Coloradans fight back at polls!

Doug Bruce's efforts finally pay off: Tax limitation implemented in Colorado; former chairman of state Libertarian Party elected to state legislature by GOP

By Ron Bain and Dann Hayes

Despite the disappointing nationwide vote percentage (27%) received by the Libertarian Party’s Marrou/Lord presidential ticket, Colorado voters delivered a couple of gratifying victories to lovers of liberty in the November elections.

Tax limitation advocate Doug Bruce, author of two previously unsuccessful initiatives to limit taxes in the state, had the last laugh over Gov. Roy Romer, Secretary of State Natalie Meyer, Congressman-elect Scott McNillis and other opponents of tax limitation when Colorado voters approved Bruce’s Amendment One by an eight-percent margin on Nov. 3rd. The new addition to Colorado’s constitutional and legislative makeup

Amendment is implemented according to Bruce’s intentions by the state legislature. He is also committed to reintroducing the concept of educational vouchers or competitive schools into the legislature’s pending debate on education reform. In addition, Pfiffner plans as a freshman legislator to introduce bills to privatize government services.

Pfiffner said his willingness prior to the election to admit his libertarian leanings and even be interviewed by this Libertarian publication became an issue in the race, with Pfiffner’s Democratic opponent, Lance Wright, quoting the interview in attack ads.

“He was just amazed that a libertarian would be allowed to live in Jefferson County and walk around,” Pfiffner said.

Election Results
(Just the ones which annoy the media)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Andre Marrou (L)</th>
<th>278,528</th>
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<tr>
<td>In Colorado</td>
<td>8,621</td>
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<td>U.S. Congress/5th District Colorado</td>
<td>Keith Hamburger (L)</td>
<td>7,780</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
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<td>Colorado House of Representatives/Dist. 23</td>
<td>* Penn Pfiffner (R)</td>
<td>11,007</td>
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<td>Amendment One/TABOR</td>
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He was just amazed that a libertarian would be allowed to live in Jefferson County and walk the streets," the victorious Rep.-elect Piffner commented. "Not only that, but that a libertarian would be allowed to run for office and actually receive votes."

Piffner said his initial contact with the Republican caucus in the state legislature led him to believe that they would honor the spirit of Bruce's TABOR Amendment.

"It's the will of the people and the law, and it's our responsibility to vote in laws that comply with it," Piffner said he was told by GOP leaders. "Something else (besides education) is going to have to give."

"One of my top priorities will be holding the line on taxes, which is a whole hell of a lot easier now that Amendment One is in," Piffner continued. "The purpose behind the tax amendment is to spend money on those things that the people want."

Later in his two-year term, Piffner said he would push H.B. 1181, which restricts ballot access for citizen initiatives, on his "hit list." Written by Secretary Continued on Page 3

Yello Sub ordeal over...for now

Bob Jones (not pictured), owner of the Yello Sub Sandwich Shop in Boulder, spoke recently to the Boulder County Libertarian Party about his two-week tangle with the DEA last summer. The sandwich shop's assets were seized temporarily by the feds after one of Jones' employees allegedly mailed a quantity of hallucinogenic mushrooms to an informant in New York. More than 700 people showed up at an "eat-in" (pictured above) in August to protest the DEA action. See page 3 for story and additional photo.
Bruce explains how Amendment One will work

By Ron Bain
Liberty Editor

California's Proposition 13 notwithstanding, Colorado voters have implemented "the most sweeping solution to unrestricted taxation in the nation," proudly commented Douglas Bruce, author of the third-time's-a-charm Taxpayers' Bill of Rights.

In an exclusive post-election interview with The Colorado Liberty, Bruce seemed a bit bemused that even those who virulently opposed his tax limitation efforts during three general elections will now benefit as much from stable tax rates, increasing job opportunities and controlled government spending as faithful TABOR supporters.

"The feeling of freedom is a benefit to every citizen of Colorado, that you've regained some control over your freedom," Bruce said. "Those who may suffer -- I'm not sure that's the appropriate term -- will be those who have historically lived off of other people's money. As tax-eaters, they'll get less money. As taxpayers, they'll benefit just like everyone else."

Bruce has been in the media spotlight since the election. Does he plan to launch a personal political career based upon his success with TABOR?

"No, I have no interest in becoming a politician." Bruce replied.

Since the passage of TABOR on Nov. 3rd, the state's newspapers have been replete with stories depicting Colorado's fiscal sky as falling or speculating that a certain program will be eliminated or underfunded. The Colorado Liberty offered Bruce an opportunity to explain how TABOR will really work.

"This amendment does not regulate the spending or budgets of any individual agency or bureau," he explained. "We're allowed to vote (profit) from the enterprise which were turned over to the state government would be subject to TABOR's revenue and spending caps.

Boulder and other city governments, in response to the passage of the TABOR Amendment, have begun stashing some of this year's unregulated funds to be spent next year after the TABOR controls kick in. Bruce says that's fine, that the amendment in fact was meant to encourage the saving of reserve and emergency funds.

"The amendment says, in the definition of fiscal year spending, that it does not include money saved from prior years. You can do that, that's not part of your spending limit."

TABOR also requires governmental entities to create a buffer of emergency reserve funds. This, Bruce explains, is to prevent governments from "crying wolf" and prematurely trying to invoke TABOR's provisions for tax increases in emergencies.

Some towns with a history of liberalism will probably find TABOR quite easy to live with, Bruce noted.

"In Boulder, they're probably willing to vote for higher taxes," he remarked. "Despite TABOR's statewide victory, Boulder precincts only gave the amendment 37% of their votes. "Two-thirds of the people living there were willing to let their government take an unlimited amount of their money."

