We have entered the final "cash crunch" countdown to achieving ballot status for the Libertarian presidential ticket in all 50 states and the District of Columbia for the upcoming election. We are now in a race against time, hoping the contributions will come in faster than the expenditures come due.

We are pushing forward in all states where we are legally allowed to start petitioning. Last week Indiana and North Carolina were finally officially certified. We are now certified in twenty-six states. In fifteen states petition drives are still in progress, five states have only paperwork left to complete, and in four states (plus D.C.) petitioning cannot legally begin until later this summer.

The deadline of August 18th for our last "tough" ballot access challenge, New York, is less than three months away. New York Governor Mario Cuomo recently signed into law a bill reducing the valid signatures required from 20,000 to 15,000. This eases the pressure somewhat, but due to other arcane requirements, including a very tight time window for collection of signatures, New York remains one of our toughest drives.

A bill reducing restrictions in Missouri, another tough state, has passed the legislature, thanks to super lobbying efforts by Libertarian Ken Bush. The good news is it is expected to be signed into law soon. The bad news is it will not take effect until next year.

In accordance with our budget projections, the $64,000 cushion we began the year with has been spent. Your generous contributions have helped us get this close to full ballot status, and we continue to rely heavily on our pledge program to fund ongoing expenses. But pledge income alone won’t be enough to complete the effort in all 50 states -- ANY additional contribution or increase of your pledge sent in NOW could well make all the difference!

Hot off the presses: Ballot Access T-shirts will be made available to petitioners and fundraisers who make significant contributions to our telephone fundraising efforts. Since many pledgers do not receive calls from us, we would like to make you a special offer as well. If you double your pledge today, you will receive your own commemorative one-size-fits-all "Ballot Blues Band 1992 Signature Tour T-Shirt". Just return your address slip in the enclosed envelope, with a note authorizing your pledge increase and requesting your T-shirt.
Freedom . . . with reservations

We are now living under exactly the sort of government the Constitution was designed to prevent: sheer amorphous power that can be put to any use by those who have the guns.

In short, anything and everything is the government's proper concern. Just the other day, for example, armed FBI agents raided five Indian reservations in Arizona to crack down on gambling. Thank heaven for the FBI. One of our government's many purposes — somehow I forgot to include it in my list — is to protect us from Indian gamblers. Our astromen...
Now stop the government's looting

Liberatarian Jacobs second to challenge VanderJagt for seat

HOLLAND

By Chris Murphy
The Grand Rapids Press

A thrice-beaten Libertarian who helped put term limitations on November's ballot is pointing to the popularity of Independent H. Ross Perot as a sign he can run as U.S. Rep. Guy VanderJagt's seat will make him a political winner.

Holland businessman Dick Jacobs says this year's candidacy will be greeted differently than his past three, which included unsuccessful bids for the Libertarian Party of governor in 1982 and U.S. senator in 1988 and in the Republican primary for state senator in 1990.

"I think Mr. Perot, Libertarians and other third-party candidates will be seen as much more viable," said Jacobs, 53, who runs his own management consulting firm called Data Research.

The petition drive that put term limitations on November's ballot was started by a nonprofit group founded by Jacobs. The taxpayers Association of Michigan, began in 1990 with a goal of limiting the role of government. The association also is trying to add to the November ballot a constitutional amendment lowering and limiting income and property taxes.

In announcing his candidacy, Jacobs attacked VanderJagt for supporting the most recent congressional pay raise and for not opposing U.S. Rep. Bob Davis, R-Gaylord, when it was learned he was the third-worst check-kiter at the House in 1990.

VanderJagt, a 13-term Republican from Lutz, has been attacked as out of touch from people both inside and outside his own party. Former state Sen. Melvin DeStiger of Hudsonville is challenging him in the primary, and an effort to draft Rep. Willem VanRegemorter ended only when the Jenison Republican declined to run.

Another Republican county chairman said while the dissatisfaction against VanderJagt has not died out, he doubted it would mean votes for a third-party candidate.

