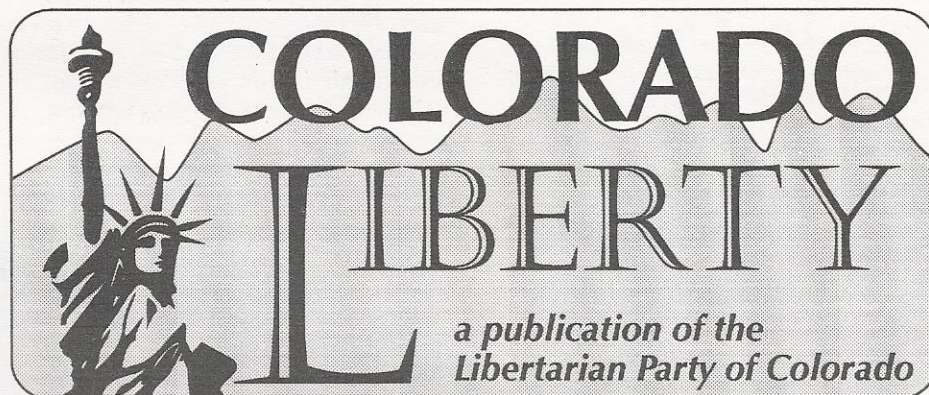


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September 1998



Sandra Johnson, Gubernatorial candidate, talks about education, roads and transportation. Photo by Fallis.

Press Conference Unites Candidates

by Joanna Fallis

DENVER— The Libertarian Party of Colorado held a press conference on August 7 at the Denver Press Club. Thirteen of the twenty-four Libertarian Candidates attended.

Craig Stinson, Public Information Director for the Colorado Libertarian Party, introduced the state candidates. Sandra Johnson, Fort Garland, Libertarian candidate for Governor of Colorado stated that it's time for quality education, for good roads and better solutions to our transportation issues, and for lower taxes. "Why is the government trying to solve our 21st century transportation problems with 19th century rail technology? It's time to move government out of the way to allow creative people to generate economic growth."

Dan Cochran, Loveland, Libertarian candidate for Lt. Governor, spoke of government expanding into the lives of individuals even to the extent of telling you how and when you can walk your dog. "Laws restricting freedom for safety reasons in a free society need to be examined."

Photo by Fallis.



Candidates Simpson, Perkins, Lloyd, McQueen, White, Kruse, Romack, Johnson, Bryant, Aitken, Cochran, Allen and Sweeny.

David Bryant, Denver, Libertarian candidate for State Treasurer, stated the duties, as outlined in the Colorado Constitution, of the office he seeks, his qualifications and how he would perform these duties. "Individuals would do a much better job of taking care of themselves than any government or agency ever will!"

W. Earl Allen, Thornton, Libertarian Candidate for State House District #31 said, "The public education monopoly is outrageous. Give parents both the right and responsibility to educate their kids."

Other candidates in attendance were: Geoffrey Lloyd, Secretary of State; Wayne White, Jr., Attorney General; Warren Kruse, State House District #4; David Aitken, State House District #5; Jeff McQueen, State House District #18 (Colorado Springs); Lloyd Sweeny, State House District #27 (Arvada); Michael Perkins, State House District #11; Kathy Romack, State House District #56 (Jackson Co. and others); and Michael Simpson, State House District #61 (Gunnison).

From The Chair

It's campaign time! Everyone is talking about the issues. We have the Stadium Tax, we have traffic congestion, we have new and improved gun laws, and we have our work cut out for us!

The word Libertarian is becoming more common in the media and an unprecedented number of people are beginning to understand what it means. We have a wonderful opportunity to help them in their understanding and gain new allies. When we talk about the issues of the day, the words we chose to describe our beliefs send a message of their own. I have found that the best way to explain my political views without offending or outright scaring my friends is to give examples of how Libertarian ideas will help them get what they want while staying clear of certain terms.

When you say "legalize or decriminalize drugs", many people see teenagers sitting around on street corners shooting up heroin. They may even believe millions of people will call in sick for work everyday and start smoking crack-cocaine. They believe laws prohibiting drug use are necessary.

In the twenties, Prohibition failed. It failed because Prohibition doesn't work. People will always do what they want to do, and if you add a large profit margin to anything, even more people will want to do it. Instead of concentrating on one's "constitutional right" to fry their own brain on crystal methadrine, let's talk about taking away the financial motive to sell drugs. The bigger the risk to the drug dealer, the higher the price; the higher the price, the more talented the drug dealer. Is it any wonder that drug dealers are contributing thousands of dollars to political leaders who in turn pass more drug Prohibition laws?

When you use the term "free market", some people envision large corporations like AT&T, Pepsi-Cola, IBM and Warner Brothers running the country. They see big companies cutting down all the trees or putting hundreds of motels in the Grand Canyon. Only the rich will have schools or doctors. So when discussing something like public schools, I will ask a friend if they would like to have control over the curriculum, or how they feel about bad teachers who

can't be fired because of tenure. Once we have settled on the basics, I will go into depth on how the "free market" will achieve the end results without saying the "F" word.

Abolish taxes? Libertarians can't possibly abolish taxes. How would we defend ourselves from the common terrorist or the next Hitler? Who would protect the Spotted Owl or the poor or the children? How would we pay for things like roads?

