

LIBERTARIAN PARTY LP NEWS

The Party of Principle

December 1998

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Libertarian State Rep. elected in Vermont

LP candidates win 17 races; set Congressional vote record

The Libertarian Party elected a State Representative in Vermont, won at least 14 local offices around the USA, re-elected two incumbents, registered its best-ever showing in a Congressional race, and picked up ballot status in at least three more states in Election '98.

"Libertarians have many reasons to be excited about this election," said Ron Crickenberger, LP Political Director. "While we suffered a small setback or two, we've also achieved some significant political victories."

★★★★★★★★★
Election '98

State legislator

In the biggest win of the day, Libertarian Neil Randall won a seat as a state legislator in Vermont.

Randall, the LP candidate for governor in 1996, was elected to the Orange County District 3 seat with 53% of the vote in a two-way race, beating a Democrat. He won the seat on a dual-party

nomination, which allowed him to pick up additional votes as a Republican.

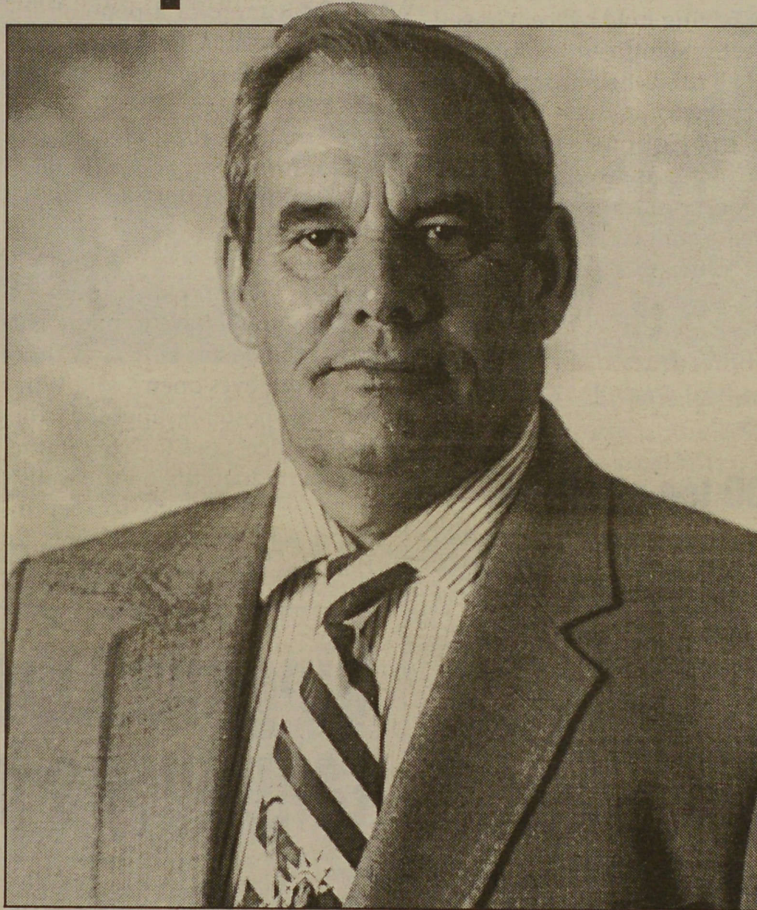
"There was a loud cheer [when we heard the result]," said Vermont LP State Chair Chris Costanzo. "We all felt wonderful. We now have a foot in the door."

Randall, who ran an aggressive campaign that included knocking on every door in his district, said, "I ran to win and I thought I would win."

On the other hand, Randall admitted to some "apprehension" now that he will actually enter the notoriously socialist Vermont House, where he will be outnumbered 70-to-one by Republicans and Democrats.

"The other party members were more excited than I [about the victory] — but they don't have to labor in the snake pit," he said.

As his first legislative act, Randall said he plans to introduce a bill that would require voter approval for any new tax,



■ Vermont State Representative-elect Neil Randall: He looks forward to "working with other liberty-oriented legislators" to pass a bill requiring voter approval of any new taxes.

tax increase, or tax extension.

"It is time the people of Vermont have a direct say as to how much of their hard-earned money they will allow the politicians to confiscate from them

to spend on their various pet projects," he said.

The victory makes Vermont the third state to send a Libertarian to the State House — joining New Hampshire (which

elected a total of five LP State Representatives in 1992 and 1994) and Alaska (which elected three LP State Representatives in the late 1970s and early 1980s).

Also in Vermont, John Simons won office as High Bailiff of Caledonia County.

Although they didn't win, several other LP candidates in Vermont finished in high double-digits in partisan races.

In two State Senate races, state LP secretary Hardy Macia won 29.08% of the vote in Grand Isle County, and Karen Patenaude won 15.5% in Caledonia County.

A force in Vermont

"A few years ago, we barely existed," said Costanzo. "Today we are entering the legislature, hold county office, [and] have made a difference in a number of races. [Our] presence on the ballot has made us a force in Vermont, has given us some bargaining leverage during the next legislative session, and has positioned us well for 2000!"

In Indiana, two Libertarians won partisan races in Washington County, where an out-of-nowhere slate of 21 LP candidates had rocked the local political landscape.

Both Mary Dufour and
See **ELECTION '98** Page 8

Libertarianism goes "prime-time" on TV

Libertarianism will make the jump to prime-time television on December 9.

But if you blink, you might miss it.

A libertarian character will be featured on the CBS Television romantic comedy/drama *To Have & To Hold* when it airs on Wednesday night at 9:00 pm (ET) on December 9.

"If you look closely, you should be able to see a Libertarian poster on this character's of-

fice wall, and maybe even a copy of Harry Browne's *Why Government Doesn't Work* on his desk — at least, that's what the show's staff is telling me," said LP Director of Communications Bill Winter.

Starring Jason Beghe and Moira Kelly, *To Have & To Hold* is one of several Irish-themed programs that debuted this year.

The hour-long show follows the adventures of a public defender (Kelly) who marries a Bos-

ton police detective (Beghe). The clash between their personal and professional lives fuels the drama, while their extended Irish family adds conflict and comedy.

Called office

The Libertarian Party learned about *To Have & To Hold*'s "libertarian connection" when one of the show's set designers called the national office in late October, said Winter.

"It was one of my more un-

usual phone calls," he said. "A set decorator asked me to FedEx them a Libertarian poster for an upcoming episode, because one of the characters was supposed to be a libertarian."

"She also reassured me: 'He's not a bad character!'"

Winter said he sent them an old LP poster that shows the Statue of Liberty with the caption: "Let the Light of Freedom Shine On America / Vote Liber-

See **PRIME TIME** Page 2

INSIDE

■ **PAGE 5**
LP runs national TV ads for Election '98

■ **PAGE 17**
McWilliams files medical marijuana lawsuit in California

■ **PAGE 18**
First Success '99 Event set for Florida

NEWS BRIEFS

Have you held office as a Libertarian?

A Florida LP member is trying to assemble a list of "success stories" from Libertarians in office — past and present — to help answer the question: "What have Libertarians done in 20 years that is significant?"

Jean-Paul Gravell has launched what he calls "Project Political Impact," and is working to assemble a summary paper of significant achievements by Libertarian office-holders at the state, county, and local level.

"Have you been asked the question: 'What makes you think that Libertarians, once in office, will act any differently than Republicans [or] Democrats?' " asked Gravell. "Many of us are a bit tongue-tied at this point. Well, that is about to change with the production of a summary paper, listing key achievements by Libertarian politicians and office-holders across the nation."

With hundreds of Libertarians having held office, Gravell said he expects to be able to collect a significant number of political success stories. But he said he needs help from current and past office-holders to make it happen.

"It is up to you — the present and past office holders" to make this project a reality, he said. "If you are now holding office (either elected or appointed) or have in the past held office in any level of government, please contact me with a brief statement of what you think was significant in your tenure."

The ideal response, said Gravell: A set of short "Sound Bite" answers that can be compiled into a summary.

■ **To respond by e-mail:** bbreci@usa.net or bbreci@paganet.com. By regular mail: Jean-Paul Gravell, 782 Monaco Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33950-8018.

IHS offers up to \$12,000 for students

The Institute for Humane Studies wants to give libertarian students \$12,000. The Fairfax, Virginia-based, non-partisan free market institute is offering cash grants to students "who have clearly demonstrated interest in the classical liberal/libertarian tradition of individual rights and market economies," said Collette Ridgeway, the Director of Student Applications.

IHS is offering up to \$12,000 for fellowships for undergraduate and graduate students (deadline: December 31); \$2,500 for graduate research fellowships (deadline: February 15, 1999); and \$1,500 for public policy internships this summer (deadline: March 1, 1999).

For more information or to apply, call (800) 697-8799. Or visit the IHS website: www.TheIHS.org.

Libertarians arrested for 'clothing crime'

Two Libertarians were arrested in New Mexico after they tried to vote while wearing Libertarian Party clothing — an action they say was designed to "violate their civil rights and block their access to the ballot box."

Gary and Karen Fincher were stopped from voting in Santa Fe by poll workers after they declined to remove or cover an LP jacket and tee-shirt, both of which featured the party's State of Liberty logo. Election staff said their attire violated state law that prohibits "campaigning" at the polls.

When they protested, the Finchers were arrested, removed from the polling place, and detained until after the polls closed.

"Discrimination should never be tolerated at the polling place," said Gary Fincher. "Unfortunately, we will never get our 1998 election vote back."

Ironically, both Libertarians worked for the one LP candidate on the statewide ballot: Maurice McDonald, running for State Land Commissioner. Gary Fincher was McDonald's campaign manager; his wife was McDonald's fundraising director.

Despite the loss of the two votes, McDonald went on to win 35,593 votes — more than enough to gain the Libertarian Party "major party" status in New Mexico.

The Finchers have asked that the charges against them be dropped, that their votes be reinstated, and that "criminal charges be initiated against Santa Fe County and its Board of Elections for civil rights violations."

On December 9, libertarianism goes prime time (but don't blink)

Continued from Page 1

tarian." He also sent a collection of LP bumperstickers and a few Libertarian books.

Ironically, after they received the material, the show's staff told Winter that the character isn't identified on the episode as a libertarian.

"They explained that it's sort of an in-joke of that episode's director, who is a libertarian. The only way you know the character is a libertarian is by the poster," he said. "I guess that makes it more of a pop culture footnote than a breakthrough in terms of television exposure for the party."

The show also didn't release any information about the plot of the show, or the name of the character.

Figure out

"So you'll have to figure out which character it is, and then keep your eyes open," said Winter. "The poster is supposed to be in his office. Look for a big Statue of Liberty hanging on the wall!"

One other thing to keep in mind, said Winter: *To Have & To Hold* has not exactly been a rat-



CBS photo by Cliff Lipson

■ The CBS show *To Have & To Hold* stars Moira Kelly and Jason Beghe — and features a "libertarian character" on December 9.

ings powerhouse so far.

"The show has been languishing in the mid-70s and 80s in the ratings, so there is even a chance it could get canceled be-

fore that episode airs," he said.

"So, let's hope that it survives until December 9 — and let's watch carefully for the Libertarian connection!"

Virginia Libertarians help protect taxpayers by defeating amendments

The Libertarian Party of Virginia played a decisive role in defeating two proposed constitutional amendments that would have given "government officials greater power."

Constitutional Questions 3 and 4 would have increased the power of "unelected regional boards to impose substantial financial obligations on taxpayers — typically through the issuance of bonds — with little direct taxpayer oversight," said Jim Lark, who led the LP campaign against the questions.

On November 3, Question #3 lost 56% to 44%, and Question #4 lost 61% to 39%, thanks in part to an aggressive lobbying effort by Libertarians.

The LP of Virginia issued press releases opposed to the measures; handed out flyers on Election Day; did radio interviews; and worked with anti-tax groups to get the message out, said Lark.

"At the time we started our campaign, very little attention



was being paid to the questions by the media. Our press release kicked off some important media coverage, which resulted in more coverage of the issues," he said.

Now, as a result of the vic-

tory, taxpayers have another reason "to look with favor upon the LP of Virginia," said Lark. "Our effort also helped us in strengthening connections with nonpartisan taxpayer organizations. And it allowed us to gain new contacts with news media."

Lark also said the victory gave a big moral boost for Virginia Libertarians — and generated "a great feeling of satisfaction on the part of all Libertarians to whom I spoke."

LP NEWS

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EDITOR:
Bill Winter

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Libertarian candidates kicked off Illinois ballot

Bipartisan corruption blamed for challenge to seven LP candidates

In the one major ballot access setback of Election '98, seven statewide Libertarian Party candidates were booted off the ballot in Illinois by the Board of Elections — despite a last-minute appeal by the LP candidate for governor.

Just four days before Election Day, the Cook County Circuit Court rejected an appeal by LP gubernatorial candidate Jim Tobin to overturn the Board of Elections' ruling that he had failed to file the required 25,000 signatures to get on the ballot.

The October 30 decision — which went against Tobin on two technical grounds — drove the final nail in the coffin of the LP's efforts to get on the statewide ballot, and brought an end to a months-long ballot access battle that cost the party tens of thousands of dollars.

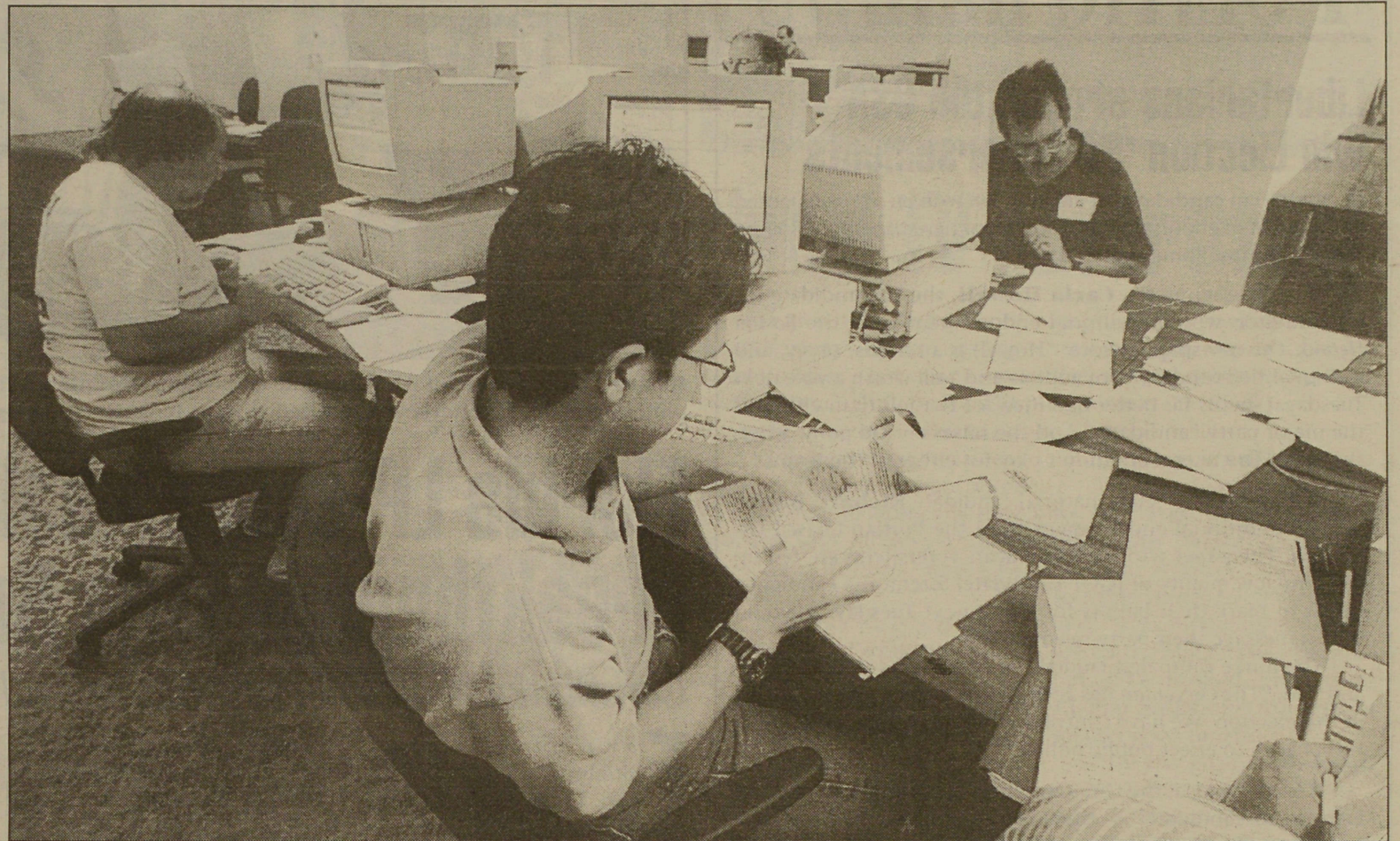
"We believe that the judge ignored the statutes in making his rulings," said Illinois LP State Chair Mike Ginsberg, after the appeal was shot down.

However, he noted, with time having run out for any more appeals, the bottom line for the Libertarian Party is that "we will not appear on the ballot."

8-0 decision

The Circuit Court ruling upheld an 8-0 Illinois State Board of Elections decision on October 13 that Tobin and six other statewide candidates had not submitted enough signatures to get on the November 3 ballot.

In reaching that decision,



Chicago Tribune photo by Chuck Berman

■ Greg Bezdek from Illinois (far left), Ken Hamilton from California (center) and Rob Gilmore of Colorado (right) were just three of more than 100 Libertarian volunteers who worked on the Illinois ballot access challenge. Shown here,

they are patiently poring through thousands of pages of petition signatures at the Board of Elections office in Chicago, checking names, signatures, and addresses against voter registration lists to prove their validity.

the Board of Elections — made up entirely of Republicans and Democrats — ignored the recommendation of its own Hearing Officer and General Counsel, both of whom had ruled that the Libertarian Party had qualified.

"The decision by the Board of Elections was a cynical, backroom ploy by Republicans and Democrats to use their political power to keep their competition off the ballot, and to keep millions of Illinois voters from having a genuine choice on

Election Day," charged LP National Director Steve Dasbach. "It's a classic case of old-fashioned, Chicago-style political



corruption — except now it's bipartisan corruption."

Also knocked off the ballot were Libertarian Lt. Governor

candidate Charles Sila, U.S. Senate candidate Rhys Read, Secretary of State candidate Robin J. Miller, Treasurer candidate Kevin M. Koslowski, Attorney General candidate Gary Lee Shilts, and Comptroller candidate Woodrow Windischman.

The decision by the Board of Elections came after the Libertarian Party had spent thousands of hours and tens of thousands of dollars to prove that at least 25,000 of the 60,638 signatures it had filed were, in fact, valid.

The save-the-ballot-status effort was fueled by more than 100 Libertarian volunteers from around the nation, who responded to an e-mail appeal and flocked to Illinois.

"I've never been more proud of my fellow Libertarians," said Dasbach. "They dropped what they were doing, and rushed to Illinois. One Libertarian drove all the way from Colorado. Two drove from Tennessee; one drove from Alabama."

Once in Illinois, many of the volunteers worked 18-hour days for up to four weeks.

Four to a couch

"After 12 hours at the Election Board's office, they would work another six hours keyboarding data, copying documents, keeping files in order. They slept four to a couch in Steve Givot's house, which was Command Central for the campaign," said Dasbach.

