

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle®

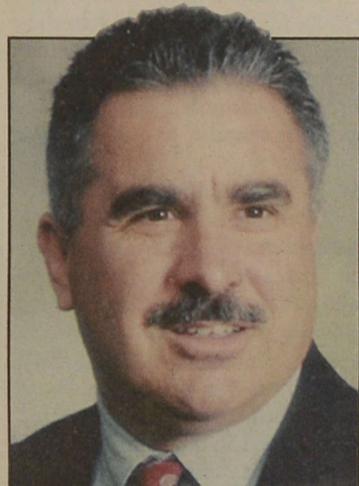


December 2003

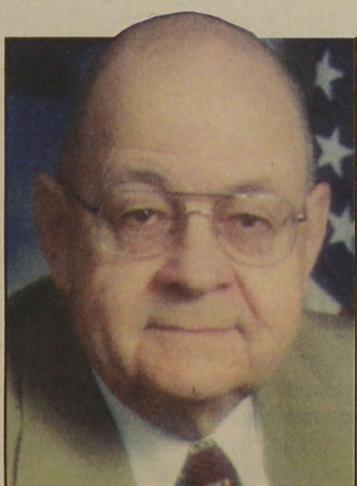
The Official Monthly Newspaper of the Libertarian Party ★ Volume 32 / Issue 12

## INSIDE

- 2** Is Queensryche's singer a libertarian?
- 3** LP finally moves back into the black
- 4** Gary Nolan speaks at national conference
- 4** Michael Badnarik wins online survey
- 14** Oklahoma LP activist stops sales tax hike



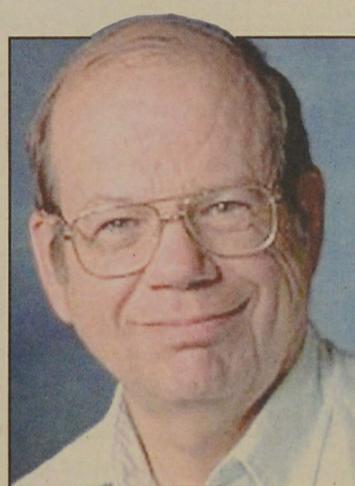
■ Jeff Bowles ran a successful write-in campaign for Soil and Water Director in Virginia.



■ Bill Bradley was re-elected in an unopposed race to the city council in South Haven, Michigan.



■ Henry Boschen was re-elected as one of four Roxobel, North Carolina town commissioners.



■ Bill Lynn won 50.08% of the vote to win a seat as Alderman (5th Ward) in Davenport, Iowa.

## Third-party giant killers in '04 race?

Two major articles look at Libertarian 'threat'

Third parties like the Libertarian Party could have a significant impact on the 2004 presidential election — and neither Republicans nor Democrats are paying enough attention to that potential threat.

That's the consensus of two recent news analyses, one published in the *Washington Post* and one distributed by the Scripps-Howard news service.

"The handicapping of the 2004 presidential election has so far ignored a potentially key factor — the continuing and perhaps growing appeal of third parties," wrote Lawrence R. Jacobs in an op-ed essay entitled "Third-Party Guys, The Real Threat" in the *Washington Post* on October 19.

Jacobs, a professor at the University of Minnesota and the director of the 2004 Election Project at the Humphrey Institute, predicted that "the election next November is likely to be determined" by a candidate from the Libertarian Party or the Green Party.

### Outcome determined

Meanwhile, journalist Eric Black reported: "The outcome [of the 2004 presidential election] could be determined by the impact of a third party or perhaps a fourth or fifth party."

Black, in a news analysis entitled "Third-party candidate in 2004 would be a threat to Bush," noted: "In 2000, the shift of a single state would have changed the outcome of the [presidential] election, and several states were decided by less than 1% of the vote.

"If the electorate is still balanced on a razor's edge a year from today, even a small third-party showing could tip the balance."

The analysis, originally published in the *Minneapolis-St. Paul Star Tribune* on November 2, was later syndicated to newspapers around the country by the Scripps-Howard news service.

Richard Winger, the publisher of *Ballot Access News*, a newsletter that tracks third-party election activity, See **THIRD-PARTY** Page 2

# LP scores 21 local victories

By Bill Winter  
LP NEWS EDITOR

Twenty-one Libertarians emerged victorious in local elections held around the USA on November 4, including five who made a "clean sweep" of contested offices in Michigan.

Libertarians won election in seven states: Michigan, Idaho, Washington state, Indiana, Virginia, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania.

LP Executive Director Joe Seehusen said he was "delighted" with the results.

"I'm especially thrilled that 18 of our 21 victories were higher-level offices such as city and county council, which means Libertarians are going to have a positive impact on many

Americans' lives," he said.

In addition, several Libertarian candidates were victorious against incumbents, noted Seehusen.

"Libertarians booted out three incumbents, which shows that when our candidates run aggressive, properly funded campaigns, they can compete with Democrats and Republicans," he said.

In all, about 210 LP candidates were on the ballot in local elections in 28 states.

Libertarian victories included:

■ In Michigan, three incumbent Libertarian city council members were re-elected in a "clean sweep" for LP officeholders, said Oakland County LP Communications Director Greg Dirasian.

In addition, two other Libertar-



ians were elected to city councils for the first time.

"The Libertarian Party of Michigan had the biggest night in its history on November 4," said Michigan LP State Chair Bill Gelineau.

Winning re-election were Mark Owen in Owosso, Andy LeCureaux in Hazel Park, and Bill Bradley in South Haven.

Making their debuts as elected Libertarian officeholders were Erin Stahl in St. Clair Shores and John

Stempfle in Grosse Pointe.

In Hazel Park, Andy LeCureaux was the top vote-getter in a seven-way race for four open seats. He won 1,581 votes (17.5% of the total votes cast) to earn another two-year term — despite being attacked by an anonymous flier that accused him of wanting to legalize "prostitution, drugs, [and] child pornography."

### Older parties are afraid

LeCureaux said the attack showed that the older parties are afraid of Libertarian candidates.

"One thing is clear: Elected officials from the older parties wouldn't be attacking us if they weren't afraid," he said. "I'm still not sure what it is they fear, but I am sure

See **ELECTION** Page 16

## Looking back: The Spirit of '96

By Jo Jorgensen  
SPECIAL TO LP NEWS

■ **Editor's note:** In 1996, Jo Jorgensen was the LP's candidate for vice president, and appeared on the ballot in all 50 states with presidential candidate Harry Browne. In this essay, she looks back at that time.

Has it really been seven years since I was on the campaign trail? It can't be. My memories of that time are so fresh that it seems like yesterday!

For example, one of my most vivid memories dates back to my campaign for the vice presidential nomination in 1995. A young LP member, perhaps in his early 20s, commented on my "unusual" campaign colors — green and white. It was very different than the traditional red, white, and blue, he said.

"Well," I responded, "I don't think I can go wrong using Ed Clark green." "Ed who?" he asked.

Not knowing who Ed Clark was seemed sacrilegious to me. But after thinking about it, I realized that not

recognizing the name of the party's 1980 presidential candidate was a good thing. It meant we were attracting a fresh crop of younger members into the party.

Today, there are many new members who are probably saying, "Jo who?" Fair enough. I'm happy to reintroduce myself.

Back in the early 1990s, I was a Vice Chair of the South Carolina LP and Marketing Director for the national party. Professionally, I was vice president of DegiTech, Inc., a  
See **JORGENSEN** Page 12



**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Political Quiz is now available for PDAs**

The World's Smallest Political Quiz has become even smaller: Now it can fit on a Palm Pilot.

That's because the Vermont-based Catamount Software has released a software version of the Quiz that can be used on the ubiquitous handheld computers — and even transmitted to other Palm Pilots via infrared beams.

"It is so much fun to beam the Quiz to people!" said Sharon Harris, president of the Advocates for Self-Government, the nonprofit organization that created the Quiz. "And it's even more fun to see their faces light up as they enjoy taking the Quiz."

The World's Smallest Political Quiz (WSPQ) program for the Palm OS was released on October 22. It requires Palm OS 2.0 or newer, and it can take advantage of Palm OS 5.0's high-resolution screen support. The software is free to distribute and use.

With 15 million Palm Pilots in use, the Quiz will now be available to a larger audience, said Harris.

"Over 2 million people have taken the Quiz online, and over 6 million card versions have been distributed," she noted. "We're delighted that Catamount has produced the Quiz for Palm Pilots, making [it] accessible to even more people."

For a copy of the Palm Pilot Quiz software, visit: [www.catamount.com/PalmApps/SmallQuizPalm.html](http://www.catamount.com/PalmApps/SmallQuizPalm.html).



**Rick Stanley arrested on death threat charge**

A rogue Libertarian candidate who was censured by the Colorado LP for "unacceptable" behavior and later quit the party has been arrested for threatening the life of a judge.

Rick Stanley, who ran for governor on the Libertarian ticket in Colorado in 2002, was arrested on October 18 and charged with two felony counts of attempting to influence a public servant.

Stanley, 49, had been scheduled to appear in court on October 15 to be sentenced on misdemeanor charges for illegally carrying a gun at the Thornton Harvest Fest in September 2002. Stanley had done so as an act of civil disobedience against the state's gun laws.

Instead of appearing, Stanley had a note delivered to the judge, ordering him to overturn the conviction. If he didn't, the note said the judge would be charged with treason, and that an arrest warrant from the Mutual Defense Pact Militia would be issued against him.

A district attorney said the note was a "veiled threat," since Stanley's website said the Mutual Defense Pact Militia would be armed.

Stanley is being held at the Adams County Jail. After he serves a 90-day sentence on the gun charges, he will be eligible for bail.

Stanley, a Denver businessman, was censured by the Colorado LP in August 2002 after he forwarded e-mails advocating murder and mocking Mexicans. Stanley's campaign focused on an "endless stream of ridiculous conspiracies covering everything from sperm count to jet vapor," noted *Colorado Freedom Report* publisher Ari Armstrong.

In 2002, Stanley announced he had formed the Unaffiliated Party of Colorado. At the time, he predicted that the party will "undoubtedly spread across the country," although it has not yet done so.

**New movie about third parties is released**

A new documentary that examines the role of third parties includes a few mentions of the Libertarian Party — while mostly focusing on a number of obscure left-wing parties.

The movie, *Third Party: Political Alternatives in the Age of Duopoly*, directed by Michael Burns, is an "inspiring mosaic of the lesser-known political visionaries," said Bob Banner of [www.HopeDance.com](http://www.HopeDance.com).

"The film gives a wide historical span of third parties, as well as an understanding of their role in expanding the issues within the broader two-party system," he said.

Connecticut LP Communications Director Ken Gordon is interviewed in the documentary, along with Ralph Nader (Green Party), Michael Zumbuskas (Reform), Jarvis Tyner (Communist), Preston Smith (Labor), David McReynolds (Socialist), Dan Cantor (Working Families), and Monica Moorehead (Workers World).

Despite the claim that the movie makes "a comprehensive survey of today's major United States third-party efforts," the line-up of spokespeople makes the director's leftist political agenda obvious, said LP Communications Director George Getz.

"With the exception of the Green Party and the fading Reform Party, the movie focuses on insignificant parties that run, at best, a handful of candidates in a handful of states," he said. "The movie may reflect the director's socialist fantasies, but it's hard to argue that it accurately reflects the reality of third-party politics in America."

To see a trailer, visit: [www.thirdpartypolitics.org](http://www.thirdpartypolitics.org).

**Third-party giant killers in 2004?**

*Continued from Page 1*

said both articles indicate that the media is finally waking up to the power of third parties.

"I think the press is starting to think about the possibility of a big 'other' vote for president in 2004," he said.

In his essay in the *Washington Post*, Jacobs tossed out a barrage of statistics to prove his premise that the Libertarian Party could be a "significant" threat to the GOP in 2004.

"Third parties ... spell trouble for Bush," he wrote. "The soaring budget deficit in Washington, ballooning expenditures, and an expansion of government under Republican control have not only fired up the usual inside-the-Beltway deficit hawks; they have also fueled a grassroots protest movement."

"Some of those disaffected Americans won't vote at all. Some will vote Democrat. But many will go outside the box to vote for a third party. The threat is real."

As evidence, he noted: "In 15 statewide elections last year, 2% or more of voters cast their ballots for the Libertarian Party, which has picked up the banner of small government."

Looking at the bigger third-party picture, Jacobs noted: "The success of third parties in the 2002 gubernatorial and Senate races is, or should

**"SOME DISAFFECTED Americans won't vote at all. Some will vote Democrat. But many will go outside the box to vote for a third party."**

be, the real wake-up call. Together, third parties recorded 5% or more in 16 states last year."

Because of that growing support for alternative parties, Jacobs wrote, "Bush's campaign officials would be well advised to work overtime to discourage a third-party campaign" that could pilfer votes from the president.

"Here's the decisive question that is not being asked about the Bush campaign: Will voters for independent or Libertarian candidates in the 2002 elections coalesce behind one candidate in the 2004 presidential race?" he asked.

"The receptiveness to independent and Libertarian candidates is rooted in a deep frustration among many Americans that Republican leaders have abandoned Ronald Reagan's

commitment to small government and bogged the country down in costly operations in Iraq and Afghanistan."

In his news analysis in the *Minneapolis-St. Paul Star Tribune*, Black echoed many of Jacobs' points — especially about the potential impact Libertarians could have on the Republican Party.

"Libertarians ... have scored impressive numbers in several statewide races, and likely tipped a Washington Senate race in 2000 and the 2002 Wisconsin governor's race to Democrats," he wrote.

**Maximizing liberty**

"Libertarians have a philosophy centered on their goal of maximizing liberty and minimizing government. That gives them many clear differences with Bush-style Republicanism, including unequivocal opposition to the Iraq war, opposition to the Patriot Act as an assault on civil liberties, and an unrelenting opposition to new government expenditures, including the proposed expansion of the Medicare drug benefit, which Bush supports."

Because many voters feel betrayed by the Republicans — and because of the impact another Nader campaign could have on Democrats — "there is at least a plausible scenario that could produce significant third-party insurgencies," wrote Black.

**Is Queensrÿche singer a libertarian?**

Libertarianism may have a new fan: Geoff Tate, lead singer for the progressive heavy metal band Queensrÿche.

That's according to Illinois LP member Eric Dubiel, who gave Tate a flier about the Libertarian Party and a copy of the World's Smallest Political Quiz at a concert at the Texas Club in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on September 23.

"The singer took the flier," reported Dubiel. "[He] looked at it for a moment, and gave a gesture that said thank you."

Dubiel thought that was the end of it, until he received a phone call from Tate a few days later.

"He was curious what the moti-

vation was in providing the information, and was interested, as he had never realized there was another political party," said Dubiel. "He said he scored Libertarian on the quiz, and [mentioned that] Queensrÿche has music discussing political issues, including the waste of money on the drug war."

Tate told Dubiel that the band was touring, put promised to check out



**■ Geoff Tate: Another party?**

the Libertarian Party website when he got home.

Tate has previously hinted at an interest in liberty. In a 2003 press release, he said, "America to me, is a tribe that came together based on belief in a common idea: freedom." And the band's 1988 album, *Operation: Mindcrime*, was inspired by the writings of George Orwell.

Queensrÿche, which is perhaps best known for its double-platinum 1990 album *Empire* and its Top 5 hit, "Silent Lucidity," has been compared to 70's rock bands like Van Halen, Aerosmith, and Kiss, but with a more progressive edge. Other Queensrÿche albums include *Tribe* (2003), *Classic Masters* (2003), and *Q2K* (1999).

**Libertarian Party News (ISSN 8755-139X) is the official monthly newspaper of the Libertarian Party® of the United States. Opinions, articles, and advertisements published in this newspaper do not necessarily represent official party positions unless so indicated.**

**NATIONAL CHAIR:**  
Geoffrey J. Neale  
12903 Grubstake Gulch  
Bee Cave, TX 78738-6104  
E-mail: [chair@LP.org](mailto:chair@LP.org)

**SEND NEWS, LETTERS, ESSAYS, PHOTOGRAPHS, OR ADVERTISING:**  
Bill Winter  
1640 Worcester Road, #330-D  
Framingham, MA 01702  
Phone: (508) 820-7340  
E-mail: [Editor@hq.LP.org](mailto:Editor@hq.LP.org)

**SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:**  
Libertarian Party  
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100  
Washington, DC 20037  
Or call: (202) 333-0008 x 223

**LP NEWS EDITOR:**  
Bill Winter

**LP NEWS PUBLISHER:**  
Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

**EDITOR EMERITUS:**  
Karl Hess ♦ 1923-1994

**The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."**

# LP saves taxpayers \$2.1 billion with initiative victories

*Libertarian activists win lobbying battles over 4 state and local initiative questions*

**L**ibertarian activists went four for seven on November 4 on ballot questions where they played a significant lobbying role — saving taxpayers at least \$2.1 billion in the process.

LP members won ballot measure battles in Colorado, California, Arizona, and Florida.

However, they suffered setbacks in Massachusetts, California, and Pennsylvania.

Initiative highlights included:

■ In Florida, Libertarians played a key role in the defeat of a proposed "Infrastructure Sales Surtax" in Brevard County.

The measure, which would have raised the county sales tax by one cent and cost taxpayers about \$1.3 billion over two decades, was defeated on a vote of 65% to 35%.

Brevard County LP Chair Bruce Wechsler played a significant role in the win, serving as spokesman for the anti-tax PAC, Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility.

Wechsler spoke at numerous community meetings, rallies, talk radio shows, and forums. He also debated the county manager, the school superintendent, and the Palm Bay City manager at a forum on October 22.

In his speeches, Wechsler told taxpayers that the government did not need additional revenue.



"The county and the school board are flush with money," he said. "It is not a revenue problem. It is a spending problem."

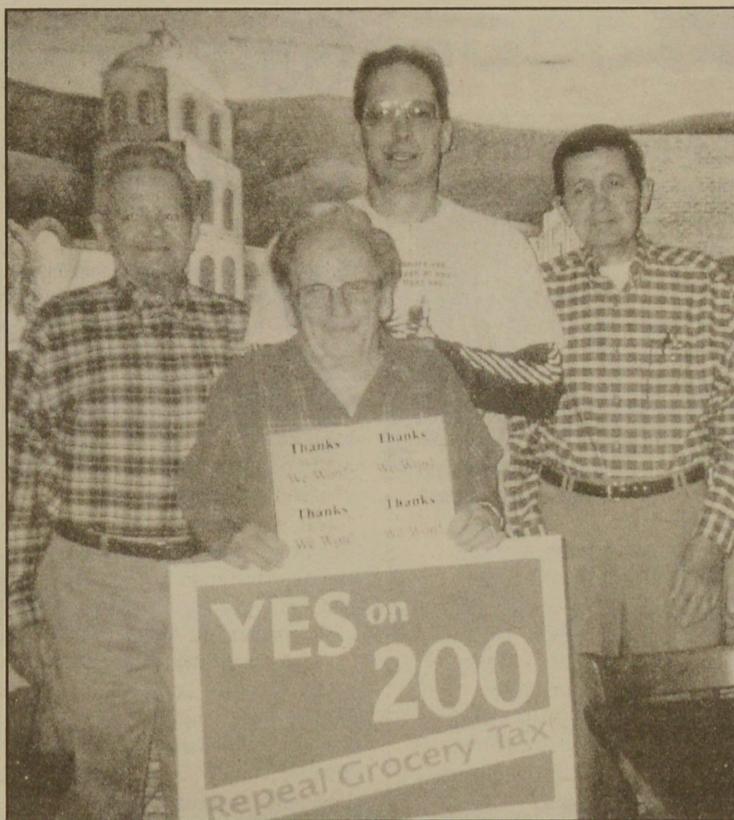
Anti-tax forces won despite being outspent 40-to-one by pro-tax supporters, said Wechsler.

"[We] conducted a low-cost, grassroots campaign, spending about \$5,000, in comparison to the opposition which raised approximately \$200,000," he said.

Had the measure passed, the \$1.3 billion it raised would have been spent on school and road construction and building new libraries.

Doug Guetzloe, on his Guetzloe Report radio show in Orlando, praised the LP for its role in stopping the tax hike, calling Libertarians the "shock troops of the anti-tax movement."

■ In Massachusetts, voters in Waltham defeated by a five-to-one margin a Libertarian-sponsored initiative to roll back taxes by about \$40 million a year, and trim the city government's budget by 25%. The vote was 10,420 (83.7%)



■ Libertarian Frank Atwood (third from left) celebrates the repeal of the grocery tax in Littleton, Colorado on election night with fellow volunteers Jim DuBose, Elwood Johnsen, and Marty Bolt. The repeal will save city taxpayers about \$600,000 annually.

against and 2,031 (16.3%) in favor of Question One.

The measure was spearheaded by Rich Aucoin, head of Waltham Citizens for Taxpayer Justice, who said Libertarians could not overcome "massive" spending against the initiative.

### Huge machine

"We faced a huge machine," he said. "There were two or three organizations that organized against the question. It was overwhelming."

However, Aucoin also told the *Waltham Daily News Tribune*: "I really think there will be plenty of voters who regret [voting] no. They will especially regret it as they watch their taxes go up."

■ In Colorado, residents of Littleton approved a Libertarian-led effort to abolish the town's tax on groceries.

The initiative won the support of 6,763 voters (62%), while 4,135 voted against it.

The victory made it a "great day!" said Frank Atwood, who led the campaign for the grocery tax repeal.

Atwood had the support of some Republican and Democratic volunteers, and said that teamwork was necessary for the victory.

"Without a team, no one of us could have pulled it off," he told the *Colorado Freedom Report*.

To promote the grocery tax repeal, See **INITIATIVES** Page 17

# Party is back in the black

*After long cash crunch, LP pays past-due bills*

**A**fter struggling for almost two years with budget deficits and past-due bills, the Libertarian Party is finally back in the black.

As of November 1, the party had paid off all its overdue vendor debt, and was completely caught up on Unified Membership Program (UMP) payments to state parties, LP Executive Director Joe Seehusen announced.

"The party is financially solvent," he said.

The party had been suffering financially from a fall-off in membership that started in 2001, and a related sharp decrease in fundraising following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

At its worst, the party had unpaid liabilities of about \$400,000 in vendor debt, unpaid employee leave, credit debt, and UMP obligations to LP state parties, said Seehusen.

### Past-due debts

For example, in April 2003, the party owed \$110,000 in past-due debts to vendors, including printing companies, a newspaper clipping service, a mail house, shipping companies, and insurance companies.

All those bills have now been paid, said Seehusen.

"We have honored our commitments to our vendors," he said.

The party has also completely caught up with UMP payments to states, said Seehusen.

In November 2002, the party had started postponing monthly UMP payments because of the cash crunch. UMP payments are the state parties' share of joint national/state LP membership dues.

Seehusen said the party managed to work its way out of its financial predicament by cutting costs and raising additional money from members.

For example, over the past year, seven national office staff members quit and were not replaced, or were laid off, or were replaced as part of restructuring programs.

Office costs — in areas such as health insurance, property insurance, 401K plan administration, and phone services — were reduced as much as possible. Membership recruitment efforts were put on hold, LP literature

See **CASH CRUNCH** Page 15



■ Joe Seehusen: Party is solvent.

# Appeals court rejects Calif. Libertarian's suit against touchscreen voting machines

**A** federal appeals court has struck down a lawsuit filed by a California Libertarian that sought to ban electronic voting machines on the grounds that they are susceptible to fraud.

On October 28, the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled 3-0 to dismiss the lawsuit filed by LP member Susan Marie Weber.

"Weber has raised at most a hypothetical concern about the ability to audit and verify election results," Judge Pamela Ann Rymer wrote in the court's ruling.

However, the decision continued, "No balloting system is perfect. Traditional paper ballots, as became evident during the 2000 presidential election, are prone to overvotes, undervotes, 'hanging chads,' and



■ Susan Marie Weber: Court ruling is "ultimate Catch 22."

other mechanical and human errors that may thwart voter intent.

"Meanwhile, touchscreen voting systems remedy a number of these problems, albeit at the hypothetical price of vulnerability to programming 'worms.' The unfortunate reality is that the possibility of electoral fraud can never be completely eliminated, no matter which type of ballot is used."

Weber said she was shocked by the decision.

"For the court to hand down a ruling, commenting that a state has the right to pick a voting system that prevents the public from ever verifying what actually took place, is appalling," she said. "And, they are totally ignoring the concerns of the computer experts, [about] a system

that is so easily manipulated.

"They have essentially given the green light to the criminal faction in the political arena. We don't think we can let the court's opinion stand as it is."

### Ultimate Catch 22

Weber said the court's ruling was the "ultimate Catch 22."

"The court said we did not prove that my vote is not being counted the same as a person in the next county," she said. "Well, that is impossible to prove, because there are no paper documents to audit in order to prove that the computer generate report has the correct totals."

Weber's lawsuit had sought to halt the Riverside County, California gov-

See **VOTING** Page 13

**POLITICAL NEWS**

**Tamara Millay announces campaign for VP**

**F**our-time Missouri LP candidate Tamara Millay has tossed her hat into the ring for the Libertarian Party's 2004 vice presidential nomination.

Millay, 36, made her announcement at a reception for LP presidential contender Michael Badnarik in Chesterfield, Missouri on October 17.

In her speech, Millay said she will focus her campaign over the next six months on building a "war chest" to help the LP's presidential ticket get off to a fast start after the May 2004 Libertarian national convention.

"When the nominees are selected, I hope to bring a considerable amount of money into the campaign for the general election phase," she said.