We must take care that the term "user fees" doesn't replace the term "taxes." The key difference being that if you don't use it, you don't pay for it. Don't be misled by thinking if you don't own a car you don't use the roads. If you buy products shipped by truck, you use the roads. When I explain how user fees work, I am very careful to include the instances in which one would not have to pay as well as when one would.

The last issue I'd like to address is as personal and as volatile as abortion. Many believe we must protect our Flag from those who would desecrate it. I love my country, and what its Flag stands for, but I believe any society that has strayed so far from its founding principals, that it **needs** a Flag burning Amendment, has much bigger problems than trying to force a false patriotism on its constituents. After all, as history proves, prohibition doesn't work.

Michele Bethke State Chair

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The candidates, again.

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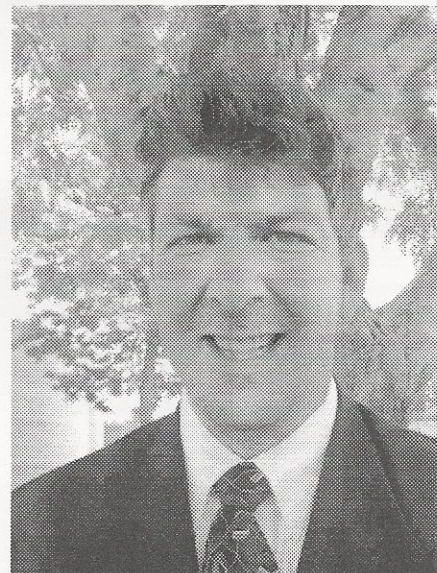
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Doug Anderson attracting press at the picnic.



Ken Kirkmeyer, candidate for House District 12.

Calendar

September, 1998

- 9/1 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Coco's, 28th and Iris, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 9/1 - Tue - **Larimer County Activist breakfast** - 7am - Joe's Fireside Cafe, 238 S. College Ave., Fort Collins. Contact: Lee Smith (970) 635-0395.
- 9/3 - Thu - **Libertarian Community of Jefferson County - 1st Thursday** - 6:00pm -, Tom Goonan's home: 12895 W. 16th Drive, Golden, CO 80401, snack and conversation at 6:00pm, call Tom Goonan, (303) 278-1698
- 9/5-7 - Sat-Mon - **Boulder Home-town Fair Speaker's Corner** - 11:00 - 7:00, corner of Broadway and Canyon. This is a good opportunity for Libertarian speakers to reach a wider audience. Contact Howard Lambert (303) 546-6638 (email: HowardLambert@compuserve.com) or George Ripley at 303 398-0533 to schedule your speaking opportunity. Both Sandra Johnson, our candidate for Governor, and Dan Cochran, candidate for Lt. Governor, will be there.
- 9/5 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334.
- 9/7 - Mon - **Board of Directors** - 7:00pm - LP Office, 720 E 18th Ave #309, Denver, Co 80203, 303-837-9393, all members welcome, public comment 6:45 and 9:00.
- 9/8 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Coco's, 28th and Iris, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 9/9 - Wed - **Boulder LP Board Meeting - 2nd Wednesday** - 6:30pm - Trillian's, 30th and Arapahoe, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 9/12 - Sat - 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Humanities Garden at the University of Denver campus — **Colorado Women's Agenda** invites candidates. Not clear if the public is invited. Call Karen Amidon, 303-863-7336 for info.
- 9/12 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334.
- 9/15 - Tue - 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., **Political Rally at the Golden Community Center**, 1470 10th St., Golden. Contact: Lloyd Sweeny 303-456-9750.
- 9/15 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Coco's, 28th and Iris, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 9/19 - Sat - **El Paso County Libertarian Party Pot Luck Dinner** at 6:00 PM on September 19th at 2930 Shoreham Circle in Colorado Springs. This is mainly a social event but we also talk about current LP activities. Call Paul Gilbert at 719-576-7005.
- 9/19 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334.
- 9/21 - Mon - **Ft. Collins Activists - 3rd Monday** - 7:00pm - China Dragon, 1401 W. Elizabeth, Fort Collins. Contact Dan Cochran (970) 667-7557.
- 9/22 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Coco's, 28th and Iris, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 9/26 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334.
- 9/29 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Coco's, 28th and Iris, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.

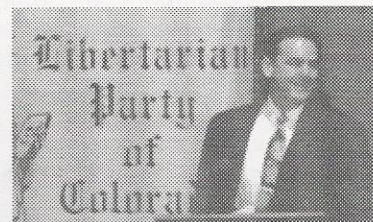
October, 1998

- 10/13 - Tue - **Political Rally in Colorado Springs**. Details not yet available, contact Sandra Johnson or John Berntson 719-532-0118 for details as time approaches.
- 10/19 - Mon - 5:30 to 9:00 p.m., **Political Rally, Larimer County Fairgrounds**, 710 S. Railroad Ave., Loveland. Statewide candidates in attendance will be allowed a 4 minute speech. Contact: Dan Cochran, 970-667-7557.

November, 1998

- 11/3 - Tue - **Election Day** - Vote Libertarian! 7am to 7pm at your local polling place.

