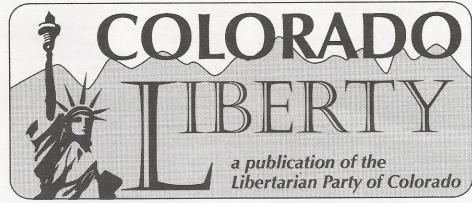
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- Upcoming Events (page 3)
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- Vote NO on Guide the Ride (page 6)



Volume XVIII, Number 8 http://www.pageplus.com/~lpcolorado/

October, 1997

## Who's Testing the Testers?

Basic English And Math Test Needed For Federal Politicians

by Charles Curley and Claire Wolfe

Because ridicule is a weapon:

Congress and the Clinton administration have recently contemplated (if it can be said that either has ever contemplated anything) a proposal to set national educational standards, then test all fourth graders for reading ability and all eighth graders for math skills.

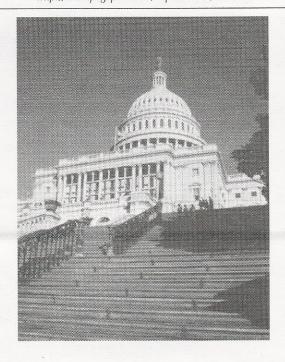
One question that has so far gone unasked is this: what qualifies politicians even to discuss standards, let alone impose them upon others? Given the standards of most politicians for ethics, personal hygiene, and relevance to the real world, we're not sure we want them setting standards

for anyone else.

Nevertheless, and much to our surprise, the Beltway Bullies have accidentally hit upon a good idea this time—just not in quite the way they intended. If they believe it is important to test school children, think how much more vital it is that we test our would-be rulers—those selfsame congresspeople and administratorsfor some minimum level of knowledge and skill.

Herewith we present:

The Sacredbull Basic **English And Math Test For** Federal Politicians



#### **SECTION I: Competency in English**

- 1. The phrase, "Congress shall make no law..." means:
- a. Congress shall make no law
- b. Congress shall make some laws...
- c. Americans can do anything they want, except things my colleagues and I, or our largest contributors, personally dislike.
- d. Congress can do anything it damn well pleases, starting with stacking the courts with our toadies.
- 2. What is the correct interpretation of the phrase "...the right of the people...shall not be infringed"?

a. The right of the people...shall not be infringed.

- b. The right of the people...shall be infringed, but only gradually, moderately and for the good of children and battered women (except the ones we batter).
- c. The right of the people is actually a state's right and the states are a bunch of wusses who'll put up with anything as long as we offer them enough tax-funded loot in return for selling out their citizens.
- d. The people are all sitting on their butts watching TV, so we can infringe any damn thing we feel like infringing, and we'll get the media to screw you if you think otherwise.
- 3. What is the meaning of the phrase, "The powers ... are reserved to the states, or to the people..."
- a. The powers...are reserved to the states, or to the people...
- b. The interstate commerce clause gives us the authority to do anything. Therefore there are no other powers left to reserve for those other twits. Too bad for them.
- c. Where'd you get a stupid idea like that? We're more powerful and have bigger guns than they do, and that's all that really matters, isn't it?
- d. Hahahahahahahahaha!
- 4. Essay Question: Write a bill (a proposed law, you twit) in plain English, for once. We just want to see if you can do it. Extra credit if it's constitutional or can be read and understood in less than ten minutes by a high school student of average intelligence.

(continued 2nd column next page)

#### From the Chair

Picnicking with Libertarians on the Elk Park Divide (with great views of the Spanish Peaks to the east and Mount Blanca to the west) brought on some thoughts that I'd like to share with you.

In the past this hike has been a challenge taking much of the day. This time it took less than an hour. Why? Persistence trying different routes (and reading the map when all else failed) finally paid off.

What does it take to be successful? If you look at the careers of many CEO's of major corporations you will discover a striking characteristic in common: that of multiple and sometimes spectacular failures. How did they end up as CEO's? They have another striking commonality: persistence. Regardless of past failures they kept on with new and often risky ventures. They eventually became very successful in the business world.

Think about Thomas Edison's attitude toward the hundreds of ways that did not produce an incandescent light; he felt that with each experiment that he had learned another way that did not produce light. He did not consider these failures, but rather an increase in knowledge. His persistence paid off after hundreds of trials. An aside: he had only 3 months of formal schooling.

