



Liberty News

July 2000

a publication of the Libertarian Party of Boulder County

LPBC Promotes Liberty at Boulder Creek Festival



M. Bruce Waters and Lori Van Buren chat about libertarianism with a booth visitor at the Boulder Creek Festival. See article on page 5. (Photo by Tom Parker)

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

Wow! Has it been a year already? When I decided to run for LPBC chair, I pledged to strive for more money, more media and more money. I think I can claim at least partial success on all three. I hope whoever takes over for me remains committed to the same driving philosophy that will take this affiliate forward.

Marketing philosophy and research teach us that people, en masse, are largely predictable: they have short attention spans; they're only interested in learning new information that will put money in their pockets or make them sexier; they want to be sold, yet convince themselves that this was a decision they made entirely on their own; they don't like being lectured or talked down to; they like cultural commonality to the point of homogeneity, yet brace themselves psychologically with notions of rugged individualism; they want to be on the side of the winner, the good guy.

So what do Libertarians routinely and traditionally do? Insist that people very rapidly absorb a whole bunch of new information full of ivory tower concepts such as "liberty" and "inalienable rights" while making references to obscurities such as Von Mises and Hayek. Many Libertarians put so much vitriol in their personal presentations to others that I sometimes think the party would grow faster if we could limit public contact to our publications and websites.

Lots of Libertarians spends lots of time improving their minds, reading books and educating themselves, but the focus of their studies is usually laissez-faire economics, Constitutional history and interpretation, how to shoot better or make their own ammunition. I'm suggesting that Libertarians en masse devote some of this amazing brain power to the study of marketing, public relations and political history. It couldn't hurt.

Lessons learned in the last year: we can raise money without spending money; we can get free publicity other than letters to the editor; Libertarianism can be fun; letting people gravitate to the roles and functions best suited to their natural aptitudes and talents is best; teamwork is more effective than everyone pursuing their own individual agendas; and, it's hard to commute to a full-time job, manage a part-time business, chair a county affiliate, learn new software, and research and write a novel, all at the same time.

Libertarians should probably read a few books on time management, too. See you at the LPBC Annual Meeting (July 13th at Dave Baker's house -- he won't be able to space this meeting).

**Keep on thinkin' free,
Ron Bain, Outgoing Chairman**

Independence Institute Needs Supporters, Volunteers

by Ron Bain, LPBC Chairman

The Independence Institute is a free market think tank located in Golden and led by Jon Caldara, known to many Libertarians as a dynamic proponent of limiting taxes and privatizing public transportation.

The Institute works tirelessly to educate local government officials and the media about basic principles that Libertarians can easily agree with: Second Amendment rights; limiting government; privatizing government services; debunking junk science that results in bad public policy; education reform; and, even that the drug war has gone way too far.

Caldara, president of the Institute since 1998, is openly inviting increased Libertarian participation in Institute activities. The easiest and most painless way to become involved is simply to send an e-mail with the word "Subscribe" in the subject or text to ron@i2i.org, and you will begin immediately receiving the Institute's weekly e-mail newsletter.

For those with lots of spare time, the Institute has volunteer opportunities to assist with web site administration, data entry, envelope stuffing, research, or organizing and maintaining a vast library of informational resources. Call (303) 279-6536 to learn more.

Caldara is tentatively scheduled to address the Libertarian Party of Boulder County on Sunday, July 9th at the Boulder Odd Fellows Lodge, beginning at 6:30 p.m. This would be an excellent opportunity to meet the president of the Independence Institute and extend your gratitude for all he and the Institute have done for the causes of liberty and free markets.

QUOTABLE...

"The only freedom which deserves the name, is that of pursuing our own good in our own way, so long as we do not attempt to deprive others of theirs, or impede their efforts to obtain it."

- JOHN STUART MILL, "ON LIBERTY" (1859)

Campaign Signs: *an alert and an idea*

M. Bruce Waters submits the following information from the Department of Transportation regarding laws against Campaign signs along state highways. This can serve as a "heads-up" to our Libertarian candidates and a possible means of draining the coffers of the Democrat and Republican campaigns, in effect "using their laws against them." Further comment and strategy about this idea is welcome.