- 11/7-8 - Sat-Sun - **The Fully Informed Jury Association** will be holding its annual convention in Dallas on November 7th and 8th. Call 406-793-5550 for details.
- 11/12-14 - Thu-Sat - **The Separation of School and State Alliance** will hold its annual conference at the Antlers Doubletree Hotel in Colorado Springs. Call 209-292-1776 for details.



Lt. Gov. candidate Dan Cochran at Press Conf.

Colorado Liberty

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Colophon:

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The John Voss Story: Government Out Of Control

by John Voss

Chapter Seven - Reflections, Conclusion

1.) The 1992 partnership penalty case

Our recent courtroom proceedings have been discouraging, yet at the same time, educational. Prior to our most recent appearance in court in answer to criminal charges, we had sought the court's assistance in our efforts to dispel the IRS' \$4.2 million partnership penalty, in order to recover the members' \$2 million in silver and gold coin stolen at gunpoint by the IRS in 1985. In view of Judge Matsch's ultimate upholding of the IRS penalty, it would appear that it was a mistake for us to seek the assistance of the court.

But was it a mistake? Short of attempting to retrieve the coin in the same way it was taken (armed force), we could think of no other recourse. The court was really not the proper forum for an association such as ours, however, because NCBA had no judicially-recognized form; we were simply a group of citizens who had associated, or in the verbiage of the First Amendment, assembled to petition our government for redress of grievances (reform of the tax and monetary systems). Our dealing with each other in silver and gold coin was far more ideological and political than commercial. Thus, had the IRS been the one to file the action in the courts, it's reasonable to assume that Judge Matsch, or any other judge, might have declined to get involved, on the basis that NCBA's "amorphous" nature did not provide him "in personam" jurisdiction over NCBA.

But the IRS did not ask the court for assistance; NCBA did. As a result, the judge may have briefly pondered the jurisdictional issue after receipt of our complaint, but he likely concluded that since NCBA was asking the court to resolve the conflict, NCBA wanted to court to assert jurisdiction and to get involved. The IRS, knowing the system and the likely outcome far better than NCBA, helped Judge Matsch resolve the jurisdictional question by providing

evidence that we had dealt with large sums of legal tender as we assisted members in their purchases of silver and gold coin. And we (director and managers) admitted that we charged just enough for our assistance to meet our office and personal expenses. Thus Judge Matsch was convinced that we were sufficiently "doing business" for him to rely on a Colorado statute which provided that such activities were adequate to classify such business as a partnership, for taxation and judicial purposes. After arriving at the same "partnership" conclusion that the IRS had (although via this different route), Judge Matsch next considered the IRS' evidence that no NCBA member had filed a partnership return. It was a relatively simple thing for him to then make the only decision he could in light of the facts, and to uphold the statutory penalty for failing to file partnership tax returns.

Our assumption on entering Judge Matsch's court was that he would do more probing, more fact-finding than he did. In theory, the courts are the ultimate finders of fact, the vehicle through which the truth is rigorously sought in the protection of individual freedom. We optimistically felt that such fact-finding would be done, and would re-establish that we were still the essentially political organization that we had started out to be some ten years earlier, and that our boycott of the Federal Reserve and our advocacy of using silver and gold coin for transactions among ourselves amounted more to our petitioning government for redress of grievances, than to "doing business" with the public at large.

Perhaps we were lax in sufficiently establishing our identity and political purpose in front of Judge Matsch this time around, although we had presented such information previously when we had wound up in his courtroom. In retrospect it does seem that we presented a bit less factual evidence and testimony of our (First Amendment-protected) associational nature to Judge Matsch than we did years earlier when we were in front of Judge Kane. Kane recognized our associational First Amendment protections in *In re First National Bank of Englewood*, *supra*, and struck down the IRS' efforts to obtain membership name and address information through the use of IRS and grand jury

subpoenas for our bank records.

We did bring out the facts that, since then, we had organized and supported several political campaign efforts, and had worked with other groups to formulate and propose tax reform legislation to Congress. However, over the same years we had also established a lengthy record of our stubborn efforts in the courts to defeat or reform the existing tax laws and enforcement, a record which apparently did not favorably impress the judge, as evidenced by his remarks.

In his ruling, Judge Matsch called our "resistance to the tax regime" part of our "central mission," and cited 23 civil or criminal cases in which "NCBA and its members" had been directly or indirectly involved. He also referred to a government exhibit which purported that 401 individuals appearing on NCBA rolls (their names were revealed on multi-plaintiff proceedings) had been either criminal defendants in tax cases, or had asserted legal positions in civil tax matters (tax court) determined by the court to be "frivolous." To his credit, the judge apparently didn't hold all 401 cases against us; he noted that nearly half of those 401 had originated as disputes with the IRS before a party joined NCBA or before NCBA was even formed. (See *NCBA/NCE v. U.S.*, *supra*, page 659.)

Do you see how the 23 cases and the 401 individuals had anything to do with factually determining the question of whether or not our association was a partnership? Of course not, because they did not. I'm sure that reviewing such statistics however did help the judge to rationalize his decision to uphold the IRS' partnership label of us and the attendant penalty, and then possession of the seized coin was automatically settled.

So, the forum we chose to get to the truth of the matter was not the right one: it fell far short of establishing the truth of whether or not we were a partnership. Perhaps, had we thought through the nature of the forum, we would have realized the limitation and dangers and not pursued our issues there. But we wanted to contest the unjustness of the imposed penalty and try to get everyone's precious metals returned, and could see no other peaceful alternative.