Millay said her campaign will focus on three issues: Ending George W. Bush's "failed foreign policies" in Iraq and Afghanistan; "reining in Leviathan" government spending; and enforcing the Bill of Rights.

Millay has run for office four times in Missouri. In her 2002 campaign for U.S. Senate, she won 18,338 votes (1%). The Chair of the St. Louis County LP, Millay has been an LP member since 1992.

Professionally, Millay works as a research assistant in the department of psychiatry at Washington University in St. Louis.

The other candidate in the race for the LP's vice presidential nomination is Richard Campagna of Iowa.

For information about the Millay for VP campaign, visit: [www.tamaramillay.org](http://www.tamaramillay.org). Or e-mail: [tmillay@earthlink.net](mailto:tmillay@earthlink.net). Or call: (314) 721-3960. Or write: 2224 Normandy Drive, St. Louis, MO 63121.



■ Tamara Millay: Build "war chest."

**GOP governor speaks at N.H. convention**

**N**ew Hampshire Libertarians had an unusual keynote speaker at their state convention: The current Republican governor of the state. And at the annual New Hampshire LP gathering on November 1, Governor Craig Benson extended a warm welcome to Free State members and Libertarians.

"We don't have to agree on everything to make things happen," he said. "What we have to agree on is that we're going to leave things better than we found them."

In October, the Free State Project announced that it had chosen New Hampshire as the target of its planned mass migration of 20,000 liberty-lovers. In a public statement at the time, Benson said, "We'd love to have you."

Speaking directly to the handful of Free Staters in the audience, Benson said, "You're active, you want to make the state or the towns and cities you hope to live in a better place, and that is the core value of New Hampshire."

In his speech, Benson also touted two proposed amendments to the state constitution. One, a "Taxpayer Bill of Rights," would limit state spending increases to the rate of inflation and population growth. The other would give the legislature — instead of the state supreme court — ultimate control over state spending on education.

LP State Chair John Babiarz said he invited Benson to speak because the governor is a "stand-up guy; a guy with a spine."

According to news reports, about 70 people attended the convention, which was held at the Highlander Inn in Manchester.

**LP member named to N.M. task force**

**I**t took just one press release and one day for Libertarian Frank Clinard to get appointed to a New Mexico election committee.

On October 21, New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson named Clinard to the state's Election Reform Task Force. Clinard is the Chair of the Los Alamos LP and a former State Chair of the New Mexico LP.

At the same time, Richardson appointed a member of the state Green Party and a registered independent to the task force.

The action came just one day after LP State Chair Richard Obergfell and the Green Party issued a press release criticizing the governor for excluding minor parties from the committee.

"Richardson responded almost immediately," said Obergfell. "The story hit the papers on Monday and he appointed a Green, a Libertarian, and an independent the following day, Tuesday."

The October 20 press release had scolded Richardson for only naming Democrats and Republicans to the task force. It also urged the task force to look into "real" election reform, such as ballot access, instant runoff voting, [and] proportional representation," said Obergfell.

The press release was picked up by the Associated Press, and stories about it appeared in the *Albuquerque Journal*, the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, and several other newspapers.

The 23-member task force will recommend ways to make vote counting smoother and reduce election glitches.

**Gary Nolan speaks at national conference for Arab-Americans**

**W**ould-be LP presidential candidate Gary Nolan may have made political history when he appeared at the Arab American Institute's National Conference: It appears to be the first time a Libertarian candidate has participated in an event where the major Democratic contenders were also invited.

At the conference, held in Dearborn, Michigan on October 18, Nolan was one of nine presidential candidates to speak to Arab-American delegates.

Also appearing, either in person or by satellite transmission, were former governor Howard Dean, U.S. Senator John Kerry, former general Wesley Clark, U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman, former U.S. Representative Dennis Kucinich, U.S. Senator John Edwards, former U.S. Senator Carol Moseley Braun, and U.S. Representative Dick Gephardt.

In addition, Montana Governor Marc Racicot, chair of the Bush-Cheney 2004 campaign, spoke at the event.

**Credibility**

Nolan's appearance at the conference is a sign of his credibility as a candidate, said campaign manager Steve Dasbach.

"It's an indication that some interest groups are beginning to recognize that neither the Democrats nor Republicans are serving their interests, and they're willing to consider



■ Gary Nolan addresses the Arab American Institute National Conference in Dearborn, Michigan. Eight Democratic presidential contenders also spoke to delegates. In his speech, Nolan said Arab-Americans "face the additional burden of seeing their civil liberties targeted by our government." [Note: Photo taken from a video of the event.]



Libertarian Gary Nolan as a serious alternative for president," he said.

In his speech, Nolan addressed "topics of major concern with the Arab-American community, which also happen to be three of the major

issues being stressed by his campaign," said Dasbach.

Those topics were the growth of government spending, taxation, and regulation; the loss of civil liberties as a result of the USA/Patriot Act; and the impact of American intervention in the conflicts of other nations.

In his remarks, Nolan said: "Arab-Americans are over-taxed and over-

See **NOLAN** Page 11

**Michael Badnarik earns first online monthly presidential straw poll win**

**T**he Libertarian Party has a new #1 contender for its 2004 presidential nomination: Michael Badnarik.

The Texas resident finished first in the October presidential straw poll conducted by the Cass County LP in Missouri.

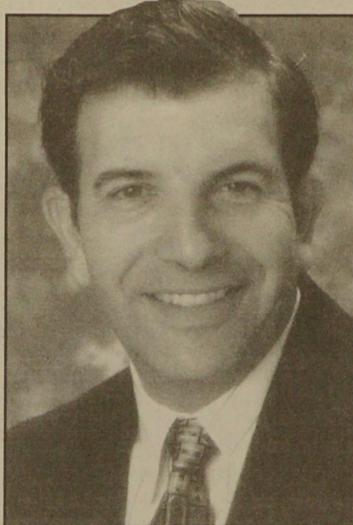
In the online survey, Badnarik defeated rival Gary Nolan, 45.7% to 41.5% (327 votes to 297 votes). Nolan had won the previous six monthly polls.

**Broadest sampling**

While unscientific, the Cass County LP poll is widely considered to be the broadest sampling of Libertarian opinion about the upcoming presidential nomination race, which will be decided at the National Convention in Atlanta, May 27-31, 2004.

Badnarik, a computer programmer who also offers seminars on the U.S. Constitution, said he was "excited" to win the straw poll.

"Ever since my name was added to the poll, I have been trailing behind Gary Nolan," he said. "I'm sure



■ Michael Badnarik: "I'm thrilled that [supporters'] efforts were finally rewarded with success" in the Cass County LP straw poll.

it was discouraging to all of my supporters to continually lose by a very small margin. I'm thrilled that their efforts were finally rewarded with success."



While the October poll results did not make him the "official frontrunner" in the race, Badnarik said it did mean that the race for the LP's presidential nomination was shaping up as an "exciting and competitive" contest.

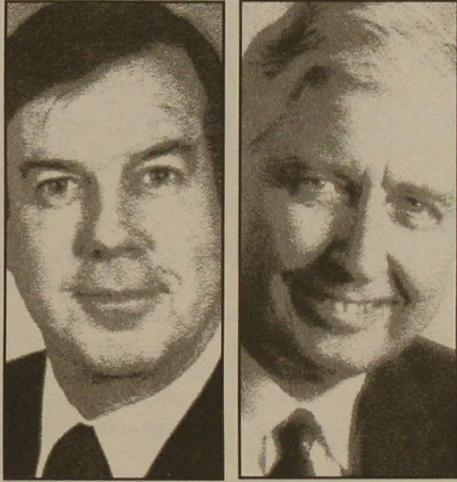
"It does shatter the idea that I am a long-shot candidate with little chance of winning," he said. "My win simply establishes me as a serious candidate that my friend Gary Nolan will have to work very hard to defeat. Libertarians can expect a very exciting and competitive race for the nomination."

Two other announced candidates for the LP's presidential nomination — both of whom are running non-active campaigns — earned less than 1% of the vote on the October poll. David Hollist of California won four votes (0.6%), while Jeffrey Diket of

See **BADNARIK** Page 11

**ADVOCATES FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT**

MICHAEL CLOUD & HARRY BROWNE PRESENT



*The World Premiere of*  
**The Art of Libertarian Persuasion Seminar**

*January 24 & 25 in Atlanta, Georgia*

If you could quickly and easily become 3 times as effective at communicating libertarianism, would you want it?

What if you could simply and warmly have 3 times the persuasive impact in your libertarian conversations with your family, friends, and co-workers? Would you want that?

If it were possible for you to change the minds of the people who matter most to you — to bring them to libertarianism — would you want to?

Michael Cloud and Harry Browne are making this possible for you.

Michael Cloud and Harry Browne are giving you the keys to the vault of their libertarian persuasion knowledge, methods, and secrets.

January 24 and 25 in Atlanta, Georgia, they are giving you the tools and training to easily, simply, and quickly become 3 times as effective in all your libertarian communications. Three times as effective in person, over the phone, and by email.



**Here's What You'll Learn**

How to take what you *already* know — and put it together in new ways that produce 2 times to 6 times the persuasive impact.

How to quickly become a more effective libertarian communicator than 80% of the best-known libertarian writers and speakers.

How to harness the awesome power of persuasion semantics — because small changes in the words and phrases you use can make a huge difference.

Conversational libertarianism for persuading family, friends, and co-workers.

How to give the best libertarian answer every time.

The Libertarian Persuasion Toolbox.

Secrets of making people hungry for your libertarian ideas.

How to Open Closed Minds: the Suspension of Disbelief.

Political Cross-Dressing: Creating Libertarian Insights and Outlooks

Persuasion Judo.

The Most Powerful Libertarian Persuasion Approach on the Planet: "the Freedom Store."

You'll walk out the door with everything you need to be 3 times as effective in persuasive libertarian communication.

**Amazing, but True**

You do NOT need to read more libertarian books to take advantage of this.

You do NOT need to be a libertarian scholar to benefit from this.

You do NOT need to be a libertarian political candidate or spokesperson to really profit from this.

You do NOT need to be a "silver tongued devil" — an accomplished speaker — to reap huge rewards from this seminar. (Shy people and private people quietly use this — and get fabulous results.)

You do NOT need long hours or weeks of practice before you can use what you learn. (You can be on your way in just 7 minutes of practice.)

Just attend "The Art of Libertarian Persuasion" Seminar — and you'll be on your way to becoming 3 times the persuasive libertarian communicator you are today.

Your confidence will soar. You'll feel great when talking about libertarianism. And you'll make a difference.



**Art of Libertarian Persuasion Seminar**

Saturday Workshop Hours: 9:00 am — 6:30 pm.

Sunday Workshop Hours: 9:00 am — 3:30 pm.

(Both Saturday and Sunday will have a 90-minute break for lunch.)

Saturday Night: Reception and Social for Seminar Attendees.

Michael Cloud and Harry Browne will teach and lead this seminar. They will be assisted by Carla Howell and Sharon Harris.

This is the World Premiere for the Art of Libertarian Persuasion Seminar — a once in a lifetime event. You will meet new friends and see old friends. You will have a ball — and be on the path to being a Master of Libertarian Persuasion.

"The Art of Libertarian Persuasion" Seminar is sponsored and hosted by the Advocates for Self-Government, the world leader in Libertarian Communication.

**Sign Up Now!**

Early Bird Registration Rates — available until December 31st:

3 easy monthly credit card payments of \$75.

1 payment of \$195.

**AFTER December 31st, the fee is \$250.**

Fill out the coupon, enclose your check, money order, or credit card information, and mail it in today.

Or **REGISTER ONLINE NOW** at: [www.TheAdvocates.org](http://www.TheAdvocates.org).

Or: **TELEPHONE REGISTER** (Mon -Fri, 9-5 EST)

Toll-Free 800-932-1776.

**Sign up now for "The Art of Libertarian Persuasion" Seminar** — and become the Libertarian Communicator you've always wanted to be!

**YES!**

**I want to attend the Art of Political Persuasion Seminar. Sign me up!**

No. of registrations: \_\_\_\_\_

3 easy monthly credit card payments of \$75 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR — 1 payment of \$195 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

> **TOTAL PAYMENT DUE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Early Bird Registration Rate ends December 31, 2003.



**CALL TOLL-FREE TO REGISTER: 800-932-1776**

LPN12/03

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD ACCT# \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**I'll PAY by:**

Check/money order

Please make payable to:

Advocates for Self Government

**I'll pay by credit card (info at left):**

Mastercard  Visa

American Express  Discover

**MAIL TO:** Advocates for Self-Government, The Liberty Building, 213 South Erwin Street, Cartersville, GA 30120 • **CALL TOLL-FREE** (800) 932-1776

## TALKING POINTS

# The truth about gun control, oil shortages, and beer taxes

## ■ The cruelest tax

You probably didn't know this, but a staggering 44% of the cost of the average beer is taxes. And the situation is getting worse.

At least 19 states are considering increases in taxes and fees, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL).

Beer excise taxes are unfair and regressive, hitting poorer consumers hardest.

According to Citizens for Tax Justice, people whose family incomes are in the bottom 20% pay a tax burden from beer excise taxes five times greater than people with family incomes in the top 20%. More than half (52%) of all beer is purchased by families with incomes of \$45,000 or less. And now states want to increase this tax. Where is the liberal outrage?

States and the federal government have an insatiable appetite for new spending, and they love to tax the working man's favorite drink: beer. It's time to give Joe Six Pack a break.

— CHRIS KINNAN

*Budget & Tax News*  
November 1, 2003

## ■ Drug Testing 101

The Colfax, Illinois, village board mandated that all village employees will be subject to random mandatory drug tests.

But board members were perplexed when the city clerk asked for the phone numbers and home addresses of board members, so they could be given to the firm that conducts the tests. The clerk explained that, because they draw pay from the village, they are village employees and subject to the tests.

The board promptly rewrote the law to exempt themselves.

— CHARLES OLIVER

*Reason Online*, October 27, 2003

## ■ Liberators in Iraq?

A recent poll by an Iraq research center showed fewer than 15% of Iraqis see U.S. forces as liberators, down from a tepid 43% six months ago. That's an ominous sign that popular discontent over a prolonged occupation could cause anti-U.S. attacks to snowball.

— IVAN ELAND

*USA Today*, October 29, 2003

## ■ Red, red, red

What does George W. Bush, the first U.S. president with an M.B.A., really think of the federal government's management performance?

The latest Executive Branch Management Scorecard — released by the White House this summer — offers some idea. On the scorecard, various agencies and departments receive



**YOU PROBABLY  
didn't know this, but  
44% of the cost  
of the average beer  
is taxes. It's time  
to give Joe Six Pack  
a break.**

grades (red for failure, green for success, and yellow for something in between) on their progress in five broad areas, including human capital, financial management, and budget performance.

The past quarter's results show that the overwhelming majority of agencies and departments are deemed to be failing in most areas. Indeed, 87 of the 130 grades in the "current status" portion of the scorecard are red.

It's not encouraging that eight of the 26 departments and agencies, among them the Justice, Homeland Security, and Treasury Departments, are failing in all five areas.

— ATLANTIC MONTHLY  
November 2003

## ■ After that...

Former Congressman Tom Coburn has a new book out. [It's] called *Breach of Trust*.

In a land of career politicians, Dr. Coburn was a citizen legislator. He pledged to serve only three terms in the Congress; and he never wavered from that commitment, stepping down in 2000.

The memoir is fascinating. One episode that leaps from the page re-

lates his attempt to get his fellow congressmen to abide by spending caps passed as part of the 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement. In 1999 Coburn met with House Speaker Dennis Hastert and Majority Leader Senator Trent Lott, urging them to step up to the plate and lead.

Coburn recalls that Lott was a lot less interested.

"Lott looked at me, rested his chin on his hand, and said in his Mississippi baritone drawl, 'Well, I've got an election coming up in 2000. After that we can have good government.'"

— PAUL JACOB

*Common Sense*  
October 14, 2003

## ■ WMD obsession

The Bush administration wants \$600 million to continue looking for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. It's already spent \$300 million in search of the elusive weapons.

This is beginning to look like an obsession.

With chief weapons searcher David Kay now confirming to Congress that his massive team has found no weapons, this new request is slightly ridiculous.

The Bush administration has gone from claiming that the Iraqi president, Saddam Hussein, definitely had weapons in known locations, to claiming that he had programs to develop weapons, to claiming that he had plans to develop programs to develop weapons, to claiming that he had ambitions to develop programs.

The spin will go on. But one thing can't be spun: the weapons are nowhere to be found.

— SHELDON RICHMAN

*Future of Freedom Foundation*  
October 6, 2003

## ■ Our turf, buddy

In Washington D.C., the Senate voted 97-0 for an anti-spam bill to stop those annoying e-mail things you get on your computer.

The senators made it really clear. They said, "When you start misleading the American people and start taking money by making false promises, that's our turf buddy."

— JAY LENO

*The Tonight Show*  
October 27, 2003

## ■ Operation Granny

Everyone in Washington is congratulating themselves on an agreement that will probably lead to the creation of a new \$400 billion prescription drug benefit.

It is part of a long-running project — Operation Please Granny — to turn almost the entire federal treasury over to the elderly, at the risk of

bankrupting the country and dimming its economic prospects.

In the 1990s, we decided that it was a bad idea for poor young women with children to batten themselves on government subsidies. But the bipartisan consensus behind Operation Please Granny holds that it is a wonderful idea for well-off retirees living in condos to batten themselves on government subsidies.

We no longer have a Welfare State so much as a Geriatric State, at the service of the whim of the elderly.

A new report from the Washington, D.C.-based Cato Institute, "War Between Generations," catalogs the scope and the senselessness of the Geriatric State.

The number of the elderly is set to increase by 116% by 2040. Together with Medicaid, Social Security, and Medicare spending — assuming the federal government stays at its current size — will account for 80% of all federal spending.

— RICH LOWRY

*Virginia News Source*  
October 28, 2003

## ■ Black and white

In 2002, law enforcement agencies nationwide made an estimated 13.7 million arrests (excluding traffic violations).

The offense for which whites were arrested most often was driving under the influence. The offense for which blacks were arrested most often was drug abuse violations.

— BOSTON METRO

October 28, 2003

## ■ Oil riches

The age of petroleum has only just begun. For more than 80 years, geologists' estimates of the world's endowment of oil have risen faster than developers can pump it out of the ground. In 1920, the U.S. Geological Survey estimated just 20 billion barrels of oil remained in the world. By the year 2000, the estimate had grown to 3,000 billion barrels.

The world also contains immense amounts of unconventional oil resources that we have not yet begun to tap. Tar sands found in Canada and South America contain 600 billion barrels of oil, enough to supply the U.S. with 84 years of oil at the current consumption rate.

Worldwide, the amount of oil that can be extracted from shale could be 14,000 billion barrels — enough to supply the world for 500 years.

— DAVID DEMING

*Environment News*  
October 1, 2003

## ■ Gun control du jour

A government-appointed panel of experts announced that their comprehensive review of the relevant scientific literature had failed to find evidence that gun control works.

The report was commissioned by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, usually a gun control booster.

The panelists considered 51 published studies examining seven different kinds of laws, including bans on specific firearms, restrictions on who may own a firearm, and waiting periods for gun purchases. They

"found insufficient evidence to determine the effectiveness of any of the firearms laws."

In other words, after more than half a century of local, state and federal gun control legislation, we still don't know whether these laws do what they're supposed to do.

It's scandalous that politicians have been legislating in the dark all these years, promising that the gun control solution du jour would save lives when there was no evidence to back up such claims.

— JACOB SULLUM

*The Washington Times*  
October 13, 2003

## ■ Customs at work

U.S. Customs confiscated an SUV being used to smuggle Mexican immigrants into the country, but later admitted that their thorough search of it had overlooked a 13-year-old girl hiding inside; she was discovered 42 hours later.

— CHUCK SHEPARD

*News of the Weird*  
October 19, 2003

**"THE PRICE  
GOOD MEN PAY FOR  
INDIFFERENCE  
TO PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS IS  
TO BE RULED BY  
EVIL MEN."**

— PLATO —

Whether you think the politicians who run this county are evil or merely misguided, you get the point that Plato is making: Indifference is not an option. That's why you support the Libertarian Party. But to change the direction of the country, a lack of indifference is not enough. It takes commitment. Here's one way to show that commitment: Name the party in your will or insurance policy. For a confidential discussion of this option, call National LP Treasurer Bill Redpath at: (703) 802-2978. Or e-mail him at: [wredpath@his.com](mailto:wredpath@his.com).



# “My Father is 84 years old, a lifelong Democrat, pro-UN, and supports Single-Payer Health Care ... but this New Libertarian Product opened his mind to Libertarianism,” says Carla Howell

**W**hat's the biggest libertarian communication problem?

It's NOT what many libertarians think it is.

It's NOT our evidence and argument.

It's NOT our facts and figures.

It's NOT our libertarian books, white papers, or studies.

It's NOT what we write or say, NOT how we write or say it.

It's NOT our Libertarian candidates or spokespersons.

Here's the biggest obstacle to successful libertarian communication:

## Closed Minds.

How do we open people's minds long enough for us to get a fair hearing for libertarian ideas?

How do we get people to set aside their own beliefs, assumptions, opinions, and viewpoints long enough for libertarianism to receive an unbiased, thoughtful consideration?

How do we change Closed Minds into Open Minds?

## YOUR TOUGHEST AUDIENCE

Of all the people you talk to, who do you have the most trouble getting through to?

Your family, friends, and co-workers.

When it comes to your libertarian ideas, the people closest to you are usually the most skeptical, critical, and close-minded.

A closed mind is the biggest obstacle. Family, friends, and co-workers are the toughest audience.

Until now, this was a futile and frustrating situation.

## OPENING CLOSED MINDS

Carla Howell has developed a way to do this on one critical issue: Public Education.

She has created a powerful, persuasive Libertarian Product designed to open people's minds to libertarianism on the issue of education.

And it works with the people closest to you.

Imagine your family, friends, and co-workers setting aside and leaving behind their belief in government-run public schools.

Imagine your family, friends, and co-workers eager to hear your libertarian ideas on education.

Imagine them hungry to hear about homeschooling,



Then you can have the conversation you always wanted about the possibilities of liberty in education.

## THE WALLS CAME DOWN

“My Father is 84 years old, a lifelong Democrat, pro-U.N., and supports Single-Payer Health Care... but when he took just 9 minutes and experienced the music, photography, and quotes of *Maybe We Would Be Amazed*, for the first time ever, he became open-minded and eager to hear about our libertarian approach to education,” said Carla Howell.

“My Anti-Gun, Environmentalist friend responded the same way,” said Carla. “She even asked me not to play my song when her 9-year-old son was in the room — because it might make him frustrated and dissatisfied with his public schooling!”

These are just 2 examples.

Carla's family is her toughest audience, but the walls came down.

private and parochial schooling, and many other forms of voluntary education.

## “MAYBE WE WOULD BE AMAZED”

What's Carla Howell's secret? How does she open people's minds to libertarian possibilities in education?

With her new multi-media libertarian product. It engages the imagination and lights up the circuits of the Right Brain. It opens the gates of possibility — and frees the mind.

This innovative multi-media libertarian product includes *Maybe We Would Be Amazed*, a libertarian education themed song written and performed by Carla Howell.

It includes a booklet blending evocative photographs of children freely learning — and learning to be free. It stirs in thought-provoking quotes about education.

Elegant, beautiful, and simple.

Yet, in only 3:22 minutes for the song, and 6 minutes for the heart-touching photos and mind-freeing quotes, you'll see people's resistance melt.

## TAKE ADVANTAGE NOW

Get 1 set of *Maybe We Would Be Amazed* for yourself.

Get 1 or 2 sets of *Maybe We Would Be Amazed* as Christmas Gifts for your mom or dad, or brother or sister. Or that special friend with children or children on the way. The gift of freedom for Christmas.

*Maybe We Would Be Amazed* is only \$19.95 plus \$4.85 for first class shipping and handling.

100% money-back guarantee for 60 days.

If you're not happy with the results with your family, friends, and co-workers, just mail it back to us and we'll refund your \$19.95.

If you are one of the first 1,000 buyers, you will get the “Collector's Edition.”

Imagine the holidays and parties and family gatherings with people open-minded and eager to consider and maybe embrace libertarianism in education. Maybe YOU'LL be Amazed.

Order your set or sets of *Maybe We Would Be Amazed* today.

**YES!** I want to open people's minds about Libertarianism. Please send me:

“Maybe We Would Be Amazed” \$19.95 x (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

First Class Shipping & Handling \$4.85 x (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

> TOTAL PAYMENT DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I'll pay by:  Check/money order

Make check or money order payable to:

“May Be Amazed Productions.”

I'll pay by credit card:

Mastercard  Visa

Discover  American Express

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MAIL YOUR ORDER TO:** May Be Amazed Productions, 6 Goodman Lane, Wayland, MA 01778

MA1203LP

**AFFILIATE NEWS**

# Libertarians take a stand on tattoo ban, federal seatbelt money, and free speech

■ ALABAMA

## Child protection agency should be fired, says LP

State Libertarians have called on the state government to fire Department of Human Resources (DHR) Commissioner Bill Fuller after the bureaucrat seized a baby from a young immigrant mother.

"Bill Fuller causes me and many other parents to feel he is lacking in his abilities to act as commissioner over a children's welfare service," said Huntsville District LP Chair **Jonny Letson** in an October 26 statement.

In February, one-year-old Javier Alonzo was removed from the home of his 17-year-old mother, Marta Alonzo. Since then, the DHR has placed the two in separate foster homes.

The DHR said it seized the child because he suffered from scabies. However, Alonzo, an immigrant from Guatemala, had already taken the child to the doctor to be treated for the itchy skin condition caused by microscopic mites. The child was otherwise in good health.