Is there a lesson for the LP from these musings? We may find inspiration and energy to continue working toward freedom regardless of the short-term "failures". Who won the race of the "Tortoise and the Hare"?

"Persistence and perspiration beats the flash in the pan."

"You ain't whopped until you quit."

The tricky part is to use your energy wisely; to keep your life in balance with your work for freedom. When we first become activists many of us wanted to change the world today and throw ourselves into the cause...only to become burned out when it didn't happen overnight.

Thank you to all of you long-term activists who have figured out how to keep giving of your energy to make a difference for our freedoms in the long run. We welcome newcomers to join us in the hopes that this difference will happen sooner rather than later.

In Liberty, Sandra Johnson (Sacredbull Test continued from page 1)

### **SECTION II: Competency in Mathematics**

1. A fugitive oil baron named Roger gives \$300,000 to the Democratic National Committee for the specific purpose of gaining "access" to the president. For that, he is given six invitations to the White House, but does not get the pipeline he wanted. How much money should Roger give to the DNC next time?

a. Nothing. People shouldn't be able to bribe their way into the presence of public officials.

- b. This is a trick question. Next time, a Republican president might be in office, and Roger should give his money to the RNC, instead.
- c. I know the president. If Roger gives me the money, I'll give Roger access. Heck, I'll even throw in some hot babes, since Roger said the babes at the White House were too busy stroking Clinton to pay any attention to him.
- d. \$600,000. (Roger's answer, in testimony before Congress 9/18/97.)

2. According to the administration's own projections, Americans will soon face an 82 percent income tax rate if present entitlement programs and levels of federal growth persist. How many years before American citizens to rise up in rebellion?

 a. Americans should never be driven to that kind of desperation. We should immediately begin rolling the federal government back to constitutional levels.

- b. Don't worry, we're going to reform the tax system and, as Rep. Mitch McConnell says, "virtually abolish the IRS as we know it"; we'll just have an 82 percent national sales tax, instead.
- c. As soon as my term in office is over and I can get an oceanside place in Costa Rica, complete with Uzitoting bodyguards.
- d. What do we care? We'll just let Janet burn the little jerks and claim they committed suicide.

3. The federal budget is...oh...some great big figure in the gazillions The national debt is prob-

ably about five trillion dollars, give or take. The annual deficit is, you know, billions and billions and billions (not counting off-budget stuff like Amtrak and the Post Office). Budgets for Social Security and Medicare are increasing at some really wowie-zow of a percent every year. (Not like you care what the actual figures are, anyway.) Congress and the president have just cooked up a tax cut package filled with goodies for favored special interests. Please explain how you can claim the budget will be balanced by 2002.

- a. We can't do it without extreme cutbacks in government. Anybody who says we can is lying like a congressman.
- b. Revenues will...uh...yeah...revenues will increase because of all those tax breaks and...uh...the economy will be just perfect forever and ever and...uh...maybe some plague or something will come along and kill off all those money-sucking old folks...or something like that, maybe.
- c. The media said it's true, didn't they? What more proof do you want?
- d. Hey, that's for the suckers who are here in 2002 to figure out. I'll be in Costa Rica by then.
- e. Well, actually, now that I think about it, I'll be in some other country with an army so they can fight off the U.S. troops who will be sent to take my loot like they did Noriega's. Like, hey, I stole mine fair and square!

Correct answers: B, C, D and E (From the politicians' point of view, that is. Hey, you know, whatever we can get away with while the folks are watching TV...)

Correct answer, in reality:
"...whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it..."

—(c) 1997 Charles Curley and Claire Wolfe. Permission to reprint freely granted

Whenever a man has cast a longing eye on [public offices], a rottenness begins in his conduct.

—Thomas Jefferson

#### Calendar

#### October

- 10/8 Wed Boulder LP Board Meeting - 6:30pm - Trillian's, 30th and Arapahoe, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 10/11 Sat Breakfast Group -8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334.
- 10/14 Tue Boulder Activists Lunch - noon - Coco's, 28th and Iris, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775
- 10/14 Tue Denver Activists
   Meeting 7:00pm home of David
   Aitken, 1240 Ogden #4, Denver
   80218, 303-831-4334.
- 10/18 Sat Breakfast Group -8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334.
- 10/21 Tue Boulder Activists' Lunch - noon - Coco's, 28th and Iris, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 10/23 Thu Ballot Issue Forum
  7:00pm Longmont city council
  Chamber, 3rd & Kimbark, Longmont. Issues: 1) RTD's "Guide the
  Ride" debate between Directors
  Jon Caldera and Mary Blue; 2)
  Boulder County Jail tax increase
  debate between Sherriff George
  Epp, County Commissioner Paul
  Danish, Dr. Bob McFarland, and
  Richard Greene. The Libertarian
  Party of Boulder is hosting this
  event. (303) 774-0775
- 10/25 Sat Breakfast Group -8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334.
- 10/28 Tue Boulder Activists' Lunch - noon - Coco's, 28th and Iris, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.

