Tax Limitation Initiative and Referendum

By Preston Adams

If you are registered to vote in Colorado, you may wish to support a Tax Limitation Amendment on the statewide November ballot. This amendment to the Colorado constitution should be of serious concern to all Libertarian renters and homeowners as it would greatly affect their taxes. During the past year property owners and landlords watched as tax bills increased approximately 14% over prior year, 1985, taxes; and this may be just the beginning.

Next January 1st all real estate assessments in the state will shift from 1977 to 1985 market values. For all property owners this translates into an increase (if you are standing, please sit down) in assessed valuation of between 200% - 250%!

The massive reassessment results from the inflation of the 1970s combined with House Concurrent Resolution No. 1005, that was passed in 1982 to get a reassessment of property every two years for equalization of rural school districts, beginning on January 1, 1987.

To further complicate matters, the current legislature, sensing an impending tax disaster, tried vainly just before it recessed in May to place a ceiling on the 1987 impact. Unfortunately, the legislators were unresolved in their intended purpose and self interest for the benefit of the state prevailed. House Bill No. 1003 was signed into law on May 16, 1986, and guarantees that beginning with 1986 assessments due in 1987, the base property tax will double every eleven years. Furthermore, added to this ever-increasing base tax will be the expense of all new capital improvement, the payment of all bonded indebtedness, and the cost of all voter approved mill levy increases brought about by elections. To quote Representative Bill Owens of Aurora, "Now that HB-1003 has passed, even thought it should have been killed before the final vote, we will have to live with it in the legislature for a couple of years until things settle down. To jump right back next year and change things again would be awkward for everyone in the legislature."

This resulting Tax Limitation Petition Initiative and Referendum is the last resort of the taxpayers and Libertarians:

Poll Results

The U.S. Supreme Court's recent ruling that upheld the right of states to ban certain sexual acts between consenting adults is supported by just one in five Coloradans, according to The Denver Post-NewsCenter.
Go to the People’s Fair

The Libertarian Party was well-represented at this year’s annual People’s Fair held May 31 and June 1 at East High School. Two booths were on hand to make visitors aware of political alternatives in the U.S. The Libertarian Party information booth, organized by Membership Chair Doug Anderson and Dave Aiken’s campaign booth, located prominently on what came to be known as “Politician's Row.”

The information booth, installed to inform interested persons of the philosophies and political platform of the LP, was staffed by volunteers eager and willing to answer questions as well as engage in impromptu debates. Books, buttons, bumper stickers, and t-shirts were available for sale and the public survey poll posing the question “Does government do a good job?” was a successful tool for drawing the curious to the booth. Anderson reported a net of $87.53 for the CLP coffers, along with the encouraging news that nearly 2/3 of the votes were toward the “never” end of the spectrum. All-in-all, a success for Doug and crew—not only was a small profit turned, but a good time was had by all.

At the other end of the fairway, Dave Aiken was busy kicking off his campaign bid for State House of Representatives in District 6. Clad in special DASH-6 campaign t-shirts, Aiken, his campaign manager, Dave Daniels and treasurer Bucky Carr, held court at his booth, greeting potential voters and sharing libertarian ideals. Situated in the midst of other candidates vying for attention, Aiken’s booth, designed, constructed and assembled by fellow committee members Pat and Mike Zink, made an impressive statement of his serious intent.

This booth also urged fair-goers to vote with money on the question “Does government do a good job?” Through this informal survey, Aiken raised $65.00 toward his campaign, with survey returns indicating 47% of the voters thought government failed to do a good job, with “rarely” and “seldom” netting 37% of the votes.

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Talmey Associates, Boulder
Reprinted from an article by Carl Miller, The Denver Post, August 11, 1986.

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Western News Flash

David Aiken, candidate for State House of Representatives in District 6, and Geoffrey Lloyd, candidate for State Senate in District 32, have successfully completed the petition drive for ballot status and will appear on the ballot in the November 4, 1986 election.

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That upheld the right of states to ban certain sexual acts between consenting adults is supported by just one in five Coloradans, according to The Denver Post-NewsCenter 4 Poll.

Here’s how Coloradans feel about the recent decision:

Do you agree or disagree with the Supreme Court’s decision upholding a state law that makes oral sex between consenting adults a crime?

Agree: 19%
Disagree: 72%
Not Sure: 9%

Do you agree or disagree that government has no business controlling or regulating the private sexual practices between consulting adults?

Agree: 77%
Disagree: 16%
Not Sure: 7%

Do you agree or disagree that sexual intercourse between two people of the same sex should be illegal?

