

California Libertarian News

Volume 6, Number 1

April 1991

THE BILL OF RIGHTS IS COMING TO TOWN

The Bill of Rights is going on tour from the Virginia State Library and Archives in celebration of its 200th Anniversary. The first ten amendments to the Constitution, including freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures, etc., were ratified on December 15, 1791. An ac-

tual original copy will be in San Francisco from April 25 to April 29 and then in Los Angeles from May 8 to May 12.

The San Francisco exhibition will be at Fort Mason Center, Buchanan St. at Marina Blvd. Hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. It was unknown at press time whether Bay Area Libertarians were planning any special festivities. For information, call John Whisman at (415) 921-6008.

The Los Angeles exhibition will be at the Shrine Auditorium, 649 W. Jefferson Blvd. Hours are also 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Southern California Libertarians will hold a day of mourning on Saturday, May 11 lamenting the demise of the Bill of Rights. Our precious freedoms have been gradually eroded by all three branches of government. Only the 3rd Amendment, stating that

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soldiers cannot be quartered in our homes, is fully intact. 200 spaces have been reserved to view the historic document at 10 a.m. The group will meet (in funeral garb) at 9 a.m. at the Shrine Auditorium.

Afterwards there will be a brunch at Margarita Jones Restaurant, 3760 South Figueroa St., in Los An-

geles. Supporters of presidential contenders Andre Marrou and Dick Boddie will debate the attributes of their candidates. Former presidential nominees John Hospers, Ed Clark, and David Bergland have been invited to participate. Cost for program only is \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door. Proceeds will go to promote free media opportunities for Los Angeles area Libertarians. For reservations, contact LPC-SFV, 6324 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028, or phone (213) 465-3445 extension 208.

For more information about the Bill of Rights tour, which is sponsored by the Philip Morris Companies, or to make your separate reservation, call 1-800-231-7000.

CLNews

LIBERTARIANS APPOINTED TO CITY COMMISSIONS

While city councils are the most powerful bodies in California cities, there are numerous appointed boards and commissions in each city that exercise some influence over our lives and can give their members public spotlight for future runs for elective office. Four Libertarians have recently been appointed to such commissions.

In Simi Valley (Ventura County), voters elected Libertarian Sandi Webb to the city council in November. Now two other Libertarians will serve on Neighborhood Councils, which have responsibility for looking at development projects. The two councilors will be Aaron Starr and Michelle Kurtz, both CPAs and former treasurers of the Libertarian Party of California. Aaron, who was Sandi Webb's campaign manager, states that the positions don't hold too much power, but they put their occupants in the limelight. Aaron intends to run for city council in 1992.

Also in Ventura County, Libertarian Joe Hlajek was appointed to the Thousand Oaks Cable Commission. This body says "yes" or "no" to the city's cable franchise, which comes up for review each year. Joe is well-qualified for the position. He is a CPA and a controller for a cable company.

In Chico (Butte County), **Mike Skram** was appointed to a four-year term on the city's Affirmative Action Committee. Mike had been an unsuccessful candidate for city council, so he believes that he was "thrown a bone" by the victors. He will be one of those responsible for enforcing federal and state-mandated affirmative action plans. The committee members meet quarterly and review semi-annual reports by personnel officers. Due to the demographics of Chico, having only one black city employee meets the requirement for hiring minority workers! Mike will be trying to educate the other committee members about libertarian perspectives.

FROM THE CHAIR



Pat Wright

I'm glad to report that the push to double our membership has already started. My living room is currently cluttered with mailing material for a mailing to about 3,200 past members and high quality inquiries. I'm grateful that future

mailings will be big enough to use a mailing house. I also appreciate that members of the Executive Committee and the LPC in general are serious about our doubling membership this year to over 4,000 members.

