

LIBERTY

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November 2000

Browne Campaigns Across State

Join us

Tuesday, November 7
at 7:00 pm for the
**Election Night
Party** at Wazoo's,
18th and Wazee
in LoDo.

Call 303.837.9393 for
more information.

The next meeting of
the board of directors
will be held at this time
and location as well.

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Libertarian Presidential Candidate Harry Browne discusses the issues with Auraria students Lois Fulton and Dali Magno, Oct. 2.

"There was a time in this country when there were no drug laws," Browne said to a campaign rally of more than 150 people. "Yet America did not then have a drug problem." Browne believes that drug laws have led to criminal gangs pushing drugs on children.

"Put drugs back in the hands of the pharmaceutical industry," he said. "They won't have pushers on the school yard."

He also asked if the lives of George W. Bush or Al Gore would have been improved if they had spent ten to twenty years in prison for their youthful indiscretions.

DENVER, CO— Libertarian Presidential Candidate Harry Browne was in Denver October 2. He spoke to crowds at the Constitution Monday rally at the State Capitol that evening and to a campaign rally later.

Browne was also a guest on KOA's Mike Rosen Show earlier in the day.

When asked why people should vote Libertarian, Browne replied, "If you want smaller government, you are never going to get it by voting for people who are making government bigger. People should stop voting for the person who will take us to hell at the slowest possible rate."

Talking about Bill Clinton's recent convention speech, Harry Browne hopes that his presidential farewell address will be, "Do you remember when you used to have to pay income tax?"

For more information on Harry Browne, go to www.harrybrowne2000.org.

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At the Constitution Monday rally, Browne told the crowd of 250 that one of his first acts as president would be to disarm the guards at the US Capitol, until such time as the Congress stopped interfering with the right of the people to defend themselves. "Gun laws create enormous interventions in our ability to defend ourselves," he said later.

Candidates Take Libertarian Message to Voters

by BetteRose Smith

Candidates, candidates everywhere, but what are they doing? Quite a lot. Here is a very short run down on just a few of the many races.

Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer (House 24) has built a strong campaign group. Volunteers have yards signs up, Glazer has endorsements of people and groups outside

the Libertarian Party, and she has been walking the district almost daily. Three mailers are planned for the district. And they have bus bench ads.

Walter Schlomer (House 8) also has bus bench ads and yard signs throughout his district. Look for these if you are down near our office.

"Candidates" continued on page 9

Notes from the Chair

Dear Friends of Liberty,

Thank you to all the people who have worked to make this election cycle our best ever. Several of our candidates are running real campaigns and, win or lose, they will put the Libertarian Party on Colorado's political map.

Many "behind the scenes" campaign workers put in far more hours than I would have thought possible. They put together events, did mailers, walked districts with the candidates and much more.

And then there were the regular work horses who did the party's business so the rest of us could work on campaigns. Hats off to them as well. And lest we forget, many thanks to all those who contributed money to make these campaigns a success.

*"Win or lose,
our candidates
will put the
Libertarian Party
on Colorado's
political map."*

Remember, though, that our work does not end with the election. We have learned many lessons during this cycle and one of the things we want to do is put those lessons down on paper. We also need to make a list of all the different groups who put on forums and debates. Sometimes our candidates were not invited to an event because the organizers didn't know about our candidates. If you know of any of these groups, please forward the information to the LP office or to me so we can put them on the list. Armed with this information, we can send out a list of our candidates and attend more events.

We also need to make a list of groups that might support us in the future. We need to create a database with information on where to get printing done, where to buy yard signs, how to get mail out and many other tasks. If you have any knowledge that might be even the least bit helpful, please pass it on to us.

On a different note, I want to talk about personal responsibility. In September, a Garden Party was put on for Art Olivier. Almost 70 people were on the RSVP list. Unfortunately, only half of those people showed up. Since this was a somewhat catered affair, food was ordered for all the people, including those who did not show up. We cannot go on letting our activists bear the cost of putting on this kind of affair or we will lose some of our very best people.

I know of people who have fronted money for campaign materials, bumper stickers, books and other items. Please remember to leave a donation for any items taken from the office or from our outreach tables. While some items are free, not all are. We do keep a supply of pamphlets for people to take and distribute—those are free. Sometimes other items have been donated, such as David Aitken's generous donation of the Michael Cloud tapes to our candidates. Please check to see if a particular item is intended for free distribution.

I'm asking that those who make reservations for events where a cost is involved, honor those reservations and pay for the meal or service even if you find you can't attend. I am asking that if you take something from the office or from an outreach table you make sure it is free material or that you leave a donation large enough to cover the expense of the item. And, please, when you do an outreach booth, make sure that the base price of the books, tapes, T-shirts, and bumper stickers are returned to the proper people so that they can keep you supplied.

Again, our activists are very important people and shouldn't be made to bear the cost of these things. Let's all make sure we support our activists by paying our way.

In Liberty,
BetteRose Smith

LIBERTY

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Top 10 Questions Left Out of the Presidential Debate

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By Harry Browne
Libertarian Candidate for President

The recent presidential debate contained a lot of words, a lot of repetition, and a lot of disputes over the candidates' proposals. But many important questions were never raised.

Here are the top ten questions that were never brought up:

10. Mr. Gore, you said you believe fully in a woman's right to choose. Does this mean a woman has a right to choose to get out of the Social Security system—or to choose to smoke marijuana to relieve the pain of glaucoma or chemotherapy? Or is abortion the only area in which a woman has the right to choose what she wants?

9. Mr. Bush, you said you believe in the strict construction of the Constitution. Where in the Constitution does it give you the authority to spend my money on federal education programs, to take my money and give it to charities of your choice, or to set up a prescription-drug program for seniors?

