

Libertarian Party

NEWS

June 1993 Vol. 8, No. 6

Reda

Delaware candidate challenging loss

John Reda, the LP candidate who lost his bid for mayor of Elsmere, DE, by 36 votes in April, has filed a motion in federal court in Wilmington seeking an injunction to invalidate the election.

"We did not know until the doors opened that we would not have regular procedures for identifying voters, and for marking them off on any kind of valid registration list," said K. Kay Shearin, the official election judge, in a press conference that was widely covered by local media. "What we had was pandemonium, chaos, especially the first hour," she stated.

Reda lost to incumbent Democratic Mayor Charles Cavanaugh by only 3 percent of the vote.

When the polls closed, the form showing the number of people who checked in to be screened fell at least 30 short of the total number of voters who stepped into the voting machines.

"Six hundred and twenty-five people stepped into the machines, but only 590 checked in with the clerks," Reda said. However, on May 10, the town released its final listing of voters who checked in, and the list then showed a total of 625.

As a result, Shearin, who is a resident of Elsmere, a libertarian lawyer, and the official election judge, and Reda have filed a federal lawsuit in addition to the

injunction. The suit charges "criminal misconduct" and all members of the town council, the mayor, and the town manager are defendants.

While the voting was in progress, one of the clerks admitted to a Department of Elections observer that he had missed several people, and they had not been checked off the registration list, but voted anyway.

"Obviously someone tampered with the list after the polls closed," charged Dave Shanklin, Delaware LP state chair. "This is the last election that the Town of Elsmere will be able to conduct itself," commented Shanklin. "In the future, I will demand that the state should run municipal elections in that town."

"I'm not trying to oust Cavanaugh," Reda commented. "The citizens of Elsmere are entitled to an honest, accountable election."

According to Shearin, the federal Voting Rights Act states that the burden of proof will be on the town to prove that it conducted an honest election.

"They won't be able to do that," Shanklin said.

"Shearin has damaging testimonies from one election clerk," Shanklin said. "She is not bringing a frivolous action into court."

If Shearin is successful in getting an emergency hearing, it is possible that a ruling will be made by the end of June.

Almost ?

Libertarian Party National Chair Mary Gingell recently noted with some amusement that President Clinton said at his April 23 news conference he had "an almost libertarian view."

(In answer to a question on gay rights, Clinton had replied, "I just have always had an almost libertarian view that we should try to protect the rights of American individual citizens to live up to the fullest of their capacities, and I'm going to stick right with that.")

Gingell said, "I am delighted that the president thinks being a libertarian is a good thing. I guess just about everybody wants to be a libertarian now." But she added, "Judging from his first 100 days, President Clinton has a long way to go before he is a libertarian."

"A libertarian is neither a liberal nor a conservative, but is an individual who is against the first use of force to achieve political or social goals. The Libertarian Party advocates civil liberties, the market economy, and a non-interventionist foreign policy."

"A Libertarian Administration and Congress would have, in their first 100 days, repealed a wide range of federal laws, regulations, and executive orders; cut taxes; stopped subsidies to businesses and slashed the pork; abolished entire federal agencies; begun a comprehensive program of privatization; prevented federal bureaucrats and politicians from snooping in our bedrooms and interfering with our personal lives; and withdrawn U.S. troops from Europe, Africa, and elsewhere."

"For the most part, Mr. Clinton has been moving in the wrong direction—proposing higher taxes and new taxes, increasing pork and subsidies, endorsing more laws and regulations, flirting with socialized medicine, and allowing the U.S. to be drawn slowly into taking sides in a European war."

"I hope that, in the remainder of his term, President Clinton will come much closer to his 'libertarian view' than he has in his first 100 days," Gingell concluded.

NatCom

Two goals rescinded, committees appointed

The Libertarian National Committee (NatCom), at a meeting in Somerville, MA, in late April, acted to rescind the two controversial portions of the "goals statement" that were adopted at the last NatCom meeting in December.

The NatCom also selected members for national convention committees and conducted other party business.

By a vote of 12 to 2, the NatCom adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, the National Committee, as a body, should respect the decisions of previous national conventions, and

Whereas, goals adopted by the National Committee should represent a consensus of the Committee,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the National Committee does hereby rescind the following clauses in the Goals statement passed by the Libertarian National Committee in December, 1992:

* Eliminate the "oath"

And

* Change Platform criteria to be:

* Maximum of 10 topical planks

* 2-4 year perspective

* Transitional proposals consistent with libertarian philosophy and the Statement of Principles

* Presented in a positive, solution oriented manner so that it helps, rather than hinders, LP candidates

* Start from scratch at each convention

* Majority delegate approval

The Libertarian National Committee does herewith declare its official neutrality on these issues (although individual members might have their own strongly-held

opinions on either side of the issues), and expresses its confidence in the delegates to the 1993 National Convention."

The NatCom appointed the following LP members to the national convention's Bylaws and Rules Committee: David Bergland (interim chair), Karen Allard, Sharon Ayres, Joe Barnett, Ruth Bennett, Tamara Clark, Steve Dasbach, Don Ernsberger, Steve Givot, and Henry Haller.

The convention's Platform Committee will consist of: Dean Ahmad (interim chair), Greg Clark, Dave Doss, Dale Hemming, Gus Hercules, Bumper Hornberger, Ken Prazak, Michael Tanner, Tom Tryon, and Sandi Webb. An additional 10 members will be selected by the 10 largest state parties.

The convention's Credentials Committee will consist of: Joe Dehn (interim chair), Gary Johnson, Thea McLean, Perry Metzger, and Robbin Stewart. An additional five members will be selected by the five largest state parties.

Krech elected

Mike Krech, LP member, was elected in mid-April as a village trustee in Lake in the Hills, IL.

Krech said he was elected on the basis of his "anti-tax pledge." In fact, Krech, in his campaign handouts, included a personally signed pledge that stated that he guaranteed that his "immediate resignation from office will occur on the day I vote for any increased taxes or fees on the residents of Lake in the Hills." His campaign literature also highlighted his pledge to "stop Lake in the Hills from governing your personal lives."

Krech finished third in a six-way race for three spots as a trustee. He will now serve a four-year term on the village board.

Make a difference

Choose an issue that's important to you, and get involved

"DA Dismisses Midwife Charges." I opened my local weekly paper yesterday and saw that headline. And silently cheered. As a strong believer in natural childbirth, and a supporter of a woman's right to give birth "her way," without the interference of government regulations, I was thrilled to see that headline. But I also felt a twinge of sadness as I read the article.

Lay midwife Faith Gibson had been harassed by local authorities here in Palo Alto, California, since long before last April when she was finally charged with "practicing without a license" and "improperly advertising without a license." The deputy district attorney has now dropped the charges, saying, "The interests of justice would not be served in prosecuting her. There's no sense spending taxpayers' money on a trial."

Why did he come to that brilliant conclusion? Not because of any philosophical revelation, but because the California government is facing a huge deficit and is cutting off funds to local governments. There is no money to spend. And Faith Gibson agreed to list her "Mennonite Order of the Maternal Services" in the Yellow Pages under "Churches" instead of under "Midwives" so he would drop the advertising charges.



From the Chair

Mary Gingell
National Chair

There may also have been some public outcry from local midwifery supporters. But I don't know how much grassroots activism helped Faith Gibson's case. And I wish I did. I wish I had been out on the front lines with them, participating in whatever form the outcry may have taken. That's why I felt a twinge of sadness in the midst of my pleasure at reading that Faith Gibson can practice again, that the governmental bullies have caved in, and that women in Palo Alto have another option once again.

I have a big job as national chair of the Libertarian Party. The work that I and my colleagues do is important in terms of increasing our national recognition and helping our views become more understood and accepted by opinion leaders around the country.

And we're doing some exciting things in this area. By the time you read this column, if things go as planned, we will have hired a high-powered, energetic director of communications to work full-time in our national office in DC. This person will focus on such things as media relations, networking with allied groups in the DC area and around the country, and evaluating our stepped-up efforts in these areas to measure our effectiveness at getting the Liber-

tarian message out.

In the past, because of budgetary constraints, we have had to rely entirely on volunteer efforts on these kinds of projects. When we set the budget for this year, the National Committee purposefully squeezed enough funds out to be able to bring this second manager on board in LPHQ in the spring.

We will be strengthening and professionalizing our existing program, under which we have put out numerous news releases to a growing list of media contacts, as well as appearing on many radio talk shows. We'll be breaking ground we've never been able to break before. Some of the things we try may not work, but we will have the resources to try them, evaluate them, and change the program for the better.

Sounds pretty distant and professional compared to the role you probably play, that of local Libertarian grassroots activist. But it all ties together.

What can you do to add to our effectiveness? If you have been involved in local issues, keep doing what you are doing. It is extremely important that we show activity in state elections, at county fair booths, at the local planning commission, in the weekly town paper, so that people who hear about us through our national programs can see that we aren't just a philosophical discussion group, can see how we help increase liberty in their lives, right here at home, in their communities, on the issues they feel are important.

If you are busy with other things in your

“

Pick the ONE local issue that really turns you on, and take action on that issue, even if it's just a letter to the editor in your local paper.

”

life—friends, family, career—and you can't devote as much time as you'd like to LP causes and projects, donate money to the national, state, and local parties, to support the work of other Libertarians. But even more important than that, pick the ONE local issue that really turns you on, and take action on that issue, even if it's just a letter to the editor in your local paper.

When I first got interested in natural childbirth I did not think about the political ramifications of such a personal, private activity. But you can't escape them. Governmental licensing requirements, the increasing likelihood that courts will make big "malpractice" awards, governmentally-required procedures (drops in the baby's eyes, prenatal testing, birth registration), even zoning regulations, all affect where I can have my baby and limit my options as to how I will give birth.

This particular issue may not be at all interesting or important to you. That's fine. Pick your favorite issue. All of life is affected by our Big Brother government. And we are the people who want most strongly to reverse that trend.

Be involved locally for liberty. Make that difference.

ABORTION CHOICE:
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Running

LP vice chair Steve Dasbach to seek national chair position

Libertarian Party vice chair Steve Dasbach recently announced that he will seek the office of national chair at the LP national convention. Speaking at the annual convention of the LP of Kentucky May 1, Dasbach called for the LP to become serious about participating in the political process.

"America is careening down the road to serfdom," Dasbach said. "Our challenge is to turn the country around and put it back on the path to liberty. I am not willing to tell my children and grandchildren two decades from now that although we 'fought the good fight', we still lost our liberty. We have to start winning!"

Dasbach said that the key to winning is broadening the base of the Libertarian Party. "We must begin presenting our message in a positive, solution-oriented manner that appeals the public, and to the media who determine what the public actually hears," Dasbach said. "If we are to become the major political party of the 21st century, then our growth must accelerate. We must be open to everyone who wants to reduce the size, power, and intrusiveness of government. We must become the party of all Americans who want more liberty."

"Our ability to attract and retain new members depends on how useful they think the LP is as a vehicle for expanding individual liberty," Dasbach said. "Inactivity and a lack of professionalism can turn off even those most devoted to liberty. The national LP must help state and local activ-

ists build effective, grassroots organizations, able to effect real political change throughout the country and get Libertarians elected!"

"In 1991, we set out to achieve the impossible—ballot status in every state and the District of Columbia," Dasbach continued. "We set a challenging goal, focused on it, and did what it took to achieve it. Now, we need to set even more challenging goals for the next three years, focus on them, and achieve them."

In addition to his duties as vice chair, Dasbach serves as LP organizing area manager. He is responsible for overseeing ballot access, candidate recruitment and support, field organizing (including the campus program), and affiliate assistance. Prior to becoming Affiliate Party Committee chair in 1991, he served as chair of the Affiliate Campaign Committee. Dasbach also helped write the LP Program.