In defending its actions, the DHR said the child was in "imminent danger." But Alabama LP Vice Chair **Stephen P. Gordon** dismissed that argument.

"Clearly, this case of scabies was not life-threatening," he said. Given that, "Fuller needs to immediately provide sufficient information to substantiate his claim that the life of the child was spared by DHR actions, or resign from his office."

■ COLORADO

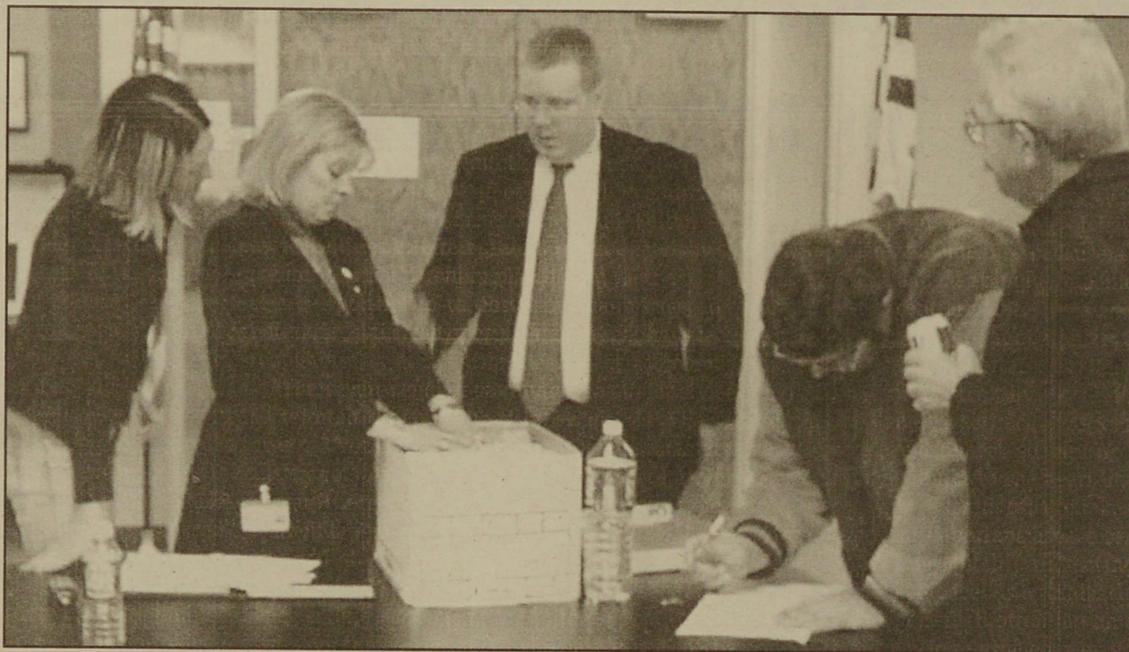
## Govt. nannies behind Ft. Collins smoking ban

The decision by the city of Fort Collins, Colorado to ban smoking in bars and restaurants shows that the government nannies are at it again, say Colorado Libertarians.

"The Libertarian Party supports the rights of business owners to make choices for their businesses, as they see fit, without government intrusion," said Colorado LP State Chair **Norm Olsen**. "The Libertarian Party strongly supports the rights of individuals to make their own choices, including the right to choose whether or not to patronize private businesses that allow smoking in their establishments."

The Fort Collins city council passed the smoking ban on October 1. Individuals caught smoking in prohibited areas can be fined \$1,000 a day or sentenced to 60 days in jail.

Besides unnecessarily expanding the power of government, the new ordinance also violates the rights of



## Earning the Libertarian Party a place on the ballot in Maryland

■ Maryland LP Vice Chair **Roy J. Meyers III** (center) turns over a box containing 11,675 ballot access signatures to **Mary Cramer Wagner**, the deputy director of the State Board of Elections.

Meanwhile, LP State Chair **Chip Spangler** signs the final paperwork as 2002 LP gubernatorial candidate **Spear Lancaster** (far right) and a state worker (far left) observe the proceedings.

The signatures, submitted on October 24 at the Board of Elections' office in Annapolis, should be more than enough to regain Libertarians "recognized" status and a place on the 2004 ballot, said Meyers.

business owners, said Olsen.

"It is the business owner who decides when to open, when to close, what's on the menu, how it will be presented, and accepts the financial risk of operating the business," he said. "It is this same business owner who should also decide if the legal activity of smoking is to be allowed in her/his business."

At the same time, customers should have the right to decide whether they wish to patronize businesses that allow smoking, said Olsen.

"The Libertarian Party believes that the citizens of Colorado are perfectly capable of making that choice without the help of the nannies down at City Hall," he said.

■ FLORIDA

## LP helps urge Sarasota to reject the Patriot Act

Libertarians have helped convince the Sarasota City Commission to pass a resolution opposing the USA/Patriot Act.

"We did it!" said Sarasota County LP Chair **Bill Van Allen**, who spoke in favor of the resolution, along with Vice-Chair **Jim Theriault** and **Walt Augustinowicz**, LP candidate for State House (71st District).

The Sarasota City Commission passed Resolution R4-4667 on October 20 on a 3-2 vote. Of the 19 people who spoke at the meeting about the resolution, "16 or 17" were in favor,

said Van Allen.

The resolution states that the "City of Sarasota believes [Americans'] fundamental rights and our civil liberties are directly threatened by the USA/Patriot Act and related legislation," and "joins communities across the nation in questioning the constitutionality of these measures."

As a result, the resolution asks Florida lawmakers to "work to repeal certain provisions of the USA/Patriot Act and to oppose the adoption of any new laws which may limit or violate fundamental rights and liberties."

The city commission won a standing ovation when the vote was announced.

■ FLORIDA

## Pasco LP joins campaign against sales tax boost

Pasco County Libertarians are joining the fight to stop a "Penny for Pasco" sales tax proposal that could cost taxpayers more than \$340 million.

Pasco County LP Chair **Jon Kueny** has become a member of the board

of directors of Citizens Against the Penny for Pasco (CAPP), a group that is working to urge citizens to vote "no" in a March 9, 2004 tax-increase referendum.

Kueny said the tax hike is not needed. "Until every last penny has been squeezed, every bit of [government] waste eliminated ... a 16% tax increase is a lot to ask," he said.

If approved by voters, the measure would increase the county sales tax from 6% to 7%. It would cost taxpayers about \$465 million over 10 years, but \$122 million of that would be rebated in the form of a property tax decrease.

The money would pay for school construction projects, road upgrades, and new emergency equipment. The county government would also buy land for conservation.

The March 9 election is being held on the same day as the Florida presidential primary — a date CAPP said was selected in an effort to increase the turn-out of pro-tax Democrats, who will be voting in a contested primary.

Meanwhile, anti-tax Republicans, Libertarians, and independents, who

don't have candidates in the presidential primary, will be less likely to vote, said the group.

■ INDIANA

## Rejecting seatbelt cash garners 'bravo' from LP

Monroe County Libertarians have a message for the Monroe county council: "Thank you for making a good call."

Why the gratitude? Because the county council voted to reject \$23,500 in state and federal grant money to fund extra police patrols to catch motorists who don't wear seatbelts.

"[Government] should deploy police toward truly keeping the peace, not hassling innocent people," said Monroe County LP Press Secretary **Erin Hollinden**. "We appreciate the county council carefully prioritizing to free [police] up to patrol neighborhoods — instead of being lifestyle regulators."

The seven-member county council rejected the grant on October 14 on a 4-3 vote.

Monroe County Libertarians said it was the right decision because seatbelt law enforcement checkpoints around Indiana are already excessive and intrusive.

Spending more money on enforcing a victimless crime would only contribute to the "overall bloatedness, inefficiency, and injustice of government spending that occurs at all levels," said **Clark Brittain**, the 2002 LP candidate for State Representative (District 61).

"Unbelted drivers are no hazard to other motorists, pedestrians, or property," he noted. "Are there not higher priorities? If not, do we need all the police officers we have?"

■ MICHIGAN

## LP lobbying complaint is dismissed by state

A complaint filed by the Oakland County LP, charging that the Pontiac School Board illegally lobbied in favor of a school bond ballot proposal, has been dismissed by the secretary of state's office.

The complaint was rejected on October 3 because it lacked the "proper certification statement" to qualify it as a formal request for legal action, said Oakland LP Communications Director **Greg Dirasian**.

However, he said, "The certification statement used was one that was used per the instructions of the [secretary of state's] office in 2000 when a similar complaint was filed. We can only assume that they have since changed the language."

Second, the secretary of state's office said the law does not impose a blanket prohibition on the use of public funds to influence elections, said Dirasian.

"The [Secretary of State's] office

**Miss Liberty's Guide to Film and Video**

*The definitive guide to Libertarian film. A great gift!*

Laissez-Faire Books ~ Amazon.com ~ MissLiberty.com

says the law in question 'allows a public body to provide factual information and commentary, even if such material is clearly biased,' he said. "This is an interesting response, and leads us to ask the purpose of the law."

The Oakland LP had sent the complaint on September 16, charging that the school board improperly used "public resources" to pay for newspaper ads and direct-mail advertising to try to pass a \$455.4 million bond proposal.

Despite the lobbying, voters rejected the bonding plan on a 66%-34% vote.

Dirasian said the Oakland LP is "considering further action."

#### ■ NEVADA

### Keep govt. employees out of office, urges LP

The chair of a county Libertarian Party has joined an effort that seeks to qualify a ballot initiative to further restrict government employees from serving in the Nevada legislature.

Joe Silvestri, the Chair of the Clark County LP, attended an October 31 rally outside the secretary of state's office in Carson City to muster support for a proposed amendment to the state constitution.

While state law already prohibits state employees from serving in the legislature, the initiative would expand that ban to include local government employees, public school teachers, and state university professors.

The group must collect 51,235 valid signatures by Spring 2004 to qualify the initiative for the 2004 ballot. Voters would have to approve the initiative in both 2004 and 2006 to amend the state constitution.

The coalition also includes two-time LP candidate James Dan, as well as members of the Independent American Party, the Republican Liberty Caucus, and Nevadans for Sound Government.

There are 16 public employees serving in office in Nevada, according to the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*.



### Explaining the World's Smallest Political Quiz in North Carolina

■ Sean Haugh (l) explains the results of the World's Smallest Political Quiz to an interested passerby at a Libertarian Party outreach booth at the North Carolina State Fair in Raleigh.

Haugh, the executive director of the North Carolina LP, said the reception from fairgoers was "generally very favorable. Many people were surprised after taking the quiz. One woman laughed and said, 'I guess I'm a Libertarian.'"

Libertarians also got a good reaction from their collection of Liberty Stickers, which featured such slogans as "Gun Control is OSHA for Criminals" and "Publik Skools Arr Grate," said Haugh.

Also helping out at the booth during the week-long event were Susan Hogarth, Jim Pitts, Brad Ringlien, Barbara Howe, Steven Hilton, Johnny Crawford, Rob Rose, Charles Yow, David Hall, Wayne Aiken, Bobby Emory, and Roy Halliday. The fair, which ran from October 17-26, attracted about 833,000 visitors.

#### ■ OHIO

### Ohio Libertarians earn position on '04 ballot

After two years of work, Ohio Libertarians have submitted 57,150 signatures to the secretary of state — more than enough for the LP to gain "minor party" status in the state.

At a press conference in Columbus on October 30, the Ohio LP announced that it had turned in nearly twice the required 32,290 signatures to qualify its slate of candidates for the 2004 ballot.

"The tedious petition work is done; we will be on the ballot in 2004," said Ballot Drive Chair John Stewart. "Now begins the enjoyable task of showing voters what our candidates have to offer."

With LP candidates to vote for, "Ohioans can stop the ever-growing incursion of government into their wallets and bedrooms," said LP State Chair Jason Hallmark. "The Libertarian Party of Ohio promises true individual liberty and personal responsibility, a free-market economy, and a peaceful foreign policy of non-intervention and free trade."

To gain minor party status, Ohio law requires a political party to submit valid signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast in the most recent gubernatorial election.

Ohio Libertarians raised almost all the money required to fund the ballot drive, and required only a small financial boost from the national LP. They started collecting ballot access signatures in 2001.

#### ■ OKLAHOMA

### Tulsa Area Libertarians work to legalize tattoos

Tulsa Area Libertarians did triple "sign-on-the-line" duty at the Edgefest 2003 in Tulsa: They collected signatures for ballot access, for new voter registrations, and to legalize tattooing in the state.

At the music festival on September 7, Libertarians collected 700 signatures on their ballot access petition; signed up 300 new registered voters; and garnered 800 signatures to repeal the state's tattooing laws, said Oklahoma LP Vice Chair Albro Daniel.

Libertarians also "alerted thousands of people in Oklahoma that the Libertarian Party exists and is a viable alternative to the current system," he said.

The ballot access work was especially important because the Oklahoma LP must collect almost 52,000 valid signatures to earn full-party status on the 2004 ballot, said Daniel.

"If we miss ballot access this year we can no longer register as Libertarians, and our candidates will have to run as Independents," he noted.

Tulsa Area Libertarians worked with the Oklahoma Body Arts Coalition to collect signatures to overturn the state's ban on tattooing, said Daniel.

"It was great to see young voters who would not normally be involved in the political process get motivated over this one issue," he said.

Oklahoma is one of only two states

(along with South Carolina) that prohibit tattooing. Another 12 states regulate tattooing, and 34 states have no laws governing body art.

#### ■ PENNSYLVANIA

### LP candidate makes a sign offer for charity

A Libertarian candidate has invented a novel way to get people to pay attention to his campaign advertising: He offered an \$1,100 reward to one lucky person who spotted his single campaign sign.

Wieslaw Niemoczynski, an LP candidate for Monroe County district attorney, donated \$1,100 to the Jackson Township Volunteer Fire Department on October 31.

The donation recipient was chosen by Reeders resident Rachel Hallet. Niemoczynski had pulled her name out of a hat after she was one of about 60 people who had spotted his "Nemo — District Attorney" sign.

Earlier in October, Niemoczynski had promised to donate \$1,100 to a charity fund, instead of paying the same amount in municipal sign fees to post campaign signs.

Niemoczynski said he made the offer to help "fight sign blight" in the county. He promised to display only one campaign sign, and challenged local residents to spot it.

Anyone who spied Niemoczynski's sign could call the candidate to register for the drawing.

Alas, the ploy didn't help Niemoczynski get elected: He won 18% in the two-way race.

#### ■ SOUTH CAROLINA

### Ex-candidate quits GOP, joins Libertarian Party

A former Republican candidate for governor has joined the South Carolina LP, bringing with her an understanding of how to "bring about change in government."

Rebekah "Reb" Sutherland hand-delivered a check for Libertarian Party membership dues to the state LP's headquarters in Columbia on October 18.

Sutherland said she quit the GOP because it "is working in concert with the Democratic Party" on important issues like education.

By contrast, she said. "The Libertarian Party has a first-rate platform which honors the U.S. Constitution. The Libertarian Party is very pro-American and defends freedom for every individual. I encourage everyone to join the Libertarian Party."

In 2002, Sutherland, 48, became the first woman in state history to seek the Republican Party's nomination for governor. In the primary, she won 2,770 votes (under 1%).

South Carolina LP Media Coordinator Ed Haas said the party was "excited" about Sutherland's decision to join. "The addition of Rebekah Sutherland brings added enthusiasm within our party because Reb understands what it takes to bring about change in government," he said.

#### ■ VIRGINIA

### Tidewater LP agrees to free-speech settlement

Virginia Libertarians have settled a free-speech lawsuit with Old Dominion University — and the agreement should diminish the university's power to regulate the distribution of printed materials on campus.

On October 31, the Tidewater LP announced that Old Dominion University (ODU) had agreed to pay \$228 in legal fees and modify its leafletting policies.

"The resolution is a victory for greater freedom, but a temporary one," said Tidewater LP Communications Director Robert K. Dean. "Vigilance is still required to protect freedom of expression at ODU."

Under the terms of the agreement, ODU said it will no longer require printed materials to be approved in advance, but will still require any distribution events to be scheduled ahead of time.

Libertarians filed a lawsuit after Tidewater LP member Brian Babb and Ax The Tax Coalition member Ronald DiRocco went to the university's Convocation Center in Norfolk in 2002. They handed out pamphlets that encouraged people to vote against two upcoming tax referendums.

Two OCU employees told Babb and DiRocco that the university's "no solicitation" policy prohibited distribution of literature without prior approval by the administration.

In September 2003, a U.S. District judge ruled that ODU President Roseann Runte had immunity from such lawsuits, and dismissed the case.

When the Tidewater LP threatened to appeal, the university agreed to change its policy.

## Online Resources for LP Members

■ Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party or your State Chair

Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Organization  
Click on: State Parties  
Click on: [Your state]

■ Find contact info for the National Committee

Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Organization  
Click on: National Committee  
Click on: LNC Directory

■ Renew your membership

Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
See: Special Features (left side)  
Click on: Renew

**THE REVIEW**

**The most dangerous war**

■ *Terrorism and Tyranny: Trampling Freedom, Justice, and Peace to Rid the World of Evil*, by James Bovard. Hardbound, 440 pages. Palgrave Macmillan. \$26.95. Available at: [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

**Reviewed by Bill Winter**  
LP NEWS EDITOR

There are two types of people who should read *Terrorism and Tyranny*: Those who support the government's current War on Terrorism, and those who oppose it.

For the former, this new book by libertarian maestro James Bovard reveals, in the starkest terms, how your government failed you. Because of bureaucratic blundering, the U.S. government ignored pre-9/11 warnings that terrorist attacks were imminent. Afterwards, it used the attacks as an excuse to ram through a wish-list of oppressive laws (like the USA/Patriot Act) and to invade Iraq. It made air travel less safe by federalizing airport security. And it has dramatically expanded the power of government (perhaps permanently).

For those who oppose the War on Terrorism, this book will confirm that everything you fear is true. This war, as waged by President Bush, is one of the greatest threats to freedom the United States has ever faced.

Bovard doesn't merely make assertions. He proves them with a barrage of (footnoted) anecdotes, statistics, and facts. For example:

■ Bovard asks: Do terrorists hate us because they "hate freedom"? Answer: Nope. Hong Kong finished first in an annual Heritage Foundation economic freedom index — yet wasn't attacked. Finland finished first in an annual Reporters Without Frontiers press freedom index — yet wasn't attacked. Maybe, Bovard suggests, al Qaeda attacked us for *exactly* the reason they gave: Because they are Islamic fanatics who hate the U.S.'s support for Israel, and loathe the presence of U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia (the home of their holiest city, Mecca).

■ Bovard asks: Should the government have suspected that al Qaeda planned to launch attacks on the U.S.? Answer: Absolutely. In 1998, the CIA determined that Osama bin Laden was "actively planning against U.S. targets." In 1999, a study for the National Intelligence Council warned that al Qaeda could crash-land planes into the Pentagon. In 2001, an FBI agent warned that an al Qaeda network was training pilots in the U.S. to hijack planes. What was the government's response? As of 9/11, the CIA had only five full-time analysts monitoring bin Laden's terrorist network. Meanwhile, the FBI had over 2,000 agents working on drug cases. And on the night of 9/11, the FBI had 10 agents wiretapping a brothel in New Orleans.

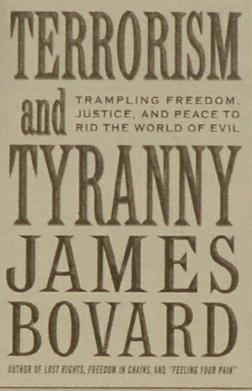
■ Bovard asks: Are we safer with federal bureaucrats manning airport security checkpoints? Answer: No. On September 11, 2002 — one year after the 9/11 attacks — the *New York Daily News* sent two reporters on 14 flights around the USA, with box cutters, knives, and pepper spray in their carry-on luggage. Not a single airport security checkpoint spotted the weapons. What was the response from the Transportation Security Agency? A spokesman simply lied. He said, "Americans have never had a higher level of security."

■ Bovard asks: Did the U.S. invade Iraq because of convincing evidence that Iraq had WMD and planned to use them against the U.S.? Answer: No and no. President Bush had decided years ago to invade Iraq. Citing a *Time* magazine story, Bovard notes that in March 2002 — a year before he announced he was being "forced" to attack Iraq — Bush popped his head into a White House meeting and said, "F\*\*k Saddam! We're taking him out!" Bovard's conclusion: Bush exploited 9/11 to "cajole Americans into acquiescing to a preemptive attack against a nation that posed no threat to the United States."

These examples only hint at the cornucopia of information in the book. Bovard has a unique style of writing. He's like a swarm of army ants; an unstoppable force that gobbles up facts and leaves behind a desiccated landscape that lays bare the lies told by politicians.

He's also no apologist for terrorists. He says the U.S. government should "finish off al Qaeda." But a narrowly focused strategy, targeting *just* al Qaeda, is the way to do it, he argues. An endless worldwide War on Terrorism is doomed to fail. He writes: "The best defense against terrorism is to make fewer enemies."

The bottom line: *Terrorism and Tyranny* is not just the best book to date on the War on Terrorism. It's not just the best book of the year. It's one of the most important books of the decade. Whether you support or oppose the War on Terrorism, you owe it to yourself to read it.



**Advocates for Self-Government seeks Lights of Liberty winners**

Are you a libertarian activist? If so, you now have the opportunity to become an award-winning libertarian activist.

That's because the Advocates for Self-Government will again be handing out its "Lights of Liberty" awards for 2003.

The awards honor libertarians who help spread the word about liberty via letters to the editor, speeches, and outreach booths, said Advocates President Sharon Harris.

"These vital grassroots activities are essential for building a more powerful libertarian movement," she said. "Every Lights of Liberty award-winner encourages and inspires other libertarians to engage in these important outreach activities."

To qualify for the Lights of Liberty award, individuals must:

■ Get three or more letters to the editor published that use the words "libertarian" or "libertarianism" in a positive light.

■ Give three or more prepared speeches to a predominantly non-libertarian audience, using the words "libertarian" or "libertarianism" in a positive light.

■ Participate (two hours or more) in three or more Operation Politically

**"THESE VITAL grassroots activities are essential for building a more powerful libertarian movement."**

—Sharon Harris

Homeless outreach events.

To qualify for this year's awards, activities must have been completed between January 1 and December 31, 2003. Individuals can qualify in more than one category.

Winners will receive:

■ A "Lights of Liberty" award certificate.

■ Their name listed on the Advocates' Lights of Liberty 2003 Honor Page (at [www.TheAdvocates.org](http://www.TheAdvocates.org)) and published in the Advocates' magazine, *The Libertarian Communicator*.

■ A 20% discount coupon good for any order from the Advocates' catalog of libertarian products.

■ Their name added to a drawing for the Advocates' "Libertarian Library," autographed copies of books written by every LP presidential candidate since John Hospers in 1972.

The Advocates started the Lights of Liberty awards to "recognize important grassroots activism and to encourage more of it," said Harris.

"It's working," she said. "Last year's Lights of Liberty winners took libertarian ideas to literally millions of people. Many said they were encouraged by this program to do extra outreach activities."

"The kind of grassroots, person-to-person, community-based outreach the Lights of Liberty award encourages is extremely valuable. It's exactly the kind of work needed to build a mass movement for liberty."

The Advocates has honored 1,259 Lights of Liberty winners since 1998, when the program started. There have been winners in every state except four, and in five foreign countries.

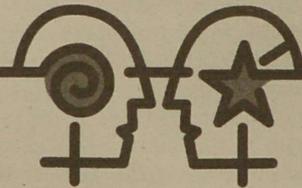
Individuals can nominate themselves or others for the awards.

To register, or to get more information about the Lights of Liberty program, call: (800) 932-1776. Visit: [www.TheAdvocates.org/lights.html](http://www.TheAdvocates.org/lights.html). Or fax: (770) 386-8373.

*John Galt is calling...*

**FREEDOMFEST**

*"Where Free Minds Meet"*



May 13-15th, 2004

Bally's/Paris, Las Vegas

*Answer John Galt's call by visiting...*

**1-800-USA-1776**

**[www.freedomfest.com](http://www.freedomfest.com)**

## Nolan speaks at Arab-American conference

Continued from Page 4

regulated small-business owners who face the additional burden of seeing their civil liberties targeted by our government."

Nolan earned "sustained applause" from the audience of about 150 people for his speech, said Dasbach.

"He got a very positive reaction," he said. "He also received invitations to speak to Arab-American groups in other parts of the country."

Nolan was invited to speak at the conference because he had Arab American Institute President Jim Zogby and Executive Director Jean AbiNader as guests on his syndicated radio show several times, said Dasbach.

### Invitation followed

"He arranged to meet with them in Washington in May to discuss the campaign," he said. "The invitation to speak followed later in the summer."

Nolan is of Middle Eastern descent: His grandparents were born in Leba-

non before immigrating to the U.S.

The Arab American Institute National Conference attracted about 400 attendees. Its theme was: "Vote 2004: An Agenda for Peace & Justice."

The conference was a symbol of the "growing political influence for this country's growing Arab community," according to the JTA Today news service.

In other campaign news:

■ Nolan appeared as a guest on C-SPAN's nationally broadcast *Washington Journal* on October 29.

"This was Gary's third appearance on C-SPAN since announcing [his presidential bid], which is more early coverage than any Libertarian candidate has received in the past 20 years," said Dasbach.

■ Nolan spoke to the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity at the Illinois Insti-

tute of Technology in Chicago on October 22.

In his speech, Nolan said Libertarians are "poised to make a terrific impact" on national politics.

