

The Colorado

# LIBERTY

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE COLORADO LIBERTARIAN PARTY, DEFENDERS OF LIBERTY

VOL. ONE, ISSUE THREE

FREE TO THE OPEN-MINDED OR POLITICALLY HOMELESS

SPRING '93

## CLP convenes in Crestone April 23-25

**By Ron Bain**

Liberty Editor

Dr. Mary Ruwart, a woman who has frequently been compared to Ayn Rand, will be the keynote speaker at the 1993 convention of the Colorado Libertarian Party, scheduled for April 23-25 in the southern Colorado hamlet of Crestone.

Author of *Healing Our World: The Other Piece of the Puzzle*, Dr. Ruwart will discuss this landmark book of political philosophy which integrates the Judeo-Christian heritage with the personal self-responsibility of the Aquarian Age as well as the political self-responsibility of the worldwide libertarian movement.

Other topics to be addressed by Dr. Ruwart include: "Government Regulation of Health Care: A Matter of Life and Death;" "To Love is Libertarian or Libertarian is a Win-Win Word;" and, "Peacefully Green."

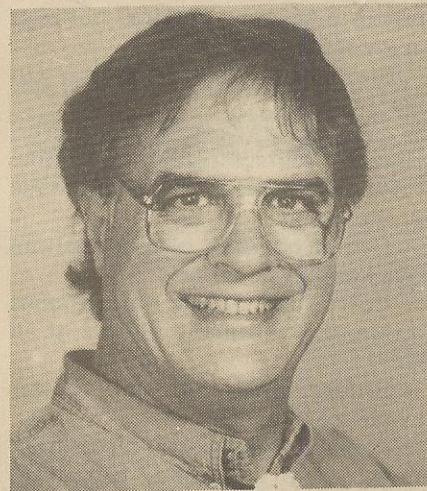
Other speakers include: Steve Alexander (topic: "Heart and Soul"); Richard Gibb Martin (see article on Page 2); George Nyfeler, representing



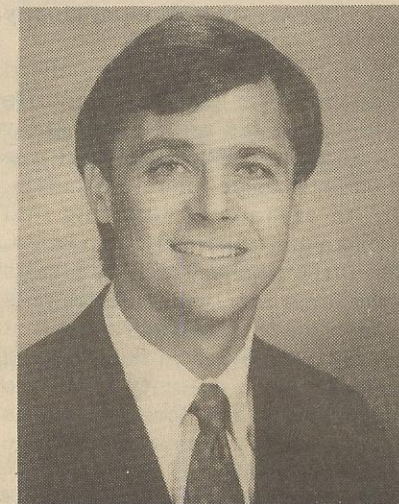
**Dr. Mary Ruwart**

the awarding of the bid for the 1994 convention, and board candidate presentations. Sunday's business meeting, also beginning at 10:15 a.m., will feature board elections and discussion of changes to the CLP platform, constitution and by-laws.

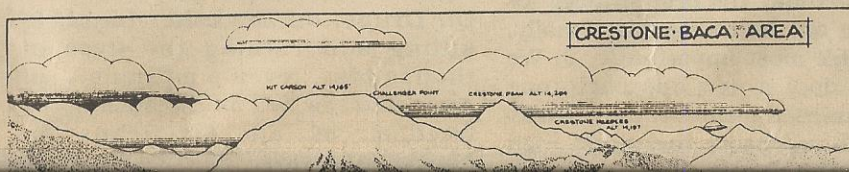
Until April 15, registration costs \$40 via: 1993 Libertarian Convention; 1317 Lakewood Drive, Fort Collins,