Dasbach served on the LP state central committee in Indiana from 1980 to 1991,

including two terms as state chair. He has run for public office four times, including a race in 1982 that earned ballot status for the LP in Indiana through 1986.

Dasbach has been married to Elizabeth for 19 years, and has four children. He has taught high school physics and chemistry for 18 years, including two terms as the president of the teacher's association. He is currently Cubmaster of his sons' Cub Scout pack.

OUTREACH THAT WORKS!

This is a book that will speak to many people who are not interested in or are disgusted by politics, people who would not be drawn to a book about "libertarianism" or "right public policy." It speaks to the heart, to our common sense, to the basic morality that we were all taught as children. —Lyn D. Tinsley, Illinois Libertarian



Kalamazoo Gazette

Mary Ruwart has written what may be the most important book of this decade.

—Joseph Terrano, Visions Magazine

The author combines libertarianism with Western and Eastern spirituality...examines health care, the rain forests, prisons, unemployment...she challenges the reader to see those things outside of custom, in spiritual clarity. —Paul Whitfield, South Bend Tribune

...a practical application of Aquarian Age wisdom to the origins of our societal problems. —Willis Harman, coauthor of PATHS TO PEACE; President of the Institute of Noetic Sciences

HEALING OUR WORLD discusses reasonable, peaceful alternatives to our current system..." —Durk Pearson and Sandy Shaw, authors of LIFE EXTENSION: A PRACTICAL APPROACH

...it is within our power to restore both individual and societal health by the simple mental change first popularized by Mahatma Gandhi and now detailed for us by Dr. Ruwart —Jonathan Wright, M.D., author of BOOK OF NUTRITIONAL THERAPY, GUIDE TO HEALING WITH NUTRITION, etc.

...it should be required reading for every high school and college student. —Harry Palmer, author of CREATIVISM and the AVATAR COURSE

A great message! —Wayne Dyer, author of YOUR ERRONEOUS ZONES, REAL MAGIC, THE SKY'S THE LIMIT, GIFTS FROM EYKIS, YOU'LL SEE IT WHEN YOU BELIEVE IT, etc.

...a major dimension of this book is its linkage between our spiritual perspective and our economic well-being. —Nobel Peace Prize nominees Frances Kendall and Leon Louw

...Dr. Mary Ruwart is well on her way to becoming the Ayn Rand of the '90s. —Andre Marrou, 1992 Libertarian Presidential nominee

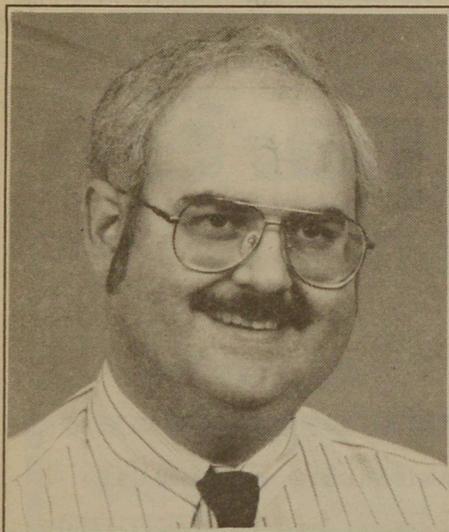
Through its win-win approach, HEALING OUR WORLD bridges the gap between conservatives and liberals, Christians and New Agers, special interests and the common good... —Ron Paul, former U.S. Congressman (TX) and 1988 Libertarian Presidential nominee

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- Sample Literature Packet (one of each above), \$5
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- LP Platform, \$1 each or \$25/100

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- Defenders of Liberty, 1-800-682-1776
- Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian, 1-800-682-1776
- Vote Libertarian, 1-800-682-1776
- Beware: The Government is Taking Over the Country
- VOTE LIBERTARIAN/Liberty Harmony Abundance
- VOTE LIBERTARIAN/Peace Prosperity Freedom
- Question Authority
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- I'm Pro-Choice on Everything
- Taxation Is Theft
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- Freedom Wasn't Won With a Handshake (with a picture of a gun pointing at YOU)

Bumperstickers - \$1 each

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- Don't Blame Me - I Voted Libertarian
- Legalize Freedom - Vote Libertarian
- Vote Libertarian/1-800-682-1776
- Libertarian Party - Defenders of Liberty
- Bring U.S. Troops Home
- I'm Pro-Choice on Everything
- Vote Libertarian - Peace, Prosperity, Freedom

Tools for Campaigns

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- LP TV ads on 1-inch tape, \$35
- LP TV ads on 3/4-inch tape, \$35
- LP TV ads on VHS (not broadcast quality), \$20
- Newsprint Ad (Set of 7), \$3

Books

- Healing Our World, 2nd. ed. (Ruwart), \$14.95
- Libertarianism in One Lesson (Bergland), \$8 or 5/\$25
- Restoring the American Dream (Ringer), \$10
- America's Libertarian Heritage (Bergland), \$1

Misc.

- National LP Bylaws and Convention Rules, \$3
- Small (8"x 5") LP Banner, one line "Libertarian Party", \$20
- Large (14"x5") LP Banner, white on blue; first line "Libertarian Party", second line with your choice of following—"1-800-682-1776"; "Defenders of Liberty"; "Freedom is the American Way"—circle choice, \$30
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LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
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NC denies interest in fair and open elections

The State of North Carolina has answered the allegations made by the LP of North Carolina regarding the federal suit by the party to maintain its ballot status.

In pre-trial maneuvering, the state has specifically denied one of the LP's contentions, that "there exists a legitimate state interest of encouraging the free marketplace of ideas through free and open elections as expressed by Thomas Jefferson and other Founding Fathers."

"I'm not surprised at this denial," remarked Scott McLaughlin, Libertarian candidate for governor in 1992, and a representative of the LP in the federal action. "The state's present law denies free and open elections. That is the point of this lawsuit. It

would be helpful if the state's representatives would actually read the writings of Jefferson and the other Founders of this nation. The ballot access laws have shown the state government is less concerned about political ideals than its own political power."

A trial date for the lawsuit is pending. The LP suit contains 44 allegations against the NC Elections Board. On March 9, the state filed an answer to the allegations, denying many of the LP's contentions.

This article is reprinted from *The Tarheel Libertarian*, the newsletter of the LPNC, 1909 Fawndale Dr., Raleigh, NC 27612.

Justice sought in Waco

Libertarian Party national chair Mary Gingell expressed shock at the violent end to the federal siege of the religious community near Waco, TX.

"This is incredible! I cannot believe something like this can happen in America. Our government has run amok," Gingell said.

"The federal agents who are to blame for this mass murder must be brought to justice. They are not above the law. No more macho cops, please."

"These federal assaults—and it is clear that both in February and April it was the government that started

the violence—were completely unnecessary."

"An independent, special prosecutor must be appointed to fully and thoroughly investigate this tragedy. No cover-up can be tolerated."

Gingell reiterated two long-standing planks of the Libertarian Party platform: "We demand the immediate abolition of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms." "We support congressional investigation of criminal activities of the CIA and FBI and of wrongdoing by other governmental agencies."

State-of-the-Art:

Liberty, the provocative magazine that celebrates the diversity of individualist thought, publishes the state-of-the-art in libertarian thinking and analysis:

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Free with your subscription! "Ayn, Nathan and Barbara"

In an exclusive interview, Barbara Branden speaks frankly about life with Ayn Rand and Nathaniel Branden (Rand's lover and Barbara's husband). She reveals for the first time intimate details of life inside Rand's circle. The fascinating topics include the weird psychological manipulations within the group, the expulsion of members in kangaroo courts, and Rand's fight in a posh Manhattan restaurant with Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve.

Additional bonus with 2 year subscription "What Libertarians Think"

The Liberty Poll examined everything from libertarians' political beliefs to their sex lives, from their education to their financial status, from their religious background to their intellectual development. And it's free, along with "Ayn, Nathan and Barbara," when you subscribe for two years.

Liberty How to Profit from Clinton's Coming Nervous Breakdown

The Clinton "Revolution"

C.A. Arthur asks Why More Taxes?
Harry Browne asks Who Profits?
Sheldon Richman asks What's New?

Holocaust in Waco

by Stephen Cox & R.W. Bradford

It's the Pork, Stupid!

by Randal O'Toole

Socialism: the Corpse that Walks

by John Hospers & Leland Yeager

The FBI Wants Your Codes

by Bart Kosko

"Where Liberty lives, there is my homeland." —Algernon Sidney

Politics, new packaging; Same Old Morality, lies, lies, lies.

• Randal O'Toole attended the President's Conference on Forests (blah blah blah) and found the winning species, which oinks.

• Durk Pearson and Sandy Shaw offer the prognosis for Bill Clinton's mental health.

• David Friedman counts the ways in which we pay for crime, and comes up with some ideas on how to stop paying through the nose.

• Leland Yeager shows how conservatives are opening the door for socialized medicine.

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Rerun of state auditor race sought in WA

Arthur Rathjen, last year's Libertarian candidate for state auditor in Washington, has formally asked the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) to petition the Thurston County Superior Court for invalidation of Brian Sonntag's election to state auditor last November.

In his letter to the PDC, Rathjen cited the findings of the state attorney general's office that illegal campaign activities occurred in the state auditor's office on Sonntag's behalf. "I believe that the illegal campaigning against his Republican and Libertarian opponents substantially reduced the number of votes we received and prevented the Libertarian Party from achieving major party status," Rathjen said.

Although Rathjen received 92,818 votes, a record number for a statewide third-party campaign, it fell half a percent short of the 5 percent share required to bestow major party status on the LP.

"Because major party status would remove legal obstacles Libertarians face getting candidates on the ballot and then funding their campaigns, we have suffered an irreparable injury because of the former state auditor's office," Rathjen said. "I believe that a new election, conducted fairly and legally, would give me and the Libertarians an honest shot at major party status."

Rathjen also suggested an alternative to a new election. "Of course, the court could just directly award the major party status on the grounds that the illegal activities of state employees denied us a fair and honest election."

"We will use this effort to focus attention on the unequal treatment received by third parties," Rathjen said. "The Republicans and Democrats in Olympia have exempted themselves from the many onerous regulations they impose on their competition."

As one example, Rathjen said that while the Libertarian Party was prohibited from donating more than \$5,000 to his campaign in the crucial last 21 days before the election, the Republicans and Democrats donated as much as they wanted to their candidates.

"This is just one of the many ways they have rigged the game," Rathjen said, "and illegal campaign activities in the state auditor's office are an even greater blow against fair and open elections in Washington."

NH House

LP delegation goes after spending, taxes

The New Hampshire House Libertarian delegation took repeatedly to the floor in April, earning praise and admiration—if not victories—and racking up an almost perfect voting record against taxes and spending.

"They're coming to realize in the House that there are some things that, if the Libertarians don't do them, they don't get done," said Libertarian Leader Don Gorman (L-Deerfield). One of those things is going after "sacred cow" budget items.

Recently, Andy Borsa (L-Pelham) unsuccessfully fought to remove almost a million dollars in funding for the Durham public television station, pointing out that the station had sold only about half its allotted corporate sponsor spots, and that taxpayers shouldn't have to make up for the fiscal laxity of the station.

Gorman himself took the offensive on two budget items. Believing he would "be killed in the voting," Gorman was surprised when 118 other House members voted with him in favor of deleting a quarter-million dollars to set up a "Healthy Kids" non-profit corporation to offer cut-rate health insurance. "I had people on both sides compliment me on my performance," Gorman said.

After his appeal to strike another quarter-million dollar item for museum expansion lost on a voice vote, Gorman said several House members told him he should have asked for a roll-call vote. "It sounded pretty close," they said, according to Gorman.