"Voters are worried about national security, about the state of the economy, and the cost of health care," he said. "The Libertarian Party has solutions for all these issues and, frankly, the solutions don't involve

greater legislation, they involve less legislation."

Nolan, 49, was the host of the syndicated "Nolan at Night" radio show on the Radio America Network before quitting to run full-time for president. He is also the past president of the anti-tax group, Capitol Watch.

To contact the Nolan for President campaign, call: (703) 237-3533. E-mail: info@garynolan.com. Visit: www.GaryNolan.com. Write: Gary Nolan for President, P.O. Box 6308, Falls Church, VA 22040.

## Badnarik wins online straw poll

Continued from Page 4

Louisiana won two votes (0.3%). None of the Above (NOTA) picked up 30 votes (4.2%).

To view the Cass County LP presidential straw poll, visit: <http://cass.molp.org/polls.htm>.

In other campaign news, Badnarik has won the endorsement of science fiction writer L. Neil Smith.

In the October 12 issue of his online publication, *The Libertarian Enterprise*, Smith said he was throwing his support behind Badnarik.

Smith said he likes the fact that Badnarik "makes the Constitution his principal field of political endeavor."

"[Badnarik's] philosophical background in the movement is genuine and deep," said Smith. "His application of principle is excellent. His dedication to individual liberty is sincere and implacable. He's also very personable and extremely articulate."

Smith had been the focus of a draft campaign to try to convince him to run for president, but said in October that he would "no longer be available to anybody as a candidate."

Smith is a three-time winner of the Prometheus Award and the author of 23 books.

Badnarik is a past two-time LP candidate for state legislature in Texas, running for the District 48 seat in 2000 and 2002.

To contact the Michael Badnarik for President campaign, e-mail: [badnarik@badnarik.org](mailto:badnarik@badnarik.org). Call: (512) 799-8200. Visit: [www.badnarik.org](http://www.badnarik.org). Write: The Badnarik Campaign, P.O. Box 841, Buda, Texas 78610.

# Buy NOW for Christmas! Libertarian Rock CD

"Reminded me of Clapton and Santana"

Tom Hohman - LP San Diego

*This season's special Libertarian gift...*

"A Big Message"

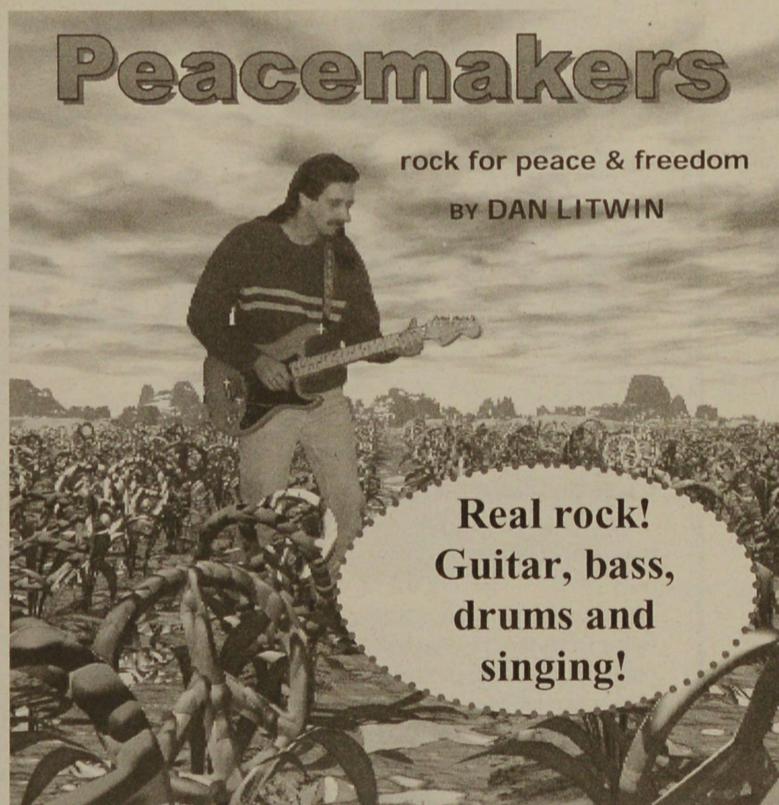
Don B. - Pleasanton

"Every song a winner!"

Tina P. - San Diego

"Refreshing, entertaining..."

Marilyn P. - Spring Valley



### Holiday Special

*Buy two or more copies of the CD between now and the end of 2003 and get a 20% discount.*

# www.PeacemakersRock.com

Hear the music samples. Read the lyrics & buyer reviews. Buy the CD. Give to your friends.

*CD available now. Buy on-line, or order by phone at 1-800-448-6369.*

# Jo Jorgensen: Looking back at the 1996 VP campaign

Continued from Page 1

software duplicating company.

In 1992, I ran for U.S. House (4th District) in South Carolina, and seemed to do a good job of attracting young people to the Libertarian movement. In early 1995, some LP members asked me to run for the party's vice presidential nomination.

I had enjoyed my campaign for Congress, so I decided to toss my hat into the ring for VP. I thought — I hoped — that I would be able to communicate our ideas in a way that would appeal to the mainstream.

The first thing I did was call my parents to tell them I was running for vice president. My mom asked, "Vice president of what?"

I replied, "The country!" Over the phone, I could hear her shout to my dad, "You'll never believe what Jo's going to do now!"

To win the nomination, I campaigned in 31 states. The hard work paid off on July 6, 1996 at the party's national convention in Washington, DC. Facing no opposition, I won the nomination with 459 votes on the first ballot.

It was a great feeling to accept the party's nomination, and an honor to stand on stage with LP presidential candidate Harry Browne.

But I knew we faced a great challenge. Harry and I had to try to reach millions of voters, and convince them to vote for liberty — instead of wasting their votes on Bill Clinton, Bob Dole, or Ross Perot.

So we hit the campaign trail. The next four months were a whirlwind of speeches, radio and TV shows, plane trips, phone calls, debates, car rides, rallies, and interviews.

## Good, bad, silly

Some incidents — good, bad, silly, and scary — still stand out.

Although my first name sometimes caused problems (a few times, before people met me, they assumed I was Mr. Joe Jorgensen) only once during the campaign did it threaten our ballot status.

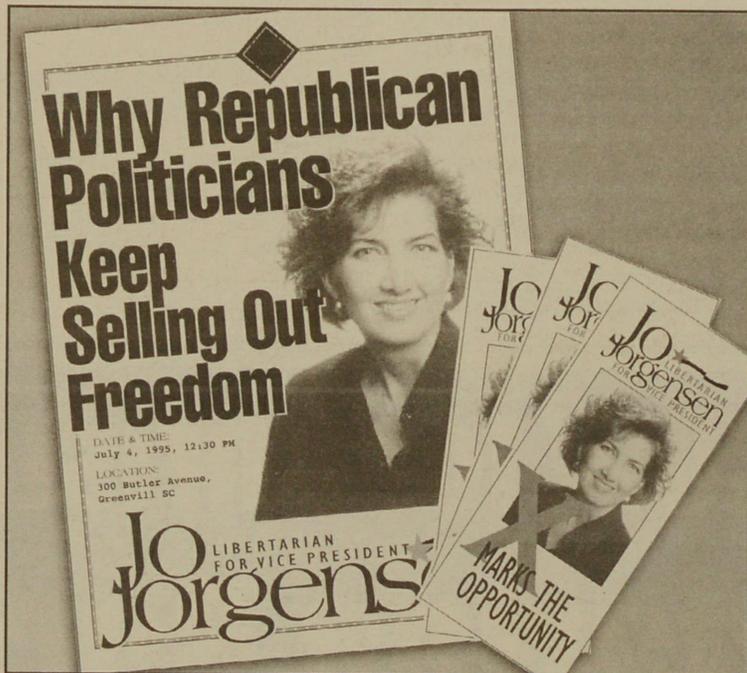
In August, I got a call from campaign director Sharon Ayres. It seemed that election officials in Maryland didn't believe my name was really "Jo." They wanted proof, or else they would refuse to list me on the ballot. (For the record, my name is Jo. It's not short for anything else.) I had to fax them a photocopy of my driver's license to convince them. Thus, 50-state ballot status for the Libertarian ticket was saved.

It was a rare time that an anti-Libertarian argument left me speechless, but it happened on a September 1 interview on the Clifford May Show in Denver, Colorado.

That day, Bob Dole promised that if elected president, he would order the National Guard to patrol the border to keep drugs out of the country.

The host asked me what I thought of that plan. I replied, "We can't even keep drugs out of our prisons! How are we ever going to keep them out of the country?"

A caller dialed in to defend Dole.



■ Promotional items from Jo Jorgensen's 1996 vice presidential campaign. "I thoroughly enjoyed the two years I spent campaigning," said Jorgensen. "Every moment of my personal and business life that I gave up was well worth the satisfaction I received."

Repeating my prison argument, I asked him: "Why do you think we should even try to keep drugs from crossing the border?"

He replied: "That's obvious, lady. If you keep them out of the country, then you can keep them out of the prisons!"

What could I say? It was a brilliantly twisted argument.

Sometimes, I surprised even myself with a good zinger.

I was doing an interview with Bronson James in Tyler, Texas on October 28. He brought up Rush Limbaugh, and mentioned that Rush had been complaining about one repeat caller who loved government and wanted to make it bigger.

I couldn't resist. I asked the host, "Is that caller Bob Dole?"

Only once did Election '96 almost cost me my life. It happened during my campaign for the nomination, when I was flying my small plane.

I had appeared at the South Carolina LP convention on Saturday, May 4, and was scheduled to speak at the North Carolina LP convention the next day.

There was no convenient commercial flight, so I decided to fly myself. (I'm a registered pilot.) It seemed like a routine flight, except that it was the first time I had done a solo flight over mountains.

Things were going well, until I heard something all pilots dread: The engine started sputtering.

My first thought was to get to the nearest airport and land. I radioed in and was told the nearest one was about 10 miles away. I immediately headed in that direction.

Luckily, my flight instructor had drilled proper emergency procedures into my head. As I headed to the airport, I went through the checklist. Eventually, I figured out the problem was carburetor icing, and I was able to fix it.

That turned out to be a good thing. When I got to the airport, my

ordinary terror turned into sheer terror. The runway was built on the side of a mountain. One side had the mountain rising up from it, and the other three sides had steep drop-offs.

As scary as it looked, I decided to go for it anyway. As I made my approach, however, the strong winds literally tossed my plane around.

At that point, I decided it was safer to keep flying than to try to touch down. I aborted the landing and got back on course.

Thankfully, there were no more

problems. I made it to the state convention on time — and managed to not become the first LP national candidate to be killed "in the line of duty." But I haven't flown over the mountains alone since then!

In the end, however, it was the little things that stick with me.

I was in Virginia on September 30, giving a speech at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Afterwards, a young man came up to introduce himself. He said he had joined the LP after hearing me speak at the University of Virginia the previous year. He wanted to thank me, and shake my hand.

Knowing that I had reached one person in a profound way made that one of the most rewarding experiences during my two years of campaigning.

## Comes to an end

Every election eventually comes to an end. For Harry and I, it was November 5, 1996.

I must admit, I was one of the many Libertarians who thought we would win over 2 million votes. So I was shocked when we learned that the Browne/Jorgensen ticket had won only 485,759 votes.

However, it was the second-best showing in party history. And I was proud that we had run a good campaign, reached a lot of voters, and brought thousands of new members into the Libertarian Party.

I thoroughly enjoyed the two years I spent campaigning. Every moment of my personal and business life that I gave up was well worth

the satisfaction I received.

I also enjoyed meeting all the people I did — especially the Libertarians who worked so hard to renew America's spirit of liberty. I was proud and honored to be the vice presidential candidate of our party.

The day after the election night party, I headed back to my home in Greenville, South Carolina.

There, I found a note on my front door from a local police officer who was worried about my vacant house.

She wrote: "My partner and I peeked in your front window earlier this week" and noted that the house appeared abandoned. She wanted to know: Had I moved out?

I called her and explained, no, I wasn't going anywhere — I had been running for vice president and had been campaigning in 32 states. (She had never heard that explanation before!) I kept her note as a reminder of the craziness that is part of a national election.

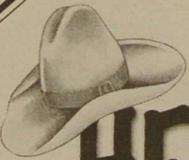
So what have I done since the campaign?

Well, I married a drummer, Marlon Slater, a few years after the campaign.

Although Marlon toured with a signed band shortly before we married, he has yet to break into the big leagues. I'm sure he will someday; I expect him to be the next Neil Peart (the drummer for Rush), bringing libertarianism to music fans. He's quite a bit younger than I am, so he's got time to do it.

Of course, Marlon is a libertarian. And in true libertarian fashion, we were married on the 4th of July.

See **JORGENSEN** Page 13



## HELP TEXAS NOW!

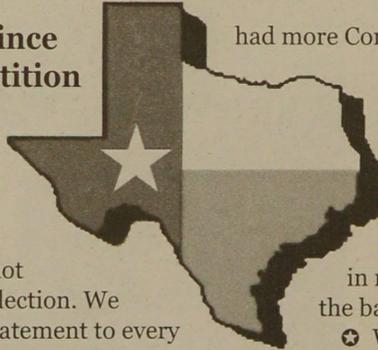
**F**or the first time since 1986, Texas must petition to get on the ballot.

We must gather more than 80,000 signatures in only 75 days, starting in March, and can only gather them from voters who did not participate in the primary election. We also must read a 73-word statement to every person before they can sign.

This is going to be really tough. We have no choice but to use paid petitioners, at a high rate. Because the window is so short, we must have a lot of funds up front.

**Why is Texas important?**

- ⊛ Since 1986, we've retained ballot access through election results. In 2002 we fell short.
- ⊛ This one petition will give us access to over 2,000 partisan races. Last election we ran over 180 candidates. This time we're shooting for 250.
- ⊛ For the last three election cycles, we've



had more Congressional candidates than either the Democrats or the Republicans.

- ⊛ In 2000, our six Texas statewide candidates received a total of 4,298,871 votes. (That's not a typo).
- ⊛ In 2004, we will succeed in retaining ballot access through the ballot box. We're determined.
- ⊛ We're pursuing legal action to ease the barriers to 3rd party petitioning, but that costs money, too!

**Can we count on you?**

Since 1986, many Texas members have helped other states get on the ballot. Can we count on your help now?

Please send your donations to: Libertarian Party of Texas, Box 27932, Houston TX 77227. Write "Ballot Access" on the notation line, and please send us a note telling us your employer.

*Thanks, y'all!!!*



# Appeals court rejects voting machine lawsuit

Continued from Page 3

ernment from installing and using so-called direct recording electronic (DRE) voting machines manufactured by Sequoia Voting Systems.

Touchscreen voting machines, which record and tabulate votes electronically using a computerized touchscreen "ballot," threaten the "integrity of the voting procedure," charged Weber.

With no paper ballots to verify

their accuracy, "voters could never know for sure that their vote had been recorded as they intended, or that their votes, once recorded, would not be manipulated, either fraudulently or by a glitch," she said.

### Equal protection

Weber's lawsuit had argued that touchscreen voting systems are illegal under California law, and violate the Fourteenth Amendment's "equal

**"THEY ARE TOTALLY ignoring the concerns of the computer experts, [about] a system that is so easily manipulated."**

protection" clause. According to California Elections Code §19205, all voting machines must be "safe from fraud or manipulation."

If DRE voting systems are used, Weber had asked the court to require printers to be added to the touchscreen machines, to produce a voter-verified paper ballot.

Without such a paper ballot, she said, DRE machines create "unobservable, unverifiable, non-recountable,

untestable, non-public voter tallies."

Ironically, a day after the court's decision, *Wired News* reported that Sequoia Voting Systems' software had been discovered on an unprotected website, "raising concerns about the possibility of vote tampering in future elections."

The software governed how the Sequoia AVC Edge System voting machines stored and tabulated results.

Weber said she is hoping to file an appeal to the full 11-member Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

For more information visit: [www.electionguardians.org](http://www.electionguardians.org).

## Jo Jorgensen: On the 1996 campaign trail

Continued from Page 12

My two daughters are doing great. My older daughter enjoys dancing; my younger daughter plays on the varsity volleyball team.

After the campaign, I went back to school full-time and earned my Ph.D. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology. After graduating last year, I started a consulting company called Performance Minds with one of my professors, Dr. Fred Switzer.

We help companies improve their decision-making processes, solve problems, and increase motivation in the workplace.

In my new line of work, I'm seeing firsthand how government laws adversely affect companies. For instance, one local company has problems with employee attendance because of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

The company can no longer give bonuses for perfect attendance, since that would "punish" employees who miss work due to FMLA reasons. And other employees can miss work and claim it was for FMLA reasons. The law makes managing a company that much more difficult.

So, ironically, with this new career, I'm still working to solve the problem of a government that is too big, and too intrusive. I'm also promoting ideas and solutions I feel very passionately about.

Things come full circle. Seven years after I had the opportunity to play a small role in the political history of this country as the vice presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party, I feel as though I'm back in the same place I was before.

■ Contact Jo Jorgensen at: [jo@performanceminds.com](mailto:jo@performanceminds.com).

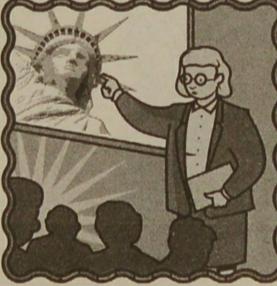
# YOU MAY BE A WINNER!

## IN 2003, DID YOU...

**Work at OPH booths?**



**Give public speeches?**

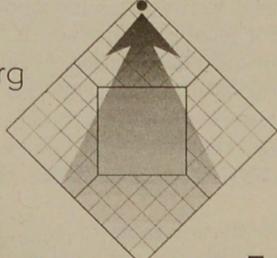


**Write Letters to the Editor?**



Or, do you know another libertarian who did? If so, you — or someone you know — may qualify for the Advocates' prestigious... **Lights of Liberty Awards!**

To find out the rules and submit your or someone else's name for this award and prizes, please go to:  
[www.TheAdvocates.org/lights.html](http://www.TheAdvocates.org/lights.html)  
 Advocates for Self-Government,  
 The Liberty Building, 213 South Erwin Street  
 Cartersville, GA 30120  
 Call: 800-932-1776  
[advocates@TheAdvocates.org](mailto:advocates@TheAdvocates.org)  
 Fax: 770-386-8373



# Lights of Liberty Awards

What Do Abortion Choicers Mean When They Tell Us:

**"Let's Get the Government Out of Our Lives?"**

L4L.org/library/governmentout.html  
**Libertarians for Life**  
 13424 Hathaway Dr. #18  
 Wheaton, MD 20906 301-460-4141  
[libertarian@erols.com](mailto:libertarian@erols.com)



## There's never a dull moment!

**Y**es, Neal Boortz is set to be one of our speakers. (He is based in Atlanta, after all.) I noted he doesn't agree with the LP Platform 100%. (I've not been living under a rock; I know he favors the war in Iraq, so I don't need any more e-mails "informing" me he's a "warmonger"! He remains a staunch opponent of the War on Drugs and pro-most LP issues.)

Since I'd been told he might not be available after Friday, I reported he would be giving a talk that afternoon. I've since learned he plans to be available the whole weekend, so we now have more options for how to "utilize" him. But we *do* feel he would be an asset.

Although the exact schedule of speakers is not yet set, check out the LP website for a basic schedule at [www.LP.org/conv/2004](http://www.LP.org/conv/2004).

Besides the "official" convention line-up, we are making meeting rooms available (for a fee) to anyone who might want to "do their own thing" and give some sort of speech or presentation.

Please also inquire about Vendor spaces and Exhibitor tables. The vendor spaces will be inside the Vendor Room adjacent to the Main Hall and are ideal for vendors with merchandise (secured overnight). The Exhibitor tables will be set up in the common areas (unsecured) and are a good option for those with literature for a campaign or an organization to plug — where you actually *want* people to take your stuff!

The prices for these are only \$300 for a Vendor space and \$150 for an Exhibitor table, for the duration of the Convention.

I received an e-mail from a guy who wants to run a blood drive at the Convention. What a terrific idea! I'd love to have other such diverse (non-political) things going on. We want to create a "marketplace" atmosphere. Personally, I want to have an RMT there with a massage chair! (God knows we all need some of *that* during a convention!)

For our truly serious candidates, there will be an *intensive* training seminar all day on Thursday, given by a team of professional campaign strategists. They make their living managing mostly GOP campaigns (there's more money in it), but their hearts are with the LP and they want to help our candidates get elected. There will be a separate charge and admission will be limited.

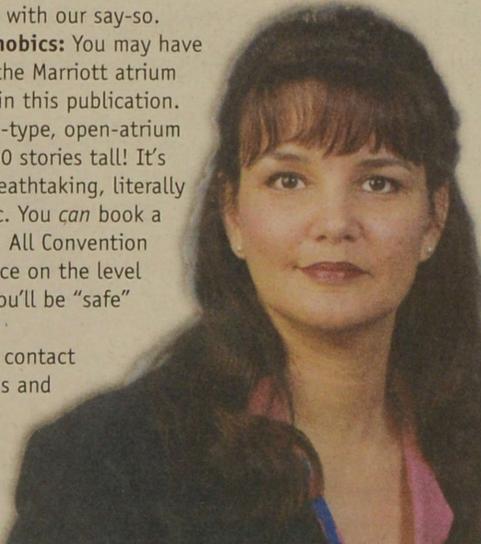
I've been quite impressed with the musical talent we have among our membership (as I suspected), and some of these will be featured either on the bill with Jimmie Vaughan (they're that good) or at another time during the weekend. I've mostly heard from musicians in the pop/rock/blues genres, and I'd also like to hear from those with a jazz or classical bent. I want a good piano player or two, particularly someone who can play jazz "standards" and/or someone who can accompany a vocalist. Give me a holler if you're adept at tickling the ivories.

Although we're not yet set up to handle Convention registrations, you can make your room reservations with the Marriott. The rate is only \$99/night for single or double occupancy (\$119 triple, \$139 quad). Call (800) 228-9290. If you want a Hospitality Suite, let me know directly as the hotel is holding all their suites for us, and will release them only with our say-so.

**Warning to acrophobics:** You may have noticed the photo of the Marriott atrium in the Convention ad in this publication. It's an Embassy Suites-type, open-atrium design — but about 50 stories tall! It's *quite* beautiful and breathtaking, literally so if you're acrophobic. You *can* book a room on a lower level. All Convention activities will take place on the level below the Lobby, so you'll be "safe" there.

Please continue to contact me with your questions and comments.

Nancy Neale  
[convention@hq.LP.org](mailto:convention@hq.LP.org)



# Oklahoma Libertarian helps stop \$1.7 million tax increase

**A**n Oklahoma Libertarian has spearheaded a successful effort to convince Stephens County voters to reject a \$1.7 million sales tax increase.

"LP member Robert Denard saw that the politicians and special interests could only be stopped if taxpayers were organized early, so that's what he did," said Oklahoma LP State Chair Christopher Powell.

"Denard and the other anti-tax volunteers found most voters opposed to tax hikes, but many were unaware of the upcoming election," he said. "Mobilizing those who otherwise would have stayed home led to defeat of the tax increase."

County residents rejected the tax hike by a vote of 3,660 (61.8%) to 2,266 (38.2%) on September 9.

### Annual cost: \$1.7 million

Had it passed, the measure would have increased the county sales tax from 3.5% to 4.5%, at an annual cost to taxpayers of \$1.7 million. The money would have been used to hire more teachers for Stephens County school districts.

The tax increase was promoted by a group called Citizens Pursuing Resources (CPR), said Denard.

"The special interests banded together behind the new tax," he said. "Teachers supported it. School support personnel supported it. School management supported it. Local gov-

**"PARTY MEMBER Robert Denard saw that the politicians could only be stopped if taxpayers were organized, so that's what he did."**

ernments supported it.

"In short, the establishment supported it, and quickly galvanized into an organized machine. The tax measure seemed sure to be passed by a gullible electorate."

However, Denard said he was sure there was opposition to the tax, too — even if it was unorganized.

"I thought that there were a lot of people out there who were opposed to the tax, but that they weren't organized against a formidable tax-and-spend machine," he said.

So Denard contacted a few people who had written anti-tax letters to the editor of local newspapers, and began organizing a group.

He also drafted a pamphlet to argue against the tax hike. The theme of the pamphlet was: "How much is enough? When will they stop?"

The pamphlet noted: "The state of Oklahoma spends \$2 billion a year on education. Stephens County schools take around \$23 million of your hard-earned money each year with property taxes. These amounts don't include state or federal money which, countywide, average 71% of total funding.

"Now pro-taxers tell us this isn't enough. [They] want to take another \$1.7 million each year from your pockets. How much is enough?"

Denard distributed hundreds of the pamphlets at a local Wal-Mart, in the downtown business district, and at a county fair.

Other volunteers distributed the pamphlets at local convenience stores and restaurants, said Denard.

"It was through soliciting distribution points that I found many businesses were against this tax," he said. "Many were afraid it would be the straw that broke the camel's back as far as their continued operation was concerned."

### Hard work paid off

On September 9, all the hard work paid off, said Denard.

"The big day came," he said "After a long, tense wait, we saw the tax fail by a 2-to-1 margin.

"It sounds ironic, but individuals have to band together to beat collectivism. We beat collectivism with a collective effort. E pluribus unum."

