LADY GODIVA HELPS FILLEY PROTEST TAXES

By Brenda Nilson

On tax day, April 16, Dwight Filley, Libertarian candidate for Congress (1st District, Denver), led a tax protest on the Capitol grounds, accompanied by Lady Godiva. Marchers accompanied Filley and Godiva, and the press coverage for both the Libertarian Party and tax protesters was, perhaps, the best in our history.

Cameras from Channels 4, 7 and 9 covered the noon event on their 5 and 10 pm broadcasts, and Channel 4 even used it again the next morning.

Godiva, a historical tax protest figure, reportedly rode through the streets of Coventry, England in 900 A.D. to protest the crushing taxes imposed on the small farmers of that time.

The next Filley for Congress news conference, dealing with foreign policy, will take place around Memorial Day. A fundraiser for Filley in the form of a chili dinner and hot tub party is planned for June 9.

CFE HIRES MASSE

By Carolyn Phelps

Coloradans for Free Enterprise has recently hired Lori Masse, a Florida native and Executive Director of the Colorado Freedom Fund, to work for them in Denver; Jerry van Sickel, Boulder; Bob Jablonske, Steamboat Springs; Bill Sam, Greeley; Richard Connors, Fort Collins; and Michael S. Vynall, Durango.
Colorado Libertarian Party
1041 Cherokee Street
Denver, CO 80204

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C.L.P. CONVENTION

Get high on freedom at the Colorado Libertarian Party Convention on Memorial Day weekend, May 25-28. The Holiday Inn—Northglenn will see politics, self-liberation workshops and just plain fun. Political highlights will be National Chair Paul Grant’s keynote address and appearances by LP Presidential candidate David Bergland.

The Liberate Yourself First workshops will provide access to self-liberating skills. Leif Smith and Pat Wagner of Network Resources will open and close the program. Finally, the fun will be highlighted by the gala banquet featuring David Bergland and a roast of LP co-founder David F. Nolan.

This promises to be one of the best state conventions in the country. Send in your registration NOW!

See page 4 for schedule and information.
RUN FOR OFFICE - BUILD THE PARTY

Have you ever considered running for office? Well, this is an election year and why not let your friends and neighbors vote for someone who speaks for freedom; namely, YOU!

All it takes is for you to let other members of the Party know you're interested in running, have the nominating Committee give you the go, and then get sufficient signatures on nominating petitions (300 for State House of Representatives and 350 for State Senate.)

That's all you have to do. That's known as running a line-holder campaign. If you want to do more, you can, and you'll be doing a great service for Liberty and for the Libertarian Party.

NEW NATIONAL TELEPHONE SYSTEM
FAR FROM A FREE MARKET ONE

by Richard W. Wilcke

For several months, particularly since New Year's, those of us who regularly advocate free and open competition have been expected to explain and defend all kinds of unpredictable and unpopular changes taking place in the nation's telephone system. The Justice Department's court-ordered spinoff of AT&T's national local-service monopoly into seven regional phone companies, which took effect on January 1, has been mistakenly perceived by many editors and politicians as some kind of massive and unprecedented move toward deregulation of telephony. It is not, and defenders of the marketplace should not have to justify this new artificial structure or anything that happens as a result of it, including higher phone rates.

As a general axiom, and without any detailed study or extra knowledge, we should be able to agree on the basic proposition that the telephone communications industry, like every other, would serve consumers better and more justly if free and competitive than if monopolistic and tightly regulated, regardless of whether it's part of the monopoly.

When the company's patents ran out, vigorous competition ensued. By 1907, there were some 20,000 independent phone companies, and only about half of the nation's some six million phones were AT&T's. After 20 years on the sidelines, Theodore Vail was brought back by Bell's investors and given a virtual free rein to rescue the company from financial ruin. Vail went to work, and like a prototype of Lee Iacocca spent much of his energy converting public opinion to the notion that the nation's best interests were served by making AT&T a government-regulated monopoly.