Agree: 37%
Disagree: 52%
Not Sure: 11%

Source: Talmey Associates, Boulder
By Doug Nusbaum

The National Commodity and Barter Association, or NCBA, was founded in 1979 by John Grandbouche, its director until his death on the 9th of June of this year. Now under the direction of Mr. John Voss, the NCBA is, by definition, a First Amendment association. The NCBA is dedicated to helping all Americans exercise their rights under the Constitution. It derives its First Amendment protection from part of the amendment which states: “Congress shall make no law...the right of the people to peaceably assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”

In various confrontations with the government, in particular with the IRS, the NCBA has consistently had its claims upheld, most recently in the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals. There the NCBA challenged and defeated the IRS over the use of an illegal search warrant. This warrant was used for a search and seizure operation conducted on the Denver offices in April of 1985. In its ruling (Case No. 85-1591, Sept. 30, 1985) the court stated, among other things, “Certainly, the organization’s advocacy of modifying or abolishing our country’s tax system is a legitimate activity. Indeed, it is an activity protected by the First Amendment.”

The NCBA carries the fight for freedom forward on many fronts, but it is especially active in two areas. It is promoting the home education of children as a viable alternative to public schools. The high illiteracy rate among public school graduates, our schools’ transformation into government institutions of social change and their use to teach of state values are making home education very popular among concerned parents. On the economic front the NCBA promotes the abolition of the IRS and the use of hard money to replace the intrinsically worthless Federal Reserve notes.

The NCBA consistently challenges the IRS on the legal front and in the courts, assisting its members in understanding the law and asserting their rights under the Constitution. This includes the right to keep all of the money they earn. Their most recent victory was the finding of not guilty of the charge of two counts of “willful failure to file” levied by the criminal investigation department against the current NCBA director, John Voss, by the IRS. The hard money fight is being waged through the establishment of private warehouses. These enable individuals to conduct their business in privacy, using silver and gold as the medium of exchange.

Members of the NCBA have access to some of the best legal help in the country as they defend themselves from the illegal and oppressive tactics of the Internal Revenue Service. This includes the Mutual Assistance Plan which provides financial assistance to NCBA members needing a licensed attorney or other legal assistance. Members may also obtain aid in defending their right to educate their own children. The NCBA maintains an extensive legal library and its bookstore has numerous works on the constitution, tax law, home education, economics and other areas of interest to free men and women.

Like the Libertarian Party, the NCBA is fighting for individual rights and liberties. It takes a constitutional approach, using the right to associate, the right of contract, and the right of privacy as key weapons in the struggle against the would-be omnipotent state.

Alternative to Court System Created

The American Mediation Association is the creation of Ramie McClellan. Mr. McClellan says it began as a result of his ten year participation in the deadly U.S. Justice System as a police officer in Washington, D.C.

“It didn’t take a lot of intelligence to observe that the kind of justice dispensed by courts didn’t satisfy the people,” McClellan said. “I also learned that when warring parties chose to communicate through a neutral third party, sometimes a lasting solution could be found. The results of mediation are much more predictable and successful now than then.”

Libertarian Calendar

2nd Wednesday of every month—Cocktail party. Bob and Betty Hurt’s house, 1456 Fillmore St., 7:30-10:00 pm. New members, visitors welcome. Cash bar.

4th Tuesday of every month—Letter writing session. Dwight Filley, 4547 E. 16th (near Cherry), 7:30 pm. Call 322-2689 for more info.

4th Wednesday of every month—Board of Director’s meeting. 2186 S. Holly, 207B, 7:30 pm.

4th Friday of every month—NCBA Open House, call 337-9617.

Every Tuesday—CONSTITUTIONAL LAW SEMINAR. For more details, call John Pleasant, 761-4565.

Aug 29—Sept 1 — FREEDOM NOW. For more details, contact Mary Margaret, 1317 Lakewood Drive, Ft. Collins, CO 80521.

Sept 30—Deadline for submission of LIBERTY articles for next issue. Contact Kate Barriteau, 830-1401.
1987 STATE CONVENTION SCHEDULED IN FORT COLLINS

Mary Margaret, an active Libertarian in Ft. Collins, presented a proposal to the 1986 State Convention attendees to hold the 1987 convention in Ft. Collins. Following a brief presentation of the planned agenda, as well as other details concerning dates, time, location and fees, the proposal was put to a vote and passed.

The 1987 convention will be held at the University Park Holiday Inn in Ft. Collins, May 22-24. Karl Hess, noted author and free-thinking advocate, will be the featured speaker, with guest presentations by Jim Turner, the National LP Chair, as well as the LP presidential and vice-presidential candidates.

The cost of the convention (which includes programs, materials, Saturday luncheon and Saturday banquet) ranges from an early bird fee of $35.00 to an at-the-door fee of $70.00.

For further information, contact Mary Margaret, 1317 Lakewood Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80521.

