



Liberty News

August 2000

a publication of the Libertarian Party of Boulder County

Son of Bowl-A-Thon for Liberty

Mark Your Calendars and Make Your Plans Now!

by Ron Bain, Publicity Director

The second annual LPBC "Bowl-A-Thon for Liberty" will be held on Saturday, August 5 at 3:00 p.m. at Coal Creek Bowling Lanes (350 W. South Boulder Road.) Last year, this was one of the most successful Libertarian events held in Colorado! Let's make it even bigger and better this year, raise a whole lot of money, and generate a whole lot of press for our numerous candidates.

Your participation can take one or several forms:

BOWLERS

We need bowlers (experienced or inexperienced, it doesn't matter). Bowlers are the ones who will actually raise funds: The bowler gets money-per-pin pledges from friends, relatives, Libertarians, non-Libertarians, other affiliate members, bosses, co-workers, whoever. Then the bowler shows up the day of the Bowl-A-Thon at Coal Creek Lanes, pays for his or her own bowling, shoes and (optional) beer. Then the bowler bowls three games, notifies all of the pledgers of his/her grand total, and collects the resulting money from each pledger.



PLEDGERS

Maybe you don't want to bowl, but you want to support the LPBC's fundraising efforts. Find a Bowl-A-Thon bowler and make your pledge (inexperienced bowlers usually bowl 250 to 300; experienced bowlers usually bowl 450 to 500 or more). Calculate your per-pin pledge based on how much you think you'd like to actually give the party. Bowlers can be pledgers; pledgers can be bowlers.

SPECTATORS

We want to create a media event out of this (Jon Caldara has been invited and hasn't said no yet). We'll need a boisterous, enthusiastic crowd to cheer on the bowlers and yell things like "There's another strike for LIBERTY!" If there's a lot of noise and activity, the media might be convinced to cover it. So if you don't want to bowl, come and be a spectator! Spectators can be pledgers; pledgers can be spectators.



ASSISTANTS

Ron Bain, the organizer of the Bowl-A-Thon will need help in advance of the event with things like calling members, recruiting bowlers and pledgers, photocopying and FAXing forms, and keeping all the related pieces of paper organized. We'll also be sending out press releases via FAX and e-mail. Assistants can be also be bowlers, pledgers and/or spectators.

CANDIDATES should most definitely be **BOWLERS**. Show the voters that you're not a stiff board (a la Al Gore) and that you know how to have fun while working for liberty!

Contact Ron Bain at rez2word@aol.com or (303) 443-9179 to sign up!

Keep on thinkin' (and bowlin') free!

Libertarian Party of Boulder County k PMB #427 k 2525 Arapahoe Ave., E4
Boulder, CO k (303) 665-2150 k www.lpboulder.com

Thoughts from the Chair-Elect

by Lorene Van Buren

Not sure if that sigh I heard emanating from myself after accepting the position of Chair of the LPBC was one of resignation or anticipation, I spent a few quiet moments in reflection about the leadership position in a group such as ours.

I can't say that I have any lofty goals for the coming year and, unlike most politicians -- if becoming chairperson of a local political organization makes one a politician -- I made no promises of future performance in order to achieve this position. What I will pledge to you now is to guide the group to be best of my ability.

Perhaps the most important thing we can do as Libertarians is to learn to communicate our beliefs to others in a way that they will understand us. This communication can be achieved either verbally or non-verbally. When communicating verbally, we need to be sure we are using language and references understood by the recipient of the message. More about this next month. It is non-verbal communication I wish to address now. Many people learn best by example so we need to live the most "libertarian" life as possible under our existing circumstances.

In trying to sum up just how to do this, I remembered an e-mail I received recently in the form of a chain letter purporting to be "Instructions for Life" from the Dalai Lama. Regardless of the truth of that claim, and whatever the source of the list is, I believe it makes a good outline for a libertarian life (especially item 3), so I would like to share it with you:

- 1. Take into account that great love and great achievements involve great risk.**
- 2. When you lose, don't lose the lesson.**
- 3. Follow the three R's: Respect for self, Respect for others and Responsibility for all your actions.**
- 4. Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck.**
- 5. Learn the rules so you know how to break them properly.**
- 6. Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship.**
- 7. When you realize you've made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.**
- 8. Spend some time alone every day.**

9. Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values.

10. Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

11. Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll be able to enjoy it a second time.

12. A loving atmosphere in your home is the foundation for your life.

13. In disagreements with loved ones, deal only with the current situation. Don't bring up the past.

14. Share your knowledge. It's a way to achieve immortality.

15. Be gentle with the earth.

16. Once a year, go someplace you've never been before.

17. Remember that the best relationship is one in which your love for each other exceeds your need for each other.

18. Judge your success by what you had to give up in order to get it.

19. Approach love and cooking with reckless abandon.

Think about it. And remember, "There is no failure except in no longer trying."

QUOTABLE...

"When they took the 4th Amendment, I was quiet because I didn't deal drugs. When they took the 6th Amendment, I was quiet because I am innocent. When they took the 2nd Amendment, I was quiet because I don't own a gun. Now they have taken the 1st Amendment, and I can only be quiet."

- LYLE MYHR

LPBC Elects New Board

The Libertarian Party of Colorado voted in a new Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting, held July 13, 2000 at David Baker's residence.

The following officers were voted into office for a one year term on the LPBC 2000-01 Board:

- k Tom Parker retained his position as Membership Director
- k Stephen Funk remains the Newsletter Editor
- k Ron Bain moves from Chairman to his new post as Publicity Director, replacing David Baker
- k Chuck Wright is elected Treasurer, replacing Kevin Wilkerson
- k Lori Van Buren was voted Secretary, replacing Jon Ford

There was some drama concerning the position of Chair, as nobody had declared candidacy for this office as of the Annual Meeting date.

Several nominations were offered and declined. Ultimately M. Bruce Waters was elected as Secretary-Elect with Lori Van Buren tentatively accepting the position of Chair-Elect via telephone. The status of these two positions should be officially finalized at the August LPBC Board meeting, which will be held Thursday, August 10 at 6:30 p.m. at La Estrellita restaurant in Boulder. Any voting members with an opinion on this matter are encouraged to attend.

Much discussion about the forthcoming campaign season followed the Board elections, and new Publicity Director Ron Bain pledged to fully support *active* candidates throughout Colorado in any way he could to provide them with media coverage.

Joe Johnson and Elizabeth Bennett were applauded for their extraordinary efforts recruiting scores of Libertarian candidates statewide to appear on the November 2000 ballot.

Newsletter Editor Stephen Funk appealed for more than the usual five or six *Liberty News* writers to better reflect the size and scope of the Libertarian movement in Boulder County.

As the meeting adjourned, everyone grabbed some of Dave Baker's new campaign stickers and business cards, and those with lawns took home "David Baker: Libertarian for Congress" yard signs.

WANTED: *Newsletter Writers!*

The LPBC has about 50 paid members. Our newsletter often gets mailed to nearly 100 people. There are hundreds of registered Libertarians in Boulder County. There are hundreds more who vote Libertarian. And there are thousands of people in Boulder County with interesting things to say relating to Libertarianism.

So why do we always see the same five or six writers in every issue of *Liberty News*?

Liberty News wants to hear from *you*, your family, your friends...anyone with something to say about liberty and Libertarianism. We are especially interested in issues of local interest.

One of the strengths of the Libertarian Party is the great wealth of ideas and writing talent among our members.

Submitting an article, letter, drawing, or idea is easy! Send to **Stephen Funk, Newsletter Editor:**

E-mail--

**funks@peakarts.org or
stephenfunk@yahoo.com**

Postal mail--

**6822 Countryside Lane #290
Niwot, CO 80503**

Newsletter deadlines are typically the last Thursday of the month--the earlier the better.

Please include your name and phone number or e-mail address with all submissions. Advertising inquiries also welcome.

Liberty News is the voice of the LPBC...

Let your voice be heard!

FROLIC AND NOMINATING IN ANAHEIM

by Steve Funk

Thursday, June 29, 2000

I arrive in Anaheim, California for my first National Libertarian Convention after two days driving through the rugged landscapes of the Great American Southwest. From desert serenity to the city that resembles a shopping mall.

The Anaheim Marriott Hotel is buzzing with activity as fellow Libertarians arrive from all across the country to register. Imagine: for the next four days, practically everyone you see and meet is a Libertarian...it has a surreal quality to say the least.

I came prepared...I spot Harry Browne and ask him to sign my copy of *How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World*. Things are off to a good start.