"In general, though, the authoritarians are now accepting this as law," Bruce observed.

Call them fees or call them taxes, the spending of revenues is limited under TABOR, Bruce observed. That method, which was used by California governments to evade Proposition 13, is specifically prohibited by TABOR, he said.

"They can't just take something that's called 'telephone tax,' and cross Taxpayers. "We're going to talk about what the ordinary citizen can do to make the amendment work."

Budget cuts are not mandated by TABOR, but if they become necessary, bureaucrats and politicians at all levels will have the option of cutting administrative overhead and waste, or cutting directly into services that benefit citizens.

Voters will have to guard against these "punitive" actions primarily by voting the offending rascals out of office, Bruce said. The amendment leaves allocation decisions up to elected representatives, he emphasized.

"There is no way to guarantee that elected officials are going to appropriate the money properly. It would help if people had some concrete examples of waste or overpayments or just inappropriate expenditures."

Bruce has also been meeting with Gov. Roy Romer and the legislature's Joint Budget Council to make certain the TABOR Amendment is understood at the highest levels of government in Colorado.

"I met with the governor for two-and-a-half hours," Bruce reported. "Newspaper publishers and board agents won't be skipped in his explanatory and educational efforts, either."

According to the Independence Institute, state employees in Colorado are seven percent overpaid when their salaries and wages are compared to the national average. If state employees were merely paid the national average, Bruce pointed out that a potential $300 million in savings could be achieved.

But benefits to taxpayers are already being reported as a result of the passage of TABOR, according to Bruce.

"Weld County just cancelled some big tax breaks for three big
The Colorado Liberty

is a quarterly, free distribution, outreach publication of the Colorado Libertarian Party
Chairman, David Aitken
Editor & Publisher, Ron Bain, Communications Director of the Colorado Libertarian Party

Contributors: Chris Bogart; David Bryant; Philip Freytag; Dann Hayes; Robin Heid; Chuck Wright.

Address all correspondence to: The Colorado Liberty, 720 E. 18th Ave., #309, Denver, Colorado 80203; or, 3300 Arapahoe, #215, Boulder, Colorado 80306.

regulate the spending or budgets of any individual agency or bureau," he explained. "We're allowed to vote before the government takes a bigger share of our money than they are now."

Each governmental entity in Colorado -- state government, school districts, municipal governments, special districts -- now finds its overall general fund budget and revenues capped at the amount spent in Fiscal Year 1992, plus "next year their spending can increase the amount of inflation and population growth," he continued.

For purposes of the TABOR formula, inflation will be calculated money off the top, that's what it gets. And excess (general fund) revenues will be returned to the voters unless the voters choose to let the state keep it."

Despite the media's and legislature's consternation, the lottery funds count as part of the TABOR-controlled state revenues and can no longer be spent on prisons, education or other whims of the legislators.

TABOR does not regulate government "enterprises," Bruce explained, such as water utilities that operate on a user fee basis and have a self-contained budget. The legislature could alter the lottery to operate as an enterprise, but then any net proceeds is specifically prohibited by TABOR, he said.

"They can't just take something that's called 'telephone tax,' and cross out the T-A-X and spell it F-E-E." Consolidated annual elections will be held for tax increases proposed by governmental entities, at a yearly cost of approximately $85,000 (part of the state budget the legislature can no longer affect). Notices containing pro and con arguments regarding each tax proposal will be mailed to all citizens, who will have an additional civic responsibility to make sure an argument against each tax proposal is included in the notices.

Bruce said he had been scheduled to address the Colorado Union of the passage of TABOR, according to Bruce.

"Weld County just cancelled some big tax breaks for three big corporations," he said. "This amendment will eliminate a lot of the loopholes."

Just don't forget what happened in Nicaragua when the Sandinistas were defeated at the polls...

"We're going to watch," Bruce said.

P.S.: Doug Bruce spent $87,000 of his personal savings to help the TABOR Amendment win this time, and he's still trying to recoup those funds. If you'd like to help, mail your contribution to:

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Page 2
THE COLORADO LIBERTY
NOV-DEC, 1992/JAN 1993
After DEA encounter, Yello Sub owner now considering LP

By Ron Bain
Liberty Editor

Sometimes it takes a direct encounter with the heavy hand of Big Brother to make a person consider the logic of Libertarian arguments about the size and obtrusiveness of government.

Speaking recently to the Boulder County Libertarian Party about last summer’s events and his recent seizure of $18,500 from his Yello Sub sandwich shop in Boulder by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Bob Jones remarked, ‘I never claimed to be a libertarian, but I’m getting more interested all the time. But by experience, I can claim to be an expert on the abuses of the DEA.’

Jones, who owns two Yello Sub restaurants in Lawrence, Kansas and one in Boulder, divides his time between Lawrence and Boulder. He was in Lawrence last July when the DEA swooped into his Boulder shop, arresting the manager on a charge of interstate sales of hallucinogenic mushrooms and seizing $18,500 in funds from Yello Sub’s Boulder bank account.

‘I’m not going to pretend I’m an angel, but I wasn’t aware of what happened in my business in this particular case,’ Jones stated. ‘I would not condone those actions.’

The manager, whose name need not be revealed for purposes of this story, was accused of mailing the drugs to a friend in New York, whom she was unaware had been busted by New York investigators. The friend was intimidated into turning informant, and arranged three one-pound shipments of ‘shrooms from Boulder to New York, total value $2,400.

HEMP petitioners and speakers were in abundance at the Yello Sub ‘eat-in’. The supporters of hemp legalization will reorganize Dec. 12th.

