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# LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

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AUGUST 1989

## MONEY FLOWS

In the July issue of Liberty Pledge News, we informed you of the direct mail pieces in the works. We are happy to report the following:

\*After only 2 weeks, the **Ron Paul 2** mailing has generated **242** new members and **\$9805**.

\*And with receipts of only 1 week, the **Young Libertarian** appeal has produced over **\$3000**.

**EXTRA**-A 2600 piece mailing went out 8/15 to the BAC contributor list asking for their commitment to the LP growth from Paul Jacob.

And with the Jim Turney "expired members" mailing and the Reason "membership invitation" to be mailed shortly, we are expecting an all time high for LP membership.

Again...thanks to you for helping to make this possible.

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## PROCLAIM LIBERTY

By the time some of you receive this newsletter, the National Convention will be in full swing. With the cooperation of **C-Span**, those not in attendance, will be able to see **live** the gavel-to-gavel coverage from Philadelphia. Tune in!

## "CYCLICAL"...OR NOT

Where does the money come from? There are 5 sources of income for the LP. Some of these sources are cyclical in nature while others provide a dependable flow of funds.

**1-MEMBERSHIP-Renewals** are consistantly building through the National LP office 6-week cycle and through the efforts of state Parties. With special membership drives, direct mail invitations and "info-request" memberships accounting for new members.

**2-DIRECT MAIL**-As discussed earlier, the success is wonderful, but cyclical to date.

**3-TELEMARKETING**-Entering our 2nd month, "Campus '89" has generated on the average of \$5000 pledged per week and a list of over 200 campus volunteers. This has become a dependable source of revenue.

**4-MISC.**-Outreach literature and the recently published Liberty Today provide a steady flow, as well as, other Party provided services.

**5-LIBERTY PLEDGERS**-With monthly commitments from credit cards and EFTS of over \$6000 and BRE of over \$5000 pledged, this is our most dependable and constant flow of funds. **THANKS!**

# Letter To The Editor

## Yearning for Liberty Won't Die in China

When China's leaders denounce "bourgeois liberals," we Libertarians cheerfully can admit to being experts on the subject.

"Bourgeois liberalism" is our stock in trade. Like the students and other protesters in China, we favor free speech, a free press, freedom of intellectual life, free markets, and democratic and constitutional checks on government. We Libertarians want to see these things in China, the U.S. and throughout the world. In the words of China's most prominent dissident, Fang Lizhi, "freedom of speech means the same thing everywhere." And, like the Chinese, we Libertarians see the corruption that results when a privileged and politically powerful elite dictates the course of economic life.

What should individuals do who sympathize with the Chinese people? What should the American government do? Individuals should donate to refugee-relief groups, to Amnesty International, in order to help political prisoners, and to Chinese student and community groups in America that have links to those suffering in China.

The U.S. government should end permanently its military ties with China. Not only are these ties a present-day embarrassment, they easily can embroil America in overseas troubles in the future. Congress should repeal the Neutrality statutes that block private Americans from aiding the anti-government resistance in China.

The people of China have stood up and said: "Give me liberty or give me death." The Chinese government has responded by dealing out death and arrests to thousands, but it cannot rub out the Chinese people's yearning for liberty.

DAVID K. WALTER  
Libertarian Party National Chair  
Washington



## Libertarian Party's ballot Catch-22

Editor, *The Journal*:

Let me make an appeal to the fairness in you, the voters of Maryland. The Libertarian Party petition drive to requalify the party for ballot status has begun again.

After every election, we are required to collect 10,000 valid signatures to place our party name on the ballot. Neither the Republican Party nor the Democratic Party is required to perform this arduous task.

After qualifying the party for ballot status, we must further qualify our candidates. The requirement for qualifying our candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, etc., is 70,000 valid signatures. Is this fair? Gov. Schaefer was not required to collect a single signature in his bid for his seat.

Are you asking yourself why this unfairness exists? The stated reason is that since the Democratic and Republican parties have already proven themselves through past voting patterns, new parties first must "prove" themselves before being awarded permanent ballot status.

To be eligible for permanent ballot status, 10 percent of all registered voters must affiliate with the new party. Do you wonder, as I do, how any political party can have a reasonable chance to prove itself if it is restricted from access to the ballot in the first place?