During those four weeks of work, volunteers cross-checked tens of thousands of petition signatures against the registered voter lists in 101 counties in an effort to verify signatures and addresses.

After more than a month of work, the party had 26,610 verified signatures on hand, and was confident of prevailing, said

Libertarian Party signs onto amicus brief in 'freedom of contracting' Medicare lawsuit

The Libertarian Party has joined in a lawsuit to overturn a federal regulation that effectively makes it illegal for senior citizens to privately contract with any doctor who gets Medicare money from the government.

In late September, the party signed onto an amicus curiae (friend of the court brief) in the case of United Seniors Association v. Donna Shalala, which was filed in U.S. District Court in Washington, DC.

THE LAWSUIT

"directly supports the position of the LP platform."

The lawsuit seeks to overturn Section 4507 of the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, a provision which "effectively forces all eld-

erly Americans into the Medicare system," said Steve Dasbach, LP national chairman.

"We hope to preserve the right of older Americans to contract with the doctor of their choice, outside the Medicare system if they so choose," he said. "The party joined the lawsuit because it directly supports the position of the LP platform on this issue."

Passed with very little fanfare at the time, Section 4507 was an initiative of the Clinton ad-

ministration, which said the new regulation would help eliminate a "two-tier" medical system, where wealthy seniors could privately contract for care while most others were forced to rely on Medicare.

But the far-reaching provision quickly turned into a rallying point for organizations opposed to greater government intrusion into health care.

"Section 4507 codifies in the Medicare law for the first time

See **MEDICARE LAWSUIT** Page 21

See **ILLINOIS BALLOT** Page 26

POLITICAL NEWS

Libertarians around the USA win Election '98 endorsements

Libertarian candidates in Election '98 won an unprecedented number of endorsements from major newspapers and lobbying groups. Some highlights:

■ In Massachusetts, **Carla Howell**, the LP candidate for state auditor, won an editorial endorsement from the *Boston Herald*. The newspaper wrote: "Howell is a serious, savvy, and well-qualified candidate for auditor and well worth a vote next Tuesday. [She] is far better qualified for the job than either of the major party candidates. And she raises a valid point when she says, 'The referee shouldn't play for either of the teams.'"

■ In Oregon, LP gubernatorial candidate **Richard Burke** won a conditional endorsement from the Portland-based *Oregonian*. The paper wrote: "Republican voters who are fed up with the low quality of [GOP candidate] Sizemore's candidacy ought to mark their ballots for Burke next Tuesday. It would send a message their party needs to hear."

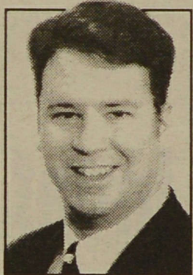
The Burke campaign lauded the editorial as a "bold step," and said, "The *Oregonian* has acknowledged that we are a player in this election. We have contributed to the debate, and have a real chance to effect public policy."

■ In California, the Gun Owners of California endorsed 10 Libertarian candidates — three for U.S. House, two for State Senate, and five for State Assembly. Getting the nod from GOC were Congressional candidates **Linda DeGroat** (18th District), **Juan Carlos Ros** (26th), and **Kerry Welsh** (36th); State Senate candidates **Bob Weber** (26th) and **David Graham** (40th); and State Assembly candidates **Paul Rako** (22nd), **Ray Strong** (24th), **Christopher "Kit" Maira** (39th), **Kelley Ross** (40th), and **Eric Fine** (47th).

"These endorsements are further proof that the Libertarian Party is being taken seriously in electoral politics," noted Juan Ros, the Executive Director of the California LP.

■ In Arizona, LP Congressional candidate **Phil Murphy** (5th District), won the endorsement of the national Gun Owners of America. In a letter to GOA members, the pro-Second Amendment organization wrote: "Phil Murphy is a leader who will stand and defend your rights where they're under the greatest attack — in Washington. And that's why it is so important for gun owners to get behind Phil Murphy for Congress. [He] believes in individual liberty. He trusts you with freedom."

■ In Michigan, LP candidate for state representative **Mike Brinkman** earned an endorsement from the Michigan State University's *State News*. The college newspaper wrote: "Brinkman will be a fair and open-minded legislator for the MSU community. Though [his] Libertarian views support his strong stance on cutting most taxes, his ideas are realistically balanced with budget change proposals. [And] he has a positive position on most civil and social issues."



Mike Brinkman: "Open-minded."

■ In Texas, the Periodicos Hispanos de Texas (PHT) — a state organization of the National Association of Hispanic Publications — endorsed two Libertarians in statewide races. The PHT endorsed **Anthony Garcia**, the LP candidate for Lt. Governor, and **Manuel J. Montez**, the LP candidate for Texas Land Commissioner.

"I think this is an important turning point for the Hispanic community and the Libertarian Party," said Vicky Flores, Chair of the Dallas LP. "We are thrilled to get an endorsement from such an important Hispanic organization."

■ In Arizona, **John Buttrick**, LP candidate for State Representative (25th District), was called "a class act" in an *Arizona Republic* endorsement. The Phoenix newspaper said Buttrick would be "a welcome spice in the brew of intellectual mediocrity that too often bubbles to the top in the Legislature."



■ Libertarians from the LP of Seminole and Orange Counties rally for Revision 11 near a Florida polling station. Libertarians also hired a plane to fly overhead with a "Yes on 11" banner.

Florida LP scores ballot access breakthrough with Revision 11

Constitutional amendment wins big with 64% of vote

Florida Libertarians are celebrating the victory of Revision 11, a constitutional amendment that will reform the worst ballot access laws in the nation — and are already talking about running their first-ever slate of LP candidates for the 2000 election.

"This is our victory!" said LP State Chair Brian Collar about the amendment, which was approved by 64.7% of the voters on November 3.

Thanks to the work of Libertarians and other third-party activists, Florida voters "consigned Florida's 67-year-old anti-competitive election laws to the historical dustbin," he said. "Florida voters have shown they want more choices on the ballot, and we in the Libertarian Party will do all we can to oblige them."

"Look for us on the Florida ballot in the next election."

In the 28-year history of the LP, no Libertarian candidate had ever qualified to run for governor, U.S. House, or U.S. Senate in Florida.

To remedy that situation, Florida Libertarians spent the last two years lobbying for Revision 11, working with such groups as Common Cause, Gun Owners of America, and Floridians for Fair Elections.

Radio ads

The party's efforts were climaxed by \$15,000 of radio ads in the last week — and by the individual efforts of hundreds of LP members, said Collar.

"Libertarians have been working for this day since early in 1997," he said. "My deepest thanks go to all the volunteers who wrote letters to newspapers,

organized rallies, gave speeches, spoke on talk shows, handed out literature at polling places, put Revision 11 bumper stickers on their cars, displayed Revision 11 yard signs — [and] even hired a plane with a 'Yes on 11' banner."

Thanks to that lobbying, 90% of the major newspapers in the state eventually came out in favor of Revision 11, and en-

News. "It really revitalizes democracy."

The victory also earned the Florida LP praise from LP national chairman David Bergland.

"The work of the Florida LP that resulted in the passage of Revision 11 has to be the Libertarian success story of the decade," he said. "It elevates us to a new plateau, from which even greater progress will spring."

Other benefits

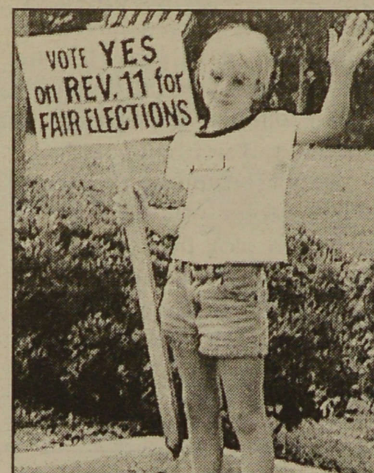
Besides winning a major ballot access victory, the Florida LP gained other benefits from the Revision 11 campaign, said state party Vice Chair Tom Regnier.

"The Libertarian Party of Florida has gained enormous respect, from both inside and outside the state," he said. "We have demonstrated what we can do as a group when we focus all our energies on a particular issue."

However, Regnier cautioned, the party's joy is tempered by a suspicion that Republicans and Democrats may still attempt to sabotage the will of the voters.

"We will still have to keep a close eye on the legislature to be sure they don't try to pull a fast one on us — something like increasing the filing fees for themselves as well as for us," he said. "Revision 11 just says the ballot requirements have to be the same for everyone; it doesn't say specifically what the requirements should be."

For example, he quipped, "The legislature could require that all candidates must demonstrate an ability to say one thing while meaning another — a requirement that D's and R's could satisfy but which would keep us off the ballot forever!"

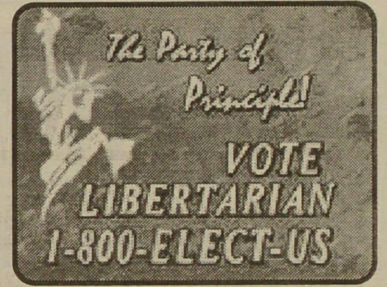
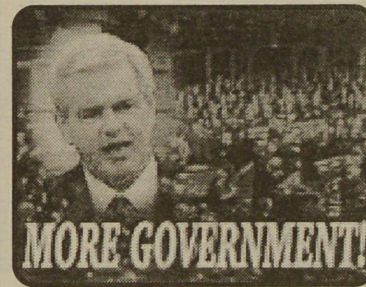


■ Janelle Palm does her part to drum up voter support for Revision 11 on Election Day.

dorsed its provisions to make Florida ballot access requirements the same for all candidates, whether major party, minor party, or independent.

Previously, smaller parties had to collect more than 240,000 signatures to appear on the ballot for a statewide race. Republicans and Democrats merely paid a filing fee.

The passage of Revision 11 is the "biggest victory for ballot access since 1968" when George Wallace won a Supreme Court decision affirming that the First Amendment protects the right to get on the ballot, said Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access*



Party runs first ever off-year national TV advertising

LP airs "Vote Libertarian" advertisements on CNN, America's Voice, and CNBC

The Libertarian Party took to the airwaves in Election '98, running national television advertisements for the first time in party history in an off-year election.

In the final six days leading up to November 3, the party ran a generic "Vote Libertarian" ad a total of 76 times on three national cable TV networks — CNN, America's Voice, and CNBC — with a potential audience of 16 million viewers.

All three cable networks reach audiences of high-propensity voters, which gave the Libertarian Party "more bang for our advertising buck," said Ron

Crickenberger, the LP's political director.

The ads appeared on such programs as CNN's *Talk Back Live*, *Crossfire*, and *Headline News*.

Total cost for the week-long advertising blitz: \$30,000, all of which was raised from the party's e-mail announcement list.

Instant fundraising

"These ads were a tribute to the dedication of LP members, who helped pay for them, and to the power of the Internet, which makes instant fundraising and communications possible," said Crickenberger.

Although the LP's advertis-

ing budget was modest compared to the millions of dollars spent by Republicans and Democrats, Crickenberger said the ads accomplished their purposes.

"These ads generated hundreds of phone calls to our 800#, reminded Americans that there



was a real choice on the ballot, and provided valuable political and moral support for our hard-working candidates," he said.

"Plus, they sent the message that David is willing to get into the ring and take a swing at both Goliaths," he said.

The professionally produced advertisement — over a montage of unpopular politicians and scenes of the U.S. Capitol building and Congress — declares:

"The Democrats gave us more taxes, more scandals, more government. Republicans took over and what did we get? More taxes, more scandals, more government!"

"That's not what they promised. That's not what this country needs."

"So if you're tired of politicians more interested in keeping their jobs than in keeping their promises, make a change. This year, vote Libertarian: The Party of Principle."

The ad was designed to appeal to the majority of Americans who distrust politicians in gen-

eral, and who have specific reasons to dislike Republicans and Democrats, said LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

More scandals

"The ad makes clear that we've gotten the same abuse from both Democrats and Republicans: More taxes, more scandals, more government," he said. "Also, by caving in to Clinton on the budget deal, Republicans demonstrated, once and for all, that they are not the party of smaller government."

"They've given us an opportunity that we had to take advantage of. This ad could not have been better timed."

To view the advertisement on the Web, go to <http://www.lp.org/lp-tv-ads.html>.

The importance of fundamentals, candidates, and message

By Ron Crickenberger
LP Political Director

On both a "micro" and "macro" level, the '98 elections show promise for increasing Libertarian Party victories in the future.

On the national level, our candidate's average and cumulative vote totals increased in almost all states. Across the country, voters passed pro-freedom initiatives: Medical marijuana, tax limitations, open ballot access — even topless lawn-mowing. And Jesse Ventura's victory for Governor of Minnesota should improve the chances of all third party candidates in 2000.

On the local level, we elected or re-elected at least 16 Libertarians, and lost only one incumbent. We picked up several countywide seats. We elected our first District Attorney, and re-elected in a landslide a Sheriff who is an outspoken opponent of the drug war.

Abraham Lincoln wrote 158 years ago: "Divide the county into small districts, and appoint in each a sub-committee. Make a perfect list of voters and ascertain with certainty for whom they will vote and on election

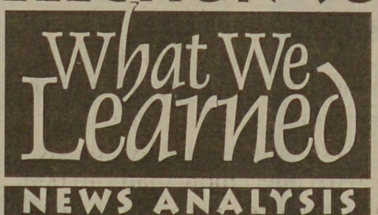
day see that every Whig is brought to the polls."

Robert Heinlein wrote 53 years ago: "The vote you need to win lies on the other side of a closed door in a private home: You have to punch that doorbell to get it. There is no substitute."

1998's elected Libertarians prove once again that tried-and-true methods work for winning local elections.

What are the lessons Libertarians should learn from the 1998 elections?

ELECTION '98



Fundamentals win campaigns: Newly elected Libertarian State Representative Neil Randall credits his win to knocking on every door in his district. It didn't hurt that he had run a business in the county for 24 years, and was active in his church for two decades as well.

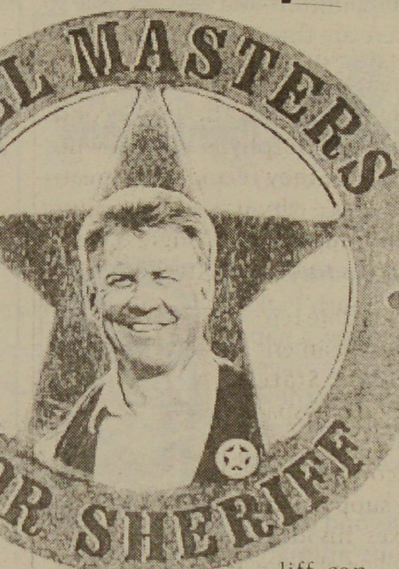
Washington County (Indiana) Libertarians ran textbook

local campaigns. They had the usual signs, tabloids, pamphlets and newspaper ads. But most importantly, they counted their votes one by one, with door-to-door work and phone canvassing. They asked for votes, recorded who said yes, and made sure those folks got to the polls.

The results? Two partisan LP wins for local candidates in Jefferson Township.

And talk about synergy — top of ticket candidate for Secretary of State, Steve Dillon, received more votes in Jefferson than did the Democratic and Republican candidates.

Run a lot of candidates! Time after time we see the more candidates a state runs, the higher the average vote for all our candidates, and the higher the top of the ticket scores. This year's best example: Vermont. In 1996, Vermont ran six candidates. Their highest vote was 3.2%. They got 21,000 votes statewide. In 1998 they ran 44 candidates. Their highest vote was 99% for winning High Bai-



The synergy involved in many candidates running helped lead not only to the Randall victory, our biggest of '98, but to outstanding performances by many other candidates as well. One Vermont State Senate candidate, originally recruited just to be a lineholder, became so enthused she ended up running an aggressive campaign that netted her 16% in a three-way race — one of our best State Senate performances this year.

Don't be afraid of the tough issues: Bill Masters won reelection as San Miguel County Sheriff by a near four-to-one margin, even though his opponent made Bill's vocal stance against the Drug War the main campaign issue. Bill kept his message clear, "San Miguel County has one of the lowest violent crime rates in the country, because violent crime is where we focus our law enforcement."

On any controversial issue, about one-third of the voters will be against it. Another one-third will be for it. The last third can be persuaded to one side or the other. By failing to take strong stands on the issues, you alien-

See **WHAT WE LEARNED** Page 6

POLITICAL NEWS

Even a Libertarian can quote scripture...

If you're ever asked whether the government should enforce "Christian values," take a Biblical page from U.S. Senate candidate **Michael Cloud** in Nevada.

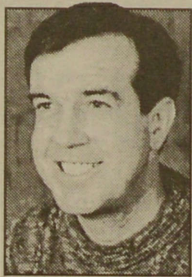
In an interview on KKV Radio — a Christian station — on October 21, Cloud was quizzed by a caller about whether it was important to "elect Christians to office to instill Christian values" in America.

"I responded: 'May I tell you a story from the New Testament? And then ask a question?'" recounted Cloud. "I said, 'Jesus Christ fasted for 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness. At the end of the 40 days, Satan took him to the mountaintop and offered Jesus Christ dominion over the seven kingdoms of the world . . . if Jesus would kneel down and worship him. Satan offered Jesus political power and Jesus responded, 'My kingdom is not of this world.'"

"Jesus turned down political power.

"May I ask you one question? 'Was Jesus wrong?'"

From that point on, said Cloud, "The show went well."



Pollsters: Vote for anyone but yourself

According to the pollsters, Massachusetts LP gubernatorial candidate **Dean Cook** didn't plan to vote for himself on November 3rd . . . because the pollsters wouldn't let him.

In mid-October, Cook received a phone call from a Massachusetts polling organization, and was asked by a staffer whether he planned to vote for the Republican or Democratic candidate for governor.

Neither, Cook politely responded: He planned to vote for himself, the Libertarian candidate.

"Imagine my surprise at being told I couldn't choose myself as an option!" he said. "When pollsters and news people so blatantly ignore the fact that there are three people on the ballot, it makes you wonder what [else] they're ignoring."

Ads generate publicity for Libertarians

Two Libertarian Party candidates' Election '98 advertisements did more than generate votes: They also generated national publicity for their campaigns:

■ In California, the **Steve Kubby** for governor campaign's animated "South Park" satire was broadcast on the Fox News Channel as part of its national political coverage.

"Fox News called about it because they'd already heard how entertaining it is," said **Gene Cisewski**, the Kubby for governor campaign manager.

The advertisement is a "60-second parody of Comedy Central's outrageous animated hit South Park," said Cisewski, in which Kubby "takes off the gloves" and moves "the Libertarian Party closer to prime time political involvement."

The deliberately "in-your-face" ad was designed to "capture more votes from people not aligned with the major parties and to capture the imagination of young voters who are more libertarian in their outlook than older voters dependent on big government," he said.

■ In Utah, a newspaper ad by the state LP which targeted Mormon voters earned a story in the October 29 *New York Times*, which noted that Libertarians are "going hard after the Mormon vote."

The LP of Utah ran the ads in several state newspapers, under the headline, "It's OK to be a Mormon and a Libertarian." The advertisement used Mormon phrases and words to argue "that their party is the party of 'correct principles' and thus the 'righteous' choice for Mormons," wrote the *Times*.

"Our principles and LDS [Church of Latter Day Saints] principles are the same," explained LP State Chair **Jim Dexter**.



Steve Kubby: "In-your-face."

Election '98: What we learned

Continued from Page 5

ate your base, fail to persuade the middle, and you'll never get the opposing third anyway.