8. Mr. Gore, you said you believe the Constitution contains a right to privacy. Does that mean you'll stop Treasury agents from searching our bank accounts, looking for suspicious transactions? Will you end all federal asset forfeiture, stop monitoring e-mails, and take that ridiculous V-chip out of our TV sets?

7. Mr. Bush, you said you want to give taxpayer money to children to attend private schools. Won't that mean federal regulation of private schools—turning them into clones of the government schools? Or are you planning to issue the vouchers without any rules whatsoever?

6. Mr. Gore, when asked about the fund-raising scandals, you said you won't answer such questions because they are "personal attacks." Does this mean you should never be held personally accountable for anything you do in office?

5. Mr. Bush, you said you believe in local control of education. Why then are you pushing for mandatory testing and other policies to be imposed by the federal government?

4. Mr. Gore, since the introduction of Medicare, the cost of health care to seniors has more than doubled, even after allowing for inflation. Why do you want

to extend this failed program to prescription drugs—which would probably cause their prices to rise and their availability to shrink, and discourage the development of new drugs that might cure cancer or Alzheimer's Disease?

3. Mr. Bush, you haven't proposed the elimination or reduction of a single government program, regulation, or law. So why do you refer to yourself as the candidate of smaller government?

2. Mr. Gore and Mr. Bush, you each keep referring to budget surpluses. But the official federal debt continues to grow month by month, year by year. This is because the "surplus" exists only by borrowing the excess Social Security receipts and using them to paper over the deficit in the general fund. So how can you promise to "save" Social Security when you're spending all its receipts and leaving nothing in the trust fund? And how can you promise to use the "surplus" for tax cuts, debt reduction, and new spending programs when there is no surplus?



Harry Browne meets with Colorado candidates during his October 2 visit.

And the #1 question that wasn't asked in the presidential debate is...

1. Mr. Bush and Mr. Gore, would either of you be a better person today if, for your youthful drug use, you had served 10 years in prison? If not, why don't you propose to release the hundreds of thousands of non-violent drug offenders in federal prisons?

Glazer Runs Spirited Race for House

Dr. Glazer Proves: You CAN Fight City Hall

After days of scouting locations and making designs, the Elect Glazer Team was poised to order bus stop bench advertisements. Then came the call from the

marketing company. "The City of Wheat Ridge won't allow political advertising on bus bench ads." What was acceptable for peanut butter or petunias was not acceptable for politics.



(Left to right) Michelle Konieczny, Tom Goonan, Shefali O'Hara, Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer, Bert Wiener, Elizabeth Bennet, and Joe Johnson.

Undaunted, campaign team members called City Hall demanding the number of the statute that the city of Wheat Ridge was citing in placing itself above the Constitution of the United States. After two days of calls city lawyers held a mock trial and realized this was a battle they could not win. The decision was reversed and the go-ahead given for the bench advertisements. Within a week the first "Elect Glazer" advertisements were placed around the city.

No matter what happens in November, the Libertarians have already won a major victory for free speech in Wheat Ridge.

Republican Candidate Takes Off Gloves

At the Wheat Ridge United Neighborhoods Forum on September 28, Libertarian Shawn Elke Glazer debated her opponents for State House 24. Republican Quinn Wilhelm was fortunate to receive the prized last speaking spot. He took advantage of that to malign the Libertarian Party's position on Drug Prohibition. "The Libertarians want to legalize crack cocaine and methamphetamines. Is this what you want for your neighborhoods?" said Wilhelm.

Apparently what Police Detective Wilhelm wants for our neighborhoods are more deaths like that of Ismael Mena, shot in mistaken identity in a no-knock warrant drug raid. Perhaps what Wilhelm wants is early release of violent criminals, murderers and rapists, to make room for

nonviolent drug offenders. Perhaps what he wants are high profits for illegal drugs so children are targeted by pushers on playgrounds.

Democrat Cheri Jahn was also noteworthy for declaring herself the victor before the election. She arrived wearing a name tag declaring herself "State Representative House District #24." Sorry, Ms. Jahn; we already know you aren't the incumbent.



(L-r) Quinn Wilhelm (R), Cheri Jahn (D), and Dr. Shawn Glazer (L).

Glazer Defends Medical Marijuana, Criticizes Initiative

Dr. Shawn Glazer, MD, candidate for State House 24, released the text of a letter September 17 to the editors of the *Rocky Mountain News* responding to an editorial published in that newspaper. In releasing her letter, Glazer issued the following statement:

"When the *Rocky Mountain News* said that not one physician is riding into battle beside sponsors of the Medical Marijuana Initiative, they err in thinking that this is solely because physicians do not support the use of marijuana to treat certain patients. As a physician, I support marijuana legalization.

"The benefits of marijuana in the treatment of various medical conditions are well documented, just as the efficacy of morphine is. Denying patients access to morphine, when it is needed, would be cruel. Continuing to deny patients access to marijuana, when it is needed, is no less cruel.

"As a compassionate society, we should strive to assure that our government does not impede access to appropriate medicines for those in need.

"As a physician, my obligation is to provide the best available care for all of my patients. At times, prescribing marijuana would be providing the best available care. That is why I, as a physician, support the legalization of marijuana."

Dr. Glazer submitted the following letter:
Dear Editor:

Why don't physicians support the medical marijuana initiative?

As a family practice physician I have seen and studied the benefits of marijuana on a wide variety of ailments. It is not just beneficial for AIDS and cancer but also glaucoma and muscle spasms associated with multiple sclerosis. The legal synthetic alternative (marinol) you refer to does not treat all these problems and costs about twenty times as much as plain marijuana.

