



APC NEWS

Newsletter of the Libertarian Party Affiliate Parties Committee

Volume 2, Number 5 • May 1991

New State Chairs Bring Wealth of Experience

by Bill Evers

Editor's note: In our last two issues, APC News presented a sampling of advice that veteran state chairs have given us to pass on to newly-elected state chairs. As state LP conventions take place around the country, we have begun to interview some of these new chairs to find out how they got involved in the libertarian movement and the party and to get a taste of their plans for the upcoming year. Here are profiles of the new state chairs in Illinois, Colorado, Oregon, and Virginia.

ILLINOIS

On April 8, the Libertarian Party of Illinois elected as its new chair Steve Reed, a computer typographer for the National Association of Realtors. Steve ran unopposed for the state

party's top post.

His priorities for LPI over the next year include selecting a credible U.S. Senatorial candidate early and getting that candidate on the ballot. This Senate slot is the only statewide position up for election in 1992 in Illinois. He also hopes—after the Illinois legislature completes its redistricting based on the 1990 census results—to locate a U.S. House district where the LP might do well and to encourage a credible LP candidate there. Steve says that several serious LP political campaigns have been an important reason for recent membership growth in the state.

Steve began a career of libertarian activism while an undergraduate at Northwestern in

(continued on page 4)

Skousen Launches LP's Tax Cut Action! Project on Tax Day

Financial economist Mark Skousen has been named honorary chairman of *Tax Cut Action!*, a project of the Libertarian Party aimed at "making real progress in cutting the tax burden placed on all Americans."

The project was publicly unveiled on April 15th, and Skousen said the project hopes to make "April 15ths of the future a little less frustrating." A letter, signed by Skousen, went out to LP members in late March to solicit support for the new project.

"We can talk and talk about why taxes are wrong, but now the Libertarian Party is really doing something about it," Skousen said.

The project will develop tax reduction initiatives to place on ballots across the country, solicit

sponsorship of suitable tax reduction bills in the Congress, and offer support to any congressional bills or state or local initiative efforts that already exist.

One of the project's first efforts will be in opposition to a move in the Texas state legislature to institute a state income tax.

In addition to Skousen, the Tax Cut Action Committee boasts leading Illinois anti-tax activist Jim Tobin as project director; Ron Paul; Roy E. Cordato, a Washington D.C. economist; Nancy Lord, 1990 candidate for D.C. mayor; Sandi Webb, Libertarian city councilwoman from California; and Libertarians Jimmy Blake, Mike Ford, June Genis, Toby Nixon, and Bill Winter—all active in local anti-tax organizations.

Leadership Program Poll Shows Strong Interest

by Janet Parkes

Last fall, a survey to see if there was a perceived need for a "leadership program for libertarians" was distributed at the Future of Freedom Conference and through the APC News. The results have been tabulated and are summarized as follows.

In all, there were 36 respondents, and an overwhelming number believed there was a need for more libertarian leaders, along with better quality libertarian leaders. Thirty-three of the 35 respondents (92%) indicated 'yes' to the question of whether they saw a need for more libertarian leaders. To the question on whether they saw a need for better quality leaders, 32 of the 33 respondents (97%) indicated yes.

On the issue of how important a leadership program was, more than half (64%) believed it to be of #1 importance, while 82% believed it to be of a combined first, second or third importance. The true test, however, is whether anyone is truly interested in either attending a leadership program, or is willing to work on it. Twenty-six (79%) said they would attend such a program and 28 (78%) volunteered to work on a specific leadership program subcommittee or be a speaker. I also got many respondents wishing to put on such a program in their area or state.

Some of the interesting results from the questionnaire were the perceptions on who the libertarian and Libertarian Party leaders were. Although thirty-nine individuals were identified as party leaders, the following were mentioned the most often, in order of the number of times mentioned: Dave Walter, Andre Marrou, Mary Gingell, Don Ernsberger, Ron Paul, David Bergland, Nick Dunbar, Karen Allard and Alicia Clark.