## Michael Badnarik for president



Across America, a new sense of urgency and a new spirit of activism in the cause of liberty is making itself felt. Nowhere is this energy more evident than in the Free State Project, a plan for 20,000 or more libertarians to move to New Hampshire and work within the political system to reduce the size

and scope of government. As a proud member of the FSP, and a participant in the recent vote that selected New Hampshire as the "target state," I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate the libertarians who are making things happen! Check out the FSP at: <http://www.freestateproject.org/>

### Endorsements

**L. Neil Smith**  
*The libertarian movement's most prolific author*

**Jimmie Vaughan**  
*Grammy Award-winning blues guitarist*

**Todd Andrew Barnett**  
*Columnist; contributing editor, Liberty For All*

### A working candidate

Across the nation -- in person, on talk radio, at every opportunity -- Michael Badnarik is reaching out to Americans with a consistent, libertarian message and a platform of **Bill of Rights Enforcement**. That's why libertarian activists are joining him in the fight for freedom -- and we need *your* help. Find out more at:

[www.badnarik.org](http://www.badnarik.org)  
(512) 799-8200

### Endorsements

**Alan R. Weiss**  
*CEO, ECL and Syncromesh Computing; elected Libertarian officeholder*

**John Babiarz**  
*Chair, New Hampshire Libertarian Party*

**John Barnes**  
*Vice chair, New Hampshire Libertarian Party*

Badnarik for President  
PO Box 841  
Buda, TX 78610

*Lighting the fires of liberty  
one heart at a time!*

Paid for and authorized  
by the Badnarik for  
President campaign

## Party works way out of cash crunch

*Continued from Page 3*

was not reprinted, and media outreach efforts were sharply curtailed.

Equally important, said Seehusen, the party recently mailed several successful emergency appeals to LP members. In response, over 3,000 party members contributed just under \$250,000.

"The members who gave money are genuine American heroes and patriots," he said. "It was humbling to see the level of commitment and love our members have for this party and for creating a free America."

Neale also had a message for LP members who contributed in the party's time of need: "Thank you! I can't say it strongly enough," he said.

However, even with the debt paid, both Neale and Seehusen said the party is not out of the woods yet.

"While we are out of debt, we are not flush," said Seehusen. "Not even close. We still have ongoing monthly expenses that don't go away. If, and only if, donors continue to invest in the party can we meet our expenses and continue to grow."

Neale said, "We cut to the bone, and now we need to add on muscle, but not fat. Infrastructure is vital, and it has been ignored. We need to pay attention to it."

### Hard lessons

Neale said he has learned some hard lessons from the past year's difficulties.

"I certainly hope that we learn, institutionally, that although we're a political party, we're also a non-profit [organization]," he said. "As such, we need to learn good practices from the non-profit communities."

For example, Neale said the party should have a "liquid reserve" of at least three months, in case of emergencies.

In addition, the LNC needs to more closely monitor the party's cash flow, expenses, and staff costs, he said.

During the cash crunch, the party missed political opportunities, said Neale — which is why the party must broaden its financial base if it is ever going to compete successfully with Republicans and Democrats.

"Our opportunities have always outweighed our ability to respond," he said. "I do not believe we'll be able to play ball with the big boys until we have a war chest in the millions. We must focus outside of the movement, with the intent of enlarging the movement. There's a lot of money out there, and we have to give donors reasons to support what we do."

Seehusen agreed. "Raising revenue is job one," he said. "We need to continue to focus on raising revenue from within and outside of the party. Without sufficient resources, we will not be a political force. There is no way to get around it."

# Will the Libertarian Party get on the ballot in 39 states... or 50 states... in 2004?



## The choice is yours!

### Dear Libertarians,

At its September 13 meeting in Denver, Colorado, the Libertarian National Committee made an important change in the party's ballot access strategy.

Your response to this new policy will determine whether we are on the ballot in 39 states, 50 states, or somewhere in between. (The entire document can be viewed at [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org).)

In the past, the LNC had determined that 50-state ballot access was essential and then paid for it out of general funds. The result was that in our enthusiasm to meet petitioning deadlines and get on all 50 state ballots, we took money from other vital projects and incurred debt in the process.

To prevent that from happening again, all projects, including ballot access, must be self-funded so we don't fall back into debt. Ballot access can now be financed only by money raised specifically for that purpose.

### No more money

Therefore, the amount of ballot access we get will be determined by the number of signatures we collect and the amount of money we contribute from this day forward. There is absolutely no more money in the LNC budget for this purpose.

I'm proud that the Libertarian Party achieved 50-state ballot access in 1992, 1996, and 2000. No other third party has done so.

If you're content to see the 2004 Libertarian presidential candidate appear on, say, 44 ballots (as Ralph Nader was in 2002), that's exactly what will happen.

But if you believe, as I do, that the Libertarian Party MUST remain the undisputed, 50-state champion of ballot access, that, too, can still happen. But only if individual donors, volunteers and state parties step up to the plate.

As the party's ballot access coordinator, I hate to be the bearer of bad news. But the fact is that we are running so far behind schedule that 39 states is a distinct possibility at this point. As I write this letter, we are in danger of failing to get on the ballot in 11 states plus DC: Connecticut, Kentucky, Texas, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, North Dakota,

Oklahoma, Maine, and West Virginia.

Those of you who know me know that ballot access has been my lifelong passion. I was LNC Ballot Access Committee chair from 1990 to 1997. On Election Day 1996, I drove from Virginia to North Carolina and gathered 1,179 signatures for the LPNC in one day. And I'm on my way to completing my pledge of 1,000 volunteer signatures for the 2004 ballot drives.

I've again become LP Ballot Access Coordinator because I just can't stand the thought of our Libertarian candidate being kicked down into the ballot access basement alongside the Greens, the Natural Law Party and other fourth-party candidates.

We've all worked too hard for too many years to let that happen.

And 2004 is the year that we don't want that to happen, because this could be a surprisingly good year for our presidential nominee.

On October 8, the day after California's gubernatorial election, I spoke at length with Richard Winger, an LP member who is one of the nation's leading ballot access experts.

### Highest vote?

Winger told me that he expects our 2004 presidential candidate to get the highest vote totals in LP history.

He said: "What just happened to Gray Davis shows that voters are very, very unhappy. And that's great news for the LP in 2004 — because our presidential candidate might be the only alternative to the Democrat and the Republican on the ballot."

Winger explained: "The Greens are falling apart, and they haven't made any headway all year on ballot access. And the reason is what happened to Al Gore in Florida, when Nader was blamed for costing the Democrats the presidential election. The Left is putting enormous pressure on the Greens not to run a presidential candidate, and they're caving in.

"I believe there's only a 50-50 chance that the Greens will field a presidential candidate. And if that happens, the Libertarian's vote total could shoot way up — because he or she will be the only third-party candidate in many states."

But our vote total will be zero in the states where our candidate is not on the ballot.

That means that in a three-way race, the Libertarian could forfeit almost 1 million votes.

### Not yet on the ballot

Consider this: In 2000, 20 percent of the LP's presidential votes came from the 11 states just listed. And the total for all third-party candidates in those states was a whopping 994,000.

So the market for a Libertarian who is the only third-party candidate on the 2004 ballot — and could tap into the built-in "protest vote" against the Republican and Democrat — could be quite large. I'd hate to forfeit the opportunity to generate our best-ever vote totals in 2004 because we're not on the ballot.

But that's exactly what could happen if you don't make a commitment right now to volunteer to collect signatures or fund ballot access.

Will our 2004 Libertarian candidate be on the ballot in 39 states, 40-something states, or 50 states?

This is the year that you get to decide.

Ballot access is now in the hands of individual Libertarians and their state and local parties.

And I'm pleased to report that many have already stepped up to the plate.

The LP of Ohio recently received a small check from the LNC to put them over the top after donors and volunteers collected 50,000 signatures on their own.

Maryland Libertarians are in the process of completing their drive on their own.

Please go to [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org) to contact a state chair and find out how you can help in your own state or a neighboring state.

### Contribute now

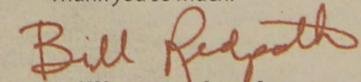
To make a contribution right now: Visit [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org), click on "Contribute" and scroll down to make an earmarked contribution to ballot access.

Or send a check, made out to "LIBERTARIAN PARTY BALLOT ACCESS FUND," and it will be designated for that purpose. Mail to: Libertarian Party, Attn: BALLOT ACCESS, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC, 20037. Your donation is urgently needed.

Thirty-nine states, or 50 states? The choice is yours!

With your help, the LP's ballot access in 2004 will prove definitively that we are America's real third party.

Thank you so much!

  
William Redpath

LNC Treasurer  
Ballot Access Coordinator



# Libertarians pick up 21 local election wins

Continued from Page 1

that they don't want an open and honest discussion of the issues."

As the leading vote-getter in the race, LeCureaux is now the Mayor Pro-tempore of Hazel Park.

In Owosso, Mark Owen came in third of eight candidates for four open seats. The top three vote-getters earned four-year seats; the fourth-place finisher won a two-year seat.

Owen won 691 votes (13.7% of the total votes cast).

"Mark built his reputation in Owosso as the major organizer against a new historic district which would have burdened many homeowners," said Gelineau. "His door-to-door marathons have built his reputation as a serious campaigner."

In South Haven, Bill Bradley was re-elected in an unopposed race. Bradley, the Chair of the Van Buren County LP, has served on the city council since January 2002, when he was appointed to fill a vacant position.

In St. Clair Shores, Erin Stahl earned a strong second-place finish, coming in just 14 votes behind the top vote-getter — and ousting two incumbents at the same time.

Stahl won 7,769 votes (18.9% of the total votes cast). She will serve a four-year term.

It was Stahl's second run for a city council seat.

"Many voters urged me to run again," she said. "Our city council had become so arrogant and disrespectful of the residents that they had to be replaced."

In Grosse Pointe, John Stempfle finished third of six candidates for three open seats, winning 859 votes (21.8% of the total votes cast).

## Incredible showing

"John made an incredible showing in his first bid for elective office," said Gelineau.

The wave of Libertarian victories in Michigan is a "bellwether of the future," said Gelineau.

"Candidates who invest in serious organizational efforts and uphold libertarian concepts can and will be successful," he said. "It was a great night for the Libertarian Party of Michigan and [for] those who love liberty everywhere."

■ In Indiana, Libertarians won six races — of which four were for city council positions.

In Union City, Dr. Susan Pyle was elected to the city council (District 1) with 58% of the vote. She defeated a Democrat by a vote of 448 to 328.

Also in Union City, Russell Reichard won a seat on the city council (District 2) with 57% of the vote. He defeated a Democrat by a vote of 438 to 327.

In Gosport, Jay Thompson was elected to one of three at-large town council positions. His third-place finish was good enough to earn him one of three available seats.

In Hagerstown, Susan Bell defeated an incumbent Republican to become the new town judge. Bell won

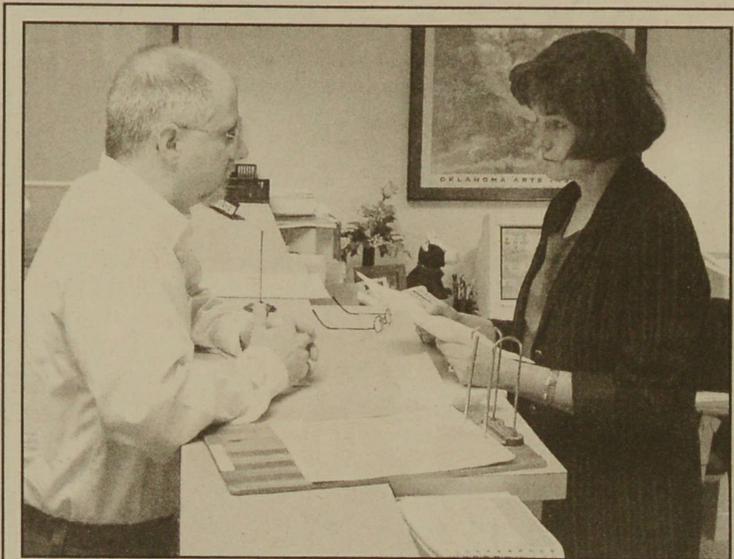


Photo by Richard Prawdziński

## Would-be LP candidate rejected in Oklahoma

■ Would-be Libertarian candidate Ed Henke (l) is told by Assistant Secretary of Oklahoma Election Board Carol Slater that he cannot run for office. Henke tried to file papers on October 7 to run in a special election in December for State Senate (District 44), but was told that he is not eligible to do so.

The Election Board refused to accept Henke's filing papers because the Libertarian Party is not a recognized political party in Oklahoma. Instead, the party is categorized as a "political organization." Members of a political organization cannot file to run for partisan office.

As a result, Oklahoma LP State Chair Christopher Powell said the party is considering filing legal action.

274 votes (57%).

In two uncontested races, Anita M. Amspaugh was elected clerk-treasurer of Union City, while Darren Nolan was re-elected to the city council in Universal City.

"Overall, we are very pleased with this year's election results," said Indiana LP Executive Director Brad Klopfenstein. "Libertarians showed substantial growth as a party with their showing at the polls all around Indiana."

"Five years ago, Libertarian victories were unheard of. Today, a number of our candidates expect to win."

■ In Idaho, Rob Oates narrowly defeated an incumbent to win a spot on the Caldwell City Council (Seat #4). Oates won 880 votes (50.9%) in the non-partisan race.

"Overcoming the incumbent's inherent name recognition and inertia are a tremendous challenge in a race without much controversy," said Oates. "Yard signs and door-to-door [campaigning] seemed to have made the difference in this, my first run for elected office."

■ In Washington state, Debbie Raplee won a close race to earn the Position 5 seat on the Kent city council. Raplee defeated the incumbent 3,575 votes to 3,331 (52% to 48%), in the non-partisan race. It was

Raplee's second bid for a council seat.

■ In North Carolina, three Libertarians ended up in the winner's circle.

In Lenoir, T.J. Rohr won a seat on the city council, coming in second for two open seats. Rohr won 862 votes (18%).

In Madison, Dan Hill was the top vote-getter for an at-large position on the Board of Aldermen. Hill won 234 votes (13.3%).

In Roxobel, Henry Boschen won 26.4% of the vote to earn re-election as one of four town commissioners.

■ In Iowa, Roger Fritz was re-elected to the Roland City Council, finishing second of four contenders. The top three were elected.

Fritz won 206 votes (29.6%), just a whisker behind the top finisher, who won 208 votes (29.9%).

## More satisfying

"Though winning the first one is more exciting, it feels more satisfying to get re-elected," said Fritz. "Now I had a record, and apparently that record was agreeable to the electorate."

Fritz ran as part of a team with the other two winners, which he said "will allow us to put the kibosh on expansion of city government staff that the ousted incumbent proposed. I think that is why we three got elected."

■ In Iowa, Bill Lynn was elected Alderman (5th Ward) in Davenport, a city with a population of about 100,000. In a razor-close race, Lynn defeated a two-term incumbent, earning 902 votes (50.08%). Lynn is an economics professor at St. Ambrose University.

■ In Iowa, Christy Welty won an unopposed, nonpartisan race for Fairfield city council (3rd Ward). Welty garnered 94 votes (82%); 21 votes (18%) went to write-ins.

■ In Virginia, Jeff Bowles ran a successful write-in campaign for Soil

and Water Director in Botetourt County. Bowles defeated another write-in candidate, 233 to 202.

■ In Pennsylvania, Mark Wicks was re-elected Upper Tulpehocken Township Supervisor. In the unopposed partisan race, Wicks won 98% of the vote.

## In other election news:

■ In Indiana, incumbent Greenfield city councilman (District 5) Phil Miller was defeated in a close two-way partisan race. Miller, who was first elected in 1999, won 299 votes (46.4%).

■ In Indiana, Rev. Greg Dixon fell short in his campaign for the Marion County City-County Council (District 22). Dixon, the Senior Pastor at the Indianapolis Baptist Temple, finished third of three candidates with 14.16% of the vote.

■ In Pennsylvania, Monroe County District Attorney candidate Wieslaw Niemoczynski won 18% in a two-way race — earning the Libertarian Party "major party" status in that county.

■ In Virginia, Robert McBride was defeated in his race for the Prince William County Board of Supervisors (Occoquan District). McBride finished third of three candidates in the non-partisan race with about 20% of the vote. McBride's vote was the best-ever for a Libertarian in Virginia in a three-way partisan race, said LP activist Chuck Eby.

"[McBride's] campaign set a new high-water mark for Virginia Libertarian candidates," said Eby. "[It was] quite an accomplishment from an historical standpoint."

■ In Washington, Ted Kogita won 42% of the vote in a non-partisan bid for Kent city council (Position 1).



<http://www.ClickandPledge.com>

"Click & Pledge allows us to receive donations and membership dues over the Internet for a very low cost, and it easily integrated with our web site! Our favorite thing about Click & Pledge is that there are no monthly fees." *James Eisert, Manhattan Libertarian Party*

Call us Toll Free: 866-WWW-CLICK [866.999.2542] for a demo

### Secure Online Donation



- ✓ Accept secured donations & dues online with Visa, MasterCard, Discover, AMEX.
- ✓ Pay no setup, monthly, or annual fees.
- ✓ Offer premiums, sell items, tickets, and accept donations/dues all in one package.
- ✓ Take 5 minutes to setup on your existing web site.

### Web Content Management System



**Special Free Offer to Libertarian Chapters & Candidates**

- ✓ Web Content Management System for web site creation.
- ✓ eMail with virus & spam protection.
- ✓ Real-time donation and credit card-acceptance system with discounted rates.
- ✓ Free use of You.4Libertarian.com or You.4Libertarian.com.org domain.

### eNewsletters & Newspapers

Electronic



#### Electronic Newsletter

- ✓ Design & broadcast your eNewsletter to your mailing list.
- ✓ Provide links to documents and forms directly from the email.
- ✓ Accept donations via the eNewsletter directly from the email.

In Print



#### In Print Newspaper

- ✓ Lower your newsletter printing cost by moving to a newspaper format.
- ✓ Let us help you design, edit, print, and distribute your publication.
- ✓ Simply upload your content and let us do the rest.

## CORRECTION

■ The November issue of *LP News* incorrectly reported that Jimmie Vaughan won a Grammy Award for Best Traditional Blues Album for *Do You Get The Blues?* in 1991. In fact, the album was released in 2001.

# With initiative wins, LP saves taxpayers billions

Continued from Page 3

anti-tax activists posted 300 yard signs around Littleton, said Atwood.

With the vote, the town's 1% tax on food purchased for home consumption will be phased out — dropping to 0.5% in January 2004 and to 0% in January 2005. Residents will save about \$600,000 annually.

■ In Arizona, Pima County Libertarians led the fight to defeat two ballot questions that would have required Tucson to build a light-rail system and fund it with higher taxes.

Residents rejected Proposition 200 on a 37.17% to 62.83% vote. The measure would have increased the city sales tax from 7.6% to 7.9% and imposed a construction tax of 4%.

Residents also turned down Proposition 201 on a 36.41% to 63.59% vote. The measure would have required the city government to build a light-rail train system, increase bus service, improve road maintenance efforts, and build bike paths.

Had the measures passed, the cost to Tucson residents would have been at least \$800 million over the next two decades.

## Election booklet

To fight the proposals, the Pima County LP paid to have an argument against each proposition printed in the Tucson election booklet. The booklet was mailed to every registered voter in the city.

In addition, Pima County LP Chair David Euchner and First Vice-Chair Jason Auvenshine argued against the measures "on various news outlets, including television debates and newspaper editorial board roundtables," said Auvenshine.

■ In Pennsylvania, the Montgomery County LP failed to stop a \$250 million "Green Fields, Green Towns" initiative.

Montgomery County voters unofficially approved the measure on a lopsided 101,905 (77.65%) to 29,326 (22.35%) vote.

The initiative authorizes the county government to borrow \$150 million — plus another \$100 million for interest — to purchase land as part of an "open space" program.

However, Montgomery County LP Political Action Coordinator Charles Fournier said the loss represented "positive progress" for Libertarians.

"We never had a chance to win the referendum," he said. "Our approach was to use it as a marketing opportunity to increase our electoral base and enhance [our] name recognition. In all respects, this campaign has been a great success. We put the Montgomery LP in political orbit."

■ In California, Libertarians "won

one and lost one," said longtime California LP activist Mark Hinkle.

The Santa Clara LP helped convince voters to reject Measure A, a parcel tax hike for the Oak Grove School District, but could not halt Measure D, a bond issue for the El Camino Hospital District.

The defeat of Measure A will save taxpayers about \$750,000 a year; the passage of Measure D will cost taxpayers about \$148 million.

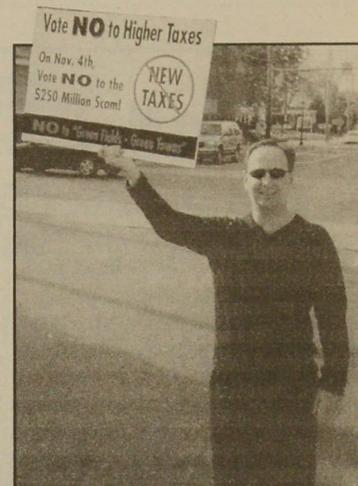
Measure A, which required a two-thirds majority to pass, was defeated on a vote of 3,767 to 3,415 (52.45% to 47.55%). Had it passed, the measure would have paid for expanded after-school programs, performing arts courses, and sports.

Measure D, which also required a two-thirds majority, passed on a vote of 17,502 to 7,426 (70.21% to 29.79%). The measure will finance upgrades to the El Camino Hospital's

emergency and medical facilities.

The Santa Clara LP had submitted ballot arguments against Measure A and D, with the assistance of the Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association.

■ **Montgomery County LP member Darren Wolfe campaigns against the "Green Fields, Green Towns" initiative in North Wales, Pennsylvania. Despite his efforts, the measure passed by a 3-to-1 margin.**



## Gary Nolan for President America's Voice of Liberty

*"Our message must be one of optimism and hope for the future. We must do more than complain about the failed policies of Democrats and Republicans. We must present positive, libertarian solutions to the problems that concern average Americans. That's the kind of campaign I want to see a Libertarian Presidential candidate run. That's the kind of positive campaign I am committed to running."*

Gary Nolan has been "America's Voice of Liberty" for more than a decade, reaching millions with his message of individual liberty, personal responsibility, and constitutionally-limited government.

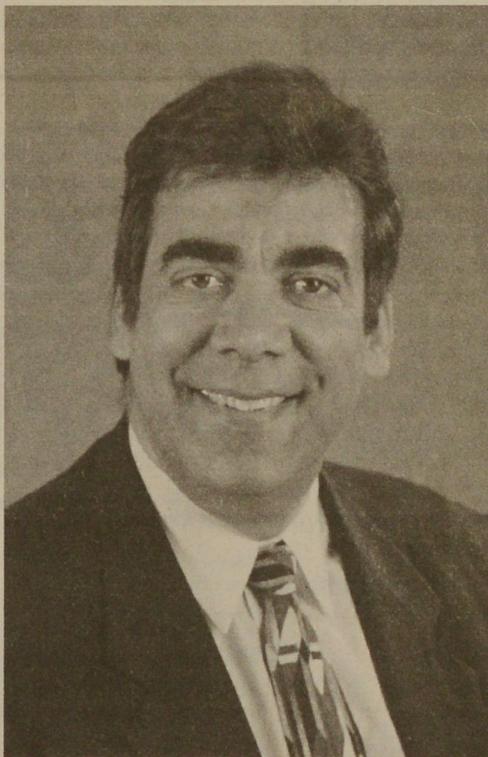
As the host of two nationally-syndicated radio shows, Gary Nolan entertained listeners with insightful political commentary and substantive public policy debate. His "Nolan at Night" program, broadcast nightly from Washington, DC on the Radio America Network, featured numerous high-profile guests, including an entire night each week devoted to experts from the libertarian CATO Institute.

From 1997 to 1999, in addition to hosting his nightly radio show, Gary Nolan served as President of Washington-based "Capitol Watch," working to defend American taxpayers from "higher taxes and wasteful spending." He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the anti-tax group "Free the Eagle."

As a small businessman in Cleveland, Ohio, Gary Nolan was initially attracted to the Republican Party. Over time,

he became increasingly frustrated with their bloated budgets and continuing failure to cut spending. During a live nationwide radio broadcast in January 1999, he publicly

resigned from the Republican Party and became a proud card-carrying member of the Libertarian Party.



Gary Nolan has been interviewed more than 30 times on national television, including appearances on ABC's "World News Tonight," CNN, FOX News Channel, MSNBC and C-SPAN. His media savvy & expertise on a wide range of issues make him a formidable candidate to represent the Libertarian Party as its nominee for President.

Gary Nolan has been campaigning full time across America since January 2003. He intends to use his background and experience in media and communications to present a positive Libertarian message to all Americans, build grass-

roots support for the Libertarian Party, and advance the cause of liberty. He actively seeks your support and involvement in his campaign.

**Get Involved! Take a Stand! Make a Difference!**

**www.garynolan.com**

Gary Nolan For President • P.O. Box 6308, Falls Church, VA 22040-6308 • (703) 237-3533

Paid for by Gary Nolan for President. Contributions to Gary Nolan for President are not tax-deductible for federal income tax purposes.

**LOCKE,  
JEFFERSON AND  
THE JUSTICES:**  
Foundations and Failures  
of the US Government.

[www.algora.com/Locke.htm](http://www.algora.com/Locke.htm)



# San Diego Libertarians file suit to stop illegal parking fee hike

Two Libertarians have filed a lawsuit to force San Diego to repeal what they call an "unjustified" 25¢ per hour increase in the city's parking meter rates.

Richard Rider and Edward Teyssier said they filed the lawsuit because, according to the city charter, the parking fee increase is actually a tax increase. As such, it must be approved by voters.