**Larry Dodge**



**BUMPER HORNBERGER**





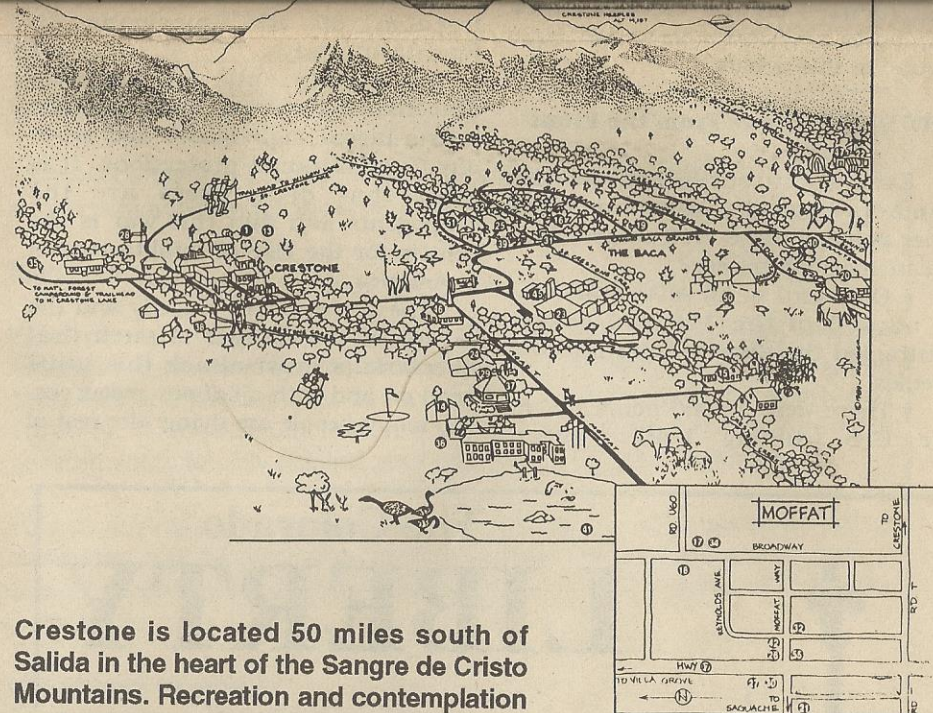
Richard Gibb Martin (see article on Page 2); George Nyfeler, representing the National Rifle Association; Clyde Harkins, talking about "Life After TABOR"; Larry Dodge, speaking about the phenomenal growth of the Fully Informed Jury Association; Jacob "Bumper" Hornberger, on "Ending America's Domestic Wars"; and, Jeff Michener, with an informative talk on common law defense.

Festivities begin Friday evening, April 23rd, at the Colorado College Conference Center in Crestone with registration, a reception and opening remarks from Dr. Ruwart. Saturday's CLP business meeting, which begins at 10:15 a.m., will deal with state reports,

\$40 via: 1993 Libertarian Convention; 1317 Lakewood Drive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521. Lodging is available in rental condos and apartments, bed and breakfasts, and a campsite. Crestone, 50 miles south of Salida near Moffat, is nestled in the Sangre de Cristo mountains and has a reputation for fostering and welcoming alternative lifestyles, philosophies and modes of thought.

A la carte registration prices are available for the budget conscious: \$15 for any half-day and \$20 for the common law seminar. Free market information tables are available for \$10.

For more information about the 1993 CLP Convention, contact convention organizer Mary Margaret Glennie at (303) 484-8184. Make sure you attend -- this will be a very important convention and an excellent opportunity for a mountain mini-vacation.



Crestone is located 50 miles south of Salida in the heart of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Recreation and contemplation are both encouraged there.

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**ABOLISH THE IRS!**

# Doug Bruce will address Free the Taxpayer Rally

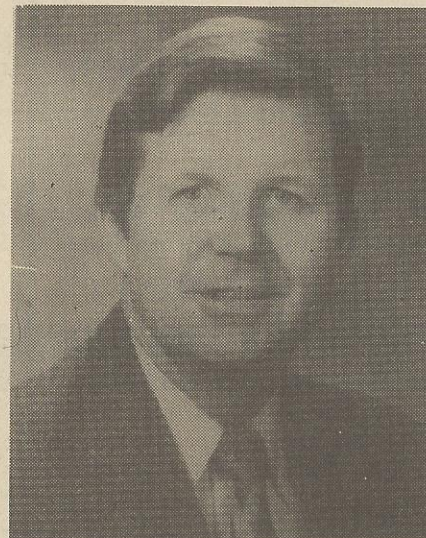
**By Richard Combs**

Denver Libertarian Party

Doug Bruce, author of Amendment One, will be the featured speaker at the second annual Free the Taxpayer Rally, which will take place at one p.m., Saturday, April 10 on the west steps of the State Capitol in Denver.

Bruce's appearance should ensure good news coverage and a sizeable turnout. He will discuss the next step to regaining control of our government, his election reform initiative. Petitioning for that initiative may be kicked off at the rally.

Organizations sponsoring the rally include the Colorado Libertarian Party, Colorado Taxpayers Party, National Commodity and Barter Association, TABOR (Taxpayers Bill of Rights/Election Reform) Committee, and TRIM (Tax Reform Immediately) Committee. Additional



**Doug Bruce**

speakers include David Segal (CLP), Doug Campbell (CTP), and John Voss (NCBA). Several other speakers, including sympathetic state legislators, have not been confirmed.