All four Libertarians voted against four "temporary" business tax increases that were due to be phased out, but that Gov. Steve Merrill wanted to keep.

However, the delegation developed a 3-1 split when it came to the governor's new Business Enterprise Tax (BET). Cal Warburton (L-Raymond) surprised other delegation members with the news he had "given his word" to Merrill that he would vote in favor of the BET in repayment for Merrill's promise to veto a bill to end multiple party nominations, a bill which if passed would make it harder for Libertarians to get elected.

"Cal is a great guy. I respect him enormously," said former LPNH chair Bill Winter. "I know he has the best interests of the party at heart, but I think he made a mistake on this vote."

Winter said he wished Warburton had voted against the BET, so the LPNH could continue to say that no Libertarian legislator ever voted for a tax. Winter did admit that the BET, as passed, was "revenue neutral," since it lowered

the overall Business Profits Tax, and Warburton's vote did not affect the outcome.

Gorman, on the other hand, launched a blistering floor attack on the BET that had conservative Republicans "squirring in their seats."

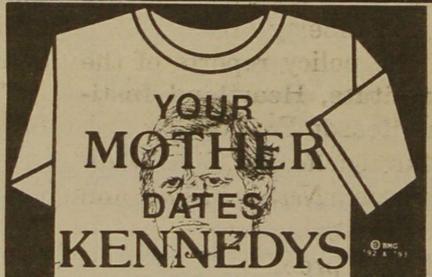
The following is an excerpt from Gorman's floor speech which was picked up by the media:

"Last of all, I know an awful lot of my Republican friends ran on a platform, and pledged themselves that they would not support a broad-based income tax. You can call this anything you want to call it—it is a broad-based tax for business people. And when those Republicans, friends of mine, go back to those towns and look at the guy who's a painter, a welder, a gas station operator, you're gonna have to say, 'I guess I voted for a broad-based income tax. Sorry!'"

This article appeared in Libertarian Lines, the newsletter of the LPNH, P.O. Box 5293, Manchester, NH 03108.

Bids for 1996 convention

The Convention Oversight Committee will soon be soliciting bids for contractor and site for the 1996 national convention. Interested parties who wish to receive the bid specifications may request them by writing to the Convention Oversight Committee, c/o LP Headquarters, 1528 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Washington, DC 20003.



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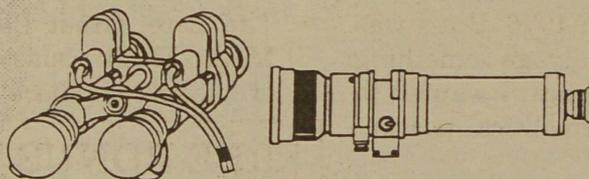
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-Congressman Sam Steiger, July 1976

Why aren't people breaking down doors to join the Libertarian Party?

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In 1976, I was the Arizona Libertarian Party's candidate for the congressional seat held by Morris Udall.

I lectured people who weren't interested. I debated when I should have discussed. I talked when I should have listened. I talked down to everyone.

If there was an offensive, shocking way of presenting a libertarian position—I used it.

Every so often, people would try to agree, but I didn't notice. I

couldn't take 'Yes' for an answer.

My campaign taught me how to lose friends and alienate people.

Finally, it sunk in. My problem wasn't other people. It was the man in the mirror. Me.

Do You Lose Friends And Alienate People?

Some libertarians have a more-rational-than-thou attitude. Or smarter-than-thou. Or more-principled-than-thou. Or more-ethical-than-thou.

Are your 'discussions' really lectures? Do you try to convince by beating the other person into submission? Do you behave like a tormentor, not a mentor?

And when you fail to persuade, do you blame the listener? The other person isn't rational enough, or intelligent enough, or good enough? It's always their fault?

That is the road to permanent failure.

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I felt stupid and embarrassed by my campaign in 1976. But I was determined to salvage something from my experience. I wanted to learn the art of political persuasion.

I began to read. It's now over 1,000 books on psychology, epistemology, semantics, salesmanship, cybernetics, self-help, hypnosis, communication and creativity.

I interviewed specialists in communications and persuasion. I asked questions and took notes.

I applied the scientific method to everything I learned. I tested every approach, technique and format. I observed and listened.

I began to write up my results. *How To Get Converts Left & Right* and *The Late, Great Libertarian*

Macho Flash were published by *Reason*.

I followed these with more articles: *The Militant Mentality, The Myth Of Mushrooms In The Night, Leveraging Liberty With Language* and *Intellectual Judo*.

The libertarian audience wanted more, so I launched a seminar. *The Art Of Political Persuasion Marathon Weekend Workshop* has been offered all over the United States and Canada.

Then, I tested my teachings in the field. I was the organizer and fund-raiser for the 1988 *Marrou VP Campaign, Project 51-'92* ballot effort and the 1992 *Marrou For President Campaign*. Between Fall 1987 and Fall 1991 I raised more than \$500,000 for these projects. \$519,344 to be exact (source: FEC).

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- > The Late, Great Libertarian Macho Flash: abuses and uses of intellectual shock tactics.

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Andre Marrou, 1992 Libertarian Party presidential nominee.

"I've personally listened to Michael Emerling's political persuasion tapes several times. This program is great. It's a necessity, not a luxury, for all libertarians."

Jim Lewis, 1984 Libertarian Party VP nominee and 1992 *Marrou For President Campaign* Manager.

"Michael Emerling's political persuasion tapes are superb. I have listened to them many times. I continue to be impressed by the power and sophistication of his techniques."

Vince Miller, President of International Society For Individual Liberty (I.S.I.L.).

"I have a set of these political persuasion tapes. I had to learn it before I could teach it. Thank you very much, Michael Emerling."

Marshall Fritz, founder of Advocates For Self-Government

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Notebook

A potpourri of items to help you spread the Libertarian message

Cliches and uninformed statements are easy to dismiss as senseless prescriptions from political outcasts and fringe ideologues. Libertarian advocates—be they candidates, state officers, speakers, pamphlet writers, or other spokespersons—may gain credibility for Libertarian ideas by presenting facts and quoting expert opinion that bolster LP positions. This column will provide the ammunition you can use to confound the skeptics and impress those searching for answers by citing mainstream publications and recognized opinion leaders (for and against individual liberty). Send in your submissions, with a clipping to verify the statement and the source, for inclusion in future issues of the NEWS.

Issue: Potpourri

1.) D.C. Statehood: The editors of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* have seldom found a liberal idea they didn't fall in love with. Yet David R. Boldt, their editorial page editor, recently found fault with *The Washington Post's* editorial in favor of D.C. statehood: "It brilliantly slithered around the fact that the whole idea of making this little pissant city into a state is ludicrous, something like a fly landing on an elephant's rump and contemplating rape."

Boldt, Philadelphia Inquirer, Jan. 17, 1993.

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2.) Hope for a Third Party: Ex-Senator Warren Rudman (R-NH) has "warned that the next four years represent a watershed in American politics. If Congress and President Clinton fail to address job creation, health care reform, and the need for increased investment in the economy, then a third party will emerge."

Concord Courier, February/March 1993.

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3.) American Generosity: *Chicago Tribune* syndicated columnist Mike Royko: "It is truly heartwarming how generous Americans can be with someone else's money."

From a recent column.

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4.) Privatization: Germany's government, strapped for cash, says that it intends to "privatize the country's vast highway system," according to the *Wall Street Journal*. The government will "consider imposing highway user fees as an interim step before putting the road network in private hands. The user fee system could involve stickers, which drivers would have to buy and display in windows of vehicles before they could use the autobahn network." Ach, the old Robert von Poole idea!

Wall Street Journal, Feb. 10, 1993. Submitted by Wayne Langerman, Alpharetta, GA.

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5.) High IQ Congress: *Tampa Tribune* columnist Ray Locker recounts how *Spy* magazine uncovered a congressional brain drain: "Spy called about 20 freshman House members recently and, posing as a New York radio talk-show host, asked them their opinions of 'what we're doing to stop what's going on in Freedonia?' or 'Do you approve of what we're doing to stop ethnic cleansing in Freedonia?' Freedonia to Marx Brothers fans is the mythical nation in their classic movie 'Duck Soup.'" Rep. Corrine Brown (D-FL) told the *Spy* reporter that she supported U.S. actions in Freedonia



Activist Notebook

Dave Walter
Editor

and "I think all of those situations are very, very sad and I just think we need to take action to assist the people." Further, "None of the freshmen said there is no such place as Freedonia. They did what most politicians do; they pushed the blather button and spouted some platitudes."

Locker in Tampa Tribune, Jan. 15, 1993. Submitted by Andrew Spark, Tampa, FL.

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6.) Generation 13: A new book, "13th Generation: Abort, Retry, Ignore, Fail?" by Neil Howe and Bill Strauss, predicts the future of twentysomethings. In an interview in *U.S. News & World Report*, the authors claim "until their mid-40s, the dominant brand of 13er conservatism will have a strong libertarian and free-market flavor; later in life it will lean toward cautious, pragmatic stewardship." Rather than receive or ask for government assistance, "they will take pride in their lifelong talent for getting by on their own and helping younger persons." Generation 13 was born between 1961 and 1981. Many are now on campus. If Howe and Strauss are right, this might be the first generation since Jefferson's to favorably align with the ideas of the LP.

U.S. News & World Report, Feb. 22, 1993.

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7.) Bureaucracy: Dr. John Baden, a teacher at the University of Washington Business School, and chairman of the Foundation for Research on Economics and the Environment, has a suggestion for Congress: create a predatory bureaucracy that would grow and thrive by eliminating the programs of other departments. "It would exist solely upon funds gleaned from cut programs. Its size would vary just as predator numbers follow the size of prey populations." Baden concludes: "The fundamental logic behind this proposal is that bureaucracies are driven by their budgets. Just as corporations are driven to seek profits, government agencies seek to maximize their budget. They normally do this by pleasing a special-interest clientele. Our proposal would utilize that insight by creating an agency which, to increase its budget, would cannibalize the unsound proposals of other bureaucracies. In doing so it would foster the public interest rather than special interests."

Baden in Seattle Times, March 2, 1993. Submitted by Scott Frost, Seattle, WA.

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8.) Business and Technology: Politicians seem to think we are still living at the turn of the century when industry was tied to physical properties like steel mills, oil refineries, and railroad yards. Because it was hard to move elsewhere, business was a sitting duck for taxes, regulation, and other forms of expropriation. Times have changed, according to Dr. Richard McKenzie, professor of economics at the University of California-Irvine: "Today, technology permits people and their capital to be far more fugitive, far more capable of bounding over government borders, far

more like quicksilver—slippery, elusive, and hard to contain and control." For predatory pols, the goose that lays the golden eggs is becoming as elusive as the proverbial greased pig.

Quoted in Imprimis, February 1993.

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9.) Underground Economy: According to *U.S. News & World Report*, the "underground economy" is thriving. Based on data from the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research and the U.S. Department of Labor, 83 percent of households make untaxed or unmeasured "underground" purchases. The estimated unreported income per person in 1992 was \$2,113, excluding illegal activities. "Estimated taxes lost from unreported income in 1992: \$65 billion." Sounds like individuals are getting as slippery as businesses.

U.S. News & World Report, Feb. 22, 1993.

Issue: It's Jobs, Stupid

1.) When government fails to rein in abuses in workmen's compensation insurance laws—fraud, doctor-shopping, etc.—it creates huge problems for business and employees. While most employees aren't sympathetic to costs imposed on their employers, they might want to think again. According to *Business Week*, "About 86 percent of the average increase in employer workmen's compensation costs for 10 job classifications was shifted onto employees through lower wages between 1979 and 1988 according to a study by economists Jonathan Gruber of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Alan B. Krueger of Princeton University." Not only are wages lower, but some workers will suffer the ultimate tax—unemployment—as companies move to states, such as South Carolina, that have reformed their worker's compensation insurance laws.

