



Liberty News

Newsletter of the
Libertarian Party of Boulder County

www.lpboulder.org

September 2003

Are you an "INACTIVE" Registered Elector? Where is Your ID?

Eva Kosinski

If, like many people, you decided not to vote in the 2002 election, you may find yourself ballotless in the upcoming 2003 "Mail-in Ballot" election in Boulder County. While there has been some notification to the public about the fact that this November's election will be by Mail-in Ballot, and the phrase "active registered elector" appears, nobody is clearly explaining what being an "active registered elector" means. I called the City Clerk in Louisville, who pointed me at the County Clerk's Elections Dept in Boulder. They informed me that as soon as you do not vote in an even-year election, your status (although you remain on the registration rolls) is changed to "INACTIVE." You stay on the rolls until you fail to vote in several even-year voting cycles, before becoming unregistered.

How does this relate? Mail-in Ballots are going to be sent out automatically between October 10th and 20th. Unless you are an "ACTIVE registered elector", you will not receive a ballot automatically. If you want a mail-in ballot, you will then have to go to the Boulder County Clerk's office to get one (no, your local City Clerk cannot help you on this one). You will need to have some identification to prove you are who you say you are (drivers license or social security number information - last 4 digits - will suffice). You will also need this information in order to register (by Oct 6 to qualify y for this Mail-in Ballot election), if you are not already registered.

When you do get your ballot, courtesy of our venerable State Legislature, ALL ELECTIONS AFTER JANUARY 1, 2003 REQUIRE IDENTIFICATION AND A SIGNATURE ALONG WITH YOUR BALLOT. Signatures will be checked. If you broke your writing arm this year, you might want to get a new signature registered with the Clerk's office. Next year's election (not a Mail-in Ballot) will require that you bring a photo ID of yourself in order to be allowed to vote.

As you can imagine, this array of administrivia will completely blindsides a number of voters, who know they are registered, but who are unlikely to be aware that they may not get a ballot for this election. I urge any and all Libertarians to tell as many people as you come into contact with about this issue; those who spend the time understanding the current setup (as lousy as it is) will get their people to the voting booths. Those who have not been paying close attention may find themselves disenfranchised. If you want to be sure you are eligible to vote, call the County Clerk and be sure of your status while there is still time to "activate" yourself. We should see official Mail-in Ballot instructions in the next two weeks which will reveal any new developments. If you have not yet registered to vote, do it before October 6.

Boulder Vally School District Rethinks Policy on Pledge of Allegiance

The Daily Camera is reporting this week that although the Boulder Valley School District did plan initially to enforce a mandatory pledge of allegiance, on further consideration, they have decided to hold off until the constitutional issues can be looked at by the courts.

LP BOOTH SPENDS LABOR DAY WEEKEND AT THE LOUISVILLE FALL FESTIVAL

Since Louisville allows political parties to attend as "informational" resources, and does not charge for booth space, and since our budget has been less than stellar of late, the Board decided we would attend the Louisville Fall Festival over Labor Day Weekend, rather than the decidedly pricier "Rez Fest" at Boulder Reservoir.

Thanks to those of you who took the time to be in the booth talking to attendees about Libertarianism, to get the word out, and to make it possible for me to spend time doing some campaigning (and marching in the parade) during this weekend-long event.

Libertarian Party of Boulder County

Agenda for September Meeting

1. Call to Robert's Rules of Order
2. Reading of Aug's Minutes, corrections
3. Directors Reports and/or Statements
 1. Secretary
 1. Next meeting
 2. Treasurer
 3. Newsletter
 4. Membership

5. Publicity
6. Fund Raising (act)
7. Outreach (act)
8. Campaigns (act)
9. Chair
4. Old Business
 1. Louisville Fall Festival
 2. Fundraising
 3. Outreach director
 4. Convention '04 hosts
5. New Business
 1. Open discussion and motions

Fundraising, Campaigns, Publicity Think of just one event or activity you could do in these areas to help out, even if being on the board isn't in the cards.

