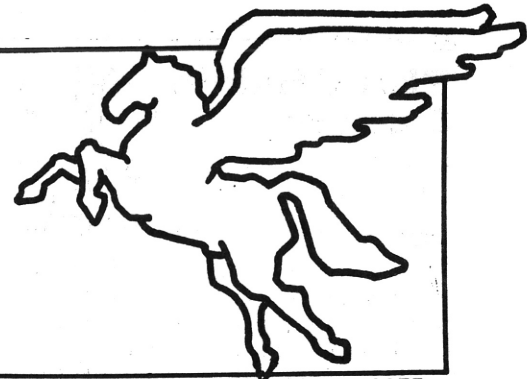


FREE TEXAS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF TEXAS



VOLUME 1 NUMBER 3 SPRING 1977

KARL BRAY TO ADDRESS LPT STATE CONVENTION

Noted tax rebel Karl Bray of Utah will be the featured speaker at the 1977 Libertarian Party of Texas Convention, to be held in Houston at the HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN, June 4-5.

Bray, one of the most outspoken and controversial enemies of the IRS — and one of the most heavily harrassed — will deliver an address to the Convention banquet Saturday night. In addition to his well-known activities in the tax resistance movement, Mr. Bray is an author, lawyer, radio broadcaster, businessman, and was the LP's candidate for US Congress from Utah in 1974. He recently had one conviction (for not filing a return) reversed on appeal and is currently appealing another.



KARL BRAY

This year's Convention will also revise the state Platform. To be considered, an amendment to the Platform must be submitted to the Platform Committee no later than Friday night.

Proposed changes may be mailed in advance to the Committee Chair, Jeff Calvert, 1023 East Shaw, Pasadena, TX 77502. Other business will include the election of state officers and delegates to the national LP Convention in San Francisco in July, a talk by Oklahoma LP candidate Porter Davis (see page 3), and possibly a workshop for potential candidates.

For more information and pre-registration forms, see the colored insert. Convention Coordinator Alan Vogel asks that Libertarians send in their pre-registrations as early as possible to aid in planning the event. See you in Houston!

LPT LOBBIES FOR ELECTION CODE CHANGES

An LPT lobbying effort in the Texas legislature, organized by Margaret Bosse of Dallas, has met with some initial successes in its attempt to make the Texas Election Code more equitable in its treatment of minor parties and independent candidates.

The focus of the campaign is the provision in the Code that minor party and independent ballot petitions must contain an oath—and therefore may only be circulated by Notaries Public. The LPT's proposal is that the wording of that section be altered to parallel the section on major-party primary ballot petitions—that anyone may circu-

late the petition if he later testifies before a Notary that the signatures are valid. This bill would remove the single biggest stumbling block in the LPT's path to ballot status in 1978.

In mid-March, Margaret Bosse and David Helber drove to Austin to discuss the bill with the Secretary of State's office and to consult with Election Code specialists. From this information, a bill was drafted by William Howell, and Margaret returned to the Capitol to find sponsors. Liberal Democrat Sarah Weddington of Austin agreed to sponsor the bill in

the House, and conservative Democrat Jack Ogg of Houston, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Elections, offered to sponsor it in the Senate.

On April 20, Libertarian attorney Martin Gibson of Dallas, accompanied by Don Stockwell of Houston and David Helber of Dallas, appeared before the House Elections Committee, where Rep. Weddington introduced the bill as HB 1627. Martin testified before the Committee and Don and David indicated their support for the bill, but waived their opportunity to testify in view

CONTINUED PAGE 5

The Chair's Column

by WILLIAM HOWELL
LPT State Chair



The first key to building a successful party is good local organization, since at the local level people often vote on the basis of friendship, or just for the last one to knock on their door. In statewide and national elections, however, the candidate's stand on issues is the major factor. Unfortunately, most voters are concerned strongly with only a very few issues - often only one - and decide their votes on that basis.

Thus, the second key to party success is forming a coalition of various different groups. Traditional politicians do this by promising favors to several special interest groups. Our principles preclude our forming coalitions by offering government favors to any groups, but the growth of state power has given us an opportunity to do precisely the opposite.

The LP can form a coalition of "anti-state interest groups" who already know that they stand more to gain by getting the government out of their affairs than by taking favors from it. To mention just a few examples of such groups: gun owners, gays, pot smokers, motorcyclists who oppose helmet laws, and people who want to take experimental medicines such as laetrile.