In addition to speeches, the rally

will include live music, literature tables, petitioning, and more. Participants are asked to bring a teabag to show their opposition to higher taxes. The theme of this year's rally is "More Taxes = More Government = Less Liberty." The diverse groups sponsoring the rally are united by their belief that too much power and money flow out of the hands of citizens and into the hands of government.

Last year's rally took place at the downtown post office on the evening of April 15. It attracted about 200 people, according to David Segal, chair of the Denver Libertarian Party. "Although the rally was a success, we couldn't compete with the filing deadline itself as a news story," said Segal. "This year, we decided to hold the rally on the weekend before the filing deadline in order to get better news coverage and make it easier for people to attend."



# Convention speaker to outline fallacies of drug war

By Richard Gibb Martin  
President, No More Drug War

In 1989, police stopped 49-year-old Ethel Hylton at Houston's Hobby Airport and told her she was under arrest because a drug dog had scratched at her luggage. Agents searched her bags and strip-searched her, but they found no drugs. They did find \$39,110 in cash, money she had received from an insurance settlement and her life's savings, accumulated through 20 years of work as a hotel housekeeper and hospital janitor. Ethel completely documented where she got the money and was never charged with a crime. But the police kept her money anyway. Nearly four years later, she is still trying to get her money back.

-- Reported by the International Society for Individual Liberty

Libertarians can no longer afford to sit out the War On Drugs; stories like Ethel Hylton's are becoming far too commonplace. We must take the lead in the struggle for relegalization. Given the amount of suffering and death caused by current drug policies, and given the rate at which our rights and freedoms are being lost in this immoral crusade, it is distressing that the libertarian movement is not giving this issue top priority. Future generations will not forgive us this moral delinquency unless we change direction very soon.

This article, intended for libertarians, advances three positions: 1) The War On Drugs demands our full attention, next to it other issues pale in significance. 2) Contrary to what we usually hear, focusing on this cause is actually the best strategy for furthering our entire agenda. Finally, and I think most importantly, 3) We need to adopt a new approach, one that focuses on the victims, thus helping to recapture the moral high

Friedman estimates that 10,000 of these were drug-related.

- More than 1.2 million persons are imprisoned in the U.S.; two-thirds of these cases -- 792,000 people -- are drug-related.

- Drug authorities have seized over \$1 billion worth of assets from American citizens since 1984. The total is estimated to exceed \$2 billion by the end of 1993 -- clearly a growth industry.

- A 1992 study of Baltimore found that 56% of black males between the ages of 18 and 35 are under correctional supervision, i.e., prison, jail, probation or being sought on a warrant, and that blacks are five times more likely than whites to be arrested for drug offenses, even though the percentage of use was approximately the same.

- In California, 66% of African-American males are arrested between the ages of 20 and 29.

Other fall-out from the War On Drugs includes:

- Black-market prices and exorbitant profits escalate user crime and dealer violence -- the harsher the laws, the worse these get.

- Use of children because adults receive harsher penalties.

- Corruption of law enforcement officers and government officials at all levels.

- Enlarging the influence, power and violence of gangs.

There are many worthy libertarian causes -- privatizing airports, deregulating the insurance industry, lowering taxes, et cetera -- but few if any people are being killed or imprisoned because the post office is not yet privatized, or because zoning regulations are still in place. The War On Drugs, on the other hand, is killing and ruining the lives of thousands, even millions, of Americans, as well as threatening the freedom of all Americans in fundamental ways.

our agenda will have to wait.

## WHY US? Strategic Considerations

*"A successful defense of freedom therefore, must be dogmatic and make no concessions to expediency... Freedom will prevail only if it is accepted as a general principle."*

-- F.A. Hayek

Many of our strategic gurus counsel that we should downplay the drug issue because it is so unpopular. I disagree; focusing on this war is the best policy not only morally, but strategically as well. By concentrating our resources on this issue we dramatically improve our image in a number of ways.

First, we can remove the impression that we are really "Reaganites" in disguise. Our emphasis on economics coupled with the free market rhetoric of Ronald Reagan combined to identify us too closely with the right wing of the Republican Party. Leading with the drug issue will go a long way towards winning back our proper image as "Defenders of Liberty". Contrast this with the popular image of "Yuppies That Don't Like To Pay Taxes".

Second, we foster growth and infuse the movement with energy by focusing our attention on actual victims of state tyranny. There is no question that our economic agenda is important, but people are dying every day because of this immoral, misdirected, bloody campaign loosed upon the American people.

Furthermore, we can broaden our appeal to minorities by pointing out that the War On Drugs is, in effect, a race war against poor black youths and other inner-city ethnic groups. These people desperately need libertarian solutions, instead of the usual calls for more laws, more prisons, and more police -- the instruments of legalized oppression

more likely to end up in prison or in a morgue than in college.