Soon, campaign signs will join real estate development signs to clutter yards, streets, and highways across the state. But along state highways, they're also a misdemeanor.

Distracting drivers, blocking highway warning signs, or endangering the people who stick them in the ground or remove them in close proximity to traffic, the signs are **public nuisances. Officially.**

According to Colorado Revised Statute 43-1-417, (3), (a), *Except as provided in section 43-1-421 (Awnings authorized),*

"no person other than the (transportation) department without written approval of the department shall erect or maintain any advertising device located either wholly, or partly within the right-of-way of any state highway that is part of the state highway system, including streets within cities, cities and counties, and incorporated towns. All advertising devices so located are hereby declared to be public nuisances, and any law enforcement officer or peace officer in the state of Colorado or employee of the department is hereby authorized and directed to remove the same without notice."

Candidates are allowed to place **"on-premise"** signs on private property with the owner's permission, of course. The signs on state right-of-way are the ones whose cost of removal is paid for by the taxpayers.

The fine for this misdemeanor can be **\$100 to \$1,000**, and each day or posting constitutes a separate offense. In practice, state highway maintenance crews removing signs often make an effort to contact political candidates as a courtesy. But with the number of signs which proliferate during the course of an election season, it is difficult for crews to notify all the illegal sign placers. Signs are held up to thirty days at a local maintenance office before they're discarded.

--reprinted from a Colorado Department of Transportation memo

Letter: Alternative to Politics as Usual

The following letter to the editor was published in the Saturday, May 27th Daily Camera newspaper. The Camera has a 300 word, once per month limit on letters to the editor. Letters may be sent to: openforum@thedailycamera.com.

Your headline captured the best part of an interesting article in the Insight Section on Sunday, May 14: "Entrepreneurs are the new social activists. Today's young Americans view the marketplace rather than the political arena as the engine of social transformation."

The author described a libertarian alternative to politics as usual: private enterprise can help in areas such as welfare, health care, old age security, drug abuse and violence, affordable housing, education, public transportation, etc. as it does for food, clothing, and shelter; encourage entrepreneurs who share your concerns, join them, or invest in them.

As "public" concerns are spread among multiple private efforts, any hopeful experiments will be watched and copied and improved. Many more "public servants" will find many more and better ways to help those in need.

Those in need will find more helping hands. Most can be helped to take care of themselves. Many will be able to repay those who lend a helping hand, as is happening with micro-loans rapidly spreading around the undeveloped world to help pay for sewing machines and other simple tools.

Perverse incentives to protect turf and build empires in subsidized monopolies may undermine the goal of helping people onto their feet.

The libertarian alternative is many separate efforts in every area. Discouraging results will be measured against successful efforts. The black hole of tax-and-subsidize can be turned into investments for those who offer and those who receive help.

As solutions are found and improved, those involved will be rewarded with successful results, appropriate incomes, even "profits" -- as are suppliers of other crucial needs such as food, clothing, and shelter.

Jerry Van Sickle
Boulder

DAVID KOPEL

the interview

by Jon Ford

*Few LPBC members know it, but one of the country's leading scholars on the Second Amendment lives right here in Boulder County. Currently employed as the Director of Research at the Independence Institute in Golden, Colorado, David Kopel is on the cutting edge of the struggle for the right to keep and bear arms in America. He is the author of dozens of influential articles in law journals and periodicals as well as a handful of well-regarded books (among them **Guns: Who Should Have Them?** and **No More Wacos: What's Wrong With Federal Law Enforcement and How to Fix It**). His written work addresses not only the issue of firearms rights but its context within the broader question of the proper role of government in the lives of citizens. We recently asked David about a handful of timely issues in which he is playing a vital role.*

LPBC: You once told me that you had a traditional liberal upbringing. When did you make the change to a more libertarian outlook on issues like firearms?

