 9766, Aspen, CO 81612 • 970.925.6027

Boulder County • Joe Johnson
1355 Agape Way, Lafayette CO 80026
303.604.9153 • joejohn@us.ibm.com
<http://www.lpboulder.com>
MEETING: Mondays, noon, Hunan Garden
BOARD: 2nd Thursday, 6:30pm,
call Tom Parker, 303.665.2150

Broomfield Libertarians • Wright Morgan
52 Ruth Road East, Broomfield, CO 80020
303.465.9676
MEETING: 1st Wednesday, 7 pm

Chaffee and Lake Counties • Carol Hill
424 E. 11th, Leadville, CO 80461
719.486.2866 • Fax: 719.486.2866
chill@amigo.net

Denver • Rick Stanley
6280 East 39th Avenue • Denver, CO 80207-1319
720.941.2344 or 303.329.0481
MEETING: Varies; please call.
DENVER BREAKFAST: Saturdays, 8:00 am,
LePeeps (Mexico&Colo.Blvd.), call David Aitken,
303.831.4334, daitken@tde.com

Douglas County • Larry Hamilton
4405 Antelope Run Ct., Castle Rock, CO 80104
bitsikibbles@msn.com • www.freedouglas.org
303.660.6575
MEETING: Weekly, see web page for details.
BUSINESS: Monthly, see web page for details.

El Paso County • Carol Geltemeyer
4164 Austin Bluffs Parkway, #145
Colorado Springs, CO 80918
719.596.6799 • info@lpep.org
<http://www.lpep.org>
MEETING: Tuesdays, 7 pm. Meetings are also
held on Saturdays at 10:00 am at various
locations.
BUSINESS: Last Wednesday, 7pm

Fort Collins • Lee Smith
970.635.0395
MEETING: 1st Tuesday, 7 am

Grand Junction • Linn&Sharon Armstrong
970.464.5177

Greeley / Weld • Lester W. Edgett
1402 Pleasant Acres Dr., Evans, CO 80620
970.351.6527 • leswe26@msn.com

Gunnison Area • Michael Simpson
5688 Cty. Rd. 730, Gunnison, CO 81230
Work: 970.641.3112 • Home: 970.641.6664

Jackson County • Kathy Romack
P.O. Box 415, Walden, CO 80480 • 970.723.4016

Jefferson County • Slim Sulyma
11578 W. Arizona Ave., Lakewood, CO 80232
303.985.8085 • islmsulyma@att.net
MEETING: 1st Thursday, 6 pm

Larimer County • Lori VanBuren
970.278.1158 • Lori.Liberty@juno.com

Limon Area • Gene Leverett
P.O. Box 388, Limon, CO 80828
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Morgan County • James Bass
730 State St., Fort Morgan, CO 80701
970.867.8687 • liberty80701@yahoo.com

Northeastern Colorado • Trent & Gwen Eichhorn
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970.522.0328

Park County • Chris Shepard
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303.838.0925 • maverick@mastermind.net
<http://maverick.mastermind.net/LP>

Pueblo County • Joel Watts
277 W. Coral Dr., Pueblo West, CO 81007
719.647.8898 • joelwatts@excite.com

Routt County • Mike Zuckerman
P.O. Box 777, Clark, CO 80428
970.870.8104
MEETING: 3rd Wednesday, 7 pm

San Luis Valley • Robert Johnson
HCR 68 Box 51, Ft Garland, CO 81133
719.379.2767 • sdj@amigo.net

San Miguel County • Bill Masters
P.O. Box 747, Telluride, CO 81435
970.728.4249 • wsmasters@yahoo.com

Southern Colorado Libertarian Alliance
Paul Berthelot
348 E. 7th St., Walsenburg, CO 81089
719.738.5792 • sdj@amigo.net
MEETING: 1st Saturday, 9:00 am,
Chamber of Commerce Boardroom, 400 Main,
Lunch after meeting

Southside Denver • Bennett Rutledge
4264 E. Maplewood Way, Littleton, CO
720.529.8024
<http://msnhomepages.talkcity.com/CapitolDr/acb9955/index.html>
MEETING: 2nd Tuesday, 7 pm

Southwestern Colorado • Bill Zimsky
P.O. Box 3005, Durango, CO 81302
970.385.5107 • Fax: 970.385.5226

Summit County • John Sabal
P.O. Box 958, Frisco, CO 80443 • 970.262.6369

Western Colorado (Rangely) • Brent Shroyer
P.O. Box 292, Rangely, CO 81648 • 970.675.2337

Western Slope LP (Montrose) • JoJo Ping
970.240.8678 • westernslopelp@yahoo.com
Also Michael Humbert, 970.252.8750
<http://www.westernslopelp.org>
MEETING: 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7pm
JoJo's Diner, 2133 E. Main, Montrose, CO 81401

Campus

CU Campus Libertarians • Alex Baia
303.786.3268 • Alex.Baia@Colorado.edu
www.colorado.edu/studentgroups/libertarians

Please send contact updates
to ari@co-freedom.com or
call 303.412.8356.

LIBERTY CALENDAR

April • May 2002

PLEASE SEE THE ADJACENT CONTACTS PAGE FOR MEETING TIMES AND LOCATIONS.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April	1 Boulder Lunch	2 El Paso County Fort Collins	3 Broomfield	4 Jefferson County	5	6 Denver Breakfast El Paso County SoCO Lib. Alliance
7	8 Boulder Lunch	9 El Paso County Southside West.Slope Montrose	10	11 Boulder Board April 11, 7 pm, OMF "Gun Control: Gateway to Genocide? Never Again!" a talk by Bob Glass Humanities Room 1B50, CU-Boulder	12	13 Denver Breakfast El Paso County
14	15 Boulder Lunch	16 El Paso County	17 Routt County	18	19	20 Denver Breakfast Four Corners
21	22 Boulder Lunch	23 El Paso County West.Slope Montrose	24 El Paso Business April 24, 7 pm, Campus Libertarians Globalization is Gr-r-reat! Featuring Tom Palmer , Cato Institute MCD-Biology A2B70, CU-Boulder Campus, free (West of Folsom Field)	25	26	27 Denver Breakfast El Paso County
28	29 Boulder Lunch	30 El Paso County	Please join us for the Colorado LP Convention, May 17-19 in Leadville. See pages 4-5 to sign up.			

		May	1 Broomfield	2 Jefferson County	3	4 Denver Breakfast El Paso County SoCO Lib. Alliance
5	6 Boulder Lunch	7 Fort Collins El Paso County	8	9 Boulder Board	10	11 Denver Breakfast El Paso County
12	13 Boulder Lunch	14 El Paso County Southside West.Slope Montrose	15 Rick Stanley's Trial, 8:00 am, Courtroom 151P Denver County Courts, 1437 Bannock Street Routt County	16	17	18 <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Colorado LP Convention</div>

www.lpcolorado.org
Phone: 720.941.2344
www.lp.org (national)

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Phone: (Day) _____ (Eve) _____
LP Member # _____ (Renewals only- see your mailing label)

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