Hill Wins!

Libertarian Carol Hill won a spot on Leadville’s city council in the November 6 elections with 48.6% of the vote in a three-way race. She joins Joe Swoyers, a Libertarian already on the council. “Carol won in a three-way race against an incumbent and a veteran council candidate,” Swoyers noted.

Ken Cary, who also won a seat, registered as a Libertarian just days before the vote. Lisa Dowdney, already on the council, registered as a Libertarian November 8.

Hill remarked, “It’s going to be a very interesting city council, especially on financial issues. Now we’ve got a majority. We should get some reasonable budgets and some sensible policies—we’ll be able to cut back.”

Three other Libertarian candidates for local offices didn’t win. Ron Bain ran for Boulder’s city council, while Steve Gresh and Mike Seebeck ran for school board in districts 20 and 28 in the Colorado Springs area.

Out of 15 candidates, Bain earned 2.8% of the vote. Gresh earned 7.6% of all the votes cast in a six-way race, and 16.2% of all voters cast one of three votes for Gresh. Seebeck earned 14.8% of all the votes cast in a five-way race, and 34.3% of all voters cast one of three votes for Seebeck.

Voters defeated a state-wide tax to fund a study for monorail by a large margin. Libertarians had assisted with an effort to challenge the signatures gathered for the initiative (see page 16), but a Denver district judge ruled the number of signatures was sufficient. The monorail study was harshly criticized by tax-reduction activist Douglas Bruce and Jon Caldara of the Independence Institute as an impractical waste of money.

A Denver sales tax to increase political control of child-rearing was also defeated, along with a proposal to build a new jail in Denver.

One state-wide spending increase passed: a debt measure to allow politicians to purchase more land. According to the November 7 Rocky Mountain News, Bruce said, “There seems to be an attitude that government ownership of land is good as long as you call it open space... All it is is socialism.” Governor Bill Owens actively supported the spending proposal.

The Montrose LP affiliate was unsuccessful in its attempt to repeal an ordinance that denies business owners the right to set their own smoking policies.

Bain was endorsed by the Boulder Weekly. Bain related, “I didn’t do quite as well as I hoped, but neither did I do as badly as I feared. I definitely communicated our message to some non-Libertarians who hadn’t paid any attention until they heard it interspersed with populist and classical liberal rhetoric. I recommend that Libertarians practice this: don’t change what you say, change the way you say it. My ad campaign was short-lived and underfinanced, but I think I was on to something. It was fun! I’m as introverted as any Libertarian, but I really enjoyed it.”

In his race, Gresh opposed a school bond issue that was passed. Gresh said, “I was the only candidate who opposed the ballot question and advocated the separation of school and state. The Gazette, a small local weekly paper, and a television station gave me above-average coverage.”

See inside for coverage of candidates for State House, Governor, and U.S. Senate for 2002.
Notes from the Chair: Scary People

If I correctly understand that obscure branch of calculus known as the Colorado Liberty Delivery Schedule, this column should reach you a couple of weeks after Halloween and Election Day. Those two special days, taken together, seem like an excellent time to talk about scary people.

There certainly are a lot of them bobbing about out there. One need only watch television or read a paper to know about them, from mothers drowning their children to people shooting up office buildings. Of course, members of the media can be pretty scary by themselves, never mind the people they are reporting on. September 11th showed us that there are truly monsters in the world. Every day since has showed us that there are ghouls in Washington.

Yet, there is nothing quite so frightening as a jack Libertarian.

No? Try to remember back to the somewhat infamous example of the Libertarian candidate on the radio show. When asked, "I understand you Libertarians want to legalize all drugs?", this candidate's only reply was a simple, "Yep!"

He might have talked about the waste of the drug war or how it has been used to compromise everyone's rights. He might have talked about no-knock raids and asset forfeiture. He might have talked about how the black market raises the price of drugs and, therefore, the level of violent crime. He might have talked about how our illegal drug trade has torn apart other nations. He might even have spoken about a person's inherent right to decide what he will put in his own body.

Nope. All he said was, “Yep!”

Now, imagine you are a parent of teenagers. Somebody says they want to legalize drugs. They want to put it on the store shelves, right beside the aspirin. They want to put the very thing you have been telling your kids to stay away from right where they can get it. What do you do? What DO you do? You vote for someone with more sense, that's what you do.

It isn’t that our position on drugs—or anything else—is wrong. It is that we too often try to throw it all on people before they are ready, without adequate explanation. Our positions do make some explaining, especially to Mr. and Mrs. Middleclass, whose harried lives are filled with work, tasks, meetings, and semi-comatose television watching, not philosophical discussion.

Try to sell these people on freedom and they will tell you that they are already free. They live in America, dammit, and they know they are free. They were taught about freedom in the government schools, the schools that their parents sent them to. They know about the Revolution and the Civil War; they know about Washington and Lincoln. This is a democracy, they vote, therefore they are free.

These are good people. If you call them socialist, they will laugh in your face. If you tell them they are raising their children to be good slaves, they will call you a liar. If you tell them their favorite institutions are un-American to the core, they will tell you to leave. They certainly will not vote for you.

Talking to each other, we often forget how someone on the street would perceive our views. Freedom is our most important goal—our only goal, really—but we have to remember that these people think they are free and that most of what we have to tell them seems heartless, cruel, or just plain unwise.

We have to teach people how a free society works. We have to let them know that we do not endorse a world where old people are starving in the streets, where farmers go bankrupt, where rusty metal bits are found in breakfast cereal, and where factories dump sludge into the creek. We have to tell them that there are alternatives to government programs, alternatives that work better, without force. We have to tell them that they are capable of running their lives better than their... "Scary" continued on page 21.
Gubernatorial Candidates Debate

It was a historic event. For the first time in Colorado, two Libertarian candidates went head to head in a debate in a race to capture the party’s nomination.

Bob Glass and James Vance debated November 4 at the Boulder Public Library in front of a crowd of around 60. Each is seeking the LP’s nomination for governor. Next spring, party members will decide which candidate will go on to challenge incumbent Bill Owens and the Democrat.

State Chair John Berntson said, “The fact that the Libertarian Party of Colorado is holding pre-nomination debates more than a year out from the elections is a sign that our party is gaining momentum and attracting more attention from credible candidates. I hope LP members will support our candidates at a higher level than ever before.”

Gregg Stone, a radio D.J. known as “Uncle Nasty” on KBPI radio 106.7 FM, moderated the event. Stone earned the Libertarian Party’s “Friend of Liberty” award earlier this year.

Peter Sandberg wrote a summary of the event for the November 5 edition of Boulder’s Daily Camera.

Sandberg’s article began, “Candidates for the state’s gubernatorial Libertarian nomination debated Sunday whether it is in their party’s best interest to compromise at all on issues to advance their cause if elected, or if they should hold to a strict party line.”

Ron Bain, candidate for city council, said the debate was “one of the best turnouts I’ve seen at any political event in Boulder lately.”

David Bryant, who sits on the state board, added, “It was an enjoyable afternoon. Both Vance and Glass spoke forcefully, and at times eloquently, about their desire to change Colorado government.”

The candidates largely agreed on areas of civil rights, drug policy reform, and expanded national police powers.

As one audience member pointed out, the main difference between the candidates is that Vance wants to start closer to the center and move incrementally.

“Both Vance and Glass spoke forcefully, and at times eloquently, about their desire to change Colorado government.”

“Debate” continued on page 18

Libertarians Called for Military Service

Brian Rachocki and Nathan Hickson were called to serve overseas in the military.

Rachocki was activated as a member of the Air National Guard on October 9, and he went to Saudi Arabia the next week. He lives in Castle Rock with his wife Barbara and their three children. Rachocki served on the state LP’s board as Outreach Director.

Hickson was called to action by the Army. He currently serves at Fort Carson in an artillery unit. He will report on March 20 and leave for Korea. Hickson, his wife Desiree, and their two sons live in Colorado Springs. They have a third child on the way.

Publications Advisor Ari Armstrong said, “We all hope Brian and Nathan have a safe time of service overseas. I hope their families won’t hesitate to call on other Libertarians for anything they might need during this difficult time of separation. These men have our gratitude for their willingness to defend America and the principles that make America great, the principles spelled out in the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights.”
On the Campaign Trail with Stanley

by David Bryant

It was a crisp, cool October morning when Rick Stanley and I set out to meet some Libertarians in Colorado Springs, and to spend a few hours campaigning wherever they thought we could find a crowd.

We entered the Radisson Hotel at 10:00 and ordered breakfast. Steve Gresh joined us for coffee. Carol Geltemeyer, Dave Willard, Amy Hoffman, Kent McNaughton, Patrick Lilly, and John Bernston all arrived within a few more minutes.

We talked about Rick’s campaign, why he’s running, and how tough it is to get Libertarians involved in hands-on political activities. We heard about issues that motivate people, and why you should (or shouldn’t) run an honest-to-goodness campaign when you know the odds are long. We talked about the best ways to convince people to vote Libertarian. We didn’t all agree, but it was a good discussion.

At 11:30 Kent, Steve, Rick, and I headed out to stump for votes. Everyone else had other plans.

We drove over to Manitou Springs, arriving as the parade wrapped up. Our hands full of Rick’s campaign flyers, we all took off in different directions. “Let’s meet back here in 15 or 20 minutes,” said Rick as he charged across the street.