■ **LP registration is not a sure route to victory:** In some precincts we measured, as few as one in six registered Libertarians bothered to vote. Don't neglect your base vote. Budget for a strong Get Out The Vote effort. And have a message that will motivate your base.

■ **Every vote counts:** In Moreno Valley (California), Bonnie Flickinger won a razor-thin re-election victory by a margin of 37 — out of more than 4,000 votes cast. Always run your campaign as if you absolutely have to have *one* more vote. You may need it.

■ **Invest some of your own money at the start of the campaign.** Winning State Representative Neil Randall put \$1,500 of personal funds into his race to give it the kickoff he needed. Having a significant financial stake in your campaign is a sure-fire motivator, and makes it much easier to ask others for donations as well.

■ **Beware of Campaign Intoxication:** Don't bet your heart, or your house, on the campaign — unless you have the hard data to justify it. If you are not raising locally a lot more than you are spending in personal funds, you are not developing support, you are just spending money.

"ALWAYS RUN your campaign as if you have to have one more vote. You may."

■ **"The Body" Political:** Jesse Ventura's surprise win for Minnesota Governor as a Reform Party candidate is good news for future Libertarian campaigns.

First, he ran on a largely Libertarian platform, demonstrating an untapped market for our ideas. Ventura dispensed largely libertarian rhetoric in a manner that resonated with the voters.

Second, his victory will do much to dispel the "wasted vote argument" so often used as an excuse for not voting a Libertarian conscience.

Third, Ventura's margin of victory came from energizing thousands of first-time voters to come to the polls. Libertarian

campaigns must do the same, and may also need to target other usually ignored groups, such as registered but low propensity voters. Many of these voters have given up on the system. We have to show them that we are a viable alternative.

■ **Message Matters:** Having completely blown the '98 elections, the Republicans have put a lock on their brand as "the stupid party." They are just now figuring out they should have had a message. The Democrats stuck to pocketbook issues, and made historic gains. Ventura's winning message was a single issue, "Elect me, and I'll give you back your tax money." Bill Masters' resonating message took him to a four-to-one victory.

■ **Start Early:** In fact, start now. If you are thinking at all about being a candidate in '99 or 2000, and if you want to join the ranks of Libertarian elected officials, start making plans right now. Step one? Contact your State Chair for information on running, and contact me at LPHQ for a comprehensive campaigning manual.

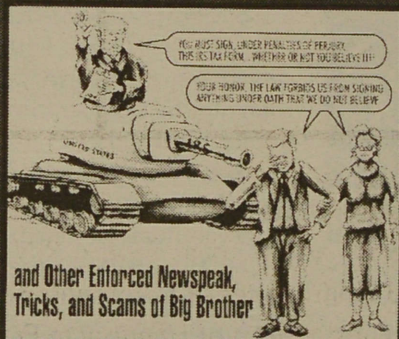
Note: Interested in helping to recruit candidates in your local area? Interested in running for office? For a copy of the *Libertarian Party's Candidate Recruiting* or campaigning manual, contact Political Director Ron Crickenberger at RonCrickenberger@compuserve.com or (202) 333-0008, ext. 227.

Teachers!

Looking for a great pro-libertarian novel to use in class? Order **MINUTEMEN NEWS** (a satire on TV news) by Joseph Berry. Send \$21.95 to Legend Books P.O. Box 1216, Auburn, NY 13021 <http://www.amazon.com>

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The most workable, the most permanent, the most academic, the most realistic, the most free market, the most competitive approach to providing our children with the best education yet presented to the world. Once in place it will be a truly free education system forever.

The future Americans will finish their twelfth year of school with the equivalent of a BA in English, a BS in Math, with minors in Home Economics and Business Administration, and maybe some electives in such things as Computer Science and a Foreign Language.

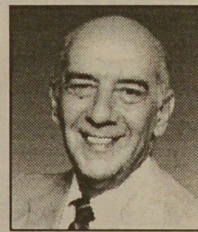
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Who is Dr. Bob Sheckler?

Dr. Bob Sheckler recognizes all of the causes of the problems of our country, and in his writings presents real, workable, libertarian solutions to those problems.



Army, Navy, Merchant Marine • BSME, BSLS, MBA, DC • 429 Semester Equivalent Credits • Married to same woman for 43 years • Four children, Eight Grandchildren • One Great Granddaughter • Libertarian Theoretician since 1957 • Has lived in 11 States • Has lived in 11 California cities • Has lived in or visited 11 Countries • Candidate for State Assembly, State Senate & School Board • Speaks Spanish, Russian, German, Latin and a little English • Author • Teacher • Ships Officer • Columnist • Aerospace Engineer • Political Analyst • Chiropractor • Public Speaker • Businessman • Poet • Boy Scout Leader • Campaign Consultant • Libertarian

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— Dr. Bob Sheckler

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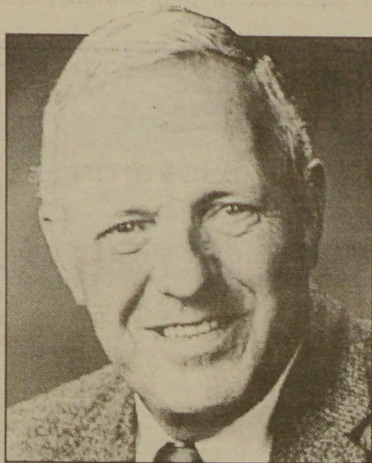
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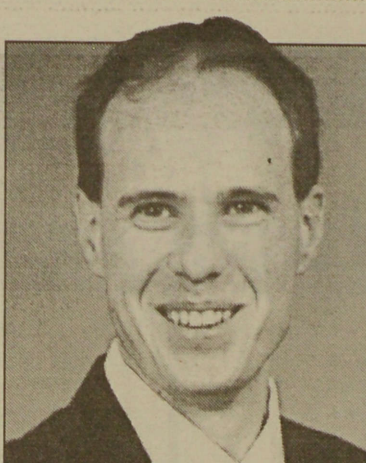
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■ John Simons: Elected as High Bailiff in Caledonia County, Vermont.



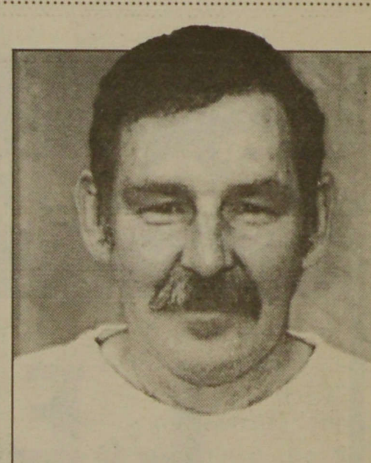
■ Mary Dufour, the new Jefferson Township Trustee in Washington County, Indiana.



■ J. David Philips, elected to the Soil & Water Commission in Greenville County (SC).



■ Bill Masters: Re-elected by a 4-to-1 margin as Sheriff in San Miguel County, Colorado.



■ Zenneth Caudill, a second Jefferson Township Trustee winner in Indiana.

Election '98 scorecard: 17 Libertarians win

Continued from Page 1

Zenneth Caudill won seats as Jefferson Township Trustees. Dufour won 60% of the vote in a two-way race, and Caudill finished third in a six-way race for three seats.

The entire slate of LP candidates ran "textbook local campaigns," said Crickenberger.

They published a tabloid newspaper that was sent to 10,000 homes, campaigned at festivals and political forums, ran advertisements in local newspapers, aired radio ads, canvassed their neighborhoods, and contacted by phone as many of the 17,000 voters as they could.

Thanks to this effort, "Our two first-ever Libertarian wins in the state of Indiana captured 60.45% of the popular vote," said Victor Dufour, the chairman of the Washington County LP. "Our [other] strong showings netted 30%, 20%, 17%, 13%, 11%, and 9% of the popular vote."

Two other results of the campaign: A whopping 7% of local voters who cast straight-ticket votes pulled the Libertarian lever, and LP Secretary of State candidate Steve Dillon captured 15% of the county vote — compared to 3.4% statewide.

Most successful

The 1998 election was "the most successful election year in the history of the Libertarian Party of Indiana," said Sara Cotham, state executive director — who is already looking forward to next year when Indiana Libertarians can "capitalize on the amazing accomplishments of this election season."

In California, Libertarians won two races, electing a district attorney and city council member.

In Mendocino County, Norman Vroman defeated a Republican incumbent to become the county's next District Attorney. Vroman received 13,747

votes, or 51.74%.

"He fought a tough race that sharply divided the county, but in the end he pulled through," said state executive director Juan Ros about Vroman's victory. "California Libertarians are proud to have a chief law enforcement officer who knows the value of the rule of law."

Further north in Humboldt County, Robert Noble, Libertarian candidate for Arcata City Council, edged out a Green Party opponent by 71 votes to win one of two open Council seats.

In a three-way race for the two seats, Noble received 2,170 votes (29.83%).

Especially sweet

Noble's victory is especially sweet for Libertarians, said Ros, because it happened in a city that in 1996 elected a three-member Green Party majority to the City Council.

"Noble's message of less government rang true even in a town known to be extremely liberal," said Humboldt County LP Chairman Frederick Mangels.

In Colorado, Libertarian Sheriff Bill Masters overwhelmingly won re-election by a four-to-one margin in San Miguel County. Masters, who was on the ballot as an independent but made no effort to hide his Libertarian affiliation, had about 80% of the vote in the partisan race.

The national LP contributed or raised approximately \$5,000 for Masters' campaign — a race that was expected to be close because of a well-funded Republican opponent who made an issue out of Masters' opposition to the War on Drugs.

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■ Indiana voters were treated to a double dose of Lady Liberty at a get out the vote rally by state Libertarians at the Pan Am Plaza in Indianapolis on November 3. Shown here (l-r): Julie Perry, campaign manager for Ted Sputh for Sheriff; Rob Shuford, LP State Chair; Ted Sputh, candidate for Marion County Sheriff; Brad Klopfenstein, candidate for Marion County Assessor; and Sara Cotham, executive director of the Libertarian Party of Indiana.

"The big issue Masters was running on was against the drug war," said Crickenberger. "Masters' victory is a vindication on that [issue]."

Soil & Water

In Virginia, Jennifer Reams won election as the Director of Soil & Water Conservation in Prince William County.

She is now "preparing to assume her position as Director" and is eager to "serve the community and the Libertarian Party of Virginia," said campaign manager and LP State Chair Gary Reams.

In the same race, Bill Lawry came in third in a last-minute write-in effort, capturing the final seat on the three-member Soil & Water Conservation board.

In West Virginia, Bill Clem was elected to the partisan office of Jefferson County Surveyor, in an unopposed race.

In South Carolina, Libertarians won a trio of seats on various Soil & Water Commission boards.

Kathy Woolsey won a seat on the Soil & Water Commission in Charleston County, coming in second (with 27% of the vote) in a four-way race for two seats, while J. David Philips and Mark

Brody both won write-in campaigns for the Soil & Water Commission in Greenville County.

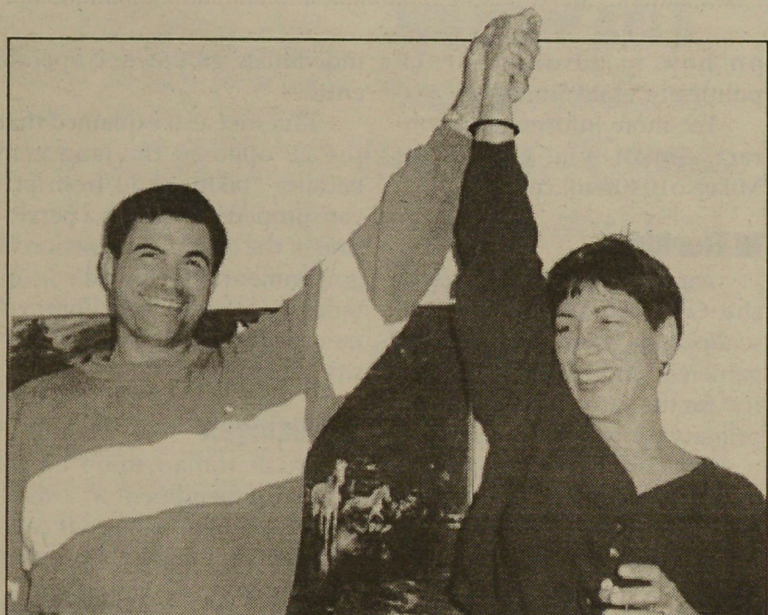
In Delaware, Jim Larsen came in second, winning a seat on the seven-member, non-partisan Board of Assessors in the town of Arden.

In Arizona, Scott Stuart won a seat on the Pima County Community College Board of Governors. Stuart's race was a tight one: He won only after absentee ballots were counted, squeaking to victory by a 19,928 to 19,787 margin.

In addition to the first-time winners, two Libertarians were re-elected in Election '98 — one in an unopposed race, and one in a nail-biter.

In Moreno Valley, California, three-term city council member

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■ Jennifer Reams celebrates her election as Director of the Soil & Water Conservation (in Prince Williams County, Virginia) with LP Congressional candidate Robert Buchanan.

LP candidates win in 9 states in Election '98

Bonnie Flickinger earned a fourth term by the narrowest of margins, with absentee ballots pushing her to a 37-vote victory.

Flickinger won 48.2% of the 4,055 ballots cast, defeating the second-place finisher with 47.3%.

The lesson of that race, said Crickenberger: "Every vote counts. Always run your campaign as if you absolutely have to have one more vote — you may need it."

In Iowa, Dale Roewe was re-elected as Swan Lake Township Trustee in an uncontested race.

In the major disappointment of the day, an incumbent Libertarian city council member in California went down to a close defeat.

Sandi Webb, a two-term member of the non-partisan Simi Valley City Council, came in third in a race for two seats, with 24.4% of the vote — just 1.6% behind the second-place finisher.

Endorsements

The probable cause of the loss: A local Democratic Congressman poured \$30,000 of his unused campaign funds into the race to promote Webb's Democratic opponent. The late influx of cash paid for several mailings, including endorsements of Webb's opponent by U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D) and governor Pete Wilson (R).

"Basically, it took a Governor and Senator from both major parties, and a Congressman, and the entire city establishment, and probably \$60,000 to \$70,000 to beat Sandi, and then only barely," said Dan Wiener, who worked on Webb's campaign.

But the loss doesn't dim Webb's remarkable legacy, said Crickenberger.

"Sandi was a pioneer for the Libertarian Party — proving that you can win elections even if you are attacked for being a Libertarian," he said. "Libertarians everywhere owe her a big thank-you for everything she accomplished over the years. Hopefully we'll see Sandi back in office in the future."

Two-way record

In Mississippi, LP member William Chipman set a new record for the Libertarian Party by winning 29% in a two-way race for U.S. House.

Chipman, the former State Chair of the Mississippi LP, ran a low-key but surprisingly effective campaign against incumbent Democrat Bennie Thompson.

The previous record for a Libertarian candidate in a two-way Congressional race was 27%, set in 1990 in California.

In a three-way Congressional race against a Republican and Democrat, Joe Hauptmann (Indiana's 6th District), won the second-best percentage in LP history, with 11.1%. He finished just behind the record of 11.3%, set in California in 1992.

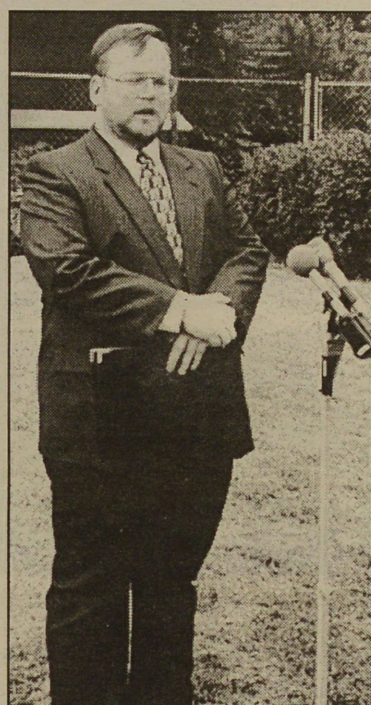
In one of the biggest victories of Election '98 for the Libertarian Party, voters in Florida overwhelmingly passed Revision 11, a constitutional amendment that will level the ballot access playing field for third parties.

The measure, which was supported by the LP of Florida with a radio advertising and publicity campaign, passed with a whopping 64% of the vote.

"Our thanks go to the many Florida voters who [voted] 'Yes' on Revision 11," said Brian Colar, Florida LP State Chair. "They've shown they want more



■ LP candidate for governor Dave Dawson (left) and U.S. House candidate Steve Richardson, shown here in Rock Springs, Wyoming, rode their "Liberty Express" camper around the state. Dawson won the highest percentage for an LP gubernatorial candidate this year: 3.9%.



■ Indiana U.S. House candidate Joe Hauptmann won the LP's second-highest vote ever in a three-way House race.

choices on the ballot, and we in the Libertarian Party will do all we can to oblige them. Look for us on the Florida ballot in the next election."

In other referendum contests closely watched by Libertarians, medical marijuana won big in at least three states. Voters in Nevada approved the use of marijuana to treat illness by a 59% to 41% margin; voters in Washington state voted yes by 57% to 43%; and voters in Alaska did likewise by a 58% to 42% margin. In Arizona, voters rejected a proposal to require federal approval before doctors could prescribe medical marijuana. The vote was 57% to 43%.

In addition, citizens in Oregon dealt a setback to the "War on Drugs" by overwhelmingly rejecting a proposal to recriminalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana, by a 68% to 32% vote.

In an analysis of those and other initiative results around the USA, Associated Press writer Sharon Cohen said voters' "message to the government is simple — leave us alone."

In ballot status news, the Libertarian Party qualified for the 2000 ballot in at least three more states: Massachusetts, Nebraska, and New Mexico.

The ballot status wins means the LP is already qualified to be on the ballot for the 2000 election in 28 states — which is a new record coming out of an off-year election.

Overall, the Libertarian Party is coming out of Election '98 in "good shape," said Steve Dasbach, LP National Director.

Building block

"Election '98 was a building block election for us," he said. "We chalked up a few more election victories, which boosts our credibility. We won big with Revision 11 in Florida. And our ballot status wins give us a good running start for 2000."

"We also proved that we can recruit a record slate of candidates, even in an off-year election. Overall, the party has emerged from Election '98 in very good shape," he said.

In all, the Libertarian Party ran 836 candidates for office — the largest slate of third-party candidates since the 1930s. That achievement earned the party coverage in *USA Today* and the *Washington Times*.

LP POLITICAL DIRECTOR RON CRICKENBERGER ASKS:

Are You Serving In Public Office?

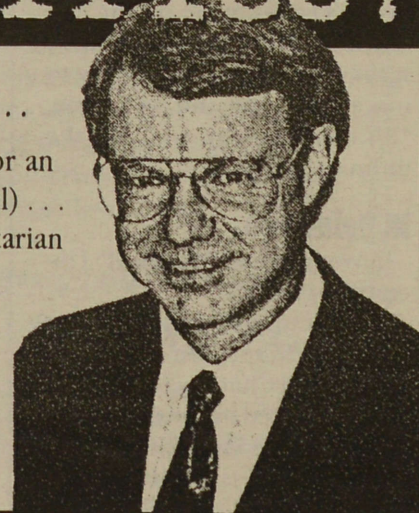
If so, we want to hear from you! If you...

■ Are serving in a partisan or non-partisan *elected* office or an *appointed* office (at the local, county, state, or federal level)...