I am at the Convention on the budget "Delegate Package" plan, so I decide to buy the \$15 "Opening Night Party" ticket to mix and mingle with fellow delegates and attendees. Turns out nobody was really checking for tickets (though they resolved this problem at later events, I discovered.) A band wearing Hawaiian shirts enchanted us with mediocre cover tunes, and the buffet-style dining was divine.

Friday, June 30, 2000

We get down to business at the merciless hour of 8:00 a.m. The main convention hall, in the Marquis Ballroom of the Marriott, is one hell of an impressive sight. Two huge projection TV screens flank the main stage, which is professionally designed in red, white, and blue with our website and phone number plastered everywhere. Hundreds of tables and more than a thousand chairs fill the room, with delegations labeled by state. C-SPAN cameramen are positioned at various places and also roaming about, and the presence of the press is very evident. The stage is bathed in bright, high-powered lights. Folks, this is the real deal.

One early convention surprise was the sudden candidacy of Jacob Hornberger. Since dropping out of his bid for the LP presidential nomination months ago, he has been a vocal critic of the Harry Browne campaign (for more details see the July issue of *Liberty* magazine.) Now, he has unexpectedly thrown his hat back in the ring at the last minute and is seen appealing

for support from delegates and distributing flyers promoting his speeches at the Hilton across the street. Since I have personally found Mr. Hornberger's attacks divisive, ill-timed, and largely exaggerated, I declined to participate in his opposition campaign activities, so there's not much I can report about this.

As we delegates took our seats, we were met with piles of paperwork on our tables. Position papers, newsletters, business cards, candidate endorsements, protest march announcements... and it kept coming, more and more every day. I suppose it's good marketing -- how many times in your life do you get an audience of over 1,000 Libertarians in one room?

The undisputed highlight of the morning is the keynote address by Barbara Goushaw, welfare mom turned Libertarian campaign manager and all-around dynamo. I cannot begin to do justice to her speech by summarizing it here. I don't know if this was broadcast on C-SPAN, but I wish it could have been heard by every American. While the major parties pander to "diversity" and "inclusiveness," Barbara spoke from the heart to the wide cross-section of Americans who have joined and are welcome in the Libertarian Party, telling us: "Welcome Home." She also points out that, unlike the Democratic and Republican (and Reform) Conventions, which are largely paid for by taxpayers, the Libertarians "pay our own way."

Also this morning is an emotional tribute to the late Peter McWilliams, the Libertarian activist and best-selling author who died June 14 after being denied access to nausea-relieving medical marijuana while awaiting sentencing after the DEA raided his home (see the July *Liberty News* for the full story.) Portions of Peter's speech at the 1998 LP National Convention are shown, and even those of us who never knew him personally are moved.

This afternoon, Colorado's own San Miguel County Sheriff, Bill Masters, gives a good speech critical of the Federal War on Drugs. His comments must have resonated with the press: they come to us Coloradans looking for Mr. Masters several times.

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Frolic and Nominating

(continued from page 4)

Tonight, Colorado delegation leader David Aitken says that Don Gorman would like to meet with us. While I'm a Browne supporter, I want to hear what Gorman has to say. At this meeting, I discover that Don Gorman is one of the most likable, enthusiastic guys you'll ever meet. His campaign stories are entertaining and interesting. And, after all, he has been elected to the New Hampshire House of Representatives twice as a Libertarian. He tells us he'll "put us to work" if he wins the nomination, and I'm thinking, "no problem, Don." I leave the meeting still set on voting for Harry, yet thinking Gorman would make an excellent Vice-Presidential running mate... more on that later.

Saturday, July 1, 2000

Carla Howell, the "small government is beautiful" candidate for Senate in a two-way race against Ted Kennedy, gets us started this morning. I pity "big government" Teddy if he has the guts to debate Carla. Also, radio talk show host Neil Boortz gives a hilarious speech to get the delegates pumped up today.

Fellow LPBC member Chuck Wright graciously offered me his extra ticket to today's "Gold Package" Luncheon, featuring a presentation by Barbara Branden, author of *The Passion of Ayn Rand*. The soft-spoken Ms. Branden has the intriguing perspective of an Ayn Rand insider at a time when Libertarian-style ideas were seen as completely insane and unworthy of consideration. She seems genuinely excited and inspired that many of these same ideas are accepted and discussed by the political and academic "mainstream" today, and she is amazed that Ayn Rand's books are now widely available in the Soviet Union. She conveyed hope that the Libertarian message will



Delegates cheer during Browne's acceptance speech

eventually win popular support because it is the most "moral" political philosophy. She also let us in on the inside info that a major TV network is planning to produce a mini-series of Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged*.