I walked down the hill, handing flyers to everyone. Nobody turned me down. Here’s a public parking lot. I slipped flyers under wiper blades. An older guy named Rocky led me back toward the center of town while telling me how beautiful Manitou Springs is, and how nice it is to see a down-to-earth guy like Rick Stanley running for the U.S. Senate.

Kent and Steve were at the car. There was no sign of Rick. We checked our watches. Twenty minutes exactly. There wasn’t much point in waiting around, so we replenished our flyer supply and headed down the street, looking for him.

There he is! Inside a store, talking to the proprietor. I kept on walking. Here’s another parking lot. I panned it. There’s Rick again. This time he’s in the center of a little knot of people standing in a driveway, talking about politics. Dozens came streaming back to their cars. Most of them were reading Rick’s flyer.

“That was fun!” Rick exclaimed. “Let’s do it somewhere else.”

So we drove back to Colorado Springs, to the Antlers Hotel. The covered parking lot was full of cars. We spent another hour slipping flyers under wiper blades. We met a few people. They were friendly, and genuinely interested in Rick’s candidacy.

Out in the sunlight again, we talked about the day’s activities. How it’s difficult to overcome one’s initial reluctance to approach people. How much fun it is once one stops worrying, and just does it. Steve will describe his experience at the next Colorado Springs meeting. He can’t guarantee that others will join the Stanley campaign, but he will explain how easy it is.

Rick reviewed our guerilla strategy as we drove back to Denver. We can’t outspend Strickland and Allard, but we can out hustle them. The flyers are incredibly cheap and effective. Over half the people who receive them read them. Many decide to vote for Rick.

Rick has been distributing flyers for three months. Newspaper polls have shown increasing support for “other.” And they never even mentioned Rick’s name!

Our own recent poll mentioned all three candidates by name. Our volunteers made over 2,000 phone calls at random. We got 200 people to answer our questions. The results: 35% for Allard, 34% for Strickland, 23% undecided, and 8% for the Libertarian, Rick Stanley. There’s still a year to go, and Rick is already pulling 8% of the probable vote. No other Libertarian candidate in the history of Colorado has ever done this well, this early.

Rick needs 600,000 votes to win the election next November. If we can distribute 3,000,000 flyers in a year, he will get enough votes to win the election.

There are 5,000 people on the Colorado LP’s mailing list. Three million divided by 5,000 is just 600. Rick can win if every person who reads this article passes out 600 flyers. That’s $12 worth of flyers, and six to eight hours of work, per person.

The election is still winnable. The question is, will the Libertarians help Rick win? Are you willing to invest $12 of your own money, and six to eight hours of your time, to start the Second American Revolution?

The days are flying by. And most of you aren’t even moving a muscle.

What are you waiting for?

David Bryant is the Information Director for the Colorado LP. He is also the treasurer for Rick Stanley’s campaign. To learn more about Rick Stanley, and to volunteer, contact the campaign at 303-329-0481. Or visit Rick’s web site: http://www.stanley2002.org.
Bryant Honored with Ptak Award

David Bryant received the Ptak Award October 20 at the Libertarian Party's annual awards banquet in Colorado Springs. The event was sponsored by the LP of El Paso County and organized by Carol Geltermeyer. The Ptak Award is the party's top honor, given annually. Honors also went to Carl Rite, Tom Parker, and Rick Stanley.

State Chair John Berntson said, "David has sat on the board, year after year, taking on tasks and gently guiding the party through good times and bad. On just about a daily basis, he comes into our office and does all of the work required to keep the party functioning and growing."

"The real push came last spring, right around convention time. The party lost its office. Well, we didn't exactly lose it. It was sort of being encroached upon by the MLA. In rapid succession, we lost the neighboring offices, the hallway lighting, the lock on our door, the front door of the building, and finally the electricity. This made it particularly hard to use the office computer or hold meetings after dark."

"We had already been talking with Mr. Stanley about using some of the space he so kindly offered. At the request of the board, David moved in and closed the deal. Then he took on all of the tasks that were needed to get it done: mail forwarding, telephone, the bulk mail account, change of address notification to dozens of places, including the state, new letterhead, packing, and then the actual physical move. He had some help with some of it, but the responsibility was his and his alone. The move happened quite smoothly, with hardly anybody noticing— including, unfortunately, the post office. He got that straightened out, too."

"Then, already having done more than any ten activists, David decided to take on another challenge. He volunteered with the Stanley Campaign, doing for Rick what he has, for so long, done for us. He writes letters and campaign materials, distributes flyers, lines up supporters, goes on road trips. He does something he calls singing. He gives the campaign the benefit of his counsel."

"He is perseverance. He is patience. He is wisdom. As he quite recently said of someone else, 'He's solid, and he's quiet, and we'd really miss him if he weren't there.'"

Introducing Carl Rite, Berntson said, "As most of you know, the Western Slope LP, headquartered in Montrose, got started just months ago. They have been waging a battle against an anti-smoking ordinance passed in Montrose. Party members there have placed an anti-anti-smoking ordinance on the next ballot, by the time-honored process of gathering many signatures.

"Carl took it upon himself to set up a card table in front of the courthouse. He did this nearly every day for three weeks. In August. His efforts brought in nearly five hundred signatures. His county chair says of him, "He is a fighter, a veritable pit bull, and tireless. His efforts have been vital to our efforts here, and any measure of success we might have here locally is due in no small way to his ceaseless labors.""

With regard to Tom Parker, Berntson noted, "He is the Membership Director for his affiliate in Boulder, with all of the work that this entails. He runs their website. Last year, he created websites for just about any candidate who asked. He is instrumental in the operation of what has come to be known as the gun show booth, usually storing it at his home. He contributes many photographs to Colorado Liberty and the state website. He has substantially helped party and campaign finances. The Libertarian Party is pleased to present a Ptak Honor Certificate to one of the most tireless workers in our party."

Berntson presented the final award to Rick Stanley. "He is perhaps the loudest Libertarian we have seen around these parts in quite some time. He has made everybody, from party members to press to people in restaurants and gas stations, sit up and take notice of him, sometimes seemingly through willpower alone."

"In less than a year, he has made a name for himself. His first act was to revive the Denver affiliate. Next, when the party suddenly needed office space, he made it available to us. Then he decided to pursue the U.S. Senate seat."

"It is in this last effort where he has really shined. He has attracted a group of loyal supporters who are making sure his message gets heard. Along with his lovely wife Pam, he has been busily touring the state in what has to be the largest campaign vehicle this party has ever seen, often with a group of his volunteers, who don't seem to know the meaning of the term 'day off,'"

"But what really seems to distinguish him is his salesmanship. In addition to getting all these people to help him, he can also get people to listen, bringing them rapidly to his point of view. By all accounts, he has registered hundreds of Libertarians. He has drive. He has wit. He has passion. The Libertarian Party gratefully presents this certificate to Mr. Rick Stanley."

Last year's awards went to Joe Johnson, Elizabeth Bennett, Carol Geltermeyer, Ari Armstrong, and Bette Rose Smith.
Ross Praises ‘Culture of Freedom’

John Ross, author of *Unintended Consequences*, addressed the Libertarian awards banquet October 20. Earlier that day, Ross spoke at a rally in Denver organized by Marianne Gregor and the Tyranny Response Team. Bob Glass, Ari Armstrong, Sharir Ghalam, Len Jackson, and Robert Tecsdale also addressed the crowd of over 100 on the Capitol steps.

At the banquet, Glass introduced Ross. "Ideas matter," Glass said. "That’s why we’ve all chosen to fight for liberty and be libertarians."

Glass said fiction often serves as "intellectual fuel," citing the influential work of Ayn Rand. Novels "are a guiding point for how we live our ideas," giving us a "sense of dignity, and a sense of right and wrong." Literature can help shape a culture.

*Unintended Consequences* was "the best-selling book in my store," Glass said, noting the book is one of the best sources available of history about civil arms in America. "The importance of defending liberty has never been greater than it is now," Glass said, and Ross’ book has made an important contribution to that defense.

"I’m an incurable optimist," Ross began. He said he senses "too much nativism" and "rear-guard action" within the freedom movement. While granting that civil libertarians need to stand guard against new intrusive laws, many trends look good for the future of liberty, he said.

“We’ve got the moral high ground here, folks. Where’s your sense of adventure? Your sense of, ‘This is working for us? It’s time to say out loud: in many ways, things are better for us now than at any time in the past.”

Ross said that while he focuses on the right to bear arms, "gun rights are the cutting-edge of individual rights," and a review of gun rights often mirrors the status of other rights.

To make his case, Ross reviewed slices of history from 1925, 1955, 1975, and today. By many criteria, the situation has improved for gun owners. In 1925, there were no federal gun laws at all. However, quality guns were also harder for the average person to purchase, and literature on guns virtually ignored defensive uses of guns. Since then, the quality and availability of high-end guns, along with reloading supplies and literature about self-defense, have gotten much better.

True, many federal and state gun laws have gotten worse since 1925, though with some respite. The major improvement has come in concealed-carry laws. Most states now allow all law-abiding citizens to carry a handgun. According to Ross, such liberalized carry laws have resulted in a "sea change" of public opinion.