DK: My dad served as a Democratic State Representative for 22 years and was usually the ACLU's best friend in the whole legislature. So Bill of Rights principles were always very important in our family. Some liberals do have blind spots on some parts of the Bill of Rights, including the Second Amendment.

My specific change of mind on the Second Amendment came in my second year of law school, when I was on the student staff of the Michigan Law Review. Our job was to cite-check (verify the accuracy of the footnotes) for the articles that were going to be published. I helped cite-check an article called "Handgun Prohibition and the Original Meaning of the Second Amendment" by Don Kates. That article demonstrated quite convincingly that the Second Amendment guaranteed an individual right.

More generally, I had become a very strong anti-Communist after reading Aleksander Solzhenitsyn's *The Gulag Archipelago* in 1973. So

favoring a strong military--and especially favoring support for anti-Communist guerillas all over the world--I began to see that weapons in the right hands (freedom fighters) were both effective and essential.

LPBC: Tell us about your involvement with *U.S. v. Emerson*, the groundbreaking Second Amendment case working its way through the Texas courts. Any predictions how that one will turn out?

DK: The Fifth Circuit is very closely divided, so the case could go either way. There's a statutory question that the Court has to decide before it ever gets to the constitutional issue, and if Emerson wins on the statute, the Second Amendment question never arises. The case could well be reheard *en bloc* by the whole Fifth Circuit. It probably goes to the Supreme Court if and only if Emerson wins on Second Amendment grounds.

LPBC: Recently your pro-gun statements and statistics have been called into question on the "Between the Lines" radio show (1490 AM) and in a letter to the *Rocky Mountain News*. What's your response?

DK: Nobody's pointed out a single factual error that I've made, and nobody's ever even attempted to logically explain why my analysis of the issue is incorrect. The more success that someone has in influencing public policy, the more opposition they attract. So the more these folks yap, the more it shows their frustration that firearms policy is being influenced by reason and facts rather than by their negative and mean-spirited emotions. There are plenty of nice people who support gun control, but the nastiness of a certain segment of the activists is really the best possible refutation of their smug claims of moral superiority. There are a lot of Elvira Gulch types in any prohibition movement.

(continued on page 5...)

David Kopel: The Interview

(continued from page 4)

LPBC: You've done some important work on the investigation into government misdeeds at Waco. We'd love to hear your thoughts on the situation as it stands today.

DK: The best news is that in early June the Supreme Court, in *United States v. Castillo*, unanimously reversed the outrageous sentences imposed on the Branch Davidians. Several of them had received 25 extra years because the judge claimed that they had used machine guns when they were attacked by the BATF. The Supreme Court held that the statute requires the jury to make this finding, not the judge. They're still serving 15 year sentences, but that's a big improvement over 40 years.

LPBC: In your opinion, which avenue offers the best hope for getting to the bottom of the Waco disaster: the Branch Davidian trial, Senator Danforth's investigation, or the private efforts of documentary film makers and investigative journalists?

DK: I think that all three are important. The private journalists/film makers have done incredibly valuable, persistent work and uncovered a great deal of information. The lawyers prosecuting the civil suit have likewise uncovered a lot that I hope we'll hear at the trial. Judge Smith, the civil trial judge, was an absolute disaster at the criminal trial, but he appears to be much more evenhanded these days. As for the Danforth Commission, I don't think it bodes well that the number two lawyer on the commission was handpicked by Janet Reno and is a highly political U.S. Attorney from Missouri.

LPBC: What's your opinion of Libertarian Party efforts on the gun issue?

DK: The Libertarians provide a consistent, principled position on this issue. It helps prevent the Republican Party from moving further towards the media's position on the gun question. Firearms policy was one of the main reasons that I voted for the Libertarian presidential candidate in 1992 and 1996 and will almost certainly do so again in this election. One important reason that I'm not a registered Libertarian is that I like to vote in every election, and there's no such thing as a Libertarian primary election.