By focusing on the victims of this war, we may be able to reach the people of our inner cities with a vital message: they are the primary target of the War on Drugs. Contrary to orthodox opinion, the real villain -- the cause of so much death and misery -- is the government, not drugs.

Finally, we should focus on the drug issue because it is vital to libertarian philosophy. Self-ownership -- the right of the individual to his or her own body -- is an essential principle around which our political goals revolve. The right to ingest drugs (or anything else) is nothing less than the right of self-ownership. This is the fundamental right that libertarians must defend above all others. If we don't successfully defend a property right to our own bodies, then we will never establish property rights to: our homes, businesses, guns, incomes, et cetera.

Although this issue is currently unpopular, we must find the courage of our convictions and stand for our principles. In the last century libertarians led a similarly unpopular fight to abolish slavery. In the 1960s, an end to the military draft was our cause. Today, the challenge is the War On Drugs; this is the issue of our day and the libertarian struggle demanding our energy. We are it -- there is no one else.

## TACTICS: Recapturing the Moral High Ground

Before we bring others to our conclusions, we must first persuade them to consider our arguments. Everyone already knows how they feel about the drug issue; opinions are firmly set. And so, even though our arguments are superior, even though ending the violence is the only rational answer, we still for the most part



that focuses on the victims, thus helping to recapture the moral high ground in this debate.

#### **WHY DRUGS: News From the Front**

Even a cursory look at the numbers begs the question: what other political issue even comes close to causing such misery?

- One-third of all AIDS sufferers, or 52,000 of the 156,000 cases, contracted the disease from infected needles.

- There were 24,000 homicides in the U.S. during 1992; Milton

freedom of all Americans in fundamental ways.

As society calls for harsher, draconian measures, police and the courts increasingly ignore and erode our Constitutional protections. It is clear that drug users are the scapegoats and that this war is the vehicle for the rise of totalitarianism in America.

The scope of this tragedy and the extent of the danger is such that libertarians must attack this issue head on and with all of our resources. Too many people are dying; the rest of

prisons, and more police -- the instruments of legalized oppression devastating their communities.

Why have libertarians failed to reach minorities? Partly because we have overemphasized economics at a time when a far greater problem afflicts minority communities. As long as a war is raging in their neighborhoods it should come as no surprise that discussing an end to zoning regulations fails to impress this community. Our free market and privatization schemes are largely irrelevant to black youths who are

ending the violence is the only rational answer, we still for the most part make very little headway in changing people's beliefs.

It takes mental effort to re-examine a position, especially a deeply held one. And the effort required is greater when, as in the case of re-legalizing drugs, the proposal runs contrary to "conventional wisdom". We must first demonstrate that the issue is important enough to warrant the necessary effort. Despite our superior arguments, we have failed in this

**Continued on Page 3**



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Editor & Publisher, Ron Bain,  
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**Contributors:** Mary Callan; Richard Combs; Dann Hayes;  
Phil Freytag; Richard Gibb Martin

Address all correspondence to: **The Colorado Liberty**,  
720 E. 18th Ave., #309, Denver, Colorado 80203; or, 3300  
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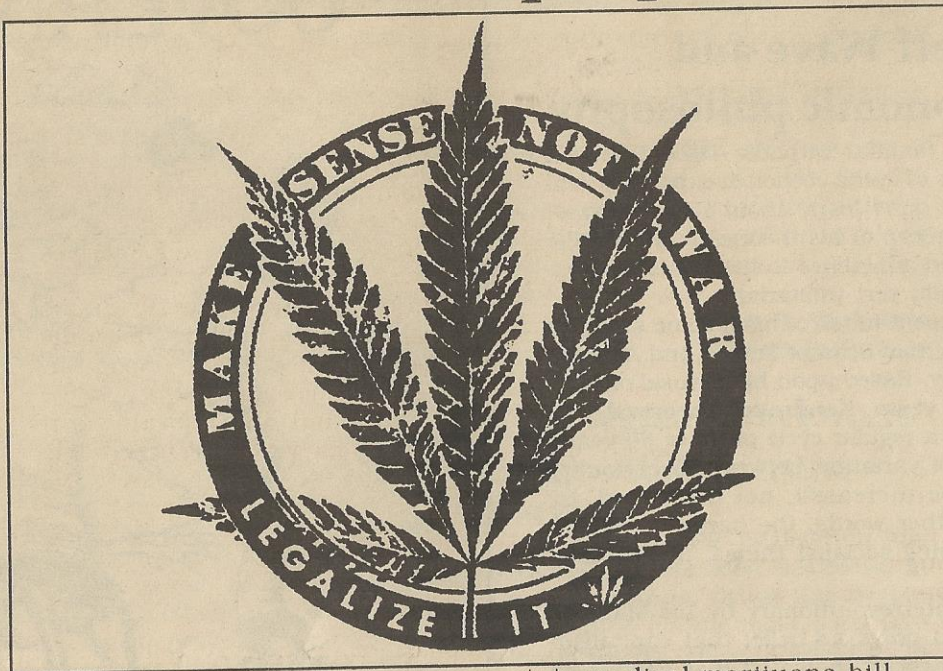
# Medical marijuana initiative proposed by Denverites

