

Clipboard
Colorado Libertarian Party
Monthly Newsletter - February, 1988

* ----- Calendar ----- *

2nd Wednesday - Cocktail Party. At Victoria Mason's, 1270 Logan #8, (carriage house behind main building, look for blue light) in Denver on February 10th at 7:30 p.m. It's potluck, so please bring some chips and dip or vegies to munch on.

3rd Wednesday - The Breakfast Club, February 17. See below for details.

4th Wednesday - CLP Board meeting at the office.

* ----- Breakfast Club ----- *

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Libertarians are different from Republicans and Democrats....

....in most areas except one. The issue of abortion tends to divide Libertarians every bit as much as those in the other parties. An indication of this occurred during the Seattle convention when it appeared that much of the anti-Ron Paul sentiment was due to his opposition to the pro-choice platform of the LP. February's Breakfast Club will explore this explosive topic. This will not be a debate, but rather a forum on the subject with an interesting twist. Speaking on behalf of the pro-choice position will be a representative of the Colorado Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights. Speaking for the pro-life position will be a member of Feminists for Life. So much for stereotypes. Once again the Breakfast Club will be at the Quality Inn Midtown at the corner of E. Colfax and Marion (1150 E. Colfax). A continental breakfast will be served, and admission is only \$5.00--down from last month's \$10.00! Bring a friend.

* ----- Notes from Ron Paul - Presidential Candidate ----- *

On Gary Hart's re-entry into the presidential race - "[It] clearly demonstrates how weak the Democratic Party has become." Paul, who served in Congress with Hart, notes that despite all his campaign rhetoric, Hart has yet to come up with any "New Ideas," use of campaign funds not included.

On the possibility of running against Gary Hart and George Bush in the fall- "It'll just make my job that much easier."

Bush, as Reagan's political heir, "could be no more the fiscal leader of this country than Gary Hart could be our moral leader. [Reagan] has given us \$200 billion-a-year budget deficits; prompted ever-increasing government inroads into our private lives; begun illegal wars on two continents; and financed one of those wars through the covert sale of weapons to terrorists. George Bush would only give us more of the same."

* ----- Ron Paul Campaign Coordinator Needed ----- *

Ken Gaskin, previous Ron Paul Coordinator, has resigned from that position due to an unexpected relocation to another state, so the position is again open. Please contact the Office or Dave Daniels if you are interested.

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* ----- Readers Write ----- *

CLiPboard welcomes letters to the editor but reserves the right to edit all submissions while maintaining the original intent.

Editor:

To whoever is responsible for the bit entitled "Conan the Libertarian:"

The offending sentence reads-- "Because the great collective mind holds no philosophy based on irreducible primaries such as property rights, it regresses to a state of barbarism."

I'm going to pass by the quip about the "great collective mind" as it must be a joke. It is calling property rights an irreducible primary that has me gasping. Is this a joke, too? I hope the CLiPboard only goes to libertarians sophisticated enough to see the dry humor in this. But I do not believe it was a gag, for it is so dry that I gag on it.

Vocabulary check, folks. Not just everybody tosses out phrases like "irreducible primaries" with aplomb. I know only one writer who used that term: Ayn Rand. Here is what she said on the topic: "An irreducible primary is a fact which cannot be derived from antecedent facts." To elaborate on how few and special are these primaries, she wrote thus: "With certain significant exceptions, every concept can be defined and communicated in terms of other concepts. The exceptions are concepts referring to sensations, and metaphysical axioms."

It is obvious from this that Rand did not consider property rights to be irreducible primaries, which of course took none of the force out of her argumentation for such rights. Rather it is because these rights could be derived from more basic understandings that she could make reasoned argument and not just dogmatic pronouncements. (Though she made her share of those, too.) Calling property rights primaries is tantamount to erecting dogma. Miss Rand's rejection of libertarians is well known, and the criticism was that libertarians will take a concept from Rand "and treat it as a mystically revealed, out-of-context absolute..." As I am of the opinion that Rand was unjustifiably harsh on the modern libertarian movement which derives so much inspiration from her, it pains me to see such criticism proven right.

Libertarian positions do not get to be correct just because they wear the tag "libertarian." They must be supported by sound reasoning if they are to be accepted by independent thinkers. They must be open to revision whenever they prove inconsistent with well established "antecedent facts." We must resist the temptation to beg the question and make the conclusions axioms, if we wish to be convincing.

Sincerely,
Tracy Harms
Boulder

The CLiPboard apologizes for not acknowledging Irma Lanning, Communications Chair, as author of last month's piece entitled, "Conan the Libertarian."

* ----- 1988 Campaigns Announced or Active ----- *

Candidate	Office	Status	Phone
David Aitken	State Rep Dist 6 - Denver	Active	831-4334
Joe Thompson	US Cong Dist 6 - Arapahoe	Announced	
Geoffrey Lloyd	RTD Dist A - Denver	Announced	

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* ----- 1988 State Convention ----- *

The state convention, a combined convention for Colorado, Wyoming, and Alaska, will be held May 27-29 in Fort Collins. Featured guest is Walter Block, Senior Economist at the Fraser Institute in Vancouver, BC. Ron Paul and Andre Marrou will be speaking Saturday afternoon.

