

COLORADO LIBERTARIAN PARTY

CLiPboard

Official monthly newsletter of the Colorado Libertarian Party
720 E. 18th Ave Suite 309
Denver, Co 80203
Telephone (303) 837-9393
January 1989 issue

Hang on America.

The Libertarians are Coming!

We are?! You betcha! Marshall Fritz of the Advocates for Self Government says "A new idea is thought to be generally accepted when between 1% and 5% of the population accepts it as a valid idea. It is when we reach that critical mass that we must popularize the idea and start winning." Guess what, fellow freedom lovers? We are right there! We are literally right on the doorstep. Our fellow men have generally accepted the value in our ideas.

Privatization of government services is a reality. Worldwide! Converting social security to a voluntary program already has been proposed to Congress. Bringing the troops home from the Far East and Western Europe is a major economic factor in the defense budget which should be reevaluated soon by our leadership. Even legalization of drugs is being rationally discussed in public. Each of these alternative solutions to serious worldwide issues are libertarian solutions first offered by us many years ago.

Take a good look around you. Here in Colorado we won a major victory in home schooling freedom in 1988. 592,000 Coloradoans voted yes on Amendment 6, the taxpayers bill of rights (TABOR). 5.5% Of Mesa County voters chose Libertarian Robert Martin in a three way race last fall. 3.9% Of San Miguel County (Telluride) voted for Ron Paul. Over 500 people showed up on a Sunday evening in October to hear Ron Paul speak. In

neighboring Utah, 31 Libertarian state legislative candidates received over 2% of the vote, 10 of them received more than 5%. One had 25%! {Wow, I am impressed with Utah.} I'm convinced that, at least here in the Rocky Mountain region we have reached that critical mass.

Now is the right time to popularize our ideas. The 21st Century is almost upon us. There is precious little time to dally. We have a message our family, our friends, and our neighbors desire and need. Let us not hoard our ideals any longer. Leading by example is an excellent method for spreading these ideas. Live a libertarian life. Leadership begins in the home, it begins in the family, it begins in the neighborhood.

We are on the brink of grasping the brass ring. We must not fall short because we "let the other guy do it." Each of us can commit ourselves to taking at least one positive action to spreading these ideas of freedom each day. Every single act counts now. We are rapidly gaining friends in every segment of society. Committed activists in virtually every movement are aware of our ideas, and accept many of them. Forming coalitions with allies on individual issues is very important. We can find an issue to agree on with virtually everyone. That is the bottom line. Common ground is our greatest ally. But the real key is doing it now!

From the Chair ... By Mary Lind

Greetings!

I hope the holidays treated you all kindly and refreshed you for all of the work we have to do in the new year.

I and your other board members have been doing a lot of thinking and planning since the elections. Let me share with you a few of my own ponderings.

Election results from across the country have been generally disappointing. There were very few races that garnered more than 2 - 4 percent of the vote, and the Ron Paul vote came in at 431,499 - 0.47 percent of the total. What's going on? I read that three libertarians were elected in November, all to local advisory boards (none in Colorado). What happened to all of the fabulous vote totals we were supposed to be getting in statewide races and U.S. House and Senate races?

My personal belief is that we've lacked a good base to work from. The average voter simply does not know what the Libertarian Party stands for, and many of them have never heard of the LP. I talk to a variety of people every day, and that is the feedback I get.

Very simplistically, what we need to do is educate, educate, educate. Yes, running for office serves as a great platform for educating about the libertarian message. But we need to maintain exposure between general election years by targeting small local races, activating our local mixers and discussion groups, and generally keeping the name "Libertarian" in the public eye at all times.

Acutally winning a city council seat or some other local race will be the best demonstration to voters that the world will not crumble if a Libertarian gets into office. We need more examples of Libertarians at work - so we need to target races we can WIN, and not try to waste resources on "line holders". Let's concentrate on a few good, quality campaigns.

Yes, you've heard this before, but the point is a good one. I still believe we have a need for Presidential campaigns, because they give us legitimacy in the eyes of voters, and they are excellent tools for outreach. But on the state level, we should be thinking on a smaller scale. 'Nuff said.

Look inside this CLiPboard for a flyer on the state convention in May on Memorial Day weekend. Leon Leow will be the guest speaker throughout the weekend, and it promises to be a fantastic event. Try to send in reservations by January 30th. We're going to have a lot of exciting business to take care of, too, and we'll need as many members of the CLP to give some input and vote.

See you soon!

Yours in Liberty,
(signed) Mary Lind

Win \$10,000!!

Total Petroleum (Vickers) and the Denver Post are sponsoring a contest to help solve Denver's air pollution problem. Show them libertarians have better ideas. Entry blanks at participating Vickers stations. Contest ends January 28th.

* ----- Party Parties ----- *

Starting on Wednesday, January 18, 1989, (note-3rd Wed.) our monthly cocktail party will be held at the Comedy Works on Larimer Square. Owner Ed Nichols has generously offered the use of his upstairs (street level) lounge. The party will begin at 7:30 PM, and closeup magician Chris Ragaisis M.D. *will be appearing (or disappearing as the case may be) during the evening. *Mysterious Dude, ambassador to the twilight zone. All those attending will receive a free weeknight pass to the Comedy Works. Also, as noted elsewhere, Ed Merrill will be making a presentation on privatizing snow removal prior to the party at 6:30 PM.

In addition, we will be scheduling two additional neighborhood cocktail parties.

Wednesday, January 25, 1989, Southwest metro area, Host: Steve and Janis Straley, 6022 W. Alder Ave., 7:30 PM, 973-5405. Directions: Platte Canyon exit, W470 proceed north one block past traffic light, turn left, 3rd house on left. Guest speaker: Craig Green on successful discussion groups and successful speaking.