#### November

 11/4 - Tue - Election Day - Please refer to our issues page on the LPCO website (URL is on the front of this Liberty) for suggestions on how to vote. Polls are open from 7am to 7pm. You may also take advantage of absentee and early voting. Call your county clerk or election commission for polling places.

- 11/5 Wed Board of Directors 7:00pm LPCO Office, 720
  E. 18th Ave
  #309, Denver,
  Co 80203, 303837-9393, all
  members welcome, public
  comment 6:45
  and 9:00.
- 11/6 Thu. Libertarian
   Community of Jefferson County 6:00pm Lakewood Library,
   10200 W. 20th. Ave., Lakewood,
   call Tom Goonan, (303) 989-3774
- 11/8-9 Sat/Sun Success '97 Denver. This two-day workshop is
  your chance to learn the secrets
  and techniques of Libertarian
  political success. Call Kris Williams
  at the national office (202) 3330008 x231. Program and dinner:
  \$89; program: \$59; dinner: \$50
- 11/11 Tue Denver Activists
   Meeting 7:00pm home of David
   Aitken, 1240 Ogden #4, Denver,
   Co 80218, 303-831-4334.
- 11/12 Wed Boulder LP Board Meeting - 6:30pm - Trillian's, 30th and Arapahoe, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.

#### April, 1998

 4/24-26 - Fri/Sat - LPCO State Convention - Sheraton Denver West Hotel, 360 Union Blvd

#### July, 1998

 7/2-5 - National Convention -Washington, DC. (202) 333-0008

#### Kudos

- Kudos to Stuart Barr, Stephanie, Ron Parrish, Jim Misa, Dave Bryant, David Aitken, BetteRose Smith, Bill Fargo, and Doug Anderson for assembling the last issue of the Liberty for mailing.
- Kudos to Larry Hoffenberg for his continuing presence on the Dan Kilo show, Sunday evenings on 1280 AM Ralph.
- Kudos to BetteRose Smith for picking up the September Liberty from the bindery and taking it to the LPCO office.

# Join the Hemlock Society!

Change the laws to get government off our backs! Let doctors help terminally ill adults, who request it, to die with dignity!

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or send e-mail to hemlock@privati.com

Do I want 6-year-olds shooting up with heroin? No, of course not.
Do I think the War on Drugs does anything to stop 6-year-olds from shooting up with heroin? No, of course not.

-Harry Browne

#### Colorado Liberty

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#### Colophon:

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# More

Learn the secrets of LP victory at Success '97



Success '97 is your opportunity to

learn the secrets and techniques of Libertarian political success. It's your chance to acquire the tools you need to build growing LP affiliate parties—or run a successful campaign.

uccess '97 is a two-day LP leadership workshop, to be held in Denver, Colorado. Sessions will be held Saturday & Sunday, November 8th & 9th, with a banquet on Saturday night.

Success '97 is hosted by the LP's most experienced activists with a proven track record of success. It's also interactive: You'll get a chance to ask questions, share ideas, and get advice.

You can sign up for workshops in party-building or campaigns.

he party-building portion will cover: State party organizing; LP communication; public speaking; and fundraising. Plus: newsletters, media outreach, meetings, budgets, & volunteers.

The campaigning workshops include: Goal-setting for candidates; raising your first \$2,500; public speaking; issues research; organization and volunteers; advertising and publicity; strategy; and Get Out The Vote (GOTV).

November 8 & 9 Denver, Colorado

#### PACKAGES

PROGRAM & DINNER

Early Registration: \$89 Late Registration: \$109

PROGRAM Early Registration: \$59

DINNER ONLY Early Registration: \$50 Late Registration: \$60

Register at the door: \$79

#### Quote/Unquote

"I was very impressed with the expertise [of] all the speakers. I have not stopped talking about it."