One reason for the high morale in the Executive Committee is the outstanding caliber of people currently serving on it. I would like to thank Gail Lightfoot and Kim Goldsworthy, my opponents for the chairmanship, for staying on the ExecCom. Three other past chairs—John Vernon, Ted Brown, and Mark Hinkle—are also serving, making this the best ExecCom we could possibly hope for.

Besides doing the membership mailings, I am happy to report that the LPC will be running an anti-IRS television commercial just before April 15. This is the commercial developed by David Nolan that contrasts the pro-liberty sentiments of our Founding Fathers with the present-day IRS. The commercial ends with the 1040 form being torn apart and the Libertarian Party logo and toll-free number. The ad is set to run in San Jose, Los Angeles, Orange County, and San Diego.

Also on the good news front, Orange County is going to restart their supper club. And thanks to Brian Knott, the LP will soon have an active chapter in Humboldt County. One thing I would like to do as chair is to help the local regions. If you are living in an area that doesn't have a county newsletter or a monthly meeting, please call me at (619) 497-1085 and we'll make it happen.

TAX PROTEST DAY - APRIL 15

Each April 15 Libertarians across the nation protest the federal income tax. The best places for such protests are post offices that are open until the midnight deadline for mailing the 1040 forms. The news media expects these protests and are usually on hand to give us some footage on the evening news. Signs such as "Honk if you hate taxes" are popular with frustrated taxpayers. For information on tax protests in your area, contact your county chair (see page 7).

THE LETTER-A-MONTH CLUB

by Paul King

Writing letters to the editor is without a doubt the most cost-effective way of reaching the most people for the least money. These letters are important in influencing both the general population and decision makers.

Studies indicate that letters to the editor are the most widely read part of the newspaper—surpassing the funnies, sports, or even the front page! Those who favor big government have long used this section to advance their agenda. It's time for Libertarians to start fighting fire with fire.

What makes this approach so exciting is the advent of the computer and the FAX machine. With these innovations, we can replicate a letter to numerous papers (along with radio and TV stations) for a nominal cost. The San Diego LP has been doing this with success, but there is a great need to expand the effort.

If you are interested in writing to the papers directly, a form letter is acceptable, but using the personalized mail merge option on word processors allows you to prepare a letter addressed to each paper, thus increasing your chance of publication.

If you want to inexpensively send a letter to the media, send a FAX or hard copy of the letter to the San Diego LP office, where it will be re-FAXed using the database of media FAX numbers here in California. Make the letter generic, and do not put a date on it so there can be some latitude as to which day it is sent.

The letter must be reasonably libertarian in content. Letters that include the word "libertarian" are especially welcome. Be sure in any letter to give your name, address and phone number, as some papers like to check the validity of authorship.

For more information contact the Libertarian Party of San Diego, P. O. Box 16449, San Diego, CA 92176, phone (619) 276-1776.

Is he a Democrat or a Republican? CROCK By Bill Rechin and Don Wilder



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LIBERTARIANS SEEK FULLY INFORMED JURIES

Supporters of the Fully Informed Jury Amendment (FIJA) kicked off their signature drive on March 9 in Carmel. They have until July 4 to collect the 611,195 valid signatures required to put the measure on the June 2, 1992 primary ballot. Elsewhere in this issue is a full page of details about the initiative, plus a petition form. At minimum, please sign the petition yourself, plus sign as the circulator of the petition, and send it back to FIJA headquarters. If you can, get your family and friends to sign the other four spaces. Every signature counts. For more petitions, contact FIJA, 24828 Canyon View Ct., Hayward, CA 94541, phone (415) 889-1544.

HEMP LEGALIZATION INTIATIVE IN CIRCULATION

The California Hemp Initiative is now in circulation. This measure would repeal marijuana prohibition in California and restore hemp (the non-leafy portion of the marijuana plant) to its rightful and traditional place in the state's commerce.

Sponsors believe that the re-introduction of the hemp industry into California will create thousands of new jobs, add billions of dollars to the state's economy, and aid in restoring ecological balance to California's environment.