The following were mentioned most often as leaders of the libertarian movement: Ron Paul, Milton Friedman, Andre Marrou, Ed Crane/CATO, Bob Poole/Reason Foundation, Walter Williams, Marshall Fritz, and Karl Hess. For

most inspirational speakers, Marshall Fritz, Gene Burns and Andre Marrou tied as most often mentioned, followed by Russell Means, Bob Waldrop and Dick Boddie. Non-Libertarians that were admired for their leadership were Milton Friedman, Margaret Thatcher, Walter Williams, Pat Buchanan and Bill Buckley.

In response to the question of what were important qualities of a leader there were 62 qualities listed, more than any one person could embody. The ones that were most important or listed most often were: vision, integrity, honesty, communication, ability/articulateness, sensitivity to others, ability to motivate, ability to communicate a vision of success, sincerity, knowledgeable, and productive or hard worker.

I would like to thank all of you who took the time to fill out and return the questionnaire. There will be a planning meeting at the NatCom meeting in Atlanta (April 27-28) and I will be in communication with all those who volunteered. Anyone else who is interested can contact me.

I think there is no more opportune time than now to prepare libertarians to assume the role of political and political philosophy leaders. Our country, along with the whole world, is going through major changes, and libertarians have the political philosophy that best allows for individual freedom and fulfillment. The question will be whether libertarians are willing to stand up and be counted as leaders. From what I have seen and from the results of this questionnaire, I believe the answer is yes.

Janet Parkes is Region 3 alternate to the National Committee & a member of the Internal Education Committee. She also chairs the Tri-Cities (Midland, Bay City & Saginaw, Michigan) Chamber of Commerce Leadership Training Seminar Alumni Group, which provides a networking opportunity to business & community leaders, sponsors skill-building workshops & discussions of community management problems, & hosts social events for its members.

Interstate Networking

WELCOME NEW CHAIRS... Paul Smith, Oregon; Mary Callan, Colorado; Steve Reed, Illinois; Rick Sincere, Virginia; and Acting Chair Lauren Coppennoll, Idaho. Congratulations and thanks for taking on such a crucial job! Thanks also to outgoing chairs Eve Berry, Keith Hamburger, Sue Walton, Bill Redpath and Donovan Bramwell for your hard work and dedication during your terms. Congratulations to Chairs Dan Karlan and Jimmy Blake who were re-elected in New Jersey and Alabama.

STATE CHAIRS: If you have not yet done so, please remember to send the following information to Affiliate Campaigns Committee Chair Steve Dasbach: the names, addresses and phone numbers of any Libertarians holding elected or appointed office in your state; a list of the offices being contested in your state in the 1991 elections and the date of the elections; and the names, addresses and phone numbers of any 1991 declared Libertarian candidates.

MEDIA HANDBOOK AVAILABLE... By the time you receive this, the new Media Handbook, developed for state media directors or other interested members, should be available. The handbook offers hints on how to write better press releases and tips for getting them published, as well as samples of good and bad releases. Please contact MKR Associates if you would like to receive one.

LIBERTY LINE: 1-900-4-LIBERTY... We hope many of you have taken the opportunity to call the LP's "900" number. Remember, the message, the letter-to-your-representative, the legislative hot-line, and updates of LP activities are changed monthly, so please call again, and don't forget to let others know about this new and valuable service!

APRIL EDITION OF LP DIRECTORY IN MAIL... By the time you read this newsletter, the April edition of the Libertarian Party Directory will be in the mail. We have tried to redesign the directory to be easier to read and use. This edition is being sent to all state and local chairs, staff and contractors for whom we have an address, as well as all National Committee members and national staff and contractors. Several times a year, we issue an updated edition to this group of people. The entire directory list for whom we have addresses will receive our next edition early this fall after most of the state conventions and the National Convention have been held.

If you would like to receive a copy of the April edition, but are not on the listed mentioned above, extra copies are available. Request your copy from Affiliate Parties Chair Mary Gingell.

Help Spread the News!

Rewards Paid for Clippings

We are in need of good clippings for use in *Liberty Pledge Newsletter*, a monthly publication for members of the LP's monthly pledge program. We know many state and local LP activities and candidates are getting coverage, so please help us share the news and give LP members a better sense of LP activity across the country. Published letters-to-the-editor can also be submitted. Clippings (originals or good copies) should be sent to the LPHQ, Attn: Liberty Pledge Newsletter. Please include the name, city, and state of the newspaper, and date the clipping appeared. If your clipping is used, you will receive a \$10 gift certificate to use towards any LP literature or other materials available from the HQ, as well as some well-deserved publicity for your local LP's efforts.