Wednesday, February 8, 1989, Boulder, Hostess: Betsy Shaffer, 9278 Arapahoe Rd., Boulder County, Shannon Estates, 665-0885, 7:30 PM.

Constitution, By-Laws
Committee Needed

Volunteers are needed for the Constitution and By-Laws committees to recommend changes in these two State Party documents for the state convention in May. If you're interested, please call a board member.

Denver Screws Taxpayers Again

The City and County of Denver is letting non-profit agencies buy gasoline from the Public Works Department at a discount (no taxes), thus denying business to gasoline dealers (which eventually may put them out of business or cause layoffs), causing everyone else's taxes to go up, and denying you the right to decide where your charitable dollar will be spent. If you'd like to protest, call your city council representative - phone numbers in the blue section of the phone book.

Legislative Hotline

The Colorado Education Association has a legislative hotline. Call 755-8528 for a recorded message on bills of interest while the legislature is in session. Then call your legislator and express your viewpoint.

INTERVIEW

WESTERN SLOPE PRODUCES CLP STAR IN '88 ELECTION

Martin, with 5.5%, vows to run again in 1992

By Ron Bain

The shining star of the Colorado Libertarian Party's 1988 campaign effort rose on the Western Slope -- in the person of Robert Martin, the Libertarian Mesa County commissioner candidate who topped the ballot qualified CLP candidates in vote-getting percentages with 5.5 percent.

In a recent interview, Martin - a Palisade area fruit grower - remained modest about his considerable achievement and pledged to run again for the district 1 post in Mesa County in 1992.

"On one hand, I had hoped to do a little better, so there's a little disappointment there," Martin said. "But we accomplished what we wanted to accomplish. We consider what we did as an investment."

The 'we' that Martin keeps referring to is Mesa County Liberty, an organization that formed in Fruita in only mid-1987 and 18 months later proved active enough to bring together the necessary manpower, money and media coverage to garner the state's highest Libertarian voting percentage for their candidate. Steve Thurman, a Grand Junction businessman, is the Chairman of Mesa County Liberty.

"We're building up a little war chest, and we're going to be ready for 1992," Martin said. "Mesa County Liberty got a lot of exposure out of it."

Martin, like others who live west of the Continental Divide, believes that the Western Slope is much more likely to be receptive to Libertarian ideas and candidates than the Front Range. There's a liberal, socialist bias on the part of the vast majority of people who live in the Denver and Colorado Springs metropolitan areas, he says.

"People out here on the Western Slope, at least on economic issues, think a lot more libertarian, you know, private property rights, lower taxes," Martin said. "Taxes are real important out here," he added, pointing out that Mesa County voted in favor of Douglas Bruce's Amendment 6 by 60 percent.

The urban areas "are not our best constituency," he stated.

In a less populated area, the message is easier to get out to a more receptive audience, Martin speculates. "The people are ready for a change, but most people don't know what a Libertarian is, so they go for the safe thing, the two parties," Martin said. In traditionally Republican Mesa County, "they wanted a change, but a lot of them weren't ready to go as far as Libertarian, so they voted Democrat. You and I both know, that's no change."

Although Martin got reasonable newspaper coverage from the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel and made inroads on radio and one of Grand Junction's two television stations, he said, "I didn't get the kind of coverage I should have gotten."

KJCT-Channel 8 in Grand Junction, an ABC affiliate, proved to be one of the media blackout conspirators in the 1988 election, refusing to acknowledge Martin's candidacy or the visit to Grand Junction of Libertarian vice-presidential candidate Andre Marrou. That station's competitor, unaffiliated KREX-Channel 5, only flashed Marrou's image on the screen for ten seconds, Martin complained.

Also, "the Daily Sentinel never really got much substance, but when they did editorials about me they were negative or trying to ignore me," he added.

But the media coverage and name recognition he obtained in 1988 will make Martin's 1992 ballot access drive that much easier, he believes.

"I got on the ballot -- it's not going to be any problem next time," Martin said. "There's still a lot of Libertarians out there that don't know they can register as Libertarians."

Martin said his Mesa County commissioner candidacy was a growing experience for himself as well as the Libertarian Party on the Western Slope. He educated a lot of people about libertarian philosophy to individuals or an audience, he said.

Western Slope residents who want to learn more about the Libertarian Party and the opportunities to form party affiliates in their individual counties should write to Ron Bain, P.O. Box 1132, Rifle, CO 81650.

COMMUNICATIONS

Marharbour Forum

The active listening, solution finding process

By Robin Heid

As the War on Drugs escalates, more and more otherwise respectable Americans are realizing that the War is getting to be more dangerous than the Drugs.

A noteworthy number of such people gathered recently at Marharbour, a non-profit organization that studies local-global problems with a solution-finding process that emphasizes areas of agreement between people holding divergent points of view. The topic of discussion last month: Should we legalize drugs?

I had the honor of presenting the affirmative position, arguing that legalization is imperative because the war is too dangerous to individual liberty and government integrity to continue.

Speaking against that solution was Tom Brewster, a CU Medical Center psychiatrist involved with drug abuse rehabilitation. Tom argued that legalizing drugs was "hysterical" because it's too dangerous to public health to even consider.

After taking 15 minutes each to detail our positions, facilitators Eric Hammerberg and Penny Brown elicited from us the point on which we agreed. In order of discovery, they were:

1. There's an exaggerated response to drug usage;
2. Those who "deal" with the issue (media, police, et al) have a vested interest in perpetuating the problem and distorting the issue;
3. Drug users should not be treated as criminals;
4. We need to get drugs and violence out of the schools;
5. We want to preserve our civil rights;
6. Legalization will initially increase use;
7. Education is important in counteracting abuse;
8. Taxes on the legalized drugs would raise revenues;
9. Use is not the same as abuse; and
10. Not everyone has equal opportunity to choose to stop.