"In Michigan third-party people don't garner very much support," Manistee County Chairman David Smeltzer said. "Even though there's a broad base of people who identify themselves as independent, they tend to vote either Democrat or Republican."

Jacobs said in February he was not seeking political office but said Sunday he announced his candidacy at the urging of others. "I've had a lot of people say I should run, and this recent fiasco with Guy VanderJagt convinced me I would run," said Jacobs.

Jacobs has argued candidates should not be allowed to spend more than the job they are running for, and he argues that limit spending to $125,000 and not take more than $100 per donor.

OK, IF LYNDON LAROCHE ISN'T A LIBERTARIAN, WHO AND WHAT IS ONE — AND WHAT DOES HE WANT?

Couple of weeks ago, Your Obdurate Servant, in midst of digressing, was endlessly unclarifying political stripe, before reference of fact that he'd probably be a libertarian if it weren't for the fact that the infamous Lyndon LaRouche has given the breed a bad name. Now, things are happening that perhaps it's time to know what a Libertarian is. And what does he want, anyway? And where does he stand, anyway? And what do their friends want, anyway, and what do their political opponents want, anyway? And what are their beliefs, anyway, and what are their values, anyway, and what are their principles, anyway?

Some answers were delivered by the signers of the petition gathering signatures one Daniel Tobias of Shreepo, vice chairman of the Libertarian Party of Louisiana. They're right here among us, and we'd love to have a vision of a future in which things aren't as bad as they are today. I'm not saying they're great, but they could be better. I'm not saying they're bad, but they could be better.

And there's one problem, a big problem, a big problem, a big problem, that is: the belief that we can solve big problems with programs, most of which don't work as advertised. Libertarians are forever working to convince the public that people who believe in government solutions are simply selling the illusion of control.

But where does that leave us? It leaves us with a system that no one can control, and we're left to figure out what to do with it. And that's where we stand. We stand at the crossroads of a new era, and we have a choice to make. We can continue on the path of blindly following the politicians, or we can take control of our own destiny and build a society that works for us.
What about Dan?

Repealing the income tax and abolishing the Internal Revenue Service doesn't sound like such a bad idea.

In fact for anyone who has ever had a problem communicating with the faceless IRS of Andover, Mass., that runs its operation by spitting out threatening letters in a language of computerese and mans its telephones with a room full of machines, it sounds like a very good idea.

That's what Andre Marrou, Libertarian presidential candidate wants to do. He wants less government intrusion.

This was the message he brought to Maine Sunday when he addressed a small group of Libertarians gathered for a state convention in Augusta.

No doubt about it, we'd have a lot less "intrusion" if Marrou could rid us of the necessity of paying income taxes and if he could take the IRS off our backs.

But it's impossible.

How could we ever pay off that S&L bill?

And what about the Defense Department? How could we afford any more of those $1,685 toilet seats for Air Force transport planes or $641 urinals for the Navy or $435 hammer and $6,000 coffee pots for the Pentagon?

Or would we ever get all the money to pay for those congressional pay raises? Or for their pensions?

To say nothing about all the perks.

Money No Problem

Perot does not appear to have a money problem.

He seems to bankroll his own independent campaign, and should have enough friends among the boardroom set so that additional funds won't be a problem. A humorous commentary from Late Night with David Letterman addressed this point.

Letterman on a recent show took note of the record-setting Republican fund-raising dinner that brought in over $2 million from the heavy hitters. "The record was broken the next night," Letterman quipped, "when Perot had dinner with himself and gave his campaign $10 million."

It may be futile to dream of an independent candidate rising among the people, a political outsider in tune with the average citizen, who will suddenly see this nation right.

But there are things wrong with that kind of wishful thinking. Perot is not a common man. He may catch and sleep and work like everybody else, but he's not like you and me, and certainly nothing like the majority of the American people.

And I don't promise to give millions. I'm the Republican Party like Perot did during the Nixon Administration just to gain access to the President. And you and I can't afford to hire our own rescue team to get workers, or friends, out of a revolutionary Iranian prison.