Business Week, Feb. 22, 1993.

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2.) In 1988, a federal law was passed to require employers of more than 100 employees to give 60 days' notice of any shutdown of a facility affecting more than 50 workers. A recent study by the General Accounting Office concluded that 54 percent of the employers who were required to give notice, failed to do so. Many others used one loophole or another to avoid having to file. Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, whose labor subcommittee held a hearing on the matter (and who never met a business he wouldn't bash) said, "Perhaps in our desire to get the law passed, we weren't tough enough and provided too many exemptions. The act is good, and it's a major step in the right direction. But it needs a better enforcement direction." Businesses had warned that the law makes it harder to make economic decisions, thus wasting resources and weakening their ability to provide jobs for all employees. Indeed, the GAO study found that 29 percent of employers surveyed reported that "after giving notice they experienced problems such as lower worker productivity."

What does all this regulation cost? "On federal regulations alone, the nation's gross bill was \$564 billion in 1992, estimates Thomas D. Hopkins, now at Rochester Institute of Technology and formerly an economist in both the Carter and Reagan administrations. Some economists believe busi-

ness pays as much as half the bill."

GAO study in Wall Street Journal, Feb. 23, 1993; Hopkins mentioned in Business Week, Feb. 22, 1993.

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3.) President Clinton would like to spend \$1 billion to create summer "jobs" for youth this year. Many Republicans, who oppose some of his job creation bill as "pork," nonetheless support the summer "jobs" portion.

Public policy writer James Bovard called the whole thing a "boondoggle" in a *Wall Street Journal* op-ed piece on March 5, 1993. Here are some choice quotes from his article:

"Elijah Anderson, a University of Pennsylvania sociologist, wrote, 'In many black communities, the (summer youth program) has... a reputation for being a sham and a waste of time.'"

"I visited some of the Washington (DC) sites in 1989. At the Marion Barry Youth Leadership Institute (named after the city's role-model mayor), young people 'worked' by having a rowdy talk of whether 'women are not interested in sex' and whether 'men want women to be submissive.' The director explained to me that the teenagers were learning 'conversational skills.' Many participants were shouting, throwing paperclips, and punching each other, and few were paying attention to the group leaders. In the afternoon, the youth were paid to work at basketball—a frequent 'occupational skill' underwritten by big-city summer jobs programs."

"Robert Woodson of the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise observes, 'The programs instill a false sense of work in kids and make it more difficult for them when they go out and try to get a real job.'"

"Federal training programs have a long record of blighting young Americans' economic prospects. The liberal Urban Institute concluded that the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, or CETA, which consumed over \$35 billion between 1974 and 1983, produced 'significant earnings losses for young men of all races and no significant effects for young women.'"

"Economist George E. Johnson, writing in the Brookings Institution study 'Creating Jobs,' estimated that the gross national product lost 34 cents in the long term for every dollar spent on public service employment job creation."

"At the same time (Secretary of Labor Robert) Reich is calling for massively expanding summer jobs programs, he is also advocating a boosting of the federal minimum wage. Yet, according to economist Carlos Bonilla of the Employment Policies Institute, boosting the minimum wage to \$5 an hour would destroy 442,000 jobs held by teenagers and young adults. Mr. Reich is thus simultaneously advocating policies to destroy teenagers' private jobs and to enroll more teens in make-work pseudo-jobs."

Bovard in Wall Street Journal, March 5, 1993.

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4.) "People who say there is no trade-off between regulation and employment are smoking something."

Dr. Sam Peltzman, economist at the University of Chicago business school; quoted in Business Week, Feb. 22, 1993.

Outreach Day

Saturday set for outreach at Celebrate Liberty!

Libertarian Party conventions offer us excellent opportunities to outreach to the public. Saturday's Karl Hess Institute offers several free-to-the-public presentations:

Dr. Bruce Daniels:

The Social Security Nightmare.

To put this as politely as possible, Social Security is a pyramid scheme, a fraud. Dr. Daniels, a California dentist and long-time LP advocate, presents a leading-edge viewpoint of where Social Security is headed.

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Authors of the best-seller "Life Extension", Durk and Sandy will discuss how the FDA denies consumers access to impor-

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3. *The Directory Of Innovative Medical Clinics*. If you were told you had an incurable disease would you believe your doctor? A disease your doctor says is "untreatable" may already have a cure that the FDA has not yet "approved" of. There are scientists with impeccable credentials who are effectively treating so-called "terminal" victims of cancer, Alzheimer's Disease, etc. You can now access these advanced research centers with *The Directory Of Innovative Medical Clinics*.
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Membership contest closes this month

By CAROLYN TREYNOR

How is your state doing in the membership contest?

June 30 is the cutoff date for competition among state parties to win the Robert E. Lehman membership award. Presentation of the cash award to two state organizations promises to be a highlight of the 1993 national convention in Salt Lake City. Recipients of the award will be the large state party and the small state party that have been most successful in increasing their membership during the contest period.

There's still some time left, so get those new members signed up!

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Convention speakers

Karl Hess Institute of Libertarian Politics at Celebrate Liberty!

Don Ernsberger

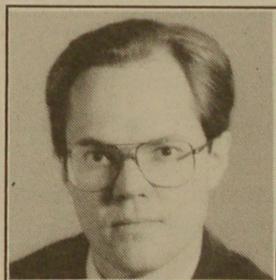


Don Ernsberger was there when it started—and has been there for the cause ever since. One of the original directors of the Society for Individual Liberty, he served on their board from 1969 to 1988. He has directed the "Committee for a Voluntary Census" in 1970 and 1980. He was active in anti-draft and anti-Vietnam War groups in the '60s and is currently a member of the LP National Committee. He graduated from Penn State in 1969 with a BA in American history.

Don is married to Mary Ward, and they have two children—Michelle (age 20) and Michael (age 11).

Don will participate in two presentations at Celebrate Liberty!: "A Look at Libertarian College Activism in the '60s and Today," and as part of a panel on Libertarian parenting. On this subject, Don says, "There are no formulas—only values."

Dr. Val Lambson



Dr. Val Lambson received his doctorate in economics from the University of Rochester in 1983. He has been an associate professor of economics at Brigham Young University since 1989. He is the author of a number of published papers and studies; his major fields of interest are economic theory, industrial organization, international trade, and development.

His presentation at Celebrate Liberty! will be "The Transition: Concrete proposals for moving toward a laissez faire economy." His talk will develop lessons from Eastern Europe, with applications to Social Security, publicly owned infrastructure, and other governmental operations.

An active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he will also participate in a panel discussing the relevance of libertarianism to Mormon culture.

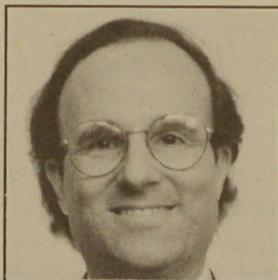
The rumor around the Utah LP is that of the seven members of the economics faculty at BYU, four voted for Andre Marrou and the others said they would have done so, except they thought voting for third parties was a waste of time.

Joan Kennedy Taylor



One of the leading lights of the Libertarian movement, author and journalist Joan Kennedy Taylor presents her reflections on the women's movement—where it's going, what its successes are, prognosis for the future. She is the author of two non-fiction books—"When to See a Psychologist" and "Reclaiming the Mainstream: Individualist Feminism Rediscovered," and has contributed to nine other non-fiction books. Her work has been published in Reason, Inquiry, Libertarian Review, Manhattan Report, Wall Street Journal, Freeman, Free Inquiry, and Success magazine. She was senior editor of Libertarian Review from 1979-1981, and was publications director for the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research from 1981-85. She is a regular contributor to the Cato Institute syndicated radio program "Byline." Ms. Taylor is currently the national coordinator for the Association of Libertarian Feminists.

Dr. Leon T. Hadar



Dr. Hadar is an adjunct professor in the School of International Service at the American University and an adjunct scholar in foreign policy studies at the Cato Institute. He has taught international and Middle East politics and has written extensively on these issues. He is the author of "Quagmire: America in the Middle East." The spring 1993 issue of Foreign Affairs has an article by him entitled "Political Islam: A Contrived Threat."

He received MA degrees in International Affairs and Journalism from Columbia University, and earned his doctorate at the School of International Service, American University. He was the UN bureau chief for the *Jerusalem Post* and has worked as a press officer and media analyst for several organizations, including the Israeli consulate in New York and the Israeli Labor Party.

Dr. Hadar will discuss current developments in the Middle East and participate in a roundtable discussion on post-Cold War U.S. foreign policy.

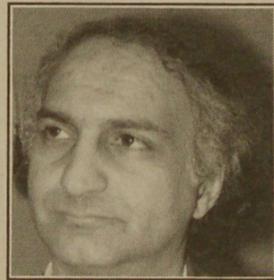
Terree Wasley



Ms. Wasley is an economic consultant specializing in health care, federal budget, and tax issues. Prior to consulting, she was an economist with the Economic Policy Division of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, DC. She was also the economist for a Virginia-based research foundation and worked on Capitol Hill as a congressional aide.

Ms. Wasley received a MA in economics from International College in California. Her economic analyses have been published by the Cato Institute, the Heritage Foundation, the Institute for Policy Innovation, Competitive Enterprise Institute, the National Chamber Foundation, Human Events, Conservative Digest, and the Freeman. She is the author of "What Has Government Done to Our Health Care?" and her presentation (which is free to the public) at Celebrate Liberty! is on that theme.

Dr. Dean Ahmad



Dean Ahmad was born in 1948, at sea, as his mother fled Irgun terrorism in her homeland of Palestine. He graduated cum laude from Harvard in 1970 and earned a doctorate in 1975 in astronomy and astrophysics from the University of Arizona. He is currently president and chief scientist of his own research firm, Imad-ad-Dean Inc. Dean has served on five LP Platform Committees, and is currently a member of the LP National Committee. In 1988, he was the LP candidate for U.S. Senate from Maryland. He teaches classes in religion and ethics and the Qur'an at the Islamic Weekend School. He is president of the Islamic-American Zakat Foundation, Muslim chaplain at the Clifton Perkins Hospital and Imam of the Dar-adh-Dhikr mosque in Bethesda. Dean is vice president of the Montgomery County Civic Federation and is married to Frances Eddy.

In 1992, his first book, "Signs in the Heavens: A Muslim Astronomer's Perspective on Religion and Science," was published. He is currently working on a book on Islam and economics based in part on research conducted on a grant from the Institute for Humane Studies.

At the convention, he will participate in a general roundtable discussion of religion and libertarianism, as well as presenting his thoughts on the current situation in the Middle East. He will also give an "open to the public" presentation, directed at the Islamic community, on Islam and Liberty.

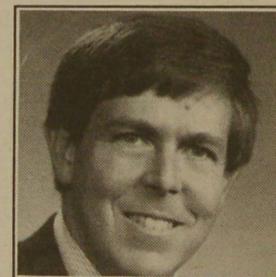
Larry Dodge



Dr. Larry Dodge earned his doctorate in sociology at Brown University in 1972, with specialties in community power, social control and deviant behavior, social class theory, and human ecology. He is a former sociology professor at the State University of New York (Plattsburgh) and the University of Montana. He has run for U.S. Senate, governor, and secretary of state (Montana) on the Libertarian Party ticket. He received 4-5% of the total vote in each race. He is currently a free-lance photographer and picture postcard publisher (Big Sky Magic Enterprises).

In recent years, Larry has concentrated his political efforts on the Fully Informed Jury Association, for which he is the national field coordinator. Larry will present a FIJA update and participate in activities celebrating National Jury Awareness Day.

Dr. Karl Hess Jr.