We also listed our disagreements, which, in addition to the principal question, were: Government should "interfere" in the interests of public health; and drug use is a disease, not a choice.

At this point, Marharbourite Howard Mausner observed that we had agreed upon five times as many things as we had disagreed upon. Then our audience broke into three discussion groups that went through the process we had

just completed, while Tom and I sat down with Eric and Penny to go over our disagreements.

It was a roller-coaster 45 minutes, during which I learned some important things about drug addiction and treatment, and Tom learned some key points about the larger public policy questions involved. Among them: how tobacco use has dropped 50 percent in 25 years without shooting a single cigarette salesman or endangering a single civil liberty; how legalization would yank the funding rug out from under gangs, guerrilla movements and terrorist organizations; and how it would exponentially reduce the 12,000 percent profit margin on cocaine that makes possible a violent crack distribution network that extends down to elementary school playgrounds.

When this session ended, Tom still couldn't bring himself to support legalization, but he had become convinced that "the profit margin is why kids are killing each other ... it's probably the best argument for legalization - to undercut that system."

Then we circulated among the groups, answering questions they had, and clarifying some of our points. After that, we reassembled and heard the group conclusions. The upshot: Legalization may be the answer, but we better act cautiously.

For my part, I told the group I still thought legalization was not nearly so dangerous as continuing and escalating the violence and police state politics that is the War on Drugs. At the same time, I credited Tom for helping me better appreciate just how important it is and how hard it will be to avoid the post-Prohibition policy mistakes that led to large scale abuse of alcohol and tobacco.

And Tom? "I am now considering things I would not have considered before today," he said, "and that isn't easy to do for a rigid, myopic person like myself. I think maybe we need to make strong efforts toward decriminalizing certain specific substances - which essentially makes them kind of legal. Prices would drop to the point where they would no longer support the illicit economy that's affecting our whole national economy and increasing our police forces - which I have become more convinced really is a problem. There is an outrageous overreaction to the drug abuse problem in this country. Whether it is by conspiracy or just momentum, which Robin defined as a natural evolution or process for power, I think it needs to be stopped, and I would be a party seeing that it did stop, even if it did flex my position on legalization."

The bottom line on the day? Two people with different perspectives, and who disagree about the merits of legalization, agree that we have a police state problem and a social problem - and that if we don't take care of the first one pretty damn quick, we won't get the chance to solve the second one.

JANUARY 1, 1989

21ST CENTURY - 4017 DAYS

PRIVATIZATION**Serendipity Strikes Again!***By Jon Baraga*

It was a fine Colorado day, good for walking in the park and talking solutions. Tom Martin and I discussed privatization as a solution to the lake dredging in Washington Park in Denver while ambling around it. As we concluded our discussion, this guy 100 feet away hollered "If they would a' privatized the job, the lake would be full now!" Aha! Cosmic reality strikes again.

"Yeah, we were just saying that."

"Well, I'm trying to privatize snow removal on residential streets in Denver."

Bingo! Meet Ed Merrill.

Some guys just know when to speak up. Ed Merrill is an exuberant 30 year old guy with an exuberant dog. He's also got a great plan. Most of all, that particularly perfect autumn day he picked the perfect audience: two committed libertarians masterminding strategies for victory by the year 2000. He was persuasive, and his idea very impressive. After brief introductions, we were encouraged to follow him home to watch his video presentation. Top-notch professional work. We examined his business plan. Very complete and fiscally sound, it is a private solution to a thorny problem that has defied government solutions. In the short space of an hour, we had met a natural libertarian. (On this issue at least.) We had formed a coalition. We committed an act in the cause of freedom. We introduced ourselves to Ed Merrill... The guy next to us at the park!

Ed Merrill is a consultant with a million dollar idea! Snow*Corps Systems incorporates the essential idea that individuals and neighborhood cooperation are the main ingredients in implementing successful snow removal. His plan would divide Denver into 600 sectors, each with two miles of streets and one mile of alleys. Snow*Corps would tap the existing pool of privately owned and operated 4-wheel drive vehicles, by contracting each sector to a qualified operator, and equipping his (her) vehicle with a city owned snow blade. Supervision would be provided by a neighborhood zone captain. (One for each four sectors.) Both snow plow operators and zone captains would be remunerated by a set yearly fee.

Continued on the back of this section

ELECTIONS**HOW ABOUT A
"NONE OF THE ABOVE" CAMPAIGN?***By Craig Green*

It seems to me that libertarians have never fully exploited their best chance of success in the political process. I have always been impressed with the libertarian innovation of allowing "None of the Above" to be a candidate in all party elections, but disappointed that this great idea has not been promoted on a broader level. I would like to see a statewide ballot initiative offering "NOTA" to all voters.

Many times during my two congressional campaigns and working on ballot initiatives, people that I asked for signatures refused simply because they did not like politics. What an irony, I thought, that the libertarian message of freedom was perfect for them, but because we were participating in the political process, they viewed libertarians as just another political party who wants to control their lives. Why should they believe libertarians when everyone else who participates in the process has lied to them? Many of the people who are most receptive to our message do not vote or otherwise participate in the process, out of the same frustration that most libertarians have felt at one time or another.

I believe there are several reasons why a "NOTA" initiative can be successful. First, it is a non-partisan issue (but it is directly focused at people that are fed up with the two major parties). Second, it does not explicitly promote the LP, which greatly improve the chances of success. Third, it will bring new people into the voting booth who are basically libertarian by nature, but are turned off by politics, campaigns and promises. Fourth, it does not require the approval of any particular philosophy or candidate. Fifth, it would be difficult for opponents to criticize. Let's see the politicians argue that voters shouldn't be allowed to "JUST SAY NO!"

Continued on the back of this section

SAFER THAN ASPIRIN, POT SHOULD BE MADE LEGAL

Even DEA concedes marijuana's harmlessness

By Ron Bain

Now that the Drug Enforcement Administration has, in effect, acknowledged that medicinal use of marijuana is safer than aspirin, it is time to immediately eliminate all federal and state laws against the drug's therapeutic or recreational uses.