DASH-6: Off and Running

Dave Aitken, Libertarian candidate for the State House in District 6, has launched his campaign in a serious bid to secure votes and success! Dave achieved high visibility at the annual People’s Fair this past spring and has already appeared at various local gatherings within his district. As early as May, he began a door-to-door canvass of his district in an effort to meet the voters and raise funds, and his campaign committee (comprised of his manager, Dave Daniels, treasurer Bucky Carr, Mike Zink, Pat Zink, and Kate Barrieau) began the petition drive necessary to secure a place on the ballot in late June.

It’s an interesting race and DASH-6 (which, incidentally, stands for Dave Aitken for State House in District 6) is sure to give Jerry Kopel a run for the votes. Volunteers are needed to help with fund raising and leafletting and all financial contributions are welcome. For more info, contact Dave Daniels at 830-8125 or Dave Aitken at 831-4334.

Carr and Aitken ask, “Does Government do a good job?”

Colorado Liberty

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Geoffrey Lloyd Announces Candidacy

Geoffrey Lloyd, 30-year-old president of a private security company, announced his candidacy for State Senate District 32 at the Colorado Union of Taxpayers annual meeting.

When elected to the State Senate, Lloyd will work to repeal the State income tax, repeal the 55 m.p.h. speed limit, give tax incentives to those who support private education and reduce State spending.

Lloyd’s opponent, Ray Peterson (D), was recently given the skewed taxpayer award by the Colorado Union of Taxpayers for his record of votes allegedly unfavorable to the taxpayers in the Legislature.

Geoffrey Lloyd wants Coloradans to have the lowest tax burden in the country.

For more information on Geoffrey Lloyd for State Senate, contact Timothy Lloyd, Treasurer/Campaign Manager, 350 South Lincoln Street, Denver, Colorado.

Think About It

By John S. Pleasant

When I was asked to write for this journal, my initial reaction was: Why should I share my hard-earned knowledge with a bunch of people who won’t understand two-thirds of what I have to say, and who will disagree with the remainder? I’ve talked to the Libertarians “till I was blue in the face, and it’s gone in one ear and out the other. I’ve got better things to do than to try to teach responsible freedom to a bunch of anarchists.”

I was promptly reminded by my wife and my other friends and students that I made my share of mistakes over the years, and my ego could strut with the best; that if I had something valid to say, that might make a difference to even one other person, I had an obligation to say it and not worry whether it was heard by everyone I wished to reach; that my experience with our Constitutional study group should have shown me that patience and persistence—not arrogance—were required to get the message through.

So let me begin by apologizing for pre-judging you—the reader—and determining sans proof, that you would be unable or unwilling to hear what I have to say. The error is mine, for in our Constitutional scheme, every man is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

I’ve been asked to write about the things I have spent the last eight of my thirty-seven years learning: the fundamentals of individual freedom in this Republic—the United States of America. The reason? To inflame, if possible, a “robust debate” among members of the Libertarian Party and others, of the best means whereby we can secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity without resorting to armed conflict and chaos, violent social upheaval, or any dictatorial means of securing badly needed political and economic changes in the United States of America.

Perhaps the most difficult lesson I have learned is that the scriptural statement: “faith without works is nothing” is not an empty religious sophistry, but the bedrock of our scheme of individual liberty and the soul of the First Amendment to our Constitution. In other words, my message here is: it’s not enough to pay lip service to liberty by professing to believe in freedom; if you would have that belief respected and, more importantly, emulated by others, it must be lived out in your daily life, in all of its various aspects: personal, professional and public. It is only in action that the validity of a social philosophy can be properly judged and decisions made by those observing the demonstration, to follow or not, the example being set.

Many Libertarians claim to be atheists or agnostics because they observe the so-called Christians around them and see that they do not live out the ideals they profess to believe. What the Libertarians fail to see, and it is this that causes their philosophy to be so little embraced, is that they are being judged and found wanting by precisely the same standards; Libertarians don’t live out the ideals they profess to believe.

This failure to act on the part of both groups does not invalidate their respective ideals. Rather, it merely indicates that neither group fully understands the principles involved. Neither Christianity nor Libertarianism is a “collective” belief. Both are and can only be intensely personal. Both require practicing as well as preaching. If, in fact, both were practiced as hard as they are preached, every Libertarian would be a Christian and every Christian a Libertarian by “active” definition; they both spring from the same seed.

So it is with “freedom” as that term is used and understood in our Constitution; as it is applied in our law. As a people, we do not understand and cannot, therefore, live in liberty. Because we lack, at present, this understanding we wrongly perceive the world about us; mistaking symptoms for diseases and effects for causes. This leads to finger-pointing, name-calling, and the erroneous laying of blame.

We populate a Republic, founded on a set of principles (the core of which is that individual liberty and self-government [personal responsibility] are paramount) and organized under a written Constitution which marks out the areas of personal, private and public responsibility. To secure

THE BIG CASINO

A Fable by Stormy Mon

Once upon a time there was a huge gambling casino known as the Washington Casino. The bosses had a good thing going because they didn’t need any assets backing the chips—they just printed more as required.