It took Jones two weeks of constant effort to arrange a face-to-face meeting with agents of the DEA. After his lawyer finally obtained the meeting, the discussion was limited to telling Jones he would get his money back as long as he signed papers indemnifying the government against legal action.

“It was my opinion that it was the public support that made the difference,” Jones commented to the Boulder group.

In the days immediately following the seizure, Jones made a conscious decision to seek as much publicity for the case as possible. The Colorado Daily and, to a lesser extent, both Denver newspapers and the Boulder Daily Camera provided favorable coverage of Jones’ comments about the seizure. Kevin Bloom, then chairman of the Boulder County Libertarian Party, organized an ‘eat-in’ which drew 700 people in August. The ‘eat-in’ featured discounted food from the Yello Sub.

State Rep. Penn Pfiiffner

in his fifth place bid for a U.S. Senate seat in California. In fact, Libertarian Senate candidates nationwide were under overwhelming fire from the case, Jones mentioned. Letting that information out to the press may have influenced the DEA to give back the Yellow Sub’s money, he speculated.

The manager, whose voluntary resignation Jones accepted, has been extradited to New York to face drug charges. The New York officials are hostile and not inclined to mercy, he said.

'It looks like maybe there was a crime committed,' Jones stated cautiously. 'She's a real good person. She was pretty much set up.'

In all, the ordeal cost Jones about $2,500 in legal fees that he could not recover. No charges were ever filed against him or his business, but the seized money was returned "under prejudice" so that the DEA can come back in the future and seize it once more.

Libertarians universally hold that all drug-related seizure actions prior to trial defy the intent and meaning of the U.S. Constitution’s Fourth Amendment prohibitions..."
It was a little disappointing that I did about the same," Hamburger commented after the election returns were in. He said he was one Libertarian willing to consider major changes to national party's approach, such as a less long-range platform, eliminating the membership oath and commissioning public opinion surveys of voter attitudes toward Libertarians.

Nationally, Marrou found his relatively ambitious campaign, complete with 50-state ballot access and a nationwide TV presence, swamped by the well-financed independent Perot campaign, which spent more than either of the two major party candidates.

Four years before, when Marrou was on the presidential ballot as Ron Paul's running mate, they scored 432,116 votes, or 4.7% of the popular vote. Ed Clark, the 1980 Libertarian presidential nominee, received more votes than any other Libertarian candidate, almost a million votes, running against Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter and John Anderson.

The man who challenged Marrou for the Libertarian presidential nomination in 1991, Dick Boddie, received approximately 260,000 votes in his家乡 seat in California. In fact, Libertarian Senate candidates nationwide received more than one million votes (more than in 1990), setting a record for third party vote totals.

Four Libertarians were elected to the New Hampshire state legislature, including Calvin Warburton and Finlay Rothhaus, who had served previously in the New Hampshire state government as Republicans but who had never before faced election following their public conversion to the Libertarian Party. Andrew Borsa and Don Gorman were elected as Libertarians to the New Hampshire state legislature for a first term.

An anticipated Libertarian victory in a two-way race for Nevada's state senate did not materialize...it might have been stolen. The Libertarian candidate for Nevada state senate from Las Vegas,Tamara Clark, who had received endorsements from the Republican Party and a major Las Vegas daily, was leading in election day exit polls but was denied the election after absentee votes were counted.

Clark is considering joining a lawsuit against the vote count.

The Libertarian Party now has full ballot status in 18 states, and won a city council seat in California.

Prior to trial deny the intent and meaning of the U.S. Constitution's Fourth Amendment prohibitions against unreasonable search and seizure.

**H.E.M.P. II re-organizational meeting slated for Dec. 12th**

The amendment to Help End Marijuana Prohibition (H.E.M.P.) did not appear on Colorado's general election ballot in November, therefore a meeting has been scheduled in December to reorganize the initiative effort for the 1994 election.

Founder of the American Foundation for Legal Consistency Tom Barrus, who was instrumental in the 1992 initiative effort, made that announcement at HEMP HOP '92, a fundraising concert held at Tulagi's in Boulder on Nov. 22nd.

The reorganizational meeting, which should be attended by anyone seriously interested in legalizing cannabis in Colorado, will be held at the UCD/Auraria Campus, on Saturday, Dec. 12th at 1 p.m. in the Student Union, Room 254.

"Just like Douglas Bruce's Taxpayers' Bill of Rights initiative, we'll keep putting this on the ballot until we get enough votes," Barrus commented. "This year we didn't have enough money to market the initiative."

Therefore, fundraising and election of activist officers will be top priorities at the Dec. 12th meeting, he added.

"Kids can buy cigarettes, the most deadly drug we've got, but an adult can't legally buy cannabis, the least harmful recreational drug known to man," Barrus said, pointing out the legal inconsistency that gave rise to the name of his foundation.

"They're arresting money, they're arresting property -- it's kind of funny," quipped Frank Morris, chairman of the Boulder Hemp Initiative Project.

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Take that, Roy!

After taking a even a casual glance at the election results, it becomes obvious that Governor Roy Romer had best begin practicing his limp and his quack, for his governorship is quickly taking on the appearance and uneven waddle of a lame duck.

Royer's in his second term in a state that limited governors to two terms even before term limits became popular. The People handed Romer a resounding whack by rejecting his Bureaucrats First sales tax proposal, and instead voting in the tax limitation amendment which Romer had wasted six years in office fighting. They also told him "Hands off the lottery funds! They're for trees and grass only!"

Nowadays it's obvious that Roy's more interested in Washington, D.C. than, say, Paonia, and that he's willing to abandon Colorado to the ineptitude of Mike Callihan at the drop of Bill Clinton's hat; he may not even bother to finish the last two years of his lame duck term. At any rate, the race for governor in 1994 will be a wide open marathon.