My appeal to you is to let your legislators know that you don't think their treatment of third parties is fair. Please support freedom of choice. Support ballot-access reform.

ROBERT E. CREAGER  
chairman

Montgomery County Libertarian Party

Dear Editor:

To see the American flag desecrated, insulted, or shown disrespect in anyway strikes a blow on the American heart and soul.

The U.S. Senate has rushed to pass a resolution and the president has called for a Constitutional amendment to "remedy" the Supreme Court decision.

If our faith in America is so easily shaken by a mere insult, perhaps our belief needs re-examining. If such an amendment were to pass, one of the very points of the man who burned the flag will have been made.

The people who founded this nation had an understanding of freedom and liberty far more profound than what we see commonly expressed today. What has happened to (paraphrased): "I disagree entirely with what you say, what you believe, and what you do, but I will defend to the death your right to say, believe, and do as you please as long as the rights of others are not violated?" These rights must not only be defended from foreign threats, but from internal dangers as well.

Only with profound respect for each other's rights, even when others exercise them in ways we find repugnant and distasteful, will we reclaim and maintain our freedom and liberties. To do otherwise makes us no better than those nations and peoples we criticize. To choose otherwise, we all lose. The Supreme Court decision was a proper one. All of the rights of all of the people must be protected all of the time if we are to live free.

Sincerely,  
Roy Shimp  
Libertarian candidate,  
15th Congressional Dist.

## Stop the Hypocrisy!

Let's stop the hypocrisy! While our government is shouting cries of moral outrage and is condemning the Chinese leaders for the massacre at Tiananmen Square, it and the rest of the American people seem to have conveniently forgotten about the massacre at Kent State University.

The events are the same. Only the geographic location and numbers of dead are different. In both cases student demonstrators were brutalized and murdered by government troops.

Totalitarian government oppression of its people is no different whether it occurs in China or right here in the good old United States.

The people of this country should start looking at things in proper perspective.

DICK WHITELOCK, State Chair,  
Libertarian Party of Michigan

# How to save \$300K

SACRAMENTO UNION

Our nominee for hero of the month goes to the member of the state Senate, identified as a civil libertarian, who told the Los Angeles Times that he was voting to support a resolution calling for a constitutional amendment to prohibit flag desecration so he wouldn't have to spend campaign money defending his vote. "I saved \$300K," he said. That will presumably keep him in office to fight, with equal valor, another day.

The unnamed civil libertarian was not the only senator to display extraordinary courage. There was Sen. Barry Keene, who, after excoriating President Bush and his campaign manager, Lee Atwater, for their demagogic flag waving in the 1988 campaign and after condemning the resolution as a cheap political trick, voted for it anyway. And, with just six exceptions, there were the senators, liberals and conservatives, who profess to be defenders of the Constitution but who, when the winds of passion began blow, voted with the crowd.

It is, they might argue, just a symbolic is-

sue. Nothing as important as an insurance bill, or a bill for the tort lawyers (how many K are they worth?) — just a little matter of free speech. As John Doolittle, the Senate's premier right-winger, said, the courts "tamper with the Constitution every day." What's wrong with a little more tampering?

Yes, people are angry that some idiot burned the flag and got away with it; idiots are doing idiot things every day and getting away with them. The job of leadership is to put the thing in perspective — to instruct, if necessary, even if it costs \$300K: Amend the Bill of Rights, never amended in its 198-year history, and you don't know where it will end. Defense of the Constitution used to be the special province of conservatives, but nowadays such conservatives are hard to find. So, it seems, are liberals. When it comes down to \$300K, our leaders have other things to do. The people who profess to stand with Jefferson and Madison on this issue, you'd think, would try to do better.



## Break Free

### Activist denounces government intrusion

A Tribune Staff Report

**SAFETY HARBOR** — Russell Means, American Indian activist and a stalwart of the Libertarian Party, brought his anti-socialism message to town Thursday night.

Standing on a makeshift stage in the back yard of the home of Harry Reed, regional representative of the Libertarian Party, Means spent about 45 minutes criticizing what he called an intrusion of government into the lives of citizens.