Instead of focusing on legalizing marijuana, supporters of such a move have switched their sights to a more salable concept. For example, all pressed board and paper products can be made using hemp fiber and pulp instead of wood. Little or no toxic chemicals are needed to make hemp paper products. Thus, hemp is the only resource that can save jobs in the Northern California timber regions. Other benefits of hemp, such as clean energy, nutrition, and medicine will be brought into the debate.

381,997 valid signatures are needed by July to qualify this measure for the June 2, 1992 primary ballot. Hemp petitioners are carrying the FIJA petitions with them as well. Send for blank petition forms, or mail your contribution to HEMP, 5632 Van Nuys Blvd., suite 210, Van Nuys, CA 91401, phone (213) 392-1806 or (818) 377-5886.

NOTABLE QUOTE

"Don't ever undervalue who or what you are . . . Just the ability to leave everything you once had behind, to stand naked in front of a group of people asking to be their representative, is something that separates you from 99% of the population from the beginning."

> —Assemblyman Mike Roos (D-Los Angeles) to his colleagues after he resigned from his seat

LIBERTARIANS FILE FREE SPEECH INITIATIVE

In 1990 San Francisco Libertarians sponsored a successful advisory initiative urging the legalization of hypodermic syringes to combat AIDS transmission between intravenous drug users. The measure was widely criticized by politicians and health bureaucrats, but the voters agreed with us that people should be able to buy syringes over the counter.

Now Libertarians have filed a new proposal: The First Amendment Initiative. If enough signatures are collected, it will appear on the November 5, 1991 ballot. The city attorney's summary of the initiative reads as follows:

This measure is a declaration of policy that would affirm the people of San Francisco's unqualified support for the First Amendment. The measure opposes all government efforts to regulate or restrict any form of speech. The measure calls on the state and city governments to cease and desist from all restrictions on speech. It asks that no city funds be used in a manner contrary to the measure. The measure would ordain that San Francisco's community standards are diversity, tolerance, and the rejection of all forms of censorship.

Your contributions for qualifying this proposal for the ballot are welcome. Please send your check to First Amendment Coalition, 1800 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102. For more information, call (415) 864-0952.

CLNews



THE BUCHANAN BICENTENNIAL

James Buchanan, the 15th President of the U. S. (1857-61), was born April 23, 1791, making this month the bicentennial celebration of his birth. The bachelor Pennsylvanian was by no means a libertarian, but he *did*

do very little as president. One important accomplishment was trying to avoid the bloody Civil War through compromise. He stepped aside after one term. At Lincoln's inauguration on March 4, 1861, Buchanan told his successor, "My dear sir, if you are as happy in entering the White House as I shall feel on returning to Wheatland, you are a happy man, indeed." He died in 1868.

California Libertarian News is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions and articles contained within do not necessarily represent official party positions unless so indicated. Please send articles, local news, photos, letters, and advertising copy to the editor: Ted Brown, 125 N. Allen Ave. #107, Pasadena, CA 91106 (818) 568–8404

READER SURVEY SHOWS SOME PRO-WAR FEELINGS

Last month we ran a reader survey on the war in the Persian Gulf. Five questions were asked to determine the views of individual California Libertarians on this controversial issue. The party has officially condemned President Bush's actions in the Middle East.

62 responses have been received. 34 readers were pro-war and 28 anti-war. This is by no means a scientific survey, as those who disagree with the editorial position are more likely to respond than those who agree.

All but one reader agreed with the statement, "I condemn Saddam Hussein's invasion and occupation of Kuwait." Two were undecided and one did not respond. The second statement was, "President Bush should never have sent any U. S. troops to Saudi Arabia." 34 agreed and 28 disagreed. The third statement was "I oppose the war against Iraq (Operation Desert Storm) and want our troops to be withdrawn immediately." 31 agreed and 31 disagreed. The fourth statement was "I am glad that the Libertarian Party steadfastly supports our troops by demanding their immediate return to the U. S." 32 agreed and 29 disagreed.

