

SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY

YOUR SOCIAL INSECURITY CARD IS ENCLOSED!

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"By a continuing process of inflation, governments can confiscate, secretly and unobserved, an important part of the wealth of their citizens. There is no subtler, no surer means of overturning the existing basis of society than to debauch the currency. The process engages all the hidden forces of economic law on the side of destruction, and does it in a manner which not one man in a million is able to diagnose."

--John Maynard Keynes,
The Economic Consequences
of The Peace, 1920



APRIL 15TH IS TAX PROTEST DAY

Plans have been finalized for the April Tax Protest. South Carolina Libertarian Party members and other volunteers will hand out leaflets at post offices throughout the state. Press releases will be sent to major newspapers, radio stations, and television stations throughout the state in an effort to drum up publicity for this event. Anyone who wishes to help should contact one of the persons listed on page 6.

SCLP FAVORS MAKING SOCIAL SECURITY VOLUNTARY

The Social Security system continues to deteriorate. Democrats and Republicans claim that they are "saving" the system, but they refuse to come up with solutions that will really work. The present bipartisan proposal will only delay the collapse of the system. Social Security is a fraudulent pyramid scheme and is doomed to fail, no matter what the government does.

If Social Security taxes increase, productivity will decrease, and everyone will suffer, especially the elderly. If Social Security taxes don't increase, either benefits will have to be cut, or the government will print more paper money, thus fueling inflation and leading to economic ruin.

The Libertarian Party's proposal to make Social Security voluntary is the only humane way to get out of the present situation. Steve Vandervelde has sent press releases to various newspapers and broadcasting stations in S.C., outlining this proposal, but, unfortunately, it has not received much publicity locally. The New York Times did recently run a brief article mentioning the Social Insecurity Card.

The L.P. proposal calls for letting individuals opt out of the system. This option would be encouraged by expanding the limits for Individual Retirement Accounts and by making all IRA contributions qualify for tax credits.

Many individuals nearing retirement would, of course, choose to stay in the system. The best way to pay benefits to these persons and to persons already dependent on Social Security would be for the federal government to sell its assets. While this would not provide as much money as retired persons would like, this solution is the only one which offers any hope at all for young working Americans while giving older Americans something in compensation for all the money that was stolen from them.

THE POSTAL POLICE STATE

DEAN ALLEN WILL HEAD

SPEAKERS BUREAU

William Dean Allen has moved to S.C. from Texas City, Texas. In fact, he was recently married to S.C.L.P. member Mary Elizabeth O'Connor.

Allen was the Libertarian Party candidate for U.S. Congress, Texas District 9, in the November 1982 election. He left the Republican Party a few years ago because he disagreed with its position on civil liberties and its failure to defend the free market. He has been active for some time in the tax protest movement, and he is the founder and Executive Director of the Constitutional Rights Foundation. He has written two books: Tax Revolt in 1978 and More Than A Tax Revolt in 1982.

When not speaking to tax protest organizations, Allen will be available to fill the previously vacant position of Speakers Bureau Chairman, and he will be able to give talks to groups throughout the state. Anyone interested in arranging for him to speak should write to him at P.O. Box 985, Greer, S.C. 29652.

SCLP CONVENTION JUNE 11

At the February 20 state meeting in Columbia, the S.C.L.P. decided to hold its 1983 State Convention on Saturday, June 11. It will take place at the Capital Inn on Assembly Street in Columbia, and it will most likely start around 9:30 A.M. One of the items on the agenda will be a proposed revision of the Platform. Anyone who wishes to have input should contact Steve Vandervelde, who is Chairman of the Platform Committee. In addition, the S.C.L.P. will choose delegates to the L.P. National Convention to be held in New York City in late August. The L.P. candidate for president in the 1984 election will be selected at this convention.

FRONTLINES CONDUCTING SURVEY OF LIBERTARIAN OPINION

Frontlines, a libertarian newsletter published by the Reason Foundation, is conducting a nationwide survey of libertarian opinion. There exist several issues which are controversial among libertarians, and the survey focuses on many of these issues. Please participate by filling out the survey form, and mail it to Frontlines (address on back of form). We will publish the results of this survey in a future issue of the South Carolina Libertarian.