David Kopel's books are available online from Amazon.com or by mail order from Laissez Faire Books (toll-free at (800) 326-0996)

Libertarian Online Guide

- f [National Libertarian Party](http://www.lp.org)
www.lp.org Ž New & Improved!
- f [Colorado Libertarian Party](http://www.lpcolorado.org)
www.lpcolorado.org Ž New & Improved!
- f [Boulder County Libertarian Party](http://www.lpboulder.com)
www.lpboulder.com
- f [David Baker for Congress 2000](http://www.baker2k.com)
www.baker2k.com
- f [Advocates for Self Government](http://www.self-gov.org)
www.self-gov.org
- f [Laissez Faire Books](http://www.laissezfaire.org)
www.laissezfaire.org

Boulder Creek Festival Booth a Success

by Lori Van Buren

Memorial Day Weekend found the LPBC promoting libertarian ideas and administering the *World's Smallest Political Quiz* at our Boulder Creek Festival booth. As usual, the quiz demonstrated that people who attend outdoor events in Boulder score high on personal liberty but low to mid-range on economic issues. One of the best things about the quiz, though, is that it is a great conversation opener and many good conversations were held at the booth.

Premiums provided with donations to the party were mainly T-shirts and bumper stickers. The *Citizens Rulebook* was also popular, and before the weekend was over, the booth manager was wishing for more of them and more copies of the United States Constitution.

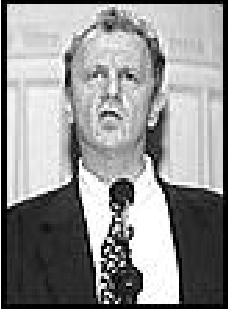
For those who read for numbers, 15 people filled out a request for more information and/or to receive a three month subscription to the *Liberty News*, 3 registered to vote, just over \$100 was received in donations, and about a dozen activists helped staff the booth.

A big thanks to all the folks who volunteered to give up part of their weekend to spend some time at the booth, and especially to septuagenarian candidate for the Colorado House of Representatives from the 13th District, Wright Morgan, who was with us through the heat of the day all three days. Dave Baker brought his Baker2K campaign to the Creek Festival and took advantage of the open mike at the speaker's area.

Bestselling Author Peter McWilliams

"Murdered by the War on Drugs"

WASHINGTON, DC -- Peter McWilliams, the #1 best-selling author and medical marijuana activist who was found dead in California on June 14, was murdered by the War on Drugs, the Libertarian Party charged today [6/17/00].



McWilliams at the '98 LP Convention

"Peter McWilliams would not be dead today if not for the heartless, lethal War on Drugs," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director. "The federal government killed Peter McWilliams by denying him the medical marijuana he needed to stay alive as surely as if its drug warriors had put a gun to his head and pulled the trigger."

"Peter McWilliams may be dead, but the causes he so bravely fought for -- access to life-saving medicine, an end to the War on Drugs, and greater freedom for all Americans -- will live on."

On Wednesday, McWilliams was found dead in the bathroom of his Los Angeles home. According to sources, he had choked on his vomit.

McWilliams, 50, had suffered from AIDS and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma since 1996, and had used medical marijuana to suppress the nausea that was a common side-effect to the potent medications needed to keep him alive.

The marijuana was completely legal, thanks to California's Proposition 215, which passed in 1996 and legalized the use of marijuana for treatment of illness. However, in late 1997, McWilliams was arrested by federal drug agents and charged with conspiracy to sell marijuana.

After a federal judge ruled that McWilliams could not mention his illnesses at his trial -- or introduce as evidence any of the documented benefits of medical marijuana -- he pled guilty to avoid a 10-year mandatory-minimum prison sentence.

While out on bail awaiting sentencing, McWilliams was prohibited from using medical marijuana -- and being denied access to the drug's anti-nausea properties almost certainly caused his death, said

Dasbach.

"First, the federal government arrested McWilliams for doing something that is 100% legal in California," he said. "Then, they put him on trial and wouldn't allow him to introduce the one piece of evidence that could have explained his actions. Finally, they let him out of jail on the condition that he couldn't use the one medicine that kept him alive."