The unfavorable results demonstrated to us that today's court processes are designed around rules and precedent and will stop short of finding the truth if rules and precedent offer an expeditious settlement of questions of power, money or other consideration between parties over whom they have jurisdiction.

In our case, after assuming jurisdiction, Judge Matsch stopped his probe when he realized that the state law allowed him to rule that we could be viewed as a partnership. He was thus saved the trouble of going further and reaching the question of whether or not we all had a constitutionally-protected right to form an association for our purposes (amorphous or otherwise), and whether or not members of the association could hold assets belonging to other members. His ruling simply supported the existing legal and taxation systems, without considering our fundamental freedoms.

2.) Our 1994 Criminal Conviction Case

Similarly, the orchestration of Prosecutor Murphy and Judge Carrigan of our convictions is further evidence that our present court system is more intent of resolving conflicts with conflict, rather than through pursuit of truth.

Consider, for example, the judge's prohibition of my testimony relevant to my understanding as to whom the subpoenas were directed and to whom they applied; his threats to my attorney when my attorney attempted to bring up appellate rulings precisely pertinent to our position and the judge's refusal of our proposed jury instructions, which were based on case law favorable to our position. The judge and prosecutor did not relax their zeal for our significant imprisonment once the contempt convictions were rendered.

Even though the jury found no basis in the other 11 counts of criminal activity alleged in the indictment, Murphy and Carrigan saw "obstruction of justice" in our action. What "justice" had we obstructed? The trial jury found us not guilty of any other alleged illegal acts, so why should we be severely punished for the time and money the prosecution had spent in their years-long harassment of us? A generous answer to that question would be to simply acknowl-

edge that the system is not perfect. A less-generous criticism of the system is to say that it is so far from perfect that it allows manipulation of the pursuit for truth, right down to the sentencing—where a sentence consistent only with the inconsistencies may be imposed.

Do I feel that we've lost our long-standing battle over the sanctity of our records? Not at all. Although they've stolen some of our records by undercover means, and stolen some by armed, brute force, the IRS has never been able to obtain them lawfully. They wanted the records initially in order to contact and harass members into abandoning their involvement with NCBA's advocacy. They spent 16 years and untold numbers of dollars and man-hours to try to kill an idea—that is, a demand for reforms by the governed to their governors.

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Ironically, along the way they assisted us with our education efforts. Hundreds of other Americans including some of the bureaucrats themselves received valuable insight into what is wrong with our current monetary and tax systems. Thousands more became interested as friends told friends what was happening; even newspapers piqued interest with their reports of our activities, albeit biased.

Partly due to our efforts as well as the efforts of similar organizations now in existence throughout the country, a bill, H.R. 1325/2001, was created that explains in detail just how a new taxing method, a National Retail Sales Tax, could replace the income tax, eliminate filing returns, and end the IRS. Grassroots demand for abolishment of the income tax and the IRS is growing. News of the IRS' heavy-handedness against those attempting peaceful reform, both individuals as well as groups, is spreading through newsletters and radio talk shows.

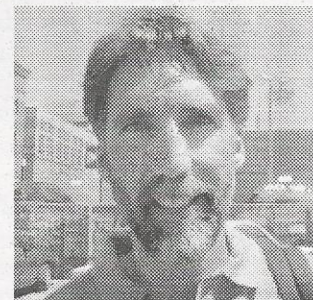
In September 1997 a Senate investigation into widespread abuses of citizens by the IRS made front-page headlines. Thousands of calls jamming the committee's switchboard are

evidence that more and more Americans are finally riled enough to overcome their fear of the IRS and to speak out. It is my hope that as the current investigation brings more and more abuses to light, and as people put aside their fears and come forward to demand change, we may soon have sufficient grassroots pressure to force our representatives to support bills to abolish the income tax and the IRS. My own prosecution has not dissuaded me from such goals, and I will continue to pursue them however I may.

Hail Victory!
John Voss

¹ There is at present (1997) a strong effort by the world banking cartel to eliminate gold and silver backing from any and all currencies in circulation, in order that such ties not limit the expansion (inflation) of the "one world" system of paper money and credit now being established. Today, Switzerland is the only country in the world that maintains gold as a precious metal "backing" for their currency, and it has done so for generations. This simply means that Swiss bank account holders can and always have been able to exchange their paper Swiss francs for gold, whenever they so chose. This may not be the case for much longer, however, as Swiss bankers are quickly succumbing to the strong pressure of world popular opinion to sell off their gold reserves. The pressure has been cleverly generated and nurtured by unsupported allegations (origin: the world banking cartel?) that Swiss bankers have embezzled gold savings of Holocaust victims—savings that should have been passed along to the victims' heirs.

Chapter 7 concludes the John Voss story.



Michael Simpson is the candidate for State House District 61, which covers Gunnison.

Speakers' Corner at Boulder's Hometown Fair

by Howard Lambert

Boulder, Colorado, is having its first Hometown fair on Labor Day weekend: September 5, 6, & 7, featuring a Speakers' Corner and many other attractions as well. The fair is open on Saturday from 10 to 10, Sunday from 10 to 9 and Monday (Labor Day) from 10 to 7.