Finally, on the issue of "President Bush should be impeached and removed from office," only 24 agreed. 36 disagreed and two were undecided. Robert Hoffman of Newbury Park wrote, "Why bother impeaching, we'll just get another one."

Most anti-war respondents did not offer comments. Among those that did are:

"Motivated by the front-page article in the January 1991 CL News, I wrote (an anti-war) letter to the editor. In response, I received two anonymous phone calls—one telling me I should be ashamed and one death threat . . . I guess the war issue brought them 'out of the woodwork'."

—Becky Cecena, Pine Valley, CA

"Bush should be treated as any other mass murderer, preferably in a state that has a hanging judge and enforces capital punishment."

—Dolyne Keller, Red Bluff, CA

"Please get all those yellow ribbons and U. S. flags out of my face!"

-from Riverside, CA

Pro-war Libertarians had quite a bit to say on the subject, and few were complimentary of the official Libertarian Party position:

"The LP's official stand against American involvement in the Persian Gulf is not the only valid Libertarian position. Those Libertarians who do not concur with the LP leadership's position should know that they are not alone, that this is still their party, too...

No knowledgeable observer would argue that Bush had no ulterior motives, that control of Middle East politics and crude oil production were not elements in his decision-making. But the self-serving motivations of the politicians in power do not negate the legitimacy of the actions they took. They did the right thing, although perhaps for the wrong reasons.

Taking sides in internal conflicts within other countries is inexcusable. But taking a strong position in favor of liberty in the international sphere is something else entirely. Some of us who love freedom are willing to fight for it, as were our Founding Fathers. For this I am profoundly grateful."

—Bonnie Flickinger, Moreno Valley, CA

"Libertarians are looking more like wimps every day."

—from San Diego, CA

"Remember Neville Chamberlain's screw-up? Unfortunately, they've got the oil and we need it. Pragmatism over philosophy any day!"

-from Chatsworth, CA

"I joined this party because I want to see big government severely restricted. But this does not mean I want to abandon the planet or the country to the mercies of any sociopathic tyrant who is willing to inflict any amount of cruelty and destruction to satisfy his lust for power and/or money . . ."

> —Carolyn Capps, Vista, CA

"I am not bothered that we do not agree intellectually on this issue. I am extremely bothered that the party takes to the streets in company of idealistic but irrational protest groups... All the people to whom I regularly preach the Libertarian fiscal message accuse me now of consorting with kooks..."

—William Siebold, San Diego, CA

"For the first time in nearly two decades I am ashamed to be an LP member. Two of the five unity points that you accepted from the socialist L. A. Coalition are clearly anti-Zionist and anti-Israel... In today's political climate, the minority nations are not considered to be Kurds or Armenians, but rather the terrorist PLO which supports Saddam. Israel deserves security. I will not renew my membership and that is painful."

-from Cypress, CA

"To be a libertarian is not to be an isolationist . . . The extremist opinions and alliances that the LP chose to exercise their opposition to any kind of intervention were regrettable . . . I think it would have been much better to let individual libertarians express themselves independently on the issue, and to have the party report thoughtfully and with some reflection on the opinions expressed."

—Elwood A. Anderson, Santa Barbara, CA

"... helping a friendly country in the face of such an attack is not obviously wrong. Indeed, that we helped to create the problem gives us some of the responsibility for helping those victims of Saddam outside his country "."

—from Berkeley, CA

"If government has any proper function, it is the protection of human rights, and assault on political tyrannies. However, we need better alternatives/solutions."