At the very least, our state and federal governments should acknowledge that the people who are held in their prisons and jails for smoking, possessing, growing or selling this relatively harmless weed are political prisoners, victims of institutionalized bigotry and prejudice. Because the drug of choice of the majority of the population is alcohol (a decidedly harmful, addictive, debilitating and destructive drug) is no excuse for disenfranchising the sizable minority of the population which prefers marijuana (unquestionably the least harmful recreational drug known to man).

In September 1988, DEA administrative law judge Francis L. Young recommended legalizing medicinal use of marijuana and found that "marijuana, in its natural form, is one of the safest therapeutically active substances known to man." Never in all of the documented history of marijuana usage has a single death been attributed to THC toxicity, but it is quite possible for a human being to overdose on aspirin; therefore, marijuana is without doubt safer to use than aspirin.

The legislation that outlawed marijuana in America in 1937 was enacted during a time when most Americans who smoked "reefer" were either, black, Hispanic or Oriental. The laws provided job security for bureaucratic federal law enforcement agents who had been hired on during Prohibition to fight bootleg alcohol. Prohibition was never repealed; marijuana and other drugs were simply substituted for alcohol.

Yes, Prohibition and all of the violence, bloodshed and death which characterized the Roaring '20 is still with us -- just look at the Crips and the Bloods fighting over crack sales territory in Denver, and it becomes obvious all over again exactly what the effects are of the laws that create black markets which exorbitantly raise the prices of substances that are uncontrollably in demand. People have been known to kill for silver or gold -- is it any wonder that people will kill for a substance the value of which has been unnaturally driven to three or four times the value of gold?

The only effects of Reagan's and Bush's multi-billion dollar War on Drugs has been to squander taxpayers' money on an unachievable goal and to exorbitantly raise the price of marijuana, the hardest drug to smuggle or conceal while growing. The only discernable result from this seems to have been an increase in the number of violent incidents reported from pot fields in California, Hawaii or, to a much lesser extent, Delta county on the Western Slope of Colorado. Because Reagan's policies have increased the value of their product, pot growers are

showing more willingness to defend their livelihoods from the trespassing encroachments of federal and state drug agents.

In Delta County, home of the infamous Paonia Purple, unemployment has been in the double digits for years and jobs are quite scarce; for some, picking marijuana in the fall or selling the weed are sometimes the only way of making a living. If the sheriff were actually able to obliterate pot from the rugged hills of Delta County, he'd probably find his paychecks bouncing because the county's economy and tax base leans on a crutch formed of the underground marijuana trade. On the other hand, if pot were legalized, Delta County would undoubtedly become a hotbed of economic development and land speculation overnight.

The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws has long been the sole advocate of the marijuana users' rights in America. It is time that the Colorado Libertarian Party join loudly and resoundingly with NORMAL in a call for legalization of marijuana in this state and in the Nation. Perhaps it is time for a ballot initiative to at least legalize the private cultivation of marijuana for personal use; that, anyway, would put the debate back in front of the public once more.

In conclusion, a few quotes from the National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse, convened by President Richard Nixon in 1972:

-- "The most notable statement that can be made about the vast majority of marijuana users -- experimenters and intermittent users -- is that they are essentially indistinguishable from their non-marijuana using peers by any fundamental criteria other than their marijuana use;"

-- "No conclusive evidence exists of any physical damage, disturbances of bodily processes or proven human fatalities attributable solely to very high doses of marijuana;"

-- "No objective evidence of specific pathology of brain tissue has been documented. This fact contrasts sharply with the well-established brain damage of chronic alcoholism;"

-- "In a word, cannabis does not lead to physical dependence;"

-- "Research has not yet proven that marijuana use significantly impairs driving ability or performance;"

-- And, "Marijuana use per se does not dictate whether other drugs will be used; nor does it determine the rate of progression, if and when it occurs, or which drug might be used."

Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness...right?

Colorado, Wyoming, Alaska, Nebraska, Utah, Montana Libertarians

1989 Joint Convention

FREEDOM NOW

For: Libertarians, libertarians, Democrats, Republicans, Unaffiliates, Moles, Skeptics, Conservatives, Liberals, readers of South Africa's all time Best Seller, *After Apartheid*, by Leon Louw and Frances Kendall, and OTHERS

When: May 26, 27, 28 1988 Memorial Day Weekend

Where: University Park Holiday Inn; 425 W. Prospect Road; Fort Collins, Colorado 80526
Take I-25 to Prospect Road Exit into Fort Collins. Straight west about 4 miles. On left.

Cost: Includes all programs, materials, Saturday luncheon and entertainment, Saturday banquet and ?Talent? show.

Early Bird: before January 30 \$50.00	Late: April 16 - May 20 \$75.00
Regular: January 30 - April 15 \$65.00	Door: \$85.00
Business meetings only: free	Free Market and Information Tables	\$20.00

PROGRAM

Friday:	6 - 8 pm	registration
	8 - 10 pm	welcome: Mary Margaret LEON LOUW
Saturday:	9 - 10 am	LEON LOUW
	10 - 10:15 am	break
	10:15 - 11:30 am	state reports
	11:30 - 11:45 am	break
	11:45 - 1:15 pm	luncheon and entertainment
	1:15 - 1:30 pm	break
	1:30 - 2:30 pm	LEON LOUW
	2:30 - 2:45 pm	break
	2:45 - 5:30 pm	1. presentation of bids for 1990 convention 2. vote on bids for 1990 convention 3. elections 4. B.S. (business session) platform
	5:30 - 6:30 pm	break
	6:30 - 10:00 pm	banquet and ?Talent? show
	10 pm --->	?!?!? *zzzzz
Sunday:	9 - 10 am	LEON LOUW
	10 - 10:15 am	break
	10:15 - 12 N	B.S. (business session) platform, constitution, and by-laws
	12N - 1:30 pm	lunch break
	1:30 - 2:30 pm	LEON LOUW
	2:30 - 3 pm	break
	3 - 4:30 pm	bdard meeting