Speakers' Corner will be open each day from 11 to 7. The location is at the corner of Broadway and Canyon, just south of the old library.

The idea of Speakers' Corner is to encourage free speech. We are inviting all the candidates that are on the ballot in Boulder and all the organizations we can think of. We'll be providing an open mike for speakers who don't want to be scheduled but want to give an impromptu speech. There will be a microphone, a platform, bales of hay for the audience to sit on, and a master of ceremonies to introduce the speakers and keep the ball rolling. This presents a great opportunity for Libertarians.

We are a young party trying to get people to run for election. We are trying to win elections, but we have a long way to go in this area. Aside from not having very many candidates running, people don't vote for us because they don't understand the benefits of Libertarianism. Before we can hope to win elections, we need to educate the public. And this is where the Speakers' Corner can help.

Things you can do: 1) Work up a speech about the minimum wage, jurors rights, the basic idea of the LP (which is the non initiation of force), or any other idea that illustrates the benefits of Libertarianism; 2) come to the fair and support the LP candidates and LP speakers; 3) come to the fair and ask difficult questions of the other candidates; and 4) come to the fair and give an impromptu speech.

If any of you are interested in giving a scheduled speech, need help with your speech, or have any questions, please call me at (303) 546-6638 or email me at HowardLambert@compuserve.com. I will contact the speech scheduler, or

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Michael Perkins,
candidate for
State House,
District 11
(Boulder).



State House District 31 candidate W. Earl Allen.

Letter

Editor and readers:

As someone who has used both tobacco and cocaine, I must respond to the letter by Daniel Updike which urged us, "In the name of Babe Ruth and Humphrey Bogart, let's stop the hypocrisy and admit that tobacco is a drug, perhaps as dangerous as crack cocaine."

I agree. It is time to stop the hypocrisy. Since his products are illegal and he is constantly worried about being arrested, a black marketer must be more concerned with a quick profit than with return customers; he could care less how his products affect his customers. Likewise, since both use and possession are illegal, the user will be less likely to seek medical attention for an adverse reaction than someone who is using a "legal" drug.

Yes, it's time to end the hypocrisy! It's time to dismantle both the DEA and the FDA.

Ken Kirkmeyer Libertarian Candidate,
State House 12

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homepage: <http://www.angelfire.com/co/kirkmeyer>

Laura Kriho's Appeal Heard

By Vin Suprynowicz

Attorneys for Laura Kriho, 34, of Nederland, Colo. — the first juror in more than 300 years to be convicted of contempt of court based on statements she made during sequestered jury deliberations — offered oral arguments to the Colorado Court of Appeals as they appealed her bizarre conviction in Denver August 10.

Ms. Kriho was found guilty of criminal contempt in February 1997. Judge Henry Nieto ruled that prospective jurors have a duty to advise the court if they doubt the wisdom of the government's drug laws (for example), or if they have knowledge of the jury's traditional right to acquit in the face of the evidence.

Judge Nieto ruled a prospective juror commits a crime by failing to rise and aggressively bring such political beliefs or historical knowledge to the attention of the court, even if prosecutors forget to ask them any specific questions about these topics.

Kriho — who received donations from well-wishers adequate to post a bond equal to her \$1,200 fine — was the last juror seated in the 1996 trial of a 19-year-old Colorado woman accused of methamphetamine possession.

After the jury retired to deliberate, Kriho expressed the opinion to her fellow jurors that the sentence the defendant would face if convicted was excessive. A fellow juror then snatched on Kriho, slipping a note to the judge, who had instructed the jurors not to consider the possible sentence in their deliberations. The judge declared a mistrial, without allowing deliberations to continue. The appeals court could take several months to rule on the case.

"Jurors cannot be told what they must do in the deliberative process," Kriho's attorney Paul Grant told the three-judge panel. "You can't have trial by jury where you throw out jurors who are independent thinkers."

Colorado Assistant Attorney General Roger Billotte told the judges Kriho had obstructed justice by failing to mention that she favored the legalization of hemp. Although Ms. Kriho had called the clerk of the court that morning to try to get out of jury

service — only to be told she was expected to hitchhike to the courthouse if she didn't have a car — the state contends she "hoped to win a slot on the jury to push her political agenda."

"The jury system was created as a means for citizens to check the power of their government," Grant responds. "Punishing jurors for their beliefs and speech will destroy the jury system, as will purging juries of all independent-minded jurors."

The Washington Times reported Aug. 11: "Experts believe the last time jurors were charged with a crime for failing to issue a guilty verdict was in 1670, when a jury was imprisoned and fined for refusing to convict William Penn of unlawful preaching" in the streets of London.

"From the appearances during the arguments, the court was trying to find a way to acquit," Grant told me this week. "They asked the assistant attorney general, 'Assuming that you couldn't properly introduce any of the evidence from the jury deliberations, what have you got left?' And he said, 'Well, she didn't disclose she was arrested when she was 19' (an LSD possession beef which was later expunged from Kriho's record.) And they said 'OK, what else have you got?' and he said 'Well, she didn't disclose that she's been active in the hemp legalization movement.' So they asked 'To what question should she have disclosed that?' and he said, 'When she was asked about her hobbies.' "

Appeals Court Judge Sandra Rothenberg asked the most probing questions of the state's attorney, Grant recalled. "I said to her the right of the jury amounts to more than just determining facts and taking the law as the judge gives it to them. Go back to the Revolution, they were not fighting for the right to apply British law as the British judges wanted it applied. That's why they denied us a right to trial by jury, because colonial juries were judging the law.