From the standpoint of whom to approach in forming libertarian coalitions, these and similar groups have one big advantage over the conservatives and small businessmen the LP has traditionally directed its efforts at: they have nowhere else to turn. The LP is the only party that has and will come out openly and uncompromisingly for their rights.

The first step in tapping their support is to let them know about us. As an example of the kind of special effort needed to reach these groups,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

MacBRIDE VISITS A&M

Roger MacBride, the LP's 1976 Presidential candidate, visited Texas on March 21 & 22. He gave a talk about the campaign to an HCLP reception in Houston and appeared on a radio talk show there. A Tuesday press conference resulted in local coverage on TV, radio, and newspapers. MacBride then addressed a Houston free-market oriented business group.

Later on Tuesday the candidate visited College Station, where he taped an interview for

the public TV station and held another press conference before addressing some 250 students and faculty at Texas A&M University. The speech was videotaped for later newsbroadcasts on the local TV station. MacBride then gave a talk to the organizational meeting of the campus chapter of the Libertarian Alliance.

Mike Holmes of the Harris County Libertarian Party reported that the turnout at all of MacBride's appearances was very gratifying.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The national LP has asked for a copy of our state mailing list. Since some of the people on our list have already indicated that they do not wish their names given out to anyone, and since the national party sells its mailing list to various organizations and firms, we will not forward the names of anyone who notifies us that they do not wish their names given out. IF YOU DO NOT WISH YOUR NAME TO BE FORWARDED TO NATIONAL, PLEASE NOTIFY US BEFORE MAY 31.

LPT VICE-CHAIR GETS GOOD PRESS

Terry Parker, LPT Vice-Chair has been getting much favorable publicity with two of his Austin-based projects. The Dallas Times Herald, for example, ran an amazing 33-column-inch feature on Parker's "clothing optional" apartment complex, focusing both on Terry's "live and let live" philosophy, and on the economic success of the venture. This is only one of the many press and media reports on the complex from across Texas and around the country. Nearly all mention Terry's connection with the LP and give a rough summation of the libertarian philosophy.

Terry recently struck again. Upon discovering an Austin ordinance banning sexual relations with anyone but one's legal spouse, he formed the River City Sex Offenders Club, announcing that "meetings will be held in the Municipal Auditorium until

larger facilities become available."

The Club was an instant press success in Austin and got mentions in papers across the country. Terry received applications for membership from all over the state. The RCSOC was especially popular on the UT campus. Many of the press reports once again mentioned the Libertarian Party.

Though some Texas libertarians have been heard to grumble that Terry's projects are frivolous or even of negative value, nearly all the coverage has been very favorable, little or none of it hostile. Parker has probably brought the word "libertarian" and some idea of its meaning to more Texans than anyone since the Presidential election--and is making a profit at it besides.

The 1976

LIBERTARIAN PARTY National Convention

In September of 1976, more than 600 enthusiastic libertarians from around the country (and the world) descended on Washington, D.C. for the Libertarian Party's fifth national convention.

"The best convention ever!" was the verdict of many delegates when the four-day event was over.

Now, almost all of the Convention's outstanding talks, panels and workshops are available on cassette tapes—from AUDIO-FORUM. Each was recorded "live," on the spot, capturing all the intellectual excitement of the occasion.

If you were fortunate enough to have been at the Convention, you can relive your favorite moments on tape. If you missed out, here's your chance to hear the highlights of "The Second Libertarian Revolution."

The Convention Tapes

Roger MacBride's Banquet Address. The LP's 1976 presidential candidate delivers a rousing talk at the banquet in his honor. MacBride's discussion of his campaign and the growth of libertarianism drew repeated cheers and applause from the audience. **Tape 731 (51 min.) \$9.95**

Nathaniel Branden tells How to Communicate Political Ideas. To a large and appreciative audience, Dr. Branden explains how libertarians can break down the barriers that prevent them from getting political ideas across to others. (Includes a question-and-answer period.) **Tape 732 (55 min.) \$9.95**

Welcome Address: Ed Crane and Roger MacBride. The LP's national chairman and presidential candidate discuss the progress of the campaign and the future of the Party. **Tape 733 (25 min.) \$8.95**