-from Orinda, CA

INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE VOTERS

The Attorney General of California has prepared the following title and summary of the chief points and purposes of the proposed measure:

JURIES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Amends constitution to provide that "Whenever state or local government is one of the parties in any trial by jury, the court must inform the jurors that in addition to their responsibility to judge the facts of the case, they have the inherent right to judge the law itself." Declares the purpose of amendment to be to affirm the jury right to determine if laws applicable are unjust or misapplied, and to vote according to conscience. Provides that affected juries shall be allowed to hear evidence concerning the defendant's motives. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: The fiscal impact is unknown because it is not possible to predict how the measure would change jury decisions.

To The Honorable Secretary of State of California:

SECTION I. PURPOSE OF ACT: CONSTRUCTION.

The purpose of this Act is to assure that jurors are made aware of:

(a) The jurors' inherent right to judge whether the law or laws applicable to the case being tried are unjust or misapplied.

(b) The jurors' traditional right to vote according to conscience.

To this end, juries affected by this Act shall be allowed to hear evidence concerning the defendant's motives. This Act shall be construed liberally to effect its purposes.

SECTION II. Article I of the Constitution of the State of California is amended by adding a Section 29 that reads:

"JURY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

SECTION 29

Whenever state or local government is one of the parties in any trial by jury, the court must inform the jurors that in addition to their responsibility to judge the facts of the case, they have the inherent right to judge the law itself."

NOTICE TO PUBLIC: THIS PETITION MAY BE CIRCULATED BY A PAID SIGNATURE GATHERER OR A VOLUNTEER. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK.

This column for official use only

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FIJA California 24828 Canyon View Ct. Hayward, CA 94541

DECLARATION OF CIRCULATOR	OR (to be completed after signatures on reverse have been gathered)
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(addressstreet address onlynot PO Box) I circulated this section of the petition and saw each of best of my information and belief, the genuine signature.	(city) (state) (zip) f the appended signatures being written. Each signature on this petition is, to the person whose name it purports to be. All signatures on this document
were obtained between the dates of	and
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the	onth, day, year) e State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.
	(Complete signature of circulatorinclude middle name or initial.)
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(month and day)	(Place of signing)
INSTR	UCTIONS TO CIRCULATOR:
1. Circulator must be a registered voter and must fill out, sign and d	ate the Declaration of Circulator in his/her own hand.

2. All signers on a single petition sheet must be registered to vote in the same county. The county name must be filled in at the top.

4. The number of signatures on each section of the petition is at the pleasure of the circulator.

3. Signer must fill in all information completely and legibly in pen. Residence address must enable location to be readily ascertained (no P.O. Boxes).

4. After completing this pre-addressed declaration and petition, fold in thirds, seal with enclosed peal-off sticker, stamp and mail.

NOW YOU CAN HELP REINSTATE THE JURY AS THE CITIZENS' SAFEGUARD OF LIBERTY



FIJA CALIFORNIA NEEDS YOUR HELP TO GUARANTEE EVERY JUROR KNOWS THE TRUTH!

"I consider trial by jury as the only anchor yet imagined by man, by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution."-- Thomas Jefferson (1789)

The Fully Informed Jury Amendment to the California State Constitution has now been filed as an initiative measure. FIJA requires judges resume the practice of informing jurors about their inherent right and responsibility to judge whether a law is unjust or unjustly applied in a particular case. FIJA requires that defendants motives be admissible as evidence, and would reaffirm the jury's authority to acquit or convict according to the dictates of conscience.

"Jury nullification of the law" is a traditional right dating back to the Magna Carta and was intended by America's founding fathers as the final test a law must pass before it gains the authority to punish violators.

John Adams, our nation's second president, in 1771 said of the jury, "it is not only his right, but his duty...to find the verdict according to his own best understanding, judgment, and conscience, though in direct opposition to the direction of the court. (74, Yale Law Journal, 1964:73)

In a historic Supreme Court civil forfeiture jury trial, first Chief Justice John Jay instructed the jury that the facts of the case had been determined and the only judgment remaining for the jury to make was upon the law itself. "The jury has the right to judge both the law as well as the fact in controversy." (Georgia vs. Brailsford, 1794:4.)