As written, the Medical Marijuana Initiative does not decriminalize use of marijuana. Instead it sets up yet another bureaucratic government organization which would supply marijuana users with an identification card. As the federal government has already said they will prosecute users under federal law, what we are doing in following this referendum is making a list of ill people available for arrest. The injustices done in California clearly show what will happen.

As a physician, I call for FDA reclassification of marijuana. Currently it is a schedule one drug, a classification of drugs with "no medical use" which also includes heroin and cocaine. As a potential state legislator, I call for repeal of mandatory minimum sentencing of nonviolent drug users.

For years I have listened to unscientific propaganda about marijuana. Yes, like alcohol and tobacco it carries a price; however, what we choose to put in our bodies, whether as medicine or recreation, should be the decision of the individual, not the government.

Respectfully yours;
Shawn Elke Glazer, MD
Libertarian Candidate, State House District #24

"We should strive to assure that our government does not impede access to appropriate medicines for those in need."

Art Olivier's Colorado Campaign Journal

[Libertarian vice presidential candidate Art Olivier spent September 7-10 campaigning intensively throughout the state of Colorado. This is his first-person account of that campaign tour.]

Thursday, September 7th

Before I arrive in Colorado, Ralph Shnelvar (Media Scheduler for Browne-Olivier 2000 CO tour - Front Range) and John Berntson (LPCO Media Director) have me doing interviews. Many of the upcoming events are well publicized in advance of my arrival.

A greeting party fit for a sitting Vice President awaited my arrival at the Denver Airport. The large group of supporters had signs, flags and balloons and there was even the cutest little baby girl for a photo op.

On our way to a dinner at Pastore's Italian Restaurant in Glendale, I had a short phone interview on KBPI-

FM 106.7 with hardrock DJ, "Willie B." Most of my points were followed with a comment from Willie B—like "right on dude".

After dinner, Dr. Shawn Glazer (who is running a full-time campaign for State Representative) and I had a two hour interview with Tom Kamb on KHOW Talk 630 AM. Tom had spent over nine hours researching our positions on <http://www.HarryBrowne2000.org/lw> prior to the interview. All callers except one were supportive and Tom Kamb "came out of the closet" and registered as a Libertarian. Incidentally, it is the first time he has EVER registered to vote. By the end of the night, his engineer Big Bad John had registered as a Libertarian as well.

"Olivier" continued on page 13

State Board Reviews Ballot Issues

by David Bryant

The board of directors of the Libertarian Party of Colorado recently reviewed the twelve statewide ballot issues (six citizens' initiatives, and six referred questions) that Colorado voters will confront in November. Here is a rundown on the conclusions we reached.

The reasons given are my own. But based on our discussion, I think the other members of the board generally had the same or similar reasons for voting as they did. The board reached a unanimous agreement on seven of the twelve issues. The other five were not so clear cut.

#20— Medical Marijuana

A majority of the board members said "NO," but it was not unanimous.

Although I favor the relegalization of all drugs, I cannot support this initiative because it is seriously flawed. It creates a new bureaucracy, increasing the size of state government. It is structured as an amendment to the state's constitution when it doesn't belong there. It undermines the concept of personal responsibility by creating another "affirmative defense" mechanism in Colorado law that depends on getting a signed permission slip from a licensed physician.

Given the current legal problems medical marijuana patients in California are having with the federal Drug Enforcement Agency, I can see no good reason to vote in favor of this initiative. It won't even serve its intended purpose if passed, but will instead give federal agents a convenient list of people to bust on federal drug charges (eg, manufacture of a Schedule I controlled substance).

Support for this measure among the board members centered on the fact that marijuana is useful as medicine, and should be available to the terminally ill, at least. And some Libertarians also think the result of this vote will be viewed as an expression of popular sentiment vis-a-vis the outright relegalization of cannabis.

#21— Tax Cuts

A majority of the board members said "YES," but it was not unanimous.

I will vote in favor of tax cuts. In my opinion, there are far too many layers of government in Colorado today, and there are also far too many different kinds of taxes

levied. This amendment will eliminate a host of nuisance taxes and it will slow the growth of government. By moving more money back into taxpayers' pockets it will serve to increase both individual liberty and personal responsibility. Opposition to this measure among the board members centered on the potential confusion that will be caused by the imperfect reference to "state replacement of local revenues."

#22— Gun Shows

This opinion was unanimous. All the board members said "NO."

I will vote against this measure, which would (1) define a "gun show" to be three or more people exchanging any guns, or any place where twenty-five or more guns are for sale; and (2) require that every buyer/recipient at a "gun show" pass a background check administered by the government.

There are so many things wrong with this measure I hardly know where to begin. By requiring background checks even when family members and close friends meet to swap or exchange firearms, it unlawfully infringes on the citizens' "natural, essential, and inalienable right" to property. By extending the reach of potential registration of firearms, it brings the eventual confiscation of firearms that much closer. It will have no real impact on the transfer of firearms to or among criminals, most of whom are already breaking the law when they acquire their guns (usually by stealing them, or on the black market).

Among the more ridiculous situations I can envision, imagine going to the firing range with a few of your buddies. If this measure passes, you'll technically be in violation of the law if three or more of you swap rifles for a while, unless all of you pay a fee to have a federally licensed firearms dealer run the mandated background checks on each other!

#23— Public School Funding

This opinion was unanimous. All the board members said "NO."

This measure not only seeks to increase state government's share of public school funding (by the annual increase in the CPI, plus one percent) in each of the next ten years; it also seeks to earmark one-third of Colorado's income tax revenue for the exclusive use of the public schools, and to increase the TABOR limit on state revenue by \$455 million — immediately!