- * put together a plan for a yard sale or a fundraiser of some kind
- * offer to remind the newspaper of our meeting times
- * hunt around for interesting speakers and good meeting locations
- * write a letter to the editor about an issue of liberty
- * volunteer for someone's campaign

LIBERTARIAN CONTACT INFORMATION LPCO BOARD FOR 2003-2004

NOTE: SOME PREVIOUSLY FAMILIAR JOBS NOW HAVE NEW NAMES
The names were changed to make it a bit easier to figure out what the job responsibilities are.

position	officeholder	until Convention in:	phone	email
State Chair	Norm Olsen	2005	303.263.4995	norm@rockware.com
Campaigns Director	Michael T. McKinzie	2005	303.384.3393	mtmm@prolynx.com
Outreach Director	Rand Fanshier	2004	303.670.8563	rand@fanshier.com
Publications Director	Steven Gallant	2005	303.384.3979	gallant888@aol.com
Media Director	Desiree Hickson	2005	719.459.0570	desiree@ladiesofliberty.org
Records Director	Bo Shaffer	2004	303.776.3007	bo@deltatech.com
Legislative Director	Paul Tiger	2004	303.774.6383	tigerp@indra.com
Fundraising Director	Michelle Poague	2004	303.690.2907	mcbeth@ecentral.com
Treasurer & Registered Agent	Jeff Oliver	2005	303.670.3995	jjoliver@earthlink.net
	for updates and / or	changes, check the	website at	www.lpcolorado.org

There will be a number of different events over the summer, so make sure to check the State website as well as lpboulder.org. Outreach and Campaigns will both be active and looking for volunteers;

LPBC Board - July 2002 - July 2003

Position	Name	Phone / Email	Address
Chairman	Bo Shaffer	303-776-3007 (h) chairman@lpboulder.org	7411 E County Line Rd Longmont, CO 80504
Secretary	Dan Underkofler	303-665-0939 (h) 303-661-2663 (w) secretary@lpboulder.org	
Newsletter Editor	Eva Kosinski	303-666-5872 (h) newsletter@lpboulder.org	1301 Jackson Court Louisville, CO 80027
Treasurer	Greg Woods	303-666-5872 (h) 303-497-1295 (w) treasurer@lpboulder.org	1301 Jackson Court Louisville, CO 80027
Outreach Director	Open	outreach@lpboulder.org	
Publicity Director	Open	publicity@lpboulder.org	
Fund-Raising Director	Open		
Membership Director	Tom Parker	303-665-2150 (h) membership@lpboulder.org	829 Welsh Ct Louisville, CO 80027
Campaigns Director	Open	campaigns@lpboulder.org	

As you probably noticed, a number of positions are still vacant. If you have any interest at all, check with one of the board members to see what's involved. You could make a real contribution, and your efforts would be sincerely appreciated.

Libertarian Party of Boulder County

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Web: www.lpboulder.org • Email: info@lpboulder.org

Sept/Oct Activities Calendar

Be sure to check the website at www.lpboulder.org for late-breaking event information

Sept/Oct 2003	day	time	event description	location
09/08/03	Monday	12:30	Weekly lunch	Jin Chan - Boulder
09/11/03	Thursday	7:00 pm	LPBC Board Meeting	Longmont Public Library
09/15/03	Monday	12:30	Weekly lunch	Jin Chan - Boulder
09/22/03	Monday	12:30	Weekly lunch	Jin Chan - Boulder
09/29/03	Monday	12:30	Weekly lunch	Jin Chan - Boulder
10/06/03	Monday	12:30	Weekly lunch	Jin Chan - Boulder
10/09/03	Thursday	7:00 pm	LPBC Board Meeting	to be announced
10/13/03	Monday	12:30	Weekly lunch	Jin Chan - Boulder
10/20/03	Monday	12:30	Weekly lunch	Jin Chan - Boulder
10/27/03	Monday	12:30	Weekly lunch	Jin Chan - Boulder

Libertarian Party of Boulder County Meeting of the Board August 14, 2003 (summary)

Attendance Tom Parker, Bo Schaeffer, Eva Kosinski, Greg Woods, Paul Tiger, Bruce Waters.

Called to order sometime after 7:00 by Bo's presence. The Secretary was not here, so Bruce took the minutes in his absence. Last month's minutes were approved with one correction: The meaning of "Bo's ultimatum" was reversed by the addition of the word "not", so that was deleted. The next meeting is scheduled for the Longmont Public Library on September 11.

Treasurer Greg presented us with a report on our finances. Income from membership and donations of \$50, and expenses for newsletter and outreach of \$34 for a net increase of \$16, giving us a total of \$251.26. Discussion. Tom presented a check and a bill, payment of which was approved.

Newsletter Costs are basically the same as last month's. Paul wants to pay for extra newsletters to send to Boulder County print media. Approved. We'll print 100 copies this coming month.

Membership There will be a telethon on 8/18 to try to attract members. Discussion of whether County Clerk or SOS have best records of registered Libertarians. We'll have 49 members if Paul renews (he did). Bo will get the most up to date list of newly registered Libertarians and membership list from Tom.