REGISTRATION

_____ name _____

_____ day phone _____ evening phone _____ address _____

Room Reservations: \$44.50 plus *! \$3.98 tax
= \$48.48/night. 1-4 per room, no additional cost

_____ room(s) Friday _____ Saturday _____ Sunday

_____ 1 queen bed or _____ 2 full size beds

You may guarantee a late arrival with a major credit card number

_____ Name _____

_____ card name _____ number _____ expiration date _____

_____ reservation(s) at E.B.: \$50.00 _____

R: \$65.00 _____

L: \$75.00 _____

D: \$85.00 _____

_____ table(s): \$20.00 _____

Total payment enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to University Park Holiday Inn.

Mail registration, conference payment, table payment, and room reservations to:
1989 CWANUM FREEDOM NOW Convention
University Park Holiday Inn
425 W. Prospect Road
Fort Collins, Colorado



AFTER APARTHEID

**LEON
LOUW**

**FRANCES
KENDALL**

Leon Louw is the director of the Free Enterprise Foundation of South Africa, a strong intellectual force against the awesome power of the state and hence the very roots of apartheid.

*Persuaded by domestic and international examples of how free markets can make a significant contribution to the solution of seemingly intractable socio-economic problems, Louw and his wife, Frances Kendall Louw, coauthored the book *After Apartheid: The Solution for South Africa*, which has become the all-time bestseller of nonfiction in South Africa. *After Apartheid* outlines the development of apartheid, demonstrates how it is a weapon to suppress the operation of the market, and offers a political solution for eliminating apartheid in a way that none of South Africa's racial or ethnic groups can politically dominate the other.*

INTERVIEWED BY WALTER E. WILLIAMS

No More Drug War Foundation Created

To Just Say No to Police State Politics
By Robin Heid

By any intelligent measure of governance and good sense, it's time to just say no to that jihad against demons known as "the War on Drugs".

The War on Drugs is state-sponsored terrorism against more Americans than have voted twice for Ronald Reagan. It is fast becoming a bigger national nightmare than the War in Vietnam. This time, the village we're destroying to save is our own.

If this sounds overstated, then consider that War is always more dangerous than Drugs, because the one drug more dangerous and addictive than all the others combined is POWER.

The War on Drugs provides an excuse for war-feverish politicians to napalm the Constitution for personal gain. It provides an environment that nurtures police state structures and mentalities at the expense of the people. In so doing, the likelihood is exponentially increased that the world's future will be the Orwellian "boot stamping on a human face - forever".

We must say no to the War on Drugs. The first step along that path is to stop condoning the madness with our silence and inaction. We can no longer afford to whisper among ourselves; we must speak out loudly and clearly about the danger, and the initial focusing agent for our concern can be the No More Drug War Foundation.

The Foundation's goal will be to rally support in the States and in the Congress for the adoption of a 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution. This amendment shall repeal all federal laws prohibiting trade in and use of all psychoactive agents, and let the people of the several states decide the matter as they see fit.

Our first objective in pursuit of that goal will be to oppose the appointment of Customs Commissioner William Von Raab as "drug czar". For those unfamiliar with Mr. Von Raab, he is the author and overseer of "zero tolerance", under which private property of all types becomes subject to without-due-process seizure at the whim of government agents.

Mr. Von Raab also believes that all "drug users" should be forced to wear badges identifying them as such. He has proposed that we shoot down all private aircraft SUSPECTED of carrying illegal drugs. (Creating for America a border policy indistinguishable from that of the Russians except for the fact that, when we murder

innocent people, it will be because we think they're drug smugglers rather than spies.)

The Foundation will seek to accomplish the first objective with an anti-Von Raab letter-writing campaign to Vice President-elect Quayle, who is reasonably uncontaminated by Drug War fever.

Our second objective, to be accomplished as part of the letter-writing campaign, shall be to urge the appointment of a "drug czar" who will give at least as much attention to ending the War on Drugs by decriminalization as we're currently giving to victory by constitutional annihilation.

Our third objective will be to take on the "generals" of the War on Drugs in one-on-one debates, thereby revealing through Socratic method the depth and danger of their addiction to power. Specific targets will include Von Raab, Jesse Jackson, Charles Rangel, Bob Dole, and every U.S. Attorney and district attorney who has the guts to face us.

For the No More Drug War Foundation to bloom, however, you must be willing to take action. If you like what you've heard, and you think it makes sense, and you want to see it happen, then do one or both of the following things:

- 1) Chip in a few bucks to get the show on the road;
- 2) Come to the Foundation's founding town meeting.
The town meeting will be held Friday, January 13th, at 7pm at Together Books, 2220 E. Colfax Avenue, (two miles east of the state capitol). We will elect officers, brainstorm about the strategies we'll use, and pass the hat.

If you can't come to the meeting, but you want to monetarily support the anti-war effort, then please send your pledge to the No More Drug War Foundation, P.O. Box 18780, Denver, Co 80218. For each \$10 gift or larger, you will receive a "no More Drug War" button and some literature to help you spread the word.

We must become a militia for peace, operating independently of government, to protect our liberty. As Thomas Paine said, there comes a time when the people who normally just mind their own business, have to stand up and say: "Enough is enough."

