

LPC Monthly



The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California

May 2000

Ambitious Data-Gathering Project Can Lead to More Candidates, More Libertarian Officeholders in California

LPC LAUNCHES "OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH"

The Libertarian Party of California is launching an aggressive, ambitious project this month that party leaders hope will allow the LPC to reach and



Aaron Starr

possibly surpass its goal of 200 candidates this year, will make it easier to recruit candidates for local office in future years, and may even lead to some Libertarians taking office without an election being held.

up for election in any given year, and the LP members and registered libertarians who are eligible to run for those offices. The possibilities for using this information are endless.

Operation Breakthrough involves a series of steps:

(1) Obtaining precinct data from each of the 58 counties. Specifically, the LPC wants to know which offices are voted on in each county and – just as important – the precinct numbers within each elected office or district. This part of the plan was implemented in early April, and the LPC has already received data from several dozen of the counties.

the registered Libertarians who live in precincts where a local election is being held.

(4) The final step is to place phone calls and recruit candidates for those offices before the August filing period begins.

Continued on page 7

Dubbed "Operation Breakthrough," the plan is the brainchild of LPC Executive Committee member Aaron Starr of Simi Valley, a well-known Libertarian campaign manager who

has coordinated the successful campaigns of former Simi Valley City Council member Sandi Webb and current Moreno Valley City Council member Bonnie Flickinger.

Aaron Starr said "This project will be a real breakthrough for us. Knowing every office our members can run for will help us immensely with candidate recruitment."

"The timeline is very tight, but the plan is sound, feasible, and could be a real breakthrough – hence the name – for Libertarian candidates in California," said LPC Executive Director Juan Ros.

Once Operation Breakthrough is completed, Libertarians at the state and local level will have a valuable tool for running more candidates for local office and for reaching out to the over 87,000 registered Libertarian voters in California. The information compiled by Operation Breakthrough will allow us to print out a list of the local offices

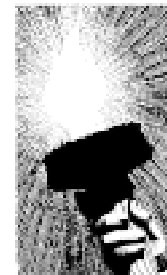
The most exciting aspect is the opportunity for Libertarians to be elected to local office where they can play a positive role in their community as advocates for greater liberty and less government.

"It's exactly what we were looking for," added Ros. "Every office – from County Supervisor to City Council to School Board to Mosquito Abatement District – is listed with their corresponding precincts."

(2) Once that data is collated and entered into a database, the precinct information will be used together with the registered libertarian voter file and the LP member database. "The voter file contains each voter's precinct number, and we can cross check the voter file against our membership list," Ros explained. The result will be like having a giant table listing each registered Libertarian voter and the offices for which they are eligible to run.

(3) Next the counties will be requested to provide another key piece of information: a list of the specific offices up for election this year. That data can then be combined with the existing data to produce a list of

THREE ACTION ITEMS



2000 Libertarian National Convention
Anaheim, CA
June 29–July 3

1

Register! See Page 5

2

Please complete and mail the petition that was enclosed in the previous (April) issue of this newsletter. See page 7.

3

To make a contribution to the LPC to help defray the costs of Operation Breakthrough, visit the LPC website at www.ca.lp.org or phone Executive Director Juan Ros at (818) 782-8400.

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May 2000

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(858) 565-8901Online Edition
<http://www.ca.lp.org/lpcm/>June Deadline
May 15, 2000

LPC Monthly is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions contained herein do not necessarily represent official party positions unless indicated.

LPC Monthly is published twelve times a year.

Send materials for publication to *LPC Monthly's* mailing address. All submissions are subject to editing. Deadline is the fifteenth day of every month.

Send changes of address to national office:
Libertarian Party
2600 Virginia Ave. NW
Suite #100
Washington DC 20037

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**New Party in Mendocino:
Symbol Of A Changing Time**

We are delighted to announce the new Libertarian Party of Mendocino County! Nine LP members in the county elected officers and adopted bylaws in Willits on March 21.

The members elected Edward Kuwatch as Chair and Emil Rossi as Vice Chair. Kuwatch is one of the leading experts in the nation on laws regarding driving under the influence of alcohol, has written extensively on the subject, and directs a legal group for DUI defendants. He is also the owner of Fast Eddie Publishing. Rossi is currently the LP candidate for Congress, as he was in 1996 and 1998. He owns a hardware store in Boonville.