In a series of essays, Vail popularized the concept of "universal service" by which he meant his firm would, if granted exclusive franchise authority everywhere, serve all parts of the country, even those areas too sparse to be profitable. He also peddled the concept of a "rate of return" regulation, seeming to concede in a public-spirited way that "if there was to be no competition, there should be public control." What he meant, of course, was that phone companies would be permitted to charge governments and businesses whatever rates and services would pay for their monopolies.

Libertarian Calendar

1st Tuesday of every month the Libertarian Forum meets in the Brand Building, 203 S. Galena St., Aspen. Call 925-8292 for more information.

3rd Tuesday of every month, Boulder County Libertarian Association, 7:30 p.m., at 1913 Broadway in Boulder. Call Jerry Van Sickle for details at (h) 442-0514 or (w) 443-5578.

1st and 3rd Wednesday every month, Discussion Group, 7:30 p.m., Party Office.

2nd Wednesday every month, CLP Cocktail Party, 7:30 p.m., Party Office. Relaxed, informal, cash bar.

4th Thursday of every month, Park County Libertarians meet. Call Phil Prosser for details at 838-7693.

MAY
9th Office Cocktail Party
16th Discussion Group, 7:30, Office
19-20th Libertarian Booths at People's Fair, East High School
20th Board Meeting, 12:00 Office
23rd Discussion Group, 7:30, Office
26-27th David Bergland, L.P. Presidential Candidate, in Denver
25-28th State Convention, Denver

JUNE
6th Discussion Group, 7:30, Office
9th Filley for Congress Chili and Hot Tub Fundraiser, 4:00, 4890 E. 18th Ave, Denver. Bring towel and/or swimsuit
13th Office Cocktail Party
20th Discussion Group, 7:30, Office
24th Board Meeting, 12:00, Office
4th Liberty Party, y'all come!
11th Office Cocktail Party, 7:30, Office
in free and competitive, not monopolistic and tightly regulated, regardless of whether the scope of the monopoly were regional or national. But most Americans today are confused by the Bell System's long history of government privilege, as well as the rigid structure of this recent breakup. Even Senator Barry Goldwater has opined that "We're going to be sorry that we tampered with a system that was functioning well."

The problem began roughly seventy-five years ago when AT&T, behind its flamboyant president, Theodore H. Vail, willfully exchanged some of its operating freedom for guaranteed profitability and a monopoly franchise. That bargain served the company well as it grew to be the largest corporation in the world, larger than General Motors, Exxon and Mobil combined. A few years ago, however, because of political change, AT&T's management decided that the firm's best course was to give up its local-service monopoly in turn for the right to go into hitherto forbidden areas. In essence, what AT&T wanted— and what it got— was freedom from an old sweetheart deal that was rapidly beginning to turn sour.

A government-mandated divestiture, while perhaps not the company's first choice, nevertheless seemed the proposal most likely to gain public and political approval. As it happened, the basic plan outlined by Judge Harold Greene of the Justice Department on August 30, was pretty much in accord with the company's thinking. As history shows, that's kind of how it all began.

Theodore Vail took over as president of the fledgling Bell Telephone Company (later to become AT&T) about 1880, just a few years after the invention and development of a workable telephone. In the early years, he worked single-mindedly to build the foundations of a national telephone network, taking full advantage of Bell's exclusive patents. But in 1887, at the age of 42, he became fed up with financiers who wanted only short-term profits and could not grasp his long-range vision, and so he retired from Bell.

Here we see an enterprising firm circumventing the restrictive moving company regulations in Colorado. If you use someone else's truck and hire someone to load and unload it, you can get the same or better service at much less cost than if you hired one of Colorado's licensed movers.

"If no new laws were passed, we would become more and more free as people found ways to get around existing laws."

Paul Grant, National Chair

CABLE: A PUBLIC UTILITY?

By Patricia Cummings

Denver's battle to get cable television installed seems to many who live elsewhere, a purely local issue. A franchise award to one cable company was challenged by the courts, and the whole mess will find its way through the courts for decision. Business as usual for lawyers, nothing new for citizens. But the basic argument for one of those challenges may spell trouble for every community, large or small, in Colorado and other states.