Ross said hunters had basically become jaded to the encroachment of nonsensical, intrusive laws. However, when more people, especially women, started carrying guns for self-defense, they started to realize the counterproductive nature of many of the "laws on the books." For instance, a nurse who is trusted with people’s lives every day still cannot carry a handgun for her own protection in St. Louis, Ross’ hometown.

Ross reminded the crowd that most state gun laws passed in the early 1960s were overly racist. Whites were rarely targeted under the laws. That started to change in the 70s, when disarmament laws were applied more evenly. Ross predicted we are moving to the point in history when "anti-carry laws will be recognized as a relic of the Jim Crow laws" and repealed.

Ross also said America’s military is being harmed by the government's ban on automatic rifles. Advancements in firearms are simply not occurring, and more people are starting to realize this problem.

The civil arms community has wised up, Ross believes. "No one believes if we give in to a few controls, the enemy will go away.”

In terms of legal trends, Ross expressed a cautious optimism. He noted the Supreme Court threw out so-
called “gun-free school zones.” He said the Emerson ruling is partly positive. It’s possible that the Brady law, and even the 1934 National Firearms Act, may be thrown out by the courts. Ross noted that it’s possible to make a list of criminals publicly available, such that law-abiding citizens could buy guns “cash and carry” without the registration system the Brady law entails. Also, more people are realizing gun bans or registration schemes would be impossible to enforce.

When asked about September 11, Ross said that event just makes it more obvious that freedom advocates are correct in their views. “The government can’t protect us,” he said. “Our blunders in the past have made this possible... We gave terrorists a government guarantee that these planes were ripe for the picking.”

He hopes the horrendous crimes against Americans will cause the country to reevaluate its priorities in law enforcement. Do we want to spend resources going after victimless crimes and confiscating nail clippers, or going after violent criminals? “Freedom means letting other people do things that you don’t particularly like,” Ross noted.

Ross noted that even the pilots’ unions are now demanding the right to fly armed. On his flight to Colorado Springs, Ross passed along a note to the pilot, outlining Ross’ extensive background in self-defense instruction but noting current laws prevent him from acting in an emergency. The pilot returned word that he agreed with Ross and would pass along the note to his superiors. Ross encouraged the audience to think of other ways to encourage sensible, pro-freedom policies. Ross, who is also a pilot, noted that defensive firearms on a plane, especially with appropriate ammunition, pose virtually no threat to air safety, and they increase security.

What of the fear that America might go the way of other countries in surrendering rights? “People in England, Canada, and Australia do not have a Constitution with a Bill of Rights. We do. They accept gun bans; we don’t.”

Ross also noted that America has attracted freedom-minded people from around the world. “England’s gun culture moved away,” he noted, and “people who like freedom have gravitated to America.”

He granted that our rights are under threat since September 11, “but that’s always the case.” The struggle for liberty is “a constant process.” Ultimately, Ross concluded, “History has shown us that in America the culture of freedom always wins.”

John Ross’ book Unintended Consequences may be purchased from Laissez Faire Books through the link at www.lpcolorado.org.
Nolan Reflects on LP as Party Turns 30

The Libertarian Party turns 30 years old on December 11, 2001. It seemed an opportune time to ask the founder of the party for his reflections. I conducted the following interview with David Nolan on September 7, 2001, four days before the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. On September 12, Nolan wrote a short article about the attacks that is available at www.co-freedom.com/2001/09/nolan.html. Short sections of the interview are reproduced here. The complete interview is available at www.lpcolorado.org/c/2001/11/nolan.html.
—Ari Armstrong

What have been the LP’s biggest successes, in your opinion?

We’ve built by far the nation’s (and probably the world’s) largest network of freedom-minded individuals who have been able to collaborate with each other and inform each other on a whole range of issues.

This has allowed people to work on particular issues, to form coalitions and committees and action groups, ranging from Second Amendment rights, to fighting censorship, to trying to repeal the drug war. We’ve created a network of freedom-minded individuals. If it weren’t for the Libertarian Party, I don’t see any way that network would have come into existence.

We have certainly popularized the word “libertarian” and what it means to the American people. We have helped bring about the change that I predicted would come when I wrote my article on political systems 30 years ago.

The debate has largely shifted from the old left-right debate. It’s still there, but it’s fading. It’s turned to a much more fundamental debate that I would call the “libertarian vs. authoritarian” debate, which is what most of the public dialogue in the country is about now. It’s not always labeled as such, but that’s what it has become, because the liberal and conservative positions have become more and more indistinguishable. The Republicans are basically just out there passing more laws and grabbing more money, spending it on their projects and giving it to their friends. There really is not significant difference, in my estimation, between Republicans and Democrats.

We are the only credible alternative. We are seeing a realignment of the political spectrum which would be typified by us on one end, the Greens on the other, and the Republicans and Democrats “mushing together” more and more into a big lump in the middle. We are helping to redefine the political spectrum, and hold up the standard at one end. If we weren’t there, there’d be nobody else holding up the pro-freedom position.

Those two things—building the network, and helping redefine the political system and make sure that the pro-freedom, pro-individual rights position is accurately and articulately represented—I think are our two major contributions.

We’ve been much more successful at the city and county level in terms of leading or opposing initiatives, running candidates and getting them onto city councils and into public offices. We’ve had a fair amount of success, in terms of vote totals and affecting the debate, at the Congressional level. When you get above that, our efforts are less and less successful as we move up the ladder of partisan politics.

You’ve written favorably about the idea of using the drug war as our lead issue. However, people who are attracted to the LP because of that issue may not be sympathetic with other issues.

That’s a good point. That’s always a problem with emphasizing any one particular issue too much. Emphasizing the drug war certainly has that problem, as does any other issue, whether it’s guns or taxes or education. No matter what issue you pick as your lead issue, you’re going to have people who are repelled as well as people who are attracted.

The reason I think the drug war is so important and needs to be our primary issue is because it impacts everything else. The war on drugs is the battering ram of the state. It’s the excuse that’s being used to look into people’s bank accounts because they “might be hiding drug money,” to take away people’s guns because of “all that drug-caused violence.” The whole drug issue has impacted every other issue, whether it’s spending, financial privacy, censorship, or mandatory minimum sentences. It’s the most insidious issue.

It certainly shouldn’t be our only issue. I think it needs to be always presented in the context, “The government is too large, too powerful, too expensive, and too dangerous.” You can’t defend our rights to privacy, our rights to keep and bear arms, etc., as long as this insidious force is in effect.
How likely do you think it is that the LP will become a major political party?

That's a good question, and since my crystal ball hasn’t been really accurate in the past, I hate to go very far out on a limb. But let me give you a couple thoughts on that general topic.

I’ve been espousing the theory that political change moves in a cyclical pattern. In the United States, there seems to be a fairly strong political cycle of about 72 years. That is due to culminate in 2004. I don’t believe it’s like clockwork. It could be 2008. I would still bet on 2004 as being the most likely year for there to be a major realignment of the political system.

By “major realignment,” I mean that the die will be cast, determining the general nature of our political system, and therefore our social system to a large degree, for the next 72-year cycle. There are times of great change and great opportunity, and there are times where things just go along the way they’ve been going, and society settles into a new equilibrium.

I think we are fast approaching a time of change. I think it’s very likely that the people of the United States are going to have to choose between a lot more freedom and a lot less freedom.

I think the system we have now, the mixed system, is unstable and falling apart. Most people are aware that it’s not working very well and are therefore looking (at least on an unconscious level) for at least some kind of change. The problem is that most people don’t really know what kind of change they want, and a lot of them who do don’t want the kind of change that we want. But I still think we’re in one of those periods of major change and decision-making, a crossroads.

Therefore, the question becomes which way are we going to go, and what is the mechanism whereby we are going to choose the direction that we take. I sense the LP can and will play a major role in that decision.

How is change going to happen, and which direction is more likely? I have to say I think the odds are still against us. We’re still fighting an uphill battle. I don’t like to have to say this, but I think the odds are more likely that America will slide into a kinder, gentler fascism—which I mean kinder and gentler than Mussolini’s, but not much. I think it’s more likely that we will go in the wrong direction, because there is so much force behind the move in that direction.

[Editor's note: I asked Mr. Nolan whether his views on the odds have changed since September 11, and he stated that he now thinks they’re worse... but he is more convinced than ever that the year 2004 will mark a major turning point in American political history.]

There are so many powerful, organized, entrenched special interests that are collaborating and reinforcing one another: the two major parties, the media, the unions, the public school system, etc. There are a lot of forces arrayed against us that have a vested interest in maintaining and expanding the statist system we now live under, and making it worse, in the sense that we’re all going to be carrying national I.D. cards...

Only recently have I had to show a driver’s license or an I.D. when checking into a hotel. I never had to do that before. You didn’t even have to show one to get on an airplane ten years ago. Now you have to show some kind of “government issued” I.D. to check into some hotel. I don’t know if that’s a result of state law or if it’s just part of the national paranoia that’s creeping up. We are living more and more in a surveillance state.

We are living more and more in a system where people are no longer innocent until proven guilty. That’s still the presumption on paper, but in reality we operate in a system whereby you are guilty until you can prove yourself innocent. This is the case whether you are accused of violating the drug laws, not paying what the government thinks you ought to be paying them in terms of taxes, etc.