This one's a no-brainer. It's a monstrous tax increase

"It [23] is a monstrous tax increase masquerading under the 'Save our Children' banner."

masquerading under the "Save our Children" banner. It would increase the size of state government, and it would reduce both individual liberty and personal responsibility by taking more money out of your pocket. Vote NO!

#24– Growth Limitations

This opinion was unanimous. All the board members said "NO."

This measure would require that land use decisions in the more populous cities and counties in Colorado be made by a popular vote. Under this measure, a landowner wishing to subdivide his property would first be forced to petition local government to include his property in a "designated growth area," then convince the voters to give him permission to carry out the subdivision.

I regard this as an unconscionable infringement on private property rights. In my opinion, landowners are already unduly constrained by existing zoning laws. I would rather repeal existing zoning laws than enact new ones, so I'm opposed to this measure. The idea that property rights should be subject to popular approval is abhorrent.

#25– Abortion Waiting Period

A majority of the board members said "NO," but it was not unanimous.

This measure would impose a mandatory 24-hour waiting period on any woman who seeks an abortion. It specifies a long list of items which must be supplied to the woman by her doctor at the start of the waiting period, including a videotape containing images of other people's fetuses. This restriction would be imposed on all pregnant women seeking an abortion, even if the pregnancy began this morning.

I oppose this measure because it infringes on the freedom of speech, it invades women's privacy, it increases bureaucratic expense within state government, and it uses public funds to conduct an anti-abortion advertising campaign. In my view, the Roe vs. Wade opinion represents an appropriate balance between each mother's right to control her own body and the undeniable fact that a baby is a person. This measure, if enacted, will almost certainly be overturned by the federal courts, because it attempts to regulate abortions during the first trimester.

Support for this measure among board members centers on the fact that government exists to secure each individual's right to life. In some people's view, a fetus, even a one-day old fetus, is a human being – and abortion is murder. If we can't stop the murder, we

can at least require those who would aid and abet the murderess to counsel her about the consequences of her action.

Besides the six initiated measures, there are also six legislative referenda on the ballot this year.

Referendum A– Property Tax Breaks for Seniors

This opinion was unanimous. All the board members said "NO."

This measure would provide an exemption from half of the property taxes on residential property for persons who are 65 years of age or older and who have occupied the house as their primary residence for at least ten years. The exemption (applied to the assessed market value) on any one house would not exceed \$100,000. The measure is "revenue neutral" – it would "restore" the reduced tax revenue by increasing the TABOR revenue limit for state government, thus reducing everyone's tax refund. The estimated increase in the TABOR limit would be (roughly) \$45 million in the first year. The measure calls for "state replacement of reduced local revenues" (as does the Douglas Bruce initiative, #21).

I am opposed to this measure because it is not really a tax cut. It's an income redistribution scheme in disguise. Moreover, it achieves its purpose by tinkering with TABOR, and I don't think that's a good idea. If we're going to cut taxes, let's really cut everyone's taxes. Raising one group's taxes to give somebody else a break (and, in this case, to curry favor with a group of people who always get out and vote) is just plain wrong.

Referendum B– Legislative Reapportionment Timetable

This opinion was unanimous. All the board members said "YES."

This measure would make minor alterations to the redistricting procedure (which must be carried out after each decennial census). Briefly, it would start the process 11 weeks sooner than it starts under current law, and require that the process be wrapped up about six weeks earlier, adding some five weeks to the nine-month timetable. The basic structure of the process would remain unaltered. Only the timetable would be affected.

This looks like a good government issue to me. The revised timetable provides more time for public input,

"The idea that property rights should be subject to popular approval is abhorrent."

and it allows a few more weeks for the inevitable legal challenges to be resolved. It also requires the redistricting commission to finalize the new district boundaries by mid-February, 2001.

The Libertarian Party will be running candidates from the new districts in 2002 – knowing where the boundaries are six weeks earlier will be helpful. The only downside I see is that the expenses of the commission might increase a little. I think the additional expense will be minimal, so I support this measure.

Referendum C– County Surveyors

A majority of the board members said "NO," but it was not unanimous.

This measure would amend the constitution of Colorado, Article XIV, Section 8, to provide that the county surveyor may either be elected, or appointed by the county commissioners. As the blue book makes clear, the demand for the county surveyor's services is small and decreasing – under current law this position is always an elected post, and it often goes unfilled because nobody wants the job. We can only hope that many other positions in government will one day suffer the same fate.

I oppose this referendum. When the county commissioners need to do a land survey, they can easily hire someone from the private sector. To allow the appointment of an "official" surveyor would create another opportunity for political patronage, and we need that like another hole in the head.

If the legislature had recommended that the outmoded post of county surveyor be eliminated altogether, I'd stand up and cheer. But this proposal is bad medicine. Vote NO!

Some board members expressed support for this proposal. I'm not sure why.

Referendum D– Constitution Cleanup

A majority of the board members said "YES," but it was not unanimous.

The Colorado constitution is about six times as long as the federal constitution. Article XIX, Section 2 (Amendments) provides that each general assembly may propose changes to no more than six Articles. So if we're ever to make the constitution shorter, we had better work at it regularly.

This referendum proposes to simplify the Colorado constitution by eliminating language that is obsolete or outmoded. For instance, it would eliminate references to residential status in the territory of Colorado before 1876; it would delete minor details about the creation of the city and county of Denver (which occurred in 1904); and it would delete references to the county superintendent of schools (a post which no longer exists because school districts are, in general, no longer coterminous with the counties).

This looks like another good government measure to me. New constitutional provisions are likely to be enacted with some regularity because of the initiative process. The longer the constitution becomes, the more difficult it is to understand. By cutting old and obsolete provisions out, we can make the (relevant) remainder easier for people to read.