A bill now pending in Congress would give the U.S. Postal Service more power to violate the rights of individuals and businesses. The so-called "Mail Order Consumer Protection Amendments of 1983" (S.450, H.R.1342), or the Postal Police Bill, is a re-write of similar legislation which failed to pass last year because of concern about the infringement of Constitutional Rights.

The bill would give the Postal Service the Orwellian power to issue a "cease and desist" order to a mail-order company that has never been found guilty of a crime, nor even accused of criminal activity, merely by testifying that it believes that the product offered for sale is "ineffective" or runs contrary to "the weight of established medical or scientific opinion." This cease-and-desist order would be backed up by new civil penalties - a fine of \$20,000 per day against any individual or company that ignores the order. This would effectively shut down the entire operation of a company simply because the Postal Service considers its products to be unorthodox.

The Postal Police Bill is a threat to our civil liberties. All concerned individuals should write to their Congressmen and Senators, urging them to vote against this absurd bill.

SOLIDARITY WITH LIBERTY

On August 31, 1980, Solidarity was born in Gdansk, Poland. Despite the emergence of this ray of hope for freedom, Poland remains, in 1983, a nation ruled by terror. Solidarity has popular support and courageous leadership, but lacks a well-defined alternative to the totalitarian status quo.

The Cato Institute has embarked upon a special project to give Poland's freedom-fighters intellectual ammunition, which is essential for the success of any movement for social and political change. Solidarity with Liberty is a path-breaking Polish-language book containing essays by Ludwig von Mises, Friedrich Hayek, Milton Friedman, and other critics of communism and social planning. If this book becomes widely read in Poland, it could change the course of history.

The Cato Institute plans to distribute 25,000 copies of this book within Poland. Each copy will cost \$2 to print and distribute. The printing presses are ready, and contacts have been established to assist with distribution. All that is needed is \$50,000. If you would like to help, please send your contribution to: Cato Institute Polish Project, 224 Second St. SE, Washington, D.C. 20003.

* * * * *

THE S.C.L.P. WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

- Dean Allen
- Cliff Ross
- Ben Asa Rast
- Ray Marsh
- Tom Borton Smith
- Richard F. Maycock
- Tom Albergotti

Editor's note: Jan Morris knows something that most persons don't know. She realizes that the U.S. Constitution forbids the states from forcing anyone to pay a tax or fee in anything other than gold or silver coins which are coined and regulated in value by the U.S. Congress. Since there is no longer a gold or silver coin currency, nobody can be forced to pay any state or local taxes, fines, or fees, without violating the U.S. Constitution. Jan Morris has paid her 1982 county taxes under protest, and she has filed a lawsuit against the Lexington County Treasurer for recovery of her taxes. The following article explains the historical basis for Article I, Section 10, of the U.S. Constitution, which was designed to prevent paper money from ever again becoming legal tender. We will be forever grateful for the intelligence and foresight of Roger Sherman.

WHO IS ROGER SHERMAN?

by Jan Morris

"No state shall... make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts." (Article I, Section 10, United States Constitution). This clause was put into the Constitution at the insistence of Roger Sherman of Connecticut - the only person who signed all four documents of Colonial America: the Continental Association of 1774, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the United States Constitution.

After winning the war, the young nation was almost destroyed from within because of the use of paper money. Each state was printing its own. "Blood running in the streets. Mobs of rioters and demonstrators threatening banks and legislatures. Looting of shop and home. Credit ruined. Strikes and unemployment. Trade and distribution paralyzed. Shortages of food. Bankruptcies everywhere. Court dockets overloaded. Kidnappings for heavy ransom. Sexual perversion, drunkenness, lawlessness rampant..." is how F. Tupper Sausy describes the situation in his book, *The Miracle on Main Street* (page 11; Spencer Judd, Publishers: 1980). "The wheels of government are clogged... We are fast verging to anarchy and confusion," wrote George Washington to James Madison in 1786.