Which brings free-thinking politicos to two questions: who will be the next governor of Colorado, and who will be the Libertarian nominee for governor in this pending contest? We're not ready to predict that they'll be one and the same person, but planning commenced Dec. 5th in Dillon to find the individual who will obtain for the Colorado Libertarian Party at least 10% of the popular vote for governor in 1994. That's how many votes state law says we must get in that particular race (one chance out of every four years) to obtain automatic access to the ballot for all Libertarian candidates.

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Guest Editorial

Don't misinterpret Libertarian silence on Amendment 2 as agreement with intolerance

By Chris Bogart
CLP Campaigns Director

Anyone who has followed the Libertarian Party through this initiative-riddled election season will likely have noticed that the Party never took a stand on one of the most controversial initiatives, Amendment 2. Now a part of the Colorado Constitution, Amendment 2 "prohibits the State of Colorado and any of its political subdivisions from adopting or enforcing any law or policy which provides that homosexual, lesbian, or bisexual orientation, conduct, or relationships constitutes or entitles a person to claim any minority or protected status, quota preferences, or discrimination."

I was as split on the issue as most libertarians, many of whom heatedly argued and pondered it. I finally voted "No," after much deliberation. But this is how I would have voted if I had been able to cast a separate vote on each of the issues at stake:

**Issue One:** Shall it be resolved that homosexuality is bad?  
**No.** A lot of voters may have read the question this way, and I hope those voters said "No," because this is obviously a personal, moral issue, not a political one.

**Issue Two:** Shall homosexuals and bisexuals be granted minority protected status, or quota preferences?  
**No.** The law should be blind to a person's skin color, religion, sexual orientation, and every other irrelevant criterion. Every individual is unique, a member of a one-person minority, and is equally entitled to protection against force and fraud. Quotas are discriminatory, and the government should not mandate discrimination.

**Issue Three:** Discrimination -  
**A.** Shall it be resolved that discrimination against homosexuals and bisexuals is to be tolerated by civilized individuals?  
**No.** I think most people read the question this way -- and voted "Yes" anyway -- which is why it's sickening that Amendment 2 passed.
automatic access to the ballot for all Libertarian candidates running in subsequent Colorado elections.

People sometimes ask us why the Libertarian Party doesn't run more candidates each election. Well, the simple fact is that the election laws, which were written by Republicans and Democrats, discriminate against us, making it very hard for third party candidates to petition their way onto the ballot. Petitioning is an ignominious and frustrating exercise which reminds the petitioner of begging. Thus the law fulfills its true intent: fewer third party candidates.

During presidential election years, the CLP in all its combined efforts is hard-pressed to obtain ballot access for the Libertarian presidential nominee, so severe are the requirements. Therefore we have made the commitment to focus all our efforts in 1994 on putting a viable gubernatorial candidate before the voting public.

New Hampshire and 17 other states have already achieved semi-permanent ballot access for Libertarians (usually it has to be renewed periodically by continuing to garner the minimum vote requirements; such is the case in Colorado). It's a trend whose day is coming -- if Perot forms a nationwide third party, many of these laws will be overturned by his lawyers and his money.

But Colorado's always been a bellwether state -- let's not wait for unlikely miracles. Remember these words: whoever the Libertarian candidate for governor is in 1994, casting a vote for our candidate won't be wasted vote -- it will be a vote for electoral justice.

All we're asking for is a level playing field. That, and for Roy to take Secretary of State Natalie Meyer with him when he goes.

-RDB

NO. I think most people read the question this way and voted "Yes" anyway -- which is why it's sickening that Amendment 2 passed.

B. Shall we repeal local ordinances which punish churches, property owners and employers who discriminate against homosexuals and bisexuals?

Yes. Repeal them. Homophobes have a strong opinion about with whom we should sleep; liberals have a strong opinion about with whom we should work. I believe the liberals are morally right and the homophobes are wrong. But using the state's power to punish is not the answer, because that option is available to the homophobes as well (e.g., "sodomy" laws). Gay people especially should understand the importance of freedom of association, and work for tolerance and acceptance through non-violent protest, education, boycotting, and setting a better example; not by turning to the violence of the State, historically the worst enemy of gay rights.

C. Shall we allow government agencies or their employees to discriminate against homosexuals or bisexuals, in matters of employment or benefits?

Absolutely not. Gay people can boycott businesses which discriminate, but we have no choice about paying taxes to discriminatory governments. To exclude any group from jobs and benefits its members are forced to pay for is unfair.

Issue Four: Shall we pass a law which applies to "homosexual, lesbian, or bisexual orientation" but does not mention heterosexual orientation?

No. The law should not single out groups or individuals. If barring discrimination or enforcing quotas are good ideas, they should apply to everyone; if they're bad ideas, to no one.

Sadly, I could only cast a single vote on the initiative. I disagreed with some parts of it, and was forced to reject the whole thing, despite agreeing with a few of the issues.

This is what we Libertarians get for refusing to take the lead on gay rights issues: murky left- or right-wing proposals that we can neither truly support nor attack. Our silence will be interpreted as apathy as best, or sympathy with the intolerant statist who propose such measures at worst.

Instead, we should be taking the lead in proposing deregulation of marriage, or legalizing access to experimental drugs for AIDS and other diseases. We have a lot to offer the gay community, but we need to put forth an effort, not just a mimeographed copy of our platform.
Beyond the Left/Right Spectrum
By Ron Bain, Liberty Editor

How a free market would free the environmental movement

One of the questions most frequently asked of those of us who refuse to limit our point of view to the bipolar scope of left vs. right thinking (no matter which side you take, to us it's stinkin' thinkin') is "Yeah, but what about the environment?"