Fund raising Bo has rented the canopy to Frank Atwood for the Littleton Food Share. He'll pick it up after the fair on Friday and pay us \$30.

Outreach Eva's campaign is officially underway. Jason Vallery is running for city council in Ward 1 of Longmont. Paul and Bo are doing outreach via the county clerk's office. Pamela White of the Boulder Weekly wants Paul to write a column. The Boulder Hometown Fair is now the Boulder Rez Fest. Too expensive for a booth but we can go and hand out propaganda. Discussion.

Chair Report It's been a quiet month. We've had an outreach booth at the Louisville Fair. Bo's putting together a database. He's giving us two more months unless we fill all board positions - until the October board meeting.

Old Business We will once again be at the Louisville Fair tomorrow 8/15. Our space has been moved. The Labor Day thing is 3 days. Discussion.

More Fundraising Canopy rental. We're "treading water". Elizabeth has put in a bid to organize and run next year's state convention May 21, 22 and 23 in Estes Park. We will assist, but not host. Discussion. Ideas: A Libertarian garage sale. Bowlathons have worked, but fall bowling leagues are starting. Paul volunteered to look into it and if practical, organize it. Maybe bicycles and races. Home get-togethers don't work. A Grange is a potentially good place to hold something. Campaign director on hold until after the telethon.

New Business Monday telethon. We need Board members, money and members. Discussion. We need people who will be directors. Tom has a call list, as well as the one from County Clerk. We also need candidates. Telethon questions: 1) Will you be a board member? 2) Will you become a member? 3) Will you donate \$\$\$? 4) Will you be a candidate? Still more discussion.

Can we dump board positions? We'd have to amend the bylaws, and someone still has to do the work. Outreach and campaigns are critical. Outreach and Newsletter are actually both Publicity, so we could consolidate those positions. Eva nominated Paul for Outreach, and long discussion ensued regarding our present Bylaws requirement that the pledge be signed before anyone can serve on our board.

Until bylaws change, or Paul relents, he will serve in media/outreach matters, but not as a voting board member.

M. Bruce Waters, acting secretary

As you can imagine, this [pyramid building] required a large slave population. In fact, from that point on, most government systems relied heavily on slaves to get things done; this practice continued until the discovery of taxpayers.

from Chapter I: The origins of Government

Dave Barry Hits Below the Beltway, 2001, Ballantine Books

Boulder Shouldn't Nullify State Laws

By PAUL TIGER

published with few changes in the Colorado Daily

Recently the Colorado Legislature passed two bills that concern firearms possession, in favor of its citizens. They were not just new laws, but also reform. They repealed certain weapons laws and set forth a standard for the entire state. These laws and reforms declared and restated the power of the constitution of Colorado where certain rights of citizens are guaranteed, no matter where they live in the state.

One law set forth a standard by which all concealed carry permits would be granted, and forcing all communities to recognize these permits as mandate of the state. In other words a permit issued in Boulder would be in effect in Grand Junction, because it is a state permit, not a local one.

Another law, which seems to have had the largest effect in the minds of home rule communities, is the open carry law. This simply says that any person that can legally posses a firearm may lawfully carry it unconcealed anywhere except for a school. In many Colorado communities this is something that has always been in effect. However, beginning in the 1970's a number of home rule cities and counties decided to defy the state constitution by regulating who could carry a firearm in public. In the city of Boulder the carrying of firearms was prohibited, while it was not in the rural areas of the county or in many of the other cities in the county. Fairly easy for someone who was otherwise considered to be law abiding to suddenly find themselves in deep trouble. On May 19th all of this confusion, spurious and vexatious prosecutions should have come to an end.

What will probably not come to an end are the lawsuits.

The state gave communities the ability to post public buildings and areas to prevent the open carry of weapons. The idea being that public employees and others could be at risk if someone were allowed to bring a gun in. In Boulder County the Parks and Open Space was first to respond in restating its rules to disallow the open carry, but allow the concealed carry of firearms. It was and still is unlawful to discharge a firearm in open space. County buildings were then posted.

You could still walk the streets carrying a firearm on your hip for all to see. Home rule communities perceive that they have lost power. Aspen, Boulder, and Denver are now considering some actions that will most likely unconstitutionally limit the abilities of citizens to demonstrate their rights to possess and carry firearms. And the lawsuits will begin. It will be costly for the communities that attempt to defy the state. The cost will fall on the taxpayer.