"What the federal government did to Peter McWilliams is nothing less than cold-blooded, premeditated murder. A good, decent, talented man is dead because of the bipartisan public policy disaster known as the War on Drugs."

Ironically, on June 9, McWilliams appeared on the "Give Me A Break!" segment of ABC Television's 20/20, where host John Stossel noted, "[McWilliams] is out of prison on the condition that he not smoke marijuana, but it was the marijuana that kept him from vomiting up his medication. I can understand that the federal drug police don't agree with what some states have decided to do about medical marijuana, but does that give them the right to just end run those laws and lock people up?"

"Give me a break! [It] seems this War on Drugs often does more harm than the drugs themselves."

Five days later, McWilliams was dead.

McWilliams, the owner of Prelude Press, was a multi-million-copy-selling author of *How to Survive the Loss of a Love*, *The Personal Computer Book*, and *DO IT! Let's Get Off Our Buts* (with co-author John Roger), a #1 New York Times bestseller. He also wrote what is widely considered to be the definitive book against "consensual" crimes, *Ain't Nobody's Business If You Do*.

He joined the Libertarian Party in 1998 following a nationally televised speech at the Libertarian National Convention in Washington, DC.

In that speech, McWilliams said, "Marijuana is the finest anti-nausea medication known to science, and our leaders have lied about this consistently. [Arresting people for] medical marijuana is the most hideous example of government interference in the private lives of individuals. It's an outrage within an outrage within an outrage."

Learning from the Life of Peter McWilliams

by Harry Browne

Peter McWilliams, who died on June 14, was more than an author and activist for libertarian causes. He was a teacher from whom we can learn to be better salesmen of liberty -- and even better people.

First some background. In March 1996, Peter was diagnosed with both AIDS and cancer. He was required to take so many pills that he vomited constantly, rendering the pills useless. Like many other people, he found that smoking marijuana relieved the nausea, kept the pills in his stomach, and allowed him to stay alive.

Always a libertarian and opposed to the Drug War, his personal afflictions prodded him to become even more of an activist -- and he set to work writing a book on medical marijuana.

In December 1997 the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency conducted a pre-dawn raid on his home and stole his computer -- containing the only copy of the book manuscript. In July 1998 he was arrested and charged with violating the federal drug laws by smoking marijuana. The trial judge prohibited him from pointing out that medical marijuana is legal in California. Stripped of his only defense, he plea-bargained for a sentence of five years -- which he hoped to serve under house arrest, rather than in prison.

While awaiting the final determination of how he would serve his sentence, he was allowed to post bail and remain at home -- provided he stop smoking marijuana.

He complied with the prohibition because his family's homes were mortgaged to provide his bail. No longer able to use marijuana to keep his medicines down, he finally died this past week -- apparently choking on his own vomit. As Steve Kubby has said, Peter died of an overdose of government.

Despite his somewhat flamboyant public personality, Peter was a gentle, sensitive soul. He exhibited a tolerance toward his enemies that would have made a saint proud.

Someone once asked him why, since he was living on borrowed time anyway, he didn't get a gun and take

some of the Drug Warriors to the Hereafter with him. Peter replied, "My enemy is ignorance, not individuals."

He said, "It is winning the war of ideas -- through fact, logic, persuasion, and, yes, humor -- that brings about lasting change.

"What we are facing today in America is not an evil dictator like Hitler, who is the head of a snake and whose removal will kill the snake -- but overgrown bureaucracies like the Drug War, which is more like an anthill. No matter how many individual ants you kill one at a time, the colony goes on.... Any idiot with a gun can kill. It takes clever perseverance to make lasting change. . . .

"As has been proven time and again, to alter the government in this country does not take violence, but education. My job is to get the country back into believing and living under the supreme law of the Constitution, not to kill those who are leading the country astray . . .