History of the Modern Libertarian Movement: Ralph Raico. Dr. Raico discusses the libertarian movement's place in history, and offers a searing analysis of Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford, Lester Maddox, and the Republican and Democratic Parties. A longtime libertarian activist, Ralph Raico is professor of history at the State University of New York, Buffalo. **Tape 734 (42 min.) \$9.95**

The CIA-FBI Threat to Privacy: Morton Halperin. An incisive analysis of the illegal actions of government agencies, Halperin discusses the dangers posed by state secrets and executive orders, and reveals the frightening practices of the CIA, FBI, NSA and other government agencies. He concludes by telling what can be done to protect Americans from these organizations. A former deputy assistant secretary of defense, Morton Halperin is a member of the ACLU and the Council on Foreign Relations. (Includes a question-and-answer period.) **Tape 736 (53 min.) \$9.95**

A Non-Interventionist Foreign Policy: Earl C. Ravenal. Dr. Ravenal accuses the American government of hypocrisy, secrecy, elitism and waste in its conduct of foreign affairs. He also tells how we can reduce the threat of war. A well-known writer and adviser on American foreign and military policy, Dr. Ravenal is a former director of the Asian Division in the office of the Secretary of Defense. **Tape 737 (65 min.) \$10.50**



Natural Rights: Eric Mack. Dr. Mack discusses the concept of natural rights, their violation, the proper use of force, and the distinctions between force, fraud and coercion. Eric Mack is assistant professor of philosophy at Tulane University and a contributing editor of Reason Magazine. **Tape 738 (44 min.) \$9.95.**

The Logic of International Diplomacy: David Friedman. Maintaining that an interventionist foreign policy is extremely dangerous, Friedman argues the case for a return to isolationism. He discusses the present world situation in which there are two major powers, and examines the possibility of an alternative, one-power world. An assistant professor of economics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, David Friedman is author of *The Machinery of Freedom*. **Tape 739 (40 min.) \$9.95.**

The Middle East. An analysis of war, politics and oil in the Mideast. Panelists are history professor Leonard Liggio, author Steve Halbrook, and John Hagel, president of the Center for Libertarian Studies. **Tape 740 (71 min.) \$10.50**

Libertarianism and Feminism. This panel covers such issues as abortion and birth control legislation, government child care programs, discrimination against women via taxes and Social Security, women and business, and government surveillance of feminist organizations. Panelists are Sharon Presley, Kay Augustin, Jenny Graf, Cindy Cisler and Nancy Borman. **Tape 741 (58 min.) \$9.95**

Libertarianism and Social Philosophy: Tibor Machan. Libertarians should be concerned with more than politics, contends Tibor Machan. Human decency demands that we take positions on a broad range of social issues. Dr. Machan teaches philosophy at the State University of New York, Fredonia, and is a prolific contributor to *Reason* magazine. **Tape 742 (37 min.) \$9.95**

Libertarian Morality: John Hospers. Dr. Hospers focuses on individual sovereignty and personal rights as the keystones of libertarian morality. **Tape 743 (64 min.) \$10.50**

Lobbying for Libertarianism. Three seasoned Washington hands explain how to influence government through lobbying. Panelists are Bob Brauer, aide to congressman Ron Dellums; Scotch Pankonin, aide to congressman Steve Symms; and Alan Bock, head of the Libertarian Advocate lobbying group. **Tape 744 (32 min.) \$9.95**

Defending the Undefendables: Walter Block. The author of what may be the most controversial book in the history of the libertarian movement explains why he regards prostitutes, slumlords and other social undesirables as "heroes." **Tape 745 (51 min.) \$9.95**

Austrian Economics. An introduction to the Austrian School of economics, including a discussion of its achievements and its uniqueness. Panelists are economics professors John Egger, Walter Grinder and Murray Rothbard. **Tape 746 (68 min.) \$10.50**

Integrating Psychology and Politics: Peter R. Breggin. "Voluntary servitude" is Dr. Breggin's topic: why people don't break free of their oppressors. The model for oppression, Dr. Breggin contends, is childhood. Director of the Center for the Study of Psychiatry, Peter R. Breggin has won national recognition for his fight against compulsory psychosurgery. **Tape 747 (63 min.) \$10.50**

A Libertarian View of the American Revolution: William Marina. The fundamental issues behind the American Revolution are analyzed by William Marina. Currently the Liberty Fund Research Scholar at the Institute for Humane Studies, William Marina is author of the forthcoming book *The American Revolution as a People's War*. **Tape 748 (48 min.) \$9.95**

Benediction: Murray Rothbard. Dr. Rothbard closes the Convention on an optimistic note. He tells why he believes that the Libertarian Party is the party of the future. It is, says Dr. Rothbard, the means by which the power of the state will eventually be rolled back. **Tape 749 (33 min.) \$9.95**

Satisfaction guaranteed on all recordings

Each of the above recordings may be purchased separately, but if you order the entire set of Libertarian Party Convention tapes, you pay only \$154.00. That's a savings of \$27.00 over the price of the recordings if ordered individually.