"This lawsuit raises a broader issue beyond the parking fee increase," said Rider. "Can the city raise fees for services without economic cost justification? Are not such unjustified fee increases in reality tax increases that must receive voter approval? Hopefully, this legal action will answer these questions, and put an end to this dishonest practice."

According to the city charter, politicians can raise fees only to cover the increased costs of delivering a specific city service.

When fees are raised above that cost, it is considered a tax increase. By law, tax increases must be approved by two-thirds of the voters in San Diego.

With the hike, the San Diego parking meter fee increased from \$1.00 to \$1.25 an hour.

## Requested data

Before filing the lawsuit, Rider said he requested data from the city government that might show the parking fee boost was justified.

"The city refused to provide credible data that would justify this as a fee increase," he said.

"The city's cavalier attitude validates the fact that this so-called fee increase is unrelated to the cost of installing, operating, and repairing



San Diego Libertarian Richard Rider explains to two TV camera crews why he filed a lawsuit against a city parking fee increase — which is really a tax hike masquerading as a fee hike, he said.

parking meters."

Thanks to the fee increase, the city expects to raise \$1.8 million more from parking meters in 2004 than it did in 2003, according to information from the San Diego city attorney.

However, the city attorney claimed the fee increase was justified because the city spends \$78 million annually for "the installation, maintenance, and enforcement of parking meters."

The city apparently arrived at that figure by applying to parking meters the entire \$50 million cost of the municipal street building and maintenance program; the entire \$5.5 million cost of its Traffic Engineering department; and the entire \$15.5 million cost of its Police Traffic Division.

Rider blasted the creative cost accounting as "inflated beyond imagination."

Given the city's dishonesty, he had no choice but to file the lawsuit, said Rider.

"This lawsuit is necessary to force a public vote on this tax, as required by law," he said. "To allow government officials to raise fees on the flimsiest of excuses is to leave a huge hole in citizen protections against unauthorized tax increases."

The press conference conducted by Rider and Teyssier near City Hall to announce the lawsuit attracted reporters from Channel 10, Channel 39, and Fox Channel 6.

The case is Rider, et al. v. City of San Diego, Case No. GIC 818166. It was filed on September 22.

## POLITICS 2003

### A Whoopi comment, and a Ramses curse

In Illinois, **Jerry Kohn** will seek the LP's nomination for U.S. Senate in 2004. In Connecticut, **Lenny Rasch** said he expects to run an "active campaign" for U.S. Senate in 2004, while **Walter Gengarely** said he will run for U.S. House (District 5). In California, **Aaron Frederick Smith** filed to run for State Assembly (7th District).

The Libertarian National Committee has another new member: Ohio LP member **Dena Bruedigam** (Region 3 Alternate). In Washington state, **Marla Bottemiller** has been hired as Office Manager for the state LP. In Virginia, 10th Congressional District Libertarians elected **Philip Hodson** as Chair. Former LP Campus Outreach Coordinator **Marc Brandl** has been named executive director for Dancesafe, a national non-profit that does "harm reduction" outreach and education at raves. In Nevada, **Brandon Robison** has resurrected the University of Nevada-Las Vegas (UNLV) College Libertarians group. In Texas, **Mike Neel** was elected Chair of the new Hays County LP.

Here's a headline that will make the typical LP member blink: "Libertarian wants more city aid for poor." The article in the *Charlotte Observer* (N.C.) on October 22 was about **Carlton Harvey**, a non-Libertarian who ran for mayor under the LP banner to "avoid the hassle of getting the signatures to qualify for the ballot as an unaffiliated candidate." Mr. Harvey also claimed there was a spell cast over the city's minority leaders, thanks to a ritualistic dance performed in 1998 to honor Ramses the Great. Local Libertarians were not amused. Mecklenburg County LP Chair **Christopher Cole** told the newspaper: "The Libertarian Party does not believe in spells. I just wanted to make that clear."

**Sitcom news:** A partially accurate, partially asinine mention of the Libertarian Party cropped up on the NBC show, *Whoopi* (starring **Whoopi Goldberg**) on October 16. On the show, a woman stood outside a hotel puffing on a cigarette, and said to another smoker, "Thank God I'm a libertarian. No on taxes, but they want to legalize marijuana. It's the Party Party." Former California LP State Chair **Mark Hinkle** said, "I find it interesting that the word libertarian is finding itself being used, correctly, within the popular media."



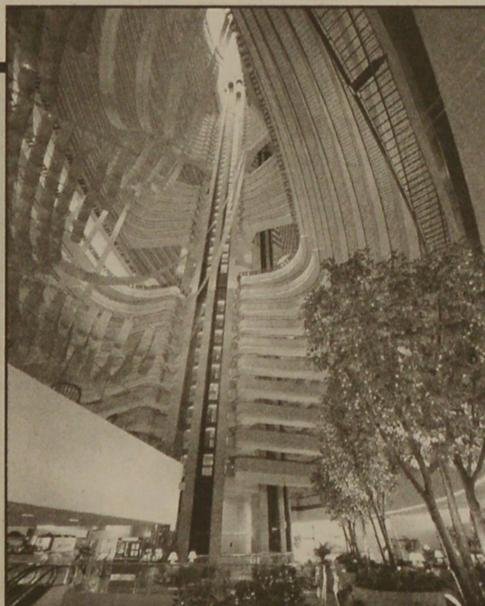
Whoopi: The Party Party?

**Miscellaneous:** In Georgia, the state LP hosted a first annual "Great Pumpkin Contest" on October 25. The event raised money to benefit the Birmingham Children's Hospital. In Minnesota, state LP leaders met with representatives of Citizens For a Sound Economy (CSE) to discuss the anti-tax group's planned expansion into the state. In New York, members of the Manhattan LP participated in the city's first march against the USA/Patriot Act over the weekend of October 25-26. In Utah, the state LP collected camping gear, clothing, canned foods, and coats for homeless veterans at the Homeless Veterans Stand Down event in Salt Lake City early November. In Arizona, the Yavapai County LP filed enough signatures to earn ballot status in the county, announced County LP Chair **John DeThomas**.

**Presidential politics:** In October, two potential candidates announced they would not seek the LP's presidential nomination. Massachusetts Libertarian **George Phillies** said, "I am not a candidate for president." Phillies was a candidate for U.S. House in 1998, and is Chair of the Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association. Science fiction writer **L. Neil Smith** said: "I will no longer be available to anybody as a candidate for any political office." Instead, Smith said he would work on two new novels. The books "could do more to advance the cause of liberty than anything I could ever do in politics," he said.

**Book news:** Dr. **Mary Ruwart's** book, *Healing our World in an Age of Aggression*, was named Free-Market.net's "Freedom Book of the Month" for October. Libertarian **Charles Murray** has published a new book: *Human Accomplishment: The Pursuit of Excellence in the Arts and Sciences, 800 BC to 1950* (HarperCollins, \$29.95). It examines geniuses through history and the conditions that allowed them to flourish. A sneak preview of Richard Cowan's new book, *Reefer Refugees*, is now available online at [www.kubby.com](http://www.kubby.com). The book focuses on the federal government's war on medical marijuana patients, including 1998 LP California gubernatorial candidate **Steve Kubby**. A posthumous book by former Tennessee LP State Chair **Richard E. Pearl, Sr.** has been published by 1stbooks.com. The collection of liberty-themed quotations was completed after Pearl's death by Libertarian **Steve Trinward**.

**Media news:** In an article in the *Journal News* (New York, September 28), **Clint Eastwood** reiterated his libertarian beliefs, saying, "Socially, I've always felt very libertarian. I just think we should get off everybody's backs. We don't have to micromanage our society."



## The 2004 Libertarian National Convention

Memorial Day Weekend, May 27-31, 2004

In beautiful Atlanta, Georgia  
Marriott Marquis Hotel  
For information:  
[convention@hq.LP.org](mailto:convention@hq.LP.org)



THE FORUM

# How to play the Rush Limbaugh phrase game with Drug Warriors

Here's a fun game. Every time a Drug Warrior uses the phrase "drug addict," replace it with the name of their favorite hero, Rush Limbaugh, and see if they'd still agree with the statement.

Here's one from a Republican Drug Warrior, Vermont Governor James Douglas, from his budget message speech on January 23, 2003.

He said: "These drugs threaten our way of life. All the values that make Vermonters great — our independence, thrift, work ethic, and community spirit are endangered when drugs command our bodies. Addicts are not independent; they are dependent; they are not prudent in their finances, only concerned with funding their destructive habits; they are not industrious, but unproductive. When drugs come into our neighborhoods, violence follows and thugs and criminals dominate our streets."

Translated: "These drugs threaten our way of life. All the values that make Vermonters great — our independence, thrift, work ethic, and community spirit are endangered when drugs command our bodies. Rush Limbaugh is not independent; Rush is dependent; Rush is not prudent in his finances, only concerned with funding his destructive habits; Rush is not industrious, Rush is unproductive. When drugs come into our neighborhoods, violence follows and thugs and criminals like Rush

Limbaugh dominate our streets."

See what I mean? Do you agree with that statement? I don't. I call it egregious stereotyping and generalization. I invite you to find more statements and run them through this translator.

Rush himself made statements in 1995 on his TV show demanding we come down harder on not only dealers, but addicts and users, too.

### Needs to volunteer

He said they should all be "sent up," and that too many whites were getting away with drug violations. But now a pass is given to him in that the investigations surrounding him most likely won't turn into criminal charges. The police are more interested in the dealers. To not be a hypocrite, Rush needs to volunteer to be "sent up." Given his past no-shade-of-gray pontifications and present public confessions, his freedom is inexcusable.

Yes, he was self-medicating. And he was functioning at a level most of us will only dream of. After "treatment," he will attempt to function at the same level with no medication for what appears to be debilitating back and neck pain. What will they give him — acupuncture? Self-hypnosis? Will he be sucking down Advils

By Rachel Mills



to the point of liver failure?

What if he can't sit in front of the golden microphone for the full three hours now? Will we hear Rush end shows abruptly some days just to go lay down? My heart aches for him. It really does.

But to be fair, he should be sent to prison. In fact, he should volunteer, if not charged. We have, I believe, a taped confession, so evidence is no problem for the prosecution. Go for it! He should go willingly, pain untreated, to writhe in agony for a mandatory minimum sentence, like the rest of us without political friends, at the mercy of the pundits and moralizers.

Do I want to see Rush suffer? Am

I uncompassionate? Emphatically no. But what I do want is for Drug Warriors to be subject to the same scrutiny they impose on others. Fairness.

I want Rush to witness first-hand what the implications are for what he espouses; that lack of understanding and the limiting the freedom of others, can also mean prison for you.

I want him to go to prison, have all his assets forfeited, be taken away from his family and career for 5-10 years, and then after he's paid his "debt," never be able to vote or own a firearm again because he's a convicted felon.

Is it so much to ask for seeking relief from excruciating pain? I only ask what he and the other drug warriors he stands behind demand of the unwashed and faceless masses that suffer under these policies every day.

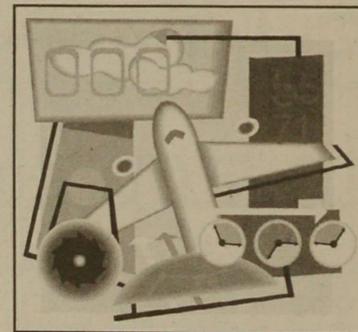
### Unintended Consequence

Look at prison statistics. Look how mandatory minimums overcrowd our prisons with non-violent drug offenders while murderers are sent back out onto the streets. Look beyond "Drugs are bad" to unintended consequences. Because that is what Rush ultimately and tragically represents here — a Big Fat Unintended Consequence.

I want the conservatives to finally say: Rush wasn't hurting anybody with what he put in his own body. He shouldn't be punished.

When they begin to say that for Rush, but not for everyone else, maybe then their Prohibitionist hysteria will be laughed out of Congress and we will again be the land of the free and the home of the brave — where you are assumed to be responsible enough to decide what medications to take without a by-your-leave from the government.

■ **About the author:** Rachel Mills was the 2002 LP candidate for the North Carolina House (District 31), and creator of the *Ladies of Liberty* calendar.



## Fun with politicians on the go

**Editor's note:** The following account is reportedly from a travel agent in Washington, DC who worked with politicians and their staffs for more than 30 years. For obvious reasons, he wishes to remain anonymous.

A senior Senator called with a question about the documents he needed to fly to China. After a lengthy discussion about passports, I reminded him he needed a visa. "Oh no I don't. I've been to China many times and never had to have one of those." I double-checked and sure enough, his stay required a visa. When I told him this, he said, "Look, I've been to China four times and every time they have accepted my American Express!"

■ A Senator's aide called about a trip to Hawaii. After going over the costs, she asked, "Would it be cheaper to fly to California and take the train to Hawaii?"

■ A New York lawmaker called and

### From the Internet

asked, "Do airlines put your physical description on your bag so they know whose luggage belongs to who?" I said, "No, why do you ask?" She replied, "Well, when I checked in with it, they put a tag on my luggage that said FAT, and I'm overweight. I think that's rude!" After putting her on hold for a minute while I "looked into it" (I was laughing so hard I couldn't talk), I came back and explained the city code for Fresno, CA is FAT, and that the airline was just putting a destination tag on her luggage.

■ A senior Vermont Congressman called, furious about a Florida vacation we had arranged. I asked what was wrong with the hotel in Orlando. He said he was expecting an ocean-view room. I tried to explain that is not possible, since Orlando is in the middle of the state. He replied, "Don't lie to me. I looked on the map, and Florida is a very thin state!"

■ A freshman Congressman asked, "How do I know which plane to get on?" Confused, I asked him what he meant. He said, "I was told my flight number is 823, but none of these darn planes have numbers on them."

# Let's tell legislators: There ought to be a freedom

Imagine a world where there are laws against eating too many sweets, standing on the top step of the ladder, or failing to show up for your doctor appointment. If you want to change your job or residence, you have to hire a lawyer to fill out and file the sheaf of forms required.

Imagine a world where every murder or assault trial requires years of litigation just to determine the charges. There's a different law for every location, weapon and motivation. (Was it motivated by hate, gender, race, greed, stupidity, or some other syndromes or state of mind?)

Imagine a world where whole sections of large cities have been devoted just to housing the law library.

How far is this world from the one you live in?

Congress has been averaging about 235 new laws per year, and the California state legislature passed close to 1,000 laws last year alone. Has there ever been a session of congress or any state legislature that

ended with fewer laws on the books than there were at the beginning? Where is this leading?

Our legislatures are passing laws on top of the laws that are already there just to make political points. The California legislature recently passed a law against attacking and threatening abortion clinics. Didn't we already have laws against assault and harassment? How many laws do we need to cover a single act?

### Cowards and whiners

Have we become such a race of cowards and whiners that we need laws to protect us from phone solicitors, laws to dictate how people can talk to us, and police involved in every corner of our lives?

It seems government is being looked to as the solver of every problem. And of course, government's problem-solving tool is law. As the

By Mari Werner

saying goes, to a man whose only tool is a hammer, every problem is a nail.

No amount of laws and police protection is going to make life perfect, trouble free, and pain free. It's life. We have to work at it. Granted, we need government and we need laws, and as a society changes it may need more or different laws. But hasn't this gotten out of hand? More laws are not the answer to every problem. Maybe *people* are the answer.

I have flown back and forth across the country since September 11, 2001 without any great fear of hijacking. My absence of fear doesn't come from knowing that my blunt-ended nail file has been confiscated.

What makes me feel safer is knowing that my fellow passengers know what happened on September 11 and want to make sure it doesn't happen again.

Our real security lies not with more laws and security regulations, but with us. Our protection is our knowledge, our skill, our caring about

one another and our willingness to act. The laws that we think we need to restrain other people are restricting and diminishing our own responsibility and power.

### Clogging our lives

How often do our legislative bodies at the federal or state level do spring cleaning and repeal laws that are creating legal quagmires? Suppose we start basing our judgment of legislators not on the laws they vote in but on the ones they repeal.

Ask yourself whose permission you have to get, what forms you have to fill out, and what intrusions you have to tolerate just to live your life as a peaceful productive citizen. Instead of telling our representatives there ought to be a law, let's tell them there ought to be a freedom.

■ **About the author:** Libertarian Mari Werner lives in California. This essay originally published in the *LPC Monthly*, July 2002.

**THE VOLUNTEER**

# How to 'connect' with an audience

I am what most people would call a hard-core Libertarian.

I believe deeply in personal freedom, and especially building a society on principles that work, instead of ideals that fail in the face of human nature. I scoff as federal governments throw away money on social programs that don't work, and tax their economy into recession.

I have noticed a trend among Libertarian arguments — in literature and speeches — of failing to reach the audience because, instead, they launch straight into the argument's central point.

I respect this; Libertarians are, by nature, direct and honest people. We want to get straight to the heart of the matter.

But this fails to take into account an important aspect of a successful sales pitch: Connecting with your audience. As a result, the arguments presented often fall on deaf ears.

To sell someone on your idea, you must first convince them of the validity of the source. In other words, why should they listen to you? And the only way you can do that is to convince them that you have something in common.

In terms of political arguments, this means starting by showing them that you share some feelings on a given subject. You present a common starting point. When they are comfortable with that, then you launch into your argument.

Want a quick example? Go back and look at the top of this article.

**Felt defensive**

I didn't start by saying, "Libertarians don't know how to argue, that's why no one listens to us!" If I had done so, you would have immediately felt defensive, and most likely would not have been receptive to my point of view.

Instead, I laid groundwork by presenting a viewpoint that most of us can relate to. Not until the third paragraph did I present my argument, by which time you have (hopefully) come to accept that I am credible.

Members of my own political party are an easy audience. What about a staunch liberal, where there is seemingly no common ground? Should you bend the truth?

Of course not. There's always common ground. Here are some short examples. The orientation text comes first, and then bridges to the argument with a "that's why" statement.

■ **Pro-welfare liberal:** "Every time I see a person homeless on the street, in the cold with no roof over their head, I think about what we can do to reduce poverty in this country. That's why we need to move poverty relief programs out of the hands of the government and into the hands of church and community organiza-

tions, who get four times as much out of every dollar contributed than does the federal government."

■ **Socialized healthcare:** "Improving the quality of healthcare is an issue for everyone. That's why I believe in our private-sector

healthcare industry; it has produced the best care in the world, because it generates capital that rewards brilliant doctors and researchers, and provides the resources necessary for the development of new drugs and surgical techniques to combat the

diseases that we all worry about."

■ **Anti-drug conservative:** "Drug abuse is a horrible thing. Addiction is a disease which hurts people, families, and communities. That's why I want to end the War on Drugs, because it's making the drug abuse and addiction problem worse by introducing a huge black market and forcing addicts to hide their problem instead of seeking the help they need."

■ **Affirmative action supporter:** "Minorities have faced a cruel history in this country, and [their/our] struggles continue today. That's why we should eliminate affirmative ac-

tion. The black, Hispanic, and Asian peoples have the strength, intelligence, and force of will to succeed without any crutches, despite all the adversity [they/we] have faced."

Over-dramatic, maybe even sappy to those used to the cold, hard facts, statistics, and analysis of Libertarian arguments. But I guarantee you that a soft padding of emotion and human relevancy will create a more receptive audience for our arguments. And we all want that.

■ **About the author:** Adam Wiggins lives in Pasadena, California.

By Adam Wiggins

# Dear Freethinker

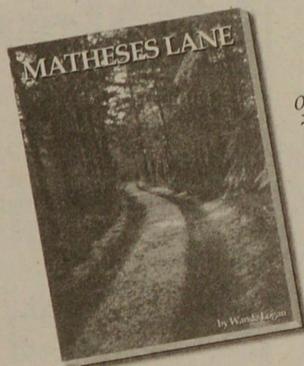
You've probably heard people refer to you as "a loner" or "peculiar" just because you spend your free time as you choose—and because you choose to spend your free time with only the few persons you really like.

Maybe people have even called you "odd" or "weird" or "crazy" just because you find solitude and your own thoughts to be the best of all companions.

Possibly, during a mellow moment of concern for your fellow man, you have considered the unthinkable: making a public apology for your unique lifestyle.

Then, you'll undoubtedly welcome a unique book:

**MATHESES LANE**  
penned by Wanda Logan



offered by  
The Christopher  
Publishing House  
and bookstores  
everywhere

**Matheses Lane** is a fictional work of satire.

It is both controversial and revolutionary. It exposes all so-called mental illness as nothing more than a delusive state of consciousness.

It associates the laws of genuine metaphysics with the teachings of original Christianity — the Doctrine which clarified a crucial point: "God gave man a sound mind," as explained by an Apostle.

Matheses Lane will not leave you where it found you.

**THE DIRECTOR**

# A guided tour of the party's darkest days

**G**reat news: The Libertarian Party is financially solvent! Thank you.

As you read these words, the national Libertarian Party is current on accounts payable, current on Unified Membership Payments to state parties, and has paid off its revolving credit debt in full. We have honored our commitments to our vendors and paid them in full. Thank you for your support for this party, for your love of freedom, and for your willingness to stand up and answer the call.

To understand how significant your contribution has been you need to know how far we have come in such a short time. Let me give you a guided tour of the dark days.

**Back in June, if you added up the amount of money** we owed to vendors, creditors, state parties, revolving credit debt, and unpaid employee leave, we were over \$400,000 in the hole. We had no assets, no money in the bank, no CDs, stocks, bonds or real estate. Some accountants would count the value of our monthly pledgers as an asset. I do not. A pledge is a promise of future giving, revocable at any time. It's not a receivable.

Our only hard assets were the value of the property inside our office, such as desks and computers, minus the cost of liquidation. I'm not sure what garage sales bring in Washington DC, but I can tell you that at garage sales back in Iowa the term "pennies on the dollar" took on a whole new meaning.

So I assigned the value of our possessions at zero. Let's do the math. Zero+zero+zero minus \$400,000 equals a negative \$400,000. We were unable to make some basic payments, the states were struggling, some of our vendors were getting nasty, and others had cut us off completely. We were in a dark financial hole with not much light to be found.

**In July, the decision was made** to let it all hang out and tell our members exactly where we stood. The "We're In Deep Trouble" letter was born. We described how we got into this situation, told you how we planned to get out of it — and added that we couldn't do it without your support. We sent the same letter out several times just so everyone would know how serious the situation was.

We mailed it out, then held our breath. What would you think? What would you do? In hindsight, we should have known.

**You love this party,** you love Liberty, and you know this is the only party in America capable of giving voters a real alternative to the chokehold that Republicans and Democrats have on our freedom.

As of October 31, a total of 2,949 Libertarians have responded to the call. All told they have contributed \$245,391.32 — or nearly a quarter-million dollars. We also mailed the letter to lapsed members and over 180 of them rejoined the party — some with \$1,000 checks.

In the letter, I promised to call every donor who gave \$100 or more. When the number of Libertarians who gave the magic \$100 or more topped 600, we stopped counting and started calling. I realized it would be impossible to call every \$100-plus donor myself, so LP headquarters staffers and several National Committee representatives volunteered to pitch in. Thank you!

**Who were these people** who stepped up to the plate when their party was in trouble? Regular Joes, big wigs, and everyone in between.

One young man whom we called to thank works at a Subway sandwich shop in Fort Wainwright, Arkansas — and gave us \$100. So did a freshman at William and Mary College in Virginia and a self-employed handyman in Arnold, California.

Day after day, generous donations continued to pour in, from a locksmith in Newport News, Virginia; a film editor in Tujunga, California; a housewife in Walla Walla, Washington; an executive from the Heartland Institute in Chicago; a farmer in Oxnard, California; refugees from the Republican Party; retirees — many on fixed incomes — including one self-described "retired old goat" in Acton, California; and even a circus clown in New Jersey.

**You all stepped up and put your money where your mouth was.** When you spoke, you spoke with a roar. Your commitment to this party was unwavering. You believe in a free America and you made it clear you are willing to do what it takes to make it happen.

I thank you, your Libertarian Party thanks you and America thanks you, more than you will ever know.



**By Joe Seehusen**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# How to tackle the problem of affordable housing in America

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, *LP News* will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a more libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.

**By Bill Winter**  
LP NEWS EDITOR

**A**mericans want to own their own homes. That desire is so ubiquitous there's even a name for it: The American Dream.

It's so prevalent that the phrase, "A house with a white picket fence," has become a cliché.

It's so common that William J. Levitt is mentioned in almost every American history textbook. He's the man who built Levittown on Long Island in 1947. It was the first mass-produced suburban housing tract, and helped make it possible for the American middle class to afford homes of their own.

However, according to a new survey, the American Dream is threatened.

In a September poll commissioned by the National Association of Realtors (NAR), two-thirds of Americans in 25 metropolitan areas worry that average-income workers won't be able to afford to live in the cities where they work.

And more metropolitan residents worry about affordable housing than are concerned about crime.

The NAR concluded: "There is a growing crisis in housing affordability that is gripping our nation."

To be sure, the NAR may have a political agenda; trying to convince politicians to subsidize more "affordable housing," which realtors can then sell.

**Genuine problem**

But the survey touched on a genuine problem for would-be home-buyers: The cost of homes is rising inexorably, and at a considerably faster rate than inflation.

In September 2003, the average price of a new house was \$256,200, according to the Commerce Department. That was an increase of 5.6% from the previous year.

In some locations, it's much worse, according to CNN.com. Single-family house prices in San Diego leaped 26.6% in a year; in Las Vegas, 13.1%; in Norfolk, Virginia, 20.9%; and in Ft. Lauderdale, 20.8%.