Russell Means, who I saw earlier this afternoon at the Marriott Pizza Hut, is the fire-and-brimstone speaker of the afternoon. His speech defies the rules of "political correctness" and offers interesting Libertarian insights from his perspective as a lifelong Indian rights activist and Hollywood movie actor. Ending with a call for "Revolution," it is easy to see why there is already an active effort to draft Russell Means for the 2004 LP presidential nomination. In fact, I attend a meeting about this later in the evening and Mr. Means is definitely open to the idea of giving it another shot. Should be interesting.

Much of today and tomorrow consists of LP Platform Committee Reports and Debates. This is where the delegates are called upon to vote "yea" or "nay" to various proposed modifications to the National Platform. Also, delegates can offer their own amendments or suggestions to those of the Committee. These sessions explore the spectrum from the intriguing to the absurd, and the meaningful to the mundane. National LP Chair David Bergland has the unenviable task of presiding over hundreds of rampant individualists with only *Robert's Rules of Order* at his disposal. Most of the usual areas of internal LP controversy come up: gun rights, the death penalty, the military, and of course the dreaded topic of *abortion*. I am proud to report that the debates mainly concerned wording and presentation of the LP position on these issues -- the philosophy and principles were never in question.

Tonight we have the LP Presidential Debate. Earlier, Jacob Hornberger left us a flyer saying he declined to participate in the debates because he didn't think internal LP business should be discussed on national television -- yet I wonder why he doesn't want to be there to at least present his positions on the issues. Otherwise, what can you say about a Libertarian debate where most of the candidates agree on almost everything and are genuinely friendly toward each other? For example, when offered the opportunity to ask the other candidates one question, Harry Browne asks, "Will you gentlemen have dinner with me this evening?"

The most curious element of the debate is the inexplicable candidacy of Dave Hollist and his two-word answer to every issue: "Contract Insurance." What began as irritating and strange eventually became humorous, and soon even Mr. "Insurance Salesman" Hollist seems to be a good sport about the whole thing.

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Frolic and Nominating

(continued from page 5)

Mainly, the debate gives the delegates an opportunity to experience the contrasting styles of the candidates: the measured, polished statesman Harry Browne; the grassroots, impassioned Don Gorman; the disarmingly well-spoken and charming Barry Hess; the eccentric and loony Dave Hollist; the absent Jacob Hornberger.

Tonight I hang out at a Harry Browne "hospitality suite." At one point, Perry Willis, Browne's campaign manager, sits down to openly discuss the Hornberger allegations with us. He seems genuinely stressed-out, irritated, and perhaps a bit depressed about the whole situation. Harry and his wife Pamela are gracious and friendly hosts, just as you would expect. I ask Harry to sign another book, which of course he gladly does--my new copy of *The Great Libertarian Offer*. I keep thinking how many more people would vote for this man if they could only meet him. I think we might see the new Browne TV ads, but instead they show the notorious Steve Kubby "South Park"-parody ad that ran during his campaign for Governor of California.

Sunday, July 2, 2000

This is the big day: it's time for the presidential nominating and voting. The Harry Browne people are distributing signs to all takers and plastering them everywhere possible. Gorman and Hess are also doing some smaller-scale last-minute campaigning. "Bumper" buttons endorsing Hornberger are also seen.

Most candidates have several nomination speeches. Don Gorman gives a particularly fiery speech on behalf of his own candidacy. The only glitch here is (no surprise) the nominating speech for Dave Hollist. A lawyer, announcing early on that he was not an LP member, proceeds to tell us what he thinks is wrong with the Libertarian Party and why he hasn't joined. Many in the crowd boo and heckle him, most sit in irritated silence, applauding the positions he opposes. The speech seems to go on forever. I suppose such things are inevitable in such a tolerant political party (as is the presence of a "drag queen" named "Star Child," seen sporting butterfly wings and antennae.)