I have reviewed all of the proposed alterations carefully and, in my opinion, none of them will serve to expand the power of state or local government, or to curtail liberty. So I say Vote YES!

The only argument I heard against this proposal said, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

Referendum E– Multistate Lotteries (Powerball)

This decision was unanimous. All the board members said "NO."

This measure would not only allow the State Lottery Commission to enter into multi-state compacts (thus clearing the way for Colorado to participate in the "Powerball" game); it would also exempt all revenues raised by such a multi-state game from the TABOR revenue limits, and it would create a special fund with such revenues, to be used for the repair and maintenance of public school buildings.

I have several reasons for opposing this measure. In the first place, it would allow government to expand. Since I think government is too large already, I cannot support any further expansion. In the second place, it would weaken TABOR by creating a partial exemption from it. Since TABOR is an important restriction on the size of government, I will oppose every attempt to weaken it.

Third, the proposed school improvement fund would transfer more power from decentralized school districts to the central state government. Since I favor a network of small, almost independent governments over one grand centralized behemoth, I will usually vote against measures tending to concentrate fiscal power in a few hands.

"Since I think government is too large already, I cannot support any further expansion."

Finally, I am opposed to coercive monopolies. I don't object to the idea that the government should conduct a lottery. But I do object to the law that prevents other lottery operators from sponsoring their own games. In my opinion, a game with a larger jackpot (eg, Powerball) is likely to prove more popular than the current Colorado lottery. In the long run, that will probably make it more difficult to open the field of gambling to true free market competition.

Referendum F— Math and Science Grants

This decision was unanimous. All the board members said "NO."

This measure would raise the TABOR revenue limit by \$50 million immediately. The money would be placed in a segregated fund which would be used to fund special grants to school districts with innovative math and science programs. A new "Grants Commission" would be appointed by the governor and by the state legislature, and charged with the duty of evaluating proposals and doling out the money.

I oppose this measure for the same reasons I oppose the "Powerball" question. This referendum would make government larger; it would weaken TABOR; and it would tend to concentrate fiscal power in a small number of hands. Given the broad powers of the "Grants Commission," this measure would also lead to expanded lobbying by the school districts. It's more payola for the Colorado Education Association, and I'll vote against it.

So there you have it. The board has given its unqualified endorsement to a single referendum (Reapportionment, #B), and is recommending a YES vote on tax cuts (#21) and on the constitution cleanup question (#D). On all the rest, we are recommending that people vote NO.

I hope these arguments prove useful as you decide how to cast your own vote. And if I'm wrong about some of these questions, I hope you'll tell me so.

"Candidates" continued from page 1

Speaking of ads, Drew Sakson (Third Congressional) has been running TV ads. Some of these ads appeared on the Denver PBS station. Sakson and Barry Maggert (House 56) have also found themselves in their local newspapers on numerous occasions.

Maggert was invited to six forums in less than a two week span. Some areas take the Libertarian Party very seriously.

Quality Press

Books Books Books

Perfect Bound, 3 Ring,
Saddle Stitched Manuals
1,000 to 20,000

Web Printing

8.5x11 & 11x17
Many papers to
choose from

3964 South Mariposa
Englewood

303-761-2160

El Paso county has a couple of great races going, especially for the county commissioner seats. More walking the districts, more letters to voters outside the Libertarian Party, more courting of groups that agree with us on most issues, including some Republican leaders. Lots of work but the rewards could be great.

Steven Lee (Senate 26) is running a strong race. He even got an endorsement from the Denver Post! Look for his yard signs and his flyers; they seem to be everywhere. Much of his district will get the flier with the Denver Post endorsement before election day.

That is only the beginning. Our candidates are going to debates and forums, walking their districts, and handing out literature. They are on the front lines, working hard for Liberty in Colorado.

Press Watch: Libertarians Spread the Word

Opportunity for Freedom

The day after Harry Browne's Colorado visit, Associated Press writer Steven Paulson released an article, "Libertarians will hurt state GOP, Owens says."

Browne replied to the Republican governor, "We're not taking votes from anybody. We're giving people an opportunity to vote for their freedom. If we have to stand aside while Republicans tear up the Constitution, we have no government."

Following Browne's appearance on 850 KOA with Mike Rosen, Owens said on the radio show, "I'm afraid that what the Libertarian candidates are doing in so many of our state House and Senate races is simply harming the more conservative of the two candidates. I think it's a shame when we elect a liberal because of a 2 or 3 percent drop-off to a Libertarian candidate who doesn't have a chance to win."

While Libertarians would agree that "it's a shame when we elect a liberal" Republican like Owens who trashes Constitutional liberties, Libertarians think that's the fault of a spineless Republican Party. Libertarians appeal to voters across the traditional political spectrum who want better protection of individual liberties.

The AP story notes that if Browne were elected, "one of the first things he would do is interview potential Supreme Court justices and ask them if they can read, especially when it comes to the Second Amendment right to bear arms."

Browne added: "Either the government is in chains, or the people are in chains. Today, the government is no longer in chains, so that means you-know-who."

Browne also earned press coverage in Greeley's paper and in Grand Junction's *Daily Sentinel*. In addition to his KOA appearance, Browne spoke on Robby Noel's show on 1060 AM.

Glazer, Olivier Hit Air Waves

On September 7, Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer (State House 24) and Vice Presidential Candidate Art Olivier took to the air waves on KHOW with host Tom Kamb. They stayed on air longer than scheduled, from 9 till 11 pm.

Olivier took on an advocate of economic protectionism, likening the caller's views to those of Karl Marx. Olivier argued that countries with the freest markets are also the wealthiest, and countries with the most government intervention suffer the greatest hardships.