"She did ask the deputy A.G. whether jury nullification is a right in Colorado, and he said 'No. it is not.' So she asked 'Would it be inappropriate for a defense attorney to argue that, even if you find the evidence against my client overwhelming, you may find him innocent?' and he said no, that would not be an appropriate argument."

In his summation, Grant recalls, "I got into what judges want to use this decision for. What they're doing right now in Colorado is they're asking prospective jurors 'Do you know about jury rights?' and if you do then you're out. And I said that was just unacceptable."

Should Kriho's conviction be upheld, that ruling would be appealed to the Colorado state Supreme Court, Grant said.

The docket number is Appeals Case No. 97 CA 700. Contributions can be made to: Laura Kriho Legal Defense Fund, P.O. Box 729, Nederland, Colo. 80466

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"The right of self-defense is the first law of nature; in most governments it has been the study of rulers to confine this right within the narrowest limits possible. Wherever standing armies are kept up, and when the right of the people to keep and bear arms is, under any color or pretext whatsoever, prohibited, liberty, if not already annihilated, is on the brink of destruction." — Henry St. George Tucker, in Blackstone's 1768 "Commentaries on the Laws of England."

LPCO Website Now On Link Exchange

by David Aitken

The LP of Colorado is now participating in LinkExchange's banner advertising exchange program. Every time you visit our internet web site at <http://www.pageplus.com/~lpcolorado>, we earn 1/2 credit towards showing our banner ad on someone else's site. You can help promote the party by visiting our site once a week or a couple of times a month. The banner ad we show on other sites across the nation is displayed on our site.

Candidate Press Conference

By Sara Wilson

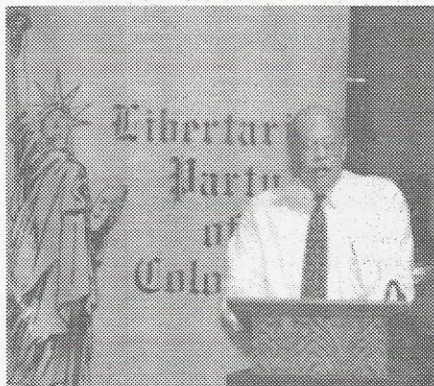
The Libertarian Party of Colorado held a press conference Friday, August 7 at the Denver Press Club to present candidates for all five executive positions in the Colorado state government, one for U.S. Senate, two for U.S. House, and sixteen for State House. Those candidates present and speaking included Sandra Johnson (Governor), Dan Cochran (Lt. Governor), W. Earl Allen (State House #31), and David Bryant (State Treasurer).

Introductory remarks by Craig Stinson emphasized that Libertarians can, and will, take a firm stand on Social Security, Public Schools, Drug Wars, and local issues such as roads, and tax issues.

Libertarian speakers unanimously expressed the need for personal liberty together with personal responsibility, limited government and lower taxes, and market-place solutions for roads, schools, a stadium, and other local issues.

Specific comments by candidates included: "The education monopoly is outrageous. Give to parents the right and responsibility to educate their kids." "The Drug War's slaughter of innocents, and incarceration of innocents cannot be tolerated."

All candidates emphasized that by taking personal responsibility for their children, pets, health, safety, and other aspects of life, citizens can reduce government intervention at all levels, and realize more personal freedom and prosperity.



State Treasurer candidate David Bryant.

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Zingamagigs

by Tom Goonan

Candidates and others: please use these in any way you wish, without attribution.

Roads are for multifaceted people with real lives. Trolleys are for people with one track minds.

Life isn't fair. I have to go out and beg for your vote, but all Pat Bowlen has to do is say "trick or treat".

Isn't it interesting? People won't cast a vote for a third party candidate because they don't want to be associated with a loser. Yet, after the election, no matter who which major party candidate wins, the only associates they have are losers. A vote of conscience is always a winner.

Look, if you want to blame something on the libertarians, the least you could do is vote for them.

My opponent makes a big deal about being born in Colorado. I confess, I didn't know that there was a political office affirmative action program for native Coloradans.

Unfortunately, the Constitution does not specify a succession deep enough to get us to an honest man. You'll just have to elect libertarians to get there.

I do not disagree with my opponent's good intentions. It's his/her means of getting there that are the problem. Unethical means never get one to the goal.

Human nature is not changed by election to government. Evil concentrated by the power of government has been proven to yield far more dead bodies than evil diffused in the market.

Here is my pledge to you: I pledge to facilitate your efforts to help yourself by taking government-created obstacles out of your way, and by keeping my hands off your

property and person.

The greatest hate crime that anyone can commit is to demonstrate their belief in the inferiority of a class of persons by advocating special privileges for them.

The right to try is sufficient. A right to succeed will always leave victims.

Government charities are really welfare programs for the administrators thereof.

On Bill Clinton:

For Bill, the only way out is through the Orrin Hatch.

If we had only known, we would have stuck with George III.

The rule of law has been supplanted by the rule of lawyers.

I don't know who's worse, the abuser or the enablers.