Briefly, Colorado's state constitution says that all franchises must be decided by general election. In 1980, Denver voters approved a city-charter amendment to allow the Denver City Council to decide the specific matter of a cable TV franchise. The award was made to Mile Hi, a company promising a state-of-the-art system that would include two-way data linkages (providing at-home banking, home security, and home educational opportunities, among other services) and over 100 video channels. Mile Hi was to work laying cable.

Then the lawsuits started popping up, challenging the Council's right to award a franchise. The franchising disputes which center on the argument of un-constitutionalism merely threaten the franchises given to cable TV companies in other communities. (Most towns have managed these decisions through City Councils, rather than with a general election.) But in January of 1982, a lawyer in Denver filed a complaint with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, stating that cable should be considered a public utility, treated in the same way as Public Service Company, or Mountain Bell.

The people of Colorado may decide against adding another company to the ranks of PSCo and Ma Bell-- disputes with these two have already wakened many voters to the problems of such "public" utilities. But will they be given the choice? The PUC is understandably inclined to favor an argument that would add such a powerful item to its control.

I hate to haul in the hackneyed reference to 1984, but when the technical abilities of the system include reading data from your TV as well as sending to it, the power potential involved in operating a cable enterpeise should definitely be kept from the hands of any government agency. The PUC is not Big Brother--yet.
VIEWS and NOTES

DEBT TO SOCIETY
A MEANINGLESS PHRASE?

by Dwight Filley

One of today's underlying assumptions is that if a person is convicted of some crime, he must pay his "debt to society" through a fine or jail term. But many crimes, such as murder, assault, or theft, have an easily identified victim, and it makes much more sense to argue that the criminal owes a debt to the victim, not society as a whole. Clearly the person whose car has been stolen is infinitely more harmed than the society he or she is a part of.

This fact is being recognized in a rather bizarre way by the emergence of victim compensation efforts by various law enforcement agencies. What's odd is that the victim is paid back with taxpayer's money, while the same taxpayer must also pay to jail the criminal. Shouldn't the criminal pay back what he stole? Plus an additional amount to cover the distress suffered by the victim? And while we're at it, why not have him pay his own room and board?

This certainly is more just than forcing an innocent bystander, i.e., the taxpayer, to pay. Of course many criminals don't have enough money to pay such damages, but if we lock them up anyway, why not make them earn money while they are there, instead of playing basketball and making license plates?

Admittedly, this would turn prisons into forced labor camps, but this could be done without such atrocities as floggings, or other "cruel and unusual" efforts to extract work. Threats such as no TV, or wholesome but very plain meals, or solitary confinement, would probably do it. Also, linking the term of the sentence to productivity would be a powerful incentive. The more money earned, the earlier the release.

Assigning a value to property stolen is easy enough, but what amount of money should be paid to a rape victim, or to the relatives of a murdered man? These seem arbitrary, but no more arbitrary than jail terms of various lengths for such crimes. These values could be worked out, just as jail sentences have been worked out, over time.

The notion that criminals owe a debt to society for their crimes means little. They owe restitution to their victims.

BE GLAD THEY'RE NOT WORKING

Many people are complaining that "their" representatives are absent from their jobs because they are off campaigning, and are therefore getting paid for nothing. But let us consider the following:

1. If "your" representatives are absent, they are not continuing to increase spending, taxes and the National debt while they continue to parrot "Balance the Budget!"

2. They are not continuing to confiscate and reallocate more billions and millions to enemy foreign countries.

3. They are not telling us to tighten our belts and bite the bullet while they vote themselves more raises.

4. They are not using their "representation" as a forum to distract and dupe us with their rhetoric, charisma, posturing, gesturing and gobbledygook promises.

5. While they campaign, we can focus both economically and socially, for ninety-nine per cent of the population. To let the state tell us we need its "license" to do such an ordinary thing is tantamount to letting it tell us that we need a license to live. It is the first step toward the conditions faced by so many of the world's unfortunate people: a total police state in which one must have government "papers" in order to go anywhere or do anything. Those denied such papers are, in effect, condemned to a living death.

