

# TRANSCRIPT OF THE 199? LIBERTARIAN LEADERSHIP CONVENTION COVERAGE

Hosted by Mike Puffy and Pamela Walleye

\*Mike:\* Well Pamela, it certainly doesn't resemble any political convention that I have seen.

\*Pamela:\* That's right, Mike. It's much smaller in the number of members but the diversity of the factions is incredible. How will so many disparate groups choose a leader acceptable to all the party?

\*Mike:\* Looking out from Convention Central onto the convention floor, I can see one group carrying signs with the letters ABCBLA on them. There is also an equally large group carry signs with a large Carp imprinted on the signs.

\*Pamela:\* Mike, those are just two of the factions that have members here today. The ABCBLA is the Arrogant B.C. Bastards Libertarian Association, a faction that despite their name includes members from other provinces. The Carp-carriers are the Bottom Feeders, another group that is considered to be egotist rather than egoist in nature. Another group that has taken a prominent position in the center of the floor are the Acolytes of St. Ayn. These are the traditional objectivist libertarians who are under attack by both the ABCBLA and the Bottom Feeders.

\*Mike:\* We should explain to the viewers that unlike most political parties, in libertarian politics philosophy plays a major role in defining the policy and the orientation of the various party factions. The ABCBLA are mainly contractarians who feel that no government is legitimate unless people can "opt out" as they put it. The Bottom Feeders tend to be a mixed bag of former natural rights believers and classical liberals who have adopted many of the contractarian ideas and now advocate consensual communities.

\*Pamela:\* Thank you, Mike. That leaves a small group of people who are not carrying signs and are walking around to the other groups haranguing and getting into shouting matches with virtually everyone.

\*Mike:\* Those are the anarchist-libertarians, Pamela. They don't get along with anyone although some have been known to align with the ABCBLA and the Bottom Feeders. If you look closely towards the back of the hall, you will see a series of computer monitors. That is how the Cyber-Libertarians will make their appearance at the convention. Over in the far corner, handing out samples, is the AMWAY delegation. Close by them, I see .... Holy Cow!!!!....it's Jean Caress with his bagmen! They seem to be schmoozing for candidates to run under their own Repressive Contemptibles banner.

\*Pamela:\* Now that we have identified the factions, we will take a short

commercial break before we return with our special guest analysts, former Ambassador to the United Nations, Stephen Screwus, and Dalton Cramp, Conservative Guru.

[Break for Hemp B.C. commercial]

\*Pamela:\* Let's start off by introducing Stephen Screwus. Stephen, you are a veteran of many leadership conventions. How different this one must seem...

\*Stephen:\* It certainly is, Pamela. I have never been to a convention where the members are packing guns and toking doobies. Look! Someone is at the podium but no one is paying attention to him.

\*Mike\*: That is the outgoing leader. No one pays attention to him.

\*Pamela:\* What do you see as the major issues that will determine the choice of leader, Stephen?

\*Stephen:\* Well Pamela, the people on the floor that I have spoken to seem to want a leader who will shut up and let them get on with the party.....except for the anarchists in the party who don't see what all the fuss is all about..they said that they were here for the beer.

\*Mike:\* Dalton, what do you make of all this?

\*Dalton:\* I must say that this is the first convention where the leadership hasn't been decided in a back room. Here we are 3 hours into the convention and no one has convinced anyone to allow themselves to be nominated for the role of leader. The word from the floor is that the Acolytes of St. Ayn would like to nominate one of their own for leader, but all the other factions have threatened to leave the party if that happens. Apparently, the Arrogant Bastards would accept a leader from the Bottom Feeders, but that would upset the Acolytes. If the tentative coalition between the Bastards and the Bottom Feeders can hang together, they could elect a leader. The AMWAY contingent made a play for one of their own, but the anarchists started throwing mailbombs at the idea of having candidates selling soap while campaigning. Based on my past experie...

\*Pamela:\* Thanks Dalton. Stephen, do you see any movement at all?

\*Stephen\*: Yes Pamela. The crowd has shifted with many people moving to the left. Darn.... I thought this meant a philosophical shift but it was just the bar opening.

\*Mike:\* When we come back from this break, perhaps we could discuss the policy direction that the party is wishing to go towards.

[Commercial Break for Rodney's S&M club]

\*Pamela:\* Welcome back and Dalton, the party seems to be at a schism over the direction the party should pursue.

\*Dalton:\* That's right, Pam. The Objectivists and the other old guard are holding out for the traditional "three legitimate roles of government", while the ABCBLA and many of the Bottom Feeders say that government should only be limited to what roles the citizenry are willing to pay for and that while the government may legitimately

provide the "big three", that any community be allowed to opt out and provide their own services. The Cyber-Libertarians think that government is irrelevant and advocate moving Canada completely into Cyberspace. And then there...

\*Mike:\* Thank you Dalton. Stephen? Your thoughts on this?

\*Stephen\*: Huh? Oh...I'm sorry Mike, I was looking down at the floor and it looks like there has been some kind of deal made and a candidate has been found to accept the nomination. Yes, making his way to the platform is a member of the Bottom Feeders.

[loud shouting heard in background]

\*Pamela:\* Oh Oh... it looks like a real donneybrook is developing. The former leader is tearing his tie off and calling the nominee, a back-stabbing bottom-feeding traitor. This could get ugly. The nominee has just been called an anarchist by one of the Objectivists.

\*Mike:\* I see one of the anarchists running towards the stage..shouting that if there is going to be a pissing match, that he is going to get involved.

\*Pamela:\* Oh my gosh... it is a pissing match. Sorry folks but we can't show this scene to you. [off-mike aside]Golly what a wang!!!

\*Dalton:\* Huh, I don't see any orientals.

\*Mike:\* I have heard of floor fights at conventions, but never one like this. I think we will go to another break.

[Commercial break for Brewsters Bootlegging]

\*Pamela:\* It would appear that a compromise has been reached. The candidate from the Bottom Feeders will stand and his deputy-leader will be one of the Acolytes of St. Ayn. Stephen, How will this effect policy making?

\*Stephen:\* I don't think it will have much effect at all, Pam. Traditionally in this party, any policy that is handed down by the leadership is ignored if the rank and vile disagree with it.

\*Mike:\* Tomorrow, at this same time, the party will now turn its attention to revising it's Statement of Principles and with all those ABCBLA types carrying guns, it could get exciting.

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