More and more we are living in a state where it is presumed that the government controls everything, and you have to get the government’s permission to do anything. I see that trend as having accelerated, particularly in California, in the last decade.

The question is, can we halt that and turn it around—restore a greater degree of privacy, make sure we have the right to keep and bear arms for self-defense, repeal these ridiculous drug laws. Any form of criminal possession laws, of course, are tailor-made for a police state, because all they have to do is plant the evidence on you. There are a lot of very ominous trends.

On the other hand, there are some good trends, one of which is the fact that the Libertarian Party exists, and it’s growing (not in a completely linear fashion; I understand national membership is down slightly this year, as it is usually after the presidential election). We are starting to attract more and more attention. We have more credibility. We have more members. We get more coverage. We get more people elected to office. We’re being taken seriously.

If we did not exist, I think the battle would be hopeless. That harks back to the question you asked earlier about greatest successes. Our greatest success is that we have created the only viable mechanism now existing to offer a reasonable hope of stopping the imposition of a very authoritarian system in this country that might last for generations.

We are the last, best hope for freedom in America. I sincerely believe that. If we did not exist, I can’t see anybody else around who would be likely to fulfill that role. Do you?
Candidates Hold Forum Oct. 11

Five Libertarian candidates for the 2002 elections gathered to discuss their views at a forum held October 11 in Denver. Rick Stanley, candidate for U.S. Senate, helped organize the event. Bob Glass and James Vance, gubernatorial candidates, also attended, as did W. Earl Allen and Mark Holden, candidates for State House.

John Adams warned of a divisive two-party system. Stanley reminded the audience. He said the Libertarians are working to challenge today's unresponsive duopoly. 'We have the Constitution on our side. It is time for the defenders of liberty to stand up and take action.'

Glass urged Libertarians to 'be patriotic, defend America, and protect our liberties.' He said the terrorists are 'people who hate us simply because of who we are,' for the free and open society that Americans embrace.

'It's going to be the Libertarian Party that speaks out against the insidious evil of surrendering liberty for the illusion of security,' Glass predicted. 'We're the only party that's going to do anything about it.'

James Vance said he wants to be a "statesman for the people of Colorado." Noting that he is a "trained political scientist" with a Master's degree in the field, he said he is best qualified to be governor.

"This race is not about who the best libertarian is; this race is about who has a shot at winning the race," Vance said. The Libertarian candidate must "appeal to the general population of Colorado."

"A Libertarian can win this race, if it's the right candidate. I am that candidate," Vance said. He added that Libertarians cannot "talk purity while attempting to put people in office." If Libertarians attempt to "push purity too hard," they will be perceived as radical. "I want to represent the people," Vance said.

Vance argued Libertarians will have a difficult time attracting the gun vote. Instead, Vance is reaching out to "target markets," starting with Generation X. Vance added that he wants to audit the government to look for redundancies and ways to outsource. He also said he wants a state-wide concealed carry system.

W. Earl Allen of Broomfield said socialists believe "we can do more" through government intervention. Libertarians, on the other hand, believe that "less is more" when it comes to empowering politicians.

"When Americans are allowed the freedom" to deal with social problems, "they have always prevailed," Allen said.

Allen challenged the view that government needs to play an ever-larger role in education, noting that government spending is unrelated to educational quality. "The less money spent in any state [by government], the more education actually happens." He added, "Less government spending means more parental responsibility" over education.

Allen said schools today are often "government indoctrination centers," in which students are "taught that government is the only solution to problems."
Government also handles transportation and economic growth poorly, Allen said. Traffic jams and other delays are the result of “turning transportation systems over to government.” Politicians should not seek to restrict growth, which helps the economy.

Mark Holden of the Denver Tech area said, “I’m not a politician.” Holden works as an engineer and securities trader. He said that he personally witnessed the “blind, heavy hand of government persecution” when an employee of a company Holden was with made false accusations, resulting in a government witch-hunt and the bankruptcy of the business.

Holden likened government to a magic genie that people pursue to fulfill their wishes. Unfortunately, government intervention often makes problems “larger and more complex.” Holden added, “Government has the reverse-Midas touch. Everything it touches turns to mud.”

Holden urged people to solve their own problems and reduce their dependence on government. He applied the point to a number of issues.

Education: “We had the best-educated population in the world, until government decided to fix it.”

Drug Prohibition: “The war on drugs is not only a failure—it’s making the problem worse.”

Civil Arms: Holden said he wants no more anti-gun legislation and he’ll seek to repeal existing intrusive laws. He said the ideal for concealed carry is the Vermont system.

“I will always vote the Libertarian Party line,” Holden said. He plans to tell voters that “liberty will better their lives.” He’s currently looking for volunteers to walk his district, talk with voters, and help with finances.

Following their formal presentations, the candidates fielded questions from the audience.

**Drug Prohibition**

On the issue of drug prohibition, Stanley said Libertarians “have to educate.” He emphasized that Libertarians believe drug addiction is bad, but that it’s an individual choice and prohibition creates more severe problems. He noted prohibition creates a “profit motive to push drugs on our kids,” a problem Libertarians would solve.

Glass added that many grasp the “tyranny of the drug war. Despite the propaganda, more people understand what a complete and utter scam this whole War on Drugs is.”

Allen agreed, noting Libertarians “can gain a lot of support and broaden our base” by calling for an end to prohibition. People from “all sides of the political spectrum” are interested in reform, he noted.

Referencing a line from the film *Traffic*, Allen said, “How can you wage war on your own family?” He pointed out the drug war results in innocent people being “killed in the cross-fire” and leads to police corruption.

Holden said we could double the police available to target violent crime if we’d stop prosecuting non-violent drug offenses.

In a subsequent interview, Vance said he would advocate medical marijuana, but he said the issue of drug prohibition repeal “will NOT be a primary or secondary item on my platform. It will be something I am willing to discuss openly if asked.”

**Dealing with Ds and Rs**

Glass and Vance were asked how they would deal with a non-Libertarian legislature if elected.

Glass said the key is to “be true to your own convictions, true to your philosophy.” The “whole idea is to shrink dramatically the size and scope of government.” He said that government would have to be scaled back in steps, but that principles are not open for compromise.

Vance said he would “use the libertarian philosophy to appeal to people” and use his “government position as a bully pulpit.”

**Abortion**

Both Vance and Glass said women have the right to get an abortion. Glass admitted that abortions are traumatic and that most people are uncomfortable with the process even if they support its legality. Of course, Libertarians oppose any government support of abortion.

**Concealed Carry**

In Vermont, any law-abiding citizen can carry a concealed handgun without a special permit. Libertarians support this system, but how should they deal with more restrictive proposals? The consensus among the candidates was that Libertarians can support any law that increases the amount of freedom.

Glass noted, “If you have to ask permission, it’s not right.” However, “a concealed-carry permit can save a life.” He said it’s appropriate to “move in the right direction and keep pushing.”

Holden said a firearm is a piece of property that should fall under the general freedom to own property. Allen said if a law makes us more free, it should be supported. Vance said he would support a concealed-carry system that entailed a background check, then later work to remove the requirement for the check. Stanley argued that “no state law can go beyond the Second Amendment.”
A Time to Honor America’s Bill of Rights

“We watched in horror as the World Trade Center collapsed. New York City, the city where I grew up, was attacked by terrorists who hate us simply because of the values we celebrate as Americans. These terrorist monsters murdered thousands of innocent men, women, and children, regular Americans just like you and me.

“Now is the time to reaffirm those values of liberty that make us Americans, the principles upon which our nation was founded.

“Unfortunately, many Republicans and Democrats are only too eager to use the tragedy of the terrorist attack as a pretext to increase their own power at the expense of individual liberties.

“An authentic American patriotism demands that we root out terrorist threats, defend our soil, and protect American freedoms. American citizens must beware of those politicians who would sacrifice individual liberties for the illusion of security.

“Handing over more power to politicians and bureaucrats to invade our privacy, tax our wealth, and control our lives will not make us safer. It will only make us less safe, and less free.

“As Governor of Colorado, I will stand up against increased national powers that come at the expense of individual liberties. I will use the office as a ‘bully pulpit’ to champion the principles of individual civil liberties. And I will call on elected officials everywhere to take their oaths of office seriously and respect the Bill of Rights, rather than merely pay lip service to it.

“Our rights and freedoms are slipping away now faster than ever. Liberty is too precious and too valuable to end up on the scrap heap of history. It is up to us to rescue Her. The time for complacency is over. Now is the time to take a stand for liberty.”—Bob Glass

www.GlassForGovernor.com

Vote Libertarian Bob Glass

Bob Glass is a lifelong libertarian who has been relentless in his defense of the entire Bill of Rights, including the Second Amendment.

Meanwhile, Bill Owens climbed into the back pocket of Colorado’s anti-gun lobby, signing Amendment 22 on the very first line, thereby expanding Brady gun registrations.

Bob Glass will protect your right to keep and bear arms. He’ll also demand the repeal of drug prohibition, the failed policy that kills innocent people and destroys many of our fundamental rights. Glass will fight for a free economy and uphold all libertarian principles.