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We want to hear from you so we can add you to our ever-growing list of Libertarians in office!

Call LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger at (202) 333-0008 Ext. 227.
E-mail: RonCrickenberger@compuserve.com. Write: Libertarian Party, ATTN: Political Director, 2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037.



AFFILIATE NEWS

Recruiting '99 candidates, legal Libertarians, and GOP awards

■ California

It's official: The Libertarian Party is the fastest-growing political party in California — and the Reform Party is the slowest.

According to figures released by the Secretary of State in October, the number of registered Libertarians has shot up by 6.8% since December, 1997. Ross Perot's Reform Party, in contrast, suffered a body blow as registrations actually fell by 8.8%.

"We've been saying we're California's fastest-growing party for years, and now the numbers provide the evidence," said LP State Chair **Mark Hinkle**. "Our influence is being felt up and down the state."

LP registrations also grew 11 times faster than the Democratic Party, which expanded by just 0.6%, and won a "no contest" decision over the struggling GOP, which saw its base of registered voters fall by 1.1%.

■ California

Even before the ballots were counted in the November 3 elections, the California LP was already recruiting candidates for the next round: Local elections which will be held in 65 municipalities across the state in Spring 1999.

"If you ever wanted to make a difference in your community, this is the chance," said LP Executive Director **Juan Ros** to California LP members. "Running for office is a great opportunity to reach out to voters and demonstrate how Libertarian solutions can work at the local level."

Ros enumerated several advantages of running for local office: It's easier to get on the ballot, it's a great way to improve speaking skills and learn how to run a campaign and, of course, "It's easier to win, which is the ultimate goal."

■ Delaware

Want to talk "practical" Libertarian politics?

You can now do so in a new private chat room — called "PracticalLPChat" — on America Online, started by longtime state activist **Mike Smith**.

"The room is designed to discuss LP politics, campaigns,



Teaching the grassroots

■ Former New Hampshire state legislator Don Gorman accepts a Libertarian tie as a thank-you for leading a Grassroots Training Workshop for the Montgomery County Libertarian Committee in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, on September 19. "During four hard-working hours, several candidates practiced their skills in addressing the public [and] learning how to give clear Libertarian responses to questions," said Obie Mild, who helped organize the event. "Brains were stretched, but everyone thoroughly enjoyed their time spent, and honed some valuable skills."

fundraising, recruitment, and the like," he said. "It is not designed for Randian rambling or endless repeats of all the reasons to end the War on Drugs."

To access the site, go to any AOL public chat room, click on

"Private Chat," and type in "PracticalLPChat."

At first, "you may not find many folks there, but I hope that soon [Libertarian] AOL members around the country will find it a great place to exchange ideas

on how to advance the LP politically," said Smith.

For more information, contact Smith via e-mail at: MikeNo1040@aol.com.

■ Florida

A Libertarian candidate for the Cape Coral City Council scooped up 18% of the vote and garnered "unprecedented publicity" for the party in his three-way primary contest on September 1.

"Practically speaking, 18% is quite an accomplishment for a political unknown with a handful of amateur volunteers running his campaign against two veterans of city politics," said **Aaron O'Brien**, secretary of the Florida LP, of the effort by candidate **Rocco DiLorenzo**.

And although DiLorenzo lost the primary, he won the endorsement of a local television show host, was well-received at candidate forums, and was treated fairly, if not favorably, in the Cape Coral Daily Breeze, O'Brien reported.

LP member **Jean-Paul Gravell** called the effort "admirable" and said DiLorenzo should now run for public office again.

"Your showing can make you a candidate for any appointive office to which you care to apply," he said. "Meanwhile, you can infuse the board of your choice with Libertarian ideals."

■ Michigan

Libertarians are doing their best to ground a county airport expansion scheme that involves seizing private property.

The Midwest Michigan LP adopted a resolution at its October 10 meeting opposing the land grab by Manistee County Airport — but it didn't stop there.

"The real debate isn't whether the airport needs improvement, but whether it should be owned and operated publicly or privately," MMLP Chair **Brian Kluesner** wrote to the airport commissioners. "The county should immediately sell all of its assets connected with the airport to private

individuals, groups, or corporate entities."

Kluesner also explained that the LP opposed the land grab because "taking land from private property owners is a perversion of the legitimate function of government. The board's insistence that the planned improvements constitute a public necessity is ludicrous."

■ Michigan

A Libertarian stood up for the First Amendment in a state-wide teleconference about campaign finance reform, hosted by the League of Women Voters.

Doug Hull, founder of the Michigan Technological University College Libertarians, participated in the telephone "town meeting" on September 19 and found himself almost the sole voice in favor of free speech.

"The whole thing had very anti-freedom overtones," he noted — but said he did what he could "to remind the participants that the First Amendment was not an obstacle to sneak around, but an absolute restraint on the power of politicians."

Hull also argued against putting a campaign finance proposal on the state ballot, telling the group, "I don't want anyone voting on whether I can give money to the candidacy of my friend, or my own candidacy."

"We already have campaign finance reform. It's called the First Amendment."

■ Michigan

Smokers persecuted by the government are the target of the Michigan LP's latest recruitment drive.

At the beginning of October, the party started distributing 50,000 eye-catching matchbooks printed with the message: "Smokers! Have you had enough of getting forced outside, being taxed, and paying over \$2 a pack for cigarettes? This time, vote Libertarian, and call 1-800-ELECT US."

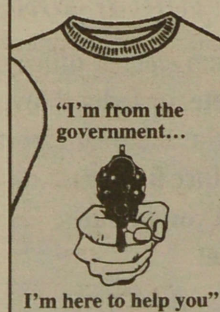
"We're leaving the matches at tobacco shops, bowling alleys, bingo halls and anywhere else where smokers are likely to hang out," said **Stacy Van Oast**, who helped coordinate the project. "We're trying to get the fed-up smokers voting and thinking Libertarian — just as U.S. Senate candidate Jon Coon got the gun-owners doing in 1994."

■ Minnesota

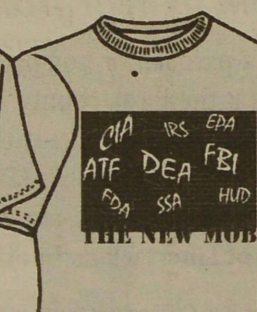
LP members in St. Paul took their Libertarian tolerance to the streets in a protest against "racist" comments made by a local radio station.

Several Libertarian Party members were part of a 100-person protest rally on September 26, targeting two KQRS Radio

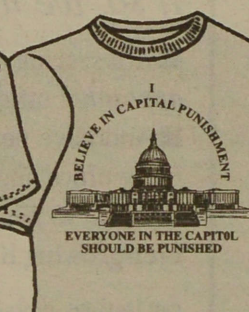
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morning personalities who had mocked local Hmong immigrants and other Cambodians.

"We're the only party consistently in favor of immigration," explained **Frank Germann**, the LP candidate for governor, who participated in the march. "We're pro-Hmong. The Hmong favor freedom and liberty. It was socialist where they came from."

The group that organized the rally — Community Action Against Racism — encouraged participants to contact KQRS's commercial sponsors to share their "concerns" about the racist comments.

■ Oklahoma

It's legal to be a "Libertarian" in Oklahoma again.

Effective January 1, 1999, the Oklahoma Libertarian Party will be recognized by the state government as a "political organization" and voters can register as Libertarians, thanks to a ruling by U.S. District Judge Wayne Alley.

The late-September ruling followed a right-to-register lawsuit filed by the state party in 1997, which the LP finally won in July 1998.

Under the terms of the ruling, the Libertarian Party will retain political organization status for four years, even though it lost "major party" status by not

WILHELM SOLD bumperstickers that said: "Friends don't make friends pay for swimming pools."

winning 10% of the presidential vote in 1996. However, the LP will still have to collect about 60,000 petitions to get on the ballot in 2000.

The lawsuit victory — and the judge's follow-up ruling — "will ease some of the burden third parties have in building political support in Oklahoma," said LP State Chair **Michael Clem**.

■ Pennsylvania

After 26 years as a Democrat and 22 years as a Republican, a former GOP Committeeman has "gone to the other side" — the Libertarians.

Richard MacDonald, 48, re-registered as a Libertarian in mid-September, a decision he said was triggered by the GOP's decision to withhold support from candidates who don't toe the party line on abortion; the

tawdry "Bill [Clinton] show" in Washington, DC; and rereading *Atlas Shrugged* for the first time in 30 years.

"This is the best of both worlds" since Democrats aren't fiscally conservative enough, and Republicans aren't socially tolerant enough, he said.

Before the switch, MacDonald had served several terms as a GOP Committeeman in Lancaster and East Hempton.

But how will his older party friends react?

"My sense is that my Republican friends are going to be happy that I didn't become a Democrat again, and my Democratic friends are glad I'm not a Republican anymore," he said.

■ South Dakota

Are Republicans so clueless about how to reduce the size of government that they have to honor *Libertarians* who tell them how?

That appears to be the case in South Dakota, where past LP State Chair **Jim Christian** received the National Leadership Award from the National Republican Congressional Committee for his tax-cutting work as director of Self Governors of South Dakota.

Christian was honored in October "for ideas the organization is presenting on reducing the size of government," he said.

Self Governors of South Dakota was founded to "present the most winnable Libertarian ideas to government bodies, to promote the multi-party system, and protect Constitutional freedoms," said Christian — and has already achieved a number of successes in the courts and legislature thanks to "a good core of freedom-minded legislators."

■ Washington

Libertarians have thrown cold water on a plan to spend nearly \$7 million of taxpayers' money on a government-funded swimming pool by playing a leading role in the defeat of a bond issue.

"One person, **Brett Wilhelm**, led the charge to save the people of South Whidbey several million dollars," said State Chair **Mary Maas**.

The bond issue was defeated by a 2-to-1 margin on September 15 after Wilhelm, vice chair of the Island County LP, formed a PAC to fund an opposition campaign. He raised \$2,000 to

pay for a mailing to 8,000 registered voters, recruited volunteers, organized a letter-writing campaign and even printed bumper stickers that said, "Friends don't make friends pay for swimming pools," which he used as a fund-raising tool.

"I witnessed him collect \$350 for three bumper stickers!" Maas said. "This shows what can happen when just a few people organize to achieve a Libertarian victory."

Libertarian Online Guide

Libertarian Party:

<http://www.lp.org/>

Libertarian Party News:

<http://www.lp.org/lpn/>

Libertarian Party Affiliates:

<http://www.lp.org/lp-aff.html>

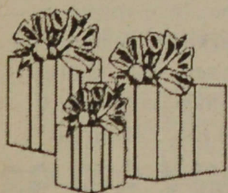
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TALKINGPOINTS

Dangers of flag burning, the USA's rich poor folks, & casket criminals

■ The sacred flag

In Hong Kong, two democracy activists were convicted of desecrating the Hong Kong and Chinese flags at a rally calling for the end of one-party rule in China. Defacing the flags became illegal when Hong Kong was handed over to China. The judge who convicted the two said the Chinese flag is "a symbol which represents the state, her people, and her land" and "should remain as a sacred symbol respected by all Chinese regardless of their social, political, or philosophical beliefs. Funny, I could have sworn I heard members of the U.S. House of Representatives saying something very similar a few months ago."

— **CHARLES OLIVER**,
Reason Magazine,
December 1998

■ 18 to one odds

On average, for every new law passed by Congress, unelected bureaucrats turn out 18 new regulations with the force of law.

— **PAUL HARVEY**,
Imprimis, October 1998

■ Fewer principles?

At the very time they were lining up their votes [on an open-ended impeachment inquiry of President Clinton], Appropriations Committee members were working around the clock to cobble together spending bills to avert a government shutdown at midnight. In the process, Republicans were trading away just about every item prized by religious conservatives, from funding school choice to defunding abortion. "We would have loved a budget fight, but they're ready to give on everything," said a White House advisor. Another grumbled under his breath, "They've got even fewer principles than we do."

— **TIME MAGAZINE**,
October 19, 1998

■ Drug War corruption

Two new reports, one from the FBI and one from the General Accounting Office (GAO), found that drug-related corruption among law enforcement has increased since the early 1990s.

The FBI report, "Misconduct

— EDITED BY —
Marc Beauchamp



DRUG-RELATED corruption among police has increase fivefold since 1994.

to Corruption," found that the number of federal, state, and local officials in prison has increased fivefold in four years, from 107 in 1994 to 548 in 1998.

— **THE DRUG POLICY LETTER**,
Summer 1998

■ Marx: Dead, wrong

Stock prices and retirement wealth have become more important to the new 125 million-strong investor class. The new investor class is increasingly made up of middle-class people. Recent surveys show that during the 1990s 49% of the newest investors have been women. Thirty-eight percent of the new investors are non-professional salaried workers. The typical new stockowner earns less than \$70,000.

Karl Marx is both dead and wrong. Through the stock market, the American work force owns the means of production.

— **LAWRENCE KUDLOW**,
The Washington Times
November 3, 1998

■ The rich poor

How poor are the "poor"? Consider the following statistics, all drawn from government reports: The average poor Ameri-

can has a third more living space than the average Japanese and four times as much living space as the average Russian. Seventy percent of poor households own a car; 27% own two or more cars. Poor children actually consume more meat than do higher-income children and have average protein intakes 100% above recommended levels. Indeed, most poor children today are supernourished, growing up, on average, to be one inch taller and 10 pounds heavier than the GIs who stormed the beaches of Normandy in 1941.

— **ROBERT RECTOR**,
The Wall Street Journal
September 24, 1998

■ Cash crop

Marijuana remains the fourth-largest cash crop in America despite law enforcement spending approximately \$10 billion annually to enforce prohibition, a new report from the NORML foundation concluded. Nationally, only corn, soybeans, and hay rank as more profitable crops to American farmers.

— **NORML PRESS RELEASE**,
October 15, 1998

■ The art of capitalism

The Left concludes that government support for the arts is needed; the Right often favors government support for "traditional" culture. A review of the evidence offers strong reasons for cultural optimism and confidence that a modern commercial society will stimulate artistic creativity and diversity.

The music of Bach, Mozart and Beethoven is more accessible today than it was in the 18th and 19th centuries. Movies can be

rented on videocassette very cheaply. New editions of many literary works are published regularly. Between 1970 and 1990 the world literacy rate for adults rose from 61.5 to 73.5%. Art museums and attendance are booming. Live performance of arts has flourished as well.

Creators have the best chance of living from their work in a wealthy, capitalist society. Capitalist art consists fundamentally of bringing the consumer and producer together. Therein lies its exhilarating, challenging, and poetic nature. We should not deplore our culture, as do the pessimists. Rather, we should recognize its fundamentally capitalist nature, which implies creativity, entertainment, innovation, and above all diversity.

— **TYLER COWEN**,
Cato Policy Report
September/October 1998

■ Grave injustice

When the casket company she worked for went belly-up, executive and stockholder Thelma Jaco was given caskets in return for her lost investment. So she opened a casket store. The first in Atlanta, her store offers caskets at prices far below those of funeral homes.

For doing so she's facing a penalty of up to a year in prison and a \$1,000 fine. Georgia law allows only licensed funeral directors to sell caskets. This, of course, is to protect the public.

Ask Jim Fowler, executive director of the Georgia Funeral Directors Association. "The majority of the population, I feel, will still want to deal with someone who is experienced in service with families upon the death of a loved one. Folks in a retail establishment are not those types of people."

— **THE LIBERATOR ONLINE**,
October 17, 1998

■ Slow kills

Shortly after the National Maximum Speed Limit was repealed in 1995, the national Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) predicted that an additional 6,400 motorists' deaths would occur annually, as a result of rising speed limits.

Now the most recent NHTSA reports show the exact opposite occurred. 1997 had the lowest traffic death rate in the nation's history. In 1996, the traffic accident death rate was 1.7 per 100 million miles driven. This number dropped in 1997 to 1.6 per million miles driven.

— **NATIONAL MOTORISTS ASSOCIATION**,
October 1998

■ Good money after bad

The present [world economic] crisis is not the result of market failure. Rather, it is the result of governments intervening in or seeking to supersede the market, both internally via loans, subsidies, or taxes and other handicaps, and externally via the IMF, the World Bank and other international agencies.

We do not need more government agencies spending still more of the taxpayers' money, with limited or nonexistent accountability. That would simply be throwing good money after bad. We need government, both within the nations and internationally, to get out of the way and let the market work.

— **MILTON FRIEDMAN**,
The Wall Street Journal
October 13, 1998

■ Just who's coercive?

Consider how great a difference there is between the government's money and Microsoft's. Every dollar Microsoft pays its lawyers is a dollar it earned by providing something a customer desired. Every one of its transactions is voluntary.

The government, by contrast, acquires nearly all of its revenues by force. Fail to pay your taxes and armed government agents are liable to confiscate your property or lock you behind bars. Or both.

There are many differences between government and business, but none more basic than this: Governments depend on coercion, businesses depend on freedom. Yet, perversely, it is the government that accuses Microsoft of coercive practices.

— **JEFF JACOBY**,
The Boston Globe
October 22, 1998



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Neil Randall: How the 'lonely foot soldier' got elected

The LP's newest state legislator: Why 'we must never lose sight of our goal'

By Bill Winter
LP News Editor

In 1995, Neil Randall read *Libertarianism In One Lesson*.

In 1998, he was elected to the Vermont House of Representatives — becoming the first Libertarian state legislator in Vermont history, and only the ninth LP member ever elected as a state legislator.

Randall's remarkably rapid transition from Libertarian neophyte to State Representative-elect — just three years from political theory to political success — is one of the more remarkable stories in party history.

It's also, in a way, a roadmap that shows what Libertarians must do to succeed politically, and a warning that such success can't necessarily be predicted.

If there is such a thing as a "typical Libertarian," Randall isn't one.

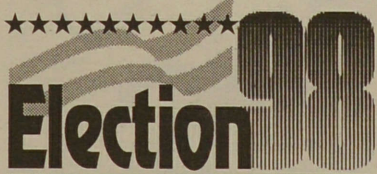
Born and raised in Vermont, Randall has a solidly traditional — almost old-fashioned — personal history. Married to his wife Gloria for 36 years with two grown children, he is a military veteran, has been a trustee at the Newbury Bible Church for 18 years, and is a member of the

National Federation of Independent Businesses.

His professional career shows the same stability: He was the founder and owner of Randall's Dairy Equipment for 24 years before retiring.

What got this self-described "lonely trudging foot soldier" for liberty on the campaign trail as a Libertarian candidate?

In late 1995, Randall attended a political forum in Vermont that featured a number of speakers and information



booths, including one from the state Libertarian Party.

He picked up some literature and went home — where that LP information languished for several months while he attended to his business.

"Two or three months later, I was cleaning off my desk, and I came across some papers on the corner of my desk on the Libertarian Party," he recounted. "Amongst them was David Bergland's *Libertarianism In One*

Lesson. I decided to read a little of it to decide whether to throw it or keep it. I did not put it down until I had finished."

The book, he said, was an eye-opener.

"Here was a political organization that believed what I believed — top to bottom. Perhaps there was hope for freedom after all. Nothing in the political arena has excited me as much as that realization, before or since. Suddenly, the lonely trudging foot soldier had a horse to ride into battle," he said.

Randall began attending state Libertarian Party meetings, and even went to the 1996 National Libertarian Convention in Washington, DC.

In 1998, he decided it was time to do more. It was time to get elected.