Both Glazer and Olivier called for serious reductions

in taxes. Olivier argued that the income tax can be repealed if the federal government operates according to Constitutional standards.

When one caller referred to the "bankrupt Ponzi scheme" of Social Security, Olivier outlined Harry Browne's plan to sell off federal assets to provide private annuities for current recipients and re-privatize retirement.

On the matter of drug prohibition, Olivier wondered why some relatives of powerful drug warriors get a "slap on the wrist" for their drug offenses. He reminded the audience of George Bush's and Al Gore's youthful indiscretions. Dr. Glazer pointed out that drug prohibition targets minorities unjustly.

Both Olivier and Glazer noted that the gun laws "on the books" hurt law-abiding citizens. Background checks lead to registration, which historically has often led to the confiscation of firearms. Further, "lock up your safety" laws prevent people from defending themselves against violent criminals.

One caller was concerned about keeping religion out of government schools. Dr. Glazer said that private schools are free and welcome to focus on religion. But government schools take money by force.

Olivier said politicians in Washington, D.C. can't do anything to assist "family values." He said that responsibility lies with parents.

Dr. Glazer handled a question on growth in Colorado. She argued that growth should never be subsidized. Instead of new political controls, we need less government intervention.

Olivier took on campaign finance laws, arguing that contribution limits hurt third parties. He also agreed with Harry Browne that "political welfare" isn't an appropriate use of tax dollars.

When a caller asked Kamb if he is a Libertarian, Olivier was ready: he pulled out a form and asked Kamb if he would join the party.

Libertarian Joe Johnson made the last call and likened the Libertarian Party to the "red pill" in the film *The Matrix*.

Sakson Makes Aspen Press

Gregory E. Massé wrote an August 26 story for the *Aspen Daily News* entitled, "Libertarian Sakson enters Congressional race."

The article notes that Sakson "embraces the 'relegalization' of marijuana and the abolition of the death tax...Adopting the campaign slogan 'Enough is

"Either the government is in chains, or the people are in chains."

Enough,' Sakson says he is running because 'the rights and values of the people in my district are not being represented in Washington.'"

Sakson outlined his goals: "To insure a freer and more prosperous America by working to eliminate laws, regulations and government programs which restrict or eliminate the right of people to peacefully interact, or which fail to recognize a person's ownership of his own body."

The Virtues of Market Education

Carper released the following letter in late August.

While the national motto and the Ten Commandments are both admirable statements, they should not be forced upon people who don't want them. Both statements are of extreme historical significance apart from any religious connotations individuals may assign them. Therefore schools should be allowed to post them if they choose. Individual teachers should also be allowed to use them freely in the classroom.

This debate is a perfect example of why public education is a bad idea. It is immoral for any one group of people to force their religious beliefs (including anti-religious beliefs) onto any other group of people. But religious ideology, whether theistic or atheistic, is inseparable from education. The only way to ensure that our education system is not used as a tool for involuntary religious indoctrination is to follow the Libertarian plan of complete privatization.

Parents need to be assured that their children are not being recruited as informants against them. They need to be assured that their children are being taught values that are the same as their own and not those of some faceless bureaucrat thousands of miles away. They need to be assured that their children are not the subjects of an ideological experiment cooked up by a politically motivated Washington think tank. The only way to make all of this happen is to completely privatize our education system.

Jay Carper, Chairman
Adams County Libertarians

Glenwood Hears of Olivier Visit

The *Glenwood Post* ran an article September 6 noting Art Olivier's campaign to Colorado, entitled "Libertarian veeep to visit valley Sat."

The paper quotes Olivier, "While this will be a short trip, I am pleased I can spend some time in the Roaring Fork Valley. So many people who live in the area really do agree with what the Libertarians stand for and how they vote once in office."

The article also noted Drew Sakson's Congressional

race. Sakson hosted Olivier for a barbecue.

The Follies of Prohibition

September 15, 2000

Editor,

If drug laws don't stop criminals from obtaining drugs, why would gun laws stop criminals from obtaining guns? What we should do is put violent criminals in prison and keep them there until we can trust them with a gun. If we can't trust them with a gun, keep them in prison—forever if necessary.

As it is today, we keep nonviolent drug offenders in jail much longer than we do violent criminals. For example, the mandatory minimum sentence for possession of large amounts of marijuana is 24 years, which is much longer than the average time served by murders, rapists, and child molesters. Consequently violent criminals are let out of jail early to make room for nonviolent drug offenders. The drug war is insane! End the prohibition!

I'm Chuck Wright, the Libertarian Party's candidate for Colorado State Senate district 17 (eastern Boulder County, Lafayette, Longmont, Louisville). I want you to be free to live your life as you want to live it, not as the politicians want you to live it.

Sincerely,
Chuck Wright
Libertarian Candidate for State Senate District 17

Blake Primes Browne Visit

On September 27, Peter Blake's column ("The 'new' GOP and AmeriCorps") noted Harry Browne's (then) upcoming visit.

Blake wrote, "Browne in town: Colorado Libertarians are celebrating 'Constitution Monday' next week with a Statehouse rally featuring Harry Browne, the party's presidential candidate. Numerous party members and assorted allies are scheduled to speak on individual liberties—particularly the Second Amendment—from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the west steps."

On September 24, Blake devoted his entire column to the Libertarian Party of Colorado—a sign that at least some writers for the *Rocky Mountain News* are paying attention to the important stories. At least two Libertarians replied to Blake (the first reply appeared in print and the second on the internet).

Dear Editor,

As a Libertarian candidate, I have a simple reply to Peter Blake's Sept. 24 question ("Will Libertarians

*"It is immoral
for any one
group of people
to force their
religious beliefs
onto any other
group of people."*

"Press" continued on page 12

become spoilers in state contests?"): you can't spoil something that's already rotten.