By Richard Combs

Denver Libertarian Party

A group of Denver residents, with the backing of NORML (National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws), has begun circulating the Denver Medical Marijuana Initiative (DMMI). The initiated ordinance, if enacted, would "make lowest priority the arrest or prosecution of those involved in the possession or cultivation of hemp for medicinal purposes."

Another provision of the initiative makes a physician's letter stating that marijuana can help the patient *prima facie* evidence of its medical usefulness. The initiative also directs the city of Denver to lobby the state legislature for a



## April gun rally scheduled in Denver

The first Right to Bear Arms rally will take place at 1:00 pm Sunday, April 18, on the west steps of the State Capitol in Denver. The rally is a joint project of the Colorado Libertarian Party, Firearms Coalition, and Colorado State Shooters Association.

The rally takes place on the anniversary of Paul Revere's ride, the day before the battles of Concord and Lexington, which began the Revolutionary War. "Most Americans today don't realize that the British troops set out to confiscate stores of weapons," said David Segal, chair of the Denver Libertarian Party and event organizer. "The ragtag bands of

militia called the Minutemen were defending the right to keep and bear arms, which they knew was the ultimate defense against tyranny."

David Kopel of the Firearms Coalition will be the featured speaker at the rally. He is the author of *The Samurai, the Mountie, and the Cowboy: Should America Adopt the Gun Controls of Other Democracies?* and the attorney who successfully challenged the Denver "assault weapon" ordinance.

A band of "rendezvousers," outfitted like the trappers and mountain men of old, are expected for the rally, along with live music. Additional speakers are planned, but have not been confirmed.

state medical marijuana bill.

Spokesman Gregory Daurer said the initiative is patterned after a resolution enacted by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors last August. The Board acted after voters in San Francisco passed Proposition P, supporting medical marijuana use, by 80%, the highest margin

## War On Drugs: the issue of the '90s...

Continued From Page 2

debate partly because few are listening; we have not provided sufficient reasons for people to make the necessary mental effort.

We must focus on the victims of the war. By shifting away from an emphasis on economic analysis, we can move some to see the importance of rethinking this issue. There are so many victims that this is (unfortunately) easy to do. The sheer scope of the tragedy, the number of people killed, ruined and imprisoned -- the extent of the suffering --

ever for a proposition in that city.

Supporters need 5,700 valid signatures to get the DMMI on the ballot. "We're aiming for 10,000," said Daurer. "We're recruiting petitioners now, and we're going to have a booth at the People's Fair." The group hopes to qualify for the Denver municipal ballot this November.

The DMMI effort is being operated out of the newly opened NORML office at 2435 South Broadway in Denver. "Right now, we're open Saturdays from 10 to 6 and Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9," said Daurer. "We'll expand the hours as we get more volunteers to help."

In addition to the petitions, the office offers an array of hemp and hemp-related products and a wealth of information on the topic, including Jack Herer's definitive history of hemp use and prohibition, ***The Emperor Wears No Clothes***. The office does not have a direct phone line yet, but callers can leave a message on NORML's Hempline, 470-1100.

- the violence -- that causes victims. By focusing on the victims we expose this hypocrisy. Even more importantly, we demonstrate that libertarians care for people as well as principles.

And, we don't have to abandon any of our positions -- we can defend our principles, make the rational case and maintain the moral high ground of compassionate concern for our neighbors. It's merely a matter of shifting the emphasis and the order in which we present our case.

Finally, I believe that liberty in America lives or dies with the

## Thank You Doug Bruce

a true friend of liberty





*a true friend of liberty*



The Colorado Libertarian Party is selling bumperstickers to show public appreciation for Douglas Bruce's perseverance and personal efforts in the passage of Amendment One. This national precedent-setting amendment is a major victory for the taxpayers of Colorado, and Amendment One clones should be on the ballot in a dozen states over the next two years.