"I ran to win"

"I felt that gaining elective office would do more to promote Libertarianism (and thus liberty) than just being a viable candidate for an unattainable office," he said. "I ran to win and I thought I would win."

Randall's confidence was buttressed by three factors: The small size of Vermont's legislative districts; his long decades in the community; and the state's dual nomination process.

But Randall left nothing to chance. He ran an all-out cam-



■ State Representative-elect Neil Randall (third from left) meets with Harry Browne and his wife Pamela at the 1996 Libertarian National Convention in Washington, DC. To the right is past Vermont LP State Chair Ken Lindell.

paign, knocking on every one of the 1,200 doors in his district. He did the traditional New England "Dump Day" campaigning; ran newspaper and radio ads; and had people working both polling places on Election Day.

He also entered the Republican primary, successfully picking up that cross-nomination to go with his original Libertarian affiliation.

On the issues, Randall was solidly Libertarian, telling voters:

■ "I am running for Representative because I believe Vermont is in crisis and the cause is overgrown government. This experiment in Socialism must be stopped."

■ "Individual property rights are essential to the maintenance of a free and responsible society."

■ "Make health care affordable to working Vermonters by allowing free market competition into the health care and health insurance markets."

■ "The high rate and system of taxation in Vermont severely retards our economic development. We will not solve this by efficiencies in state government, but must reduce state government itself."

He deliberately framed the issues, he said, in a way "that the average voter understands. You have to get your message across in terms that the majority understands."

Apparently, a majority of voters *did* understand: On November 3, Randall won the Orange County District 3 seat with 53% of the vote, beating the incumbent Democrat.

After the election, Randall reacted in a typical Yankee fashion: With low-key satisfaction.

"Winning does carry a certain excitement, but with it the biggest emotion I have is apprehension," he said. "I think the

state party members were more excited than I — but they don't have to labor in the snake pit."

Vermont LP State Chair Chris Costanzo was decidedly less taciturn. "There was a loud cheer [when we heard that Randall had won]," he said "We all felt wonderful. We now have a foot in the door."

As he prepares to enter the "snake pit" of the notoriously liberal Vermont House — where he will be outnumbered 70-to-one by Republicans and Democrats — Randall said he is cautious about the challenges that lie ahead.

"I am now assessing the situation in the legislature," he said. "It does not bode well for any large accomplishments, [but] I hope to have some impact to swing away from the present rush into Socialism into a more Libertarian direction."

As his first step in a libertarian direction, Randall said he plans to introduce a bill that would require voter approval for any new tax, tax increase, or tax extension.

Pet projects

"The power to tax is a power that can destroy a community, society, or state," he said. "It is time the people of Vermont have a direct say as to how much of their hard-earned money they will allow the politicians and bureaucrats to confiscate from them to spend on their various pet projects."

But whether he wins that particular legislative battle, Randall said he is in it for the long run.

"Regaining our liberty is a long-term project," he said. "We will have our ups and downs, our time of elation and despair. We will have to make alliances, but we must never lose sight of our goal — which is liberty."

RESULTS '98

Here are Election '98 results for all Libertarian Party candidates for governor, U.S. House, and U.S. Senate. Each contains the state; name of candidate; district (for U.S. House); total number of votes won; and percentage won.

The January 1999 issue of *LP News* will feature results for all other statewide, county, & local races.

■ Governor

Arizona • **Katherine Gallant** • 24,700 • 2.7%
California • **Steve Kubby** • 65,113 • 0.9%
Colorado • **Sandra Johnson** • 21,659 • 1.7%
Connecticut • **Ned Vare** • 5,287 • 0.5%
Georgia • **Jack Cashin** • 61,239 • 3.4%
Hawaii • **George Peabody** • 4,257 • 1.1%
Massachusetts • **Dean Cook** • 31,790 • 1.7%
Minnesota • **Frank Germann** • 1,862 • 0.1%
New Hampshire • **Ken Blevens** • 8,611 • 2.7%

Nevada • **Terry Savage** • 7,299 • 1.7%
New York • **Christopher Garvey** • 6,706 • 0.2%
Oregon • **Richard Burke** • 8,870 • 2.0%
Pennsylvania • **Ken Krawchuk** • 33,301 • 1.1%
South Carolina • **Timothy Moultrie** • 14,743 • 1.4%
South Dakota • **Bob Newland** • 4,386 • 1.7%
Texas • **Lester Turlington** • 20,898 • 0.6%
Vermont • **Amy Berkey** • 2,045 • 0.9%
Wisconsin • **Jim Mueller** • 11,010 • 0.6%
Wyoming • **Dave Dawson** • 6,897 • 3.9%

■ U.S. Senate

Alaska • **Scott Kohlhaas** • 4,193 • 2.2%
Arizona • **John Zajac** • 20,896 • 2.3%
California • **Ted Brown** • 84,153 • 1.1%
Colorado • **David Segal** • 13,553 • 1.1%
Connecticut • **Wildev Moore** • 5,407 • 0.6%
Georgia • **Bert Loftman** • 43,264 • 2.5%
Hawaii • **Jeff Mallan** • 11,590 • 3.0%
Indiana • **Rebecca Sink Burris** • 23,304 • 1.5%
Kansas • **Tom Oyler** • 12,207 • 1.7%
Missouri • **Tamara Millay** • 31,893 • 2.0%

North Carolina • **Barbara Howe** • 36,205 • 1.8%
New Hampshire • **Brian Christeson** • 7,679 • 2.4%
Nevada • **Michael Cloud** • 8,034 • 1.8%
New York • **William McMillen** • 8,679 • 0.2%
Oregon • **Jim Brewster** • 8,465 • 1.9%
Pennsylvania • **Jack Iannantuono** • 46,218 • 1.6%
South Carolina • **Richard Quillian** • 16,589 • 1.6%
South Dakota • **Byron Dale** • 3,805 • 1.5%
Vermont • **Hugh Douglas** • 4,382 • 2.1%
Wisconsin • **Tom Ender** • 5,809 • 0.3%

■ U.S. House

■ **ARIZONA**
2 • **Rick Duncan** • 2,326 • 3.2%
4 • **Ernest Hancock** • 3,399 • 2.5%
5 • **Phil Murphy** • 4,538 • 2.4%
6 • **Robert Anderson** • 6,090 • 3.3%
■ **CALIFORNIA**
1 • **Emil Rossi** • 4,944 • 2.8%
3 • **Ross Crain** • 4,651 • 2.6%
4 • **Dan Winterrowd** • 6,656 • 3.0%
5 • **Douglas Tuma** • 3,536 • 2.1%

See RESULTS '98 Page 14

RESULTS'98

Continued from Page 13

- 11 • Jesse Baird • 3,363 • 2.3%
- 12 • Michael Moloney • 7,311 • 5.1%
- 14 • Joseph Dehn • 2,788 • 1.7%
- 17 • Rick Garrett • 2,451 • 1.7%
- 18 • Linda Degroat • 15,824 • 13.2% • 2-way
- 19 • Jonathan Richter • 28,266 • 20.4% • 2-way
- 22 • Robert Bakhaus • 2,101 • 1.3%
- 24 • Erich Miller • 2,377 • 1.5%
- 25 • Bruce Acker • 34,571 • 25.5% • 2-way
- 26 • Juan Carlos Ros • 5,973 • 7.9%
- 27 • Bob New • 4,003 • 2.9%
- 28 • Jerry Douglas • 1,934 • 1.4%
- 29 • Mike Binkley • 3,166 • 2.0%
- 31 • Michael Everling • 1,001 • 1.3%
- 32 • Velko Milosevich • 2,359 • 2.0%
- 34 • Jason Heath • 1,986 • 1.9%
- 36 • Kerry Welsh • 2,784 • 1.7%
- 38 • David Bowers • 3,394 • 2.8%
- 39 • Jack Dean • 3,045 • 2.2%
- 40 • Maurice Mayben • 4,560 • 3.2%
- 41 • Kenneth Valentine • 2,350 • 2.0%
- 42 • David Lynn Hollist • 1,799 • 1.7%
- 45 • Don Hull • 3,890 • 2.7%
- 46 • Thomas Reimer • 1,998 • 2.8%
- 47 • Victor Wagner • 2,679 • 1.5%
- 48 • Daniel Muhe • 16,136 • 10.3%
- 49 • Ernest Lippe • 2,863 • 1.8%
- 51 • Jack Anderson • 4,657 • 2.7%
- 52 • Lynn Badler • 19,027 • 14.3%

- COLORADO
 - 1 • Richard Combs • 5,220 • 3.0%
 - 3 • Barry Maggert • 5,982 • 2.7%
- CONNECTICUT
 - 4 • Marshall Harrison • 1,449 • 1.1%
- HAWAII
 - 2 • Noreen Chun • 12,713 • 6.3%
- ILLINOIS
 - 1 • Marjorie Kohls • 3,917 • 2.4%
 - 2 • Matthew Beauchamp • 1,558 • 1.0%
 - 4 • William Passmore • 1,520 • 2.4%
 - 6 • George Meyers • 4,182 • 2.5%
 - 7 • Dorn Van Cleave • 9,582 • 7.1% • 2-way
 - 9 • Michael Ray • 3,181 • 2.3%
- INDIANA
 - 1 • Michael Crass • 1,616 • 1.3%
 - 2 • Cliff Federle • 2,223 • 1.4%
 - 5 • Carl Waters • 2,299 • 1.4%
 - 6 • Joe Hauptmann • 20,931 • 11.1%
 - 7 • Barbara Bourland • 4,757 • 3.0%
 - 8 • Paul Hager • 3,304 • 1.9%
 - 9 • Diane Feeney • 2,311 • 1.3%
 - 10 • Fred Peterson • 2,764 • 2.3%
- MASSACHUSETTS
 - 3 • George Phillies • 2,817 • 1.5%
- MICHIGAN
 - 1 • John Loosemore • 2,303 • 1.0%
 - 2 • Bruce Smith • 2,091 • 1.0%
 - 3 • Erwin Haas • 2,523 • 1.3%
 - 4 • Dan Marsh • 11,431 • 6.7%
 - 5 • Clint Foster • 2,166 • 1.1%

- 6 • Glenn Whitt • 1,676 • 1.0%
 - 7 • Kenneth Proctor • 2,659 • 1.5%
 - 8 • Ben Steele • 2,776 • 1.3%
 - 9 • Malcolm Johnson • 4,002 • 2.1%
 - 10 • R. Friend • 3,394 • 1.6%
 - 11 • Dick Gach • 5,434 • 2.4%
 - 12 • Albert Titran • 2,815 • 1.5%
 - 13 • Dean Hutyra • 2,872 • 1.7%
 - 14 • Michael Freyman • 1,653 • 1.2%
 - 15 • Linda Willey • 1,537 • 1.3%
 - 16 • Edward Hlavac • 3,058 • 1.8%
- MINNESOTA
 - 4 • Michael Neitzel • 2,883 • 1.2%
 - 5 • Kevin Houston • 7,035 • 3.4%
 - 6 • Eric Johnson • 11,380 • 3.8%
 - 8 • Larry Fuhol • 4,771 • 1.8%
 - MISSOURI
 - 1 • Richard Illyes • 3,588 • 2.8%
 - 2 • Brian Lundy • 3,331 • 1.6%
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☐ Yes, I agree ☐ No, I disagree ☐ Maybe, I'm not sure

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"If you agreed with most or all of those principles, then you are probably a Libertarian," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director. "And if you want to help turn those principles into political reality, then you should become a member of the Libertarian Party."

The Libertarian Party is the *only* party, noted Dasbach, that wants to cut the size and power of government dramatically — unlike the Republicans, who just want to slow its growth.

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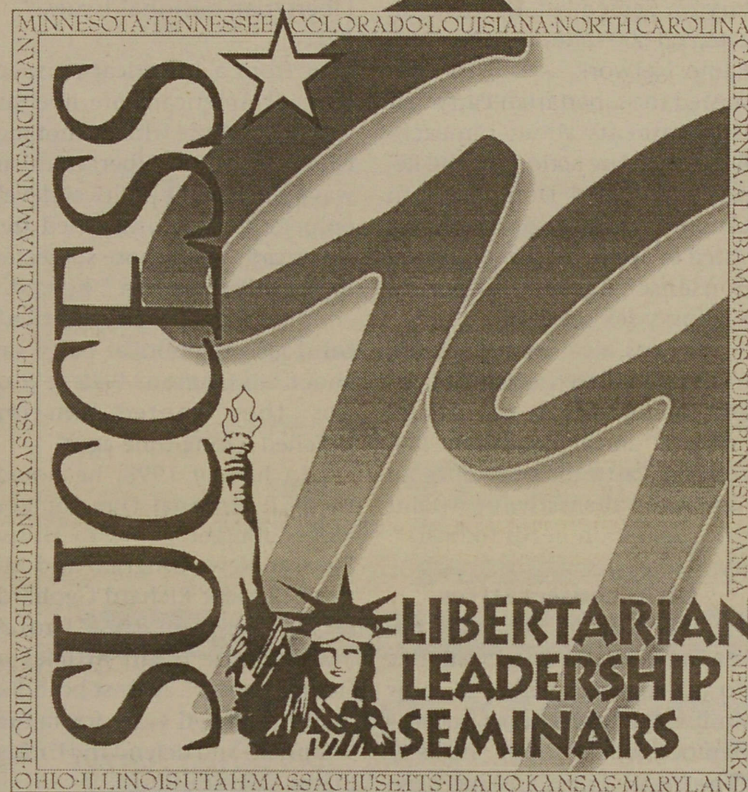
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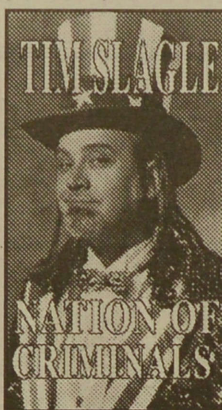
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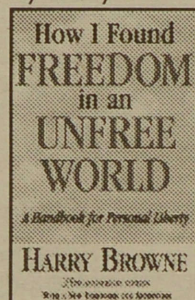


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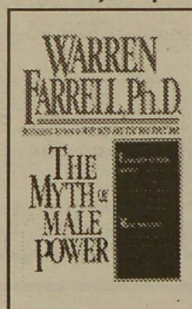
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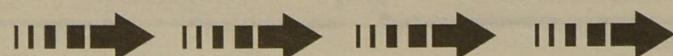


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Hugh Downs: LP impeachment call addresses 'issues of importance'

Contrasts Libertarians to "unimportant nonsense" of Republicans & Democrats

Hugh Downs, the popular host of ABC TV's 20/20 news program and a nationally broadcast radio commentator, has publicly praised the Libertarian Party's call for the impeachment of President Bill Clinton on Constitutional grounds, saying it raises "issues of substance."

In a national radio commentary on September 19 — syndicated on 600 stations on the ABC Radio Network — Downs contrasted the Libertarian Party and its comments about impeachment with the actions of the Republicans and Democrats in Congress, which he said consisted of "prurient, unimportant nonsense" about the Monica Lewinsky sex scandal.

Downs also used the commentary to blast the Republicans and Democrats as essentially "similar," and applauded the Libertarian Party for providing an important, alternative viewpoint that the nation needs to hear.

Ultra-conservatives

"The current flap over the Lewinsky affair may reveal, like no other event before it, how similar the Republicans and the Democrats really are," he said. "The Republican Party has been dragged down by religious fundamentalists, and the Democratic Party has been adulterated by ultra-conservatives."

"There may be some real reasons to debate Clinton's impeachment, but nobody in this government seems interested in debating any issues of substance. The only way to gain some perspective on this so-called two-party system is to examine what

the third party, the Libertarian Party, has to say."

Downs noted that he, personally, was not a member of the Libertarian Party —

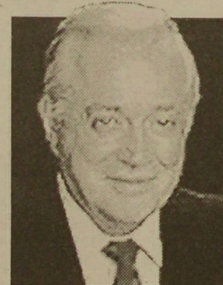
"but from a historical perspective, all Americans are libertarians, even those who are not registered as such. Libertarianism was a prominent political development that distinguished free Americans from those subjected to the British Crown," he said.

"So what does America's third-largest political party say about Bill Clinton? Believe it or not, they wanted him impeached a long time ago."

In July of 1998, he noted, then-LP National Director Ron Crickenberger wrote to House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Minority Leader Richard Gephardt requesting that the "United States House begin Articles of Impeachment" against both Bill Clinton and Al Gore for failure to uphold and defend the United States Constitution.

"This call for impeachment — the first from any major political party in the country — had nothing to do with Monica Lewinsky," said Downs. "According to the Libertarians, there are plenty of reasons to impeach Bill Clinton and none of them include Ms. Lewinsky."

Downs listed many of the grounds for impeachment cited by the LP, including censorship



■ **Hugh Downs:**
"Serious Constitutional issues."

of the Internet, restricting the right of Americans to employ encryption technology, expanding the power of the government to seize private property under asset forfeiture laws, and curtailing the right of habeas corpus.

"You don't have to be a rocket scientist to grasp that these issues are issues of substance and that the Lewinsky matter is simply prurient, unimportant nonsense," he said.

"But these serious Constitutional issues were never highlighted by Mr. Clinton's enemies. This shows a coincidence of political belief and demonstrates, once again, just how similar the Republicans and the Democrats really are."

Libertarian Party National Director Steve Dasbach said Downs' comments were insightful — and welcome.

Respected figure

"It's nice to see such a respected figure in American journalism compliment us for our contribution to the political debate," he said. "And we're delighted Mr. Downs noticed that we Libertarians focus on serious, Constitutional issues — not the scandal of the day."

Dasbach said that the party has no further plans to publicize its impeachment resolution "since it doesn't seem to be an issue that resonates with voters."

However, the party will continue to point out how Clinton has violated the Constitution, he said. "As Mr. Downs pointed out, we can serve an important function by publicizing how Constitutional limitations on the federal government have eroded."

Alex Joseph, first LP mayor, dies at 62

Utah Libertarian Alex Joseph — the country's first LP mayor and a character so colorful he was once described as a "cross between Henry David Thoreau and the outlaw Josey Wales" — died on September 27 from liver cancer. He was 62.

Joseph made history in April 1986 when he helped create the country's first "Libertarian Party town government" in Big Water, Utah (population: 300).

At the urging of state Libertarians, Joseph, then the mayor of Big Water, left the Republican Party and joined the LP, bring-

ing with him all four members of the town council.

He served as mayor for three terms, stepping down in 1994. His administration did abolish all property taxes, but he never turned Big Water into the "Libertarian dream" he aspired to.

Western iconoclast

With his rough-cut beard and weather-darkened skin, Joseph was a classic Western iconoclast. He ran into trouble with the law when he tried to "homestead" government land in 1975, and insisted that his occupation

on his death certificate be listed as "pirate." He was also one of an estimated 50,000 Mormon-influenced polygamists in Utah, having wed as many as 20 women over the years.

His job as mayor was just one interesting stop in a colorful career: He had also worked as a police officer, a firefighter, a private investigator, and as manager for country music performers.

"He was a true non-conformist, walked his own path, [and] had a sense of humor about it," said Bob Waldrop, past State Chair of the LP of Utah.

Peter McWilliams files medical marijuana lawsuit

Libertarian Party member and medical marijuana activist Peter McWilliams has filed a lawsuit to force California Attorney General Dan Lungren to uphold the Compassionate Use Act, which legalized the use of medical marijuana in that state.