The trial jury's veto power continues to be recognized by the state Constitutions of Maryland and Indiana. And, "[the jury has an] unreviewable and irreversible power...to acquit in disregard of the instruction on the law given by the trial judge...The pages of history shine on instances of the jury's exercise of its prerogative to disregard instructions of the judge; for example, acquittals under the fugitive slave law." (U.S. Court of Appeals, 1972, 473 F.2d, 1130.)

Jury veto power decided the seditious libel trial of Peter Zenger in 1735, and is celebrated as a hallmark of freedom of the press in America. Colonial juries' refusal to enforce forfeitures under the English Navigation Acts is another example. And jury nullification in liquor law trials was a major contributing factor in ending alcohol prohibition.

Informed juries provide ever-evolving feedback to legislatures and protect minorities from, in James Madison's words, "the body of the people, operating by the majority against the minority." Even in an era of a hysterical majority empowered juries will assure that the government can exercise no powers over the people without the unanimous consent of twelve jurors.

Due to special interest pressure, juries have been misinformed of their right to judge law as well as fact for almost 100 years. Jurors now swear in their oaths to judge only the facts of the case according to the the law as dictated to them by the judge. No officer of the court is allowed to tell jurors of their power to say no to unjust laws. In most cases juries are no longer allowed to hear the defendant's motives.

Trial by jury is trial by the people. When juries are not allowed to judge the law it becomes trial by government. If juries are not allowed to judge the the justice of the law they can not protect the people from the oppressions of government because, as history has shown, government may authorize any oppression by law.

"If a juror accepts as the law that which the judge states then that juror has accepted the exercise of absolute authority of a government employee and has surrendered a power and right that once was the citizen's safeguard of liberty, — for the saddest epitaph which can be carved in memory of a vanished liberty is that it was lost because its possessors failed to stretch forth a saving hand while there was time." [2 Elliots Debates, 94, Bancroft, History of the Constitution, 267, 1788.]

Join these patriots who defended jury rights: William Penn, John Hancock, John Adams, first Chief Justice John Jay, Alexander Hamilton, Samual Chase, Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Paine...

Initiative Measure to be Submitted Directly to the Voters SECTION I. PURPOSE OF ACT: CONSTRUCTION.

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I want to circulate petitions for the California FIJA initiative
to be submitted to the voters. Circulation begins March 1, 1991 and
continues until we have gathered 700,000 signatures.
I can help organize my county.
I am unable to gather signatures so I am contributing:\$10\$50\$100\$250\$500\$1000Other \$ to keep signature gatherers supplied.
I am a member of an organization which would benefit from FIJA, call me at: (phone)
Name:
Address:
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FIJA 24828 Canyon View Ct.

California Hayward, CA 94541 (415) 889-1544

BILLS WE NEED TO OPPOSE:

State legislators propose thousands of laws every year, and most of them violate libertarian principles. We have listed some of those that we are aware of. To express your oppositon (or support), write to your State Senator or State Assemblyman at State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814.

SB 712 by Senator Bill Lockyer (D-Hayward) would make it a misdemeanor to sell tickets to a box office event for more than the box office price (scalping). The penalty would be up to one year in the county jail or a fine up to \$5,000 or both.

SCA 11 by Senator Becky Morgan (R-Los Altos Hills) would require only a simple majority vote for approval of local capital construction bond issues (instead of the current two-thirds requirement).

SB 386 by Senator Lucy Killea (R-San Diego) would increase the penalty for laundering illegal drug profits to include a mandatory fine of \$250,000 or twice the value of the proceeds for each offense.

SB 387 by Senator Dan McCorquodale (D-San Jose) would place a \$300 million bond issue for acquisition and improvement of parks and recreational facilities on the June 1992 ballot.

SCA 13 by Senator Leroy Greene (D-Carmichael) would authorize school districts to impose a special tax with majority vote to finance construction or reconstruction of school facilities.