Harry Browne's nominating speeches culminate with Carla Howell unveiling the campaign's newly produced one-minute television commercials. These are a huge hit with the audience, and I hope that by November these ads are seen by millions. I'm sure that showing these ads swayed many undecided delegates. As I write this, I understand the Browne campaign has purchased over 70 spots on several national cable networks--the first ads aired on CNN July 26, and more spots were just purchased on the Direct-TV satellite cable network. (Check out the ads at www.HarryBrowne.org.)

As we delegates cast our votes for president, Hollywood producer Aaron Russo gives his lively "I'm mad as Hell" speech. I am thinking that his presentation should especially appeal to disenfranchised Democrats.

The roll call of the states occurs later today. The leader of each delegation gives an entertaining introduction before announcing their votes. Colorado is split almost evenly between Browne and Gorman, with no votes for Hess, Hollist, or "Bumper." Idaho is the only state without a delegation for some reason. As the roll call proceeds, it is obvious that the outcome will make Browne the winner, with Gorman in second, Hornberger in third, and Hess and Hollist far behind. It seems Hornberger's candidacy has the effect of actually helping Harry Browne, as the "anti-Browne" votes are distributed almost evenly between Gorman and "Bumper." If all the Hornberger votes were cast for Gorman, a second ballot may have been needed. As it stands, Harry wins the nomination on the first ballot. Perry Willis must be greatly relieved.

Incidentally, a strange pattern emerges here: a few delegates cast write-in votes for dead, fictitious, or nonexistent candidates, which continues during the Vice-Presidential and LNC voting. This childish behavior irritates me, since 99% of us take our delegate responsibilities seriously. There is a "None Of The Above" option, after all.

This afternoon, we go through the nominating process again for the Vice-Presidential candidates. I think it is refreshing that we vote for the VP candidate rather than having the presidential candidate simply choose someone as we see in the other parties. There is already a strong movement to draft Don Gorman for Vice President. This results in one of the more dramatic and special moments of the convention: Gorman addresses the crowd to say that he is honored by the invitation, but unlike the Democrats and Republicans, we are the "Party of Principle," and he will not interfere with the other VP candidates who have campaigned hard for this nomination. Don's class act announcement received riotous applause from the audience. I still think it's too bad we couldn't have a Browne-Gorman ticket. Perhaps the process will be modified in future years to allow more flexibility in choosing the running mates.

The two leading VP candidates are Art Olivier, a measured, Browne-ish fellow who was elected as the Libertarian mayor of Bellflower, California; and Steve Kubby, the higher-profile candidate for Governor of California facing trial for growing and using medicinal marijuana. I personally favor Kubby to provide a contrast in styles and to highlight the popular "wedge" issue of medical marijuana. The word on the street is that Harry favors Olivier as a running mate. The first

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Frolic and Nominating in Anaheim *(continued from page 6)*

ballot is very close, with only about 20 votes separating the two--not enough for a majority. As we go to another ballot, another VP candidate, Ken Krawchuk, drops out of the race and publicly endorses Olivier. We will find out the results of the second ballot tomorrow.

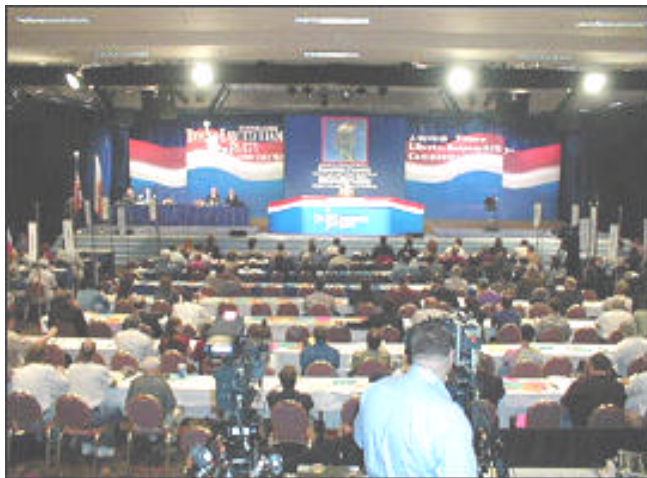
Harry Browne gives an inspiring acceptance speech this evening that gets the crowd fired up. It is wonderful to see the entire delegation coming together to support the presidential nominee. It's clear that Browne's overall message this year is "freedom," plain and country-simple. He spends some time telling Drug War horror stories as well, which should set our campaign apart from others who ignore these issues.