It'll be at University Park Holiday Inn in Fort Collins. Rooms are \$44.08 per night. Registration is \$55 until April 15, \$65 between April 16 and May 20, and after that it will be \$75.

* ----- HamburgerHamburgerHamburger ----- *

One of the major fundraising efforts of the CLP is our hamburger booth at the People's Fair in Denver. This year the fair is June 6th and 7th. Our profit is usually over \$400, and we need a committed libertarian to organize this fundraising event as well as others to work the booth. Please call the office or Dave Daniels for details.

We will also have an information booth in conjunction with Dave Aitken's campaign. The People's Fair is our chance to influence over 400,000 people. Please make a commitment today!

* ----- Mesa County Liberty ----- *

Mesa County Liberty reports that they have outlined three major projects for the new year. Their one immediate goal is to assist the Ferris family in their fight with the county over a building permit. A longer term goal is to repeal the seat belt law. Their third project focuses on the 1988 local elections, including the Board of Education, City Council and County Commissioner. They are presently looking for people interested in running for any of those positions in Mesa County. You can contact the group at 1820 North 4th Street, Grand Junction, CO, 81501 or call 243-1088.

* ----- Thanks for your Help ----- *

Kate Barriteau, Geoffrey Lloyd, Jenny Russell and David Aitken folded, stapled, labeled and packaged the CLiPboard for last month's mailing. Neal Lafon printed last month's CLiPboard.

Ken Riggs donated the list of registered Libertarians in Jefferson County. Ken also had a nice article in the latest issue of LP News. It's titled, "Is That Real Money? No, I Got It at KwikPrint." Way to go, Ken.

* ----- Party Officers and Contacts ----- *

David Daniels, Chairman	894-8227
Irma Lanning, Communications	598-0824
Jenny Russell, CLiPboard Editor	777-6272
David Aitken, Finance	831-4334
Party Office,	
720 E. 18th Ave., Suite 309, Denver 80203	837-9393
Mesa County Liberty (Grand Junction Area)	243-1088

* ----- David Aitken's Campaign ----- *

Thanks to all those generous supporters who contributed enough money during last month's fundraising to let us send the World's Smallest Political Quiz and "Who Is a Libertarian?" to 836 unaffiliated voters! Most of the contributions came from outside Denver. Come on, Denver! You can do better than that! If you'd like to increase that number, please send your \$11.00 contribution to:

Citizens for David Aitken
1240 Ogden #4
Denver, CO 80218

* ----- World's Smallest Political Quiz ----- *

The World's Smallest Political Quiz, available from the Advocates for Self-Government, is reprinted with their permission. You may purchase them at the following price (which include shipping):

100 for \$3.95
400 for \$9.95

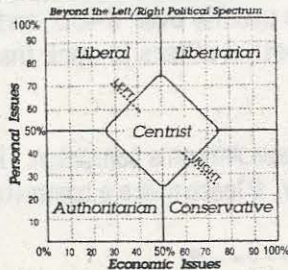
1,000 for \$19.95
10,000 for \$99.95

Where do you fit on the Self-Government Chart?

Find your *real* political position. Take the quiz on flip slide. Then mark your A-E score on the vertical scale. Draw a line from it to the right along the dotted line. Next mark your F-J score on the horizontal scale and draw a line straight up from it. Your political position is where the two lines cross.

For an extensive information kit about libertarian ideas, send \$10.00 to:
Advocates for Self-Government, Inc.
5533 E. Swift, Fresno CA 93727

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WORLD'S SMALLEST POLITICAL QUIZ It's gone on long enough! For 200 years, politicians have oversimplified the political world. Left-wing, right-wing, *parakeet-wing!* You deserve better. Take this quiz and plot your position on the Self-Government Chart. Circle Y when you agree with a statement, circle M for Maybe, Sometimes, or Need-More-Information, or circle N for No.

Is self-government appropriate in these personal issues? ...20		10	0
A	Military service should be voluntary. No draft.	Y	M N
B	Drug laws do more harm than good. Repeal them.	Y	M N
C	Citizens should be allowed to own handguns.	Y	M N
D	Repeal sex legislation for consenting adults.	Y	M N
E	Include TV and radio in Freedom-of-the-Press.	Y	M N
Total score A-E (add 20 for each Y, 10 for M, 0 for N)		<input type="text"/>	
Is self-government appropriate in these economic issues?			
F	Remove tariffs and other barriers to free trade.	Y	M N
G	Government should not legislate wages or prices.	Y	M N
H	Replace govt. welfare with voluntary charity.	Y	M N
I	End farm subsidies and production restrictions.	Y	M N
J	Western Europe should pay for its own defense.	Y	M N
Total score F-J (add 20 for each Y, 10 for M, 0 for N)		<input type="text"/>	

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