Glass has been featured regularly in the Colorado press as well as in the national media. Glass publishes The Partisan, a no-holds-barred libertarian journal featuring such writers as L. Neil Smith, Claire Wolfe, Vin Suprynowicz, and David Kopel.

We have a historic opportunity to welcome thousands of gun owners into our ranks and show all who value freedom that ours is a party that will not play politics with their rights.

But we cannot do it without your help. Bill Owens is clearly being groomed for national political office. He stands for nothing save the acquisition and maintenance of his own power. Now those betrayed by Owens have a viable option. They can vote Libertarian.

Take a stand for liberty. Support Bob Glass for governor.

☐ YES! I want to support Libertarian BOB GLASS in his fight to restore freedom and defeat Governor “Gun Control” Bill Owens!

☐ I want to volunteer! Please contact me. My contact information is below.

☐ I’m sending a check, made out to “Glass for Governor” and mailed to the address below.

☐ $1000 ☐ $500 ☐ $250 ☐ $100 ☐ $50 ☐ Other _______

☐ I’ll pay by credit card. Visa / Mastercard No._____________________

Expiration Date:_________ Amount:_________ Signature:_________

Name (print):_______________ e-mail address:_____________________

Address:___________________ City:___________________________

State:____________________ Zip:__________________ Phone:_________

Mail to: Glass for Governor, 6773 Welch Court, Arvada, CO 80004.

Full name and address required. Contributions limited to $5,000 total per person.
**Press Watch: Libertarians In the News**

**USA Today Covers Glass**

USA Today reported on September 12, page 14A, "Boulder—Bob Glass, founder of a gun-rights activist group and owner of Paladin Arms in Longmont, said he plans to run for the Libertarian nomination for governor in 2002. He said his decision to run was prompted in part by Gov. Owens' backing of a voter-approved ballot initiative that required criminal background checks of all buyers at gun shows."

A more apt description of that initiative is that it expands the Brady gun registration system.

**That’s Ms. bin Laden to You**

The October 13 Brighton Standard-Blade reported, “Rick Stanley, Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate from Colorado, released the following statement: ‘I’d like to take credit for this, but I can’t—it’s just something I read on the Internet. I heard one solution today that sounds intriguing. It was an answer to the question of what to do with Osama bin Laden if we get our hands on him. Killing bin Laden will only create a martyr. And holding him prisoner will inspire his comrades to take hostages and demand his release. Therefore, I suggest we do neither. Let the Special Forces, Seals or whomever covertly capture him, fly him to an undisclosed hospital, and have surgeons quickly perform a complete sex change operation. Then return her to Afghanistan to live as a woman under the Taliban.’"

Under the Taliban, women are generally treated horribly, forbidden to travel alone, hold jobs, or get an education. Beatings and murders have also been reported.

**LPEP Guards Religious Freedom**

Cara DeGette wrote an article for a Colorado Springs newspaper that began, "When the Islamic Society... reported harassing phone calls and threats that the city’s only mosque would be vandalized or destroyed, the Colorado Springs Police Department told them there wasn’t much they could do. So an interesting combination of supporters—Libertarians, pagans and members of the Pikes Peak Interfaith Council—banded together to protect the mosque... in a display of solidarity."

Jim Taylor of the Interfaith Council “contacted a friend who’s a member of the Earth Spirit Pagans. Members of the Libertarian Party of Colorado Springs also rallied, and... approximately 15 people showed up wearing white armbands. Taylor came armed with a cane and quarterstaff—a medieval weapon...”

DeGette reports that somebody drove up in a pick-up truck and yelled, “Who do you think you people are supporting?” Activists replied, “We’re supporting the Constitution and freedom of religion!” See also page 17.

**News Reviews Bain’s Race**

The October 26 edition of the Rocky Mountain News covered Ron Bain’s race for Boulder city council. In addition to listing Bain’s background and credentials, the paper printed Bain’s responses to a series of questions. Two of Bain’s answers follow.

*Why are you running for office?* First and foremost, to make certain that my concerns for constitutional rights and individual freedom are brought to the forefront of the political debate in Boulder. Secondly, because I love Boulder and want to see its unique character and free spirit prosper.

*What sets you apart from other candidate(s) seeking the same office?* I am not a one-issue candidate, I hope to change the political paradigm in Boulder from trying to achieve social goals through sheer governmental force; I prefer cooperation, persuasion and negotiation.

**Gresh Nets Local Coverage**

The Woodmen Edition covered Steve Gresh’s race for school board on September 14. The article includes the following quote by Gresh: “When my father was a principal, guidance counselor, math teacher, coach and band director at a small high school in Pennsylvania from the early 1950s through the late 1980s, strong local control of the educational environment in the public schools was still the norm. The ever-increasing number of state and federal mandates imposed on local school districts, including D-20, has caused irreparable harm to our nation’s formerly unequaled public school system. The only viable solution to this bureaucratic quagmire is to systematically extricate government from education through the fostering of various private sector alternatives.”

More Press Watch items are available at www.lpcolorado.org.

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**Personal Ad**

100% Libertarian with 50% X chromosomes seeks same with 100% X chromosomes. I'm also 99% reliable, 95% cheapskate, 90% passionate, 85% smart, 60% homeowner (and growing), 15% artist, and 10% neat. Write Scott Williams at 3540 Osage St., Denver, CO 80211-3060.
Activists Form Southern Affiliate
by Sandra Johnson

A new group of freedom-loving activists met for the first time October 6 in Walsenburg. They formed the Southern Colorado Libertarian Alliance (SCOLA) to fight for freedom at a time when freedom is dangerously threatened by the false promises of more security in exchange for less freedom.

One of the key players making this happen is "Brother Paul" Berthelot. He is a well-known activist in the area who takes a direct approach to solving problems and does not accept the status quo. He has run the "Tree of Life Mission" which provided shelter for many homeless, a soup kitchen, and a free store in past years. Dorothy Mihanovich was instrumental in arranging a permanent meeting location and getting notices out to the public. Another key player is Jim Healy (from Guinare), who is active on a number of fronts, including working with veterans in the Liberty Chapter of the American GI Forum. The group elected Paul Berthelot for their Chair and Dorothy Mihanovich for Secretary/Treasurer. (Thanks to Doris Healy for recording the minutes at this meeting.) W. Earl Allen, Libertarian candidate for Colorado State House, was a guest at this startup meeting.

The group assigned a number of action items to individuals. These included various outreach activities: "politically homeless" booths, radio interviews, talks at high schools, and letters and articles for the newspaper. They will create a list of all elected offices in at least three counties (Huerfano, Las Animas, and Costilla) in preparation for running Libertarian candidates. They also want to create flyers that focus on what the Libertarian Party has to offer to specific groups, and flyers that clearly communicate Libertarian solutions to concerns of people in this area (especially environment, education, drugs, crime, property rights, and the right to self-defense.)

The SCOLA will meet at 9:00 am on the first Saturday of each month at the Walsenburg Chamber of Commerce, 411 Main Street (across from the courthouse). Libertarians from Huerfano County, Las Animas County, and Costilla County were at the first meeting. Those from nearby counties are encouraged to join us.

Montrose ‘Jam’ Supports Red Cross

The Western Slope Libertarian Party and its Committee to Preserve Property Rights held "Liberty Jam" September 15. Candidates Rick Stanley and James Vance attended, as did State Chair John Berntson.

Jerry Fresques hosted the event at his Player’s Sports Bar. Several musicians performed at the event, which raised funds for the American Red Cross.

The affiliate fought a city ordinance that bans smoking on select private properties. The group hoped to overturn that ordinance November 6 but didn’t succeed. In a press release, the group said, "[T]he anti-smoking ordinance [was] imposed on the community by a mere 32 percent of registered city voters in April."

The Valley Heartbeat previewed the event on September 13. The day before the event, the Montrose Daily Press reported, "Liberty Jam 2001 will extend its fundraising umbrella to include the American Red Cross in its efforts to aid citizens of New York as our nation recovers from the terrorist attack Tuesday."
Drug War a Failure, Coloradans Say in Poll

"83% of Colorado voters believe that we are losing the war on drugs. The majority of voters believe the war on drugs has been ineffective in reducing drug use and supply in Colorado... 85% believe that the current war on drugs is dealing with symptoms of drug abuse but failing to solve the underlying causes... Colorado voters clearly view the current war on drugs as a failure and view addiction as primarily a health problem, not a crime."

Those were the findings of a poll released in September by Ridder/Braden, Inc. The poll was commissioned by the Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center, with funding from the Lindesmith Center Drug Policy Foundation. The Center is part of Colorado's Criminal Justice Reform Coalition (formerly the Prison Moratorium Coalition), which the previous LP state board voted to endorse.

Sheriff Bill Masters of Telluride said, "It is not surprising that the public would prefer their criminal justice system to be tracking down murderers and terrorists as opposed to wasting precious police officers' time and money arresting 750,000 harmless pot smokers every year.

"The President should immediately end the drug war and assign the job of investigating and tracking down terrorists to the 9,000-plus experienced agents, analysts, and chemists currently working for the DEA. We all might sleep better knowing that our federal law enforcement agencies' number one priority will always be the vigilant protection of our citizens from vicious murderers."

Masters is Colorado's highest-ranking Libertarian official and the nation's only Libertarian sheriff. He is the author of the forthcoming book, Drug War Addiction.