As befitting an area described in a Doobie Brothers song as "green trees and timberland," the meeting featured a vigorous discussion regarding the nexus of logging and liberty. For example, how does the LPMC promote private property rights for timber companies when clear cutting is a common and, to many, despised practice in the county? Several ideas emerged from discussions of this and other topics concerning outreach to the LPMC's non-Libertarian neighbors.

The county was formerly part of the North Coast LP region, which had been inactive for a number of years. Lake County, with which Mendocino shared the old region, started its own LP organization in June 1999. Mendocino's district attorney is Norman Vroman, a registered Libertarian. The party plans to alternate meetings between Willits and Ukiah. They are also considering the hosting of a Libertarian campout later this year.

To paraphrase the Doobies one last time, "Liberty has found its way...justice is going to stay...in this land, Ukiah!"

*Rodney Austin, Northern Vice Chair,
rkaustin@cybergate.com*

Wear Your LP Button!

I was volunteering to help people prepare their income taxes, and for some reason pinned on my Vote Libertarian button. I received several positive comments.

Most people do not see or hear ANYTHING about the LP. For our L/ libertarian friends it is sometimes a big deal to see that there are actually other Libertarians around!

So, candidates, wear your LP buttons. It can't hurt your campaign to be known as the Libertarian.

*Jonathan Zwickel, jonathanira@thegrid.net,
Candidate for State Assembly 25, Madera*

**Region 64 Candidates Protest
For and Against the Police**

In a poignant example of the deeply principled nature of Libertarians, Candidates Mark Selzer (State Assembly District 42) and Jason Heath (U.S. Representative District 30) represented the party at two seemingly divergent protests in the same week. On invitation from the Los Angeles chapter of FACTS (Families to Amend California's Three Strikes), they demonstrated March 15th against the passage of Proposition 21 ("Juvenile Crime. Initiative Statute.") and police brutality and corruption in the LAPD Rampart division. A protest outside the Criminal Courts Building evolved into a well-orchestrated march to a second protest outside police headquarters at Parker Center, where the number of protesters was equaled by the police (many in riot gear). Mark Selzer and Jason Heath distributed literature to passersby.

On March 21st, Mark Selzer and Jason Heath then accompanied Irv Rubin (Libertarian and head of the Jewish Defense League) to the city of Compton to support the free speech rights of four suspended policemen. Four Compton police officers (including a homicide detective) were thrown out of a city council meeting and suspended for improper conduct. Half of the large audience cheered loudly for Mark Selzer's well-taken point that once police officers are denied the right to speak, we mere citizens are doomed.

*Jason Heath, hiat@earthlink.net
Vice Chair, Region 64*

NOTABLE QUOTABLE

To be governed is to be watched, inspected, spied upon, directed, law-driven, numbered, regulated, enrolled, indoctrinated, preached at, controlled, checked, estimated, valued, censured, commanded, by creatures that have neither the right nor the wisdom nor the virtue to do so.

*Pierre-Joseph Proudhon
Submitted by jmlib@genius.ucsd.edu*

**Libertarian Alternative Television
Program Seeks Volunteers**

The Libertarian Alternative cable access television program is seeking individuals anywhere in the country who have met (or are interested in meeting) the qualifications of their cable provider to submit programs for airing. This usually involves attendance of a production class or two at your cable company and payment of a small fee. We already have Adelpia and Media One qualifications met, but if you've satisfied the requirements of any other provider, please contact Mark Selzer at (323) 469-5372 or liberty64@jps.net. This is an easy way to volunteer. We already have the programs and some financial support from the party. We just need you to submit the tapes.

OPINION

From the Chair:

We, as a Party, set two main internal goals this year:

1. Increase our dues-paying membership to 7,000
2. Increase our monthly pledge base to \$6,000 per month



MARK HINKLE

Goal 1:

- a. The latest membership figures we have are from March 2000. Thanks to a recent Project Archimedes mailing, we're heading, once again, in the right direction, i.e. growth. The latest number is over 6400, up by more than 200 during the month of March.
- b. Also, I've appointed a Membership Committee consisting of Joe Dehn, Bruce Dovner, and Aaron Starr. They are already exploring new and old ideas of gaining members and keeping them. Stay tuned for more details.
- c. And, I've asked our editor to put the membership graph back into LPC Monthly.