Bumperstickers are \$2.00 each or 3/\$5.00, available at upcoming LP meetings, or by mail from:

**Colorado Libertarian Party**

**720 E. 18th Ave. #309**

**Denver, CO 80203**

Make checks payable to the Colorado Libertarian Party. A portion of all profits will be donated to the TABOR Committee.

**Thank You Doug Bruce**

*a true friend of liberty*



Available for \$2.00 or 3/\$5.00 from the Colorado Libertarian Party 720 E. 18th Ave. #309 Denver, CO 80203. (303) 837-9993. A portion of all profits will be donated to TABOR.

people killed, injured and imprisoned -- the extent of the suffering -- provides ample reason for any but the most cynical to at least listen to a new approach. Concentrating on the victims provides the necessary opening.

Also, libertarians give away too much of the debate when we so quickly agree with our adversaries that both users and dealers and bad, or evil, or sick. As George Smith points out, "We have defended their [users and dealers] rights, but forgotten their humanity." We must find ways to give names and faces to the numbers, to make the appalling statistics human. There is certainly no shortage of victims; focusing on their plight is the most effective approach.

Recapturing the moral high ground in this way is important because we usually build the case for relegalization with dry economic or Constitutional arguments. The drug crusader, meanwhile, is allowed to claim "concern for the health and safety of others." This is especially galling since in reality it is these drug warriors who cause far more pain, death and misery -- with their guns, clinics and prisons -- than legal drugs would ever cause, even if use increased dramatically.

Relegalization, a return to the free market for these substances, is the position of compassion. It is the war -

which we present our case.

Finally, I believe that liberty in America lives or dies with the outcome of the War On Drugs. As I stated earlier, next to this issue, all other libertarian concerns shrink to relative insignificance.

Significant, long term progress will never come through the policies of appeasement. While the implications of our principles may be unpopular, we must not listen to those who counsel compromise. It is a strategic disaster to compromise on fundamental principles like self-ownership -- no matter how alluring short term objectives may seem.

F.A. Hayek believed that classical liberalism failed because it sacrificed principles to expediency. Let's not repeat that mistake.

Richard Gibb Martin, who will speak to the CLP convention in Crestone on Saturday, April 24, is the founder of No More Drug War, a non-profit organization dedicated to the relegalization of drugs. He is also the president of Marbros Real Estate Development Company in southern California. He is the past chairman of the Orange County and South Bay Regions of the California Libertarian Party. He has also run for Congress twice as a Libertarian candidate. He holds a B.A. in Philosophy from the University of Southern California. He and his family live in Long Beach.







## Beyond the Left/Right Spectrum

By Ron Bain, Liberty Editor

# The Kondratieff Wave and Libertarian economic philosophy

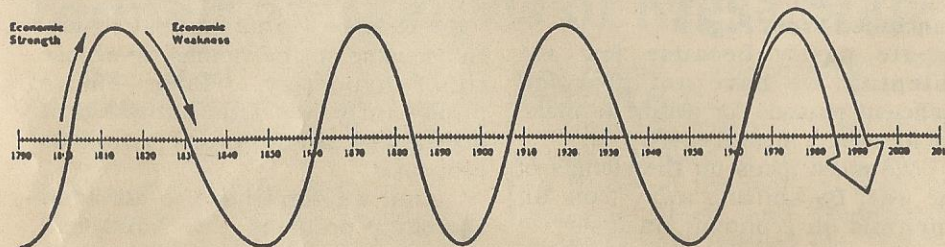
How many of you are familiar with the 1920s Russian economist Nikolai Kondratieff and his theories of cyclic economic expansion and contraction? Well, it's not surprising -- they don't learn about him in former Soviet Russia these days either. But a short recap of his theories may help the reader understand that Libertarians' principled adherence to theories of laissez-faire capitalism is not mean-spirited, but actually very utilitarian.

Kondratieff, who lived in Lenin's Russia, spent much of his lifetime studying the economic cycles of capitalist countries such as Britain, France and America between the late 18th century and his own day. Based upon his perusal of wage and commodity records covering about 130 years, Kondratieff theorized that capitalist economies contract and expand on a regular cycle of 50 to 60 years. He went on to speculate that the severity of variation between recessionary troughs and expansionary peaks would be increased, not decreased, by interventionary actions of government. In other words, the harder capitalist governments tried to avoid recessions by doing socialist things, the worse it made the inevitable cyclic recessions.

For this, Kondratieff was labeled a counterrevolutionary by his Marxist-Leninist government, which expected him to prove its belief that capitalism would self-destruct. Instead, Kondratieff's theories indicated that capitalism would continue to cycle indefinitely between high and low parameters -- if left alone by government. And he cast doubts on socialism, therefore the economist was imprisoned in a Siberian labor camp where, according to Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, he "became mentally ill and died."