Long-time Party Activists, More Recent Converts Are Among Newly-Elected State LP Chairs

(continued from page 1)

Evanston, Ill. At Northwestern, he was one of the principal organizers of the largest campus rally in the country for the 1980 Ed Clark for President campaign. The Northwestern libertarian club gathered a record 500 people on a Friday afternoon.

Steve had discovered libertarian ideas during his first year of college (1977) when he happened upon the movie "The Fountainhead," which is based on a novel by Ayn Rand. Seeing the film led him to read Rand's books. Then, after overcoming some initial hesitation, he joined the LP.

During the 1980 national ballot drive effort, Steve led a squad of petitioning "foot soldiers." He vividly remembers keeping his group in Maryland together by doling out the contents of a case of Piels beer at a point when money from the national campaign was short. Eventually, the LPs of Iowa and then of Illinois elected Steve to party posts. During 1987-89, Steve served as northern vice chair of the Illinois LP. One of his projects was helping several campus groups stay alive and active.

During the 1980s, Steve devoted considerable time as publisher and as editor to *Nomos* magazine, a bi-monthly with 500 subscribers and the only libertarian magazine published in the Midwest.

COLORADO

When elected state LP chair on March 24, Mary Callan was already a veteran party leader in Colorado. She was first elected as the CLP state chair in 1988, a busy Presidential election year. That year, she helped the ballot drive effort, gave public speeches, helped organize presidential campaign rallies, and campaigned for all LP candidates. She says that the publicity and exposure that the LP gained during the election season was "unprecedented," and she attributes this success largely to "an excellent team effort from the party."

Mary was re-elected in 1989 as state chair. She increased contacts with the State House and Senate and testified on bills of particular interest to Libertarians. That spring, she made the Colorado LP a party to the Colorado Union of Taxpayers lawsuit against Gov. Roy R. Romer. The suit—though ultimately unsuccessful—charged that Governor Romer had illegally channeled tax money into an election campaign to defeat a tax limitation initiative. Mary also participated in the preliminary drafting in 1989 of the 1990 tax limitation initiative in Colorado and gave lectures promoting libertarian ideals on several campuses. At the end of 1989, she resigned her party position because of unexpected personal circumstances.

Mary is currently working on her Ph.D. in herbicide research at Colorado State University. She says she first became aware that her convictions were libertarian when at age 14 she read Robert Ringer's *Restoring the American Dream*. She says that one of the most refreshing and inspiring things about working in the LP is working with "dedicated people who are devoted to their principles." Among her goals as state LP chair are:

- Lobbying, testifying on bills, and meeting with elected officials in the state capitol;
- Frequent speaking engagements at schools and universities to promote libertarian ideals;
- Participation in an active membership drive;
- Personal contact with the news media and frequent news releases; and
- Early recruitment of LP candidates for the upcoming election, concentrating on small local races.

OREGON

On April 7, Oregon Libertarians decided that one year was a long enough vacation from Libertarian officialdom for vascular surgeon Dr. Paul Smith. They brought Paul back for a third term

(continued on page 5)

New State Chairs

(continued from page 4)

as state LP chair. He was not the incumbent, but had been the party's chair from 1988 to 1990. Paul worked actively in the LP's successful 1989 lobbying effort to liberalize Oregon's ballot access laws, which had been among the most exclusionary in the country.

In 1990, Paul worked on the Oregon educational choice initiative, which received 36% of the vote (though at one point it had the support of 54% in an opinion poll). Most recently, Paul led the final push in a lobbying effort that successfully convinced the state's governor to veto a bill that would have required the nominees of minor parties to have been a member of that party for one year. Paul also does frequent interviews on radio and television.

Paul is one of the group that founded the Oregon LP in 1972. He came across libertarian political views for the first time in 1968 in a book of Ayn Rand's in a Syracuse public library. At the time, he was going to medical school at Syracuse University, after having gone to Cornell as an undergraduate.