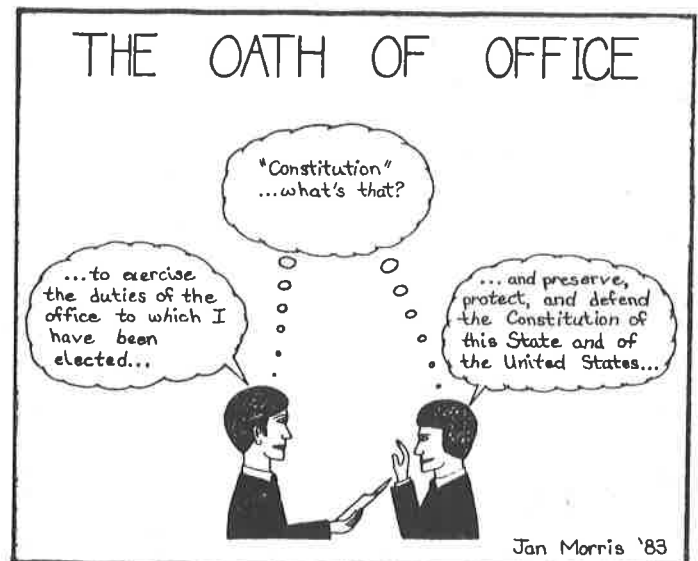
The inclusion of Article I, Section 10, into the Constitution, together with Article I, Section 8 ("The Congress shall have the power... to coin money, regulate the value thereof..."), and the ratification of the Constitution, brought about a miraculous change. *The Pennsylvania Gazette* commented on this in its December 16, 1789, issue: "Since the federal constitution has

removed all danger of our having a paper tender, our trade is advanced fifty percent. Our monied people can trust their cash abroad, and have brought their coin into circulation." (When the article was written, "abroad" meant "in circulation.")

Roger Sherman's hatred of paper money resulted from his firsthand experience with the ruinous effect it has on an individual's wealth, and resulted in his authorship of an indictment - *A Caveat Against Injustice, or, An Inquiry into the Evils of a Fluctuating Medium of Exchange*. It is due only to sheer good luck that this document is still in existence. President Franklin D. Roosevelt instituted a program for the purpose of melting the copper plates of all books which had not been reprinted in the previous four years. This was a more clever way to ban books than the book burning by Hitler's regime. F. Tupper Sausy of Sewanee, Tennessee, discovered a copy of Sherman's book at the Yale University's Beinecke Rare Book Library (Sherman had once been the university's treasurer), and another copy was found in a private collection. That is only two copies in the world. By contrast, there are over 500 million copies of Karl Marx's *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, which states that one way to abolish the right to private property is the "Centralization of credit in the hands of the state, by means of a national bank with state capital and an exclusive monopoly." (Also included is "A heavy progressive or graduated income tax.")

Since the United States no longer has a gold or silver coin currency, no state, or its political subdivisions (counties, cities, towns, etc.) can constitutionally require anyone to pay any tax or fee.

The State of South Carolina has a law which allows taxpayers to pay their taxes "under protest" is they believe them to be illegal in any way. (See Section 12-47-210, of the Code of Laws of South Carolina.) Taxpayers then have 30 days from the date of payment to file a lawsuit for the recovery of said taxes. (See Section 12-47-220, *ibid.*)



PHYSICIANS - LEAVE THE BOXERS ALONE!

by David Morris

On January 14, two editorials appeared in the Journal of the American Medical Association. These editorials were written in response to publicity surrounding the death of a Korean boxer. One editorial called for banning boxing and claimed that boxing has no place in a "civilized" nation. The other called for strict regulation of boxing in order to decrease the rate of boxing injuries. Of course, physicians would play a major role in formulating these regulations. In the political arena, physicians usually support policies which increase their power to manage other persons' lives.

After reading these two editorials, I became thoroughly disgusted and wrote the following letter to the editor of JAMA:

I would like to take exception to both editorials in the January 14, 1983 issue of JAMA. It is clear that boxing injuries can result in irreversible brain damage, and I personally abhor the practice. However, this does not justify the prohibition or regulation of this dangerous practice.

It seems that physicians who desire to restrict boxing wish to exert dictatorial control over the lifestyles of persons who choose to box. The fact is that persons who choose to box are autonomous individuals, just like the rest of us, and are capable of judging for themselves how much risk they are willing to take. We physicians may disagree with their values, but that does not give us the right to impose our values by force. If a boxer values money more than the risk of injury, then that individual has the right to act on his own values, even if others disagree.

It is an insult to boxers to suggest that they are some sort of subhuman beings who are not capable of judging their own values. As Dr. Peter Breggin so eloquently describes in his book, The Psychology of Freedom, even individuals who suffer from severe impairments, physical and mental, are capable of choosing their destinies.*

Physicians may feel that it is in the "best interest" of a boxer to give up boxing, but that is no excuse for taking away his self-sovereignty. Back in the days when black persons were slaves, many slave-owners justified slavery by claiming that it was in the "best interest" of blacks to be slaves. Of course, we all know that was an excuse to justify violating the rights of blacks to choose their own lifestyles. Each individual is really the best judge of his own best interest, even if others disagree.