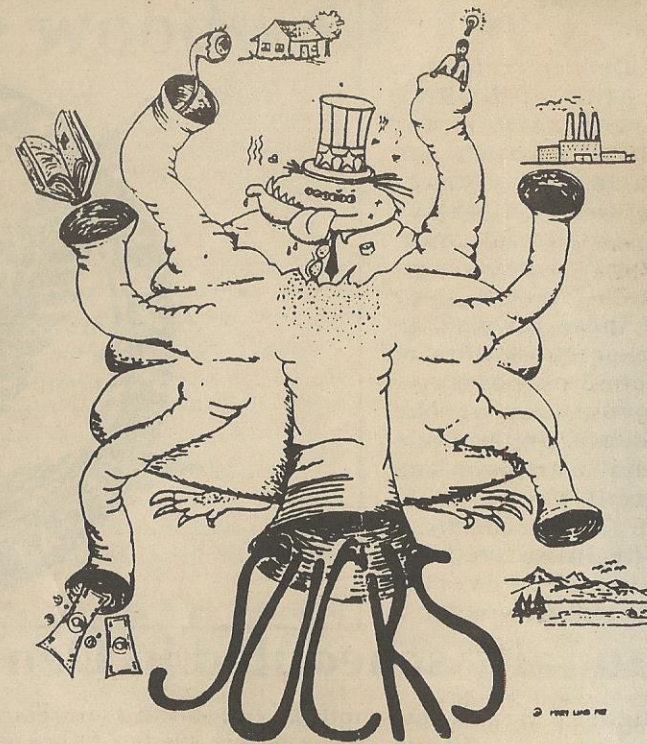
Kondratieff's theories accurately predicted America's Great Depression of the 1930s, and indicate that another doozy of a depression is heading our way around the turn of the century. And if Kondratieff's theories are correct, then the past 60 years of welfare, business subsidies, deficit spending and redistribution of income are going to cause the next depression to make the last one look like a fun hayride.

## Nikolai Kondratieff's Wave



I believe that most Libertarians, whether they have heard of Kondratieff or not, inherently and innately believe in his theories on a gut level. Nobody wants to suffer through the mother of all depressions in our lifetimes, but we fear that the policies preferred by the majority in our economically influential country will cause an economic setback so severe that right-wing Republicans, socialist Democrats and everyone else worldwide will be drastically affected. So the fact that Libertarians rail against welfare and subsidies and planned economies isn't

# GOVERNMENT



## Counterpoint

# Amendment 2 is a good law

By Clyde Harkins

Colorado Tax Reform Activist

In response to Chris Bogart's Guest Editorial on Amendment 2, I have also followed the Amendment 2 debate and voted "Yes". Here is why.

Shall it be resolved that homosexuality is bad?

Yes. Unless Chris Bogart has managed to suspend the law of cause and effect, the answer to this question has to be yes. Even if a person thinks homosexuality is not morally wrong, they would have to conclude on the basis of the evidence that the behavior results in wrong. The Center for Disease Control reports that 160,000 of 220,000, who have been diagnosed as having AIDS, have died. Another one million individuals have been diagnosed as having the HIV virus and it's sadly certain early death awaits them. It is a "slight of logical thinking" to conclude that homosexual behavior, particularly, promiscuous behavior, isn't harmful, and therefore not wrong. I apply the same standard of logic, that is, to look at the effects of behavior, to alcoholism, drug use, obesity, et cetera.

Chris Bogart suggests that "homosexuality is not bad because this (homosexuality) is obviously a personal, moral issue, not a political one". There are very few issues of personal morality that do not become political issues. The reason



Democrats and everyone else worldwide will be drastically affected. So the fact that Libertarians rail against welfare and subsidies and planned economies isn't heartlessness, it's open-eyed pragmatism and, in a way, benevolence.

It's of course ironic in a Catch-22 kind of way that the more recessions and depressions we have, the more people clamor for government to create jobs and give them security, which causes the next cycle to be even worse. Libertarians want to help people realize that the best way for each and every family to be most secure from economic fluctuations is to rely on a stable currency, such as gold, and to help themselves through tough times without relying on government hand-outs or subsidies. This will minimize the effect of recessions, making them easier for everybody to live through. In other words, a do-nothing economic policy will ultimately yield the greatest good for the greatest number by being the only one which will not worsen natural and inevitable economic cycles.

Many people will respond: Wasn't laissez-faire economics disproven during the Hoover Administration? Well, no, pure, unadulterated capitalism on a large scale has never been tried anywhere on earth in the known history of mankind. Actually, the type of economic theory which Herbert Hoover managed to completely embarrass was that of oligarchy: the notion that rich and powerful businessmen working with a rich and powerful government elite would make decisions equitable for all of us.