I manage to sneak into the latter portion of the Presidential Banquet this evening, just as Libertarian motivator/guru Michael Cloud asks all in attendance to pull out a \$20 bill (or more) to support the Browne campaign. Mr. Cloud is a persuasive fellow...now my last \$20 is gone and I'm off to the ATM.

Monday, July 3, 2000

Today we learn the results of the VP nomination--Art Olivier wins. There are quite a few procedural objections and so forth today, further delaying the Libertarian National Committee nominations and voting. Many people are clearly worried about checking out of the hotel on time, making it to the airport, and other understandable concerns. The delegation votes to limit speech times to get things moving faster.

The LNC candidates offer a contest between more "experienced," academic types and a "Clean Slate" movement to implement a more grassroots approach. I vote about half and half between the two groups. As it turns out, the "safer," more subdued candidates win,



A view from the Convention floor

with James Lark replacing Bergland as Chairman.

Today, we also hear Art Olivier's Vice Presidential acceptance speech. Though he is clearly nervous, he does a good job. He is certainly in much better form than at the VP forum I saw yesterday.

Before we can vote on the Judicial Committee, which very few people seem to know anything about, one of the delegates calls for a quorum. Not surprisingly, a quorum no longer exists since so many delegates have left, therefore convention business is officially halted.

So ends my first LP Convention. I can certainly recommend this intriguing and inspiring experience to all Libertarians. Now I'm off to Las Vegas...but that's another story.

Weekly Lunches Temporarily On Hold!

by Tom Parker, Membership Director

The LPBC Monday lunches are temporarily on hold because our regular meeting place -- Healthy Habits restaurant -- unfortunately went out of business on July 23, 2000.

We are looking for a new place that ideally...

- (1) is buffet or cafeteria style
- (2) has a private room
- (3) takes reservations
- (4) has adequate parking
- (5) is conveniently located
- (6) preferably is available Mondays

Places currently under consideration include Boulder Salad Company, Jim Chan, Taj, Olive Garden, Golden Buff, and several others. Several "reconnaissance meals" have already been consumed by our ad-hoc panel of restaurant reviewers.

If you have other restaurant suggestions please let me know!

Until we come up with a new place, the lunches are on hold! For late-breaking news, you can check our web site at www.lpboulder.com under the section "Regular Gatherings."

Congressional Relatives Receive "Get Out of Jail Free" Card

*Libertarian Harry Browne Says Congressmen are
Playing Monopoly with Your Life*

ARLINGTON, VA -- If you or a relative gets arrested on a drug charge, don't expect to pass Go or collect \$200 -- unless you're the son or daughter of a U.S. congressman. The night of Thursday, July 6 provided the most recent example of the Drug War double standard, and Libertarian presidential candidate Harry Browne is urging voters to help him end the "Monopoly on Hypocrisy" -- the Insane War on Drugs.

According to the Tribune News Service, Robert Lugar, son of Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN), was arrested for possession of 1 and 1/4 ounces of marijuana after a deputy sheriff smelled marijuana smoke when he stopped Lugar for a routine traffic violation. Lugar pleaded not guilty to the drug charge and was released on \$200 bond.

"Lugar should count his lucky stars that he's a U.S. Senator's son," said Browne, "because he already has a 'Get Out of Jail Free' card. If he'd been anyone else's son, most likely his car would have been confiscated and he'd be facing a prison sentence."

"But being a Senator's son makes you part of the aristocracy," added Browne. "Just ask the sons of Senators Richard Shelby (R-AL) or Rod Grams (R-MN). Both have been arrested or detained for drug offenses and received virtually no punishment. In America we are supposedly all equal before the law, but some are more equal than others. And the worst part is that all three senators have been -- and continue to be -- leading Drug Warriors."

Browne continued, "and even though George Bush and Al Gore, both ardent Drug Warriors, acknowledge or imply similar 'youthful indiscretions,' neither has indicated that he should have been sent to prison."

QUOTABLE...

"Most of the harm that comes from drugs is because they are illegal."

- MILTON FRIEDMAN

Today's youth aren't allowed to 'experiment with marijuana' -- they're charged with felonies and sent to prison to serve mandatory sentences, voted for or approved by people with names like Lugar, Shelby, Grams, Gore, and Bush."