Karl is an environmental writer and policy analyst. He holds BA, MA, and Ph.D degrees, respectively, in economics, history, and ecology. He has spoken and written extensively about western lands and national environmental issues. His published books include "Visions Upon the Land: Man and Nature on the Western Range," and "Rocky Times in Rocky Mountain National Park." At this time, Karl is researching a book concerned with fundamental reform of the National Park Service. He is also working on a free market, environmental book entitled "Deep Market: Self Governance and the Pursuit of Good Environment." Karl is currently a senior associate with the Foundation for Research on Economics and the Environment in Seattle, and a senior fellow in environmental studies at the Cato Institute. He see **Convention speakers** on page 11

National Convention

Public hearings will highlight ballot access issues

By **BOB WALDROP**

Few issues are as crucial to the LP as that of ballot access.

While the pledge and platform are getting most of the attention right now, if we can't access the ballot, we can't be a political party. Restrictive ballot access laws contribute to the general feeling that this is a two's-company, three's-a-crowd election system. A victory on the ballot access issue would bring credibility to the Libertarian Party and position us for further gains in the 1990s.

In 1975, the United States joined with European countries in the "Conference on Security and Cooperation" in Europe, sometimes known as the "Helsinki Agreements." These agreements include references to basic human rights in the "Principles" section of "Basket I" (questions relating to the security in Europe) and "Basket III" (cooperation in humanitarian and other principles of international security which "govern relations between the state and its citizens"). This "Human Dimension" was redefined and expanded in a series of meetings in Paris, Copenhagen, and Moscow as well as at the Paris Summit of 1990 and the second Helsinki Summit of 1992. Each CSCE state (there are now 48) is commit-

How to beat them with their own rulebook

ted to ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, to abide by the rule of law, and to promote principles of democracy and democratic institutions, including free elections, and the protection of minorities and religious freedoms.

At the June 1990 Copenhagen Meeting, the United States solemnly agreed:

"(The Participating States) recognize that pluralistic democracy and the rule of law are essential for ensuring respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms. . . They recognize the importance of pluralism with regard to political organizations. . . they will ensure that their laws, regulations, practices, and policies conform with their obligations under international law and are brought into harmony with the provisions of the Declaration on Principles and other CSCE commitments. . . political parties will not be merged with the state. . . (the participating states) will . . . ensure . . . that (votes) are counted and reported honestly with the official results made public. . . respect the right of citizens to seek

political or public office, individually or as representatives of political parties or organizations, without discrimination."

The CSCE has an "Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights" (the ODIHR) in Warsaw, Poland, which is empowered to investigate human rights abuses and possibly negotiate solutions. But the ODIHR is not able to act on complaints received from individual citizens—it will take information from individuals and keep it in a file, but to initiate an investigation, one of the 48 participating states must make a request of the CSCE ODIHR.

In a letter to me dated March 18, 1993, Malgorzata Bueltel, a staff assistant in the Warsaw ODIHR office, states:

"I can assure you that the CSCE ODIHR will take all the necessary steps which fall within its mandate to assist in the resolution of this situation if the conditions governing the Human Dimension Mechanism are applied."

Translation: If just one country will make the request, the ODIHR will investigate ballot access and the rights of political minorities in the U.S.

Publicity materials for the ODIHR indicate that many private groups have had excellent success in bringing their problems before the ODIHR through lobbying the member states.

With the assistance of ISIL, Libertarians in Europe are contacting their governments

and asking them to request an ODIHR investigation of U.S. human rights abuses relating to the democratic rights of political minorities. It would be very helpful if Libertarians in the United States would write letters to ambassadors of these governments in Washington, DC, as well as to the ODIHR Warsaw office. We are inviting them to send observers to these hearings, and/or to receive a written transcript of the proceedings. (Contact MGP for a free address list and project/correspondence pack.) U.S. Libertarians with contacts in Europe can help this process by informing their friends/family in these areas of the situation and asking them to approach their governments on our behalf. (The 48 member countries are the U.S., Canada, all of Europe and the "Former Soviet Union," and Eastern Europe.)

The public hearings at Celebrate Liberty! are designed to bring media attention to bear on the violations of the democratic rights of Libertarian Party candidates, members, volunteers, organizations, and committees. We are seeking individuals willing to testify, as well as written and documentary evidence. The squeaking wheel gets the grease, and this is an opportunity to squeak very loudly on this crucial issue.

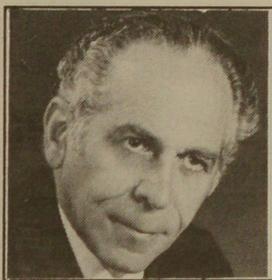
For information about Celebrate Liberty!, to book by phone on your credit card, or to speak with Bob Waldrop, call 1-801-582-3318.

Convention speakers

continued from page 10

will participate in the "Earth" component of the Karl Hess Institute discussion of environmental issues, with emphasis on the numerous problems associated with public lands, national parks, and national forests.

Dr. Thomas Szasz, M.D.



Dr. Szasz headlines the Dawns Early Light breakfast presentations. He is an adjunct scholar with the Cato Institute, and is currently professor of psychiatry emeritus at the State University of New York in

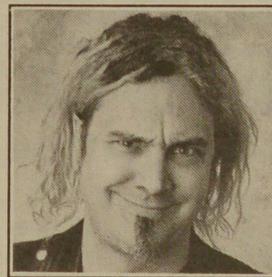
Syracuse. He is the author of 21 books, and approximately 600 articles, book chapters, book reviews, and newspaper columns.

Dr. Szasz is a serious critic of coercive psychiatry. He has compared modern psychiatrists to those who imprisoned and persecuted heretics in medieval Europe. As a psychiatrist, Szasz is happy to treat people who come to him of their own free will—but free will is essential. He has been enormously influential in drawing attention to the political and social power of psychiatrists—particularly in this age in which thousands of people each year are detained in hospitals against their will on the grounds that they are "psychiatrically ill." Szasz argues that "diminished capacity" defenses in criminal prosecutions should not be allowed. However disturbed people may be, they are responsible for their actions. His books include the "Myth of Mental Illness," "The Manufacture of Madness," and "The Myth of Psychotherapy." His most recent release is "A Lexicon of Lunacy," where he extends his analysis of psychiatric language to show how its misuse has resulted in a medicalized view of life that denies the reality of free will and responsibility.

His work also criticizes the War on Drugs as an institutionalized persecution of alternative lifestyles with little relevance to actual medical facts.

Dr. Szasz will speak at the Friday morning breakfast, and will also participate in a roundtable discussion on the War on Drugs.

Tim Slagle



And now, for something completely different, Celebrate Liberty! presents comic Tim Slagle, veteran of MTV and Showtime presentations, and several years of experience touring the national comedy circuit. Not since George Carlin or Lenny Bruce has America seen a comic as shocking, relevant, and funny as Tim Slagle.

But wait—there's more. Tim is a card-carrying, true-blue member of the Libertarian Party. Tim admits that his hairstyle is probably a mistake, but said "I've decided to keep it this way, mostly because my mom doesn't bitch about me not going to church anymore."

Discussing the Reagan administration's failed "crop substitution" program (which tried to get farmers to grow coffee instead of coca for cocaine), he says, "To replace the money spent by one cocaine user each week, the farmer would have to sell him 300 pounds of coffee and we'd have people

walking the streets with eyes as big as dinner plates, yelling, LEAVE ME ALONE!" He also notes that in Utah, a coffee thermos is probably considered drug paraphernalia.

You can hear Mike at the Green Dragon Inn Thursday night at the convention. He also opens the Freedom Rock program with a few well-chosen words directed at the twentysomething generation.

The above information was provided to the NEWS by Morning Glory Productions, P.O. Box 526175, Salt Lake City, UT 84152; 801-582-3318.

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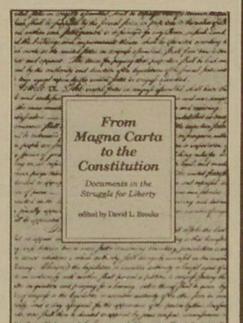
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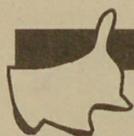
California

"Cop to Call Girl," the much-awaited book by **Norma Jean Almodovar**, the 1986 LP candidate for lieutenant governor of California, has finally been published by Simon & Schuster. Subtitled, "Why I Left the LAPD to Make an Honest Living as a Beverly Hills Prostitute," the book the LAPD tried to suppress is getting major media attention. Last month, Almodovar appeared on national television on The Joan Rivers Show, Montel Williams, Hard Copy, and more, and on radio with Larry King.

According to Simon & Schuster, "Cop to Call Girl" is "the tale of an intelligent and courageous woman who elected to leave the middle class life of law enforcement and cross the line to become a call girl—letting the chips fall where they may. In this streetwise and absorbing account of how corrupt cops go unpunished but honest 'bad girls' go to jail, the worlds of prostitution, the police, and Norma Jean Almodovar are fully explored." It's available in bookstores now.

Colorado

The state party has initiated the Legislative Liberty Line. By calling 303-839-9065, callers will hear a taped message concerning all the bills being considered at the state legislature during any given day. Members are urged to write or call their representatives with either support or opposition to bills.



National pulse

News from the states

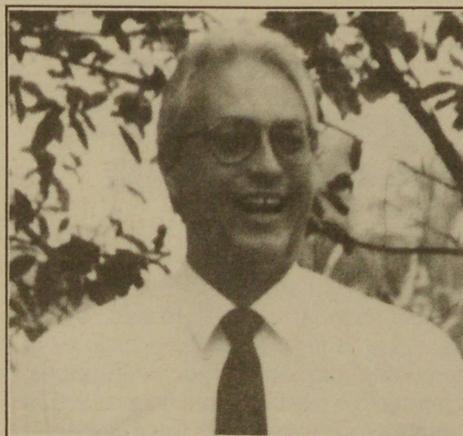
"We've found that we can support about 20 percent of the bills introduced, and your calls and postcards do make a difference," said **David Aitken**, state chair.

Florida

The Pinellas County LP (PCLP), in conjunction with the **Paul Crumrine** campaign for the state house in 1994, held a political rally in mid-April. Along with the typical speeches and fundraising, the event included a voter registration booth manned by **Jim Pruitt**, PCLP vice chair, who took a special course to become a deputy voter registrar for the county. In addition, **David Forty**, PCLP secretary, manned a politically active booth and promoted new membership, while **Harry Reid** handled questions from the audience. Reid was so convincing that a number of attendees changed their political registration to Libertarian immediately following his remarks.

Georgia

Members of the Muscogee County LP (MCLP) recently fought against a proposed sales tax in their county. The MCLP sponsored a forum that presented both sides of the sales tax issue. "The Libertarian forum had over 53 persons attending, which was twice the number that had shown up at the



NEWS photo by Charles Baker
CANDIDATE - Paul Crumrine of Florida promises a crowd, "I will be the first Libertarian elected to the Florida State House!"

city sponsored forum," according to **Cassonya Douglass**, MCLP secretary. Although the sales tax passed, the Libertarians captured the attention of the public, the media, and elected officials. The mayor of Columbus even dropped by to assure MCLP members that he was fiscally conservative and that maybe next time he and the Libertarians would be on the same side.

MCLP members who were very active in the campaign against the sales tax included **Don and Cassonya Douglass, Dr. D. Stephen Hollis, Steve Bellofatto, and Riley Lane.**

In Fulton County, LP member **Tom Peary** led a fight against legislation that would have required that 1.5 percent of county funded construction and renovation budgets be spent on works of art.

Peary, a well-known musician and underwater photographer, told the county commission he thought their spending plan was "the height of arrogance and irresponsibility." Peary's alternative suggestion of leasing the spaces to artists or having the art provided by building occupants was completely ignored.