Indeed, what about the environment? Libertarians believe in property rights: I believe I should be able to control the level of pollution I am willing to tolerate on my own property. I don't own the air and water that pass over and through my land, but I do own rights to it which allow me to determine the acceptable levels of pollution in my vicinity. In the simplest terms, Libertarians believe that if an individual pollutes your land or the air and water to which you have rights, you should be able to sue to stop the polluting actions. Groups of people offended by pollutants should file class action suits, and the court system should be altered to once more be receptive to such actions.

On the larger scale, it's easier to describe by example how Libertarian policies, if implemented, would benefit the environment.

Relegalization of Hemp for Paper

Imagine how many trees would be saved if we merely produced all of our toilet paper, office paper and computer paper out of hemp, a biannually renewable resource, instead of wood pulp. The trees that produce wood pulp only renew themselves every 20 to 25 years.

There's only one thing that prevents American entrepreneurs from using this environmentally sound resource for paper production: the U.S. government.

Divestiture of Public Lands

This suggestion generally never gets past the anger it elicits in hard-core environmentalists, but think for just a moment: Who pays for restoration when ranchers overgraze leased federal lands? You, the taxpayer, do. Who pays for logging roads and reforestation when some logging company decides to do clear cutting? You, the taxpayer, do. Who pays for it when Exxon, for example, gets a federal lease to exploit federally-owned Alaskan land rich with oil, and then dumps it by drunken accident on the federal seacoast? Why, of course, you, the taxpayer, do.

Federal lands that are held for exploitation should be sold at full value to the enterprises which wish to exploit them, and the resulting revenues should be applied to the federal deficit. Federal lands which are held for conservation and wilderness purposes should be turned over to organizations more qualified than the federal government to maintain them, such as the Nature Conservancy. One idea has been to lease the national parks to a group like the Sierra Club on a 99-year lease, at a rate of $1 per year.

Thus, when ranchers overgrazed their own land, they'd have to pay for it. When logging companies ruined their forest resource, they'd have to wait 25 years for it to grow back. When Exxon dumped thousands of gallons of oil, they'd have to take the loss and pay for clean-up. And when you wanted to visit a national park, you'd pay a representative of the Nature Conservancy or the Sierra Club, instead of the federal government, at the gate.

Deregulation of Power Distribution

A little history lesson is appropriate here: you probably know that Thomas Edison designed the power distribution system currently in use, right? Wrong! Edison patented his system in 1882. The system used was designed and built by the Great Western Power Company, and was based on the work of Charles Proteus Steinmetz. The system used today was designed by a team of engineers, including Samuel Insull, who was the first of the great robber barons of the industrial age.

Advice to Bill Clinton:
I NEED YOU

TO HELP ME KICK THE PROHIBITION HABIT.
A Libertarian Lexicon

By David Bryant
CLP Membership Director

Judge (n): Occasionally, a wise man committed to the rule of justice, who serves as a referee when disputes are heard before a jury. More commonly a pravacator, skilled in misinterpreting the law, and in misdirecting juries.

Jury (n): 1. (obs.) Twelve true men, sworn to dispense justice in the light of conscience. 2. In modern usage, a dozen empty-headed sheep, marked by their predisposition to be misled by the judge.

Need I say more? The once honorable institution of trial by jury is today no more than a shameful shadow of its rugged archetype. We, the people of the United States, have allowed an overbearing judiciary to dismantle the fourth branch of our government. Our only hope of restoring the rule of law lies with our fellow citizens.
Deregulation of Power Distribution

A little history lesson is appropriate here: you all know that Thomas Edison designed the power distribution system currently in use, right? Wrong! Sure, he thought of using distribution wires and transformers, but he wanted to use DC (direct current). It took Nikola Tesla to figure out what Edison couldn’t discern: that use of AC (alternating current) would prevent the extremely inefficient energy loss caused by putting DC electricity through miles-long wires.

Well, Tesla did his more famous rival Edison one better: he invented and tested a prototype model of an electricity broadcasting system which beamed electricity into the air just like radio waves. An electric motor with the proper kind of antenna and receiver would function by intercepting these waves of electricity, without batteries or physically tapping into a power outlet. Imagine: hydroelectric power could be broadcast into the atmosphere, and then received by non-polluting electric automobiles which would receive their power from a "stick" mounted on the hood or trunk.

Tesla, who worked near Colorado Springs about 100 years ago, spent all of his money on expensive experimentation which would be considered high-tech even today. Left broke by his extravagances, he began selling the rights to his research. The patent for broadcasting electricity was sold to J.P. Morgan, a steel and railroad magnate who foresaw his fortune being made by the industry created by the internal combustion engine, not by broadcasting free electricity.

The patent should have expired now, leaving anyone free to research Tesla’s ideas. The problem now is that public utility regulations spell out one way and one way only to distribute electricity: ugly transformers, ugly wires, and no way to break out of the smog-producing internal combustion cycle. Change the rules, and technology will change the system for the better.

Shutting Down the Nuclear Industry

There is no question that the greatest environmental liability currently facing this nation is the government-subsidized nuclear industry and its resultant waste disposal problem. Libertarians do not support government subsidies of any sort, including ambiguous ones like the federal law which exempts nuclear power plants and other nuclear industry institutions, such as Rocky Flats, from having to carry insurance against the risk of blowing up everyone near them. As soon as Libertarians eliminate this protective law, the nuclear industry will be bombarded with so many expensive lawsuits that it will find the costs of operation prohibitive.