Goal 2:

Our most recent fund raising letter is bringing in above-average results. At press time, it had already brought in over \$9,000. And it's added a few new monthly pledgers. Our current pledged total, each month, is \$4,756.15. This is down substantially from two months ago because we had to drop 18 cash pledgers for non-payment. Only 154 people have signed up for our monthly credit card pledge program. Another 67 cash pledgers donate periodically. Most are monthly and a few are semi-annual. I've given Juan Ros a directive to mail six fund-raising letters this year.

LPC has endorsed these external goals for 2000:

Goal 1:

The LPC Executive Committee has set a goal of 200 candidates in the year 2000. I'm always delighted to discover additional Libertarian candidates who are or have run for office, but we just didn't know about it. It shows there's a great deal of initiative amongst our ranks. By July, we need to recruit an additional 75

non-partisan candidates. See the exciting story about Operation Breakthrough on the front page. Even if we did nothing further, we'd still have more candidates than all other third parties combined. Your support gave us the resources to make that happen. Thank you!

Goals 2 and 3

Unfortunately goal 2 (The Repeal of Prop. 10: tobacco tax) and goal 3 (Prop. 23: "None of the Above") failed. The LPC had supported both.

Goal 4

Fortunately, the nefarious Prop. 26 failed, thus preserving the two-thirds vote requirement for local bond issues to pass. However, the fight continues because the forces of darkness and evil are already circulating a slightly modified version of Prop. 26 and big money is behind it.

Wouldn't it be great if we were strong enough to lead an effective and visible fight against all new bond issues? That's why we need to focus on membership growth and organizational development, so that one day—and it'll come—we can effectively abort any new tax before it sees the light of day.

Please join our monthly credit card pledge program and help make that day sooner, rather than later.

Your participation and contributions fuel our successes.

Yours in liberty,

Mark W. A. Hinkle, mark@garlic.com



When all government, in little as in great things, shall be drawn to Washington as the Center of all Power, it will render powerless the checks provided of one government on another and will become as venal and oppressive as the government from which we separated.

*Thomas Jefferson, 1821
Submitted by Wm. Holmes*

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Identification Statement

1. Title: LPC Monthly
2. Issue date: May 2000
3. Statement of Frequency: Monthly
4. Issue Number: Issue 5
5. Authorized Organization:
Libertarian Party of California
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 900,
Sacramento CA 95814
6. Subscription: free with membership

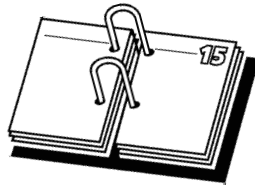
CALENDAR

May 13, 14, Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz Industrial Hemp Expo 2000.

Good opportunity for Northern CA candidates to meet forward-thinking people. Admission is \$6. Santa Cruz Auditorium at 307 Church St., Santa Cruz CA. Web site: <http://www.cruzexpo.com>
E-mail: info@cruzexpo.com

Thanks to Mark Hilgenberg for the "heads up."



Sunday, May 14, Washington DC

Second Amendment Sisters is holding the **Armed Informed Mothers' March** in Washington DC. Their goal is to provide a strong pro-Second Amendment presence.

<http://www.i-charity.net/sw.cgi/1097/1562/vip-3D27567>

Saturday, May 20, Suisun City

Meeting with Regional Officers. Candidates and all activists are invited. Lunch at noon, meeting from 1 to 5 PM. Objectives: discuss coming election and plans for Conference of Regional Parties in August, among other topics. Need more details? Contact Rodney Austin, e-mail rkaustin@cybergate.com, phone (559) 255-5561, or fax (801) 382-3282.

Sunday, June 11, Fresno

The LP of Fresno County is having a **Barbecue and Blues Jam** from 3 PM to 9 PM. Featuring "The Great Libertarian Offer" on big screen, plus entertainment by The White Collar Blues, plus guest speakers David Bergland, Juan Ros, and others. Tickets are \$20 for adults and half price for kids under 14, proceeds to benefit the LP of Fresno County. Contact Ron Drioane at (877) 764-9479. Sent by Jonathan Richter, Chair, LPFC, jonrichter@email.msn.com

June 30 to July 4, Anaheim

Libertarian Party National Convention will be held in Anaheim. California has 256 delegates. Web site: www.lp.org/conv/2000/ See registration form on page 5. Delegates: a list has been created to discuss business, strategy and proposals. To subscribe to this list, send message to:

LP-National-Delegates-on@list.LibertarianActivist.org



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<http://i.am/trading>

July 23 - 28, London Ontario Canada

International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) will celebrate their 20th Anniversary World Libertarian Conference at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada.