When one realizes that individuals have the right to live their lives as they wish, as long as they do not violate the rights of others, the whole argument about boxing restriction turns out to be an ethical issue. Do individuals have the right to take risks that physicians believe are foolish? I insist that they do. Physicians may certainly inform boxers about the harmful effects of boxing, and physicians have the right to tell boxers that they disagree with their values, but nobody has the right to impose his values on others by force.

* Breggin, P.: The Psychology of Freedom. Buffalo, N.Y., Prometheus Books, 1980, pp. 13-15.

Sincerely,

David Morris

David Morris, M.D.

Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual; namely, (1) the right to life - accordingly we support prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action - accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property - accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders, and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

A newspaper is not for just reporting the news as it is, but to make people mad enough to do something about it.

— Mark Twain

the Southern Libertarian Messenger



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LIBERTARIAN?



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We have BOOKS on FREEDOM, some virtually unobtainable elsewhere, at prices that are hard to beat. Enrich your mind, and your library! Membership free.

Editor's note: SCLP member Dan O'Neal was fortunate enough to be able to attend the First Libertarian World Convention last August. About 80 persons from 14 countries gathered in Zurich, Switzerland for this historic event. Mr. O'Neal has written the following article, summarizing his experiences in Zurich.

INTERNATIONAL LIBERTARIANISM

by Dan O'Neal

A milestone was reached in August in the libertarian movement. The location was Switzerland and the occasion was Libertas Zurich 82, the First World Libertarian Convention. Libertarians from many different "countries" met to discuss and exchange ideas, participate in convention activities, and make contacts and friends.

The choice of Switzerland as the site of Libertas was symbolic, since the Swiss enjoy the greatest degree of economic and social liberty in the world and, as a result, the highest standard of living and negligible inflation and unemployment. Capitalism is alive and well in the Confoederatio Helvetica. Switzerland is also the homeland of William Tell, who, together with his fellow countrymen, rose up in arms in a heroic struggle for freedom against Hapsburg tyranny.

The conference commenced with a rousing keynote address by Mr. Murray Rothbard on "The Libertarian Movement: Past, Present, and Future." Seminars were led by Michael van Notten (Belgium), Henri Lepage (France), and Leon Louw (South Africa). Panelists included Murray Rothbard, Robert Poole, and John and Salley Hayes (Canada) on "Strategy"; Ed and Alicia Clark, and Leonard Ligio on "Foreign Policy"; and Richard Vogel (Holland) and Andre Spires (Belgium) on "Individual Liberties." In addition, there were addresses by Ed Clark, Bill Forster (Australia), and Rosa Maria Cosenza (Guatemala). Other events included a slide presentation on Richard Cobden by Dr. Camille Castorina, an banquet, entertainment, and an evening boat cruise on Lake Zurich.

Libertas marked the official beginning of international libertarianism. It is certain to become a major international movement. The proof exists in people like Henri Lepage (author of Tomorrow, Capitalism), who, virtually alone in his defense of capitalism and libertarianism in socialist France, is making tremendous impact. Leon Louw, whose Free Market Foundation is widely respected in South Africa, is arguing rationally and effectively for liberty in a country where apartheid is demanded and enforced by the government. And Bill Forster has given the Australian people an alternative to statism by founding the Libertarian Party of Australia. These and other heroic individuals should be a source of inspiration and optimism to those of us who yearn for freedom.

Libertas Zurich 82 was a major step toward spreading the ideas of liberty. It was a tremendous success, and the next convention in Madrid in 1984 (more symbolism) is bound to be more remarkable than the first.