It should be clear from the actions already being taken by the State of Colorado that such a process is underway. A government that has successfully seized the "right" to stop peaceful, honest people from driving also has the power to attach any conditions it happens to like to traveling anywhere, or to close the roads and stop travel altogether. This has already happened in other states. Colorado residents are already being told at the point of a gun: how they must that freedom. As an honest, nonaggressive private individual, I don't need the government's permission to come and go as I please!

Patrick Lilly

TAX RESISTER'S LAMENT

A decent man is turned so easily, spinning slowly—by a rope, by his neck, by God!—into an outlaw. "It will hurt not only myself, but it will hurt us."

"Your reputation will be ruined, it will hang over you for the rest of your life."

"I thought libertarians were good, law abiding people, but you're a criminal. I thought you opposed crime."

"It will kill your grandfather, my father said."

Slowly I turned, from a decent man on April 16, into an outlaw on the seventeenth, and in my father's eyes, a no
timely one.

Patrick Lilly

most important in the world this year, the choice seems to be reduced to picking the lesser of two evils. On the one hand we have an incumbent whose idea of free enterprise is subsidies to big business. He has "cured" the economy by inflating the money supply just as his predecessors have, oblivious to the certainty of spiraling inflation in the next few years. Also, his willingness to risk our lives to feed his image as the protector of the free world is dangerous in this nuclear age.

On the other hand, the Democratic response will surely be to tax the American people even more to try to limit the deficit. This may make mathematical sense, but it does not make political sense. As more money is taken in by the government, more commitments are made for that money and the deficit grows ever larger. The Democratic plan of tax and spend will wreak even worse economic damage than the Republican one.
with their rhetoric, charisma, posturing, gesturing and gobbledygook promises.

5. While they campaign, we can focus on and take a close look at their records. Then we will be able to vote intelligently, for people who will not be perjuring themselves when they take the Oath of Office to represent the American People.

Sincerely,
John F. Sisson

LILLY BLASTS FILLEY

Dear Editor:

I must strongly disagree with the main point of your editorial, "Are Driver's Licenses Libertarian?" in the March-April issue of Colorado Liberty. Let me explain:

As you correctly point out, there is a distinction to be made between rules by private landowners for the use of their property and rules made by the state and enforced by police action. This distinction is no mere piece of philosophical trivia; it is all-important. Public property, including public rights-of-way, is not private property. And the government is not a private landowner, entitled to the same unlimited discretion and arbitrariness that private landowners are.

For one thing, the only sanction which the hypothetical private road owner would have at his disposal against unwanted users of his road would be to remove them from his property. Not so, as you also correctly point out with government. Government claims the right to grab, beat, jail, and heavily fine drivers who do not get its prior permission to use "its" roads. This is not the action of a legitimate private landowner, but a powerful weapon in the arsenal of the police state.

From a more simply practical point of view, we must not forget how common and necessary driving has become to Americans. Nearly everyone does it, nearly every day. It is an absolutely essential component of a normal life.

This has already happened in other states. Colorado residents are already being told -at the point of a gun- how they must treat their small children, how they must tune their engines, how much business they must do with regulated insurance companies, and on and on.

Further, it's no accident that the state's driver licensing apparatus is a division of the Department of Revenue. The whole point is to charge all of us, as good wards of the state, a fee for our continued existence. It is a tax on living.

So I see nothing whatever "grey" about the issues here. We cannot, in philosophical consistency, or in safety, let the state claim the discretion of a private landowner and make up rules for how the public may use public rights-of-way, or which deny use to anyone. Taking back the freedom to travel the public roads and highways of America is a vital step in stopping the government's drive toward total control over all individual actions and decisions. The LP platform is precisely the correct place for an uncompromising statement of support for

TIME TO CONSIDER ELECTION CHOICES

To the Editor:

Although the presidential election is 10 months away, it is not too early to seriously consider who you intend to vote for. The reasons for considering this question early are clear: if you intend to have an impact on the outcome you must start now to argue, assess, criticize, caujo and campaign to friends, relatives and the public. Commitment to the democratic process involves more than punching a computer card on election day.

But in this campaign, perhaps the plan of tax and spend will wreak even worse economic damage than the Republicans will.