For more information: E-mail: info@libertyconferences.com

Web site: www.libertyconferences.com

Toll-free Phone 1-800-226-2405

August 26 - 27, Fresno

Conference of Regional Parties to be held in Fresno. Minimum cost to attendees. Hosted by Rodney Austin, Northern Vice Chair.

September 15, 16, 17, Las Vegas

Great Western Show which is advertised as the world's largest firearms, blade and militaria show. It will be held at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Nevada. The show was denied use of the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds this year.

Web site: www.greatwesternshow.com.

E-mail: info@greatwesternshow.com.

Tentative Newsletter Schedule

The current budget allows the following schedule for printing this newsletter: May, June, July, August (online only), September, October (online only), November, December (online only).

All issues are online at <http://www.ca.lp.org/lpcm/>

August, October and December issues
will be available online only.

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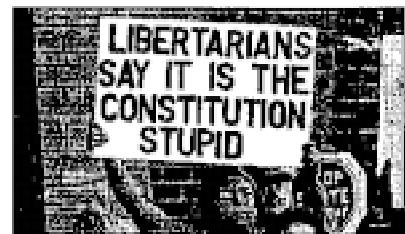
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Where should the Libertarian Party go from here? What should our strategy be, as we head into Election 2000 — and beyond?

Should we focus on membership? Local activism? Recruiting celebrities? Or something *different*?

And, more importantly, who should decide? *You will* — if you are a delegate at the 2000 Libertarian National Convention in Anaheim, CA (June 29-July 3, 2000).

As a delegate, *you* have the power to select and direct the LP's leadership, and define our future.

Remember: You decide. But *only* if you are at the Libertarian National Convention. *Register today!*

Sign me up for the 2000 Convention!

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EXPIRES _____

Checks payable to: 2000 National Libertarian Party Convention.
Please complete a separate registration form for each attendee.

Mail registration to: Balcon Group / 2000 National LP
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• Fax: (202) 334-3884 • Call toll-free: (800) 372-1776
• Via e-mail: LPCONV@aol.com

More information? Call the Balcon Group: (800) 372-1776

Hotel? Anaheim Marriott. Room rate \$104. Call: (800) 228-9290

Federal law requires political committee to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.



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Future**

*Liberty, Responsibility
& Community*

**ANAHEIM, CA
JUNE 29-JULY 3**

AROUND THE STATE



Carole Brow Starts Campaign on Tax Day

Carole held her campaign kick-off at a local street faire on Tax Day (April 15). She sent out a press release in advance of the event including her goals and reasons for running as the Libertarian candidate for State Senate District 5.

Tax Protest in San Diego

As heavy rain turned to drizzle a few stalwart Libertarians showed up in front of San Diego's Main Post Office for the annual Tax Protest. First was the "Libertarian" with a big sign saying "Think & Vote LIBERTARIAN" on his head and "Why Volunteer?" in one hand, "Just Say NO! to Tax Addiction" in the other...Then came the "IRS Agent" in black Darth Vader costume with IRS in big white letters on helmet & cape...As Vader chased the Libertarian, scowls turned to laughter on the faces in the wet cars waiting in line to turn in their papers.

JR Graham,
nobody4taxman1@juno.com



Californian Running for Chair of the National LP

Gary Copeland who lives in the Trabucco Canyon area of Orange County will be seeking to be elected as Chair of the National LP at the Convention in Anaheim. His web site is www.epires.com/wolfpack. More information about Gary and other candidates for National Chair are available at: <http://www.dehnbases.org/lpus/library/lnc-candidates.html>

New Libertarian

Airi Elizabeth Oakey was born at 1:27 AM on April 1. She was 7 lb. 15 oz. and 20.5 inches long. She is the daughter of Rika and Dave Oakey (Dave is SDLP candidate for State Assembly District 76). Airi's electronic picture is available at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~davidoki/airi.html>

Long Beach City Council Race Featured Libertarian

Libertarian Stuart McGillivray came in second out of three candidates in the District 2 election for Long Beach City Council.

Three Minute Therapy

by Michael Edelstein PhD

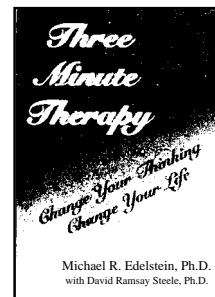
There are many books about Libertarian politics, economics and philosophy but few that integrate Libertarian philosophy into everyday life.

Long-time Libertarian Dr. Edelstein has written a book that helps one LIVE a Libertarian life. The book assists the reader to sort out the important things from the trivial. Personally, it helps me deal with people on a daily basis and maintain my blood pressure at a borderline instead of hyper level! The methods he suggests are easy to learn but immensely effective.

Michael's examples are interesting to read and have immediate application for most people. There is even a controversial chapter illustrating why substance abusers should AVOID Alcoholics Anonymous.

The book is widely available online and at brick-mortar bookstores: Amazon.com plus Barnes and Noble both stock it.

Rae Marcus



What Every Child Needs Most

Moss Hart has several hundred reprints of a *Readers Digest* article "What Every Child Needs Most." He'll send them FREE to anyone who sends him a stamped self-addressed envelope. His address: P. O. Box 2368, Sunnyvale CA 94087.



Tax Protest in Fremont, CA: Libertarians staged a tax protest on April 15 at the Post Office. They handed out "suckers" and featured a walking trash can. The protest was covered by the *Fremont Argus* newspaper. Natalie Werlwas, Jeffery Sommer and Sean Patchen (left to right) encouraged lots of people to honk their horns. More photos (in color too) are available at <http://werlwas.homepage.com/taxdaypics.html>.

QUICK CHANGE

LPC members
can update information at
<http://www.ca.lp.org/lpc-member-services.html>

Renew membership, address change,
contribute, plus, plus.

Libertarian Party Online Discussion

Campaigns, Strategy, Platform
<http://www.dehnbases.org/lpc/>

The LPC Echo:
"Supporting Open Communication
Among LPC Activists since 1994"

AROUND THE STATE

OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH

Continued from front page

“The database work must be completed by late June or early July in order to give us at least one month to make the necessary phone calls,” Ros pointed out. “The schedule is not ideal, but with some effort it can be done.”

There is another factor to Operation Breakthrough that will appeal to Libertarians: many of the smaller elective offices are often filled by appointment rather than election because either no candidate files for that office or the incumbent runs unopposed. Those are the offices the LPC will be paying close attention to – and will be targeting.

“There are literally hundreds of local offices that are filled by appointment. We can use prior election data to determine which offices are most likely to be filled in that manner and then target those offices with Libertarian candidates,” Ros explained. “In some cases it’s possible that a Libertarian candidate can be ‘elected’ to office without an election ever being held!”

For example: in Orange County, out of 33 Special District elections held on November 3, 1998, 19 were filled by appointment in lieu of an election – over

half. In fact, state law requires counties to notify the Secretary of State whenever an appointment is made in lieu of an election, but unfortunately less than half of the counties contacted appeared to be in compliance with this law.

This little-known section of the California Elections Code was the original impetus for Starr to conceive of Operation Breakthrough.

The most exciting aspect is the opportunity for Libertarians to be elected to local office where they can play a positive role in their community as advocates for greater liberty and less government. All politics is local, as the saying goes, and we Libertarians need to live up to that. If Operation Breakthrough is successful, there will be dozens of new Libertarian officeholders all across California promoting our ideals – and that is what being a member of the Libertarian Party is all about!

Note: To make a contribution to the LPC to help defray the costs of Operation Breakthrough, visit the LPC website at www.ca.lp.org or phone LPC Executive Director Juan Ros at (818) 782-8400. ■

ANTI-GERRYMANDERING PETITION NEEDS YOU!

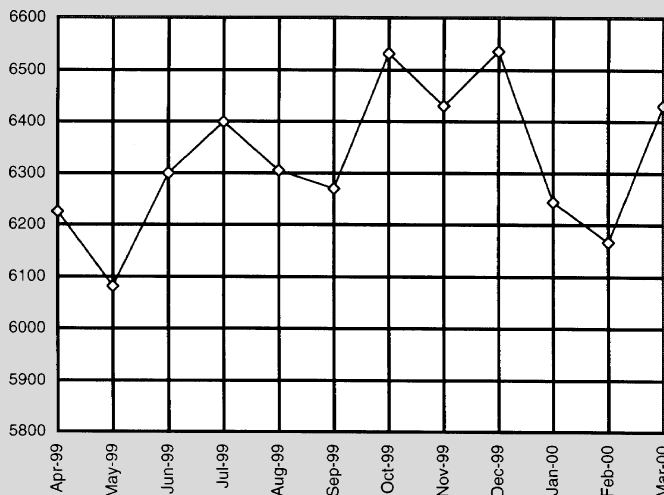
Your April LPC Monthly newsletter contained an important petition, “Election. Reapportionment,” also known as the “Fair Vote 2K” Initiative to ban gerrymandering. Please take a few minutes to sign the petition and the Declaration of Circulation at the bottom of the front page. Distribute the form at meetings and make additional copies, or download the PDF file for printing.

In an unanimous vote, the Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of California expressed its support for the Fair Vote 2K plan, which would automate the districting process by creating electoral boundaries solely on the basis of equal population and geographic compactness.

All petitions must be filed by May 22, 2000 so be sure to mail a few days before that date.

Bill Westmiller,
www.FairVote2K.org,
Info@FairVote2K.org
(805) 493-4332, westmiller@aol.com
Fair Vote 2K Coalition,
44 Summerfield St., Thousand Oaks 91360

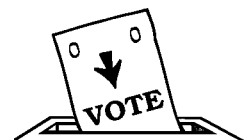
Growth Watch Goal: 7,000 Membership March 31, 2000: 6430*



Mar-31-00	*6430
Feb-29-00	6166
Jan-31-00	6244
Dec-31-99	6438
Nov-30-99	6536
Oct-30-99	6430
Sep-30-99	6532
Aug-31-99	6270
Jul-30-99	6305
Jun-30-99	6399
May-31-99	6300
Apr-30-99	6081
Mar-31-99	6225
Feb-28-99	6305
Jan-31-99	6381
*estimate	



The U.S. Post Office recently issued this stamp.



AROUND THE GLOBE

POLITICS AS USUAL

Post Office "Missent" (Lost) Postal Workers Checks

One hundred and fifty paychecks were "missent" to Postal Service employees in Florida from a postal data center in Minneapolis.
Reason-Express, reason@free-market.net, March 27, 2000

Quote of the Month

"As a parent, no matter how passionate you are about public schools, in the final analysis you're going to do what's best for your children." California Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa (D-Los Angeles), explaining why he and his public school teacher wife are considering placing two of their children in private school. Villaraigosa was one of the speakers who addressed the NEA Representative Assembly in Orlando last year.
Los Angeles Times, March 27, 2000. Submitted by Wm Holmes.

Cure is Worse than the Disease

Hepatitis C, a viral infection that can lead to liver failure, is surprisingly common in Egypt. Up to 20% of the people there test positive for the chronic illness. Now a study of almost 8,500 Egyptians shows that reused needles spread the disease. Since the 1920s, health authorities employed needles in mass campaigns against schistosomiasis, a common illness caused by a blood-borne parasite. The needles were disinfected with procedures considered sufficient at that time. "Egypt's extensive and dedicated nationwide control program for schistosomiasis was the cause of the current high prevalence of hepatitis C in the country," says G. Thomas Strickland of the U of M School of Medicine in Baltimore.
Science News, April 8, 2000

Good News!

Congress raised the burden of proof on asset seizures. Government must show a firm link to a crime before it begins a confiscation. After years of complaints about abusive government conduct, Congress completed legislation that would make it harder for the federal government to confiscate property from people before it actually brings charges in criminal cases.
The New York Times, April 12, 2000

US Leads the World in the Number of Prisoners

Since the demise of apartheid in South Africa, the former No. 1 jailer, the United States has run neck-and-neck with Russia in the

race to become the world leader in rates of imprisonment. We lock up six times as many citizens per capita as England, seventeen times as many as Japan. Prisons and jails in the United States now hold nearly two million people, meaning that one out of every hundred and forty residents is behind bars.

The New Yorker, April 3, 2000

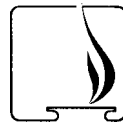
You Really Didn't Want to Know...

The U.S. national debt INCREASED in March, 2000 by \$33,199,109,384. The new total debt is \$5,760,117,250,919. Your share of the federal debt is \$20,934.

The San Diego Union-Tribune, April 12, 2000

Medicare Payment Errors Rise in 1999

Improper medical payments cost the government an estimated \$13.5 billion last year. This compares to \$12.6 billion in 1998, \$20.3 billion in 1997, and \$23.2 billion in 1996. The 1999 result emerged from an audit that tracked only billing errors and did not include fraud.
AARP Bulletin, April 2000



We mourn the loss of BILL WEBSTER

Old-time Libertarians will note with sadness the recent passing of Bill Webster. Bill died of an apparent heart attack in Santa Ana on March 25th. He was 61 years old. Bill was a Certified Public Accountant and a former State Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of California. He was very active in the Libertarian Party during its formative years.

If anyone has information regarding any of Bill's surviving relatives and how to contact them, particularly his son Randy Webster, please communicate with Linda Rader (310) 324-0956 as soon as possible.

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NEWS

Executive Director Update: Maintains a Hectic Schedule ON THE MOVE – LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY



JUAN ROS

The LPC is on the move again – both literally and figuratively – thanks to Executive Director Juan Ros.

Ros has been hard at work locating a Los Angeles area office in which to permanently establish the LPC's base of operations. In addition, Ros has located LP contacts in two inactive counties, lectured once again at UCLA, helped launch the LPC's candidate recruitment project, and appeared on numerous radio stations in the past month.

"I haven't stopped moving!" Ros joked, referring to his workload. "And now I am going to physically be moving as well. It's a great step forward for the LPC."

After working out of a home office for the past two years, Ros will be moving into "real" office space. "This is part of the LPC's natural evolution: to centralize operations and establish a permanent home base," Ros said. "It will make handling the party's day-to-day activities more efficient."

The office will serve as a work location for Ros and the LPC's Administrative Assistant. Ros also hopes to recruit a regular group of volunteers and interns to perform important but tedious tasks, and to help implement special projects. "My vision is for the LPC office to be a nonstop beehive of activity! There is a lot of work to be done because there is so much to accomplish," Ros noted.

But office hunting was not the only item on Ros's agenda last month. Ros also helped Northern Vice Chair Rodney Austin locate two Libertarian Party contacts in inactive counties: John Howard in Modoc and Bill Adasiewicz in Sierra. "I am grateful to John and Bill for agreeing to

perform this essential function," Ros declared. "Locating a contact is the first step towards establishing an active, vibrant Libertarian Party county organization, and that's exactly what we plan to do!"

The next step for Modoc and Sierra is a membership recruitment mailing to the registered Libertarians in those counties, followed by an organizational meeting in which party officers will be elected.

"Two down, five to go," Ros pointed out, referring to the five California counties that remain inactive: Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn,

south as San Diego picked up the article.

A story on "Son of Prop. 26" – the proposed sequel to March's failed Proposition 26 that would lower the threshold for passing local school bonds from the current two-thirds to 55% – resulted in coverage at Fresno's KMJ radio, among others.

Ros also criticized a bill in the Legislature, AB 2574, that would have automatically registered a young man with the Selective Service when he applied for his driver's license. Ros called the bill "a menacing throwback to the days of the draft." Several days before the bill's first Assembly committee hearing, Ros issued an e-mail Action Alert urging Libertarians and others to call committee members and request a "no" vote.

Ros worked together with LPC Executive Committee member Aaron Starr last month to launch Operation Breakthrough, the LPC's ambitious project to recruit local candidates up and down the state – and get many of them appointed to office without an election.

Kings, and Lassen. If you live in one of those counties and are interested in becoming a Libertarian Party contact, call Ros at (818) 782-8400, or e-mail him at director@ca.lp.org. "We're looking for a few good activists!"

Speaking of activists, Ros worked together with LPC Executive Committee member Aaron Starr last month to launch Operation Breakthrough, the LPC's ambitious project to recruit local candidates up and down the state – and get many of them appointed to office without an election. (See story on front page.)

Ros returned to the UCLA campus on April 10 to lecture another political science class, this time on political activism. "I had the opportunity to discuss everything I do on the job: media relations, press releases, fund-raising, and lobbying the Legislature," Ros recalled.

Ros continued his media efforts with much success last month. Several press releases on gas prices were well received, resulting in a taped interview on Los Angeles news radio station KFVB. Ros also wrote an op-ed article on the same subject; newspapers as far north as Siskiyou County and as far

As a result of his efforts against AB 2574, Ros was featured on KFVB and on the "Minyard and Minyard" show, which is currently syndicated on 66 stations nationwide. "The bill allowed me to expand our discussion to the broader subject of whether or not there should even be a Selective Service System, and we took calls from all over the country, many of them supportive of the LP position," Ros remembered. Because of public outcry AB 2574 was revised, making registration with the Selective Service voluntary instead of mandatory.

Ros has been especially busy this month with Operation Breakthrough, his continued media outreach, establishing active county organizations, and setting up a new office! ■



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May 2000

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