State Chair John Berntson said, "While I am gratified that people agree with us on the uselessness of the drug war, I hope they will take it further and see that the drug war is far worse than a failure. The violence of this war, which is inherent in any black market, has claimed far too many lives, many of them innocent. The loss of rights and privacy that we have all suffered because of this war needs to be realized and reversed."

The poll asked, "In general, do you view a person with a drug problem as a criminal who should be punished by being sent to prison or as someone with a health problem who should receive treatment?" 59% said drug addiction is primarily a health problem, whereas 11% said it is a crime.

Coloradans also support reducing criminal penalties for possession of drugs. The poll asked, "If someone with a drug problem is convicted of possessing small quantities of drugs for their own use, should they be punished by being sent to prison or regarded as someone with a health problem who should receive treatment and supervision?" 60% said drug possession should be treated as a health problem, while 21% said it should be treated as a crime.

Of course, such poll data are ambiguous in some respects. Libertarians don't support tax-funded treatment or mandatory supervision for non-violent persons. An either-or question doesn't allow for nuanced replies.

A similar problem arises with the following poll result. 73% of people said they agree with the statement, "Colorado would be better off if we decreased criminal penalties for people possessing small quantities of drugs from a felony to a misdemeanor and spent the money saved on prison costs to increase drug treatment and prevention programs."

Libertarians think Colorado would be "better off" still if the savings were reflected in a tax decrease. However, even though the poll doesn't answer all the questions Libertarians find interesting, it's clear the vast majority of voters in the state support the Libertarian position that the drug war is a failure and should be reformed by moving away from criminal penalties.

Libertarians have long advocated the complete repeal of drug prohibition. Thus, candidates saw the poll results as an encouraging sign the public may be ready to support the Libertarian view.

Bob Glass, candidate for governor, said, "The drug war is an insidious evil that kills innocent people and destroys our rights. Libertarians have always opposed drug prohibition. This poll proves that when we put principles first, we can bring people closer to an understanding of liberty. My attitude is, let's tell people the truth and move public opinion in the right direction."

James Vance, also a candidate for governor, said, "As a gubernatorial candidate concerned with the unnecessary and often excessive incarcerations of individuals on various drug-related charges, this survey shows that Coloradans obviously understand the waste of energy and resources on this black hole we have labeled the 'drug war.' We need to end this 'war' now instead of later, when there are more casualties and less resources that can be directed to better uses such as drug treatment and prevention programs.

"Drug War" continued on page 21
Libertarian News from Around the State

**Sheriff Masters Publishes Drug War Addiction**

Sheriff Bill Masters of Telluride, Colorado’s highest-ranking Libertarian official and the nation’s only Libertarian sheriff, wrote a book titled *Drug War Addiction*, which is currently in production.

The publisher is Accurate Press, which also published *Unintended Consequences* by John Ross and *Nation of Cowards* by Jeff Snyder.

In the acknowledgements, Masters writes, “My wife Jill has offered her support and encouragement through the years. Richard Lamping was instrumental in getting this project off the ground, and Dawn Lamping helped to edit the text. Ari Armstrong also helped with the editing process and he helped me research a variety of issues. Jennifer Armstrong provided her expertise in graphic design. Fred Boucher assisted with the copy editing. I especially want to thank the men and women in law enforcement I’ve worked with over the years to keep violent criminals off the streets.”

Masters will speak at the University of Colorado, Boulder, on December 5. Details will be announced at www.lpcolorado.org. Masters’ web page is at libertybill.net.

**Photo Radar Challenged**

Stuart Barr, a lawyer and a Libertarian, will challenge the constitutionality of photo radar in court. He said the practice violates equal protection requirements. Barr is also a member of the Austrian Economics Study Group organized by Ken Riggs.

**Candidates Attend Cato Forum**

A number of Libertarians attended a Cato event October 24, including candidates Norm Olsen and W. Earl Allen.

David Boaz of the Cato Institute said, “Limited government is one of the greatest achievements in the history of humanity... The essence of America is economic and political freedom.”

As a matter of foreign policy, Boaz urged Americans to not “misallocate troops.” We should “focus on American national defense, not get involved in other conflicts” around the world.

P.J. O’Rourke also spoke about the September 11 attacks. He is touring with speakers from Cato to promote his new book, *The CEO of the Sofa*. He said the best way to promote peace is to increase the wealth of society through free enterprise. “Our duty is to make everybody fat, happy, and terribly overscheduled with their social calendars,” he said.

O’Rourke now works for the *Atlantic Monthly* as a columnist. He said he may travel to the Middle East to “see how middle-class Muslims cope with fundamentalism” that sometimes turns violent in the region.

**Activists Fight Wasteful Monorail**

John Caldana, president of the Independence Institute, said, “There is another tax grab headed for the fall ballot in Colorado, a three-year study of a monorail system from DIA to Vail. It doesn’t matter that the technology to hurl a train up the side of a mountain at 125 m.p.h. doesn’t exist anywhere in the known universe and that a study will delay needed road improvements. The initiative made it on the ballot by just a few signatures.”

“On their own time, Senior Fellow Dennis Polhill and activist Doug Campbell are leading an effort to keep this tax increase off the ballot by finding improper signatures on the petitions.”

Libertarian activists, including Slim Sulyka, chair of the Jefferson County LP, helped Polhill on the project. While a judge accepted the signatures, the measure lost.

Doug Newman, who runs a web page at www.geocities.com/fountoftruth, referred to the tax plan as “one more in a long line of proposals to shake down the many to pay for the wants of the politically-privileged few.”

[Dennis Polhill and Doug Campbell sort through the monorail petition looking for invalid signatures.]
LPEP Helps Guard Mosque

In the aftermath of the horrific events of September 11, the lone mosque in Colorado Springs was threatened with violence. Similar threats were reported across the nation. The mosque sent out a call for help, and the community responded.

On Friday, September 14, members of the Libertarian Party joined members of the Pikes Peak Interfaith Council, Earth Spirit Pagans, and Team Rainbow in providing security for the Islamic Society of Colorado Springs so their normal Friday prayer services could be held. No incidents occurred, and the prayer service was held in peace.

“My Army oath was to defend the Constitution from all enemies, foreign or domestic,” remarked James Taylor of Team Rainbow. “There is no time limit on that oath. Those who attack free religious practice attack the Constitution!”

Commented Jose Thomas, who organized the community response: “These people did not attack the United States, so why are they being persecuted? The foe here is not Islam; it is the fear and frustration of ignorance. We’re here to show support for freedom and against fear.”

The Libertarian Party joins with all Americans in condemnation of the terrorists who attacked America, and warns Americans not to prejudice themselves against Muslims because of the barbaric acts of a fringe few. The Libertarian Party joins in the call for healing and unifying to not let the scourges of terror, anger, and fear destroy our freedom, our liberty, and our rationality.

Walk for Capitalism

A Walk for Capitalism will be held December 2 in cities around the world.

Www.walkforcapitalism.org, the web page for the event, states, “We proudly uphold: Free trade, globalization, liberty, profit, free speech, technology, universal individual rights, intellectual and material prosperity, private property, rule of law, innovation, creativity, human dignity and happiness.”

Prevent Voter Fraud

David Aitken said on the LP chat list, “With the proliferation of mail ballots, it might be a good opportunity to promote ‘None of the Above’ as a fraud prevention measure. A paper ballot that has no marks on it for some races is an invitation for some election worker to mark that ballot for someone the voter doesn’t support. Providing an option for NOTA would give the voter the option of voting in every race and preclude that opportunity for fraud.”

Libertarians Attend Pikes Peak Firearms Coalition

Ari Armstrong told the Pikes Peak Firearms Coalition that Bill Owens “sacrificed our liberties for the sake of his own petty political power” by advocating Amendment 22, which expanded the Brady gun registration system.

The September 13 event also featured a representative from Owens’ campaign, a Democrat, and a person who argued for “none of the above.”

LPEP Blasts Department of Human Services

“It’s long past time the Department of Human Services was investigated,” said El Paso County LP Chair Steve D’Ippolito. “They deprive citizens of their privacy and trample on due process. It’s high time they got the message that this is intolerable.” He said the agency ignores real problems of child abuse even as it pursues “totally specious complaints.”

LPEP made three specific proposals for reforming the agency. First, make DHS subject to all due process laws. Second, require DHS to have verifiable evidence of mistreatment, and then require agents to investigate all such complaints properly. Finally, do not relocate children without obtaining custody orders.

CUT Owens Loose

The Colorado Union of Taxpayers (CUT) gave Bill Owens a low score for fiscal responsibility, the Rocky Mountain News reported October 31. Owens scored only a 33% rating with the group, even worse than the 34% rating “earned” by the Senate.

"Bill Owens 'sacrificed our liberties...' by advocating Amendment 22, which expanded the Brady gun registration system."

Wendy McElroy debated Kathleen Barry November 6 at CU, Boulder. McElroy argued that prostitution should be decriminalized, while Barry would target the solicitors of prostitution with legal sanctions. Shown here, l-r, Brian Schwartz, McElroy, Matt Zanthoefer, Heather Demarest, Flux Neo, John Thrasher, and Alex Baia. McElroy’s web page is at www.l feminists.com.
The Activist's Corner

by Joe Johnson

In past editions of The Activist's Corner, I have highlighted people who have been in the foreground spreading the message of liberty, directly affecting the future of our party. For this month's column, I would like to diverge from that to tell you about the man who, because of his work, convinced me to "sign on the dotted line" back in '99.