Q: What do you think of the Clinton-Lewinsky affair?

Short answer: I don't. Let's talk about something I can change.

Long answer: If what we read is true, it appears to be a simple hooker-John relationship, sex for a government job. As libertarians, we don't care so much about the trade. The problem is that the John is procuring with the people's assets.

Lewd answer: I guess the devil in a blue dress made him do it. He's just a victim of suck'im stances.

Good Bills Lose, Bad Bills Become Prez

by David Aitken

Congressman Ron Paul (R-Texas), former LP presidential candidate, introduced two amendments in the US Congress about presidential debates and congressional ballot access.

The debates amendment, which would mandate that presidential candidates who receive general election public financing must agree to debate any opponent who is on the ballot in at least 40 states, lost 88-337. Schaefer and DeGette voted in favor.

The ballot access amendment would have set a ceiling on signatures for federal office of 1/10th of 1 percent of the last vote cast for statewide office and 1/2 of 1 percent for district office. It lost 62-363. Only Schaefer voted in favor.

Humidity Fails to Spoil Summer Picnic

by Brad Lopez

On the muggy afternoon of August 22, almost thirty Libertarians huddled in Berkeley park, philosophizing, storytelling, or just caught up in discussion about the science fiction show "Star Trek." This was the 1998 Libertarian summer picnic.

Neither the heat, relatively low attendance, lack of hamburger buns, or the appearance of a "political vandal" a few hours into the picnic could ruin the atmosphere of excitement surrounding the presence of the LP candidates.

One such candidate, Lloyd Sweeny, who is running for State House, explained his Libertarian philosophy. According to Sweeny,



Lloyd Sweeny being interviewed by Brad Lopez.

Libertarianism is about "personal choice," in other words, choice of what you want to put in your body, choice on abortion and choice on whether to own a firearm. Sweeny also expressed his belief in personal responsibility, saying that the American citizens independently know that actions have consequences, and don't need State or Federal governance to tell them that. "Other opponents want to run your life," Sweeny commented.

When asked what policies he would change if he were elected, Sweeny said that he would make an effort to eliminate "restrictive laws," or laws that restricted freedoms of Coloradans (if not all Americans), such as arms concealment. Also, Sweeny supports vouchers and tax credits for education.

"Public school teachers are sending their kids to private schools, and I don't think that's right," Sweeny commented.

Sweeny suggested the completion of E-470 to form a loop around Denver as well as the widening of 72nd avenue, citing the growing problem of commercial traffic in residential zones.

Sweeny is also in favor of lowering the statewide drinking age to 18. To support this, he quoted an anonymous girl: "If I'm old enough to get married, start a family, and buy a house, why can't I pop the cork on a champagne bottle to start a new life?"

At this point in the conversation, all attention at the picnic was directed to the squealing noise of a car speeding down Tennyson after a man apparently knocked over two ropes holding about six signs, then drove away.

David Bryant, LP candidate for State Treasurer, explained the five duties of the state treasurer: To accept tax revenue, to invest tax revenue, to keep track of special state accounts, to make sure that collected money is properly accounted for, and to turn in quarterly reports to the governor.

If elected, Bryant says he would alert the public to the misuse of funds in the old age reform program. According to Bryant, this program was to be paid for through alcohol taxing, but there was such a surplus of funds that all the extra money has been used for purposes unknown to anyone but the treasurer.

Finally, Dan Cochran, LP candidate for Lieutenant governor made his appearance at the picnic. Though his policies were virtually the same as Lloyd Sweeny's, Cochran did suggest helping other Libertarian politicians if he were elected.

Even though the picnic was not put on with the fanfare, admission cost, or "suggested donations" of a major political party event, a good time was still had by all who attended.

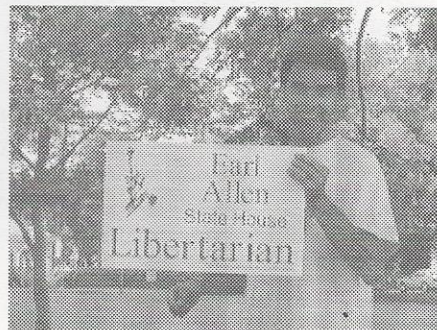
Brad Lopez is the editor of the school newspaper at Ponderosa High School.



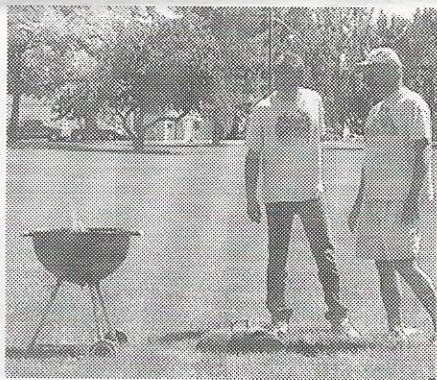
Bennett Rutledge explains libertarianism to a visitor at the summer picnic.



BetteRose Smith shows off her burger-barbecuing prowess while Maralyn Mencarini looks on.



Warren Kruse displays a candidate's yard sign.



Warren Kruse and Doug Anderson display their pyromaniacal prowess.



Joanna Fallis and Gary Sandritter display their conversational prowess.

If Clinton Lied About Lewinsky, What Else Has He Lied About?