-MICHAEL DIXON. LP OF ILLINOIS

# genda

# Successful Party-Building

Success 97's Party-Building Seminars will explain proven techniques of political success. Sessions include:

- The Road to Victory: A strategy for LP victory, based on building a larger base of support. Topics: Setting measurable goals: developing effective tactics.
- State Party Organizing: A strategic vision for successful state parties: Party infrastructure: political activity; professionalizing all activities.
- Secrets of Winning LP Communication: Newsletters. press releases, and outreach materials. Topics: Improving your newsletter; press releases that generate media; better brochures.
- Public Speaking: Portraying LP ideas in a compelling way. Topics: Preparing & delivering speeches for civic groups, high

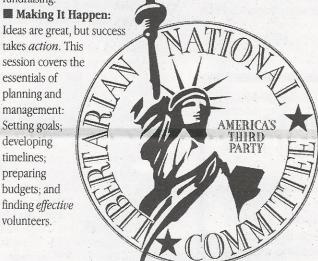
school & college classes; successful radio and TV interviews; participating in forums.

Fundraising: How to raise \$100 per member per year. Topics: Monthly pledge programs: direct mail; event fundraising; personal solicitation; telephone fundraising.

Making It Happen: Ideas are great, but success takes action. This session covers the essentials of planning and management: Setting goals; developing timelines; preparing

budgets; and

volunteers.



#### Quote/Unquote

"One of the most informative meetings I've ever attended. I brought back all sorts of ideas."

> -EMILY SALVETTE, LP OF MICHIGAN

# Successful Campaigning

The Success 97 Campaign Seminar can take your campaign to the next level.

SESSION 1. Running for Party Growth: Focuses on building the LP's influence whether or not you get elected. Learn: Building party membership; raising money more easily; winning your precinct. Plus: How to build a base of support for future electoral victory.

SESSION 2. Running to WIN! Focusing on winning your election. Learn: Identifying supporters - and getting them to the polls on election day. Plus: Issues Research; Organization and Volunteers; Fundraising; Advertising & Publicity; Campaign Strategy; Get Out The Vote (GOTV).

# Speakers

- Steve Dasbach: National LP Chair
- Perry Willis: Libertarian Party National Director.
- Bill Winter: LP Communications Director; former N.H. State Chair.
- Ron Crickenberger: National LP Political Director.
- Jim Lark: Faculty Advisor to the College Liberty Coalition.

#### To Register

MAIL: Libertarian National Committee, Inc. • Attn: Kris Williams 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100 • Washington DC 20037

PHONE: (202) 333-0008 Ext. 228 + Or: (202) 333-0085

FAX: (202) 333-0072 ♦ E-MAIL: 75767.1434@compuserve.com

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THE REAL PROPERTY.		M		

Name Address City State Phone [ ] Day [ ] Evening Occupation\* Employer\*

YES! I plan to attend the "Rocky Mountain" Success '97 conference.

I'm interested in attending: 🖸 Party-Building Workshop 📮 Campaigning Workshop. Sign me up for the following package(s) at the reduced, early-registration prices:

Program & Dinner: \$89 Program Only: \$59 Dinner only: \$50 In the boxes above, please write in the number of people registering for each of the different packages.

Total # of people attending: Party-Building Workshop Campaign Workshop

Name(s) of other attendees: PAYMENT: Check or money order enclosed. Or: Charge my MasterCard Visa

☐ I'm not sure yet — I may attend. Please send me a complete information package about the Denver, Colorado Success '97 conference.

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

#### Idaho Environmental "Science"

A freshman at Eagle Rock Junior High won first prize at the Greater Idaho Falls Science Fair. He was attempting to show how conditioned we have become to alarmists practicing junk science related to environmental issues. In his project, the young student urged people to sign a petition demanding strict control or total elimination of the chemical "dihydrogen monoxide."

And for plenty of good reasons, since it:

- 1. can cause excessive sweating and vomiting
- 2. is a major component in acid rain
- 3. can cause severe burns in its gaseous state
- 4. can kill you if you accidentally inhale it
- 5. contributes to erosion
- 6. decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes
- 7. has been found in tumors of terminal cancer patients

He asked 50 people if they supported a ban of the chemical. Forty-three said yes, six were undecided, and only one knew that dihydrogen monoxide was... water.

The title of his prize-winning project was, "How Gullible Are We?"