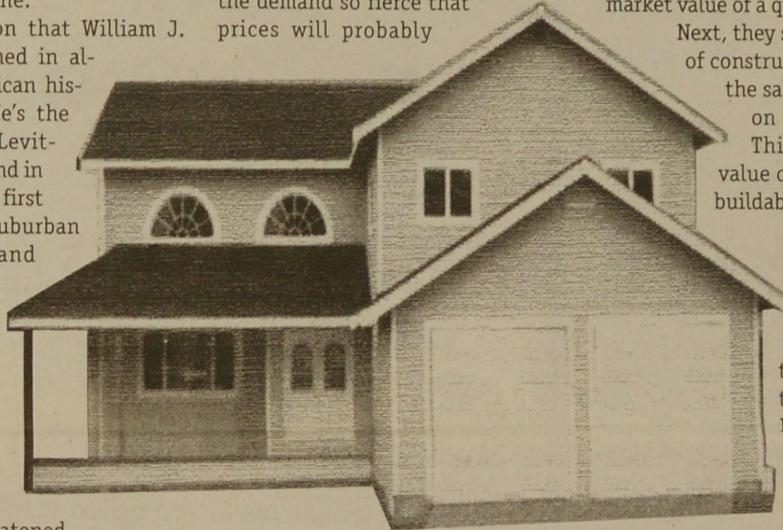
Thanks to this habitation inflation, the average single-family home in Massachusetts will set you back \$375,541. In the San Francisco Bay area, it will cost you \$447,000. And

## Libertarian SOLUTIONS

in the New York City area, be prepared to pay \$309,800.

As a result, many lower middle-class and poor families are being priced out of the housing market.

Of course, sometimes the problem is simply that too many people want to live in one particular location. There are some coveted locations — think Manhattan and San Francisco — where land is so scarce and the demand so fierce that prices will probably



search conclusively proved that this intuitive conclusion was, in fact, absolutely true.

In the study, "The Impact of Zoning on Housing Affordability," Edward Glaeser and Joseph Gyourko compared the effect of zoning on housing prices in 26 U.S. cities, including Atlanta, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Houston, San Diego, and Seattle.

Glaeser and Gyourko used a clever method to figure out the cost of the "zoning tax."

First, they compared the prices of houses on quarter-acre lots to the cost of similar homes on half-acre lots. The difference gave the "raw" market value of a quarter-acre of land.

Next, they subtracted the cost of constructing a house from the sales prices of homes on quarter-acre lots. This gave them the value of a quarter-acre of buildable land.

"The first value is the amount people are willing to pay for an extra quarter-acre of land in their yard," wrote Randal O'Toole in an article about the Harvard study in *Environment News* (November 1, 2002). "The second value is the amount it costs to own a quarter-acre of land on which you can build a house. Without zoning and land-use regulation, the two values would be nearly identical."

But if there is a difference in the price of an "extra" quarter-acre and a "buildable" quarter-acre, that difference is the added cost of zoning laws (and local regulations), concluded Glaeser and Gyourko.

And what a difference it was. In San Francisco, the cost of an extra quarter-acre of property is \$85,000 — while the cost of a buildable quarter-acre lot is nearly \$700,000. The difference, about \$615,000, is the cost of zoning.

In other cities, including Seattle, New York City, San Diego, Anaheim, and Los Angeles, the cost of zoning is more than \$200,000.

"In these areas, only a small percentage of the value of the lot comes from an intrinsically high land price; the rest is due to restrictions on construction," wrote O'Toole.

The results inspired Glaeser and Gyourko to offer a proposal: "If policy advocates are interested in reducing housing costs, they would do well to start with zoning reform. Reducing the implied zoning tax on new construction could have a massive impact on housing prices."

**2) Repeal building regulations.** In 1991, Americans learned exactly how much government regulation

always be sky-high.

But in most places, the price of homes is higher than it should be because of the government. Ironically, while local, state, and federal governments spend billions of dollars to promote "affordable housing," they are working to solve a problem they helped create.

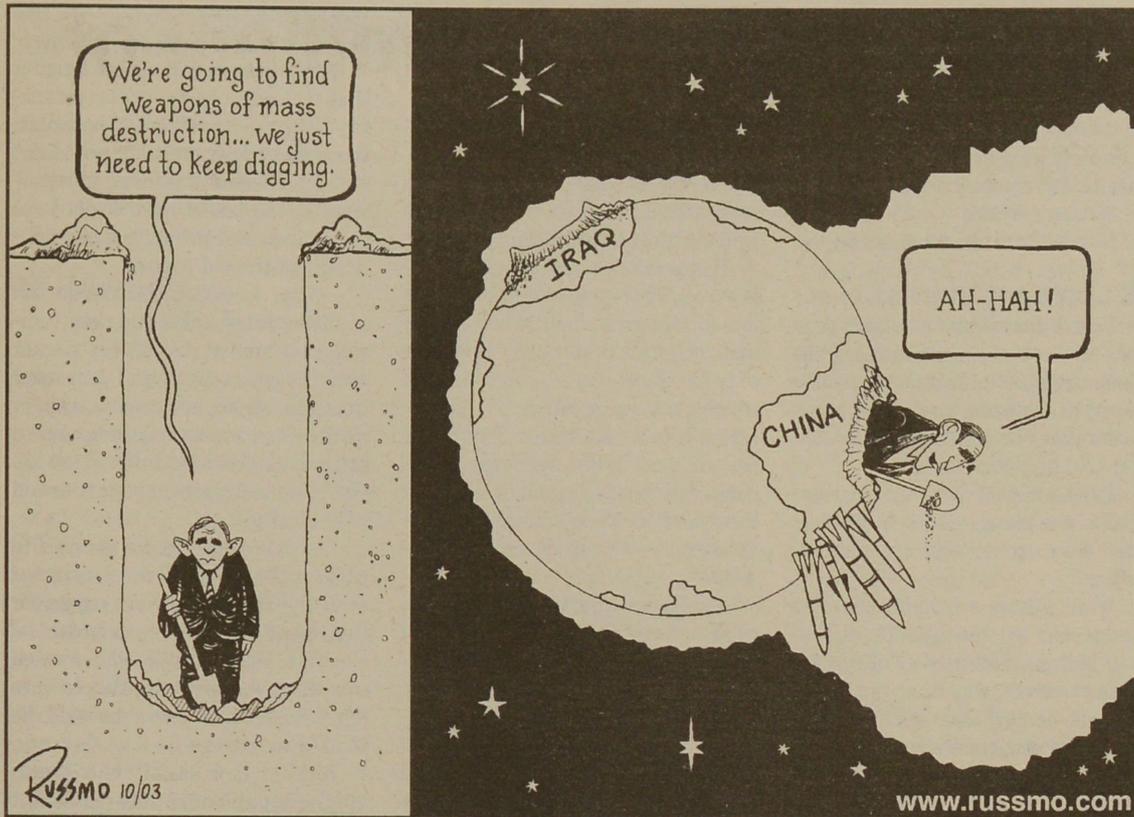
Here's what Libertarians would do to start making the cost of housing more reasonable:

**1) Repeal zoning laws.**

Libertarians have always made the argument that zoning laws drive up home prices by restricting the amount of available land. (Scarcity always equals higher prices.)

However, a 2002 study by the Harvard Institute of Economic Re-

**LP News**  
Visit us  
**Online**  
for a  
daily dose  
of news  
& commentary from  
the Libertarian Party  
[www.LP.org/lpnews](http://www.LP.org/lpnews)



## THE MAILBOX



### ■ Immoral penalty

Mr. Matthew Alexander's defense of the death penalty does not pass the Libertarian smell test. [The Forum, November 2003.]

Where is his skepticism regarding the perfectibility of government power when he asserts what is needed is reform, not abolition?

This is the same government that has brought us the catastrophic war on poverty, a Patriot Act that attacks our civil liberties, a war on terrorism that has decreased our security, and divinely inspired military adventurism that has made us into an aggressor nation.

Wrongful incarceration, which the government is often and inevitably guilty of, is reversible. Wrongful execution is not. How many innocents is it OK to kill? I think a Libertarian should say: "None."

Mr. Alexander takes issue with the assertion that the death penalty is wrong as "begging the question."

On the contrary, this is the most fundamental argument against the death penalty. It stems from the basic premise of any ethics — that there is a right and a wrong, a good and a bad. Good is to be done and evil avoided.

The death penalty is immoral; like slavery, rape, genocide and murder — which is just what the death penalty is.

— **GEORGE MCGEE**  
Wexford, Pennsylvania

### ■ Capital solution

The death penalty debate goes on. The combination of the Libertarian Party's position on gun control and

**"THE DEATH  
penalty is immoral;  
like slavery, rape,  
genocide, and  
murder — which is  
just what the  
death penalty is."**

the anti-capital punishment position proposed by some make for an interesting study.

If you threaten to kill me and I whip out a gun and kill you in self defense, it's a Libertarian Good Thing (LGT). But if you kill me, then you gain some sort of spotted-owl-like protection. Since I missed my chance to kill you, it becomes a Libertarian Bad Thing (LBT) for you to be put to death by the state.

It's an LGT if I kill you on suspicion, but an LBT if the state executes you after due process of investigations, jury trials, and appeals. This is supposed to make sense?

Time for a (trumpets, please) Libertarian solution! Make it possible for those who oppose the death penalty to adopt criminals such as you. Your capital punishment would be deferred so long as the following conditions were met:

1. Your adopter would assume all costs for your incarceration, medical care, frivolous appeals, etc.
2. You would agree that if you

committed another crime, you would victimize only your adopter and his immediate family.

3. If you're naughty and commit a crime against anyone else, then the deferral of your sentence is terminated and the sentence is carried out. In addition, your adopter would receive the same sentence as a co-conspirator.

Pretty neat, huh? Those who oppose capital punishment would bear the costs and most of the risks of keeping you alive, thereby removing those costs from the taxpayers who don't oppose capital punishment. Nothing is more Libertarian than that.

— **DON WACKER**  
Issaquah, Washington

### ■ Don't eat me

As a meat eater, I am insulted by John Corn's assertion that "meat-eating Libertarian" is a contradiction in terms. [The MailBox, November 2003.]

He bases his argument on not eating "sentient" animals. I suggest he look up sentient. My dictionary has: "1. Capable of feeling: Conscious. 2. The human mind."

While it is true a pig can have feelings of cold, hunger, and pain, I don't think it processes them the same way as we do. I could be wrong. (After all, I have never been a pig.) I will not insult Mr. Corn or others who think differently.

I do not think Mr. Corn and other vegans have the right to judge me based on the lack of evidence. If a pig ever says, "Please don't eat me,"

See **MAILBOX** Page 24

## THE PULSE

### Educating ourselves

Think Floyd once sang: "We don't need no education; we don't need no thought control."

LP News readers chorused: "Sure we do!" (Well, the education part, anyway.)

In response to this month's unscientific Pulse question — "Does the Libertarian Party need an organized system of 'internal education' to keep party members properly principled?" — a plurality of readers answered in the affirmative.

Exactly 45% of respondents said that such an instructional plan would help keep "candidates from straying from the LP's positions," or would "make LP members more uniform in espousing the philosophy." At the very least, it would give new members a "better understanding of what the party is all about," they said.

On the other hand, 40% were opposed to internal education, arguing that it was patronizing, or would duplicate other groups' efforts, or would distract the party from political action. It's another example of the LP's culture of "childish bickering over purity," said one.

Finally, 15% gave answers that were confusing or ambiguous. (Full disclosure: 20 people responded to this month's question, which means that the winning side picked up nine votes.)

In the spirit of internal education, here's what readers had to say:

■ Yes, as long as it's not overdone. Eloquent periodic reminders of Libertarian ideology can be unobtrusive and very beneficial. Just like any organized endeavor, a good foundation begins with the basics. An organization without a solid core of beliefs that are uniform among its members eventually becomes weakened.

— **DEAN RUTHERFORD**, Hailey, Idaho

■ There is no need to reinvent the wheel. The major progress of the libertarian movement has been in education on all fronts: academic, policy research, popular outreach, periodicals, book publishers, etc. The LP should stay focused on its special niche — political action — and direct all of its resources to that goal.

— **PHILIP BLUMEL**, Lake Worth, Florida

■ Why not? Although LP members are clearly more knowledgeable about the "official" political philosophy than any other party, some people "stray" inadvertently and may mis-educate others. A system to make LP members more uniform in espousing the philosophy would only serve to further focus the party.

— **STEVE AFTON**, Rochester Hills, Michigan

■ No! Such a system is the problem with Democrats and Republicans.

— **RICHARD W. SWINNEY**, Oxford, Mississippi

■ Both sides are half right. The party needs to provide a balanced program that educates the new members and the general public while not patronizing or preaching from the philosophy ivory tower. Educate by showing the hard data and the pros and cons of the current government compared to the proposed libertarian system.

— **RICHARD PRAWDZIENSKI**, Edmond, Oklahoma

■ Yes. While there are many LP materials available, internal education could help members meaningfully share the LP philosophy with others. Internal education will both unify members and draw in new members.

— **LYNDELL ROTTMANN**, Houston, Texas

■ Yes. This would help our candidates from straying from the LP's positions. Also, just because we are interested in ideological purity, doesn't mean we don't want real-world success.

— **JEREMY MAIKRANZ**, Framcisco, Indiana

■ Not if the LP really wants to grow. This childish internal bickering over purity is one of the leading reasons why Libertarians look like fools to many people — including other Libertarians. Perhaps lessons in tolerance would be more appropriate.

— **DON WACKER**, Issaquah, Washington

■ I joined the Libertarian Party because it is the only political organization that supports the concepts of individual liberty and individual responsibility. However, if the party proposes to implement "internal education" in order to ensure that I think the right way, then I'll have no choice but to say, "Goodbye and good luck, you're going to need it."

— **STEVEN BENTON**, Champaign, Illinois

■ Yes, a method of internal education is necessary. For years I called myself "Libertarian," based solely on the Quiz, because I couldn't find anything concrete in what I had read of Libertarianism. Of course,

See **THE PULSE** Page 24

## THE PULSE

Continued from Page 23

nobody has to be 100% compatible; I'm sure I'll find some ideas that I agree with and others that I don't. But at least I, and other newbies, will have a better understanding of what the party is all about.

— J. ANDREW PARSONS, Hampton, Virginia

■ As a party that promotes "free minds" it strikes me as hypocritical that the LP would suggest that members need ideological "internal education." Certainly, we need to cease internal squabbles on petty ideological points, but programs to promote "right thought" are not the solution. Our primary concern should be in getting Libertarians in public office to effect change and reform.

— TODD J. FARNWORTH, Boone, North Carolina

■ There's no more vital need for the LP than that our members become immersed in the libertarian philosophy. But you ask whether the LP should "organize" this, and that means allocating resources, and there I think not. Instead, please use LP News to remind everyone every month to make better use of the superb library of libertarian books available from Laissez-Faire — and of many good Internet sites.

— JIM DAVIES, Newbury, New Hampshire

■ I think that it is a good idea for party members to have a knowledge of its principles. We may not all be in total agreement with them all. But then, we would not be surprised when we hear of one that we were not familiar with.

— TONY EISELE, Wildwood Crest, New Jersey

■ Internal education, yes; by means of some "organized system" — probably not. Members already are obliged to sign the non-initiation of force pledge. The platform provides additional ideological guidance. Anything more begins to smell of dogmatism.

— BRUCE EARNHEART, Dayton, Ohio

## Feb. Question: Iraq Views Now?

Back in 2002, when Libertarians began debating the wisdom of a U.S. invasion of Iraq, the debate was entirely *theoretical*. Did Iraq have WMD? If so, did they pose a danger to the U.S.? Was Saddam Hussein an ally of al Qaeda? Will an invasion of Iraq increase or decrease the risk of future terrorists attacks? Now, six months after Saddam was toppled, those questions have not been definitively answered, but facts are emerging. No Iraqi WMD have been found. No clear Saddam/al Qaeda link has been discovered. On November 1, an FBI spokesman said al Qaeda is still a "very, very serious threat" to the USA. The U.S. faces a "long, hard slog" to pacify Iraq, says Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. And more than 150 U.S. soldiers have been killed since "victory" was declared. That got us wondering: Given what has happened since the U.S. invasion of Iraq, has your opinion about the merits of attacking that nation changed from a year ago?

■ QUESTION: Regarding the U.S. invasion of Iraq, in which of the following four categories do you fall: 1) You opposed it before and oppose it now. 2) You supported it before and support it now. 3) You opposed it before but support it now. 4) You supported it before but oppose it now. And why? (Keep answers to 100 words.)

■ DEADLINE: January 8, 2004

## January Question: Immigration?

Is it time to rethink the Libertarian Party's "open-borders" plank? In an age of international terrorism, is a policy that would allow anyone unrestricted access to the USA a recipe for disaster? And in an age of "anti-sprawl" sentiments, is a policy that would allow foreigners to flood into the USA a recipe for political disaster? Or, is open immigration such a core Libertarian principle that changing it would violate the essence of the party? Either way, it's an issue that Libertarians seem to be discussing more. In the October LP News, one reader argued that open immigration is a "disastrously anti-freedom policy" that empowers terrorists and leads to global governance. Other Libertarians have suggested that immigration will be for the LP in the 2000s what the drug issue was in the '90s — that is, a reason why Americans won't consider voting Libertarian. Do they have a point?

■ QUESTION: Is it time to change the Libertarian Party's "open borders" position on immigration? If not, why not? If so, what should replace it? (Please keep answers to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: December 8, 2003

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include your name and your city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied! Enter just once per month.

■ E-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org. (Put "Pulse" in subject line.)

■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ Mail: Bill Winter, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 1640 Worcester Road, #330-D, Framingham, MA 01702

## THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 23

then they have proof that I'm a non-Libertarian monster.

— WILLIAM BERRY  
New Bedford, Massachusetts

### ■ Don't eat plants?

I can't understand how Josh Corn sees that eating meat violates the pledge against initiating "force as a means of achieving political or social goals." Does he see eating as a political goal or a social one?

Furthermore, I don't see any mention in the pledge that it applies, as Corn sees, specifically to "sentient beings."

While I have no doubt that the pledge was written to apply to human beings; if its applicability were to be extended, why draw the line at sentient beings? Opinions on which beings are sentient and which are not surely span a wide range, so any such line would be largely arbitrary.

And why do non-sentient beings not have the same rights? Maybe Libertarians have to give up eating plants as well?

— BRADLEY BOBBS  
Calabasas, California

### ■ 'For sale' lawsuits

I noted with amusement and approval in the November LP News that councilman Andy LeCureaux was able to convince the Hazel Park (Michigan) city council to torpedo a city ordinance that made it illegal for persons to display "For Sale" signs on cars in their driveways.

In California, we have many cities in which a city ordinance makes it illegal to park a car on a city street with a "For Sale" sign. Not only is this an infringement on First Amendment rights, but because the state Vehicle Code "occupies the field," the cities are without legal authority to legislate anything that's covered in the vehicle code.

Unfortunately, I have not found a single California city that has chosen to abandon these ordinances voluntarily, as accomplished by Mr. LeCureaux. It has been only under threat or actual filing of a lawsuit that we have managed to wipe these ordinances off the books in Ventura, Oxnard, Solana Beach, San Diego, and soon, Chula Vista.

— ROBERT CHATENEVER  
Oxnard, California

### ■ Nothing to show?

In the November 2003 MailBox, Aaron Turpen excoriates me for being critical of Utah gubernatorial candidate Richard Mack, whom Mr. Turpen believes to be "the most viable candidate the LP has ever had." He concludes that I must not want the Libertarian Party to succeed.

Evidently, Mr. Turpen has never read any of my columns published in LP News during the past few years. Each one expressed my desire to see the LP become a truly competitive political party instead of a comparatively obscure debating society.

Unlike Mr. Turpen, however, I know that in the past there have been

many relatively high-profile Libertarians touted as "the most viable candidate the LP has ever had." I also realize that none of them actually won election (or even came close).

History shows that when Libertarian candidates for major offices are concerned primarily with their own political ambitions, they not only fail to get elected, they also fail to grow the organization for the benefit of future candidates. That's why the LP must field candidates whose campaigns primarily aim to advertise libertarian ideology and the Libertarian Party — not to advertise themselves.

Mr. Mack explicitly said he's running because he wants to become governor and not because he wants to promote the Libertarian Party. That statement concerned me — not because I'm "afraid of success" as Mr. Turpen claims — but because it foreshadows yet another "viable candidate" who could lose a race badly and leave the LP with nothing to show for his campaign.

— JONATHAN TRAGER  
Washington, DC

### ■ Satanic Potter?

This is in reference to the recent article published in LP News extolling the virtues of Harry Potter ["Harry Potter: The new Atlas Shrugged?," September 2003].

If this article is an indication that you can relate the Libertarian Party to the Satanically-oriented drivel of the Harry Potter series, then count me out.

— ROGER F. MONTEEN  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

■ Editor's note: The article noted the presence of some libertarian concepts in the Harry Potter books. There is no formal association between the Libertarian Party and the Harry Potter series.

### ■ Amplify your vote

Libertarians sometimes get impatient and support some candidate from another party that sounds a little libertarian. This is because they do not see Libertarians taking over

the political world, and they feel this person may be a good compromise.

Well, before you do, remember that if it was not for uncompromising Libertarians being on the ballot, those politicians probably would not even be aware of our ideas. Libertarians on the ballot have kept those ideas alive, and influenced the politicians in the old parties.

Also, why would someone run as a Libertarian, taking up their valuable time and money, if they cannot count on your support and your vote? How will we attract capable and/or wealthy and attractive candidates to carry the Libertarian torch if you are not going to give them your vote and your loyalty?

So next time you are tempted to vote for the lesser of two evils rather than the Libertarian just remember the lesson of the last presidential election. Many people who wanted smaller government decided to vote for G.W. Bush because he said he wanted to cut taxes.

But, just like all the times before Republicans said that, not only has G.W. doubled and quadrupled social spending in the U.S., he has also put almost everyone in Afghanistan and Iraq on welfare, too. Instead of fighting terrorists, he has decided to put them all on welfare, food stamps, and subsidized medical care — as well as giving them a cushy government job.

G.W. has added about \$5,000 per year per person to the tax bill of every American for the next 10 years. So don't get fooled again, vote Libertarian 110% of the time. By voting Libertarian you amplify your vote by a hundred times.

— MARK SELZER  
Hollywood, California

### ■ Forget the wedge

Mark Stryker crystalized my thoughts perfectly when he wrote, "Let's focus our campaigns on smaller government and less spending. That's our most winning principle, and the rest will follow." [The MailBox, November 2003.]

Let's forget the "wedge issues" and keep our eyes on the prize!

— GEORGE PERKINS  
Worcester, Massachusetts

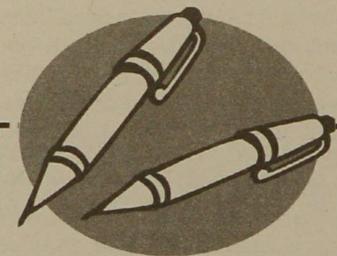
### ■ No smoking science

LP News printed a letter claiming secondhand smoke causes 35,000 deaths each year. ["Smoker's Rights?," Charles E. Geisel, The MailBox, November 2003]. Sorry, but there is no science to support that statement.

There is only one scientific fact about tobacco causing harm. Tobacco, specifically cigarette smoking, significantly contributes to the risk of getting lung cancer. However, tobacco does not cause lung cancer. Ninety-nine percent of smokers will not get lung cancer, and many lung cancer patients never smoke tobacco.

Every time the media says item A has been linked to illness B, people should ask what is meant by "link"? Does "link" mean causation or correlation or both?

I strongly recommend people read *Junk Science Judo* by Steve Milloy and See **THE MAILBOX** Page 25



## Make Your Voice Heard!

LP News welcomes letters. Send correspondence to:

E-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org.  
Fax: (202) 333-0072  
(Attn: LP News).

Mail: Bill Winter, Attn: LP News,  
1640 Worcester Road, #330-D,  
Framingham, MA 01702

**THE MAILBOX**

Continued from Page 24  
visit ConsumerFreedom.com. You will learn more than you expect.

— **ANDREW SULLIVAN**  
Omaha, Nebraska

**Mustard gas**

Three cheers to Charles Geisel for his letter! The LP wouldn't support releasing sarin or mustard gas in a restaurant, so why is tobacco smoke considered sacrosanct?

We've all heard the expression, "Your right to swing your fist stops at my nose." By supporting smokers' imaginary "right" to pollute the air in public places, the LP is supporting the aggressors, and is effectively advocating violence against nonsmokers.

It is also important to note that inconsiderate smokers themselves are the real cause of the bans; how many smokers will cheerfully put out their cigarette when asked?

Smoking, like other recreational drug use, should be done privately, at home, or not at all — never in any public place. Any effort to repeal the smoking bans is immoral, and will reinforce the popular stereotype of Libertarians as crazies.

It's a sad day for liberty and for the LP when the best [California] gubernatorial candidate we can come up with is a tobacco pusher — what's next, a cocaine dealer for president?  
— **DEAN WAHLS**  
Venice, California

**Prove it, Charlie**

Mayor Bloomberg of New York City claims without any proof whatsoever that 1,000 people die in the city each year from secondary smoke.

Minister Michael Martin, Ireland's Commissar of Health, claims 1,200 people in New York City die from secondary smoke because the mayor told him. Ireland's new anti-smoking laws are worse than New York City's.

Charles E. Geisel claims it's a proven fact that 35,000 people die each year from secondary smoke. Nonsense. Prove it Charlie. I claim that there is no verifiable scientific evidence that anyone ever died from secondary smoke. Go for it Charlie.