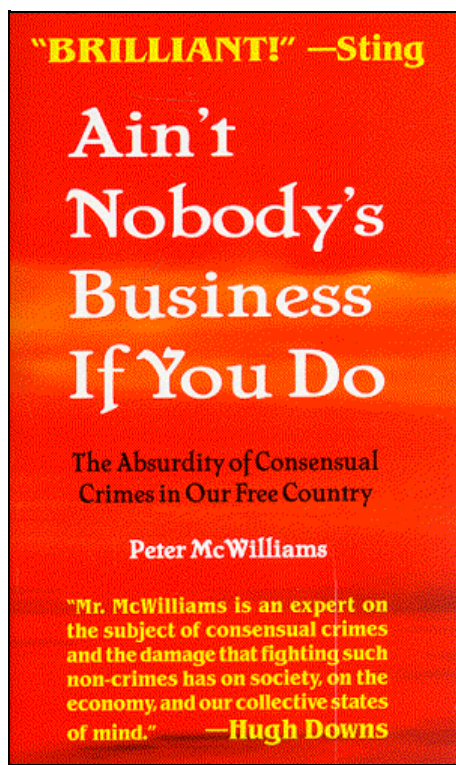
"I support the high road of truth, facts, debate, and education, even if I'm not able to walk that road much longer, and even if lies, deception, repression, and ignorance are the direct cause of my death."

Peter was a wonderful example -- not just of tolerance, but of effectiveness. He taught us that the battle for a free, libertarian

America is too important to indulge ourselves by being venomous, snide, patronizing, or violent toward our opponents. We must keep our heads, be patient, and help Americans understand how the government and the Drug War are hurting them.

We gain nothing by asserting our superiority and browbeating the people we need to bring to our side. We gain everything by following Peter's example and treating everyone -- friend or foe -- as a sovereign, but perhaps misinformed, human being.

[Reprinted from the LibertyWire e-mail subscription, available online from www.HarryBrowne.org.]



The Uniqueness of the LP Message

by Chuck Wright

Some of my Libertarian friends have concluded that the reason our Presidential candidates have not been able to generate much support from Republicans is because our candidate's message is too much like the Republicans'. Why vote Libertarian when the Republican message is basically the same as the Libertarian message?

I must respectfully disagree with my Libertarian brethren. I believe our Party's message and our candidate's message of liberty is unique among all political parties and candidates.

Which Republican presidential candidates are calling for an end to the income tax and replacing it with nothing? Which Republican candidates are calling for an end to Social Security? Which Republican presidential candidates have promised to end the prohibition of some drugs and to pardon all nonviolent federal drug offenders on their first day in office? Which Republican presidential candidates are calling for an end to the war on immigrants?

I've worked our booth at every gun show so far this year. These shows are full of Republicans. Not one Republican has ever told me they wouldn't vote for our candidates because our candidates' proposals were too similar to those of the Republicans. Most often their response is that they like our positions far better than the Republicans'. Many are openly hostile to the Republican Party.

(Continued on page 8...)

Peter McWilliams Dies

(continued from page 6)

McWilliams' death was also noted by Libertarians in his home state.

"Peter McWilliams was a true hero who fought and ultimately gave his life for what he believed in: The right to heal oneself without government interference," said Mark Hinkle, state chair of the California Libertarian Party.

"His loss opens a gaping hole in the fabric of liberty, but his memory will live on not only in the hearts of grateful Libertarians but also in the lives of the countless patients who will take up the crusade for health freedom."

Republicans who have heard our message see significant differences between our proposals and Republican proposals. And they like our proposals a whole lot better for the most part. But over and over again I hear they will not vote for our candidates because they believe we have no chance of winning, and thus voting for us is a vote for a Democrat.

The reasons I hear most frequently from Republicans as to why they don't vote for us, in order from most frequent to least frequent, are:

1. Wasted vote
2. Our position on abortion
3. Our position on drugs
4. Our position on immigration
5. Our position on non-interventionist foreign policy

If a Republican tells me he won't vote for our candidates because it's a wasted vote, I tell him that the Republican and Democrat are so much alike that regardless which one of them gets elected it will not make much of a difference in his life. I ask him how often his one vote has made a difference in a presidential election. And I ask him if he would rather be voting for someone instead of voting against someone.