That would leave the problem of nuclear waste disposal, and there’s really only one solution: shoot the stuff into the sun and don’t produce any more. Libertarians believe in privatizing and selling off NASA, but before that happens, the remaining Saturn rockets should be used to boost all of the nuclear wastes into decaying solar orbits. Because a Challenger-style accident would be unthinkable during this exercise, the competence of the people involved would have to be unquestionable.

Stop the Licensing of Pollution

From Love Canal to Three Mile Island to the Exxon Valdez, the federal government has been aware of, has encouraged and often has licensed (accepted money for) the actions that have led to the nation’s grossest environmental disasters. The EPA doesn’t prevent pollution, it collects money for its occurrence. This federal policy of viewing pollution as a revenue source must end, and it will only end when enough Libertarians are elected.

Media’s performance has been deplorable

Dear CLP:

Anyone who sees what the irresponsible, unprincipled bastards are doing to America must wonder about the media that endorses them. The media neglect and abuse of third party candidates has been deplorable.

It is difficult to believe that the media do not know what is going on or that they approve of the looting of current and future generations. They could come out against it if they had the character and the courage to do so.

Almost without exception since WWII we have watched the increase in spending, deficits, taxes, debt and red tape. No one seems to be alarmed at the rate it is accelerating.

One wonders what is being taught in the schools that turn out our corrupt leaders. We turn to "leaders" for solutions from people who have created the problems.

John F. Sisson, Independent, Arvada, Colorado

Editor’s Note: Why do you think we started The Colorado Liberty? John? Someone in the media has to speak the truth.
Dr. Nancy Lord: in her own words, on the issues

Dr. Nancy Lord, the Libertarian Party’s nominee for Vice President in 1992, appeared in Colorado Springs on Oct. 20th. Following is the text of the speech she delivered to an audience of about 100 persons that evening:

"It is a pleasure to be here today. "As you may know, I am originally from Washington, D.C. and I hope that you won't hold that against me. I know that the three biggest lies in the English language are "The check is in the mail." "Of course, I'll still respect you in the morning," and "I'm from Washington and I'm here to help."

"I am also a doctor and a lawyer and I guess running for Vice President makes me a politician of sorts. Doctor, lawyer, politician, from Washington: All of which may combine to make me just a little more popular than Saddam Hussein.

"However, I want to thank you for overlooking all that and inviting me here today.

"I believe that the 1992 election will be a watershed for this country. It is an opportunity to return to our historical roots of freedom, to reaffirm our national commitment to individual liberty.

"The 1992 election is crucial because this country is reaching a crossroads and must decide the direction it will take into the 21st century. Because, as great as this country is, we are facing serious problems...problems that must be solved if we are to remain great.

"This country is truly facing a crisis. We are going through the longest period of slow or negative economic growth since the Great Depression. More than 8 million Americans are unemployed. Another 14 million are underemployed. Our balance of trade grows continually unsound. We have lost our ability to

"I say it is time to take education out of the hands of the bureaucrats and restore it to where it rightfully belongs -- parents.

"Still another crisis is our health care system. Health care costs are skyrocketing, while at the same time 35 million Americans lack health insurance. Americans worry that if they lose their jobs, they will lose their health insurance. Older Americans live in fear that a prolonged illness or a stay in a nursing home will wipe out their life savings. Challenges from AIDS, a growing elderly population, and new medical breakthroughs promise further strains on an already failing system.

"Some think the answer to this crisis is to force all Americans into a socialized health care system that will cost billions of dollars in new taxes, while rationing access to needed care.

"I say the answer lies in getting the government out of health care and restoring a market-based, consumer oriented health care system.

"Let's legalize midwifery in the 37 states that outlaw it. Let's break up the medical monopoly and allow a greater scope of practice for non-physician health professionals like nurse practitioners and physician's assistants. Let's abolish mandated insurance benefits and allow consumers to pick the type of insurance policy that's best for them. Let's make out-of-pocket medical expenses fully tax deductible. Let's allow tax-free individual medical accounts. This is the way to hold down health care costs and expand access to health care for all Americans.

"And, what about the poor? Government has failed them most of all. We spend nearly $200 billion each year on social welfare programs: enough to give every poor person in this country nearly 6,000 dollars...to prevent jobs. There was a time when a poor person could scrape together a few dollars, find a product, and head for the nearest street corner to start a business. Tens of thousands took this route out of poverty. Some, like J.W. Marriott and J.C. Penney, became rich. Thousands more entered the middle class. Other remained poor, but at least able to feed their families with dignity.

"However, today -- if you have $500 for a license and $1,500 for a tax bond and $7,500 for a cart of government-approved design -- then you can sell hot dogs on the streets of Washington, D.C. Our laws today restrict opportunity and prevent people from going into business for themselves.

"Let's stop trying to manage poverty and start to offer people a chance to get out of poverty.

"Unfortunately, neither the Democrats nor the Republicans are willing to take the steps necessary to deal with the problems facing this country. Both are so wrapped up in politics as usual that they are unwilling to break out of the status quo and bring real, serious change to this country. Together, the Democrats and Republicans have run up the national debt, raised our taxes, chipped away at our civil liberties, strangled small business and entrepreneurship with a maze of bureaucratic regulations, allowed our educational system to collapse, and condemned millions to a life of...
"George Bush is the most profligate president in U.S. history."

make ends meet. Despite recent signs of economic growth, most of this country is still in George Bush's recession.

"And this is George Bush's recession. We are in a recession because, number one, George Bush is running the highest national debt in history. The federal debt is now increasing at the rate of $1 billion a day...one billion dollars a day. And the debt is increasing because George Bush has increased spending by 30 percent in his first three years. George Bush is the most profligate president in U.S. history.

"And, we are in a recession...happiness." Yet, despite massive increases in education spending, our public schools are failing to educate.