— **RICHARD J. SAVADEL**  
Massapequa, New York

**Missing the point**

Re: Mr. Geisel's letter. I guess two out of three ain't bad.

I can't speak for Libertarians in general, but as a Libertarian, I certainly do support "the right of people to irritate ... people." To do otherwise would make a mockery of the First Amendment.

As regards causing injury to oth-

ers, I certainly do not support that as a right, but there are no honest studies showing harm (other than irritation) as a result of secondhand smoke.

But in general, I believe Mr. Geisel misses the point. It's not that I support "smoker's" rights or "driver's" rights or even "silly letters to the Editor" rights. It's that unless there is harm caused by a specific activity, I support anyone's right to do anything their little heart desires.

Totalitarian governments are in the habit of "allowing" certain activities. Free governments, on the other hand, should prohibit only those few which harm others. You don't like it? Take a walk...

— **RON LADOW**  
San Francisco, California

**Smoke is force**

Shame on any Libertarian who thinks smokers' rights are anywhere near as important as breathers' rights.

It doesn't matter whether research proves that secondhand smoke can kill you or not (though it certainly looks like it can). It stinks! It really, really stinks. That alone is reason enough to ban smoking in every workplace, restaurant, bar, public conveyance, and other public places.

This is not a matter of property

rights. It is a matter of assault. How would you like to try to eat your dinner with an open bowl of ammonia or a dead skunk right next to you? That's what it's like to eat in a restaurant that allows smoking.

Separate smoking and non-smoking areas do not work, especially for the waitresses who have to work both areas. Plus, the stench spreads like fog throughout a restaurant. The only solution is to ban smoking wherever it can affect non-smokers.

Smokers, stop acting like rebellious teens. Stop saying, "You're not the boss of me. You can't tell me what to do. I will smoke if I want to. Put up with it and breathe my smoke." Obviously somebody needs to tell you what to do, because you are not smart enough to recognize the right thing to do without being told.

— **DAVID BROWN**  
Glastonbury, Connecticut

**Federal Party**

Several months ago, *LP News* contained an item about changing the Libertarian Party's name to the Federal Party. Whatever happened to this idea, which I wholeheartedly agree with?

Please let us know if the suggestion to change our name has any support among the membership, if for no other reason than "Federal" is easier to explain than "Libertarian."

— **FRED BLUESTONE**  
Hollywood, Florida



**Team Libertarian celebrates at Desert Dash**

■ "Team Libertarian" holds aloft its medal — and a sign promoting the Libertarian Party — at the Desert Dash Adventure Race near Henderson, Nevada on October 25.

Las Vegas Libertarians Roger Roots (l) and Joe Silvestri finished third of 17 two-member teams in the off-road endurance race that featured trail-running, mountain biking, rope agility, a paintball slingshot competition, and canoeing on Lake Mead.

Team Libertarian crossed the finish line in 3 hours and 20 minutes, and "proudly" displayed the Libertarian banner during the medal ceremony, said Roots. "[We] also handed out Libertarian literature [to] the other participants," he said.

Silvestri is the Chair of the Clark County LP and the Vice Chair of the Nevada LP. Roots is a lawyer and Ph.D. student at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas (UNLV).

The Power of Just One Signature

**D**o you think our government has gotten too big and too powerful? Do you think a maze of bureaucrats and politicians are chipping away at the freedoms Americans used to take for granted? Do you think the Bill of Rights is being silently repealed — one precious freedom at a time?

**If so, you can help change that by joining the Libertarian Party!** We're the only political party that is fighting — with 100% of our energy — to lower taxes, to reduce the size of government, and to defend the Bill of Rights. With your support — and your proud signature on this membership form — we can work harder than ever to build a powerful political force for freedom.

**But we need your help to do it. Join us today!**

**Libertarian Party Membership!**

- YES! Sign me up today as a proud, dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party!**  
I'll receive 12 monthly issues of *LP News*, and a membership card.  
I'd like to be a Libertarian Party member in the following category:
  - \$1,000 **Life Member**
  - \$500 **Patron Member**
  - \$250 **Sponsoring Member**
  - \$100 **Sustaining Member**
  - \$25 **Basic Member**

**The Libertarian Party is the party of principle.** To publicly affirm what we believe—and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles—we ask our members to proudly sign this statement:  
**> I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.**

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Subscription**

Enclosed is \$25. I'd rather not join just yet. Instead, please sign me up for a one-year subscription to *LP News* (12 monthly issues).

**Name & Address**

SOURCE CODE: 2003-0044

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in an election cycle.

**Payment**

To help you in your important work for liberty, I have enclosed an additional donation of:  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total payment enclosed**

**\$** \_\_\_\_\_

Check/money order enclosed. (No corporate checks, please.)  
 Or: Bill my  Visa  AMEX  
 MasterCard  Discover

ACCT. # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRES \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to support the Libertarian Party on a more regular basis. Please send me information about your monthly Pledge Program — and the benefits for joining.

**Make checks payable to:**

**LIBERTARIAN PARTY**

2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite 100  
 Washington DC 20037  
 Phone: (202) 333-0008  
 Fax: (202) 333-0072 • www.LP.org

**www.Ideologo.com**  
 Liberty  
 Bill of Rights  
 Founders' Quotes  
 Limited Government  
 Gear \* Shirts \* Totes

# How to start solving the affordable housing problem

Continued from Page 22

tions cost them when buying a new home.

The Kemp Commission, headed by Housing and Urban Development Secretary Jack Kemp, had spent a year studying "barriers to affordable housing," and then released a groundbreaking report.

The commission found "the evidence is overwhelming that regulations needlessly raise housing costs," reported the Heritage Foundation's Carl F. Horowitz.

Building regulations — which covered everything from the size of the house, to the type of plumbing fixtures allowed, to which agencies had to approve construction — is "choking off the supply of affordable housing," the commission reported.

For example, the Kemp Commission discovered:

■ In Chicago, Illinois, restrictive building codes added \$20,000 to the cost of a 1,500-square-foot home.

■ In New Jersey, regulations increased the price of a new home by 25% to 35%. In Mercer County, N.J., a construction project had to clear 11 reviews from nine different government agencies.

■ In Orange County, California, the permit process jacked up the cost of a single-family home by \$20,000 to \$40,000.

But are government building codes needed to protect families from unsafe construction? No, said Joseph L. Bast in an August 1991 study for the Heartland Institute.

France, he noted, has never had a U.S.-style building code enforcement system. Instead, building standards are voluntary — but building contractors face strict civil liability if they construct shoddy, hazardous buildings.

To protect themselves against civil liability, French builders buy insurance. Insurance companies, in turn, inspect buildings under construction to make sure they are safe.

In France (of all places!) a free-market system takes the place of a



slow, cumbersome government regulatory process.

### 3. Eliminate cities' and towns' "Smart Growth" policies.

There are two words that affordable-housing advocates should fear more than all others: "Smart Growth."

The phrase denotes a wide range of government action designed to limit a community's growth — usually in the name of "stopping sprawl" or "saving open space."

Smart growth initiatives come in a variety of forms: Strict limits on growth, impact fees on new construction, "open space" land purchases, or a prohibition on new construction.

But they have one thing in common: "Smart growth initiatives are effectively pricing most new homes beyond the reach of entry-level buyers," note Wendell Cox and Dr. Ronald D. Utt in an April 6, 2001 report for the Heritage Foundation.

"By restricting the amount of land available for development, growth-guiding policies indirectly raise the price of homes by rationing the supply of raw land," they report. "Policies designed to reduce or discourage growth, by comparison, generally involve techniques and approaches that directly raise the price of new housing through a variety of mechanisms, such as minimum lot sizes, impact fees, or mandated amenities." As a result, "these actions dis-

criminate against the less well-to-do by pricing them out of the homeownership market."

After Portland, Oregon, for example, imposed strict growth limits, home prices jumped well beyond the national average, and the rate of home ownership fell (in contrast to most of the nation, where it rose), noted Cox and Utt.

What can be done? The solution, they said, is simple: "Governments should refrain from implementing coercive and costly growth control mechanisms that raise house prices beyond the affordable range of the entry-level buyer."

### 4. Eliminate all government-mandated "low-income" housing.

In addition to low-income units built by the government, politicians frequently claim they can expand housing opportunities by mandating affordable housing construction by private contractors.

Usually, such programs require builders to set aside 25% of new homes for low-income families at sharply reduced prices. If the construction company doesn't agree, it won't get permission to build.

The problem, says Jerald W. Johnson in a 1997 report for Hobson Johnson & Associates, is that while such programs do provide some low-cost housing, they drive up the price of most other houses.

Why? Because contractors lose money on each low-income home they are forced to sell at below-market rates. So, they raise the price of their other units to recoup that loss.

As a result, such laws "function as a tax on new development," said Johnson. "This tax is passed on to the consumer."

So, while a minority of low-income families benefit, the majority are forced to watch the price of homes soar even further out of reach.

If politicians genuinely want to help the largest number of low-income families, they would repeal all laws that mandate "low-income" housing set-asides.

### Conclusion

To be sure, the cost of buying a home in most regions in the United States does not constitute a "crisis" — the survey by the National Association of Realtors notwithstanding.

A record 68.4% of Americans own their own homes, according to U.S. Census data. And thanks to near-record low interest rates, sales of new and previously owned homes continue at a strong pace.

But there is a dark side to the rosy statistics.

Nationally, the number of homes being foreclosed because of nonpayment of mortgages is the highest in 30 years, reports the Mortgage Bankers Association of America.

And in some municipalities around the USA, average American families are being shut out of home ownership because of absurdly high prices. They are being forced to commute long distances, move to different states, or settle for living in an apartment.

Eliminating the artificial "tax" that government imposes on the price of homes — via zoning laws, building regulations, and anti-sprawl laws — would help solve the problem.

It would reduce foreclosure rates, since lower housing costs would mean lower, more affordable mortgage payments.

It would help some families buy "more house" for the same amount of money.

And it would make it possible for more Americans to purchase their coveted "house with a white picket fence."

## UPCOMING

### March 19-21, 2004

**Pennsylvania LP Convention**, Harrisburg Hilton Hotel, Harrisburg. Speakers include Michael Badnarik and Gary Nolan (candidates for the 2004 LP presidential nomination). For information, call: (717) 233-6000. Or e-mail: info@lppa.org.

### March 26-27, 2004

**Virginia LP Convention**, Richmond Marriott Hotel, Richmond. Speakers TBA. For information, contact Jim Lark at: (434) 973-5958. Or e-mail: affiliates@lpva.com.

### March 27, 2004

**Arkansas LP Convention**, Hot Springs Convention Center, Hot Springs, Arkansas. Speakers TBA. For information, e-mail: bfarlp@leapfroginet.com. Or call: (866) 244-7341. Or write: Arkansas LP, P.O. Box 15214, Little Rock, AR 72231.

### April 23-25, 2004

**Ohio LP Convention**, Clarion Hotel and Suites, Cincinnati. Speakers TBA. For information, e-mail Steve Schulte at: srschult@iac.net. Or call: (513) 923-4299.

### April 24, 2004

**Connecticut LP Convention**, The Colony Hotel, New Haven. Speakers TBA. For information, e-mail: vicechair@lpct.org.

### May 13-15, 2004

**Freedom Fest 2004: "Where Free Minds Meet,"** Bally's and Paris, Las Vegas. Sponsored by Mark Skousen and Holland World Seminars. Speakers include Ron Crickenberger (former LP political director). For information, visit: www.freedomfest.com. Or call: (800) USA-1776.

### May 27-31, 2004

**Libertarian Presidential Nominating Convention**, Marriott Atlanta Marquis Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia. Speakers include Dean Cameron (actor), James Gray (U.S. district judge), Neal Boortz (syndicated radio talk show host), James Lark (past LP national chair), Richard Mack (anti-Brady Bill sheriff), David Nolan (Libertarian Party founder), Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*), and Ed Thompson (2002 Wisconsin LP gubernatorial candidate). Entertainers include blues musician Jimmie Vaughan. Questions, comments, suggestions, e-mail: convention@hq.LP.org. Or visit: www.LP.org/conv/2004.

### June 11-13, 2004

**Texas LP Convention**, College Station Hilton Hotel, College Station. Speakers TBA. For information, call Christopher Jagge at: (979) 695-9646. Or e-mail: c\_jagge@email.msn.com.

## WANTED: LP NEWS EDITOR

The Libertarian Party is seeking a talented, experienced libertarian to take over as editor of *LP News*, the party's official monthly newspaper, on January 1, 2004.

The ideal candidate will have a broad range of professional (or volunteer equivalent) experience in every facet of newspaper production: Writing, editing, design, layout, advertising, and dealing with printers. Candidates should have:

• A degree in journalism, English, or technical writing, or at least three years of professional experience (or volunteer equivalent) in news writing.

• Experience as an editor of a regular publication, with responsibility for selecting stories, editing stories (for accuracy, completeness, and consistent style), acquiring

artwork and photographs, dealing with advertisers, and working on a deadline.

• Design and production experience with professional-level page layout programs (like PageMaker, Quark, InDesign), and experience in publication design, preparing photographs, and designing advertisements.

NOTE: If you previously applied for this position last year, please feel free to apply again.

Send resume, three samples of publications containing editing, design, and production work, and writing samples (ideally, two examples each of news, feature, and opinion pieces) to: Libertarian Party, ATTN: Joe Seehusen, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037.

Or e-mail to: Joe.Seehusen@hq.LP.org.

# BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

For information about advertising in the LP News "Business Card Directory," call (508) 820-7340. Or e-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org. PLEASE NOTE: Any literature sold on this page reflects the personal political and/or social beliefs of the authors. It does not represent the "official" Platform positions — or political strategies — of the Libertarian Party. In addition, the Libertarian Party makes no guarantees about, or endorsement of, the effectiveness, degree of risk, or legality of any financial advice, legal services, or investment opportunities advertised in LP News.

Find out about the other **Death Tax** that effects nearly all of us, and how to reduce or eliminate its effect on you.

[www.DixonEnt.com/DeathTax.htm](http://www.DixonEnt.com/DeathTax.htm)

## A History of Force

*Exploring the worldwide movement against habits of coercion, bloodshed, and mayhem*

In this new book, political scientist James L. Payne presents an innovative perspective on world history and the future of government.

Available at fine bookstores or from  
**Lytton Publishing Company**  
 Box 1212, Sandpoint, ID 83864  
 \$23.95 plus \$3.50 S&H  
[www.lyttonpublishing.com](http://www.lyttonpublishing.com)

Thousands of freedom lovers have already discovered the web's best political satire site.

HOW THE HELL DID THAT HAPPEN?!?

# rebelholler.com

seriously funny deadly serious  
 libertarian political satire

# MARIJUANA

Your First Human Right

Find Out At:

[www.firsthumanright.org](http://www.firsthumanright.org)



## ANTON GEOLOGICAL

Western U.S. Geological and Environmental Services

- ✓ Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments for Commercial Real Estate Transactions
- ✓ Contamination Investigations
- ✓ Free Proposals and Cost Estimates
- ✓ Wide Geographic Range of Operation

P. O. Box 370, Elk, California 95432-0370  
 Toll Free: 1-888-877-8707 [www.antongeological.com](http://www.antongeological.com)

# NATURAL SUPPLEMENTS LOWEST PRICES IN THE WORLD

Young Again Products Internet  
[www.GetYoungAgain.com](http://www.GetYoungAgain.com)

Free weekly newsletter exposing all the frauds and hucksters.

Free library of health reports on menopause, prostate, cancer, minerals, obesity, immunity, osteoporosis, arthritis, memory, cholesterol, diabetes, aging, diet, weight loss, pms, heart health, hormones, impotence, life extension.

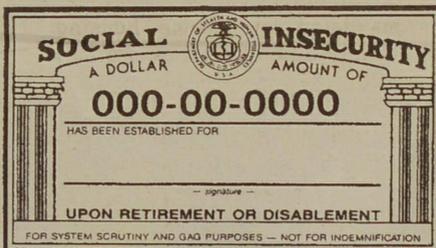
**READ ALL ROGER MASON'S BOOKS FOR FREE**

Call (866) 212-7900 toll free  
[www.GetYoungAgain.com](http://www.GetYoungAgain.com)

## Do you want fewer incumbents re-elected?

For more information, send \$5 and your name and address to:

S.O.P.  
 117 N. 4th Street #1776  
 Las Vegas, NV 89101-2932



### Social Insecurity Cards

100 for \$20 or 1000 for \$150  
 True Q Enterprises  
 PO Box 511371 \* New Berlin WI 53151

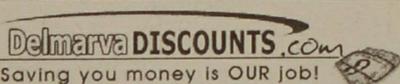
Save 30-60% on Your Bills!

We Represent Over 50 Competitive Vendors. Competition = Significant Savings for You.

- Long Distance 3.9¢
- Internet from \$12.50

LOWEST PRICES ON: Phone | DSL | Internet | Cellular | And More!

EMAIL FOR MORE INFO OR A FREE BILL AUDIT:  
[support@delmarvadiscunts.com](mailto:support@delmarvadiscunts.com)



Libertarian Owned & Operated!

## Politicians Should Sell Contract Insurance To Us — Not Tax Us.

Please contact me for a free prospectus, or my booklet is \$2. Thanks,

**Dave Hollist**

(909) 980-4198 • [constitution@compuserve.com](mailto:constitution@compuserve.com)  
 Libertarian Candidate for President  
 P.O. Box 1414, Alta Loma, CA 91701-8414  
<http://i.am/trading>

## Legalize Freedom

LEGALIZE FREEDOM TEE-SHIRTS AND BUMPER STICKERS!

When it comes to Freedom, silence is neither golden nor wise. Express Yourself. Legalize Freedom Bumper Stickers: \$2.00 each. Legalize Freedom Tee-Shirts: \$10.00 each. Sticker: Black lettering on white vinyl. Tee-Shirt: Black lettering silk-screened onto Hanes 100% Cotton Beefy Tee, M/Lg/XL. Shipped P.O. Priority Mail: \$2.00 postage each package. Expect 4-6 weeks delivery. Make checks payable to: Martin Belkin, P.O. Box 350357, Brooklyn, New York 11235

## BILL OF RIGHTS SHIRT

Make a statement wearing this quality grey t-shirt with red "VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW"

Over the Bill of Rights in black.

HeavyWeight Pre-Shrunk 100% Cotton t-shirt Sizes M,L,XL,2X

Order by Mail Send 16.95 To:

Libertarian Party  
 PO Box 20815  
 Greenfield, WI 53220

Order over the Web at [www.lpwi.org](http://www.lpwi.org) or by Phone at (800) 236-9236



THAT'S RIGHT. When you purchase a business-card ad in LP News for only \$75, you can reach 24,000 readers with information about your product, campaign, or service for just over a quarter-cent per person. That's a fraction of what you would pay to send material through the mail. Or, buy multiple ads and you can get up to a 35% discount. For a no-obligation advertising package, just call Editor Bill Winter: (508) 820-7340. Or e-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org.

**REACH 24,000 READERS FOR ONLY A QUARTER-CENT PER PERSON**

## Help freeze draft registration.

GO TO

[www.DraftResistance.org](http://www.DraftResistance.org)

**LP INFO**

**LP NATIONAL CHAIR**

Geoffrey Neale

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Joe Seehusen

**ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR**

Rod Severson

**COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

George Getz

**HEADQUARTERS STAFF**

Dianne Pilcher, Affiliate Services  
Ananda Creager, Admin. Assistant

**HEADQUARTERS SERVICES**

Dollie Parker, M'ship Services

**THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY®**

2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Ste 100  
Washington, DC 20037  
(202) 333-0008  
Fax: (202) 333-0072  
Website: www.LP.org  
Office hours: 9 am-5 pm ET, M-F  
New Member Information:  
Call (800) ELECT-US

**LP NEWS EDITOR**

Bill Winter

**CONTACT LP NEWS**

1640 Worcester Road, #330-D  
Framingham, MA 01702  
Phone: (508) 820-7340  
Fax: Call for fax  
E-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org  
Website: www.LP.org/lpnews

**UPCOMING**

**December 11, 2003**

**Forum on "Existentialism/Libertarianism and Personal, Professional and Political Freedom,"** New Melleray Abbey, Dubuque, Iowa. Presented by Richard V. Campagna, candidate for the LP's 2004 vice presidential nomination. For information, e-mail: campodal@avalon.net. Or call: (319) 339-0252.

**January 10, 2004**

**Manhattan LP Convention,** 1050 Restaurant, New York, New York. Speakers include Jacob Sullum (author, *Saying Yes: In Defense of Drug Use*), David Kaczynski (topic: death penalty), Bernie Goetz (topic: jury nullification), and Tim Bailey (NYC Bill of Rights Defense Campaign). For information, e-mail: info@manhattanlp.org.

**January 17, 2004**

**Iowa LP Convention,** Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines. Speakers include LP Executive Director Joe Seehusen. For information, visit: www.lpia.org. Or e-mail: lpiachair@mchsi.com. Or call: (563) 344-0013.

**January 23-25, 2004**

**Conference of Libertarian State Chairs,** Holiday Inn Crabtree Valley, Raleigh, North Carolina. For information, e-mail Sean Haugh at: seanhaugh@mindspring.com. Or call: (919) 286-0152. Or write: Conference of Libertarian State Chairs, Attn: Chuck Williams, P.O. Box 23172, Hilton Head, SC 29925.

**January 24, 2004**

**Oregon LP Candidate Nominating Convention,** Greenwood Inn, Beaverton. Speakers include Michael Badnarik and Gary Nolan (candidates, 2004 LP presidential nomination). For information, call: (800) 829-1992. Or visit: www.lporegon.org.



**January 31, 2004**

**Arizona LP Convention,** Viscount Suite Hotel, Tucson. Speakers include Clint Bolick (Institute for Justice), Gary Nolan and Michael Badnarik (candidates, 2004 LP presidential nomination), and Joe Duarte (colum-

nist, *East Valley Tribune*). For information, visit: www.azlp.org. Or call: (602) 248-8425. Or e-mail: lpaz-info@cox.net.

**February 6-8, 2004**

**Florida LP Convention,** Holiday Inn-University Center, Gainesville. Speakers TBA. For information, visit: www.geocities.com/gilsonde/LPF2004Conv.html. Or call: (800) 478-0555.

**February 28, 2004**

**Georgia LP Convention,** Douglasville Conference Center, Douglasville. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (404) 888-9468. Or e-mail: info@LPGeorgia.com.

**March 5-7, 2004**

**Missouri, Kansas, & Nebraska LP Convention,** Holiday Inn Stadium Complex, Kansas City, Missouri. Speakers include Dr. Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*), Mark Nelson (LNC Representative), Kathryn Graham (author, *Flight From Eden*), and Michael Badnarik and Gary Nolan (candidates, 2004 LP presidential nomination). For information, e-mail: MOLP@LPMO.org. Visit: www.st-charles.lpmo.org/SMF\_Manager.htm. Call: (877) VOTE-4-US.



**March 12-13, 2004**

**New Jersey LP Convention,** Seaview Marriott Resort and Spa, Galloway Township. Speakers include Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*), Dean Ahmad (Minaret of Freedom Institute), and John Berthoud (National Taxpayers Union). For information, visit: www.njlp.org.

**March 12-14, 2004**

**California LP Convention,** San Jose DoubleTree Hotel, San Jose. Speakers include Dean Cameron (actor), Peter Thiel (founder, PayPal), Gary Nolan and Michael Badnarik (candidates for 2004 LP presidential nomination), Geoff Neale (LP national chair), Joe Seehusen (LP executive director), and Rev. Lynnette Shaw (marijuana activist). For information, e-mail: convention@ca.LP.org. Or visit: www.ca.LP.org.

For more Upcoming Events, see page 26

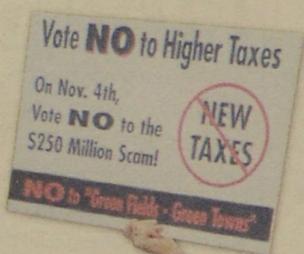
**Libertarian National Committee, Inc.**

Watergate Office Building  
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100  
Washington DC 20037

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Atlanta, GA  
Permit #3592

**INSIDE**

- **PAGE 1** In races around the country, 20 LP candidates win office
- **PAGE 1** Will Libertarians be the giant killers in '04 election?
- **PAGE 3** LP helps save taxpayers \$2.1 billion in initiative races
- **PAGE 4** News from the Nolan, Badnarik presidential campaigns
- **PAGE 22** Making homes affordable



**FIRST WORD**

"Libertarians believe in minimal government and maximum individual freedom."  
— W. JAMES ANTLE III, IntellectualConservative.com, October 15, 2003

"I think libertarian impulses, within limits, are healthy for the body politic. We should all be at least a little skeptical of government's natural hunger for more power."  
— PAT CUNNINGHAM, *The Rockford Register Star* (Illinois), October 23, 2003

"Libertarians have long been advocates of having the smallest government and fewest possible restraints on individual rights. Many see themselves as currently a fringe part of the American polity. But [they] may be underestimating [the] movement's influence. In 2000, 1.7 million people voted for Libertarian Party candidates for the U.S. House. That's the first time a third party has ever pulled more than a million votes in congressional contests, according to Richard Winger, editor of *Ballot Access News*, which tracks such things. It was the best showing, percentage-wise, for a minor party since Henry Wallace's Progressive Party in 1948."  
— NOAH SHACHTMAN, *The American Prospect*, October 7, 2003

"The revival of libertarian ideas in many countries of the world reflects a growing disdain for government, yes, a loss of faith in the capability of governments to solve major problems of modern societies." — RONALD MEINARDUS, *The Korea Times*, November 7, 2003