In the lawsuit, filed in Superior Court on October 7, McWilliams charged that Lungren — who was also the losing Republican candidate for governor — has failed to vigorously defend the right of Californians to use medical marijuana, in violation of his oath of office.

"The lawsuit is simply asking Attorney General Lungren to do his sworn duty, nothing more," said Thomas Ballanco, McWilliams' attorney.

The suit asked for no monetary damages. Instead, it asked the judge to instruct Lungren to fulfill his oath of office to "support and defend the Constitution of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic . . ."

Specifically, McWilliams demanded that Lungren uphold the state's Compassionate Use Act which guarantees the right of "seriously ill Californians . . . to obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes."

A rapid rate

The law was passed by California voters in 1996 as Proposition 215. However, the Clinton administration immediately threatened to punish doctors who prescribed marijuana, and California law enforcement continued to arrest people on marijuana charges at a rapid rate. In 1997, for example, police arrested 57,667 Californians on marijuana charges — more than in any year since 1985.

"Lungren likes to brush aside Proposition 215 by saying, 'Federal law supersedes state law,' " said Ed Hashia, a spokesman for McWilliams. "According to the California Constitution, however, the Attorney General must fight such federal encroachment until 'an appellate court has made a determination.' No appellate court has made such a determination as to the federal government's power to interfere with Proposition 215."

The lawsuit also charged that Lungren's dereliction of duty has placed McWilliams' life at risk.

McWilliams, who suffers from AIDS and lymphoma, was arrested in July on federal marijuana charges. If convicted, he faces a mandatory 10-year minimum sentence in federal prison.

"All of McWilliams' actions [for which he has been charged] — cultivating, possessing, and using medical marijuana — fall well within the protection of Proposition 215," noted Hashia. Since being released on bail,

McWilliams has been denied medical marijuana by the federal government — even though he uses the drug under his doctor's supervision to combat the nausea caused by his life-saving medical treatments.

Arrest the sick

"If Lungren had stood up to the federal government rather than encouraging it to arrest the sick of California, my life would

not be in danger today," said McWilliams when he announced the lawsuit at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel.

"If I can't keep down the medications that are keeping me alive, I will die. I am a California citizen. I deserve better than this from California's Attorney General," said McWilliams.

To review documents relevant to the case, visit: www.lungrendoyourduty.com.



■ Peter McWilliams: Asking Lungren to do his sworn duty.

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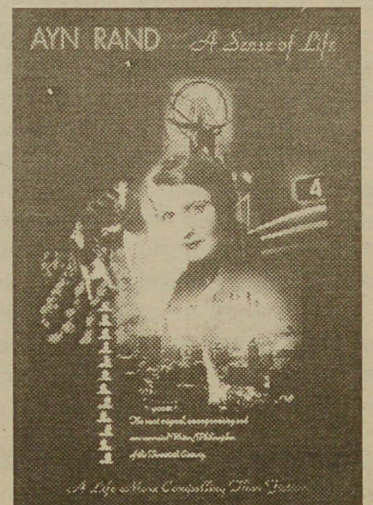
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THE ISSUES

EDITOR'S NOTE: Each month, "The Issues" will highlight several Libertarian Party press releases. To get the complete text of all press releases issued by the LP, send a message to "announce-request@lp.org" with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

The solution to hate crimes: Equal justice

The human animals who killed a gay college student in Wyoming shouldn't be prosecuted for murdering a gay man — they should be prosecuted for murdering a human being, the Libertarian Party said.

"This tragedy should not be used as an excuse to pass more federal hate crime legislation," said the party's national chairman, David Bergland. "Crimes against a protected group should not be treated more seriously than crimes against everyone else."

In October, gay student Matthew Shepard died from injuries suffered when two Wyoming men robbed him, beat him, and lashed him to a fence. The two men face the death penalty.

But that hasn't silenced politicians, who are using the crime to renew demands for a federal hate crime bill, which would expand current law to include crimes committed because of someone's gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

But there is a better way for politicians to make every American feel safer, said Bergland.

"Let's renew our national commitment to a fair, impartial, non-discriminatory judicial system, where every human life is treated as equally precious. Let's work towards an America where the concept of 'justice for all' is a reality," he said.

Cybercensorship: Making criminals of politicians?

Libertarians are applauding a new lawsuit that seeks to overturn this year's version of the Communications Decency Act — the new cybercensorship bill that is so strict it apparently makes it illegal to post the Starr Report online.

"Politicians claim they want to block material that is harmful to minors, so they passed a bill that is harmful to the First Amendment," charged David Bergland. "The only good thing about this bill is that it apparently makes criminals out of the very politicians who passed it."

The bill, signed by President Clinton in October, makes it illegal for commercial websites to post material deemed harmful to minors, unless access is restricted to adults only.

"Ironically, the federal government is already guilty of violating this bill by posting the Starr Report, a document so filled with smutty details that at least one school has blocked students' access to it," noted Bergland.

The Starr Report was banned by schools in Talbot County, Maryland as "not appropriate for children."

"Unfortunately, law enforcement will probably not target pornographic politicians, but will use this bill to try to chill ordinary American's exercise of free speech in cyberspace," predicted Bergland.

"The Siege" may be more fact than fiction

If you think the movie "The Siege" is fiction, here's a surprise: Defense Secretary William Cohen has admitted that he may station troops on America's streets to fight terrorism.

"Apparently there is nothing that Hollywood can dream up that's more frightening than what our government may already be planning," said Steve Dasbach, LP national director.

"The Siege" is the story of an Arab terrorist assault on New York City. In response, the U.S. government declares martial law, sends in U.S. paratroopers, and starts throwing Arab Americans into internment camps.

But fiction could quickly turn into fact, warned Dasbach.

The Secretary of Defense announced that "U.S. citizens may soon have to choose between civil liberties and more intrusive forms of protection," reported the *Army Times* (September 22, 1997). Cohen "said the chilling specter of armored vehicles surrounding hotels to block out terrorists... could happen here."

Not if the Libertarian Party has its way.

"The best way to be safe from terrorists is by not getting into a bloody, unwinnable war with terrorists in the first place. And the way to do that is by making a commitment to stop intervening in the affairs of other nations," said Dasbach.

First Success '99 scheduled for January 16-17 in Orlando, Florida

In all, 25 Libertarian Leadership Seminars planned around USA for 1999

The first Success '99 Libertarian Leadership Seminar will be held in Orlando, Florida, over the weekend of January 16-17, 1999, the national LP headquarters has announced.

It will be followed by 24 other events over the following 10 months, with locations ranging from Maine to California.

"Our goal was to have a Success '99 event within driving distance of 75% of our members," said LP National Director Steve Dasbach. "So we're going to start in Florida and methodically work our way across the country."

The event will be held at Orlando Select/University of Central Florida Hotel. The registration fee for the two-day seminar will be \$79, which includes a buffet lunch on Saturday. Participants will pay for their own transportation and lodging.

teach Libertarian activists — both long-time activists and new members — the basic skills to build a successful local LP organization and to run successful campaigns, said Dasbach.

Patterned after the popular Success '97 series last year — but with a slightly different focus — the events will feature a rotating line-up of Libertarian political

tarianism In One Lesson) on the West Coast and Mary Ruwart (author of *Healing Our World*) on the East Coast.

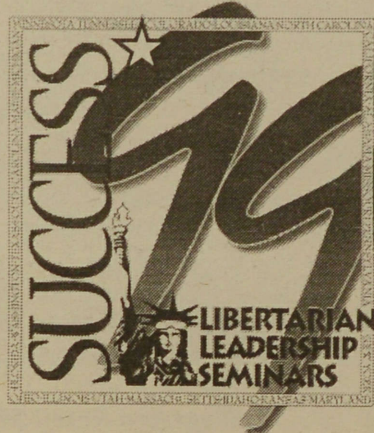
Each of the Success '99 events will consist of about 12 hours of workshops and seminars, running all day Saturday and a half-day on Sunday.

The primary focus of the seminars: "Integrating successful local Libertarian Party organizations and campaigns — with the focus on winning local elections," said Dasbach.

"The workshop will look at what it takes to run a winning campaign, built around the six M's: Message, the Messenger (i.e. candidate), Media, Manpower, Money, and Management (i.e. organization). Then, we'll look at what has to be done by a local LP organization to put those elements in place," he said.

Individual workshop sections will focus on such "nuts-and-bolts" political activities and fundraising, dealing with the media, membership recruitment, communication with members, and generating prospects.

"Success '99 will also pass on the lessons learned by our winning campaigns in Election '98," said Dasbach. "Our goal is to share the knowledge about successful Libertarian politics."



February events

In February, Success '99 events will be held in Seattle, Washington; Baltimore, Maryland; and Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina.

[For a complete list of Success '99 events, and for registration information, see the full-page advertisement on page 15 of this issue of LP News.]

Success '99 is designed to

experts, including Dasbach, LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger, LP Communications Director Bill Winter, fund-raising and communications guru Michael Cloud, campaign manager Barbara Goushaw, and college organizing veteran Jim Lark.

Some of the events will also feature an experienced LP activist from the local region, such as David Bergland (author of *Liber-*

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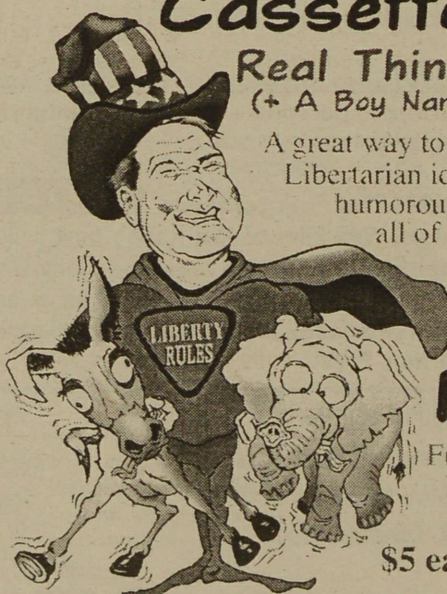
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Libertarian Party Literature

■ **Ain't Nobody's Business If You Do** by Peter McWilliams. The definitive argument against "consensual crimes," packed with facts, quotes, and statistics. Paperback, 693 pages. **Cost:** \$9.95

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for the gun community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto: Explains why government doesn't work, and why it will never work as well as voluntary solutions. Outlines a Libertarian plan for victory. Hardbound, 245 pages. **Cost:** \$11.95

■ **Libertarianism In One Lesson** by David Bergland. Expanded 7th edition. The classic introductory work. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political issues; contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. Softbound, 158 pages. **Cost:** \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green Ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 1998: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-1997) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **LP Program:** 4 pages, blue ink. LP positions on education, jobs, political corruption, health care, and crime — plus solutions. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100

■ **World's Smallest Political Quiz cards.** Perfect for "politically homeless" booths. **Cost:** \$1 for 100

Bumperstickers

Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100. Size: 11" x 3"

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** (Red, white, & blue).

■ **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; LP address and phone # below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

■ **Buttons** (**Cost:** \$1 each or 75¢ for 5 or more)

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-682-1776

Miscellaneous Items

■ **Libertarian Party stickers.** Size: 5/8" x 2-1/8". (Red and blue.) Text: "Tired of big government & high taxes? Call the Libertarian Party." Includes LP 800#. **Cost:** Four sheets (96 stickers) for \$1. Or 25 sheets (600): \$5

■ **Windbreaker.** Blue, with LP logo & party name. Available in M, L, XL. (Please specify.) **Cost:** \$25 each

■ **Liberty Teddy Bear:** 12" high. Brown bear, blue shirt: "Liberty Bear" on front. **Cost:** \$20.

Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian TV Ads:** A videotape of TV ads by LP candidates — from State Representative to president. (Not broadcast quality.) **Cost:** \$20.00 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk. **Cost:** \$3 each

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. **Cost:** \$3 for set

Large & Small Banners

■ **Small Banner.** (12" x 5'). White on blue. One line: "Libertarian Party." **Cost:** \$25 each

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party." You choose second line: ★ "800-682-1776" ★ "Defenders of Liberty." **Cost:** \$40 each

WARNING! TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

There are 712 days left until the 2000 Election

That's just 17,088 hours until Americans go to the polls again. A mere 1,025,280 minutes for the Libertarian Party to get prepared to take advantage of the next big election opportunity.

And those minutes are ticking away. **Here's your challenge:** To do your part to recruit new Libertarian Party members, so we will have the manpower and money to succeed in 2000.

We want to help. We've got all the persuasion tools you need: Brochures, books, bumperstickers, advertisements, World's Smallest Quiz Cards, and more. They're all crisply written and professionally designed.

But they don't do any good sitting in our storage room.

We need you to get them into the

hands of your family, friends, co-workers, and potential voters.

Listen: We can't wait until 2000. It's too late

then. We need to start building our strength now.

We need to get big and strong enough now to get our message out then.

If you've read this far, there are just 1,025,279 minutes left. Time is slipping away.

It will take you just five

minutes to call and order outreach materials. Less than an hour to fill out the order form and fax it. Just a few days to mail an order to us.

Remember: We just have 712 days. Let's put 'em to good use. Let's get busy!

LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). Introductory brochure; gives a general, friendly overview of Libertarian Party beliefs.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

Yard Sign

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH / VOTE LIBERTARIAN. Red, white, and blue ink on sturdy foamboard. Measures a big 24" x 18". Perfect for LP campaigns or rallies.

Cost: \$8.00 each.

■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how the government impoverishes Americans by taking more in taxes than most families spend on food, clothing, and shelter (combined)

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Ending the Welfare State.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's five-point crime-control program that protects civil liberties — while providing more resources to fight real criminals.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains and defends the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for general audience.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Working to Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). How the LP would drastically reduce the size and cost of government by privatizing government services, abolishing corporate welfare, and ending income taxes.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

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Ready-to-use Literature

Quantity	Amount
_____	<i>Ain't Nobody's Business If You Do</i> book
_____	Brochure: "Is This the New Political Party...?"
_____	Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"
_____	Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"
_____	Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
_____	Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
_____	Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
_____	Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
_____	Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____	<i>Why Government Doesn't Work</i> book
_____	<i>Libertarianism In One Lesson</i> book
_____	<i>America's Libertarian Heritage</i> booklet
_____	Million Dollar Bill Literature
_____	Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)
_____	1995 LP Program
_____	World's Smallest Political Quiz

Yard Signs

_____ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

Bumper Stickers

_____ Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian
 _____ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!
 _____ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN
 _____ Vote Libertarian/1-800-682-1776

Buttons

_____ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian
 _____ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-682-1776
 _____ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Miscellaneous Items

_____ LP stickers (24 per sheet)
 _____ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL
 _____ "Liberty" Teddy Bear

Tools for Campaigning

_____ Libertarian TV Ads Video
 _____ Statue of Liberty logo master
 _____ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
 _____ Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

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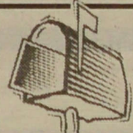
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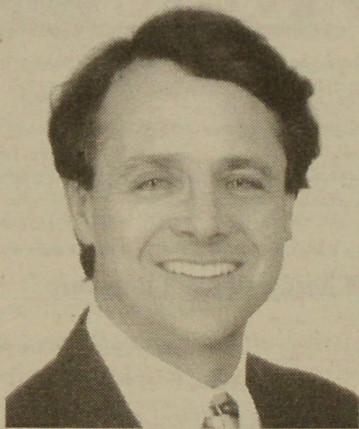
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Why Not Simply Repeal Social Security?

by Jacob G. Hornberger

For years, we've heard one reform after another from both Democrats and Republicans and even some Libertarians for saving Social Security. But why not ask a more fundamental question: Why should Social Security be saved at all? Why not just repeal it?

After all, for almost 150 years from 1787 to 1935, the American people lived without Social Security. Our ancestors believed that freedom entailed the right to accumulate unlimited amounts of wealth and the right to decide what to do with it. Whether to honor thy mother and father or care for those in need was considered an individual choice. Using the political process for the purposes of charity was a foreign concept to our American ancestors.

And let's not make any bones about it. Social Security

is founded on force, not voluntary choice. Present-day Americans are required on pain of fine and imprisonment to pay taxes that fund the retirement pay of older Americans. By now, everyone knows that there is no Social Security "fund" and there never has been. The money has been spent as it has been collected. Social Security, like all socialistic welfare programs, relies on the forcible seizure of money from the productive members of society in order to transfer it to the nonproductive.

Let's also not forget the historical roots of Social Security. President Franklin Roosevelt, who initiated Social Security in America, didn't get the idea from Madison, Jefferson, Washington, or Adams. He got it from Otto von Bismarck, the "iron chancellor" of Germany, who himself had gotten the idea from German socialists. Social Security, after all, later became an essential part of German National Socialism in the 1930s.

"But contracts should be honored," say the opponents of repeal. But where's the contract? I've certainly never signed anything. And if we

examine the Social Security law itself, we find that it's simply a tax-and-welfare program, just like any other tax-and-welfare program. Have we also contracted to deliver food stamps, public housing, and foreign aid into perpetuity?

Even if there were an enforceable political contract, an implicit condition of it is that every generation has the right to alter or abolish the form of government that previous generations have implemented. Isn't that what the Declaration of Independence says? If one or more generations decide to implement a socialistic welfare state in America, as Democrats and Republicans have since the 1930s, isn't it the right of succeeding generations to rescind that way of life and restore economic liberty in their time?

We're told that Social Security reflects that Americans are a caring and compassionate people. Doesn't it actually reflect a lack of faith in the American people? Aren't the proponents of Social Security saying to us, "You are an incompetent and uncaring people; you cannot be trusted

with handling your own retirement; you cannot be trusted with honoring your parents on a voluntary basis; you must be forced to do these things through the threat of fines, imprisonment, and IRS audits"?

The ultimate problem with Social Security is not a political one or an economic one. It is a psychological one. When the American people regain their sense of self-esteem — when they recapture the principles of self-reliance and voluntary charity that characterized their ancestors — support for such alien socialistic concepts as Social Security will disintegrate. When that time comes, people will be discussing the repeal, not the reform, of both Social Security and the income tax.

Mr. Hornberger is president of The Future of Freedom Foundation, in Fairfax, Va., a libertarian think tank that will soon publish Your Money or Your Life: Why We Must Abolish the Income Tax by Sheldon Richman.

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Party joins in Medicare lawsuit

Continued from Page 3

that senior citizens can privately contract with the doctor of their choice for any medical service, but only if the doctor agrees not to participate in Medicare for two years," said Thomas Schatz, president of Citizens Against Government Waste, which filed the amicus brief.

"The issue is simply this: Senior citizens — in fact, any American — should have the right to personally pay for a health care service with their own money without first getting permission from the government to do so," he said.

Mike Tanner of the Cato Institute charged that the law was an effort by the Clinton administration to force "everyone in a single system" of health care.

"It is locking everyone into the government system," he said. "It's depriving people of choice, and it's part of the Clinton administration's plan to bring everyone under the control of a central government system. They don't like people having a lot of choices."

"It is clear that Section 4507 violates fundamental civil liberties," said the Institute for Health Freedom's *Health Freedom Watch*. "Americans might want to consider who was responsible for this truly un-American law and demand immediate corrective action."

Less freedom

United Seniors Association, the non-profit, "public interest" organization that filed the lawsuit, said it took action because "the new law means that seniors have less freedom and choice in their health care than seniors in countries like Britain who have socialized medicine."

The lawsuit was first filed in federal court on December 30, 1997, and sought a temporary restraining order to stop Section 4507 from taking effect.