"American students consistently test behind the ten countries we consider our chief economic competitors. Our best students are only as good as the average Japanese student in math and science, subjects that are critical to our future. On a national test, only 12% of all graduating 17-year-olds could solve math problems using fractions. Al Shanker, the president of the American Federation of Teachers, estimates that less than six percent of 17- and 18-year-olds can solve multiple-step math problems. In addition, Shanker estimates that only 20% of high school graduates can write a coherent, grammatically correct two-paragraph letter of application for a job.

"Yet, Democratic and Republican politicians continue to pour ever more money into a failed system, while denying parents the fundamental right to decide what school their children will attend.

"The best social program is a job."

"But all this spending has not helped lift the poor out of poverty. Rather, it has trapped them on a permanent plantation of dependency, destroying not just the family structure and the work ethic, but any sort of hope for the future. The only people benefitting from our social welfare system are the bureaucrats, who take 70 cents of every welfare dollar, and live quite comfortably at the expense of those they are supposed to help.

"At the same time, for those who are trying to work their way out of poverty, we have regulated away the first rungs on the economic ladder. The best social program is a job. Yet, much of government policy in recent years seems perversely designed to

Continued on Page 7
1993 CLP convention, featuring Dr. Mary Ruwart, set for Crestone

Crestone, in south-central Colorado, will be the site of the 1993 Colorado Libertarian Party Convention, set for April 23-25.

The primary speaker will be Dr. Mary Ruwart, author of Healing Our World: The Other Piece of the Puzzle (see accompanying review). Dr. Ruwart was the first choice of Andre Marrou, the 1992 Libertarian presidential nominee, for his running mate.

The theme of the convention, according to organizer Mary Margaret Glennie, is "Reach Out!" Dr. Ruwart indicates that she will speak on the topic "To Love is Libertarian."

"Libertarianism will triumph in the end," she writes, "not only because it is the most compassionate of political philosophies, but because everyone -- even power-hungry special interests -- benefit. When we can show each and every person that they can only win, our success -- and theirs -- is assured."

Dr. Nancy Lord's speech: continued

Continued from Page 6

from the "politics as usual" being offered by the Democrats and Republicans. The Democrats and Republicans have led us far away from our Constitutional foundations.

"Indeed, the Founding Fathers would scarcely recognize today's immense, bloated and overweening government. They sought a limited government. 'The government which governs best is that which governs least,' said Jefferson. Today, the federal government is a behemoth, an octopus with its tentacles entwined in every aspect of our daily lives. And that monster is nourished by an ever greater consumption of hard-earned money. When the Constitution was established, the federal government spent less than one dollar per person. By the time the federal income tax was enacted, that sum had grown to $29 per person, nearly $3 billion per year. Today, the federal government spends more than $3 billion per day, more than $4,000 per person. If you combine all taxes -- federal, state and local, income, sales, payroll, Social Security, and so on -- half of every dollar that we earn is taken by the government. How long can this continue before the American economy collapses under the burden?"

"And Bill Clinton? As governor of Arkansas, he increased his state sales tax by 50 percent, doubled the gasoline tax and raised every other conceivable tax there was, including next taxes on cars and haircuts.

"Secondly, we must encourage entrepreneurship, self-sufficiency and individual responsibility. If we are ever to reach a point in this country where every person has an opportunity to achieve their portion of the American Dream, people must have the opportunity to start and own their own businesses. People must be free to invest in businesses to grow and expand jobs and opportunity. Yet, the Democrat and Republican politicians too often treat businesses, large and small, as the enemy.

"How many of you out there are small businesspeople? You know the cost of government regulation and paperwork. And there is worse yet to come -- mandated family leave, mandated health benefits, and who knows what else.

"The third part of the Libertarian Program calls for an end to government involvement in our personal lives and individual moral decisions. In brief, people should be able to decide for themselves what to eat, drink, read, or smoke, how to dress, medicate themselves, or make love.

Western and Eastern spirituality." (Paul Whitfield, South Bend Tribune)

Other speakers tentatively scheduled for the convention include Larry Dodge of FIJA, Bumper Hornberger of the Future of Freedom Foundation, and representatives from a Native American Tribe and the National Rifle Association.

Meetings will be held at The Crestone Restaurant, which has a seating capacity for up to 75. According to Mary Margaret, an effort to hold down costs and present more varied options than past conventions has resulted in a sign-up fee (no meals included) of only $40. Lodging is available in the form of weekend rentals of apartments, townhomes or condominiums. There is also a camper campground.

Meal options include cooking your own (some lodging units have kitchens), ordering individual meals from the restaurant menu or participating in a meal/banquet package estimated at under $85.

"There are lots of options for every budget," Mary Margaret said. For more information, call her at (303) 484-8184 or (303) 638-1147.

"I'm hoping to get a lot of people from the south (of Colorado), which has been a hotbed of libertarian activity recently," she remarked in explanation of the choice of Crestone. She also said she hoped the remote location would foster "a feeling of togetherness" amongst the attendees.

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Book Review

Healing Our World: The Other Piece of the Puzzle by Dr. Mary J. Ruwart

Reviewer: Phil Freytag, Fremont County Libertarian Party

Healing Our World is a truly remarkable book which integrates the Judeo-Christian heritage with the classic liberal philosophy. The concept of non-aggression is thoroughly explored as it relates to every facet of our lives, our government and
Liberation Party Membership

Join the Libertarian Party today and help the cause of Freedom in the '90s. Your state dues include a Clipboard & Colorado Liberty subscription, and your national dues include the LP News.

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Celebrate Liberty! 1993 national LP convention will be held in SLC

The 1993 Libertarian Party National Convention will be held in Salt Lake City, Sept. 2-5, and it's going to be great!