—The Federalist

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#### Vote NO on "Guide the Ride"

By Larry Hoffenberg Public Information Director, Libertarian Party of Colorado

On November 4th, voters in the six-county Denver metropolitan area will cast their votes on an unprecedented 67% increase in the RTD sales tax, from 0.6% to a full 1%. It's unlikely that you as a Libertarian have any doubts about whether to vote against this measure. As for the rest of the electorate, here's some ammunition to help convince your friends and neighbors.

How much will the Guide the Ride plan cost? This proposal will increase the RTD sales tax by 67%! This will cost the typical family of four an additional \$200 a year in taxes. Over the lifetime of the plan, "Guide the Ride" will cost the typical family \$21,000. RTD has budgeted the plan to cost \$6 billion in the first 17 years. By the time "Guide the Ride" is paid off it will have consumed nearly \$16 billion in sales and user taxes and \$21 billion total.

Will it alleviate traffic congestion? RTD's own studies show that "Guide the Ride" will do very little to reduce traffic congestion. RTD has estimated that if this plan does not pass, they will carry 2.3% of all commuter traffic in 2020. However, if it does pass, RTD estimates that "Guide the Ride" will only increase RTD's share of commuter traffic by a measly 0.6%, to 2.9% of all commuter traffic. In other words, "Guide the Ride" will take only 1 of every 200 cars off the road.

Will guide the ride reduce pollution? This plan does virtually nothing to reduce air pollution. According to RTD's own numbers in the three transit corridors where they have bothered to do studies, air pollutants in the year 2020 will be reduced by less than 1% in most air quality categories. Perhaps even more disturbing, according to RTD's own study, pollution in the east transit corridor will actually increase.

Will light rail speed my commute to work? Actually, the average light rail commute is 45 minutes vs. an average commute of 21 minutes by automobile. RTD claims that light rail can travel 55 mph, and technically this is true. But, factor in all of the stops that a light rail will have to make, and the actual speed is closer to 15-20 mph. In fact, RTD's current experimental light rail line averages 14.5 mph.

What do we get for our tax dollars? Unfortunately, RTD is not quite sure. They have proposed seven so-called "transit corridors," but they have done feasibility studies on only three of the corridors. For the remaining four corridors, RTD cannot tell you whether you will have light rail, heavy rail, guided buses, or personal rapid transit. In their zeal to place this proposed tax increase on the ballot, they decided to forgo the remaining studies until after the election.

YOU can help defeat this 67% tax increase with your contributions, your time, and your energy. Write a letter to the editor. Come demonstrate at a rally. Call a talk radio show, especially The Mike Rosen Show. If you'd like to help keep RTD out of our wallets, please call CCC (303) 420-0102 ext.. "RTD" as soon as possible. Send your check to: CCC, P. O. Box 1695, Boulder, CO 80306.

"Force, if you will!—the franchise is force, naked and raw, the Power of the Rods and the Ax. Whether it is exerted by ten men or by ten billion, political authority is force."

—Major Reid, History and Moral Philosophy teacher, in "Starship Troopers" by Robert A. Heinlein Libertarian Party - US

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1-900-4LiberT

(454-2378) Election results, Congress Watch, LP news

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Aspen "The Liberty Coalition"

Tom Peckham (970) 925-6027

P.O. Box 9766, Aspen CO 81612

Aurora Libertarians

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http://www.geocities.com/capitolhill/7093

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Western Colorado Libertarians

**Brent Shrover** 970-675-2337

PO Box 292, Rangely CO 81648

#### **Candidate Recruiters**

U.S. Congressional District 1

David Segal (303) 296-4059

2943 Vine Street, Denver CO 80205

U.S. Congressional District 2

Vacant and available; to volunteer, contact Doug Anderson at (303) 698-2651

U.S. Congressional District 3 Carol Stuckey Hill (719) 486-3130

424 East 11th, Leadville CO 80461

U.S. Congressional District 4

Randy Fitzgerald (970) 223-6025

413 Skysail Lane, Fort Collins CO 80525

U.S. Congressional District 5 Vacant and available; to volunteer, contact Doug Anderson

at (303) 698-2651

not have to be a county.

U.S. Congressional District 6 Bob Hogan (303) 978-9803

38 Blue Sage, Littleton CO 80123 If your area (or campus) doesn't have a local contact and you'd consider being one, please contact Outreach Director Dan Cochran. A local area can be anything that makes sense. It does

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