This man is not your vocal "salesman of liberty." Instead, he prefers to work behind the scenes. But I would like to show through his story that each of us can affect the cause of liberty. To better understand the contributions that this man makes to the LPCO, I will tell you about my first experience with him and his work.

In November of '99, disgusted with the lies of the two major parties, I set out to find a better alternative. Reading the platform of every other political party and finding them lacking, I entered the National LP website and read their platform. I had already been familiar with the LP's stance on guns, but reading the entire platform was like reading my own thoughts on the screen before me. I had found my political affiliation. Being a huge fan of our founding fathers, it was refreshing to find a party dedicated to returning to those values. So from the national web site, I linked to the LP Colorado web site. Once there, I was not really impressed because the site hadn't been updated in over a year. I was about to log off when I discovered a link to the Boulder County web site (my home county). So, being curious, I clicked onto the link. Little did I know that my life was about to change forever.

Logging onto the Boulder County site, I found a page that had been updated that very day! So I began to look around. I read several of the issue papers listed there. I checked out a link about the most recent tax protest at the Boulder post office on April 15th. I read about the Boulder Creek festival and looked at the pictures, and I read about the "Boulder Dialogues" where guest speakers come and either discuss libertarian ideas with the membership, or debate the merit of those ideas. All of these events happened right before the time of my internet visit.

In short, I was impressed. I was convinced that things were happening within the Libertarian Party of Boulder County. So, because of this, I clicked on the "join us" page, and I have been a member and activist ever since.

I cannot say that I would not have joined the party if I had not found that web site. I'm sure that my search for liberty would have led me to the LP sooner or later. However, because of the information available on the Boulder web site, I joined right then and there.

The fact that the web site was updated the very day that I logged on convinced me to look no further. The person who set up and maintains that web site is Tom Parker from Louisville.

I cannot say how many people have joined our party, and thus the fight for liberty, as a result of Tom's work. But my experiences prove the value of Tom's work. Rarely do we stop to think about where we would be without the dozens of people like Tom Parker, but I'd hate to be doing what I do without them.

Liberty in my lifetime!

Joe Johnson

"Debate" continued from page 3

toward libertarian policies, whereas Glass wants to defend Libertarian principles and then settle for mixed legislation if necessary.

For example, Vance said he wants to "correct cost expenditures" and "increase the quality of education" in public schools, leaving for the long term the goal to "phase out public education." Glass will "state at the outset" that Libertarians want to "return education to the private sector."

Glass said, "A libertarian who is not consistent is not a libertarian. We can't compromise our principles or our beliefs. The Libertarian Party calls itself the 'party of principle,' and that should never be abandoned. We should never retreat from that. The facts of history and the reality of human nature and the free market bear out all of our beliefs and all of our arguments, and I'm prepared to argue and defend that."

Vance said, "My Libertarianism is in philosophy, not in party platform. I'm taking Libertarianism from a philosophical point of realism in action. You can sell Libertarianism to the common public in terms they understand, using reverse incrementalism. Anything closer to the Libertarian goal is one step closer than we are today."
Can Libertarians Reclaim Dialectics?

by Ari Armstrong

Chris Matthew Sciabarra’s *Total Freedom: Toward a Dialectical Libertarianism* (The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2000) is the third volume in his trilogy on the subject.

Wait! Don’t recoil in horror, and don’t let your eyes glaze over! Sciabarra’s book is neither an endorsement of Hegel nor an irrelevant academic exercise. Instead, it offers a great many useful insights for the practical activist as well as for the more philosophically inclined.

Sciabarra single-handedly revived my interest in Ayn Rand with his book *Ayn Rand: The Russian Radical*. His earlier book, *Marx, Hayek, and Utopia*, argued that Marx’ ideas were utopian and ultimately unworkable, whereas Hayek developed a rich theory of social evolution and unintended consequences.

Sciabarra has long held libertarian views. In graduate school at New York University, Sciabarra found a mentor in the Marxist Bertell Ollman, who, interestingly, participated in some of the same political groups as the great libertarian scholar Murray Rothbard. In his latest book, Sciabarra focuses his attention on Rothbard.

So what is “dialectics,” anyway? Sciabarra defines dialectics as “an orientation toward contextual analysis of the systemic and dynamic relations of components within a totality” (173). That’s still rather esoteric. Perhaps some specific examples will help tie down what Sciabarra has in mind.

Descartes thought body and mind were fundamentally different from each other. A dialectician, however, would emphasize the relationships and interdependencies between body and mind. Rand was well-known for her criticism of the “mind-body dichotomy.” Sciabarra, then, is concerned with overcoming dualistic views of the world.

Libertarians support individual rights. However, sometimes unsophisticated individualists ignore the importance of human relationships. Sciabarra would have us understand these relationships and connections. Similarly, theories of an “economic man” separated from emotional and psychological concerns are inadequate.

The problem with Marx, Sciabarra argues, is that he doesn’t pay enough attention to the realities of spontaneous order in the marketplace. Instead, Marx wrongly believes that some central planning agency can wisely make decisions for everybody else. In following Hegel in postulating an “end of history,” some kind of ultimate socialistic resolution, Marx ends up stepping outside of history and into an unworkable, utopian scheme. Marxism entails “godlike planning” that inspires a warning: “Those who attempt to build a road from earth to heaven are more likely to wind up in hell” (5). For Sciabarra, the brutality of purportedly socialistic regimes in the 20th century is no coincidence.

Sciabarra praises Rothbard’s insightful historical analysis and his work on class theory. However, Sciabarra believes Rothbard isn’t sufficiently dialectical, which leads to errors.

For example, in his earlier years Rothbard argued libertarian politics is compatible with virtually any set of personal ethics. Yet Sciabarra notes the profound impact that personal ethics, cultural values, and politics have on each other.

The title of Sciabarra’s book, *Total Freedom*, might suggest he supports Rothbard’s anarchist politics. Not so. Instead, by the term “total” Sciabarra means to invoke “the ‘totality’ of systemic and dynamic connections among social problems” (1). Thus, Sciabarra is concerned that Rothbard ignores the relationships between market and state. Many people voluntarily support more statism, the state often sets the parameters for the market, and the state “spontaneously evolves” along with the market.

These points are not made to discredit libertarianism or even anarchism. Sciabarra leaves as an open question whether the state can ever “wither away” or if the minimal state is necessary for freedom. Sciabarra’s point is to make sure libertarians understand the complex historical conditions in which markets and politics evolve. Sciabarra is opposed to “the abstract notion of ‘total freedom’ advocated by libertarians who have isolated their ideal from the context on which it depends” (2).

For the activist, Sciabarra’s work suggests numerous lessons. Don’t trade a rich understanding of rights for a simplistic “axiomatic” version. Make sure you honestly engage other perspectives and seek to understand them. Be conscious of the complex relationships between people and among institutions. Be aware that ideas have consequences, but only in specific historical contexts.

Above all, realize the cultural conditions that are necessary for freedom to thrive. “Silver bullet” solutions are bound to fail. It isn’t enough to imagine some policy that would make the world a better place, if only people would adopt that policy. Libertarians should be radical without being utopian. The key is to harness cultural forces already at work to move society steadily in a direction that’s more amenable to human life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
Golyansky Witch Hunt Goes Into Overtime

October 29 has come and gone, and Greg Golyansky still hasn’t had his day in court. (See “The Golyansky Witch Hunt” in the previous issue of “Colorado Liberty.”)

On October 25 Greg’s defense team dropped a bombshell in Judge Sparr’s courtroom. Stella Spears, a principal eyewitness behind the government’s case, is affected by bipolar personality disorder. Her testimony is highly unreliable. What’s more, the government’s attorneys knew all about her condition and concealed it from Greg’s lawyers, in open defiance of the court’s order to share information about the witnesses.

Judge Sparr was not thrilled. He sanctioned the prosecution by suppressing Spears’ testimony. The government’s attorneys immediately moved to appeal the sanctions so Stella can testify. Their motion was heard in Sparr’s courtroom on Monday, October 29. Dozens of Greg’s friends and supporters sat in the gallery.

Prosecutor Sean Conolley spoke first. This is a purely procedural motion. The government may appeal rulings such as this one. We are not attempting to delay the trial. You must allow our appeal to proceed.

Lawyers for the Golyansky brothers and their cousin, Dmitry Baravik, spoke next. They were ready for trial right then. They had been preparing for months. Their clients’ livelihood has been affected. The prosecution is lying. This is a delaying tactic.

Sparr spoke up. “I will not tolerate this,” he said. “The government had obligations over a year ago, and they failed to perform. They cannot delay this case. I understand the hardship to the defendants.”

Then Sparr reversed himself by granting the prosecution’s motion.

The case is now on review at the Justice Department, headed for a possible appeal to the 10th Circuit. Nobody knows when that court will rule on Sparr’s order, or even if the government will actually file an appeal.

John Suthers, recently confirmed as the U.S. attorney for Colorado, has not weighed in yet. Daniel Sparr has retired from the federal bench. His replacement, Marcia Krieger, has been appointed by George W. Bush but has not yet been confirmed by the Senate.