So far, 32 speakers have been tipped for this event. Among them are: Karl Hess, Bob Poole, Frances Kendall, Dr. Mary Ruwart, Dr. Nancy Lord, Jacob Hornberger, L. Neil Smith, and Richard Winger.

Seven great events: Dawn's Early Light - breakfast with speakers; The Green Dragon Inn (where Samuel Adams hung out) - music, food, drink, comedy; Freedom Rock '93 - rock 'n' roll with three bands; Gayla Convention Banquet - Vivaldi, Mozart, fine dining; Joyful Noise - music, drama, pageantry in salute to Liberty; Karl Hess Institute of Libertarian Politics; and the 1993 Political Expo - exhibits and vendors interested in the libertarian marketplace.

Campaigns and Elections, a Washington, D.C.-based catering to professional political consultants, will be holding a two-day, "in your face," no-holds-barred seminar entitled "Get Elected to A State Legislature," on Aug. 31st and Sept. 1st if 100 LPers sign up by Jan. 31. 1993. This is a MUST for all serious candidates.

Early registration discounts and Jan. 31, 1993. Call the LP office at (303) 837-9393 or go to complete details. Ask for the Celebrate Liberty Convention Info Packet.

Healing Our World is a truly remarkable book which integrates the Judeo-Christian heritage with the classic liberal philosophy. The concept of non-aggression is thoroughly explored as it is relates to every facet of our lives, our government and our religious belief. Libertarian philosophy is presented in such a way that it becomes a religion itself for some readers. Dr. Ruwart modernizes the thinking of Ayn Rand, and she will perhaps have a greater effect on her readers with her pleasant and convincing way of communicating her views. Often referred to as 'the conscience of the Libertarian Party,' Dr. Ruwart presents her arguments in a persuasive manner, incorporates common sense and simplicity in her writing style and includes humor with cartoons. Teenagers and adults alike should enjoy this book and find solutions for many of their frustrations.

Every politician and government employee at every level should read Healing Our World and then use it as a day-to-day guide. The book lists a multitude of references. What a pleasure it would be to live in a community where all laws and relationships between people would follow the guidelines set up by Dr. Ruwart. The chapter, 'Wealth is Unlimited' is especially enjoyable because what we read and hear influences us to think of wealth as finite. Oil is being depleted, many species of animal life are becoming extinct, we are using up our forests, modern agriculture methods are not sustainable and similar comments make us think that if it is limited or running out, Dr. Ruwart will change your outlook and you will become optimistic about the future.

The ways our lives are affected by aggression -- at the point of a gun, if necessary -- are cited with respect to employment, small business, health, the drug war, the environment, banking, schools, poverty and more. A convincing argument is made for not achieving our political and social goals through the initiation of force.

Available from: SunStar Press, Box 342, Kalamazoo, MI 49005
MEETING & EVENTS CALENDAR:

November

Sunday, 22nd - Boulder Co. Hemp Initiative Hemp Hop 1992 at Tulagi's, 1139 13th Street, Boulder. Outlets & Three- Fisted Lullabye will play.

December

Tuesday, 1st - Denver LP will hold its monthly meeting at The Village Inn, 890 S. Colorado Blvd, at 7 p.m.

Saturday, 5th - Special Brainstorming Session, organized by CLP Chairman David Aitken, will be held at The Ptarmigan in Dillon between 9 a.m. & 4 p.m.

Tuesday, 8th - CLP Board of Directors meets at 720 E. 18th Ave., #309, Boulder, at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 9th - Boulder Co. LP meets at The James Pub, 13th & Walnut, Boulder, at 7 p.m. Speaker will be Vern Bickel, Chairman of the Colorado Union of Taxpayers.

Saturday, 12th - HEMP Initiative Reorganizational Meeting for 1993-94 at the University of Denver, Auraria. Campus, Student Union, Room 215 at 1 p.m.

Tuesday, 15th - Aurora Libertarians meet at Archie Malone's, Iliff & Buckley, Aurora, at 7 p.m. David Aitken, Chairman of the CLP, will speak.

January

Tuesday, 5th - Denver LP will hold its monthly meeting at The Village Inn, 890 S. Colorado Blvd, at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, 12th - CLP Board of Directors meets at 3300 Arapahoe, #215, Boulder, at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 13th - Boulder Co. LP meets at The James Pub, 13th & Walnut, Boulder, at 7 p.m. Speaker will be David Aitken, Chairman of the Colorado Libertarian Party.

Tuesday, 19th - Aurora Libertarians meet at Archie Malone's, Iliff & Buckley, Aurora, at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 20th - Jefferson Co. Libertarians will hold an open meeting at 1210 14th St., Lakewood, at 7 p.m.

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LNC Regional Representative
Dave Schumacher (303) 759-8169
3751 E. Dartmouth Ave., Denver, CO 80210

New Member Info 1-800-682-1776

Other Organizations

Advocates for Self-Government
Carole Ann Rand 1-800-932-1776
Buckley, Aurora, at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 20th - Jefferson Co. Libertarians will hold an organizational meeting at the home of Greg Carroll, 29135 Ranch Summit Drive in Golden, at 7:30 p.m. For directions or more information, contact Jerry Hatch at (303) 421-3675.

April

Fri.-Sat.-Sun., 23rd-25th - 1993 Colorado Libertarian Party Convention in Crestone, Colorado. Meetings will be held at the Crestone Restaurant; various choices in lodging & meals. Call Convention Coordinator Mary Margaret Glennie at (303) 484-8184 or (303) 838-1147 for more information.


Deadline for Feb./Mar./Apr. issue: January 25, 1993. Submissions may be made via modem by calling (303) 443-9179.

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