"I see people becoming dependent on the government," he said to the 25 people in his audience. "I see entire industries becoming dependent on the government."

Means, who lives and works on a Navaho reservation in Apache County, Ariz., said any visitor to the development would see a model of

how government involvement in health, education and business does not work.

"You want to talk about public housing?" he asked. "Come on down. Come on down to the reservation. The houses are not worth anything on anybody's market. Yet people have to live in them."

Means was in Safety Harbor on his way to Orlando for the state Libertarian convention this weekend, where he will be one of the keynote speakers.

Means, who makes a living as real estate publisher, was an unsuccessful candidate for the presidential nomination of the Libertarian Party last year. He says he's getting back on the campaign trail soon to run for a seat in the Arizona House of Representatives.

### Libertarian announces Town Council candidacy

NEW HAVEN REGISTER/CT

**WALLINGFORD** — William Ryczek will become the first member of the Libertarian Party to run for Town Council.

Ryczek, of Algonquin Drive, is vice president of Liberty Bank for Savings and an adjunct professor of finance at the University of Hartford Graduate School.

Though several petition candidates have been on the town ballot and won office through the years, Ryczek is the first Libertarian to seek office in Wallingford, said Michael Stamper of Windsor, state party chairman.

The Libertarian Party was founded in Connecticut 16 years ago. The party believes in reducing the size and scope of government.

Ryczek said he would reduce the town budget by contracting out as many services as possible. He also said the town should fight to regain controls that state departments have over the environment, education and zoning.

Other announced candidates for the nine council seats at stake in November are Republicans Raymond F. Rys, Vincent Celeste and James Krupp.

TAMPA TRIBUNE

### WHY NOT STICK WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT?

The politicians in Washington and our state capitols have led us away from the principles of individual liberty and personal responsibility which are the only sound foundation for a just, humane and abundant society.

Government at all levels is too large, too expensive, woefully inefficient, arrogant, intrusive and downright dangerous. Democratic and Republican politicians have created the status quo and do not intend to change it.



# Libertarians — neither liberal nor conservative

Get the government out of our lives? Now there's a cause that's near and dear to the hearts of conservatives. And it is also the No. 1 guiding principle of the Libertarian Party. Well, then, conservatives must like what they hear from the Libertarian Party.

Yes, they like the non-intervention message in general, but when you get into the specifics, they have second thoughts, and third ones, too. The stumbling block for conservatives is that Libertarians favor drastically slashing the U.S. military budget, withdrawing from NATO, legalizing drugs and decriminalizing prostitution. And in a Libertarian national administration, you could also forget about bailing out Chrysler or throwing the government lifeline to the savings and loan industry. Subsidizing farmers would also go by the board.

Liberals? They have to like the Libertarians' commitment to defense budget slashing. And they would approve of the Libertarian planks to abolish prosecution for so-called victimless crime such as prostitution and marijuana-selling. Opposition to wiretapping, bolstering the right to privacy and preserving other civil liberties, all views intrinsic to Libertarians, also strike a chord among liberals.

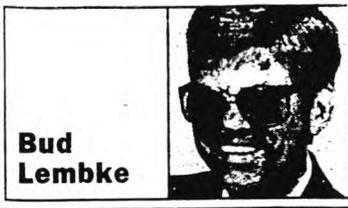
Then you get to the down side for liberals. Libertarians oppose land use zoning. Government interference again. They would greatly reduce public welfare assistance, maintaining that it has failed and that voluntary private assistance can take care of the needy. They also zealously push for deregulation.

What it boils down to is that Libertarians are consistent about their beliefs. Get government out of everything. The purists among them would return enthusiastically to privately owned toll roads and turn private enterprise loose as well to operate schools and parks. When they say "privatizing," they mean replacing the public with the private sector.

Back in 1979, the Libertarian Party of California put on a registration drive and succeeded in qualifying for the ballot. When they went over the top, 80,000 voters were registered Libertarian in California. Recruits came from the left and right and continue to come but there were also defections. The Libertarian registration was only 45,919 last March. That is a mere 0.3 percent of the state's total registration.

The party kicked off a registration drive in mid-April, timed to coincide with the income tax deadline. The goal is to double the registration by the 1990 general election.