Paul says, "It's going to be a good year in Oregon this year." His goals for 1991-92 include:

- Consolidate the party's growth;
- Pick an initiative campaign to concentrate on (perhaps term limits or jury nullification); and
- Make sure the Oregon party has a strong delegation at the national convention in Chicago.

VIRGINIA

In mid-April, the Virginia LP chose Rick Sincere as its chair in an uncontested election. Rick lives in Arlington, but works in Washington, D.C. where he is on the public affairs staff of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. There he edits the center's newsletter, writes news releases, and arranges news conferences. Rick did his undergraduate work at Georgetown University and has an M.A. in international

relations from the London School of Economics.

Rick is a relative newcomer to the libertarian movement. He describes himself as a former neo-conservative and says his earlier political beliefs stemmed from his work during and after college for the neo-conservative Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington. He has also done freelance work for the U.S. Institute of Peace, the Heritage Foundation, the Capital Research Center, and the International Freedom Foundation.

Rick credits the seminars and luncheons of the Cato Institute, a libertarian think-tank in Washington, for making him more aware of the libertarian alternative. He says he also came to better understand and appreciate free market programs while researching and writing his book *Sowing the Seeds of Free Enterprise*, a study of economic policy in 7 African countries. According to Rick, the economic writings of P.T. Bauer and Jane Jacobs were an important inspiration both for his book and his libertarian political beliefs.

Rick helped write a newspaper ad for the 1990 Nancy Lord for Mayor campaign in Washington, D.C., ran as an independent candidate endorsed by the LP in 1991 in a special election for a seat in the Virginia House of Delegates (where he polled 3.7% in a three-way race), and is currently working on the Paul Gagnon for County Supervisor race in Fairfax County.

Rick hopes as state LP chair to make effective use of his skills in working with the news media to promote public awareness of the LP's activities. His goals as state LP chair include:

- Doubling the membership of the state party;
- Getting a credible gubernatorial candidate on the ballot (which will require 15,000 signatures on a petition); and
- Visiting all the principal towns in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Bill Evers is a former chair of the LP of California. He was the national campaign manager of the 1984 LP Presidential campaign.

★ DIRECTORY FOR THIS ISSUE ★

Affiliate Parties Committee Chair

Mary Gingell
441 Mundell Way
Los Altos, CA 94022-1118
(415) 949-1465
CompuServe: 70531, 3617

**Affiliate Parties Comm. Vice-Chair &
Affiliate Campaign Committee Chair**

Stephen L. Dasbach
4523 Morning Wind Place
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
(219) 432-7145 (h)
CompuServe: 76060, 3222

Colorado Libertarian Party Chair

Mary Callan
966 Shire Court
Ft. Collins, CO 80526

Bill Evers

441 Mundell Way
Los Altos, CA 94022-1118
(415) 949-1465 (h)
(415) 723-4148 (o)

Libertarian Party of Idaho Chair

Lauren Coppernoll
4050 W. Lake Hazel Road
Meridian, ID 83642
(208) 887-1272

Libertarian Party of Illinois Chair

Steve Reed
P.O. Box 11296
Chicago, IL 60644
(312) 764-5828 (h)

Libertarian Party of Oregon Chair

Paul Smith
2850 Vibbert, South
Salem, OR 97302
(503) 370-9534 (h)

Libertarian Party of Virginia Chair

Rick Sincere
1300 S. Arlington Ridge Rd., #307
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 920-4023 (h)
(202) 775-3175 (o)

Libertarian Party Nat'l Headquarters

Nick Dunbar, National Director
1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20003
(202) 543-1988
FAX: (202) 546-6094
CompuServe: 76177, 2310
MCI Mail: 345-5647

MKR Associates

Me-Me King
c/o Limit, P.O. Box 98003
Tacoma, WA 98498
(206) 581-9189 (voice & FAX)

Kathleen J. Richman
3490 Beaver Ford Rd.
Woodbridge, VA 22192
(703) 551-0026 (h & o)

FAX: same number; just call ahead

Janet Parkes

1778 Jefferson
Midland, MI 48640
(517) 631-7396 (h)
(517) 631-9737 (o)



THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY
AFFILIATE PARTIES COMMITTEE
1528 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, SE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Washington, D.C.
Permit No. 3136

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED