**New Hampshire: Privatizing schools**

Libertarians activists in Manchester are circulating a petition to privatize that city’s school system by 1997. The group, led by Libertarian Erich Zimmerman, needs 4,600 signatures to put to city-wide referendum an initiative to require the Manchester School Committee to fully privatize the staffing of the school system within three years. Their bid has already won the endorsement of the Concerned Taxpayers of Manchester.

**Pennsylvania: Gun rights rally**

A Libertarian was one of the speakers at a huge Flag Day rally in Harrisburg on June 14th, and hammered home the LP’s pro-gun rights position to an audience of about 8,000. Andy Barniskis, Chairman of the Bucks County Libertarian Committee, told the crowd, “You can only hit what you aim at — so join the Libertarians in aiming at nothing less than achieving complete freedom!” Libertarian activists handed out more than 2,500 pieces of literature, and Don Ernsherger said they got a “real good” response from the crowd: “They’d say, ‘Yeah! I’m with you guys!’ I got virtually no negatives.”

**Washington, DC: More LP’ers in office**

The number of Libertarians in public office has reached another all-time high: 123. Names added to the list over the past two months include Jack Matheney on the Riverside Charter Commission (Ohio); Mark Seiler on the Gaston County Planning Commission (North Carolina); Art Oliver on the Bellflower City Council (California); Rob Babione on the New Prague Zoning Board (Minnesota); James Boyd on the Board of Education, Proviso Township High schools (Illinois); Mitchell Moore on the Columbia Substance Abuse Advisory Committee (Missouri); Mark Mayer on the Menasha School Board (Wisconsin); and Gregory Gerber on the Stoughton School Board (Wisconsin).

**Georgia: Ballot access lawsuit**

The state LP is going to court to try to ease ballot access restrictions for non-statewide races — among the toughest in the nation. A lawsuit filed June 14th would force the state to qualify Libertarian candidates for congressional, legislative and local races the same way it does Republican and Democratic candidates. (The LP already qualifies to be on statewide ballots.) A Democrat State Representative who had previously filed unsuccessful legislation to ease ballot access said fellow politicians weren’t interested in changing the laws: “Nobody wants to make it easier for someone to run against them,” he explained.

**Washington, DC: Gun march in August**

A gun rights group is planning a march in Washington DC to bring national attention to Second Amendment issues, and is inviting Libertarians to participate. The Committee of 1776 has scheduled the rally for August 14, at the Lincoln Memorial. “We want the rally to be grassroots and massive, to send a message,” said Ron Long, one of the organizers. The rally is being planned with support from Gun Owners of America, the JPFO, and 57 other groups in 25 states, said Long. (The Libertarian Party is not officially sponsoring or authorizing the event.) To receive more information or to volunteer to be a state or local coordinator, call (803) 269-6704.

**Ohio: Which is the party of liberty?**

Former Congressman and HUD Secretary Jack Kemp is getting annoyed that the Libertarian Party is increasingly seen as the pro-free enterprise party — instead of the Republican Party. In a speech in Cleveland on May 20th, Kemp read from a newspaper article reporting that Leroy Jones, a black entrepreneur who fought city regulations to start a cab company in Denver, had been invited to speak at the LP of Ohio convention. “He should be speaking at our party convention,” grumbled Kemp.

**Washington, DC: Help requested on bill**

The Libertarian Party has been asked by an organization to help lobby for a pro-taxpayers’ bill — yet another sign of the LP’s increasing clout as a grassroots political force. Citizens for a Constitutional Republic have asked Libertarians to urge their representatives in Congress to sign a discharge petition for HR-3261, sponsored by Rep. James Traficant (R-Ohio). The bill would shift the burden of proof from taxpayers to the IRS in tax fraud cases, and increase to $1 million civil action damages when taxpayers sue IRS agents for “recklessly or intentionally disregarding” their rights. The central telephone switchboard for Congress is (202) 224-3121.