Jack Dean, the Libertarian candidate



**Bud Lembke**

for the U.S. Senate in 1988 and now executive director of the Reason Foundation, a national Libertarian think tank based in Santa Monica, estimates that 85 percent of the currently registered Libertarians have joined since the ballot qualification drive in 1979. That indicates both the party's appeal and rank and file disenchantment.

"We are mobilizing our membership to be active on the streets and with signs — going out there and meeting the public in a way that we have not done for 10 years," said Neal Donner, a Los Angeles teacher of violin, holder of a doctorate in East Asian philosophy and religion and Southern California chairman of the registration drive.

Like many staunch Libertarians, Donner is a political convert. He came from the left, was a Democrat, active in the civil rights movement in the late '50s and early '60s, participated in the Martin Luther King march on Washington, marched on the Pentagon and served in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia.

"I gradually came to realize that freedom and the guarantee of equal results in the social competition of society are incompatible goals," said Donner. "I was particularly annoyed by the moves of the Democratic Party toward affirmative action — institutionalized racism, which was something I had spent years fighting against. I also have come to believe that the free market is indivisible from civil liberties."

Libertarians hold three non-partisan offices in California local government. They point out that a quarter of a million Californians voted Libertarian last year but it's a hard sell to explain that American arms in Europe are no good but gun control at home is unacceptable.

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The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association backs the Ralph Morrell reforms carried by David Roberti to tighten auditing of the Legislature's spending, but Assemblyman Tim Leslie wrote Morrell he is "refraining from taking a formal position on this legislation at this time."

Bud Lembke is editor of the Sacramento-based "Political Pulse" newsletter.

## WHAT IS THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY? Principled; Consistent

The Libertarian way is a logically consistent approach to politics based on the moral principle of self-ownership. Each individual has the right to control his or her own body, action, speech and property. Government's only role is to help individuals defend themselves from force and fraud.

# Libertarian victory is loss for San Diego

Even if it takes the U.S. Supreme Court to do it, the half-cent sales tax for new jails in San Diego County must be upheld.

Last week a state Superior Court judge struck down the sales tax, which local voters approved last year to raise \$1.6 billion for jails and courts.

The judge's decision — which sides with the Libertarian Party — raises some disturbing questions. Riverside County Judge Gordon Burkhart declared the tax illegal because it violates Proposition 13, the property tax reduction and limitation initiative that state voters passed 11 years ago.

Two things factored into his decision — the special agency set up to administer the tax, and the fact that the tax passed by a narrow margin instead of by two-thirds of the vote. Both of these violate the "letter and spirit" of Proposition 13, according to the decision.

But the county has already covered its bases on these points. Last year the state Legislature passed a bill to create the taxing agency and to allow a simple majority vote on the jail tax. San Diego voters then approved the tax last June by 50.6 percent.

In bringing the lawsuit, the Libertarians have dragged up a state law that was revolutionary and necessary in its time but doesn't reflect current reality. The "letter and spirit" of Proposition 13 — to roll back property taxes to 1976 levels and keep them there for many citizens — has caused deficiencies in the county's infrastructure, including jails.

The citizens of San Diego County have stated they are willing to be taxed to build more detention facilities. The fact that 3,000 offenders are released each month in San Diego County because there is nowhere to put them is a frightening reality — one that didn't exist 11 years ago when Proposition 13 was passed.

The county and the taxing agency have vowed to fight the decision all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary. It promises to be a long, protracted legal battle, but one well worth it. A state law enacted 11 years ago should not be used against a solid plan to build desperately needed new jails.

# Chinese Students Receive Support Of Libertarians

TENNENT — New Jersey Libertarians last week expressed support for the Chinese students who are trying to achieve democratic reform in the People's Republic of China. The New Jersey Libertarian Party, (NJLP), acting through its Steering Committee, issued a strong statement condemning the bloody repression of the student movement and encouraged Libertarian Party members and the general public to contribute to relief efforts on behalf of the students.

but to relief efforts on behalf of the students.

Dan Karlan, NJLP chairman and candidate for governor of New Jersey, stated, "It is inspiring that halfway around the world students are repeating statements about liberty taken from our own American Revolution. We must stop taking our own freedom for granted and continue to expand the frontiers of liberty in America."