Greg Golyansky maintains his innocence. Exactly when he’ll get a chance to argue his case before a jury is anybody’s guess. But we all know he’s getting a “speedy” trial. The government says so.

F.L.I.R. Project Questions Waco Claims

Colorado’s own Michael McNulty has led the struggle to bring the facts about Waco to light. He was nominated for an Academy Award for his documentary, Waco: The Rules of Engagement. The second film, Waco: A New Revelation, proved incendiary devices were used at Waco, after all.

McNulty’s latest documentary calls into question the claim that no FBI agents shot into the Waco church as it burned.

The F.L.I.R. Project argues the Special Council appointed by Janet Reno failed to accurately recreate the conditions at Waco when it ran an infrared test to see if agents may have fired. Infrared video is available from the date of the fire. The documentary describes the following problems.

1. The test overseen by the Special Council used rifles with longer barrels than were used at the original scene. That affects muzzle flash, the key issue surrounding the infrared videotape.

2. For the Special Council’s test, a different type of ammunition was used that resulted in less muzzle flash.

3. The tests used by the Special Council were conducted when the temperature was much cooler than it was the day the Waco church burned.

4. The argument that the flashes on original infrared tapes are actually reflections of sunlight off of objects lying on the ground is problematic. No such objects were known to be on the ground at the time, and the flash patterns on the original tapes do not match tests of sunlight reflections.

5. The Special Council failed to account for the dust and smoke in the air the day the Waco church burned. (In fact, water was intentionally sprayed on the test location.) As The F.L.I.R. Project illustrates, dust and smoke enhance muzzle flash.

When the documentary filmed muzzle flashes using infrared tape under conditions similar to those the day of the fire, and compared those results with the original infrared tapes, the match was startlingly close.

The documentary may be ordered at 970.204.6914.
Guidelines for Giving to the State LP

by David Bryant

The Libertarian Party of Colorado has grown quite rapidly over the past few years, largely because our members have made generous gifts to finance our expansion.

Now we’re reaching the size where we’re attracting real attention, and receiving even more substantial donations.

Wonderful! But there is one fly in the ointment. Colorado law (CRS 1-45-105.3 (2)(a)) prohibits the state party from accepting more than $25,000 from any single source in the course of a calendar year. This is not a libertarian law, of course. It’s your money to give, or to withhold, as you see fit. But the statute is on the books, and the party is bound by it.

If you would like to make a substantial gift to the Libertarian Party of Colorado, and it appears that this provision of Colorado law might be an obstacle, please call the party’s offices at 720.941.2344. Or write us a letter. We can discuss the various ways in which you can support the party to your heart’s content, without violating Colorado’s “Fair” Campaign Practices Act.

We in the state LP wish Maralyn Mencarini a speedy recovery. Maralyn, Treasurer for the Libertarian Party of Colorado, was hospitalized briefly in early November. Our well-wishes go to her and to her husband, W. Earl Allen.

National LP Responds to Terror

The Libertarian Party issued a flurry of statements regarding the attacks on America, how we can sensibly enhance security, and the continued importance of protecting civil liberties. Links are provided at www.lp.org. In an article that earned national attention from other media outlets, the LP urged, “Repeal gun control laws that leave us defenseless against terrorists.” Other articles supported a measured military response to the terrorism, encouraged a less interventionist foreign policy, argued against nationalized airport security, and warned against new intrusive state powers.

“Scary” continued from page 2

protectors in Washington and Denver have been running them.

We believe that nature is best protected by single ownership, as opposed to communal. We believe that wages rise faster from a free market, as opposed to government mandates. We believe that children are safer if drugs are sold in stores, as opposed to the schoolyard. But even good products still need to be sold, and freedom is no different. So stop trying to scare people into the freedom philosophy. Sell it to them instead. Convince them that a free society is better, far better, than the one they grew up in, than the one they live in now.

Be patient. And don’t be scary. Yep!

In Liberty,

John K. Berntson

“Drug War” continued from page 15

“As a political candidate who is of this same mindset which the survey illustrates, I am prepared to, when elected Governor of Colorado, make the people’s voice on the topic heard loud and clear through my office. I am also willing to take actions within the Governor’s power to deny the ‘drug war’ any cooperation from this great state, which seems to be more understanding of reality than the federal agencies engaged in and seemingly propagating the already lost ‘war.’”

Norm Olsen, candidate for State House, said, “Liberarians have been advocating termination of the ‘War on Drugs’ for some 25 years now. It is nice to see that this idea is now considered mainstream. I like to think that what we’ve been doing has helped produce this positive result.”

Mark Holden, another candidate for State House, said, “Clearly, the vast majority of Colorado voters believe the ‘War on Drugs’ has failed to reduce drug abuse in our state.” In reference to shifting tax money to treatment, Holden said, “While this is not a pure Libertarian solution, it would be an important step in the right direction; a limited demonstration of libertarian principles and a less coercive approach to solving a social problem.”

Christie Donner, state coordinator of the Criminal Justice Reform Coalition, said that current “elected officials are out of step with Colorado voters.”
Contacts—The Libertarian Party of Colorado

Please send updates and corrections to Ari Armstrong at ari@co-freedom.com or 303.412.8356. For information on how to start a local affiliate or campus organization, contact Brian Rachocki at rachocki@earthlink.net or 303.814.0272.

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Outreach • Brian Rachocki
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303.814.0272 • rachocki@earthlink.net

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Legislative Director • Vacant
Contact John Berntson (above) for more information.

Fundraising Director • Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer
tuesday@earthlink.net

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Aspen Liberty Coalition • Tom Peckham
P.O. Box 9766, Aspen, CO 81612 • 970.925.8027

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

Broomfield Libertarians • Wright Morgan
52 Ruth Road East, Broomfield, CO 80020
303.456.9676
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
6260 East 39th Avenue • Denver, CO 80207-1319
720.841.2344 or 303.329.0481
MEETING: 1st Tuesday, 6:30 pm
DENVER BREAKFAST: Saturdays, 8:00 am, LePeeps (MexicoColo.Blvd.), call David Aitken, 303.831.4334, daitken@tdc.com

Douglas County • John W. Wright
4372 E. Andover Ave., Castle Rock, CO 80104
john.wright11@usa.net • www.freedoglas.org
303.688.8624
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
719.586.6799 • info@lep.org
http://www.lep.org
MEETING: Tuesdays, 7 pm. Meetings are also held on Saturdays at 10:00 am at various locations.
BUSINESS: Last Wednesday, 7 pm

Fort Collins • Lee Smith
970.655.0039
MEETING: 1st Tuesday, 7 pm

Grand Junction • Linda & Sharon Armstrong
970.464.5177

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

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

Jackson County • Kathy Romack
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11578 W. Arizona Ave., Lakewood, CO 80226
303.968.8085 • slim@slimsyls.com
http://www.lpcolorado.org/jeffco
MEETING: 1st Thursday, 6:30 pm

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970.667.7557 • dlco137@aol.com

Limon Area • Gene Leverett
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Morgan County • James Bass
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970.867.8667 • liberty80701@yahoo.com

Northeastern Colorado • Trent & Gwen Eichhorn
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970.522.0328

Park County • Chris Shepard
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http://mvareck.mastermind.net/LP

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
719.379.2876 • sfj@amigo.net

San Miguel County • Bill Masters
P.O. Box 747, Telluride, CO 81435
970.728.4249 • wmasters@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
6710 S. Gencoe St. #111, Littleton, CO 80122
303.860.1308
http://manhomepages.talkcity.com/ Captcoloradobrain/index.html
MEETING: 1st Monday, 7 pm

Southwestern Colorado • Bill Zimak
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 • Brent Shroyer
P.O. Box 292, Rangely, CO 81649 • 970.675.2337

Western Slope LP (Montrose) • John Duncan
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970.249.9523 • westernslopelp@yahoo.com
Also Tim Jacobs, 970.248.8242
http://www.westernslopelp.org

Campus

CU Campus Libertarians • Alex Baia
303.786.3268 • Alex.Baia@Colorado.edu
**Liberty Calendar November \* December 2001**

Please see the adjacent Contacts page for meeting times and locations.

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<td>• Bill of Rights Rally, sponsored by the Denver LP, State Capitol at noon.</td>
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**December**

The Bill of Rights was ratified December 15, 1791. Join the Denver LP to celebrate the anniversary of this momentous event at the State Capitol at noon, December 15, 2001.

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<td>Denver LP Rally, State Capitol, noon Denver Breakfast Fort Morgan El Paso County</td>
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Start or Renew Your LP Membership Today!

Use this form to begin or extend your unified (national and state) LP membership.
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Name: ___________________________ Employer: ___________________________
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Phone: (Day) ___________________________ (Eve) ___________________________

LP Member #_________________ (Renewals only—see your mailing label)

The Federal Election Commission requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer of each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of $200 in a calendar year. The IRS requires us to print "Contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fund-raising appeals. Although we’d like to tell you this is a government mandated notice, the FEC and IRS also say we’re not allowed to tell you that.

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(National party members please sign below)

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

Signature: ____________________________ Date ______ / ______

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 may 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.

Non-members may subscribe to Colorado Liberty by sending $10 to the address below!

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