The rules were rigged so the house and its privileged friends always won in the long run. And they definitely were in it for the long run. If these ever-changing rules were questioned, the judges (who were on the house payroll. . . for life) decided the issue.

Occasionally some customers were thrown a few crumbs of winnings which would be widely advertised, especially during the times the house mangers were elected. The players were assessed (taxed) a cover charge for the privilege of participating in the games, and watching the continuous show in sheltered, secure comfort.

This was all a relatively painless and entertaining way of being robbed, and was

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(See Think, Pg. 6)
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EDITOR'S CORNER

By Kate Barriteau

Greetings, and happy belated Liberty Day!!

We haven't published a LIBERTY in several months, so this issue is an update and bulletin of hot happenings.

I'd like to pick up the banner held so long by Carolyn Phelps and continue to present the LIBERTY with the same high editorial standards. I encourage all of you to support, as you have so generously done in the past, by contributing articles and editorials, as well as providing suggestions for improving future editions. I'd like to see:

- articles with a positive look at libertarian ideas in practice—and working!
- reviews of books (non-fiction and FICTION), movies, theater, art exhibits, etc. that might be of interest to libertarian thinkers.
- political cartoons and other graphics.
- editorials, commentaries and regular columns.

I would also like to take this opportunity to . . . thank Bob and Betty Hurt for sharing their lovely home and delightful company with us every second Wednesday of the month . . . congratulating Jan Prince for being the voice of liberty on national television this past June . . . commend Mike Zink for his carpentry expertise in constructing Dave Aiken's booth for the People's Fair . . . wish Mary Margaret luck in creating a libertarian community in Fort Collins (see related information on FREEDOM NOW in this issue) . . . and thank Jackie Erickson for offering her production expertise by typesetting this newsletter.

From the chair

AN ASSESSMENT OF YOUR STATE PARTY'S HEALTH

By PENN PFIFFFNER

Heard anything bad about the Libertarian Party lately? You might appreciate one viewpoint obtained from day to day contact with things Libertarian.

The principles of Libertarianism and the concrete proposals to implement them seem to be accepted by an unprecedented proportion of Coloradans. However, support within the Party seems to be at the lowest point this decade.

Most of our interim political goals are accepted by the voters who are willing to try transportation deregulation, lower taxes, education vouchers/credits, and other steps toward more freedom. We could win election races on our themes.

Another positive sign is that many people who years earlier were uncomfortable with our proposals to roll back the welfare state are now accepting the sense of those proposals. They watched as the Colorado legislature, dominated by Republicans, increased spending every year to the legal limit. They heard a Democratic governor say improvement of the human condition was hopeless unless the government gets vastly expanded powers and saw the same governor send National Guard troops to Honduras this summer. Most people are now very willing to listen to the consistent, reasoned and well-defined Libertarian views, and these people are really fellow travellers.

In order to make it a long term success, the drive will need to come from the reader.

What could your Party do better? It could use individuals to organize student groups on the college campuses, others to reach out to other groups of individuals with defined special interests. Others might identify and fill political offices which can be won through appointment (there are already four Libertarians holding such offices in Colorado)! Still others, it has been suggested, could organize the "grass roots" level by forming local County Affiliates.

The Party structure is the vehicle for implementing our principles of freedom. Any vehicle needs all its parts in place to make it run. It does not operate with only a chassis and two tires. It has got to have the engine, the fuel, and so on. For the same reason, the Party needs help to complete our vehicle.

If such help does not materialize, do we have the patience to understand the reason for the lack of progress? Our principles and goals are correct, so we should not be frustrated because the vehicle is incomplete. We need the people willing to build and to work at the problem of getting elected and becoming a dominant force in the political arena.

The National Party's stated goal is to become a "majority Party". With our vehicle whole and in place, that can be our goal too. It will be a task to be accomplished with perseverance, with a steady commitment that does not exhaust the person in one campaign season. Can we achieve it? The British Labor Party may be an instructive example. It overtook the Liberal Party earlier this century in what was a two party system, much like America's political system today.

Marshall Fritz of the Advocates for Self-Government believes that it will take 28 years for our principles to take effect and the Party to enjoy real success. We seem to be on track today for that timing. To realize that momentum perhaps we will see...
**The Star Spangled Banner:**

**Oh Say Can You Sing**

By P. Donohue Shortridge

The following article is in reply to Michael D. Ripps’ RMN column, 7/20/86, "Americans Deserve an Anthem They Can Sing".