In the end, the plan was reduced to 1 percent. "At least they will only spend \$100,000 per ten million instead of \$150,000. It's a small victory for taxpayers," Peary said.

Illinois

Scott Tillman and **Greg James** have a Saturday afternoon libertarian radio show, entitled "Rights and Insights," on WTAF-FM 102.

Indiana

Indiana Libertarians voted at their state

convention to eliminate the membership pledge, or oath, requirement from the state bylaws.

The state LP elected the following new officers at its convention: **Barbara Bourland**, (re-elected) chair; **Brent Snow**, vice chair; **Brad Stephenson**, secretary; **Karen Benson**, (re-elected) treasurer.

Missouri

An omnibus election bill that included The Fair Ballot Access Act has passed both the state house and senate and goes to the governor for his signature, according to **Ken Bush**, local LP activist. The bill cuts the ballot access signature total to 10,000 at-large signatures, and also ends the requirement to list candidates on the back of each petition. The bill passed the senate by a 145-8 vote, and the house by a 30-2 vote. The governor has until July 14 to sign the bill.

Texas

LP candidate **Rick Draheim** finished 11th in a 24-way race for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Lloyd Bentsen.

Wisconsin

The state LP elected officers at the mid-April convention. New officers include: **Ron Emery** of Grafton, chair; **Gene A. Cisewski** of Madison, vice chair; **Tom Koplun** of Waukesha, secretary; and **Mike Stafford** of West Allis, treasurer.

The state party recently got its own 800 telephone number, and paid to have the number listed in phone books of the 21 largest municipalities in the state.

Kevin Scheunemann, chair of the Washington County LP, has his own weekly column in The UWM Times, a 15,000 circulation newspaper at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Scheunemann, a UWM student, uses his column to attack bureaucracy and waste in the state university system, as well as to attack political correctness.

Three LP candidates have declared their campaigns for two vacant seats in the state assembly, making a Libertarian primary necessary.

Larry Boger, 35, and **Steve Deibert**, 20, will face off in a June 1 primary for the assembly seat covering the Milwaukee suburb of Wauwatosa. The winner will face a Democrat and Republican in the June 29 general election.

Phil Mielke of Fitchburg, a Madison suburb, is seeking a vacant assembly seat. The general election will also be a three-way race.



Spend the 4th of July with
THOMAS JEFFERSON!
(Clay Jenkinson) and Gene Burns

In December 2, 1991, a unique political and entertainment event occurred in New Hampshire: **Gene Burns**, the wildly popular Libertarian talk show host, appeared on stage for two hours to interview Thomas Jefferson, the nation's third and perhaps most Libertarian president.

The intellectual sparks flew as Burns discussed everything from the Founding Fathers, to Jefferson's bad habits, to philosophy, to the Declaration of Independence, to modern politics and culture with Jefferson (actually, Clay Jenkinson, an Oxford-educated, nationally known Jefferson scholar and performer).

Controversial

Quoting extensively from Jefferson's writings, speeches, and personal letters, Jenkinson brought the Founding Father to life as a witty, opinionated, and occasionally controversial human being. No matter what question Burns asked him — whether about Jefferson's role as an inventor, husband, diplomat, wine connoisseur, or politician — Jenkinson was able to answer it, sparking laughter with witty asides, acerbic comments, and timely quotes.

Highlighting the evening were spontaneous and unexpected questions from the audience, everything from "What would be your favorite food if you returned today?" to "Did Jefferson really discuss smoking marijuana with George Washington?"

"More fun!"

By the end of the evening, Gene Burns, smiling broadly, exclaimed to the audience: "I think I had more fun than you did!"

This high-quality, two-hour tape is a revealing introduction to the life of Jefferson, an entertaining lesson in early American life, an awe-inspiring glimpse of the wide-ranging intellect and verbal agility of Gene Burns—and the perfect video to watch on the 4th of July!

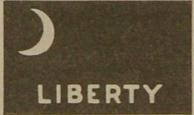
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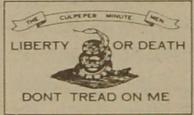
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RULES

I. The essay may be any length, however 1000 words is recommended, and the judges reserve the right to not read beyond 2000 words. The essay must be typewritten or computer printed. The deadline for entering is July 31, 1993. The topic may be any of these:

1. Why the Libertarian Party should keep the membership statement.
2. Why the Libertarian Party should keep the current procedures for the platform.
3. How the Libertarian Party can become more broadly based and reach out to politically sympathetic constituencies.
4. How the Libertarian Party can grow faster and remain principled.
5. How the Libertarian Party can be more effective and remain principled.

II. You need not be a member of PLEDGE or of the Libertarian Party to win.

III. The winners will be announced, and the prizes presented, at the Libertarian Party national convention in Salt Lake City during the first week of September 1993. All judges' decisions are final. You need not be present to win or to receive your prize. The prizes are a grand prize of \$250 and two runner up prizes of \$125 each.

IV. Send all entries to PLEDGE, 655 Lewelling Boulevard, Suite 143, San Leandro, CA 94579. Include your name, address, and telephone number.

V. All entries will become property of PLEDGE and may be quoted in part or in full (with credit to the author) in PLEDGE literature and advertising. Entries will not be returned.

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Tax Protests

Libertarians nationwide turn out for annual Tax Protest Day

Libertarians across the country turned out to express their disgust for government theft on April 15, Tax Protest Day.

In St. Louis, MO, Libertarians, organized by local activist Ken Bush, demonstrated in front to the Federal Reserve Bank.

At the protest the crowd carried signs, one of which read, "Taxes are revolting—Why aren't you?"

Using a small acetylene torch decorated with the LP logo and labeled "Torch of Liberty," the crowd ceremoniously burned 1040 forms at 10:40 a.m. Bush exclaimed, "We're now making the short forms even shorter."

The picketers were an eclectic bunch: men and women of many races, ranging in age from seven to 60. "We had businesspeople and blue collar workers, students, and folks from Czechoslovakia and Honduras who recently became citizens," Bush noted.

The protest garnered a great deal of local media attention for Libertarians, including a report on CNN, the satellite/cable television network. Television cameras zoomed in on 1040 tax forms blazing away and being reduced to ashes.

"It's ironic that my local protest in St. Louis provided North and South Americans, as well as Europeans and Mid-Easterners with dramatic proof that the natives here are restless about their taxing authority," Bush said. "CNN is seen over much of the world, so millions of viewers saw that

even in America there's healthy open resistance to IRS—our KGB!"

In Cincinnati, OH, Libertarians were well represented at a massive anti-tax rally held in the city's downtown center. A crowd estimated at 3,000 jammed Fountain Square to listen to an hour-long program consisting of anti-tax and anti-spending speakers, several patriotic songs, and a Boston Tea Party reenactment, in which several "Indians" in Cleveland Indians baseball garb dumped hundreds of tea bags into a rowboat beneath the podium.

Several supporters of Advocates for Self-Government, Everett and Carolyn DeJager, Steve Schulte, and Joe and Melany Wartman, passed out more than 1,000 World's Smallest Political Quizzes. Schulte reported that 49 percent of the respondents scored in the libertarian quadrant.

Two local LP members joined some 25 other event organizers and local politicians on stage. They were Jim Berns, a longtime candidate for various political offices in Ohio, and Sally Moore, who officially represented Libertarians for Greater Cincinnati (LGC), a local umbrella association for all libertarian groups in the tri-state area. LGC was an official event endorser.

Additionally, WCKY radio talk show host Mike McMurray, who is an admitted libertarian and who announced on the air at election time his intention to vote for Andre Marrou, acted as the Tea Party emcee.

The Tea Party received a great deal of

local media attention—radio, television, and newspapers. The event was featured in a lengthy editorial in the *Cincinnati Enquirer*.

Organizers of the event are currently planning to make the Tea Party a national protest by restaging it in Washington, DC, sometime in the near future, or by holding simultaneous rallies in various cities. Organizers are interested in hearing from concerned taxpayers and libertarians from all over the country to help organize a nationwide "Taxed Enough Already" (TEA) protest. To offer your support, contact Patricia Cooksey at 513-777-8120 or Brenda Kuhn at 513-451-1593.

In Peoria, IL, Libertarian Robin Miller and his 6-year-old stepson Sean Cochren joined with other Libertarians outside the main post office. Cochren carried a sign that read, "How Much Will I Pay?"

"The process we're protesting here is institutional, organized theft," said Miller. "If the fruits of my labor are being taken from me, what does that make me? I'm either a victim of theft or a slave."

The protest drew the attention of the Peoria *Journal Star*, which ran an article and large color photograph of the protest.

Shortly after Tax Protest Day, Libertarian Len Karpinski took to the streets in Anchorage, AK, to protest a local city sales tax. Karpinski donned a pig suit and carried a sign which read, "Feed Me! Vote for the Sales Tax." Karpinski was interviewed on local television, and the *Anchorage Daily*

News carried a front-page color photo of him in the pink pig suit holding the sign with the LP national telephone number prominently displayed.

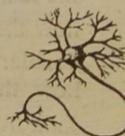
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“Hit ‘em Where They Ain’t, Part III”

By Jim Burns with Scott Kjar

I. A Media Catch-22, and The Need To Be Perot-Proof

We need media coverage to win, but we need to win in order to gain media coverage. It's a classic Catch-22.

The news media have many reasons to ignore us. In close races, we are ignored because we can have no impact on the final result. In landslides, we are ignored because we are not a contender. When a strong independent candidate runs, such as Ross Perot or John Anderson, we are ignored because people can cast their protest votes for other candidates. We need to make sure that we are not ignored.

The Hit 'Em Where They Ain't proposal handles all three of those situations. In a close race, a single state's electoral votes could be the difference. This would require the media to pay attention to our state, and therefore to us.

In a landslide, the fact that we even take a state could make electoral history. If we're lucky, we might even be able to stress the possibility of our eclipsing the party that was trounced, and thus become the nation's second party. (That's how the Republicans became more popular than the Whigs, and it's how the Progressive Party nearly took over during this century.)

Strong independent candidates generally rely on some type of personal appeal. For example, Ross Perot and George Wallace both garnered support from people who liked their personal leadership qualities and no-nonsense approaches to problems. Yet, the system is set up to prevent the independent candidate from winning. By keeping our focus tight, we can prevent such candidates from stealing our thunder. After all, we will be right there, talking face-to-face with people, rather than simply mouthing platitudes and talking on television. Nothing beats a personal contact, and independent candidates simply can't get enough personal contact to make themselves viable.

II. Hit 'em Where They Ain't

In February, I laid out the basics of a plan of attack for the 1996 Presidential Campaign. Quite simply, it called for allocating the bulk of our presidential campaign resources into one state — New Hampshire. This is based on the belief that if we specifically target one key area, and put everything we've got into it, WE COULD WIN IT! New Hampshire was chosen because it has a strong and growing Libertarian Party, because it is fairly small in population and area, and because it has a very politically

sophisticated electorate.

A key component of the plan is to target New Hampshire AFTER the other parties had already left. New Hampshire traditionally gets inundated with candidates for several months before their primary, and then they get ignored for the remaining 10 months until election day. That's our target time: that's when we can hit 'em where they ain't. We can go in, give full explanations of our ideas instead of 6 second sound bites, and lay out all details about our plans and programs.

In April, I provided more information about the plan, including ways of targeting, ideas about the appropriate ticket combination, timing of activities, and so on. So far, I have received approximately 100 letters, giving ideas, suggestions, and support. It's clear that there is a strong constituency looking for a way to change the course of the Libertarian Party.