If local communities such as Boulder are permitted by its citizens to preempt the carrying of weapons on one street but not on another, as they currently propose, the result will be costly to Boulder citizens. A citizen might easily wander over some imaginary borderline and suddenly become a wanted criminal. The cost will be in cold hard cash as Boulder attempts to trump the state constitution with spurious and vexatious prosecutions.

Of the utmost importance, the cost will be in the loss of Liberty and Freedom.

Paul Tiger is the Legislative Director of the Libertarian Party of Colorado.

Libertarian Profiles

Bo Shaffer

LPCO Records Director

from the State Libertarian newsletter

Paul Tiger, Libertarian Activist, is doing his part to show that Libertarians are not the anti-government, far out wierdos many people think they are. [He works] hard at his job at the Boulder County Clerk and Recorder's Office. He was offered a position after many months of volunteer work, and the Clerk's Office has found him to be an invaluable addition to their workforce. Mr. Tiger was originally inspired to help out in the Clerk's Office by running for Boulder County Clerk on the Libertarian ticket in the 2002 elections. After making an admirable showing, but lacking the necessary votes to win, he followed his interests and continued to offer his services to the Office. Mr. Tiger is a firm believer in the true Libertarian idea of government.....small and efficient, *not* non-existent. He does his part every day, trying to make government run as efficiently as it can, and with as minimal an impact as possible on the general citizen. He's always there to remind the Clerk's Office of personal privacy and other Libertarian issues and with his charm and tact has won the admiration and respect of his Supervisors and his co-workers.

This same Paul Tiger, Libertarian Activist, carried a gun into a Bank to show his support for the Second Amendment and Senate Bills 25 and 26. This resulted in a SWAT response and him being thrown to the ground and cuffed (of course, the ultimate end of the story was that Mr. Tiger discussed the problem with the responding officers in a calm and rational manner, and they finally agreed with him, apologized and shook hands all around). Mr. Tiger is not only an Activist, but now he is subverting from within. He serves as a prime example of what just one Libertarian can do, my friend.

**Next LPBC Meeting: 9/11/03
Longmont Library 7pm**

From the Chair

The future is so bright I need to wear sunglasses. Remember when that was easy to say? Those halcyon days of yesteryear, when everything was right with the world and the worst we had to worry about with our President, was whether or not he kisses and tells. Remember those days when Presidential hopefuls were taken to task for hanky panky on appropriately named vessels? Well, things are a bit different, now. But then the more things change, the more they stay the same. We're right back to an earlier era of McCarthyism and Nixonian Politics. Jumping right back into another war in a country where we're not welcomed and trying to force feed democracy to people who have never known it, and are unwilling to secure it for themselves. Why does it seem like we've taken two steps forward and three steps back?

Where is the learning curve? Anybody give the administration a CSAP test lately? Is there nothing to be learned from history? How can lawmakers keep on voting for the party rhetoric, no matter what....when these laws are in direct violation of the Constitution? The Pledge Act in Colorado is a prime example. The Republicans never stopped to think that this law is tantamount to National Socialism ("You will salute der Faderland, Seig Heil!), they just figured that if the Republican Leaders want it, then we'll vote for it. End of conversation.

Democrats are not much better. They pretty much roll over and play dead. I must admit a little grudging admiration for the Texas Dems, who at least try to do something about it, although they are more interested in Re-districting than taking care of business (which is taking care of Constituents)

Libertarians are made of different stuff. Libertarians are not going to roll over and wag tails for anyone, not even their own Political Leaders. Libertarians believe in core truths (it's what makes them Libertarian) but will always think on their own. Libertarians are notorious "Out-of-the-box" type thinkers, and are sometimes taken to task for their methods, but they all have Libertarian ideals as their guiding light: Respect for each other and a willingness to live in a society that allows personal and economic freedom. This is not an easy thing to do. There is a big pricetag of Responsibility that goes with Freedom. For example, the Flag Burning Issue. As much as most Libertarians are patriotic and staunch Americans, it take courage and understanding of what true Freedom is, to come out for supporting any Americans right to make a political statement by burning a piece of cloth.....no matter what that cloth may represent. Like Patrick Henry said....." I may not agree with what you say, sir, But I will defend to the death your right to say it."

The so-called Patriot Act is another example of an administration gone bad and ignoring the Constitution. How can they suspend some of the most basic tenets of our Bill of Rights, in the name of anti-terror? Ben Franklin (The only President of the United States who never was President of the United States) said it best....."Those who give up Essential Liberties for Temporary safety deserve neither."