So with some Demopublican sure to occupy the White House for another four years, how can an intelligent elector make a positive impact on the outcome? Fortunately, there will be one candidate on the ballot who is for less government. His name is David Bergland and he is the Libertarian Presidential Candidate in 1984. As a Libertarian he is committed to the simple precepts of freedom and justice, and he knows how to apply these principles to today's society. The Libertarians spearheaded the growing privatization movement which is sweeping local governments. It is time that these ideas were applied at the Federal level. It is possible to balance the Federal budget and lower taxes by allowing the private sector to take over many of the functions that today we rely on the government for.

In the area of foreign policy, we can increase our national security and decrease the threat of war through a policy of military-non-interventionism. Treaties which are not in our best interest should be renegotiated, and other countries should be expected to defend themselves. Furthermore, we can work toward the goal of world peace by promoting free trade with all of the countries of the world. The interdependency which free trade fosters makes war unprofitable.

If you want this opportunity to vote for the only candidate who stands for less government, you must act now. The two big parties have it rigged so that all other candidates must collect 5000 signatures state-wide to be on the ballot. You must be registered to vote in Colorado to sign the petition. It's time you "hopped on the freedom train."

Mark Schauer
President, Libertarian Club of Colorado State University
Reprinted from the Colorado State University Collegian
LETTERS...CHEAP AND EASY

Writing a letter to the editor is one of the most effective (and cost-effective) things we can do. Think about it: at the cost of an hour or two of your time and a 20 cent stamp, you can reach tens of thousands of people, maybe hundreds of thousands, with your message. These are people who will actually read and carefully consider what you have to say. This is why the Libertarian Party's National Committee and the Bergland-for-President Campaign have decided to support an all-out letter-writing effort by libertarians. If we can promote a massive and sustained outpouring of letters to the editor this election year by many hundreds of libertarians, it will have a major impact on the public's awareness.

To coordinate this effort, a Libertarian Letter Project office has been established (at 4250 Yukon Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93063). Libertarians are being asked to commit themselves to write at least one letter to the editor (see the form at the end of this article). Those who do so will receive an information packet with advice and examples to help them get started.

Those who respond will also receive an occasional newsletter, which will keep them informed about the project's progress, and provide additional tips. It will also disseminate information about various existing state and local letter-writing projects (if you're involved in such a project, please send us some details).

The other important function of the Libertarian Letter Project will be to collect clippings of published letters. These clippings will be filed, catalogued, and the results will be computerized for reference and analysis. So if you've ever wondered what truly meaningful and effective things you libertarian ideals, this is it. This is something every single person is capable of doing. Think how a steady stream of letters by many individuals to your local newspaper, all presenting libertarian arguments and mentioning “libertarianism,” “The Libertarian Party,” or “David Bergland,” could alter the dimensions of the political arena. Multiply that by hundreds of newspapers across the country. Then mail in the coupon, and write that letter, today.

LIBERTARIAN LETTER PROJECT

One of the most cost-effective methods of communicating our ideas to the public is through letters-to-the-editor. We are asking Libertarians to write letters to their local newspapers mentioning “libertarianism,” the “Libertarian Party,” or “David Bergland.” We urge you to participate. We will provide you with a periodic newsletter, advice and tips, sample letters, progress reports, etc. All we ask in exchange is that you send at least one (but preferably several) letter(s) to your local newspaper(s), and send us a clipping of any published letter. Please join the effort!

☐ YES, I'll write at least one libertarian letter-to-the-editor. Send me more information.

NAME: ___________________  DAY PHONE: ( ) ___________________

ADDRESS: ___________________

EVENING PHONE: ( ) ___________________

Mail to: Libertarian Letters, 4250 Yukon Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93063

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY
7-10 — An Evening of the Unexpected/Wagner, Smith

SATURDAY
9:00 — Keynote/Paul Grant
10-12 — Constitution/By-laws
1-4 — Platform
2-3:30 — Negotiation/Shaw
4-5:30 — Communication/Prince
6 p.m. — Cocktails
7-10 — Banquet
10-12 — Films

SUNDAY
9-11 — Nominations of Candidates, Election of Officers
10:15-11:45 — Anger/Paris, Casey
1-2 — Ideals/Hoskins, et al
2:45-4:15 — Goals/White
4:30-6 — Community/Prosser et al
7-9 — Candidates Reception
9-11 — Films

MONDAY
9-12 — Political Strategy and Election Skills
10-11:30 — Final Exam Wagner, Smith
1-2:30 — Debate-Coalitions with non-Libertarians

Pat Wagner & Leif Smith, An Evening of the Unexpected.
How do you find out what you need to know when you don't know who to ask?