**New Hampshire: Dual nominations saved**

Republican Governor Steve Merrill vetoed a bill that would outlaw dual party nominations — the time-honored Granite State political tradition that helped four Libertarians win election to the NH House of Representatives in 1992. (It allows candidates to win the co-nomination of one of the other major parties, and appear on the ballot twice.) “It is encouraging to have a governor who places the principles of open debate above the protection of those in a position of authority,” said LPNH Chairman Jeff Emery.
Libertarians recall Waco showdown

Government ‘made war on people,’ march organizer claims

By Angie Basiouny

Libertarian Party members vowed Tuesday never to forget the fiery showdown that killed 86 people at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas.

The government ‘made war on people,’ said Pensacola resident Bill Cimbalo, who said the compound go unpunished — and a moment of silence. "There are a lot of people that think just like us," he said.

"I feel and Sylvia feels the incident one year ago is being overlooked, forgotten, washed by the federal government," he said. "These were peaceful citizens and they were attacked by firing guns.

The Libertarians held an open meeting at the Libertarian Party convention, where the principles of the Libertarian Party were discussed.

"It is the major parties’ conventions that are jokes," said Steven Becker, the Libertarian candidate for governor.

"We already know the Libertarian positions on issues," said Becker.

"It is a major story because 'shock jocks' are news, not because sex sells newspapers," he said.
**Libertarians push Freedom!**

By BRAD JENNINGS
Staff Writer

To some, the federal government may resemble a puppet whose strings are being worked by the Democrats and Republicans.

Well, Libertarians are ready to assume the role of scissors in this political play.

With voter registration on the rise and candidates in most major races, Arizona's Libertarian Party officials are feeling pretty good these days.

"The American electorate is absolutely fed up with Republican and Democrat machine politics," said Tim Urell, party chairman in Yuma County. "They feel that neither party represents them."

So Urell said many are looking to alternative political parties, including the Libertarians. While the numbers are still small, registration is up nationwide.

In Yuma County, there are 73 registered Libertarians, according to County Recorder Susan Marler's office.

Rick Tompkins, state party chairman, said more than 6,000 Libertarians are registered in the state.

He said it's hard to get a good handle on how many are registered nationwide because only about 25 states allow people to register Libertarian.

"I think the momentum is really showing an accelerated pace," Tompkins said.

But why now? The party has been around since the early 1970s and has been making noise for a number of years. But as people get more disillusioned with the two-party system, Libertarians say they are gaining in popularity.

"We knew that when people wanted their freedom, they would come to us," said Ernest Hancock, secretary of state candidate and party chairman for Maricopa County.

And freedom is what Libertarians say they are all about. "Basically, government gets out of your face, period," Hancock said. "The only role of government is to settle disputes and prosecute fraud and violence. That's it."

Many services now provided by the government would be privatized or made nonexistent by Libertarians, Hancock said.

And taxes would be a thing of the past. "It is immoral for you, in the name of government, to go to someone and force them to earn it," Hancock said.

"It is force, and like any reason it is wrong," Hancock said.

"It is a dangerous and harmful matter," Hancock said. "Kelley says Americans do require a government, but that government should not butt in on gun owners at all — the most in recruiting new members."

"The Democratic Party has never been a friend of gun advocates," Tompkins said. "The Republican Party has abandoned them on that issue."

Hancock stressed personal freedom in all areas of life. He said as long as people don't mess with you, you shouldn't mess with them.

Urell said people still don't understand Libertarians. He said some people think he's an anarchist when he tells them what political party he belongs to.

"It's really very mixed," he said of the reactions he gets. "The common reaction I get is a blank stare."

The Valley
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Yuma, Arizona
May 12, 1994

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**Libertarians picking up steam in Arizona**

By BRAD JENNINGS
Staff Writer

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"It's really very mixed," he said of the reactions he gets. "The common reaction I get is a blank stare."

But Urell said that is slowly changing. And with the slate of candidates running on the Libertarian ticket this year, the blank stare may soon be gone altogether.

Besides Hancock, John Auttrick is running for governor and Scott Grainger is running for the U.S. Senate. There also are a number of Libertarians running for the Arizona Legislature.

Urell said his main goal is to "raise consciousness" about the party.

"I want to convince people that elections are not horse races," he said. "You do not get awarded by voting for the winner."

Of course, party officials admit that winning may still be a few years down the road. But Tompkins said nothing can be ruled out.

"The year before the Berlin Wall came down, nobody would have predicted it was going to happen," Tompkins said.