If all those arguments doesn't work, I tell him to go ahead and vote for George W. Bush to keep Al Gore out of office, but give us your support and register your discontent with the Republicans by registering to vote Libertarian and by becoming a dues paying member of the LP. That way the LP may grow large enough to have a chance to make an impact on the election, and then we will have earned his vote.

QUOTABLE...

"As with the Christian religion, the worst advertisement for Socialism is its adherents."

- GEORGE ORWELL, "THE ROAD TO WIGAN PIER"

Celebrity Factor Undeniable in Politics

by Ron Bain, LPBC Chairman

How many of you watched "Fox News Sunday Morning" a couple of weeks ago when Pat Buchanan and Ralph Nader were interviewed by Tony Snow and Britt Hume? Notoriously absent from this gathering of well-known names (who were discussing the role of third parties in the Year 2000 election, by the way) was Harry Browne, the only third party candidate likely to be on the ballot in all 50 states.

Buchanan is the likely nominee of a party so much in disarray that it's appropriate to question whether it even truly exists. But because Buchanan has been known to Americans since being a speech writer for Barry Goldwater's 1964 presidential campaign and because he'll receive \$12 million in taxpayer funds (it won't even pass through the Reform Party's hands), he got 10 minutes on national TV.

Nader is the likely nominee of a party so confused that it doesn't know if it hates or loves millionaires, and whether its philosophy is libertarian or socialist or just plain anti-corporate. Yet Nader has been known to Americans since he wrote *Unsafe At Any Speed*, a critical 1969 discourse targeting American auto manufacturers, so he got 10 minutes on national TV.

Harry Browne has run for president before and is doing so again, he has written two best-selling books, he has appeared and spoken to the nation on TV, on radio and in person for almost five years continuously, and he is extremely well-known among the investment and libertarian communities. So why didn't he get his 10 minutes on national TV? Because he is not "known to Americans." He is not a national celebrity.

It is perplexing to me why Libertarians are so resistant to the concept of nominating a celebrity for president (oh, were that Mel Gibson was a native-born American citizen...).

For 20 years, I've listened to Libertarians lament the fact that the media won't pay any attention to us or help

us spread our message. As a media insider, I've known for 20 years that all the Libertarian Party has to do is nominate a person "known to Americans." I'm not even sure the person would have to be alive, as long as he or she was "known to Americans."

Imagine for a moment what would happen if the Libertarian Party nominated an individual with a name such as Clint Eastwood. Whatever reservations you or he have about such an eventuality, here is an example of a typical phone conversation that would be going on at news desks at CNN, CBS, MSNBC, WSJ, NYT, LAT and AP:

"WHAT?!! The Libertarians nominated *who?*! We're not ready for this! Get me Research! Get me interviews with background people -- I want the top brass at the Libertarian HQ now! Get me books! There's that Friedman guy, and didn't one of their presidential guys write a book? Vaughn Meece's? Who the hell is that? Well fine, send that too. Do they a website? lp.org? That's unimaginative. How'd they manage to pull this off? Clint's pissed off? Well, he's always pissed off, that's nothing new. How come we weren't covering this convention? C-SPAN?!! We were scooped by C-SPAN! Heads will roll! I want reporters dogging every move these guys make. I want guys posted 24 hours a day in Clint's trash can!"

Seriously, the response from the media would be overwhelming. We would not be ready for them. Sometimes I think there is a severe aversion to success within the Libertarian Party; otherwise, the desire for a celebrity candidate would be stronger.

It's too late for 2000. The media have already decided not to cover the Republican and Democratic conventions, describing them as decided long ago. In fact, it's all over but the voting as far as the media are concerned. I'm sure most of the media could fairly accurately project the election right now: Bush, Gore, Nader, Buchanan, Browne, in that order. We haven't even nominated our candidate yet, and the election is essentially over.