Harry Browne has his own version of a "Get Out of Jail Free" card, and you don't have to have a father with his hands in the Community Chest to obtain it. Stated Browne: "On my first day in office, from the inauguration podium, I will issue an unconditional pardon to every non-violent drug offender in federal prison -- those who've done no violence to anyone -- and make room for the real criminals who are terrorizing our cities."

*(Press release reprinted from the LibertyWire e-mail subscription available at no charge from www.HarryBrowne.org. For more details on the Shelby and Grams cases, see pages 100-101 of Harry Browne's latest book, **The Great Libertarian Offer**, available online at www.HBBooks.com.)*

Jam Debate Commission Phone Lines

Let's get Harry in the debates! A recent *Colorado Daily* editorial, titled "Third parties could bring life to debates," ended with the following call to action:

"You can contact the Commission on Presidential Debates via e-mail at:

info@debates.org

or you can write to the commission at:

**1200 New Hampshire NW, Box 445
Washington, D.C. 20036.**

The commission requested that we not list its phone number, which is:

(202) 872-1020

We say, go ahead and jam their phone lines until they give us fair debates!"

LETTERS for LIBERTY

Dismantle the Government Monster

Not to be outdone by Boulder's technological growth, government makes it plain that it, too, cannot be restrained. This election cycle is the governmental power season.

Once Boulderites opted for public charity over the voluntary, non-coerced variety, then of course government can expand it at will and move a homeless shelter anywhere it chooses.

Once the federal government, oblivious to constitutional restraints, took power over the chemicals an adult may ingest, then of course some Ismael Menas must die in unannounced home raids.

Once government provides health care, then of course you will see our elders begging politicians to save their Medicare.

Once we give government so much power, we become serfs. So you serfs sit back and enjoy your new shelter, imposed by the all-powerful and beneficent OZ.

Only one party demands that eggs not be broken for some illusory omelets. One party believes charity coerced is not charity at all. Only one party will dismantle the government monster.

Vote Libertarian this fall, because freedom works.

*David Baker
Libertarian Candidate for Congress,
Colorado's Second Congressional District*

(published in the July 5, 2000 edition of the Boulder Daily Camera newspaper)

QUOTABLE...

"I sure as hell wouldn't want to live in a society where the only people allowed guns are the police and the military."

- WILLIAM S. BURROUGHS

The Libertarian Difference

Your July 12 editorial, "Nader's Fantasy," argues there are significant differences between George Bush and Al Gore, and those voting for another candidate may "influence the future of their country in ways they never intended or wanted." Sadly, this is the same scare tactic we often hear from the "major parties."

Many vote for the "lesser of two evils" based on abstractions: speculation about the 2008 Supreme Court, for example. I expect they leave the voting booth with a queasy, empty feeling. I sure did until I started voting Libertarian.

Third-party voters are not "in deep denial," as you suggest. To address just a few issues in your editorial...

Bush/Gore will spend millions of taxpayer dollars and continue ruining countless lives with the futile Drug War. Only Libertarian Harry Browne will end the insane War on Drugs and pardon all non-violent drug offenders. (You erroneously state that only Nader is "talking openly about the failed war on drugs.")

Bush/Gore will continue the bankrupt Social Security scheme (Bush may put 2% into a government "savings account.") Only Libertarian Harry Browne will immediately end Social Security and the Income Tax so we can spend and invest our earnings as we wish.

Bush/Gore will continue a costly National OFFENSE, meddling in foreign countries, causing the deaths of innocent civilians and making the U.S. a terrorist target. Only Libertarian Harry Browne will return to a Constitutional National DEFENSE.

Only a few reasons why I was baffled by your conclusion that "the gap between Gore and Bush is wide."

Do votes for third parties "help" Democrats or Republicans get elected? Does it matter? If you don't vote your principles, the only one who loses the election is you. I will proudly vote for Harry Browne for President, David Baker for Congress, and all Libertarians across the ticket.

P.S. Fed-up with two-party debates? Call the Debate Commission: (202)872-1020

*Stephen V. Funk
Niwot*

(submitted to the Daily Camera on July 12)

LETTERS

Libertarian on Education

Recent letters to the editor have clouded the economics of the education debate, the issue with perhaps the greatest stakes for our future.

Our government school system now denies real choice, because to choose a private school demands you pay twice. But government is a poor teacher.