This plan would be financed by parking tickets (to those unwilling to move vehicles to facilitate snow removal) and by enhanced sales tax revenues. It is estimated that \$875,000 in sales tax revenue was lost by the city from business inaccessibility after one storm alone in 1987. Capital equipment outlay for snow blades would be approximately \$450,000 the first year, vs. \$4.5 Million for trucks under a currently considered city of Denver plan. Labor costs would be fixed at \$1.7 million, vs. \$1.2 million minimum (with no maximum) costs for labor under the city plan. Essentially, Snow*Corps plan is projected to provide a revenue surplus while the comparable city plan would cost Denver taxpayers over \$6 million.

The comparison of services chart is a real eye-opener also. The city's plan would plow no alleys, would take three days to accomplish after each storm, and would absorb all insurance, fuel, and maintenance costs. Snow*Corps would plow all residential streets and alleys within eight hours, would have a fixed labor cost, and the contractor would absorb all insurance, fuel and maintenance costs. In addition, by utilizing rubber edged blades, the streets could be plowed to ground level; city trucks currently plow 2.5 inches above the pavement. Moreover, no sand or salt would be used. It is estimated that up to 25% of the brown cloud can be attributed to sand and salt. Snow*Corps has even provided a pilot program to try the plan on a small scale.

While the Snow*Corps Systems proposal clearly is not a totally libertarian (ie: non-governmental) solution, it certainly has the necessary elements (ie: individual and neighborhood participation, minimal taxes) to merit serious consideration as a valid alternative solution to current big government problems.

Given these simple facts: one incumbent mayor was toppled over snow removal, and the current mayor almost suffered the same fate; The city of Denver has serious budget problems; the Snow*Corps Systems proposal should receive serious consideration. Currently, the Public Works Department and the City Council are examining various proposals to remove snow from residential areas. Hopefully, the Snow*Corps Systems pilot program will receive the attention it deserves.

Ed Merrill will make a presentation about Snow*Corps Systems to interested folks on Wednesday January 18, 1989 at 6:30 PM at the Comedy Works 1226 15th St. (Prior to the monthly cocktail party).

A "NOTA" initiative would have to be very well thought out to avoid the pitfalls of past initiative failures. For example, the recent Amendment 6 initiative was poorly worded and tried to accomplish too much at once. The language in that initiative allowed the unintended result of higher taxes for some, and this was effectively exploited by the politicians. Paul Grant led a transportation initiative several years ago, which was artfully worded and well managed. However, transportation is not particularly a passionate issue with most people. Can you imagine giving people the right to vote "NO" without approving any particular candidate or philosophy? I THINK THAT WOULD BE DYNAMITE!

I fully realize that the success of a NOTA initiative might at first result in less votes for libertarian candidates. Lets say, for example, that a statewide libertarian candidate today can be expected to get about 10,000 votes (I got about 11,000 in 1984). What if that total declines to 8,000, but NOTA gets 5000 votes? That would still mean a net increase of 3,000 votes against the two major parties. This could benefit the LP in the long run.

As most of you realize, a statewide initiative would require a major effort to collect enough signatures to get on the ballot. As far as I am concerned, such a campaign should not even be attempted unless the initial response to the idea is overwhelming and widespread. While I greatly admire and respect Douglas Bruce for his efforts on Amendment 6, I don't think a ballot initiative campaign should require such a huge outlay of time and money from one individual. If the issue is as popular as I think it will be, the campaign should reach "critical mass" fairly early. If it doesn't, I don't think a few dedicated people should ruin several months of their lives fighting a hopeless battle.

I think the NOTA concept is a great idea which should be applied more widely than in libertarian conventions. I would welcome any comments about this, so please let me know what you think. My address is 3888 N. Cheyenne Place, Sedalia, CO 80135.

The inside forum is an added feature of the Colorado Libertarian newsletter, the Clipboard. It will present solution oriented articles. We will be providing each edition to media across Colorado. Submissions are welcome on any subject. Columns of 700 words or less will be edited the least. Please reprint with credit.

Appeal of Libertarians fades with familiarity

BEFORE and during the Nov. 8 election, Colorado's Libertarian Party was clamoring for more attention and finally is going to get it. Right here.

I know it's late, but what the heck? The Libertarians weren't going anywhere anyway.

The party's most anguished appeals to the media were for more timely reporting of the vote cast for its 1988 presidential candidate, Ron Paul, a former Republican congressman from Texas.

Nationally and locally, nobody bothered on election night (or for weeks afterward) to report the number of ballots cast for anyone except George Bush and Michael Dukakis. But just the other day the News' eminent statehouse man, John Sanko, reported the complete Colorado totals (as soon as the state elections office issued them), and now the numbers can be put into perspective. In this state, which normally seems to cast a larger Libertarian vote than the nation as a whole, candidate Paul got 15,483 votes out of almost 1.4 million cast for president — a shade more than 1.1%.

(Bush got 53.1%, Dukakis 45.3%. Two other minor parties, Prohibition and New Alliance, together got about

one-half of 1%.)

Last year, campaigning in Colorado, Paul had claimed his party was gaining on the majors. He said later his goal, nationally, was 5% to 10% of the vote — but 2% or 3% would give momentum to the party.

"We're getting a whole lot more attention, early, than we did in all our other campaigns put together. We've seen a sudden burst of energy," Paul said in March.

That burst must have fizzled. The truth is that candidate Paul's showing in Colorado was about average for a Libertarian. Four years ago, candidate David Bergland got nine-tenths of 1%. The best presidential showing for a Libertarian so far in Colorado was by Ed Clark, who got 2.2% in 1980. In 1972 (a year after the Libertarian movement was founded in Denver) and in 1976, the party got less than 1% of Colorado's presidential vote.

And even Ed Clark's vote in 1980 wasn't what you would call strong for a third party. In that same year, independent presidential candidate John Anderson — remember him? — got 11% of the Colorado vote. In 1968, segregationist George Wallace got 7.5%.