AB 1275 by Assemblywoman Jackie Speier (D-South San Francisco) would require fast food outlets to list the nutritional value of all items on their menus.

AB 1068 by Assemblyman Steve Clute (D-Riverside) would increase the per-day fine from \$10 to \$100 for the late filing of campaign contribution disclosure reports. AB 926 by Assemblywoman Gwen Moore (D-Los Angeles) would ban the sale of noisy leaf blowers in California.

... and, two bills to support:

SB 661 by Senator Frank Hill (R-Whittier) would require the attorney general's ballot pamphlet summary of proposed initiatives to report the fiscal impact on private businesses.

Hill also has introduced a bill to ban the use of photo radar by cities as a means of catching speeders. The bill number was not available at press time.

RESERVE YOUR NATIONAL CONVENTION PACKAGE!

The Libertarian Party's 1991 Presidential Nominating Convention will be held August 29 through September 1 at the Downtown Chicago Marriott, 540 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois. Convention packages are available at a 25% discount if ordered before May 1. The discounted rates are \$142.50, \$215, or \$265 depending on how many activities you may wish to attend. For more information, contact "Liberty Triumphant," P. O. Box 0848, Chicago, IL 60690, or call (708) 475-0391.

Since the hotel is \$89 per night, California Libertarians are trying to get groups of people together to share larger suites. If you are interested in such an arrangement, contact Kim Goldsworthy at (818) 280-5644.

CLNews

NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES SELECTED

The following is a list of Californians who will serve as delegates to the Libertarian Party's Presidential Nominating Convention in Chicago.

EX-OFFICIO DELEGATES: Mary Gingell, National vice-chair; Steve Alexander, NatCom member; George O'Brien, NatCom member; Geoffrey Neale, NatCom member; John Hospers, former presidential nominee; David Bergland, former vice-presidential and presidential nominee; Ed Clark, former presidential nominee; Jim Lewis, former vice-presidential nominee

116 ELECTED DELEGATES (in alphabetical order): Ray Acosta, Geneva Arnold, Rick Arnold, Sharon Ayres, Sara Baase, Greta Bickford, Robert Bickford, Roger Bloxham, Dick Boddie, Ted Brown, George Byrd, Tom Caldwell, Jose Castaneda, Alicia Clark, Jerry Collette, Ross Crain, Glen Cripe, Jack Dean, Neal Donner, Jerry Douglas, Terry Dunn, Gary Dusseljee, Brian Esterson, Michael Everling, Bill Evers, John Farr, Laurel Fest, Bonnie Flickinger, Mike Ford, June Genis, Lauren George, Ernst Ghermann, Benjamin Gibbs, Don Goldberg, Lawrence Goldberg, Kim Goldsworthy, John R. Graham, Mike Hall, Stephanie Harner, Linda Hinkle, Mark Hinkle, Chris Hofland, Karen Huffman, Gary Hull, Chris Inama, Jeff Jared, Jerry Johnson, Ernest Kestone, Paul King, Bruce Lagasse, Cullene Lang, Scott Lieberman, Gail Lightfoot, Eric Maier, Steve Marczeski, Clark Marley, Perry Martin, Ken Mason, Libby Mason, Dave Maxwell, Marion McEwen, Hugh McLean, Thea McLean, Don Meyer, George Meyer, Willard Michlin, Barbara Miller, Jeremy Miller, Daniel Mitchell, Carolyn Molitch, Ed Moss, Phil Myers, Randy Myrseth, Nancy Neale, Robert Newport, M. D., Dave Nichols, Edna Nichols, David Nolan, Wayne R. Nygren, Kate O'Brien, Michelle Obregon, Reese O'Crotty, Jim Peron, Jon Petersen, Wes Pinchot, Lisa Ringer, Andy Rotter, Jaak Sanders, Robert Scott, Roy Shimp, Mike Skram, Kent Snyder, Bruce Sommer, Aaron Starr, Jessica Strock, Gloria Strong, Ray Strong, Mark Sweany, Harold Taborsky, Jean Taborsky, Dennis Thompson, Carolyn Treynor, Sam Treynor, John Vernon, Kennita Watson, Sandi Webb, Bob Weber, Bill White, Kathy White, Daniel Wiener, Perry Willis, Richard Winger, Pat Wright, Jordan Zimmerman, Bernard Zimring