Another bonus! If you order all 18 tapes at this special price, they'll be shipped to you in two handsome leatherette library binders—a \$7 retail value.

Whether you select just one tape or the entire set, your purchases are *unconditionally guaranteed*. If you're not 100% satisfied, simply return the recordings within three weeks and we'll send you a full refund.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> #732, <i>Branden on Communicating</i> , \$9.95 | <input type="checkbox"/> #743, <i>Libertarian Morality</i> , \$10.50 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> #734, <i>History</i> , \$9.95 | <input type="checkbox"/> #745, <i>Defending the Undefendables</i> , \$9.95 |
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LETTERS

CANDIDATE TO SPEAK AT CONVENTION

Dear Susan:

I got a tremendous kick out of the "unreal supplement" of January 1977. It's not only funny, but it's realistic in terms of hypothetical actions and reactions. I'm copying off on my machine a dozen or so duplicates to send to friends around the country.

Many thanks for the pleasure, and if you weren't the author, would you pass on my good wishes to whomever it was?

With best wishes,
Roger Lea MacBride

To the Editor:

The highest compliment one creative person can pay another is to say, "Damn, I wish I had done that!"

Satire is the highest form of humor. It requires a lively intelligence, twenty-twenty insight, a healthy irreverence for nearly everything, and a keen but subtle sense of the absurd.

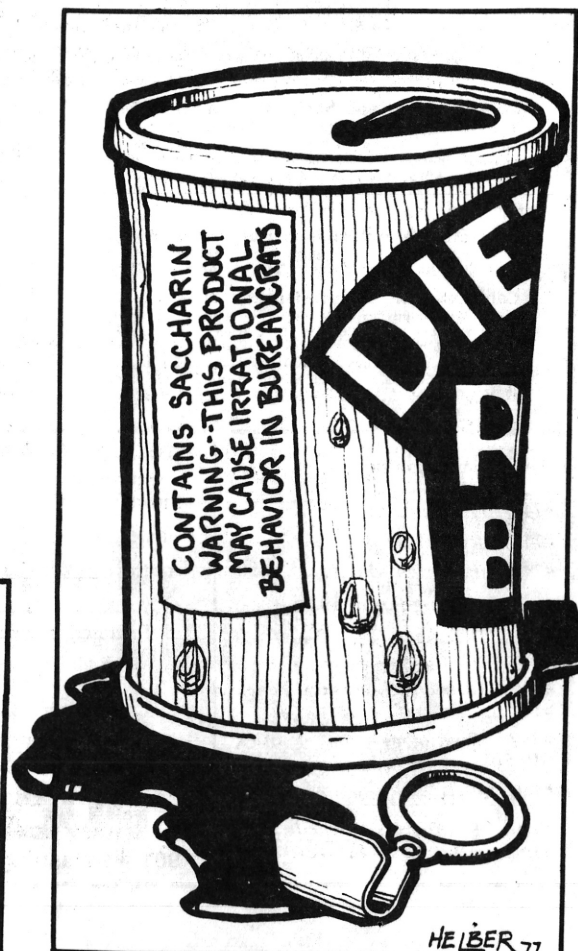
The Unreal Supplement was a masterpiece, a true libertarian classic. I would like to know the identity of those who possess such nefarious minds. I suspect David Helber, for one. Letitia gets better every time I see it.

Damn, I wish I had done the Unreal Supplement.

GARRY REED, Editor
The Reasonable Answer
(Minn. LP newsletter)

[THE UNREAL SUPPLEMENT WAS THE PRODUCT OF WILLIAM HOWELL, ASSISTED BY DAVID HELBER,--ed.]

FREE TEXAS WELCOMES LETTERS ON SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO TEXAS LIBERTARIANS.



Porter Davis of Oklahoma, who will speak at this year's LPT Convention, ran one of the most remarkable libertarian campaigns of 1976. A former member of the LP's national executive committee, and state chair of the Oklahoma LP, he ran as an independent for the state legislature, since the OLP was not on the ballot.

The incumbent Republican in Porter's Oklahoma City district was most noted for designating the state rock and putting "Oklahoma is OK" on the state license plates. Through a legal maneuver, he had his only Democratic opponent disqualified from the race on a technicality, thus seeming to guarantee his re-election until Porter entered the race.

Porter ran a mixed campaign. His literature identified him as a former state chair of the Libertarian Party, as evidence of his sincerity in opposing "tax increases and government interference in our



PORTER DAVIS, LIBERTARIAN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE FOR OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, 1976

business and personal lives". But other literature showed a smiling Ronald Reagan shaking hands with him, and his material never dealt head-on with victimless crimes.

With a budget all devoted to literature and no advertising, Porter got off to a late start. Despite this, his door-to-door campaign seemed to frighten his opponent, who produced a dramatic leaflet attacking Porter. On the cover was a threatening hypodermic needle and the question: "Should Heroin be legalized?" Inside was a quote from Porter as state chair of the LP advocating just that. This leaflet was plastered all over the district--many people getting five separate copies at different times.

Despite this sensationalized attack--perhaps the strongest any libertarian candidate has yet received from a major opponent--Porter got some 36% of the vote in the two man race. To my knowledge, this is the highest total so far for any libertarian not running as a Democrat or Republican.

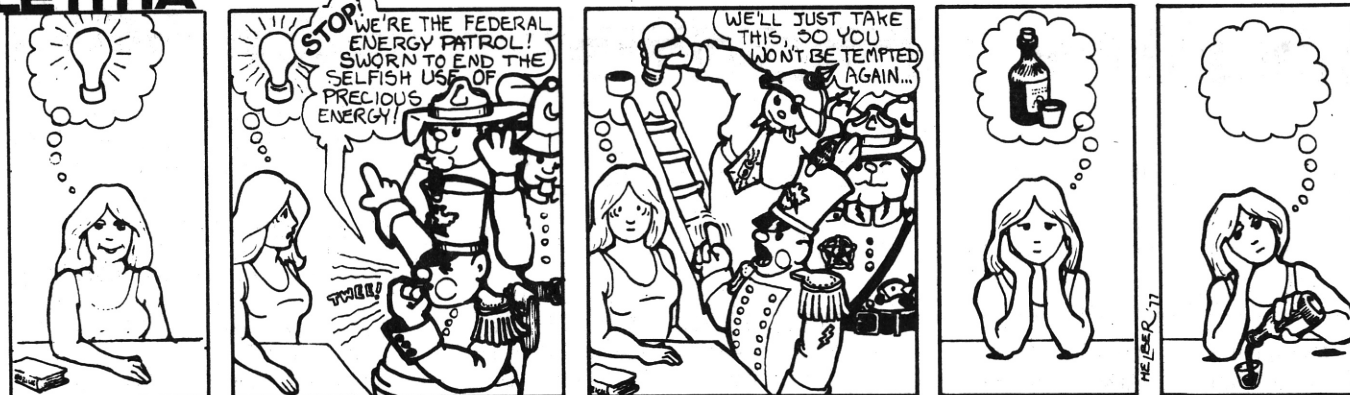
As a footnote, Murray Rothbard, who, in 1975, condemned Porter as a "left sectarian" for supporting Kay Harroff for the LP's Presidential nomination, has recently denounced him as a "right opportunist" on the basis of this campaign. Texans will have a chance to see Porter's literature, speak with him, and draw their own conclusions at the June Convention in Houston.

FREE TEXAS is the newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Texas

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LETITIA



LPT LOBBIES (CONT. FROM P.1)

of the Committee's crowded agenda. Ms. Weddington made a closing statement, noting the position of the Texas Women's Political Caucus in support of the bill. The Committee then voted unanimously to recommend placement of HB 1627 on the House Consent Calendar.

So the bill has passed the first hurdle. Once on the Consent Calendar, it will be read with many other non-controversial bills and will likely be passed automatically unless a member objects (in which case it goes on the regular calendar, with much less chance of passage). If passed by the House it will go before the Senate Committee as SB 1020 and thence, hopefully, to the Senate floor.