Currently, if 20% of public school teachers are incompetent, they will be retained. If 50% of high schoolers hate their school, they will be denied options (Klebold and Harris.)

If taxes are doubled, scores will go down. Political power will force mystic teachings on children to produce uniformity and mediocrity. And if kids are rowdy, Mr. Ritalin will calm them down.

We propose the free market, the greatest producer of wealth on this planet, unleash the creative power of competition to improve schools. I propose income tax credits for all citizens--or corporations--that pay for private education. The relief will allow property taxes to be reduced proportionately.

Reclaim our American heritage of freedom. Vote Libertarian this fall.

*David Baker
Libertarian Candidate for Congress,
Colorado's Second Congressional District*

(Submitted to the *Rocky Mountain News* on July 20.)

QUOTABLE...

"That government is best which governs least."

- HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Bush Social Security Plan Is Risky

"Puny proposal misses opportunity to set people free," says Libertarian Browne

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA -- "George Bush proposes to allow workers to keep and invest 2% of the 15% currently being taken from their incomes for Social Security. Al Gore calls that a 'risky' proposal. And he's right -- because it leaves 13% of your income in the hands of politicians. What could be riskier than that?" So says Libertarian presidential candidate Harry Browne.

"Social Security operates on a very simple principle: the politicians take your retirement money and squander it," continued Browne.

"They might spend it on other people's retirement, on monuments to themselves, on bombs for Serbia, or to prop up the Russian ruble for another hour. But the one thing they'll never do is to put your money aside in a special account, where it will be safe for your retirement."

As President, Harry Browne -- a former financial advisor -- would "unlock the door" to Social Security, and let you out -- completely and immediately. He proposes selling government assets to buy private annuities for those already retired -- which he says will free senior citizens from having to depend on politicians' promises. Those still working will be free to save and invest all their money as they see fit.

"Even 5% of one's income kept in a bank savings account will put a young worker ahead of Social Security," Browne said.

(Reprinted from LibertyWire, available from www.HarryBrowne.org. Browne's complete Social Security proposal is covered on pages 85-87 of his new book, **The Great Libertarian Offer**, available online at www.HBBooks.com.)

Liberty News

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LPBC Calendar of Upcoming Events

Every Monday, Noon:

LPBC Weekly Lunch

NOTE: Healthy Habits went out of business as of 7/23. Until further notice, Monday lunches are temporarily suspended.

See www.lpboulder.com for updates

Saturday, August 5, 3:00 pm:

Son of Bowl-A-Thon for Liberty
Coal Creek Bowling Lanes
350 W. South Boulder Road
Call Ron Bain: (303) 443-9179

Saturday & Sunday, August 5 & 6:

Tanner Gun Show
Denver Merchandise Mart
I-25 & 58th, Denver CO
Call Chuck Wright: (303) 666-0509

Thursday, August 10, 6:30 pm:

LPBC Board Meeting
La Estrellita Mexican Restaurant
1718 Broadway, Boulder, CO

Saturday & Sunday, September 2 & 3:

Wasatch Gun Show
Larimer County Fairground
Loveland, CO
Call Chuck Wright: (303) 666-0509

Saturday & Sunday, September 9 & 10:

"Crossroads of the West" Gun Show
Holiday Inn
I-70 & Chambers, Aurora, CO
Call Chuck Wright: (303) 666-0509

Thursday, September 14:

LPBC Board Meeting
Cheng's Garden Restaurant
480 W. Dahlia, Louisville, CO

Saturday & Sunday, September 23 & 24:

Tanner Gun Show
Denver Merchandise Mart
I-25 & 58th, Denver CO
Call Chuck Wright: (303) 666-0509

Join the Libertarian Party of Boulder County!

Choose one of these options:

___ *Combo Package:* Join the LPBC, LP-CO, and LP-US for only \$40

___ Join the LPBC for THREE FULL YEARS for only \$36

___ Join the LPBC for the small annual fee of \$15

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Day Phone: _____ Eve Phone: _____

Email address: _____

If you wish to be a voting member, please sign and date the following pledge:

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Choose a membership plan above and enclose a check or money order payable to the LPBC for the amount listed. Send to: LPBC, PMB #427, 2525 Arapahoe Ave., E4, Boulder, CO 80302. *Thank you for your support!*

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