Awake citizens, stand up and sing the Star Spangled Banner! Let there be no halt or stammer in your voice. Do not be embarrassed, do not hesitate. Sing loud and strong and clear, else don’t sing at all. Gauge your voice as you would judge the mighty verse, for America’s poem is like herself, strong and free and hard won, yet lost quickly through dissipation and neglect.

To you numblers, discard Dawnzeler light. Acclaim, instead, the dawn’s early light. Hear the hymn fresh and renew your bond to America’s torch. To those who don’t sing at all, open your heart and hear the verse. Then ask, “Does this poem mean America to me?” Then, my friend, discover the connection, a new source of strength will propel your voice through the octaves. And to proud voices everywhere, strong and clear, who know why it is sung, hold fast and firm. Do not be swayed by trendy peddlers of false hearts, who cry for a new song. They judge the ballad with out-of-context swipes at “rockets and bombs.” They would have something pretty and easy.

Who are these criers in the night, who proclaim with such shallow authority that ancient symbol must be found? Do they not understand the poem, or is it that they do, and no longer believe it is America?

Take on these contenders! Answer to them as you would to yourself that America is “the home of the brave and the land of the free.” Listen, as the stanzas tell of an American test of bravery. The test of 1812 challenged America’s resolve to remain a nation. Our infant country, strong in her belief that this land of the free was worth fighting for, stood brave in her defense against the British, and prevailed. In the last stanza, Francis Scott Key speaks from his time to all time, imploring citizens to keep asking the question: Will we face our contenders with such steadfast courage? Will we remain free and brave?

Why discard the Star Spangled Banner as our national anthem? Webster defines national as “characteristic of, or peculiar to a nation.” Is it our “purple mountains majesty” or “our amber waves of grain” that are unique? The mountains in Yugoslavia are beautiful and the East Germans are undoubtedly proud of their vast fields of grain. No, although bountiful, our national resources do not set us apart. America’s peculiarity, her essential characteristic is the incredible premium her citizens place on personal freedom.

Americans today, as in Key’s day, face threats to this personal freedom, both at home and abroad. Terrorist extremists kidnap Americans for political ransom. Totalitarian regimes enslave increasing numbers of the world’s population and look at America as the ultimate prize. Consider the internal threat of those who would legislate our personal lives, such as what we may read, who we may sleep with and which sex acts are illegal. Each threat is as serious as the other and each tests the strength of the American character. How, if and when we respond calls for bravery and clarity of purpose.

Now and forever, we are challenged to remain conscious of America’s anthem. We must know clearly what is worth fighting and perhaps dying for. To not know, dooms Americans to fight and die for vague and muddled causes. The eternal question should never stop being asked. Is it our anthem. Are we still the land of the free and the home of the brave?
Curb Drunk Driving Without Curbing Liberty

By Doug Anderson

The new prohibitionists, in their zeal to stop drinking, have found allies in the public with the issue of drunk driving. Before this alliance repeats a historical mistake, I ask the public to consider a libertarian solution to the problem of drunk driving. Here are five:

1. Allow liquor stores to sell food items. The physical and psychological effects of food on drink should be promoted. Availability is the first step in this process.

2. Allow bars to choose their own closing hours. As a former bartender, I know nothing encourages people to stay for one more than the approach of closing. This, added to the illogic of putting all the drunks on the road at the same time, makes the closing laws responsible for many deaths on the highway.

3. Allow free market cabs and buses. The current system of PUC controls gives potential drunk drivers few options. A wait of 30-45 minutes for a cab has often turned good citizens into bad. Deregulation would also allow more creative agreements between bars and transportation firms.

4. Allow parents to decide the appropriate age for children to begin drinking. Teaching children to drink responsibly in family and social settings would discourage the type of behavior responsible for death on the highways. It should be noted that raising the drinking age to 21 has been proven to raise, not lower, highway fatalities due to unsupervised drinking.

5. Allow distillers to determine the proof of products they sell. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms gave the kiss of death to a low proof vodka by requiring that it be labeled diluted. Would you buy a diluted vodka? How about a lite beer?

The liquor industry tries very hard to responsibly offer relaxation and enjoyment. It is often hamstrung with regulations and laws, some of which are proposed by the same neo-prohibitionists who point accusingly at Drunk Driving.

The Vanishing American

by John Lonergan

Is there more to the federal deficit than meets the eye? We occasionally hear about the 2 trillion dollar deficit and what the long term ramifications of it may be, but it's difficult to muster concern about a problem that may be coming at some time in the future. Our government has established a policy of deficit spending. It has happened regularly over the past few generations. How can Americans of reason seriously believe it will stop all of a sudden? The government deductions for borrowed living and one who has borrowed to the limit his creditors will allow. Who will pay the highest tax? It appears to me that the person who puts off buying creature comforts is helping the person who already has them by paying higher taxes. This condition was created by the government. Many of the stalwart private spenders are being awed of this dilemma and they are shifting in ever increasing numbers to the spendthrift camp.
PRIVATE PRISON TYRANNY

As a libertarian ex-con (tax protest, contempt, etc.), I oppose private prisons. Free market advocates want privatized services (mail, education, transportation, stadiums, convention centers, etc.) to make them more efficient ... and shrink governments.