Persons interested in joining the Libertarian International should write to the following address:

Libertarian International
P.O. Box 190
Adelaide Street Postal Station
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5C 2J1

Sound and video recordings of convention events are available from:

Liberty Audio and Film Service
824 West Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23220

LAISSEZ FAIRE

- THE STATE AGAINST BLACKS by Walter E. Williams. A distinguished black economist evaluates minimum wage laws, licensing, union policy, trucking and other regulations as examples of systematic impeding of the advancement of minorities. Sees the government as a major perpetrator of racial exclusion. Views the free market as the destroyer of racial barriers and privilege. (hd, 160p) \$14.95
- FREEDOM FOR ALASKANS by Richard L. (Dick) Randolph. The 1982 Libertarian gubernatorial candidate gives his blueprint for rolling back the State in Alaska. Randolph, the first Libertarian State Legislator in the country, was responsible for repealing his state's income tax. (pb, 108p) \$ 3.95
- SOCIAL SECURITY: AVERTING THE CRISIS by Peter Ferrera. Shows that social security has been established and maintained by deceit. Includes a detailed presentation on how to get out of the system. (qpb, 160p) \$ 6.95
- PROGRESS AND PRIVILEGE: America in the Age of Environmentalism by William Tucker. Argues that environmentalists, who like to think of themselves as liberals, have in reality used the movement to protect the status quo at the expense of less-privileged classes. By exposing how they have distorted the issues to serve their own purposes, Tucker reveals why many problems, though serious, are soluable. (hd, 314p) \$17.95
- A NEW BEGINNING by Ed Clark. Presents a basic overview of the libertarian approach to the pressing problems facing our nation. By the 1980 Libertarian Party presidential candidate. (qpb, 135p) \$ 4.00
- TOMORROW, CAPITALISM by Henri LePage. Already translated into six languages and a bestseller in France and Sweden, this is one of the most controversial books in Europe today. Describes the recent revolution in economics toward the free market. Argues that the science of economics has been reshaped into a coherent, comprehensive approach to the study of human problems. (hd 254p) \$14.95
- FOR A NEW LIBERTY by Murray N. Rothbard. A biting attack on the legitimacy of the State, with numerous criticisms of government intervention. Offers market solutions to many social and economic problems and presents a "revisionist" interpretation of foreign policy and the origins of the cold war. (pb, 325p) \$ 6.95
- THE OMINOUS PARALLELS: The End of Freedom In America by Leonard Peikoff. Intro by Ayn Rand. What is required to turn a country into total dictatorship? How did the Nazis accomplish it? Is it happening here? Peikoff argues that today's dominant ideas are leading America down the road to a Nazi-type dictatorship in the near future. A profoundly disturbing book. (hd, 383p) \$16.95
- ECONOMICS IN ONE LESSON by Henry Hazlitt. Classic primer on the principles of the free market economy and the dangers of government intervention. Discusses minimum wage laws, rent control, tariffs, unions, price fixing, inflation, etc. in an easy-to-understand style. (qpb, 214p) \$ 5.95
- THE TWELVE YEAR SENTENCE: Radical Views of Compulsory Education, Edited by William Rickenbacker. A major attack on compulsory education from authors who range across the political spectrum. A legal and general bibliography make this an invaluable tool. (hd, 236p) \$14.50

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- April 15---TAX PROTEST DAY!
- April 17, Columbia--SCLP state meeting,
2:00 P.M. at Western Steer on
St. Andrews Rd. at I-26.
- May 16, West Columbia--SCLP District 2
meeting, 7:30 P.M. at Quincy's
on the Charleston Highway.
Discussion topic: Taxation.
All interested persons welcome.
- June 11, Columbia--SCLP State Convention,
House Room, Capital Inn, 1901
Assembly St. Details will be
announced in late May.
- July 4---JULY 4th CELEBRATION. Details
will be announced later. Jan
Morris is in charge of this
event.
- August 31-September 5, New York City--
Libertarian Party National
Convention.

Note: Anti-Draft Day has been postponed.
No date has yet been set. If you
would like to help with this event,
please contact Steve Vandervelde
at 254-8771.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The South Carolina Libertarian Party was certified as an official political party by the South Carolina State Election Commission in January, 1979. South Carolina law requires that all members of any political party in South Carolina hold valid voter registration certificates.

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

Signed: _____

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As a state committee of a political party, the South Carolina Libertarian Party qualifies under federal income tax laws for political contributions. State and national dues also qualify as political contributions for federal tax purposes.



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The editor would like to thank Jan Morris for her valuable assistance in preparing, folding, stapling, and addressing this issue of the *South Carolina Libertarian*. The editor also thanks Steve Vandervelde, Shelly Vandervelde, and Cindy Bishop for their assistance with past issues. Without their help, the editor's job would be very difficult.

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