It would be appropriate for Texas Libertarians to send Ms. Weddington and Senator Ogg a

brief note of thanks for sponsoring the bill. Since the best approach is to keep the bill as non-controversial as possible, LP members are urged NOT to write to legislators urging passage of this bill. It is simply being presented as a "cleanup" bill to correct an oversight in the Election Code and eliminate the possibility of last minute "Equal Protection" court suits. To mention the LP or other minor parties by name would only increase the chance that some legislator, lacking the fair-mindedness of Weddington and Ogg, might make a controversial issue out of the bill and block passage at the last minute.

Thanks to the efforts of Margaret Bosse and those who helped her, there is reason for a tentative optimism about the chances for election law reform this session, and a much improved prospect for LP ballot status in 1978.

CHAIR, cont.

we are now drafting a series of one-page leaflets for leaving in prime locations (gun stores, gay bars, head shops, etc.). Unlike the official position papers, these will be brief, to encourage reading, and deal with only one issue each, to increase response. We urgently need suggestions for more topics to cover, volunteers to research and write leaflets, and contributions to produce them in quantity. We also need to run ads in publications of special interest to these groups, and to exchange speakers with organizations of this nature.

The second step is the most important: we must be certain never to compromise in any way our absolute support of their rights. If it is believed that we are just more waffling fence-straddlers, they will yawn at us and go sit out the election.

CONTINUED PAGE 6

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A subscription is included in the price of a membership. Life and Life Sustaining memberships may be paid on a quarterly or monthly basis. Dues are not required for membership but non-paying members do not receive the newsletter or notices of conventions and events.

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"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

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Life Sustaining member - \$250

Other contribution - \$ _____

COUNTY REPORTS

(This is not an exhaustive list of recent and upcoming activities; this is just all we have been told about. We will be glad to run other news if someone will just get the info to us.)

Former Harris County Chair Dave Hutzelman, who is currently playing tapes of various speakers from the 1976 LP National Convention for the HCLP, was elected in January to fill a vacancy on the LP's national executive committee. HCLPer Don Stockwell has been holding a public speaking workshop for Libertarians on specific political issues. The speaker at the April county meeting was Dr. Dale Cloninger of the University of Houston on the economics of crime, a subject on which he has authored a text.

The rejuvenated Tarrant County LP had its first public meeting of the year in February and showed the Incredible Bread Machine film. Also that month, state chair Bill Howell spoke to a rally called to protest a cartoon in the Ft. Worth paper depicting gays as child molesters, then joined in a march at the paper's offices. Two tax protesters addressed the March TCLP meeting and Dr. Allan Saxe of the University of Texas at Arlington spoke on civil liberties

in April. David Helber spoke for the LP at a lunchtime seminar on the role of government in employment at U.T. Arlington.

The Dallas County LP has recently obtained a telephone, making it easier for people to find the party. The DCLP published a libertarian Voter's Guide to this spring's city council elections in Dallas, asking candidates a series of questions on issues of libertarian interest. D.K. Davis of Natural Gas Finders spoke to the April meeting on the energy crisis; a local TV station interviewed him live at the meeting for a reaction to Carter's new energy proposals. Doris Holden, a member of the City Transit Board and the County Hospital Board, has agreed to speak at the May meeting.

In January the Palo Pinto County LP held its formal organizational meeting and elected officers. Dallas LP officers David Helber and Bill Howell both spoke and the Incredible Bread Machine film was shown. The county party has already received coverage in a local paper and is looking into getting a listing for the LP in the Mineral Wells phone book.

COUNTY CHAIRS

Bexar County
Carol Galloway
(512) 828-5204

Dallas County
Margaret Bosse
(214) 827-7325 (w) 748-2043

Harris County
Alan Vogel
(713) 527-8498

Palo Pinto County
Woody Stroud
1308 S.W. 11th Ave.
Mineral Wells, TX 76067

Tarrant County
Mrs. E.R. Mauldin
(817) 536-0127

Travis County
Mike Grossberg
(512) 474-4766

Young County
Charles Graham
(817) 549-3530 (w) 664-3021

CHAIR'S COL. (Cont. from P.5)

Our candidates must distinguish themselves from their opponents by bringing these issues up and making them an unavoidable part of the campaign debate. Once the "anti-state interest groups" know about us and know they can count on our devotion to principle, the door will be open to a coalition that can make politicians tremble.

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