But given the current diarrhea of laws, we don't need more jails to oppress people, or a world-wide business lobby with an interest in keeping prisoners.

We can start to solve the problem by abandoning the recreational drug prohibition that only repeats all the mistakes of alcohol prohibition. We don't have too many prisoners — WE HAVE TOO MANY LAWS!

Stormy Mon

The trick is to stop thinking of it as your money.
The lending library at the office is available to members of the CLP and is usually open Mondays 10 am to noon, some Wednesday evenings and other weekday evenings. Call 753-6789 to confirm hours. More information or a list of books and other materials available can be obtained by writing: LIBERTARIAN LIBRARY, Box 24269-X, Denver, CO 80224.

NEW FROM DOUBLEDAY BOOKS


In The Passion Of Ayn Rand, Barbara Branden expertly unveils the complex woman behind the legend. Starting with Rand’s childhood in Russia during the Communist revolution, Branden traces her arrival in America, her days as a screenwriter in Hollywood, and her marriage to Frank O’Connor. She describes Rand’s struggles as a novelist, her triumphant publication of The Fountainhead, the evolution of her provocative philosophy and the publication of her greatest achievement, Atlas Shrugged.

Drawn from Branden’s own insight into Ayn Rand and backed by fifty hours of taped interviews with her, transcripts of her unpublished writings and extensive discussions with other close to her, The Passion of Ayn Rand is a must read for Randians everywhere.

Think About It

(Think, from Pg. 3)

the individual whose responsibility and duty it is to actively pursue and live out the “perfect law of liberty” from the tyranny of the majority, whether they are employed in private or public office, we set forth in our Constitution a Bill of Rights. And just as a belief in Christ or freedom is purely

through perversion of the law to these ignoble ends, we compel each citizen to stand still and be shaken down for his “fair share.”

A more subtle approach, using different terminology, is employed in our “business dealings” with each other. Here, the theft is carried out by the “installment plan,” the

Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely, (1) the right to life — accordingly we support prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action — accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property — accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

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as a belief in Christ or freedom is purely personal, so are the rights secured in this famous "Bill." These liberties are the personal property of the individual. They are not collective freedoms belonging to corporations or institutions; but, the property of the natural man—alone—to be used or abused by him in accordance with his knowledge and understanding or the lack thereof.

Without exception, our present social, political and economic ills, and our perceived loss of liberty, are directly caused by our personal lack of knowledge and understanding of our rights, the liberties they secure, and the personal responsibility upon which they depend for their vitality.

Our major institutions, both public and private, are administered through a process we loosely call "representative democracy." This means we choose, by the process of election, individuals to perform those public and private functions which are economically or politically beyond the means of any one man; but, remain necessary to the health, well-being and freedom of us all.

At present, three conditions or motives are predominant in our selection of officers for both public and private government: (1) aversion; (2) ignorance; and (3) apathy. This means, simply, that we delight in stealing from each other through government and business; that we prefer to remain ignorant of this fact; and, we are sublimely lethargic about changing the status quo, so long as we're ahead of the game or at least breaking even. Consequently, we select "representatives" who hold these same views to administer our public and private institutions, expecting them to go about the "business" as usual, and knowing their campaign slogans and promises to be empty rhetoric.

None of this is consistent with the principles of liberty, nor is it "constitutionally protected" as a fundamental right of man. No man has the natural right to compel another to be his slave, economically or politically. And, the provisions of our Constitution so state. This does not mean it can't be done; only that it can't be done as a matter of "natural" right. It is routinely done, today, because we have institutionalized our avarice. We call our "right to steal" by another name—it is a "civil (as opposed to military) right." We steal from each other through our governments, calling the theft "taxes," our receiving of the stolen goods a "subsidy" or a "benefit," and is carried out by the "installation plan," the use of "credit," standard form "consumer agreements," etc., ad nauseam. The goods are taken in "rent," "interest," "windfall profits," etc., and are received in the form of "dividends," "deductions," "bankruptcy," etc. And, just as inner-city youths form gangs to protect their "turf," we form trade and professional associations, unions, and cartels. Rather than using the more honorable weapons—clubs, knives, chains and guns—we use licenses, regulations, insurance, boards, examinations and "credentials" to fight our wars for "profit."

And, of course, when things don't go the way we want them to, it's never our fault; it's "big government," or "big business," the Fed, or some other bogeyman who gets the blame.