Claudine Paris & Bill Casey. Handling Anger — Yours and Others.
Competency inspires confidence. When you have confidence that you can handle anger you actually encounter fewer angry responses. You can understand the impact of your behavior on others and calibrate your response to avert unnecessary conflicts.

Connie Shaw. Negotiating Tools for Key

Robin White. Restructuring Your World with
TAX AVOIDANCE REMINDER

If you hate paying taxes, remember that goods bought outside Colorado are not subject to state and local sales tax, which in Denver amounts to 7%. So dig out those mail-order catalogs and check the national magazines for those good deals; call that 800 number and beat the tax man!

Henri Lepage Added to Cato Seminar Line Up

Washington—The Cato Institute will hold its 7th Annual Summer Seminar in Political Economy at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, June 30 through July 7, 1984. Seminar speakers will include Henri Lepage, James Sadowsky, Israel Kirzner, George Smith, Roy Childs, Earl Ravean, Ralph Raico, John Gray, Leonard Liggio, David Boaz, and Don Lavoie. Topics covered during the 27 lectures and discussions will include economics, ethics, history, foreign policy, and domestic issues. Applications for the seminar will be accepted until June 4, 1984. The cost of the program is $450 for nonstudents, and $125 for students, including room and board, two banquets, a picnic, reading materials, and all lectures. Some scholarships are available. More than 1000 people have attended Cato seminar seminars over the past six years. They have proven to be extremely popular with libertarians.

For more information or an application, please contact Kristina Herbert, Cato Institute, 224 Second Street S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. Phone (202) 546-0200.

Connie Shaw, Negotiating Tools for Key Relationships

Highlights: Negotiating with Your Boss, Family, Doctor, Lawyer, Banker...How to Do a Power Inventory...A Negotiation Checklist...Using Deadlines to Advantage...A Cost-Benefit Analysis...Telephone Strategies...Five Face-to-Face Strategies.

Jan Prince. Creative Communication

How activists and proselytizers can: Establish rapport with audiences and individuals...Establish a receptive mood by how you word your sentences...Tell when you have lost someone's attention — and get it back...Know why you are getting resistance to your ideas...Avoid emotional confrontations and enjoy talking

Ed Hoskins, Brian Erickson, Curtis Shortridge. Ideals in a Non-Ideal World

Maintaining ideals in the "real" world without compromising...Separating politics and lifestyle...Legalities...Can the real radical stay out of jail?

Robin White. Restructuring Your World with Visionary Goals

Goals are important to guide our lives, but how do we define them? Goal setting: A format for finding different goals...How to find goals through creative thinking...Clarifying your goals.

Phil Prosser, Chuck Maher, Keane Richardson, Jerry Van Sickie. The Politics of Local Activism

An overview of community activism including: Winning and losing strategies and tactics...Identifying local concerns...Suggestions for future local activism.

Holiday Inn Room Rates:
$45.50 single, $49.50 double, plus 10% tax.

☐ YES! I want to participate in the 1984 CLP State Convention. Register me for the following:

☐ Full Package (all program and meal events)  @ $90=_____
☐ Workshop Package (Liberate Yourself and Political)  @ $50=_____  
☐ Banquet ☐ Optional Vegetarian  @ $40=_____  
☐ Candidates Reception  @ $9=_____  
☐ Keynote Address  @ $5=_____  
☐ Coalition Debate  @ $5=_____  
☐ Political Strategy Workshops  @ $8=_____  

Name __________________________ Address __________________________

Make checks payable to Colorado Libertarian Party Send to 1041 Cherokee St. Denver, CO 80204