



# COWBOY IN CARACAS

A North American's Memoir of Venezuela's Democratic Revolution

*with author Charles Hardy*

**Monday  
April 16  
7:00 p.m.**

**33 Harrison Ave  
5th floor  
Boston, MA 02111**



# about

Venezuela's Hugo Chávez  
Frias is delivering on the  
promise of a revolution that  
benefits the poor. Elected in a  
landslide in 1998, Chávez has  
led a democratic  
transformation of his country  
that not even a US-backed  
coup d'état could stop. He was  
returned to power by his  
supporters, mostly barrio  
dwellers, within forty-eight  
hours. Although Chávez  
continues to be demonized by  
the US government and the  
Venezuelan elites, he stays in  
power because of these  
supporters who see themselves  
as active participants in a  
democratic revolution.

Join the author and the Boston Bolivarian Circle for a discussion "Cowboy in Caracas and the ongoing revolution in Venezuela. The event will include a wine & cheese-style reception. For more information: [cbmlkboston@hotmail.com](mailto:cbmlkboston@hotmail.com)

"This book is an antidote to the poisonous US government mantra against Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez. Ironically, "Cowboy" isn't about Chavez, but about the exciting processes he has helped initiate and about the awakening of Venezuela's poor whom the US media neglects."--Saul Landau, author of *A Bush & Botox World*

"Charles Hardy has given us a unique perspective on the Chávista revolution as viewed from a cardboard shack on a hillside barrio in Caracas. Writing in a graceful and conversational style in a series of vignettes, Hardy conveys with genuine affection and admiration the dignity and courage of the ordinary people of Venezuela--people whom the Western media, ensconced in fine hotels or toney apartments, only know as maids and waiters. A reader comes away understanding both why Hugo Chávez is loved by these people--and why the U.S. Government is trying so hard to oust him. With the Bush administration still trying to demonize Chávez and his backers, this book is a must read for all Americans--but a must read that you won't be able to put down."--Dave Lindorff, columnist for Counterpunch and co-author with Barbara Olshansky of *The Case for Impeachment* (St. Martin's Press, 2006)

"Before we take one more bite of the toxic propaganda sandwich our government offers us to nourish their view that Hugo Chávez is a monster suppressing the poor of Venezuela, read this fine book by Charles Hardy, a former Catholic priest from the United States who spent 8 years tending and nurturing the poor in the cardboard slums of Caracas. Even if you choose to ignore that Chávez was democratically elected three times by his own people and defended by them from a US instigated coup, this book will make indelibly clear, the economic horror and chaos foisted on the Venezuelan people by the IMF, World Bank, and free-market privateers. When you understand the grinding, debilitating poverty our nation and its institutions have wrought on the Venezuelan people, it will take you a long way toward appreciating the Presidency of the man they consider their savior, Hugo Chávez. Read this important book, and drop the propaganda sandwich in the trash where it belongs."--Peter Coyote, actor/writer

"Hardy takes the reader into the byways and undercurrents of Venezuelan society...in vignette-like pieces, parts of which record Hardy's 'feel' so immediately they are like diary passages, the author describes events and political situations so the reader can appreciate the thoughts, hopes, loyalties, and actions of the many lower-income, ordinary, out-of-the-limelight Venezuelans who make up the country's tide of change...It is for its wide-ranging picture of these ordinary and ordinarily unseen Venezuelans that one goes to Hardy's book."—Henry Berry, *Suite 101*

"Stay tuned to this story—it has all manner of narrative punch."—*Morning News*

"More of an adventure story than a polemic, this book is a must for anyone who wishes to discover the human stories behind Hugo Chávez's rise to power and the emergence of Venezuela as the revolutionary centre of the early 21st Century. Suitable for the general reader, students, academics and opinion formers alike, the book smashes through the lazy journalistic stereotypes and disinformation campaigns of the corporate media. It opens a window to the Venezuela they would prefer you didn't see."—Calvin Tucker, *21st Century Socialism*