ALTERNATES, (in ranked order): Jerome Helfrich, Dolyne Keller, Andre Mason, Carolyn Moore, Eric Samuel, David Saxe, Mark Valverde, Peter Berry, Ronald Holman, Gene Berkman, Mark Senna, Dan Shultz, Jeff Smith, Steve Pencall

DIRECTORY	County Chairs or Contacts
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CANDIDATES FACE SPECIAL ELECTION RUNOFFS

Three Libertarian candidates for vacant state legislative seats will be on the ballot in runoff elections on May 14. Since no candidate received over 50% of the vote, the top vote getter in each party will face each other in the second round.

Gary Dusseljee received 932 votes (0.9%) and will face Republican Tim Leslie and Democrat Patti Mattingly in Northern California's 1st State Senate District. Eric Sprik received 516 votes (1.2%)—ahead of a minor Republican contender—and will face Republican John Lewis and Democrat Frank Hoffman in Orange County's 35th State Senate District. Debra Klohs received 283 votes (0.8%) and will face Republican Dean Andal and Democrat Patti Garamendi in Stockton's 26th State Assembly District.

The vote totals are much lower than those achieved in regular general elections due to low voter turnout. Usually the Democrats and Republicans turn out their most faithful voters. Unfortunately, Libertarians have fewer loyal supporters to contact. However, since these special elections are the only game in town, they receive substantial local media coverage. This gives Libertarian candidates more opportunities than usual to express their views on the issues of the day.

In other election news, Democratic Assemblyman Mike Roos of Los Angeles resigned to head a foundation for improving the public school system. A special election will be held May 14 to fill this seat. Libertarian **Michael Everling**, a title officer and chair of Region 64, will seek this seat. He cn be contacted at 222 S. Mariposa St. #207, Los Angeles, CA 90004, phone (213) 487-5199.

NEWS BRIEFS

The good:

* In Air Courier Conference vs. Postal Workers Union, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that postal workers have no right to contest the government's move to drop part of its postal monopoly in favor of private carriers. The unanimous ruling benefits private carriers who pick up bulk mail in the U.S. and deliver it to postal offices abroad.

... and the bad:

- * President Bush has the approval of 91% of Americans, according to a recent *USA Today* poll of 622 adults. The survey found overwhelming approval for Bush's handling of the presidency. It also found that if Bush ran for re-election now, 72% would vote for him regardless of who ran against him.
- * Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley has signed an unprecedented law that requires developers to subsidize cultural projects and "give something back to the city" in exchange for permission to build massive developments. The law creates a permanent endowment for the arts that will collect between \$15 million and \$18 million annually from developers to finance public art works throughout Los Angeles. Developers of new commercial projects valued at over \$500,000 will be assessed an "art development fee" at 1% of their construction costs to be used to create murals, sculptures, theater productions, parades, concerts and other artistic and cultural services.
- * On March 1 the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in Burdick v. Takushi that Hawaiian voters do not have the right to vote for write-in candidates. This is the first time a federal court has ruled that the government may prevent a voter from voting for a candidate who is legally eligible to hold the office for which he is running. The 9th Circuit also includes California, so if California wished to impose such a ban, it would be legal. Secretary of State March Fong Eu even filed an amicus curiae brief on the side of Hawaii's write-in ban. Obviously Eu is not the friend of the voters, as she has claimed to be.

California Libertarian News

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