The chief victory for Colorado Libertarians so far has been the election in 1987 of Douglas Anderson to the Denver Election Commission. That surprised everybody and, while it may seem mean to say so, I think it happened because most Denver voters hadn't the foggiest idea who Doug Anderson was, either that he was a

Libertarian or a bartender at a topeps bar.

Indeed, it seems to me that this tiny but noisily visible party is caught in a Catch-22 situation: the more that people know about it the less likely they are to support it.

Off the top, the Libertarian line is appealing: getting government off our backs, eliminating most taxes while balancing the budget, guarding civil liberties, restoring a "proper" foreign policy.

It's when you get down to details that Libertarian doctrine begins to get sticky: repealing the minimum wage, ending public welfare, allowing unrestricted immigration, abolishing the FBI and CIA, withdrawing from NATO and other international security commitments, repealing antitrust laws and — a timely note — "decriminalizing" drugs.

This drug policy, as I understand it, would put heroin and cocaine roughly in the same class as liquor, or maybe tobacco.

"Wait until '92," a Libertarian scold recently told the News.

Okay.

QUOTE: It is dangerous for a national candidate to say things people might remember.

— Eugene McCarthy.

Charles Roos, retired political editor at the News, writes a weekly column.



Charles Roos

Ron Paul Results by County

County	Pct	Votes
San Miguel	3.9	71
Gilpin	3.0	47
Clear Creek	2.7	97
Park	2.6	84
Saguache	2.4	25
San Juan	2.4	10
Summit	2.0	115
Grand	1.8	69
Routt	1.7	104
Moffat	1.7	76
Lake	1.4	38
Jefferson	1.3	2735
Boulder	1.3	1463
Larimer	1.3	1106
Douglas	1.3	337
Eagle	1.3	104
Pitkin	1.3	86
Elbert	1.3	60
Denver	1.2	2643
Rio Blanco	1.2	32
Montrose	1.2	121
Mesa	1.2	462
Cheyenne	1.2	15
Adams	1.1	1059
Delta	1.1	105
Gunnison	1.1	51
Montezuma	1.1	77
Phillips	1.1	26
Teller	1.1	64
Weld	1.1	553
Arapahoe	1.0	1552

County	Pct	Votes
La Plata	1.0	142
Chaffee	1.0	52
Baca	1.0	25
Bent	1.0	23
Dolores	1.0	8
Alamosa	1.0	46
Kit Carson	1.0	32
Ouray	1.0	13
Fremont	1.0	125
Garfield	.9	90
El Paso	.9	1125
Morgan	.9	72
Yuma	.9	38
Jackson	.9	8
Archuleta	.9	19
Conejos	.8	19
Rio Grande	.8	33
Logan	.7	52
Lincoln	.6	13
Prowers	.6	28
Sedgwick	.6	9
Pueblo	.4	253
Kiowa	.4	5
Las Animas	.4	27
Otero	.3	32
Crowley	.3	5
Huerfano	.3	11
Custer	.2	2
Washington	.2	27
Hinsdale	.2	1
Minerall	.2	1
Costilla	.0	0

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Evil Empire

By Richard O. Grimes

Coloradoans for Equal Rights with Lawyers (CERL)

Should the government sponsor a monopoly through occupational licensing? Under the rationale of professional responsibility a license to practice law and enjoin non-lawyers from participation in government became law, 12-5-112, lawyerdom achieved its power to punish under the law. However, the law was too inconvenient.

Lawyerdom created a Rule which replaced the law. Subsequently, lawyerdom declared in a decision, Bar vs PUC, that it was the lawgiver/judge. Henceforth, lawyerdom has prosecuted all who challenge its authority outside of the courtroom pursuant to its Rule 201 Whereas, the legislature's mandate is to create law; lawyerdom has granted itself a mandate to create law by virtue of a rule. Indeed, I was prosecuted by lawyerdom, who brought the charges. I felt like the goose in the African folktale:

One day Brother Fox caught Brother Goose and tied him to a tree. He said,

"I'm going to eat you, Bro' Goose, you've been stealing my meat."

"But I don't even eat meat," Bro' Goose protested.

"Tell that to the judge and jury," said Bro' Fox.

"And who's gonna be the judge?" asked Bro' Goose.

"A fox," answered Bro' Fox.

"And who's gonna be the jury?" inquired Bro' Goose.

"They all gonna be foxes," said Bro' Fox, grinning, his big teeth showing.

"Guess my goose is cooked," said Brother Goose.

Just like Bro' Goose who was not a meat-eater, I did not violate the law. I did violate lawyerdom's Rule in providing assistance to pro se litigants. They (all lawyers) took me into their den where due-process and the constitution did not apply and ate me. Lawyerdom is above the law. For violating a Rule, I was imprisoned and fined. Yes: above the law.

July 8, '88, I requested, pursuant to the Sunshine Act, access to Bar records concerning the Colorado Grievance Committee. Lawyerdom spit in the eye of the law. Lawyerdom is a demi-god.

Professor Charles Wolfram from Cornell said about lawyers, they enjoy "an unfair advantage over both real and potential competitors ... The rules by which lawyers play in economic competition are about as fair as the rules of professional wrestling; the winner is predetermined. ...

"Lawyers and only lawyers now in fact, regulate the legal profession. Lawyers entirely control the process by which lawyer rules of conduct are written ...

"Lawyers and only lawyers determine what requirements will be imposed on applicants (to the profession) and control the preparation for admission to practice."

The "taproot" of the legal profession's power, he said, is the court's claim that they have "inherent power" to regulate lawyers, whether state constitutions say so explicitly or not. As a result, Wolfram said, the courts hold the "last card" of ruling unconstitutional any legislative act that threatens their claim to the exclusive right to regulate the profession.

Many professions have some measure of self-regulation, he noted, "but no one of these groups has an inherent powers doctrine. No one of them can say to a legislature, 'You can't touch us.' Only lawyers can do that ...

"The inherent powers doctrine stands as a very tall barrier between the legal profession and any of its critics who wish to urge legislative reform of the profession," said Wolfram.

Prosecution by lawyerdom means that you are presumed guilty, you will be found guilty and there is no appeal. Where is the constitutionality of no appeal from an administrative hearing? Where there is no appeal, the hearing is absolutely unconstitutional. I have a great aversion to being denied equality in government.

I am precluded from being a Judge, an ALJ, D.A., or A.G. ... And all because I do not have an occupational license. I can certainly empathize with lawyerdom having to make a living, however, subverting the constitution to do it is an anathema to me, hence my silver stake: The practice of law shall be a right of United States citizenship and shall not be regulated.

Advertisements

Wear the Message of Freedom!

High quality T-shirts - 100% pre-shrunk cotton. "Legalize Freedom", "Question Authority", "I'm from the Government, I'm here to help you.", "None of the Above", "Screw the IRS". \$10 Plus \$1.50 postage. Closeout summerweight shirts - \$8. Please indicate size - S, M, L, XL. Make checks payable to the Colorado Libertarian Party, 720 E. 18Th Ave., #309, Denver, Co 80203.

IMAGINE FREEDOM from Governments and Churches. Stormy MON, editor. Controversial, illustrated. 188Pp. Revised 1988 edition: \$4. Libertarian Library Box 24269-E, Denver, Co 80224.

Oops!

The War on Drugs Memorial political drawing in last month's CLIPboard was done by Robin Heid. Our apologies for not giving credit in that issue.

From the Membership Chair

By Jon Baraga

1989 Building the Foundation

If you like what you've read thus far, I think you will be impressed with the contents of this publication. If you choose to read further I would like you to make a commitment: give us something back. We need feedback at the very least. And much, much more of course. I hope when you are done reading this issue your course of action will be clear. I believe our future is very bright. I'm convinced we can win and become the majority by the year 2000, if we popularize our message now. For our children's sake we must. I hope you agree. Freedom is the message.

If we are to be effective, we must utilize as many of our various resources as possible. We each can try and find at least one action to accomplish on the list that follows.

Number One: Pay membership dues. Please. Now. If you can undertake only one positive activity for the cause of freedom right now, consider this one. One year's dues are \$25.00. We performed veritable miracles last year with a \$5000 budget. Our competition on the playing field of ideas

have huge piles of chips. We must increase our financial base if we are to compete effectively. Please take this small but important step today. You will continue to receive this publication, along with the satisfaction that you have helped to spread the message of freedom. If you would like to be a member of the national party, it is an additional \$15.00. Now would be a very beneficial time to do this also; the deadline for delegate allocation to the national convention is January 31st, 1989. The primary method for determining a state's number of delegates is current paid national members. Included in national membership is a subscription to the L.P. News.

Number Two: Consider joining our monthly pledge program. Folks who pledge (and pay up as promised) are the backbone of our continued presence in the marketplace of ideas. Having a monthly income enhances our ability to plan ahead and to increase our outreach activities.

Number Three: A yearly Pledge. For those who don't feel comfortable with a monthly pledge program, feel free to give us a January Jump Start. No amount too large, no amount too small.

Number Four: Outreach. Now is the time to organize every county affiliate. Vote totals are compiled county by county in Colorado. We must start our decentralization process at that level. To begin winning, we must develop leadership at the local level. The county by county presidential vote totals for 1988 are published elsewhere in this newsletter. We already know we have a voter base in most counties. Now we must find potential local leadership, cultivate it, and nurture it. In this grass-roots effort, every little bit counts. Don't count yourself out if you don't like politics. This is primarily an educational and social effort. There is room in every nook and cranny of our society for libertarian ideas. We must find those who are committed to our ideals. We must stimulate their interest and encourage active participation in the educational and political process. Eventually, principled leadership will emerge. If we take our ideas and principles to the local level and personalize them, we will win. Help start that process. Help start your county affiliate. Now. Freedom is the message.

One Size Fits All Coupon

_____ Yes, I would like to be a member of the Colorado Libertarian Party. \$25.00

_____ Yes, I would like to be a member of the National L.P. also. \$15.00

_____ Yes, I would like to pledge _____ per month _____ per year.

_____ Yes, I would like help out. Count me in. I would like to

Also, _____

Calendar

CLP officers and Libertarian contacts:

Mary Lind, Party Chairman 686-5541
 Jon Baraga, Membership 722-1626
 and CLiPboard Editor
 Ron Bain, Communications 323-6853
 P.O. Box 1132, Rifle, Co 81650
 David Aitken, Finance 831-4334
 Party Office 837-9393
 720 E. 18Th Ave., Suite 309, Denver 80203
 Mesa County Liberty 243-1088
 (Grand Junction Area)
 Delta-Montrose Liberty
 Penn Pfiffner 427-4357
 National Committee Contact

2nd Saturday - Board Meeting. January 14th, 12 noon, at the CLP office.

3rd Wednesday - Cocktail Party. At the Comedy Works, 1226 15th Street, in Denver on January 18th from 7:30pm to 9:30pm. Attendees will receive a free pass to a Comedy Works show. Come at 6:30 for the Snow*Corps presentation.

Wednesday, January 25, 1989, Cocktail Party, Southwest metro area, Host: Steve and Janis Straley, 6022 W. Alder Ave., 7:30 PM, 973-5405. Directions: Platte Canyon exit, W470 proceed north one block past traffic light, turn left, 3rd house on left. Guest speaker: Craig Green on successful discussion groups and successful speaking.

February 7th - W-470 Election for residents of west Denver, parts of Jefferson County, and parts of Boulder County.

Wednesday, February 8, 1989, Cocktail Party, Boulder, Hostess: Betsy Shaffer, 9278 Arapahoe Rd., Boulder County, Shannon Estates, 665-0885, 7:30 PM.

Colorado Libertarian Party
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