The truth is, whenever anything in one's life goes wrong, the culprit is the person whose face is reflected in the mirror. The criminal is each of us, individually. The "M.O." is the same in all cases—personal greed, coupled with ignorance and an unbridled appetite for what's in the other guy's pocket which we want but haven't earned, leads us to lie to ourselves, cheat our neighbors, family and friends, and cry "foul" when we're caught.

If you really want to be "free" to live as man is intended to be, you can. But, it's not going to happen if you just talk about it; you must do it! That means no more lying to yourself, no more cheating and stealing. It means laying the blame for your life in your own lap. It means producing before you consume, paying cash or doing without, learning of your own rights and respecting those rights in others. It means taking responsibility for your every action; not relying on "insurance" to pay for your blunders while you plow blissfully ahead. It's all this, and much more.

These are only a few of the "fundamentals" of freedom. They are but a small part of the lessons I've learned over the past few years, and too which I can attribute the happiness which fills my present life. I do these things in order to teach about them, for I've learned that this is the only way to have the respect of my students: do it first; then, talk about the experience; and let them see the results—live and in color.

It's a toss-up between the pen and the sword as to which is the mightier. But, when it comes to a contest between actions and words, it's deeds over creeds every time. Think about it.
VIEW FROM THE CROWN

By Doug Nusbaum

Imagine a problem. Imagine that for some reason you had a small pile of garbage, say about two feet high and about 100 yards from your house. Every so often, when the wind was just right, you would get an unpleasant whiff. A trash man, who is passing by, notices this and suggests removal. He says that for $20.00, he will remove the trash in a few days. You agree, and pay the man. A few days later you have a 4 foot pile of garbage now only 70 yards or 200 feet from the house. Well, the trash man says that there were some “unforseen problems,” and he will need $50.00 to remove the trash, and he can get it done next week.

It's ten days later, and the pile is now 10 feet high and 100 feet from the house. So the trash man comes and says that “Other persons are causing . . .” But you know the story. The question is: How much are you willing to pay to have how big a stack of trash in your living room before you fire this incredibly inept person?

Sixty years ago, we had no drug problem. Sensible responsible persons today have no drug problem. We all have a drug law problem, caused by busybodies who will settle for nothing short of absolute control of your entire waking life. They want to control what you read, how you make love, to whom you make love, what goes into your body, how you make money, how you spend money. They even want to measure your feces and urine to make sure they haven’t missed anything.

Today we have a drug problem in much the same manner as the person above had a trash problem, and the busybodies have been about as effective in controlling drugs as the aforementioned trash man was in removing trash. Every year more of your hard earned tax money is allocated to the ‘problem’ of drugs, and every year the ‘problem’ grows worse.

The problem grows worse because the problem is not drugs but drug laws. Short of having a police state, it is futile to attempt to control the use of drugs. The attempt is futile because as soon as control begins to be effective, then the price goes up (same demand, less supply causes increase in price). The price then attracts much larger participation.

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL . . .

- Dave Atken has been steadily canvassing District 6 in an effort to meet the constituents and garner the signatures necessary to receive a lot on the November ballot. By the time you read this, the petition drive will be over, but those wishing to assist are urged to donate money or volunteer some time to help with leafleting.

NATIONAL CONVENTION-1987

The next Libertarian National Convention has now been given a firm schedule. It will be held August 31 through September 6, 1987 (note that the date is NEXT year) in Seattle, Washington. The Colorado State Party will be able to send 15 to 25 members as voting delegates, based on historical percentages. These delegates will be chosen at our next state party convention, to be held over Memorial Day weekend next year. Suggestions for the National Convention themes and/or specific panels or events.
Pen is Mightier...

Do you have something on your mind that you’d like to let someone, anyone know about (like one of our esteemed elected officials or the editorial departments of our local newspaper) but are having trouble putting your thoughts on paper? Well, there’s good news for you on the horizon.

Dwight Filey has started a letter-writing evening to be held every fourth Tuesday of the month at his home. Anyone interested in joining in this worthwhile endeavor is encouraged to do so. Come on out, share your thoughts, get a little moral support, and have fun besides!! For more information, contact Dwight Filey, 4547 East 16th Avenue (near Cherry), Denver, 322-2689.

Other benefits accruing from the legalization of drugs would be: A major source of money for organized crime would disappear. There would be fewer politicians getting rich from the drug trade. And make no mistake, without corruption at almost all levels of government, it would not be possible to have the type of massive drug law problem which currently exists. But that is precisely why we will continue to have a drug law problem. Those same politicians and social busybodies mentioned above want to protect people from themselves regardless of the cost. They firmly believe that while they can lead their own lives, others are incapable of doing so without help.