Think about it. We're all working very hard to play a game that's dominated by rules set by the media, yet we consistently and collectively refuse to play by the media's rules. This is perverse and illogical.

We have four years to change the situation and recruit a candidate that the media will respect. Let's not waste them.

QUOTABLE...

"A government that is big enough to give you all you want is big enough to take it all away."

- BARRY GOLDWATER, SPEECH (1964)

LPBC Elections on July 13

by Tom Parker

As officially announced in the June newsletter, the annual meeting of the LPBC will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 13th at the home of Dave Baker, 2626 Crestridge Court in Boulder (see directions below). At this annual meeting, in addition to regular board business, we will be holding the election of LPBC officers for 2000-2001.

To vote:

All voting members can vote, either in person at the July meeting, or with the official Absentee/Sample ballot. This ballot is sent to all voting members along with their July newsletter (and is available online at <http://www.lpboulder.com/ballot.html>). To vote with the Absentee/Sample ballot, either mail it to the address on the ballot so that it is received no later than 5 pm on election day, Thursday 7/13/00, or you may give it to someone attending the meeting.

Am I a voting member?

You can check your membership status by inspecting the mailing label on your newsletter -- there is a letter code immediately after the expiration date. Voting members have a letter code of "V".

Other codes are: "C" for Contributing (members who have not signed the Libertarian pledge), "T" for Trial, "P" for VIP, "R" for Prospect, and blank for anything else. If you are not sure what your membership status is, please contact Membership Director Tom Parker at tparker24@earthlink.net or (303) 665-2150.

To run for office:

All voting members are eligible and encouraged to run for board positions. The deadline for being included on the sample ballot was 6/8/00, however, you can still run for office in person at the meeting.

As of this writing, we have at least one candidate for each board position, with the exception of the all-important position of Chair. If you would like to step-up and be a candidate for this position, please attend the meeting in person.

More info available on our website:

- k Duties of officers:
www.lpboulder.com/by-laws.html#VI
- k Election of Officers of the Board:
www.lpboulder.com/by-aws.html#Election
- k Complete By-Laws of the LPBC:
www.lpboulder.com/by-laws.html
- k Latest election news:
www.lpboulder.com

Location of annual meeting and directions:

**Dave and Barbara Baker, 2626 Crestridge Court,
Boulder, CO 80302 (303) 417-9086**

- k Take Hwy. 36 about 6 miles north of Boulder.
- k Turn west onto Middle Fork (it only goes west from 36). This is just south of the Greenbriar Inn.
- k Turn right at the first fork, onto Crestridge Court.
- k 1/3 mile up, on the left, is 2626 Crestridge Court.
- k Park in the cul-de-sac; set your parking brake.

Liberty News

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Send all newsletter contributions, correspondence, and advertising inquiries to
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LPBC Calendar of Upcoming Events

Every Monday, Noon:
LPBC Weekly Lunch
Healthy Habits Restaurant
Baseline & Foothills, Boulder, CO
Visitors Welcome!

Thursday, June 29 - Monday, July 3:
Libertarian National Convention
Anaheim Marriott Hotel
Anaheim, CA
*Call the Balcom Group,
(800) 272-1776*

Sunday, July 9, 6:30 pm:
LPBC "Boulder Dialogues"
Odd Fellow's Hall,
Pearl Street, Boulder, CO
Z Speaker: *Jon Caldara, president
of the Independence Institute*
More info: www.lpboulder.com
Friends, family, & visitors welcome!

Thursday, July 13, 7:00 pm:
LPBC Annual Meeting and
Board Officer elections
David Baker's residence
2626 Crestridge Ct., Boulder, CO
See article on page 10

Saturday, August 5 & Sunday, August 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

*More info about all LPBC events:
Call Ron Bain, (303) 444-4537*

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!*

Libertarian Party Directory

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www.lpboulder.com

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Libertarian Party of the United States

www.lp.org

1-800-ELECT-US

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