WASHINGTON, DC — Here's a question for every American to ponder after watching President Bill Clinton's televised confession of his affair with a White House intern: If he lied about Monica Lewinsky, what makes you think he wasn't lying about the benefits of every new government program he proposed over the last six years?

"If he's not ashamed to lie to his wife and his daughter about presidential fornication, why would he be ashamed to lie to the American public about federal legislation?" asked Ron Crickenberger, the party's national director.

"Now that Clinton has admitted he's a liar, why would anyone believe his breathless promises about health care, cigarette legislation, Internet censorship, the Brady Bill, saving Social Security, global warming, troops in Bosnia — or the hundreds of other policy proposals he's made since becoming president?"

Although the Libertarian Party had no official reaction to the content of Clinton's nationally televised confession of an affair with a 21-year-old White House intern, Crickenberger said the speech did lay bare Clinton's willingness to say anything — no matter how fraudulent or deceitful — to advance his political goals.

"President Clinton's real confession on Monday night was that he's an extraordinarily skilled liar," said Crickenberger. "Americans should remember that fact next time Clinton does his bite-the-lip, pound-the-podium, wag-the-fist, it's-for-the-kids schtick. And the president's casual disregard for the truth should make Americans re-examine every promise he's ever made."

"Keep in mind, for six years we've watched President Clinton go on television and try to seduce us with the alleged benefits of some new government program. We've watched his ongoing inappropriate relationship with the Constitution, and the fact that he routinely cheats on the Bill of Rights while trying to expand the power of the federal government."

"Each time, Clinton would earnestly promise us that if only we'd give the federal government a little more of our money, or give up a little more freedom, or let him hire a few more bureaucrats, then the government would solve all our problems," he said.

"But in light of his yes-I'm-a-liar speech, is it possible that his planned take-over of the nation's health care system would not have, in fact, resulted in better service and lower prices, contrary to his promises? That \$500 billion in new taxes would not have reduced teenage cigarette smoking? That the Communications Decency Act would have, in fact, actually restricted freedom of speech?"

"That the Brady Bill did nothing to reduce gun-related crime? That none of his so-called solutions will save the doomed Social Security system from impending bankruptcy? That Al Gore's global warming scare is nothing more than a federal power grab? That our troops in Bosnia — and dozens of other nations — are not needed to protect our national security, but are merely an expensive, open-ended commitment to playing policeman to the world?" he asked.

If Clinton's semi-confession had any value, said Crickenberger, it was as a warning to the American people that politicians — and especially Bill Clinton — lie to expand their power.

"Remember, Bill Clinton is not a sincere person — he just plays one on TV," he said. "Keep that in mind the next time he tries to sweet-talk us into supporting some government program that decreases our liberty while making lying politicians like Bill Clinton more powerful."

Libertarian Party News Release

"Pressed" Release

For Immediate Release July 8, 1998

WASHINGTON, DC — On Tuesday, Congress approved the Americans With No Abilities Act, sweeping new legislation that provides benefits and protection for more than 135 million talentless Americans.

The act, signed into law by President Clinton shortly after its passage, is being hailed as a major victory for the millions upon millions of U.S. citizens who lack any real skills or uses.

"Roughly 50 percent of Americans — through no fault of their own — do not possess the talent necessary to carve out a meaningful role for themselves in society," said Clinton, a longtime ANA supporter. "Their lives are futile hamster-wheel existences of unrewarding, dead-end busywork: xeroxing documents written by others, fulfilling mail-in rebates for Black & Decker toaster ovens, and processing bureaucratic forms that nobody will ever see. Sadly, for these millions of nonabled Americans, the American dream of working hard and moving up through the ranks is simply not a reality."

Under the Americans With No Abilities Act, more than 25 million important-sounding "middle man" positions will be created in the white-collar sector for nonabled persons, providing them with an illusory sense of purpose and ability. Mandatory, non-performance-based raises and promotions will also be offered to create a sense of upward mobility for even the most unremarkable, utterly replaceable employees.

The legislation also provides corporations with incentives to hire nonabled workers, including tax breaks for those who hire one non-germane worker for every two talented hirees.

Finally, the Americans With No Abilities Act also contains tough new measures to prevent discrimination against the nonabled by banning prospective employers from asking such job-interview questions as, "What can you bring to this organization?" and "Do you have any special skills that would make you an asset to this company?"

"As a nonabled person, I frequently find myself unable to keep up with co-workers who have something going for them," said Mary Lou Gertz, who lost her position as an unessential filing clerk at a Minneapolis tile wholesaler last month because of her lack of notable skills. "This new law should really help people like me."

With the passage of the Americans With No Abilities Act, Gertz and millions of other untalented, inessential citizens can finally see a light at the end of the tunnel.

Said Clinton: "It is our duty, both as lawmakers and as human beings, to provide each and every American citizen, regardless of his or her lack of value to society, some sort of space to take up in this great nation."

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

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What does the above pledge mean? We ask our members to disavow the *initiation* of force. This does not mean that you cannot defend yourself; you *do* have a right to defend your life, liberty, and property. It means that you cannot use the coercive power of government to forcibly achieve your personal, ethical, or religious goals. This commitment helps us maintain our principles and provides us with a measuring stick to determine if we have strayed from our common goal: a society where all relationships among persons are based on voluntary cooperation.

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