Can our newest president, Bill Clinton, change our economic reality, a combination of oligarchical leftovers, socialist experimentation and a still-burgeoning military-industrial complex? No, that's the point -- no one individual can do anything to change or improve the economy as a whole, although rich entrepreneurs who create lots of jobs have their effect. They create wealth. Clinton wants the government to create more jobs, but governments which invent jobs create nothing -- they take resources from one locale and apply them to another locale, creating voids in the original sector. One thing that can change our economic reality is an enlightened approach by all in their business dealings and voting; while greed and self-interest have their place in a libertarian society, an equal motivation must be a sense of utilitarianism.

If there is another depression in the late 1990s or just after the turn of the century, perhaps it will be known as the Kondratieff Depression. And maybe, just maybe, lessons will be learned permanently about the long-term effects of government economic intervention and how it is completely non-utilitarian. But then, are the Russians learning their lessons now? Are the Swedes?

A word of acknowledgment to critics of capitalism: It has been true in this country and others that successful capitalist entrepreneurs have often tried to use their newfound wealth and power to prevent similar opportunities from being exercised by competitors, mostly through restrictive legislation. Because this has made owning your own business difficult, most of us have to work for someone else. Taking orders from a boss, 35 to 45 percent cumulative taxation by government at all levels, the virtual impossibility of owning a home, forced government service: these were not part of the original American Dream. But they are part of what I call the New Feudalism (subject of another column). Are you really a Freeman, in control of your destiny, or are your choices made by the combined masters of employer, government and mortgage holder?

Nonetheless, capitalism as it actually exists is the only economic system humans have so far been able to devise which allows individuals some degree of choice and control in their lives. Until a new, even more libertarian economic system is developed with sacrosanct respect for the individual, capitalism is the mode I will choose.

Chris Bogart suggests that "homosexuality is not bad because this (homosexuality) is obviously a personal, moral issue, not a political one". There are very few issues of personal morality that do not become political issues. The reason is that all laws either sanction or approve some aspects of individual behavior. No person is an island and someone always ends up being hurt and paying the bill for individual irresponsibility. I suggest that anyone who thinks this is not the case should talk to the family of an alcoholic.

The radical, homosexual lobby has used and is planning to use the law to coerce the rest of the population to recognize, protect, and subsidize their behavior. This made gay rights and homosexuality a political issue. Amendment 2 was put on the ballot and passed as a defensive measure whose intent it was to block coercion. If you want to know the real agenda of the revolutionary, homosexual lobby, please read David Horowitz's article in the January, 1993 issue of *The American Spectator*.

Further, homosexuality is a political issue because the government is going to extract additional taxes from individuals to administer programs and, in the case of AIDS, to provide medical care. Your health insurance costs are now seven percent higher because of alcoholism, nine percent higher because of smoking and it's estimated will be five percent higher because of AIDS by the year 2000. Health care costs are at least partially out of control because we subsidize many behaviors that are irresponsible. Does anyone not know that 50 percent of current health care costs in the U.S. are the result of consciously chosen destructive behaviors on the part of individuals?

I have read the Denver gay rights ordinance and it contains numerous "thou shalt nots" and "thou shalt". I suggest individuals get a copy of the ordinance and read it for yourself. The ordinance is definitely a statement of someone's morality and political beliefs.

The distinction Chris Bogart makes between personal, moral and political issues, in Aristotelian logic, is what is called a "convenient mental construct," whose purpose it is to avoid the obvious, that is, in the case of homosexual behavior and many other behaviors, the clear cause and effect relationship between morality, personal choices and political issues.

Wake up and smell reality! It's one thing to not discriminate against innocuous behaviors, and another thing not to be willing to make logical, rational distinctions and choices about behaviors that result in the deaths of both the individuals who chose the behavior, and their innocent victims.

## Letter

### No more whining quota groups

#### Dear Editor:

Mr. Bogart says most libertarians were split on the issue of Amendment 2. I was not and believe most libertarians were not either.

This amendment prevents the creation of another whiner-oriented, quota-fed special privilege group. Our Constitution grants inalienable rights to all peoples of this country. There is no need to create special rights for anyone.

Discrimination may be intolerable but it is a part of every person on this earth. It cannot be legislated away and I doubt if it will ever be gone.

However, it should influence one who is discriminated against to work for or start up competitive solutions against the discriminator. By eliminating this method of free enterprise production, you develop a whining socialist.

**Richard T. Parks**  
Denver, Colorado