After a March 6 hearing, U.S. District Judge Thomas F. Hogan dismissed the suit. Hogan ruled that the U.S. Constitution does not confer "a fundamental right on individuals to privately contract with their physicians."

The decision was appealed on June 30 by the United Seniors Association, and a three-judge panel is expected to hear arguments before the end of this year.

ments before the end of this year.

Dasbach said the Libertarian Party saw the issue as a simple matter of freedom of choice.

"The rule prevents doctors who treat Medicare patients from accepting patients outside the Medicare system," he said. "Since most doctors cannot afford to turn away all Medicare patients just to accept a few non-Medicare patients, this effectively forces all elderly Americans into

SENIOR CITIZENS

"have the right to personally pay for a health care service."

the Medicare system.

"As a political party, we generally don't initiate such lawsuits," he acknowledged. "However, when our participation can significantly increase the chances of success in overturning bad laws and relatively low cost, we try to take advantage of such opportunities."

Contributed

The Libertarian Party also contributed to the cost of the lawsuit, he said.

Joining the Libertarian Party in the amicus curiae were the

Cato Institute, the Institute for Health Freedom, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the National Taxpayers Union.

In addition, Citizens Against Government Waste has collected 65,000 signatures supporting repeal of Section 4507.

On the issue of health care, the Libertarian Party platform states that "Individuals should be free to contract with practitioners of their choice for all health care services." It also states: "We oppose all laws that limit the freedom of contract of patients and health care professionals..."

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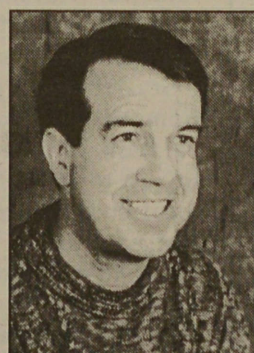
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"The Essence of Political Persuasion" was created by communications expert **Michael Cloud**, professional speech writer and Keynote Speaker at the 1998 Libertarian Party national convention

Beginner's Introduction A Liberty Primer

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Rochester NY 14610

From THE DIRECTOR

Election '98: Results and LP opportunities

Remember the "Republican Revolution"? In 1994, voters cast a resounding vote of disapproval against the Democrats and turned over control of Congress to the Republicans. Pundits interpreted the results as a demand by the voters for less government.

As Libertarians, we were skeptical. Despite their libertarian rhetoric, we doubted that Republicans would actually do anything substantive to cut the size, power, expense, and intrusiveness of government. The voters, too, were skeptical. According to post-election polls in 1994, more than 60% expected politics as usual. And that's what they got.

For four years, government has continued to grow. Internet censorship, national ID cards, the bloated transportation bill, and the massive omnibus spending bill have made a mockery of the Republicans' "less government" rhetoric.

Four years ago, Newt Gingrich predicted what would happen if Republicans failed to deliver less government: "If this just degenerates back into the usual baloney of politics in Washington, then the American people will move toward a third party in a massive way."

While it isn't massive (yet), that movement has begun.

You can see it in the election of Jesse Ventura as Governor of Minnesota, on a platform widely characterized in the press as "libertarian." You can see it in the big victory of Revision 11 in Florida, which guarantees equal ballot access to all parties.

You can see it in the election of a Libertarian to the Vermont legislature. You can see it in the re-election of a Libertarian sheriff who is a vocal critic of the War on Drugs. And you can see it in the record off-year vote for our U.S. House candidates.

The rest of America was finally able to see it, too. After years of ignoring third-party votes, some of the nation's major news media organizations decided to accurately report the results of the election.

Newspapers like the *New York Times* and *Washington Times* reported results for all candidates for U.S. House, U.S. Senate, and governor, complete with party affiliations. So did CNN.

Results for other statewide races and state legislative races were available via the Internet. For once, we were able to find out on election night how our candidates across the USA fared.

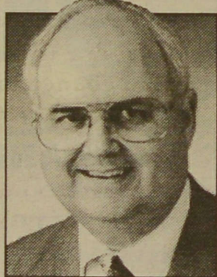
We also made important ballot access gains. We earned major party status in Massachusetts, Nebraska, and New Mexico. (We lost it only in South Dakota). We can now place our 2000 Presidential ticket on 28 state ballots, up from 24 two years ago. In contrast, the Reform Party is qualified in only 14 states, down from 35 two years ago.

Why is that important? The governor-elect of Minnesota, Jesse Ventura, publicly stated that one of the reasons he ran on the Reform Party ticket was that the Reform Party in Minnesota had ballot status — and the Libertarian Party didn't.

Being able to place candidates on the ballot is a core responsibility of any political party, and we're better at it than any other minor party. That's what enabled us to run more candidates than any third party since World War II, more candidates for U.S. House than all other smaller parties combined.

Now our attention turns to difficult ballot drives: Alabama, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and North Dakota. By completing these tough states in 1999, we can focus our resources in 2000 on national TV advertising and electing Libertarians.

If Newt Gingrich was right in 1994, Americans are ready to "move toward a third party in a big way." We have to make sure there is a strong Libertarian Party ready to welcome them.



By Steve Dasbach

LP National Director

Government-mandated recycling: Wasteful, harmful, and rejected

EDITOR'S NOTE: How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, LP News will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.

LIBERTARIAN Solutions

By David Rothbard & Craig Rucker

Eleven years ago, a lonely garbage barge called the *Mobro 4000* wandered the high seas in search of some place to dump its load. The barge, filled with more than 3,000 tons of New York City trash, had set sail from Long Island destined for a landfill in rural North Carolina. But when the ship was refused permission to drop anchor in the Tar Heel State, it traveled for two months and more than 6,000 miles looking for a place to leave its pungent cargo. Ultimately, it was forced to trudge back home, where its garbage was burned in a Brooklyn incinerator.

As it turns out, poor logistics and bad PR were the causes of the *Mobro's* ill-fated voyage. But that's not what the public was led to believe. With a made-to-order photo-op, environmentalists finally had "proof" — true or not — of the so-called "garbage crisis" they were desperately trying to sell.

It didn't matter that, according to *New York Times* writer Jeff Bailey, "The Southeast had (and still has) an abundance of dump capacity and was accepting thousands of tons a week of waste arriving by truck."

For here, at last, was confirmation that America's landfills were bursting at the seams. And here was stark evidence that the Greens' favored mantra of "reduce-reuse-recycle" was the only answer. So with the help of much sensationalized media, the *Mobro* became the symbol of a nation burying itself in its own trash.

Recycling exploded

In the years that followed, recycling exploded across America. With little evidence to support the need for recycling, more than 40 states enacted hefty recycling goals ranging from 25% to 70% of all municipal trash. In the four years leading up to 1992, the number of local curbside collection programs increased by more than 400%, to a total of over 5,000.

But a decade after the *Mobro* brought its barnacled hull back to the Big Apple, recycling's

"chickens" have come home to roost. With outrageous costs spawned by unreachable goals now weighing down these efforts nationwide, communities across the U.S. are being forced to alter, scale back, or abandon their recycling efforts altogether, and environmentalists are being forced to up the ante with a push for more coercive measures.

The principal problem with recycling in America today can be summarized in one word: Cost. The reason for this is simple. The success or failure of a recycling program depends primarily on its ability to recover its collection costs by selling the collected material at a decent price. But with government-



QUESTION:

"Aren't recycling laws needed to protect the environment?"

mandated goals flooding the nation with more recycled materials than the market can handle, bottles, cans, and newspapers are fetching only bargain-basement prices, while program expenses are going through the roof.

New York Times reporter John Tierney, describing New York's recycling program, wrote:

"For every ton of glass, plastic, and metal that the truck delivers to a private recycler, the city currently spends \$200 more than it would spend to bury the material in a landfill. Officials hoped to recover this extra cost by selling the material, but the market has never been anywhere even near \$200. In fact, it has rarely risen as high as zero."

New York City doesn't stand alone. In Pittsburgh, the situation became so bad that by mid-1996, no company was willing to bid on a city contract to pick up curbside assortments — even if the city let them do it for free!

Recyclers in Boston have openly confessed to dumping their collectibles in local landfills.

Some recycling in America would occur if the only thing fueling it were the free-market values of supply and demand. Unfortunately, in a culture where recycling has become an end in itself, it is the government, not the market, that calls the shots.

A voluntary goal

A nationwide recycling goal first became a reality when it was put forth in 1988 by then-EPA assistant administrator J. Winston Porter. But while Porter recommended only a voluntary goal of 25% for the nation (with 10% already being recycled at that time), many states had more ambitious ideas. New York and California, for instance, mandated 50%; New Jersey went for 60%; and Rhode Island wanted 70% of its trash to be recycled.

Such a massive push for recycling was more than the market could bear. According to Porter, these goals are grossly unrealistic. "Nearly one-quarter of municipal trash is literally non-recyclable, including such items as dirt, kitty litter, food scraps, and broken toys. Hence, to reach a 50% rate, about three-quarters of the 'recyclable' items would actually have to be recycled."

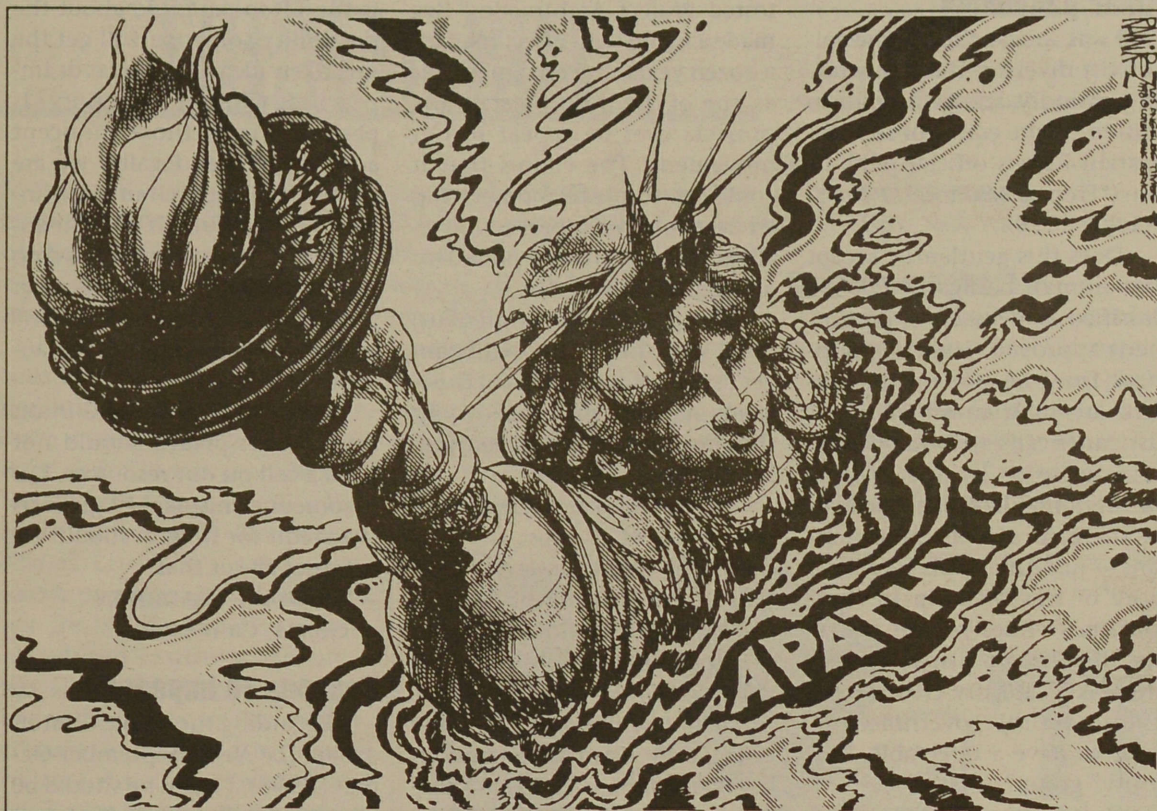
It's little wonder, then, that many communities are falling short of their goals. In California, the 50% recycling goal is supposed to be reached by the year 2000, but even with penalties set for localities failing to meet this figure, the state is now only in the mid-20% range. In Texas, a 40% goal was to have been reached by 1994, but the state is currently recycling only 15% and no adjustments have been made to the target.

"I'm not trying to be the guy who says there's no tooth fairy," says Porter, "but recycling doesn't always make sense."

Indeed, recycling doesn't always make sense. And with plentiful landfill space and state-of-the-art incinerators safely operating in many communities, there's no pressing reason for America to recycle more than the market would dictate.

But such inconvenient facts certainly aren't stopping some environmentalists from trying to force it on everyone else.

■ Reprinted from the *Heartland Institute's Intellectual Ammunition* (April/May 1998).



THE MAILBOX

Isn't it ironic?

I thought the picture of the Alachua County Libertarians (*LP News*, November 1998) was ironic. Right behind the "Stop the Sales Tax Increase" information table, there is a sign that reads, "SKATEBOARDING, ROLLERBLADING, ROLLER-SKATING PROHIBITED."

— JONATHAN E. ROBERTS
Springfield, Missouri

OK to desecrate flag?

Regarding the flag-burning bill ("The Issues," *LP News*, November 1998): Since federal law already allows burning as a method of reverently retiring unserviceable flags, flag-burning per se is not the issue. Desecration is the issue. Desecrating the American flag is not free speech. Desecration is behavior, and behavior is subject to lawful regulation.

Flag protection has nothing whatsoever to do with suppressing dissent. After the flag protection amendment is passed, Americans will continue to be free to use their voices, their pens, and their electronic communications to express disapproval of government policy, national traditions, cultural institutions, social developments, or anything else they may regard as wrong with America. But desecrating the flag is not speech, any more than a punch in the mouth is a counter-argument.

Is burning a cross or a Star Of David "freedom of expression"? Those behaviors are crimes for which stiff penalties

are prescribed. So, LP, by what twisted reasoning do you say it's okay to desecrate the flag of our nation? Furthermore, it is nonsense to say that flag protection will lead to veneration of the government and our rulers. As a libertarian, I love my country but fear my government. The American flag represents precisely that perspective. Think, LP, think!

— JOHN WHITE
Cheshire, Connecticut

**"DESECRATING
the American
flag is not free
speech. It is
behavior, subject
to regulation."**

Slam hate crime laws

The recent murder of a gay man has renewed calls for hate-crime legislation. The time has come to slam this legislation to the ground. Violence must be

condemned first. Hate is a belief system regardless of the fact of its evil.

Would the young man be any less dead if the crime was motivated by greed? What if instead of hate, the crime was motivated by a "He looked at me kinda funny"-type argument? What if the man was killed because he was small? Would it be any less of a crime? *No!* An individual should not have to be classified as part of a hated group to be protected from violence. Violence, unless used for self-defense, must be universally and soundly condemned.

The advocates of hate crime legislation are telling people that violence is more acceptable in other circumstances, but not when hate is involved. Such warped thinking puts us all in danger of criminals bent on violence.

I urge all Libertarians to oppose hate-crime legislation and call for its repeal.

— ANDREW SULLIVAN
Omaha, Nebraska

Dark side of PUDs

I could not believe the Libertarian Solutions article ("Private cities . . .") in the November issue of the *LP News*. Many of the good things of PUDs [Planned Urban Developments] were pointed out, but the bad were totally ignored.

Six months ago we moved into a PUD, and it has been quite a change from the five acres we used to own. We were in a rush

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 24

THE PULSE

The prospects most likely to . . .

We have seen the future of the Libertarian Party and it is . . . *young people*.

But don't forget smokers, Wiccans, Quakers, psychologists, and ex-cons.

At least, that's the opinion of *LP News* readers who responded to this month's Pulse question: Which *one* demographic group is most naturally Libertarian?

The plurality winner of the unscientific poll: Young people — either high school, college, or "Generation X" — who were selected by 20% of the respondents as the party's "most likely prospects."

Coming in second and third respectively were businesspeople (8.5%) and gun-owners (5.7%). After that, no group won more than 3% of the vote.

Here is a representative sample of responses:

■ Gen-Xers. I am a 19-year-old college student and none of my friends had ever heard of the Libertarian Party before I introduced them to it, although most of them hold Libertarian principles.

— WILLIAM CHARETTE JR., Orange, California

■ Gun-owners. Over the years, gun-owners' rights have been trampled by politicians trying to make a headline.

— ANTHONY BORRELLI, Secane, Pennsylvania

■ Ex-convicts of "consensual crimes." These people have a bone to pick with the government and should be given a chance to change the system.

— MIKE LYGA, Randolph, New Jersey

■ "Social" libertarians, that is, those who emphasize personal freedom and civil liberties.

— PATSY BONTEMPO, Asbury Park, New Jersey

■ Young adults are the best libertarian prospects; colleges and universities the most likely environment.

— JACK GARDNER, Austin, Texas

■ The 25% of Americans who smoke. [They] have in their lifetimes felt the gut-wrenching loss of personal liberty.

— DON ELLIS, Colorado Springs, Colorado

■ Those involved in the field of human psychology. Who better to understand the magnanimity of what the libertarian cause is all about?

— ROBERT SUMMER, Norman, Oklahoma

■ American Jews. You don't need to convince them of the threat a powerful government would mean to their lives and liberties. They have suffered under every powerful government throughout history.

— APRIL BISHOP, Greenville, South Carolina

■ The "Internally Motivated." These are people who feel that they are, and should be, responsible for the good and bad circumstances of their lives.

— RALPH POTTER, Dutch Harbor, Arkansas

■ Mennonites and Quakers. These groups are intensely principled, anti-war and politically active.

— SARAH DUBOIS, Boulder, Colorado

■ Wiccans and pagans. They suffer constant discrimination and harassment by an establishment.

— JIM CHEANEY, Colo, Iowa

■ Small business owners. They have the most direct contact with the bureaucratic overreach of big government.

— STU YOUNG, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

■ The desire for freedom is not a group desire but an *individual* desire. Placing people in categories makes life seem orderly for bureaucrats. I find this tendency distasteful and I believe your efforts will result in failure.

— THOMAS E. BELL, Bruno, Minnesota

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libertarian@erols.com
<http://www.L4L.org>

THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 23

situation of having two months to sell a home in one state and transfer with my husband's job to another. We had no idea little "governments" like the homeowners associations even existed.

Our new home looks exactly like hundreds of others here. We are told the color the outside of our home can be painted, which trees and flowers are acceptable, what kind of fence can be built, the size and height of the one allowed bird feeder we can have, the types of holiday decorations we can use, the type, size and location of any satellite dish, and whether we are allowed a windsock or windchimes on our front porch. Window air condi-

tioners are forbidden unless installed at the rear of the house and low enough to be hidden by a fence.

In addition, a committee has to review and approve all changes to the exterior of the home, such as adding decks, patios, and even storm doors (we've already had one door disallowed).

While I don't mind a fee for the upkeep of the many greenbelts and trails through the area, I very much mind being told what I can do on what I thought was my own property.

Since when is a petty little dictatorship a Libertarian solution to big government?

— **SHERRY BELTRAM**
Littleton, Colorado

Ethnic pandering

I was shocked to see the collectivist diversity rhetoric strutting proudly across a column written by the editor of the Libertarian Party's official publication ("From the Editor," *LP News*, October 1998).

Does this gentleman accept that human beings should be classified as members of government-approved genetic groupings? Does he not realize that there are no Asian-Americans — just Americans who happen to have more or less of an epicanthic fold? Does he not realize there are no African-Americans — just Americans who have more or less melanin in their epidermis? Does he not realize that there are no Hispanics, that this was a category created specifically by the government in order to have a targetable "minority" group?