Neither of the old parties protects the individual liberties of Coloradans. Thanks to the Republicans' prohibitionist policies, innocent people like Ismael Mena are killed in no-knock SWAT raids, property is stolen by drug agents who don't even have to bother with making a criminal charge, our prisons are filled with non-violent offenders, and the Fourth Amendment is in tatters. On many issues, Republicans want to impose their values on the rest of us by force of law.

Meanwhile, the Democrats assault our rights of self-defense and deny us our civil rights of property ownership. Libertarians want to repeal the high tax and regulatory burdens imposed on us by Democrats.

Blake claims Libertarian votes "presumably came from conservatives." However, Libertarian Presidential Candidate Harry Browne recently estimated he pulls about evenly from Republicans, Democrats, and previous non-voters. Libertarians promote neither "conservative" nor "liberal" big-government programs. We want people to be free to live their lives as they know best, not as old-party politicians demand.

Voters, it's time to reject the rotten politics of the old parties. It's time to embrace freedom and restore civil liberties. This year, don't waste your vote: Vote Libertarian!

Ari Armstrong, Libertarian for House District 35

Thank you for the mention

I, for one, take your column as a positive simply because you presented an accurate portrait of what Libertarians are doing. I will mention that Dr. Glazer is campaigning as a real candidate because she is one. I question whether Libertarians take more from the Rs than the Ds. For every ex Republican in the party, there is an ex Democrat. I would further hope that those who voted for third party access to the polls did so as a matter of fairness rather than hopes for exemption from competition. Thanks again for an interesting column.

Jim "Wink" Winkler

Deceptive Polling

Dear Mr. Brown:

I cannot tell you the depth of my disappointment with the Denver Post's presidential poll published today [Oct. 1]. Here we are on the very day that Libertarian Harry Browne comes to Denver, and the people of

Colorado are being told he does not even exist.

Your paper's poll question lists five candidates by name, including Pat Buchanan, who Harry Browne regularly beats or ties in national polls, and John Hagelin, who rarely makes even a blip in national polls. By mentioning some minor party candidates by name, but not others, you unfairly skew the results.

In a Rocky Mountain News poll just a couple of weeks ago, Browne scored three percent to Pat Buchanan's one percent. I would take that as a sign that they, almost certainly, named all of the minor party candidates in their poll question. Of course, if you want your poll to reflect what will happen on Election Day, you must include all the names, because that is what people will see when they are in the voting booth.

But if you think that minor parties are just small potatoes and do not matter in presidential politics, then why include Nader, Buchanan, and Hagelin in your poll question? They are not going to win, are they? If you just want a quick poll between the top contenders, you could just ask "Bush, Gore, or other" in your question. Think about it: Hagelin?

As you know, the Libertarian Party in Colorado is as big as the other minor parties combined in registrations. We certainly have a larger presence on the ballot.

Harry Browne deserves to be mentioned in the same breath as Nader and Buchanan. I hope he will be in the future.

John K. Berntson

Public Information Director, LP of Colorado

NPR Covers Browne

I was pleased to hear NPR interviewing Harry Browne, Libertarian Candidate for President.

Unfortunately, the interview was introduced by the statement that "if Libertarianism could be summed in 3 words, it would be 'Government Go Away'". Had you listened more carefully to what Mr Browne had to say, the summation would probably have been, "Government, Get Down!"

What we have now is a bloated, over-reaching Nation-State, which is the natural outcome of a Government growing beyond the confines set for it. Mr Browne explained those confines in his interview, they are our Constitution.

Brian Rachocki

*"Libertarians
promote neither
'conservative'
nor 'liberal'
big-government
programs."*

"Olivier" continued from page 5

As I walked out from the studio, I was requested for an interview with KOA Newsradio 850AM that has a broadcasting range of 38 states. KOA News also provides coverage to many other radio stations in Denver that are operated by Clear Channel Communications. Sound bites air the next morning: "Libertarian Vice Presidential Candidate, Art Olivier, is in town stirring things up this weekend."

Friday, September 8th

After spending the night in the beautiful rotunda home of Michelle Bethke-Poague (former State Chair) and husband Monte, I had a couple of short phone interviews in the morning with KNZZ Newsradio 1100 AM in Grand Junction and KSIR 1010 AM in Fort Morgan.

Before heading out to the Denver Press Club, the Colorado Daily newspaper from the University of Colorado did an interview. It was a fairly long article that was positive and mostly accurate.

The LPCO had its "Meet the Candidates" News Conference at the Denver Press Club hosted by LPCO Campaigns Director, Norm Olsen. Six newspaper journalists were there including: the *Denver Post*, the *Rocky Mountain News*, the *Colorado Springs Gazette* and one from the Associated Press. The *Denver Post* ran an article in Saturday's edition titled "Voting Libertarian 'will send a message'." The article is mostly quotes from my "Great Libertarian Offer" speech.

Ralph Nader was in Colorado at the same time I was. (No, I didn't party with him while I was there. I don't think that a guy who would ban Corvairs because he thinks they're unsafe at any speed would relate with a guy who races motocross.) Right next to my article in the *Post* was one titled "Allies color Gore more 'green' than Nader." It was a slam by environmentalists on Nader. Just prior to the Colorado trip, Nader was polling 5% in the state; Browne had 3% and Buchanan 1%. I'll be interested to see if Harry closed the gap with Nader after the trip since all of my coverage was positive and most of his was negative.