III. Ballot Access

Of course, the Hit 'em plan is NOT just about New Hampshire; it's about the entire libertarian movement! Before you can have a second success, you need a first. Truly, it has been said that the longest journeys start with a single step. The time has come for us to take that first major step, to achieve that first major victory. One must crawl before walking, and walk before running. We envision ourselves in a sprint, but we are still preparing to take our first tentative step. We have learned to crawl; our successes in Alaska, New Hampshire, and elsewhere have shown that we can crawl. It's time to grow up and start walking. Let's just do it!

After all, nothing succeeds like success. Our efforts in New Hampshire can pay off by increasing our vote totals everywhere if we have ballot access across the country. If we can demonstrate the ability to be successful in just one place — especially if it has any potential impact on the national election — we can get the media coverage that we desire so much. With media coverage comes the opportunity to build and grow across the nation. And that, after all, is what we are seeking.

We all know that planning makes a big difference when it comes to ballot access. Perot is said to have spent as much as \$15 million to get it; we spent about \$500 thousand, and were on all of the same ballots as Perot. The difference was that we set up a plan, started working on it early, and followed it to fruition. The same

thing is true now of Ed Clark's Project 51-96, a drive to get the LP on the ballot across the country. For people who are specifically interested in assisting that project, they can contribute to Project 51-96, 1600 43rd Avenue East #202, Seattle, WA 98112-3247.

IV. Hit 'em Where They ARE!

While we will be targeting voters that have been used and discarded by the major parties, that doesn't mean that we're going to ignore those major parties. In fact, we're going to spend our 10 months explaining everything that is wrong, illogical, and just plain dumb about their proposals. We'll tie the Republicans and Democrats together on the many issues in which they are equally wrong — sometimes in the exact same way.

For example, the Democrats and Republicans are falling all over themselves on the health care issue. Hillary Clinton is proposing that we nationalize all doctors. The Republicans are countering with a plan whereby we only nationalize SOME doctors. Either way, the plan sucks. We can hit this issue, demonstrate clearly that it is government regulations which limit the number of health care providers and drives up costs. We can stress ending the monopoly, and show how freedom works.

Likewise, taxes and spending are another excellent example. The Democrats blame the federal debt and the budget deficit on the last 12 years of Republican administrations. Yet, the Clinton budget plan calls for MORE SPENDING, particularly on those pesky transfer programs! Likewise, the Republicans are pointing fingers at the Democrats, but keep pushing for ever-more military spending. Hey, spending is spending!

There are dozens of examples of programs where the Democrats and Republicans claim to disagree, but in virtually every single instance, the only disagreement is over how big the increase in spending should be. We can nail them again and again on these issues.

V. The Tide of History

We all know that libertarianism has the tide of history on its side. Year after year, culture after culture, country after country, statist totalitarianism has been tried. There was ancient despotism, justified by Plato. There was middle age feudalism, supported by European aristocracy. There was monarchy, justified by Tudor-Stuart apologists. There was communism, espoused by Marx. There remains welfare statism, as envisioned by Keynes.

Yet, despite their attempts to

repackage it, state control is state control; whether under the guise of a benevolent king, or controlled by a ruthless dictator, state control has yielded thousands of years of misery.

Of course, libertarianism can't make the lame walk, or the blind see. However, it can unleash human potential, thus opening the door for the technological advancements which, in fact, may help the lame to walk, or the blind to see. After all, history has shown again and again that increases in living standards come almost exclusively from free people, and that captive people struggle simply to maintain their standard of living.

Compare the increases in the standard of living in the U.S. during the last 75 years with the standard of living in the Soviet Union between the Bolshevik revolution and the breakup of the empire. Here, capital was created; there, capital was consumed.

These are the issues we need to stress, but we need time and direction to do it. Putting our resources into a single target area allows us to make these points, and to reinforce them, until the people begin to understand. By staying diffuse in our attack, we dilute our own message, until we spread ourselves so thin that we accomplish little.

VI. Opportunity Knocks

Answer the damn door!

We've built a great mousetrap, now we must sell it. Of course, now is the time to sell it, because the dissatisfaction with politics-as-usual is reaching all-time highs. People are screaming for alternatives, and we have the solutions they are seeking. All we have to do is show them our solutions, explain why they work, and then reap the rewards.

We have the opportunity to win a state. We have the opportunity to establish real credibility. We have the opportunity to develop our position papers into products that can be released for the entire world to read. We have the opportunity to become a voice not only of idealism but of common sense. We have the opportunity to succeed.

It's time to stop looking for opportunity. After all, it's knocking at the door.

Comments—pro and con—about this plan are appreciated. If you don't like it, tell me why. If you do like it, pledge to support it. Send your name and pledge—send no money—to Jim Burns, PO Box 3752, North Las Vegas, NV 89036-3752.

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Letters

Members on the debate, Stern, elections, NRA, and more

Correction

I believe there are two factual errors in the LP 1992 Annual Report, printed on page 16 of the May 1993 NEWS.

1.) The report says our 23 candidates for the U.S. Senate was the most number of U.S. Senate candidates by any third party since 1914.

It's true the LP U.S. Senate candidates, together, polled the highest national vote total of any third party for that office, since 1914. But it's not true that we had the most number of U.S. Senate candidates of any third party since 1914.

The Socialist Party had 25 candidates for the U.S. Senate in 1934 and 29 such candidates in 1916.

2.) The list of states in which the LP retained ballot status after November 1992 omits Vermont. In Vermont, a qualified minor party is one which is organized in at least 10 towns. We meet that standard.

Richard Winger
San Francisco, CA

Debate

I support dropping the pledge. I'm a hard-core libertarian, but it makes me squirm to sign it. It seems cult-like. Let's be tolerant and trusting. It works better than what seems like a loyalty oath.

Dennis Cauchon
Arlington, VA

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

I am extremely disappointed, saddened, and angered by the news of the discarding [of the] member's certification [for the LP of Illinois]. To me it is a distinguishing principle that I take very seriously. Now a small band of party activists have voted to trash (discard) this certification, giving unreasonable arguments that are unprincipled and proclaimed-to-be "pragmatic."

In protest, I am withdrawing my name as a "Life Member" of the LP of Illinois (LPI), until such time as the certification is restored and once again held high, distinguishing "The Party of Principle" (not "The Party of Pragmatism-As-Usual"). This "non-initiation principle," as it has come to be called, was the primary motivator for my joining in founding the LPI; its dismissal is my primary motivator in withdrawing from the current LPI.

Richard S. Latimer
Wheaton, IL

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It seems to me that the oath or pledge question is getting blown out of proportion. I don't mind signing the statement because I feel like John Hancock, I want people to know how I feel.

How about if we just add one symbol and one word to the statement, "optional." After all, in order to effect change in the political process, we need all the members that we can get. Nobody would be forced to sign.

Gene Bauman
West Valley City, UT

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

I was delighted to see that I could pay my subscription this year without signing the pledge. Even a fanatical Libertarian such as myself could not avoid a cringe at having to sign that. I've been a Libertarian



Staying in touch

Letters to the editor

for close to 20 years and I was delighted to see in the NEWS people talking about compromises, attracting more people, having practical plans that might actually pass into law. In the history of political parties, this usually coincides with the time when members actually get elected, or better still, when other parties start to steal their ideas. A party that splits, that remains pure and keeps its principles no matter what, tends only to take power by armed coup. Since our whole point is not to do that, the impotence of an absolutely pure Libertarian Party is guaranteed. Let's face it, if even 10 percent of our platform aims were achieved, it would be the most profound revolution since 1776. That's plenty good enough for me.

Trevor Pitts
Kensington, CA

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There is nothing un-Libertarian about taking an oath. John Galt took an oath! This country's founders took an oath! The anti-oath mentality embraces a trend that saddens every decent, thinking person I have ever met, and that is the loss of respect for honor.

I have seen no reason, other than political expediency, advanced in favor of eliminating the pledge. That mentality is the very evil we have been fighting.

Dr. Lord's suggestion that we must "become serious about participating in the political process" is particularly offensive to those of us who have spent decades voting Libertarian and working for the party of principle. We were and are most serious. We do not intend to allow the party of principle to become just another political party.

Now that we are winning elections, it is more important than ever to cling strongly to our principles. It would be a sad mistake to assume that a Libertarian elected to office would be immune from the corrupting influence of power, especially if the party itself has already begun to favor rationalization over rationality and appeasement over principle.

Elizabeth Macron
Howell, NJ

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Doesn't such an oath or pledge fly in the face of the most fundamental concepts of the LP? Advocating liberty and freedom seems exclusive of any requirement to swear, pledge, or affirm a binding restriction such as an oath. How often should we take this oath? What if someone has a change of heart or disagrees with "official party policy" on an issue? Will demerits be assigned?

Considering the political reality of recent vote counts does it make any sense whatsoever to provide a barrier—no matter how small—to LP participation?

The requirement for oath taking by the LP body politic is goofy. Hopefully, this is

a party of mature adults and not some three-fingered Boy Scout project.

There is, however, at least one justifiable use for an LP oath and that is by the officers. Party officials, spokespersons, candidates, and other representatives should take the oath and be held accountable to it. These individuals are under obligation to uphold LP constructs and principles. They speak not for themselves alone but for all of us and have a mandate to hold true to the beliefs of those who support them.

These types of responsibilities constitute the only legitimate reason for oaths of any sort.

Since I'm not an LP officer, I'm not taking any oath. Does this mean I'm no longer a libertarian? Should I stop voting for LP candidates? Should I stop making monetary contributions to the party? Ha!

Doesn't the party have more important business to attend?

Neil Rinearson
Falls Church, VA

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It may be difficult to remember at times, but the LP does not exist to win elections, it exists to advance liberty. If we abandon our principles in order to win elections, we will have lost, not won!

If someone is reluctant to sign the pledge, perhaps it's because they aren't a libertarian. Do we really want people who do advocate the initiation of force voting on our platform, and selecting our candidates? Even running for office under our banner? If we are to have any hope at all of maintaining our political identity, of remaining a Libertarian party, we must restrict membership on ideological grounds. It's unavoidable. Open membership is what turned the Democrats and Republicans into Tweedledum and Tweedledee.

Brett P. Bellmore
Capac, MI

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Let me get this straight:

1.) The LP platform contains proposals calling for at least one, if not several, Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

2.) Amending the U.S. Constitution requires the support of two-thirds of both Houses of Congress and then three-fourths of the states. At last count, the LP has zero members in Congress.

3.) Yet, prominent LP writers continue to announce that they are so really, really principled, that they don't have much use for such silly, low-down things as votes.

Let me get this straight . . .

Stephen Cain
Bangkok, Thailand

Stern notice

I can't believe everybody has missed it. The King of Radio, Howard Stern, is basically a libertarian. Although he calls himself a Republican, he is for drug legalization, has no problem with homosexuality, and hates the religious "right." He also prefers that the market determine the success of his show and not the FCC. He feels that the FCC is after him because of his criticism of Bush or of

some senators.

As of now he has over 10 million reported listeners in only 15 cities. He plans to go national in about 200 cities. I am sure if you get in the debates in 1996 he'll support you, unless the FCC gets him.

By the way, he has had former Eastside High principal Joe Clark on his show, and he has a lot of respect for him.

Tom Fein
Wayne, NJ

NRA

I have seen some letters in the NEWS lately that speak favorably of the National(ist) Rifle Association. I am an ex-member of the NRA; I quit because of their total lack of libertarian perspective. The NRA is the only so-called gun rights advocate group that actually supported the passage of the 1934 NFA, the 1968 GCA, and the 1986 machine gun ban. A very poor track record for a group that claims to support the Second Amendment rights of Americans. Every one of these laws is mentioned in the LP platform as being in need of repeal.

Further, the NRA uses its membership funds to finance the training of police to kill citizens, presumably for the purpose of creating a more efficient police state.

If any readers of this feel that they must join or support a gun rights group, my suggestion is to consider the Gun Owners of America. Another reasonably libertarian gun rights group is the Second Amendment Foundation.