If you wish to reduce crime and virtually eliminate the drug problem, you have but two choices. The first is the form of military police state toward which we are heading. This includes the use of the military to suppress the drug trade, and the routine monitoring of your bodily functions in a manner now being proposed for professional football players. A better solution is to return to the idea that individuals own their bodies and are responsible for their behavior. Make drugs legal, and allow individuals to be responsible for and accept the consequences of the actions of themselves and of the members of their family.
National Commodity and Barter Association
Constitutional Taxation and Law

8000 E. Girard Ave., Suite 215
Denver, Colorado 80231
(303) 337-9617

"Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for redress of grievances."

The NCBA is a First Amendment Association dedicated to helping concerned Americans exercise their God-given rights as protected by our Constitution. You, too, can assert your sovereignty in a meaningful, effective way just as many others are doing, and, at the same time help preserve liberty in our great Republic.

Education
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Monthly Updates
Courtroom Procedures
Mutual Assistance Plan (MAP)
Constitutional Taxation and Law

Winning Court Precedents . . . Seminars . . . Conventions
. . . Political Action . . . and more!

For more information on joining forces in this growing association of active Americans, please write to or call John Voss or Frank Turano at the address above.
NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DO NOT FILL OUT THIS APPLICATION IF YOU ARE ALREADY A MEMBER OF N.C.B.A.

If you are not a member of the National Commodity and Barter Association, and you wish to join, it is necessary to apply and join as follows:

Your Membership for the first year includes new, current, up-dated texts; CONSTITUTIONAL TAXATION AND LAW, LEGAL BRIEFS AND MOTIONS, and COURTROOM PROCEDURES. All members are required to have these texts as they are the foundation on which our educational program is based. These will be forwarded upon receipt of this application. This fee will be required again if membership is interrupted. New Memberships shall receive three (3) books whether or not applicant has previously purchased any of these books.

1st YEAR'S FEE: $200.00
RENEWAL PER ANNUM: $160.00

I am joining N.C.B.A. at the new membership rate of $200.00 for the first year.

TOTAL ENCLOSED ____________________________________________________________

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: ____________________________

DATE: ____________________________

In order that we may serve you better and keep you informed about your local NCBA meetings, we would like to give your name to our local representative in your area. But in order to do this we must have your release. Therefore, if you would answer the following question, it would be very much appreciated.

Yes, please give my name to my local NCBA Representative for contact about local meetings.

No, I do not wish, at this time, to have my name released to the local NCBA Representative.

Signed ____________________________ Date ____________________________

Please Print Clearly

NAME: ____________________________

REPS ONLY

ADDRESS: ____________________________

NAME: ____________________________

CITY/STATE: ____________________________

NO.: ____________________________

ZIP: ____________________________ PHONE: ( )

Received ____________________________ FOR NCBA USE ONLY

other than P.O. Box: ____________________________

Date Rec'd: ____________________________

(Dec. 1985)

Exp. Date: ____________________________

Bk Off: __________ Sent: __________

Label: Leg: Dptst: ____________________________

Other: Date Wkd: ____________________________

1. Are you a member of any other "freedom group?" Yes ____ No ____
   If so, which group(s): ____________________________

2. Have you had any confrontations with a local, state, or Federal agency? Yes ____ No ____
   If so, what agency: ____________________________

   Are you currently redressing that agency in litigation? Yes ____ No ____

   What court has jurisdiction: ____________________________

   Are you being represented by: Counsel ____________________________ Other ____________________________

3. The NCBA believes the only way to restore a constitutional government to our country is through political action. Are you currently involved in political action? Yes ____ No ____

   What actions are you taking, i.e., running for office, petitioning the government, etc.? ____________________________

   If NO, would you like information to become politically active? Yes ____ No ____

4. Have you attended any of the NCBA Seminars? Yes ____ No ____
   If so, which one(s): ____________________________

5. The NCBA affords all members an opportunity to get out of the Federal Reserve banking system by using our Warehouse Exchange, a service of the National Commodity and Barter Association. Would you like to learn how you can use this service? Yes ____ No ____

6. NCBA offers financial assistance to those who feel there may be a need due to legal endeavors. This self funding program is M.A.P. - Mutual Assistance Plan. Would you like information concerning this self help program? Yes ____ No ____

7. Would you host an NCBA Seminar? Yes ____ No ____

8. Would you be interested in representing NCBA in your area? Yes ____ No ____

9. Would you be interested in advertising items in a Barter Newsletter? Yes ____ No ____

10. How did you learn about the NCBA? Newspaper ______; Justice Times ______; SpotLite ______; NCBA Meeting ______; NCBA Representative ______; Patriot Meeting ______; Friend ______; Other ______

If you have further questions, call or write to us, National Commodity and Barter Association, 8000 E. Girard Ave., Suite 215, Denver, CO 80231, (303) 337-9617.

Please complete and return this application to:

NCBA Membership
8000 E. Girard Ave., Suite 215
Denver, CO 80231.