After the Press Club, we heard that Rock the Vote was at the Auraria campus. The organizer wouldn't give me two minutes to address the crowd so we just talked to some of the students in attendance. Just for fun, I asked a young man who was passing out Gore stickers why any young person would support Al Gore. I asked him if he supported blowing up third world countries, the war on drugs and if he thought he would benefit from Social Security. The poor kid started to stress out and replied, "I don't support him on every issue." I apologized for causing him stress and encouraged him to remain politically active.

BetteRose Smith, the State Chair, drove me over the mountains to a Barbecue Fundraiser at the ranch home of congressional candidate Drew Sakson in Carbondale. What a gorgeous place! Tim Sauer, the Browne-Olivier 2000 State Coordinator, made the event. Gregory Masse' from the *Aspen Daily Times* did an interview at the barbecue. Like most young reporters I meet, Gregory agrees with the Libertarian philosophy. I can't wait until the old liberal editors retire and the conservatives start complaining about the "libertarian press!" His article was on the front page of Saturday's paper and is very positive.

Saturday, September 9th

In the morning, Michelle Konieczny, Drew and I go to a television interview with ABC. We then get two interviews at the hotel with CBS and NBC.

That afternoon I gave a speech at the Informed Gun Owners Conference in Grand Junction. Several Libertarians came and were asking if there was a local Libertarian group. There is now.

Just prior to my speech, a different NBC reporter gave me another interview. I didn't realize it at the time, but NBC also taped my speech to the gun group. The folks in western Colorado that tuned into NBC news that night saw the part of my speech where I said, "If we win, on our first day in office, Libertarian president Harry Browne will issue an executive order disarming all of the federal law enforcement personnel that protect the members of Congress. He will not rescind that order until Congress has repealed those 20,000 gun laws so the American people can protect themselves."

That evening we have a fundraising social at the home of Sharon and Linn Armstrong, the parents of LPCO Publications Director Ari Armstrong, in Palisade. Their home has a stunning view of the Colorado River. An attendee of the social informs us that I am "all over the television in Grand Junction."

Sunday, September 10th

BetteRose and I drove back over the mountain to Parker for a Garden Party Luncheon and fundraiser at Michele Bethke-Poague's home. I was surprised to see Clark Marley, the man who brought me into the Libertarian Party in 1989, at the event.

The last event before I fly back to Los Angeles is the Crossroads of the West Gun Show in Aurora. Bob Glass from *The Partisan* interviews me for their next issue.

I left very impressed with the Colorado Libertarian Party. They are very enthusiastic and quite successful. This year they have more candidates for partisan races than the Democrats!

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*"I don't think that
a guy who would
ban Corvairs
because he thinks
they're unsafe at
any speed would
relate with a guy
who races
motocross."*

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LIBERTY CALENDAR

November • December 2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		November	1 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.596.6799 Broomfield 7pm. Call Wright Morgan: 303.465.9676	2 Jefferson County 6 pm. social, 7 pm. business. 12895 W. 16th. Dr. in Golden. Call Tom Goonan: 303.202.9069	3	4 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am 303.831.4334 Adams County , 9 am Denny's at 104th & Grant, Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808
5	6 Boulder Luncheon, noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695 Southside , 7pm. Call Bennett Rutledge: 303.740.8690	7 Fort Collins Breakfast, 7 am at Joe's Fireside Cafe, 238 S College Ave. Call Lee Smith: 970.635.0395 LPCO Election Night Party, 7pm. Wazoo's	8 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.596.6799	9 Boulder LPBC Board Meeting, 6:30 pm. Cheng's Garden in Louisville. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695	10	11 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am 303.831.4334 Adams County , Denny's, 9 am 303.252.7808 Crossroads Gun Show Holiday Inn, Denver. 303.604.9153
12 Cross-roads Gun Show Denver 303.604.9153	13 Boulder Luncheon, noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695 303.443.9179 Adams County , 7 pm Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808	14	15 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7pm. Call Carol Geltemeyer: 719.596.6799 Routt County , 7pm. Call Mike Zuckerman 970.870.8104	16	17	18 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am 303.831.4334 Adams County , 9 am Denny's at 104th & Grant, Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808
19	20 Boulder Luncheon, noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695 Fort Collins , 7pm. Call Dan Cochran 970.667.7557	21	22 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7pm. Call Carol Geltemeyer: 719.596.6799	23	24	25 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am 303.831.4334 Adams County , 9 am Denny's at 104th & Grant, Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808
26	27 Boulder Luncheon, noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695 Adams County , 7 pm Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808	28	29 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7pm. Call Carol Geltemeyer: 719.596.6799	30		

Future Dates on the Liberty Calendar: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• November 18, Deadline for the December Liberty. Call Ari Armstrong: 303.412.8356• December 16, Deadline for the January Liberty. Call Ari Armstrong: 303.412.8356• December 30-31 , Wasatch Gun Show, Loveland. Call Joe Johnson: 303.604.9153				December	1	2 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334 Adams County , 9 am Denny's at 104th & Grant, Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808
3	4 Boulder , noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695 Southside , 7pm. Call Bennett Rutledge: 303.740.8690	5 Fort Collins Breakfast, 7 am at Joe's Fireside Cafe, 238 S College Ave. Call Lee Smith: 970.635.0395	6 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.596.6799 Broomfield 7pm. Call Wright Morgan: 303.465.9676		7 Jefferson County 6 pm. social, 7 pm. business. 12895 W. 16th. Dr. in Golden. Call Tom Goonan: 303.202.9069	8
10	11 Boulder , noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695	12	13 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.596.6799	14 Boulder LPBC Board Meeting, 6:30 pm. La Estrellita in Boulder. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695	15	16 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334 Adams County , Denny's, 9 am 303.252.7808 Tanner Gun Show Denver, 303.604.9153

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