Bill Arnold
Juneau, AK

County level

I received an invitation from a local Libertarian about forming a county LP. County level is really the key to grass roots success.

One thing that became important to me was that the LP could put itself on the map on a local level by running slates for school board vacancies; by promoting independence by exempting an individual's primary residence from school tax if one or more, but all, of their children attend private or parochial school at their own expense. No "vouchers" or other "state" complications or involvement. Real choice would be available. All would benefit since per-child cost for "government" school is \$5,000-\$6,000.

Libertarians could also have a real platform of no closed door meetings, cutting or eliminating administration (fat!) costs, etc.

Using this forum, voters could give more credence to other LP candidates for other offices.

John Coggin
Ithaca, NY

Election system

The LP has a right to be like other parties by asking for money to fund Libertarian candidates. However, true libertarians (small L) should push for a more noble election system that is abhorrent to money, so people who want see **Letters** on page 17

Letters

continued from page 16

to serve rather than influence are attracted to politics. We should be disgusted that people drop out of elections from lack of money. That may be the present reality, but libertarians should change unjust realities, not join them!

TV gets candidates known and turns out the vote, so with an innovative election system PACs and money from the candidate and party are outdated. One such system might be to have a "political tournament" that anyone can enter if they have the required number of signatures. A series of debates followed by voting in geographical, population balanced regions with advancement to a "semi finals" and so on until the eastern and western champions square off for the popular vote of the country, might be the format. Just as the NFL is responsible for the TV contracts, playing fields, and jerseys of their teams, an independent election league might ensure that all candidates have equal TV opportunities for rallies and debates (at no cost to the "fans") and an equal amount of money to travel and to print banners and position papers. The Dallas Cowboys won the Super Bowl by the merit of their play, not their money. I would appreciate feedback to see if consensus can be found on this issue.

Martin Schwab
Oxford, OH

War on drugs

Only natural selection can win the war on drugs. In the long run, the species will benefit if self destructive individuals are allowed to kill themselves off, before they can kill others. Attempts by the government to forestall natural law are doomed to failure.

Dan O'Haire
Arvada, CO

Elected Libertarians

Many thanks to Bob Patchin and Bonnie Flickinger for successfully putting Libertarian principles to practical effect as elected Libertarian city council people. Purist Libertarians who limit their activism to sloganeering, don't appreciate how much skill and hard work goes into bringing about real world Libertarian change.

It is time for the Libertarian national and state party newsletters to begin reporting in detail on how our elected representatives are putting what we believe into practice. They deserve the recognition for the job they are doing. And the newsletters can provide the forum for practical libertarian solutions. Most of the statist programs we oppose are spread that way in newsletters of various special interest groups.

Randall Grindle
Lower Lake, CA

Waco

I feel Dr. Paul's assessment (May 1993 NEWS) was overly simplistic. He overlooked the other favorite reason for government intervention into a living situation other than seizure of property for guns and drugs, and that is allegations of child abuse. Remembering that government officials are human beings with hot buttons, it's clear that this issue was the hot button for both Clinton and Reno. Both officials gambled political capital on a

peaceful end to the situation and clearly lost.

What stories written about this fail to mention is how much this cost the U.S. Treasury to wait for seven weeks after a deadly shootout, and further, what possible reason was there to feel a peaceful resolution could result after the shootout—other than withdrawal by federal agents? The answer is that when you mix stupidity (government) with foolishness (Branch Davidians) you get Waco. Libertarians should be ashamed to use Waco as an

example of common government harassment.

Jeff Kelly
Kingston, NY

Get active

The purpose for joining [the LP] should not be whether or not we are good enough to meet some sort of standards, but rather on the basis that we advocate personal and economic liberty and less government dependence on deciding how we should live our own lives.

When I first joined 10 months ago, the

ideas advocated were completely new to me. Taking its current status into consideration, I gave the LP a chance, and I have now become a loyal follower, and a steadfast believer and advocate of the advancement of the personal and economic liberties that we take for granted.

All I suggest is to be patient and give things a chance. Better yet, why not become active in changing things instead of complaining?

Brian M. Cost
Highland, IN

WHY I SUPPORT REFORM



DR. NANCY LORD
1992 LP CANDIDATE
FOR VICE PRESIDENT

As your candidate for Vice President, I campaigned in 31 states and more than 150 towns and cities. I met the people who were suffering under our government's policies: the failed "War on Drugs;" higher and higher taxes; the growing threat of socialized medicine. These people need help today. They don't need philosophical discussions about how many libertarians can dance on the head of a pin. They need elected Libertarians at all levels of government who will say "NO" to the big government agendas of the Democrats and Republicans.

The Libertarian Party cannot continue to be a debating club. We must become a viable, active political party. We must compete in the political arena. And, we must win!

We can only do this if we expand our membership to include all libertarians, and if we present our message in a more positive and focused manner. We can do this without ever sacrificing our principles. That is why I support reform.

If you agree, please join us.

Join the Committee for a Libertarian Majority.

Yes! I support reforms that will build a bigger, stronger Libertarian Party.

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Enclosed is my contribution of _____.

Mail to:

Committee for a Libertarian Majority
3180 Clairmont Road, #506 Atlanta, GA 30329

Strong medicine

Dave offers his own program for health-care reform

For several months, the nation's top political, legal, and medical minds, under the direction of Hillary Rodham Jefferson Clinton, have been working around the clock to develop a long-overdue plan for reforming the nation's troubled health-care system. This is stupid. The reason our health-care system got so troubled in the first place is that it is infested with political, legal, and medical minds. What we need is some human minds working on this problem, which is why today I am going to present my Health Care Reform Package.

In case you're wondering about my qualifications, I happen to be a 1965 graduate of the prestigious Pleasantville (NY) High School, where I studied Health under Mr. Beatty, under whom I also studied gym. Mr. Beatty taught us many fundamental health concepts, the main one being that if you were having a private conversation in class, Mr. Beatty would come up from behind and whack your head in an educational manner.

I also took Mrs. Wright's biology course, wherein I learned that a leading cause of unhealthiness is worms. Mrs. Wright spent a LOT of time on parasites. It turns out that



On the light side

Dave Barry
Columnist

there are little worms everywhere—in the ground, in the water, in pork, floating around in the air—trying to get into your body so they can munch on your innards and attain lengths of up to 257 feet. And when I say "your body," I of course mean "my body." Every time Mrs. Wright brought up a new worm, I became obsessed with the idea that it was occupying me. I even experienced some of the symptoms.

My Mom: Do you want some more stew?

Me: No th...

Muffled Voice From Inside My Body: YES!

(CLARIFICATION: Before I get deluged with angry, strong-smelling letters from members of the American Pig Farming Council, let me stress here that it is perfectly safe to eat pork, provided that you cook it thoroughly, then, if it's still moving, whack it with a crowbar.)

Another reason why I'm qualified as a health-care expert is that I have a son whose life's goal is to obtain at least one suture in every emergency room in North America. This leans I spend a lot of time filling out medical forms and reading correspondence from the insurance company. You know how scientists have spent years beaming powerful radio signals into space, trying to contact alien life forms? Well, they could save themselves a lot of trouble by simply visiting my insurance company, because the correspondence I receive clearly is not being generated by earthlings. ("Explanation: Your total in-network, out-of-pocket nonredeemable disqualifiable deductible exemption may not have already exceeded by 12 percent or less the patient exacerbation fee or the cosine of the remainder, whichever would be harder for you to grasp.")

So I definitely know something about the health-care system. Here is my program for reforming it:

POINT ONE: Everybody give me 50 push-ups RIGHT NOW.

No wait, that's Mr. Beatty's health-care program. Mine is as follows:

POINT ONE: Every American citizen, regardless of age or income group, has the absolute and fundamental right not to have to listen to any other American citizen describe his or her medical problems.

POINT TWO: Medical science should stop coming out with new disorders. We already have plenty of disorders, but every time you open a newspaper you see an article about how medical science has discovered, say, carpal tunnel syndrome, which

nobody ever heard of before and which actually sounds like a fish disease, but which suddenly afflicts one out of every six Americans. If medical science won't stop doing this, we should gather one out of every six Americans together in a large auditorium and tell them to stop reading the newspaper.

POINT THREE: Companies should stop attempting to educate adult employees about health and safety issues via campaigns that are geared, intellectually, for pre-school children. This is dangerous. My company, The Miami Herald, once had a program based around a cartoon character named "Safety Bear." Safety Bear appeared on educational posters, giving us helpful tips like: "Don't drop heavy metal objects on your foot!" and "Don't fall on your head from a great height!" After a couple of weeks of exposure to Safety Bear, most of us were looking for ways to have industrial accidents.

POINT FOUR: If you have an appointment to see a doctor, and you have to wait for more than 30 minutes, then you get to give the doctor a shot.

POINT FIVE: There should be some reading matter in the waiting room besides an issue of Sports Illustrated devoted to the question of who will win the 1987 Super Bowl.

POINT SIX: The term "reading matter" does not exclude the swimsuit issue.

POINT SEVEN: There needs to be a LOT more research on these worms. Muffled Voice From Inside My Body: NO!

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BILLBOARD - The red, white, and blue billboard pictured above is located on the property of Pocono Libertarian Bud Ruehle in Brodheadsville, PA, on one of the busiest highways in the Poconos. Ten miles north on this highway is the main gate of Pocono International Speedway and five miles beyond that are two of the area's major ski slopes. "So in every season, there have been tens of thousands of people exposed to our message," Ruehle said. Libertarians Bob and Pat Cornish were also instrumental in getting the billboard project completed.

Quote of the Month

"This is a test. Who were the people in Waco, Texas, who recently made front-page news? Here are the clues: They had some pretty wild ideas; they were armed to the teeth; they thought that they alone were right and the rest of the world was wrong. If you guessed the Branch Davidians, you're like ninety-some percent of other Americans. But if you said the federal government was the well-armed, self-righteous bunch of wackos in Waco, you might just be a Libertarian."

Kate Klise, columnist in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch

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see page 4

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Upcoming Events

June 4-6, 1993:

Florida LP Convention, Marriott at Sawgrass Resort, Ponte Vedra; for information call 904-724-9832. Speakers include Dr. Mary Ruwart, NH Rep. Don Gorman, Carole Ann Rand, and Steven Reese.

June 11-13, 1993:

10th Annual National Campaign Training Seminar and Trade Show, Capital Hilton, Washington, DC; sponsored by *Campaigns and Elections*; for more information call 202-638-7788 or 800-888-5767.

June 12-13, 1993:

Texas LP Convention, Jim's Restaurant, I-35 and State Highway 183, Austin; for information call 713-799-8011. Speakers include Carole Ann Rand, Tamara Clark, and Dianne Pilcher. Other highlights include a panel discussion on "Women in the Libertarian Movement," and a debate featuring Steve Alexander and Steve Givot on "Retain or Reform?"

June 13, 1993:

Oklahoma LP Convention, Stables Cafe, Guthrie; for information call 405-282-3140.

June 18-20, 1993:

Ohio LP Convention, Marriott Inn North, Columbus; for information send S.A.S.E. to LP of Ohio, 3194 Griggsvie Ct., Columbus, OH 43221, or call 614-771-7748. Speakers include Dr. Nancy Lord, Tamara Clark, and Dean Ahmad.

Sept. 2-5, 1993:

Libertarian Party National Convention, Salt Lake City, UT; for more information write: MGP, P.O. Box 526175, Salt Lake City, UT 84152, or call 801-582-3318.

To get your upcoming event listed, notify the NEWS early.

September 2-5, 1993

Libertarian Party National Convention

Salt Lake City, UT

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Rescinded
goals
page 1**

**Libertarian
ammo
page 8**

**Convention
news
pages 10-11**