Libertarians are much closer to our Founding Fathers than politicians in general. We believe in the Constitution and we believe that Government has a proper place in our society. But Big Brother of 1984 is alive and growing stronger. Unless Americans wake up and smell the cesspool, there's not going to be much that anyone can do. That's where Libertarians come into the picture. People are starting to say "Hey, that's right...." When we talk. We get invited to serve on government committees. We're gaining respect at local government levels by showing that we care that government runs efficiently and volunteering to help where we can. At the same time we talk to those in government about Libertarian Principles, and guess what? We're finding them in agreement! We're getting Press space....for both activities and letters to the editor (I've personally had more than five letters published in the local newspapers this last year....signed as a Libertarian ;-).

Bottom line is, this is the year of the Libertarian. WE can make a difference! I've always considered that one of the most important aspects of being a Libertarian is to educate. Get people to participate in government like the Founding Fathers envisioned. WE are there to point out the disgraceful way the Bill of Rights is being trashed. WE talk to community Leaders about the best way for government to serve the needs of the People, not the Politician. We are on the forefront of the movement to return this great country to the status of a Great Country. I'm proud to be a Libertarian, and I am telling the world about it. How about you?

September, 2003
Bo Shaffer
LPBC Chairman

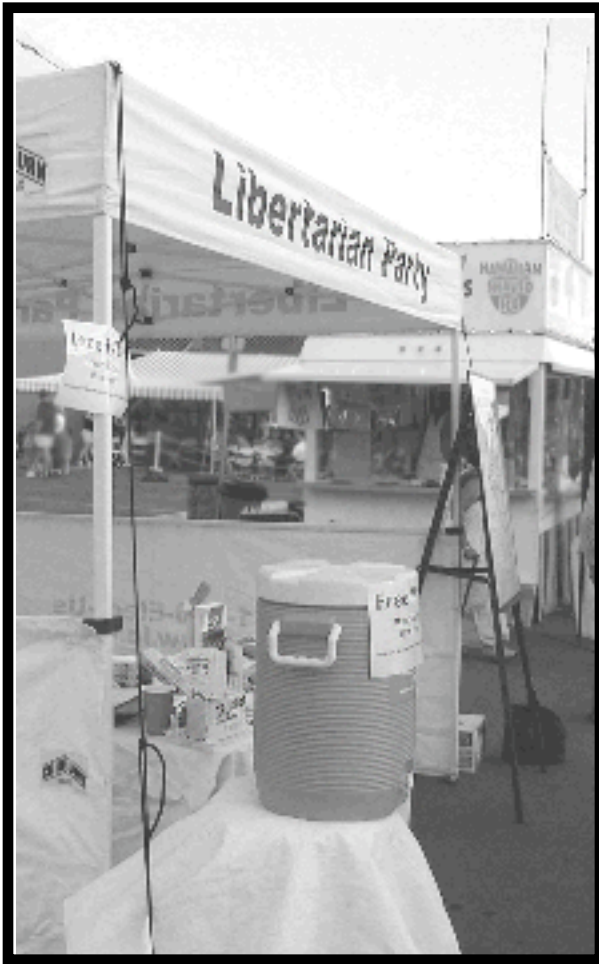
Watch our next issue for Boulder County Libertarian Candidates

Booth Adventures

Eva Kosinski

Dukring the time we spent at the Friday Street Fair in Louisville and the Fall Festival Labor Day event in Louisville, we got to hear some interesting, if depressing, stories from people who stopped to see what the Libertarian booth was all about. Some were local, some tourists, or summer family visitors. Among those we talked to were a former employee of Enron, furious at the way they were all treated, and that the government does nothing to check fraud in the corporate world. Another visitor who stopped to talk awhile was a woman for whom it was nearly too late when her 911 call was not responded to in time (who has a whole new outlook on the importance of self-defense and how slow getting help can be). Giving away free water on days that were really hot helped to get folks to drop by and spend a minute or two finding out more about Libertarians. As did those who stopped to watch others take the World's Smallest Political Quiz, and then decided to try it themselves.

Many thanks to all those who volunteered time for this type of outreach. A new member or two appear to be in the offing, and we got several new Libertarian registrations. Just watching Joe Johnson not skip a beat when the rain collected on the canopy all decided to dump off on him with a big wind gust was inspirational.



Jon Larkin giving
the World's
Smallest
Political Quiz



The 5-gallon water jug that was just about empty
when we took it home

If you think you might be interested in learning "booth savvy," let me know. We are considering having a short class with some of the folks for whom this all comes naturally.

-Eva