Or is he just pandering?

When I was running for my local Board of Education, one of the most shocking and disgusting moments I experienced was sitting in the audience of a Board meeting, listening to the annual government-required enumeration of students considered members of specific government-approved racial categories, while nearby sat a group of political science students from South Africa. I cannot accept that the Libertarian Party wants to go approvingly down this road. What's next, once we start accepting explicit racism?

Yes, people in the LP have many different interests. I am sure our membership contains businesspeople, ballerinas, rock climbers, programmers, weight lifters, novelists, housewives, gun-owners, non-gun-owners, politicians, philosophers, teachers and students. And that's something to be pleased about, because the desire for liberty is in our common interest, no matter what our professions or hobbies or even where we or our parents used to live.

But to focus on one's skin color or racial/cultural origin is to abandon the quest to create a society where we are individuals making voluntary choices of association. It instead attempts to create a caste system with automatic loyalties to the racial or cultural group, and it attempts to set those forces at war with one another over the spoils of a redistributionist society.

That's not libertarian.

— **MARK CASHMAN**
Windsor, Connecticut

Freedom School

This letter offers both applause, and a plea.

Applause to the [national Libertarian Party] headquarters people who have designed and

tested Project Archimedes! I've made a living with direct mail for a dozen years, and recognize this as one of the most outstanding projects ever to appear in our movement. The claims that it could quintuple LP membership by decade's end appear to me realistic; we may truly be poised for a huge expansion.

The plea is that we (all of us) don't stop there. The awful danger I perceive is that tens of thousands of people may eagerly join the organization, but then lose sight of what it's for.

Archimedes will target specific interest groups; fine. So those who join us as a result will mostly enter to amplify their existing recognition that (for example) drug prohibition is destructive. Great! Then what?

It is essential that, in short order, they learn that freedom has many dimensions: that "government doesn't work" when (eg) it raids our pocketbooks, any more than it works when it raids our marijuana supply. That the very institution of government is destructive, for all that any government ever does is to initiate force.

**"THOUSANDS
of people may
eagerly join the
organization, but
then lose sight of
what it's for."**

And that's one heck of a re-education task! Yet alas, neither headquarters nor our affiliate parties seem well-equipped to perform it.

So the reason for this letter is to invite all readers who share my concern to find a way rapidly to detoxify the large number of new LPers we anticipate; to form a think-tank, perhaps on the Internet, to come up with ideas for offering them some kind of "Freedom School."

If such a group already exists, I'd love to join it. If not, I'd like to start one.

Call me at (603) 763-5965, or e-mail me at YourLife@beer.com.

— **JIM DAVIES**
Newbury, New Hampshire

Do we favor perjury?

Impeachment is just not my thing. Further, I agree with the LP that it will leave us worse off, unless it is done for the right reasons (as outlined in your article about HR 304). (*LP News*, October 1998.)

That having been said, why

is the LP so paranoid about the possibility someone will get the mistaken idea that we favor impeaching Clinton for perjury? Is perjury one of those innocent activities whose legality we are trying to restore? Granted, Clinton perjured himself in an investigation the government had no proper business in conducting. But who is it that signed the laws giving the government the authority to do so?

I agree that hoisting Clinton on his own petard should not have a call on our resources. But if someone mistakenly gives us the credit for it, why should we be upset about that?

— **MICHAEL LAMBOLEY**
Goleta, California

Reasons to impeach

Regarding the whole Clinton debate (*LP News*, September-October 1998), I agree he should be impeached. But I question just what, precisely, he's being impeached for.

The Republicans repeatedly insist that it's not for adultery, but for lying about it. We're impeaching him for lying. While I would fully support this, last I checked, it's part of the Democrat-Republican job description. Would that the Republicans apply that same standard to themselves . . . but of course, they won't. So we won't see a vast number of Congressional Impeachments following a Presidential one. (One Republican Congressman said it was not for lying, but lying under oath. So lying at any other time is okay?)

I wonder why they are trying to impeach Clinton for this, rather than for soft money contributions to his campaign in '96, where a clear parallel to Watergate could be drawn: Or for selling missile technology to China, a clear violation of his Presidential oath, and tantamount to treason. Or for what we want him for, violating our liberties.

No, the Republicans went for the most sensational, lowest common denominator scandal sheet charge against him, in the hopes that it would whip up popular support against him. And it worked, for a while. But now people are just apathetic again.

I would love to see Clinton impeached; but I would prefer to see it done for something the Republicans are not also guilty of.

— **JAY MCINTYRE**
Colmar, Pennsylvania

Frivolous non-starter

The LP's effort to base Clinton's impeachment on Constitutional grounds is a frivolous non-starter; everyone in Congress is guilty of similar offenses. Impeachment should be based

THE PULSE

February Question: Shut up, please?

Libertarianism, it is said, includes at least one political position that every American will agree with . . . and at least one position that every American will disagree with. (Which particular position will vary with each individual American, of course.)

That said, doesn't it seem that some LP members spend most of their time pontificating about the *least* popular Libertarian positions? Or explaining a popular Libertarian position so badly that it's guaranteed to offend? Or seem to be obsessed with some pseudo-Libertarian issue — that really *isn't*.

■ **QUESTION:** Which one Libertarian position do you wish other Libertarians would *just stop talking about* — either because it's politically unpopular, or because they mangle the sales job, or because it is a "low-priority" position, or because it's not *really* a Libertarian position? In other words, what issue triggers the "shut up, already!" reflex in you? And why? (Limit answers to 100 words.)

■ **DEADLINE:** January 5, 1999

January Question: Libertarian Party slogan?

Over the years, the Libertarian Party flirted with several semi-official slogans: "Neither Left Nor Right, But Forward." "Defenders of Liberty." "The Party of Principle." Like an advertising catchphrase — "Things go better with Coca-Cola" or "At Ford, Quality is Job One" — each of those Libertarian Party slogans was trying to sum up, in just a handful of words, what the party was all about, and what it offered America.

■ **QUESTION:** Should the Libertarian Party have an official slogan? If so, what should it be? (Limit answers to 100 words, please, and slogans to 12 words.)

■ **DEADLINE:** December 5, 1998

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include name and city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month. ■ E-mail: 73163.3063@compuserve.com. (Please include "Pulse" in subject line.)

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■ Mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: *LP News/The Pulse*, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

THE MAILBOX

on serious crimes that are uniquely Clinton's. The LP seems to believe that his crimes are only about sex. They are not. Consider the important facts:

Clinton tried to proposition Paula Jones, a subordinate. Jones filed suit for sexual harassment. Since even Democrats have noted that Clinton is an exceptionally good liar, she needed more than her word against his. Monica Lewinsky's experience exactly paralleled Jones's (except that Jones said "no") so Jones subpoenaed Lewinsky as a witness. Clinton and his people persuaded Lewinsky to file a false affidavit on January 7 in which she denied her affair with Clinton. Call it perjury and witness tampering.

Clinton's lawyer, Robert Bennett, told the judge that Lewinsky had "absolutely no sex of any kind in any manner, shape or form, with President Clinton." Clinton made no attempt to correct the lie. Clinton later testified that Lewinsky's affidavit was "absolutely true." Call it fraud and perjury.

When Kenneth Starr discovered the truth, Clinton was forced to admit that he lied. He tried to redefine the English language in an effort to cover up, but the truth is now clear. Clinton engaged in perjury, cover-up, and witness tampering in an effort to obstruct justice.

There's more, but these are grounds enough.

These are not minor matters. Our entire legal system is based on access to the courts, honest testimony of witnesses, and the rule of law. No one, especially the President, can be allowed to subvert justice. Clinton bears sole responsibility for his actions and must be impeached.

— **DON WACKER**

Issaquah, Washington

Vanishing PPM

As a scientist and a Libertarian, I would like to offer my views on second-hand cigarette smoke.

In my youth (20 years ago), I did research on carbon monoxide monitors. Unfortunately,

cigarette smoke does contain this deadly chemical. When I would blow smoke directly with my mouth on the opening of this machine, I would read the equivalent ppm [parts per million] of carbon dioxide. If, however, I was even an inch away and blew smoke into the apparatus, it would reach zero ppm. The amount of air in that space

would adequately dilute it.

The smell of smoke is like the leftover smell of someone heavily perfumed that walked by you. Annoying, maybe; but harmful, no.

— **DAVID O'GORMAN**

Yonkers, New York

Smoker's behavior

In the discussion of tobacco control, and all the infringements taken against users of producers of tobacco products, we should include why we were handed all these rules against smoking. One major reason, I

"THE SMELL OF smoke is like the leftover smell of someone heavily perfumed."

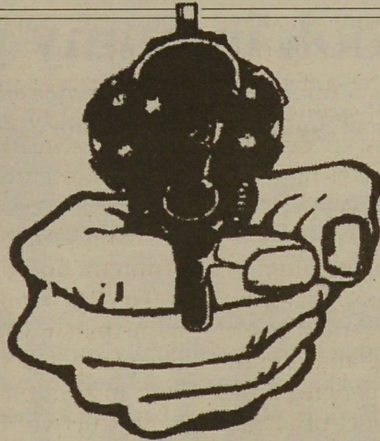
will contend, has to do with the behavior of today's cigarette smoker. This does not make tobacco control right, but let's take

a look back on the history of tobacco use for a while.

At one time, the vast majority of all smokers were gentlemen with manners who respected the rights of others. Lighting up in restaurants and many other places was, for the most part, unheard of. Present in these smokers vocabulary was: "Is it all right with you if I smoke?"

Today we have boys and girls who make up the vast majority of smokers. They have compromised their smoking rights with their "I'll smoke anywhere I

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 26



**"I'm from the government...
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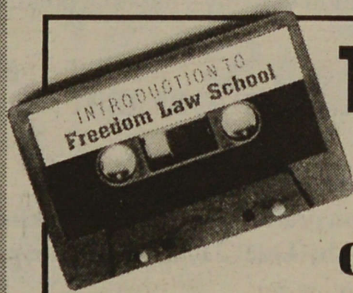
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Seven LP candidates kicked off Illinois ballot

Continued from Page 2

Steve Givot, the Illinois Libertarian who coordinated the effort to stay on the ballot.

But when the Board of Elections made its decision, it disallowed 4,285 of those verified signatures, arguing that the petition-gatherers who collected those signatures were guilty of a "pattern of fraud" because many of their other signatures could not be verified, or were forger-

ies, or contained errors.

But Givot said the only "pattern of fraud" was by the Republicans and Democrats who made up the Board of Elections.

"In striking these 4,285 signatures, the Board of Elections ignored the recommendation of its own Hearing Officer and its own General Counsel. Without even bothering to read the transcript of a hearing held over the course of two weeks, and with-

"THE BOARD disenfranchised 4,285 registered Illinois voters."

out reading the written arguments of either side, the board acted oblivious to the record of

the proceedings," he said.

The ruling was also a slap in the face of the Illinois voters who signed the petitions, said Givot.

"In striking these signatures, the State Board of Elections disenfranchised 4,285 registered Illinois voters — telling them that their clearly expressed desire to have the candidates of the Libertarian Party on the November 3 ballot would be denied through no fault of their own," he said.

The ballot drama had started on August 10, when the state Republican Party charged that 95% of the 60,638 signatures that Tobin and the other Libertarian candidates filed to get on the ballot were invalid because of "unregistered voters, forgeries, and other petition irregularities."

The challenge had apparently been filed, said Givot, because the GOP was worried that Tobin, a well-known anti-tax activist in Illinois, could cost Republican Governor George Ryan the gubernatorial race. And it was this Republican challenge that eventually led to the Board of Elections' vote on October 13.

"The most powerful libertarian book in many years"

—John Hospers, Ph.D., the Libertarian Party's first presidential nominee, author of the Party's *Statement of Principles*, author of nine books, and the head of the Philosophy Dept. at the University of Southern California for 20 years.

MAKERS AND TAKERS

HOW WEALTH AND PROGRESS ARE MADE AND HOW THEY ARE TAKEN AWAY OR PREVENTED

EDMUND CONTOSKI

with a Foreword by JOHN CHAMBERLAIN
Former Book Review Editor for The New York Times

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MAKERS AND TAKERS shows the general reader how the free market works to create prosperity and progress—and how government intervention interferes. The book examines various forms of economic intervention (taxation, regulation, monetary policy) and their effects on consumer products, our lives and health, and the nation's economic well-being. It also examines government's role on environmental issues such as acid rain, pollution, and global warming—and some surprising facts discredit government policies. Finally, the author shows how the original American system fostered the nation's success and how that system has been transformed into one of increased government control.

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Would not succeed

Although Tobin decided to file a last-minute appeal to the Board of Elections' decision, the Libertarian Party did not join in that legal action, Dasbach said, because the party's attorney did not believe that an appeal would succeed — and might establish a bad legal precedent and make it easier for other states to reject signatures.

"We would have appealed to judges who were part of the same Republican-and-Democrat power structure that wrote the laws and appointed the State Board of Elections," he noted.

In addition, he said, "The law was vague. It did not specifically delineate why signatures could be rejected. The board took advantage of this vagueness."

On the positive side, the ruling affected only statewide candidates, so 16 Libertarian Party candidates remained on the ballot in Illinois, including candidates for State Representative, U.S. House, and county office in Ford County.

THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 25

damn well please" mentality. It is this juvenile attitude among today's smokers that has caused many non-smokers to resort to supporting government interventionism. As a result, the rude majority of smokers have created a popular cause.

When we, as Libertarians, are discussing the freedom to consume tobacco, we need to remember that along with personal freedom comes personal responsibility. For those who smoke, personal responsibility means respecting the rights and airspace of those who do not.

— **ROBERT J. HOWARD**
Houston, Texas

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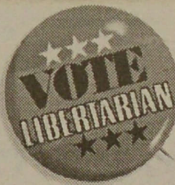
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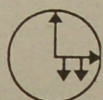
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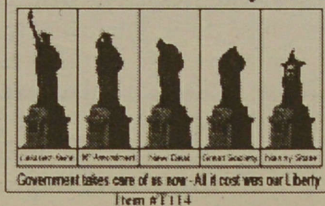
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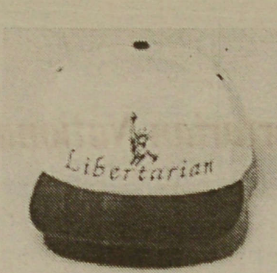
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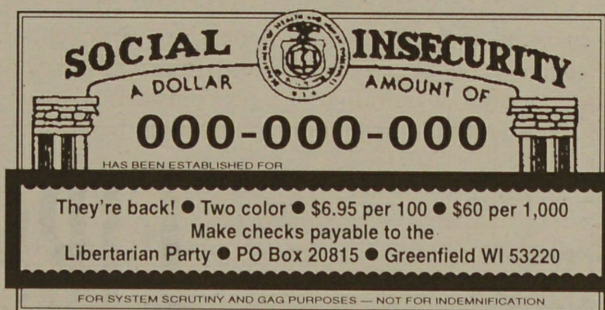
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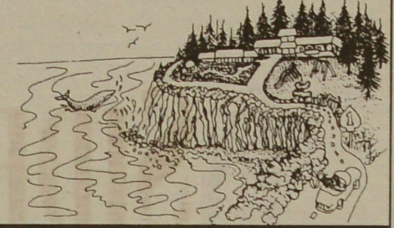
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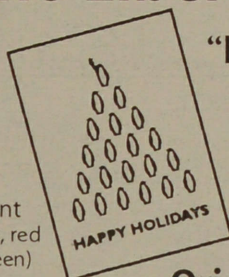
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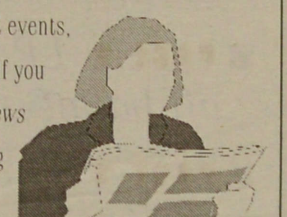
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Libertarian National Committee, Inc. Meeting, George Washington University Inn, Washington, DC. Open to all Libertarian Party members. For information, call Daniel Smith at (202) 333-0008 Ext. 231.

January 16-17, 1999

Success '99 Libertarian Leadership Training Seminar, Orlando, Florida. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext 227.

February 6-7, 1999

Success '99 Libertarian Leadership Training Seminar, Seattle, Washington. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext 227.

February 12-15, 1999

California LP Convention, DoubleTree Hotel, San Jose. Speakers TBA. For information, call (818) 506-0200.

February 19-20, 1999

Oklahoma LP Convention, Oklahoma City. Speakers TBA.

January 20-21, 1999

Success '99 Libertarian Leadership Training Seminar, Baltimore, Maryland. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext 227.

February 20-22, 1999

Mississippi LP Convention, Holiday Inn Coliseum, Biloxi. Speakers include Harry Browne, Jim Lark (campus organizing

expert), and Elliot Shaw. For information, call Jim Smith at (228) 392-3204. Or write: 7122 Princeton Drive, Biloxi, MS 39532.

February 27-28, 1999

Success '99 Libertarian Leadership Training Seminar, Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext 227.

March 6-7, 1999

Delaware LP Convention, Sheraton Hotel, Dover. Speakers: TBA. For information, call Brad Thomas at (302) 834-3596. E-mail: bradct@delanet.com.

March 19-21, 1999

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Pittsburgh Holiday Inn Airport, Pittsburgh. Speakers TBA. For information, contact Chuck Gilch at (724) 935-4937. E-mail: ckg@usaor.net.

May 15-16, 1999

Ohio LP Convention, Findlay Inn & Conference Center, Findlay. Speakers TBA. For information, call Ralph Mullinger at (419) 425-2702. E-mail: rmullinger@yahoo.com. Or, e-mail LeRoy Lloyd at lloyd@wcnet.org.

June 30-July 3, 2000

Libertarian Party Presidential Nominating Convention, Anaheim, California. Speakers and events TBA. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 227.

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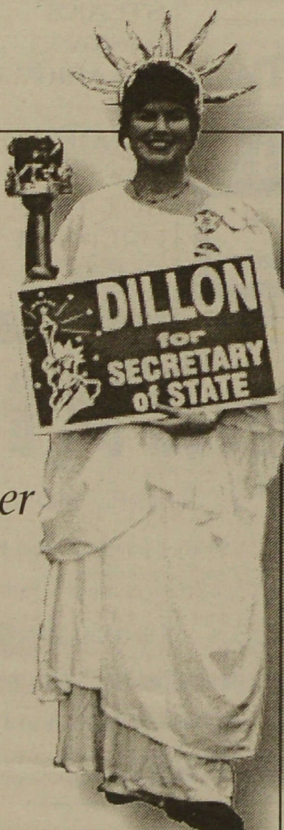
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INSIDE

■ **PAGE 1** LP State Rep. elected in Vermont
Plus: Coverage of other Election '98 victories

■ **PAGE 3** LP booted off ballot in Illinois

■ **PAGE 3** Party joins in Medicare lawsuit



FIRSTWORD

"The [Libertarian Party] message is starting to get out and appears to be resonating with voters. Perhaps most telling, many of their policy ideas are being taken seriously by the major parties. But unlike Republicans and Democrats, Libertarians have been consistent in their message."

— *The Indianapolis Star*, October 26, 1998

"The Libertarian Party enriches the political debate. [It] may be small, but it's mighty." — *Charleston Daily Mail* (West Virginia), October 14, 1998

"Libertarians are the most ardent believers among the nation's wide political spectrum in limited government and individual freedom."

— *Creative Loafing* (Atlanta, Georgia), September 19, 1998