Urell, who first registered Libertarian in 1988, said the rise of the Libertarian Party is inevitable.

A huge number of Americans are, in their heart, Libertarian.

The Yuma Daily Sun, Yuma, Arizona, April 30, 1994
Third parties offer voters influence on the big two

Outsiders can and do have effect on political process

BY TONIE NATHAN

I t is certainly true that a third party has no political power in today's context. The two major parties, Republicans and Democrats, determine the laws, pass out the patronage grants and subsidies, and control who gets appointed to what and to what extent, growth in the number of registered independent and third-party supporters in Oregon may seem insignificant and meaningless. It is not.

During the 1960s and '70s, when public unhappiness with the Vietnam War was high, Eugene McCarthy won the support of the anti-war crowd. By 1970, without party structure or a running mate, McCarthy garnered about 700,000 votes nationwide as a presidential candidate. His candidacy helped to solidify public sentiment for a non-interventionist foreign policy.

In 1980, Ed Clark, the Libertarian Party candidate, won almost 1 million votes and was on the ballet in every state. His candidacy spawned four bills in Congress demanding "honest elections" by our allies, as Clark said. "American tax payers should not be paying the defense of rich countries such as Japan and Germany."

In 1992, Ross Perot won 19 percent of the national vote for president as an independent whose main plank was bringing an American social safety net under control. His candidacy forced President Clinton and the Republican Congress to address reducing the annual national deficit.

Today, some 30 percent of registered voters in Oregon do not align either with the Republicans or Democrats, and polls show voter dissatisfaction at an all-time high.

What does this growing dissatisfaction with our political system mean? And what can voters do about it?

For one thing, voters can demand some changes in Oregon's ballot access laws. It's no secret that Democrats and Republicans are allowed on our primary ballot only to the extent that the independents and third-party members addressing these issues are "candid." Offer the Libertarian Party a boof at "Downtown Saturday Night events"

Libertarians have applied to operate a voter registration booth at a Downtown Saturday Night event in April, but their requests were denied, prompting the party to file suit in Pima County Superior Court, seeking injunctive relief and $55,000 in actual and punitive damages.

A hearing on the lawsuit that had been scheduled today, was canceled after the city decided to change its position and grant the party a permit.

Officials of the Tucson Arts District Partnership had maintained that city codes forbid political and religious organizations from participating in Downtown Saturday Night events.

Leaders believe party's stands are aligned with residents' opposition to government interference.

By Robert Carr

Look out, anti-gun advocates. Look out, tax hungry bureaucrats. The Libertarian Party is moving in next door.

The party that opposes gun control and favors legalizing marijuana has opened new campaign headquarters on John R Road in Hazel Park.

Party leaders selected Jon Coon unanimously April 24 during a convention at the Metro Airport Ramada Inn to head the party's ticket in succeeding years.

Leaders believe party's stands are aligned with residents' opposition to government interference.

By Robert Carr

Libertarians feel Hazel Park is the place to be

Hazel Park, said Susan Tabar, media chairperson for the Coon campaign. She said the new spot in the suburban city was just the right place, for the right amount of money, and is an equal distance from everything in the metropolitan area.

"In a private survey we did in Michigan, 7 out of 10 people tell us they are going to vote for Jon Coon, specifically in the Oakland and Macomb area," said Tabar.

Local backers include rock star Ted Nugent. He recently called people who favor gun control "cowards," saying, "If you believe in this government tell them what you do, you are a weenie."

Ted has officially endorsed Jon Coon, said Tabar.

"The Libertarian Party is basically the common ground between the Democrats and the Republicans. However, it is set apart by not playing the game of the political scene, and, like most politicians, we are for getting things accomplished," she said.

Tabar said the party, which holds three legislative seats in Alaska and four in New Hampshire, is not pro substance abuse, but does support any legislation legalizing marijuana. She added that the party is not absolutely antitax, but wants "to try to cut all wasteful spending, such as paying government employees astronomical numbers, etc."

"We think people are going to vote for Jon," said Tabar. "People are frustrated, and they're not going to take it anymore."

The Oregonian, Portland, Oregon, May 17, 1994

The Daily Tribute, Royal Oak, Michigan, May 15, 1994