National Gives Johnson $15,000
Money Buying Network Ads

The Affiliate Campaign Committee (Campaign '90) of the national Libertarian Party has released $15,000 to support Greg Johnson's bid to become the first Libertarian elected to state legislature since Andre Marrou's victory in 1984. According to Campaign '90 chair Steve Dasbach, Johnson's campaign for the Idaho legislature represents the LP's best chance of gaining a state legislative seat this year.

"Johnson's campaign plan called for raising at least $25,000," said Dasbach. "The funds from national, together with over $12,000 raised by Greg's campaign on its own, ensures that his race will have the funds needed to win."

All of the money from national, as well as several thousand dollars of the money raised by Johnson, was spent on television ads. The ads began running October 22.

"We have done everything we said we had to do," Johnson said, referring to his campaign plan which was developed in the summer of 1989. "We have got a great chance to win."

"The money from the national LP is going to give us the opportunity to be competitive," he added.

Marrou Declares for President
Plans to Recover Looted Taxes By Accepting Matching Funds

Andre Marrou has informed the NEWS that on Wednesday, November 7, 1990—the day after election day—he will declare his candidacy for the Libertarian nomination for president of the United States.

Marrou will become the second candidate for the nomination. Dick Bodee has already announced that he is also seeking the presidential slot on the 1992 Libertarian Party ticket (July 1990 NEWS).

Marrou was the 1988 Libertarian nominee for vice president of the United States. He campaigned in all 50 states—a first for Libertarian candidates. From the nomination in 1987 until election day 1988, Marrou was on the campaign trail 357 days.

Marrou was elected to and served as Libertarian state representative in the Alaska House of Representatives from 1985 to 1987. His legislative work resulted in a full-length article in Reason magazine.

What makes Marrou run? "I have a passion for liberty," said Marrou. "I don't just want to read about it, write about it, debate it, discuss it, and imagine it. I want to live the Libertarian Dream. Live in a world of individual liberty and self-responsibility. Because I'm serious about my passion for liberty, I take responsibility for creating liberty, not passively waiting for it."

Marrou has already put together his core campaign team. Jim Lewis, 1984 Libertarian vice presidential nominee, is campaign manager. Michael Emerling, 1988 Marrou vice presidential campaign organizer, is chief of staff. Charles Barr, longtime Libertarian activist, is office manager. Anita Barr is campaign treasurer. Perry Willis, 1984 Bergland for President office manager and former LP national director, is chief advisor. Additional team members and advisors will be announced, according to Emerling.

Why the early start? "We will be using the federal matching funds process to recover taxes looted from Libertarians and use it against the State. Every dollar that Libertarians donate to the Marrou presidential campaign before the 1991 nominating convention qualifies for matching funds. The earlier we start, the more of our tax money we can recapture," said Marrou.

"We are depriving the looters of their ill-gotten gains. And every dollar of recovered matching funds will be used for television for the Marrou presidential campaign," Marrou said.

Campaign manager Jim Lewis added, "We will retrieve over $1 million of the Libertarian taxes. This means a minimum of $1 million of Libertarian television continued on page 5

Vote Libertarian—November 6

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Greg Johnson

Andre Marrou

"Because I'm serious about my passion for liberty, I take responsibility for creating liberty, not passively waiting for it."

— Andre Marrou
Bill of Rights Anniversary Offers Opportunities

On November 6, we find out if the Libertarian Party has succeeded in electing a state legislator in the lower 48 states. The next issue will, of course, report on all the election news that you are unlikely to read in the other media. But, whether or not one or more of our fine candidates has won, the Libertarian Party faces a year ahead without significant electoral activity. Yes, we have to continue building the LP locally to be ready for more candidates in 1992, we have to choose the best candidates to represent our national ticket in 1992, and we have the opportunity to complete the ballot access process in more early states. Something more is needed. That is a project that gives wide, favorable exposure to the Libertarian Party, provides for local activity that complements our growth objectives, and which differentiates us from the old parties.

At its December meeting, the NatCom will have the opportunity to consider a year-long project with the theme of the

200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights. There will be many organizations, businesses, and politicians talking about the Bill of Rights. But will any go beyond the hype? The Libertarian Party can be the vehicle for not only informing the American public about the Bill of Rights, but also for explaining what these rights are and what value they are to the average citizen. Most importantly, the LP can show, through word and verse, how the Republicans and Democrats have launched a continuing assault on the Bill of Rights.

A strong selling point for such a project is that it does not limit it to appeal to small groups of people. It addresses the rights of everyone, be they liberal or conservative, rich or poor, urban or rural dwelling, young or old, man or woman, employer or employee. In America today, everyone is subject to the loss of rights due to the acts of our noble legislators. Everyone of the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution is being eroded in ways that will be distasteful to the majority of Americans. It will be our job to expose this wholesale assault on our rights, and urge people to take action (preferably through the Libertarian Party at the next election).

The advantages to the LP are many. It identifies us strongly with personal freedoms at a time when we are the unqualified champion of economic freedoms. It puts us, patriotically, on the side of the Constitution while the Demo’s can be shown to be destroyers of that revered document. Media attention will automatically be given to the anniversary and almost any activity celebrating it. The LP can piggyback on activities organized by bar associations and businesses such as Philip Morris (sponsoring a year-long exhibit of the original Bill of Rights in dozens of cities around the nation), thus becoming a part of the activity without incurring the costs of organizing the activity. Such fund raising as is necessary for literature, mailings, publicity, etc. can be raised. In large part, from non-LP members because of the broader, non-partisan appeal of "defending the Bill of Rights." And, by being a year-long theme, it enables all our local and state organizations to get involved because of the longer planning horizon and life of the project.

Ideas for specific activities have come in from many sources. Obviously, we want suggestions from you; write to me, to Nick Dunbar at the national office, to outreach chair Toni Black, or to the other national officers. All suggestions will be considered as planning moves ahead on this potential project.

Some ideas being considered are these:
1. Have legal scholars write a short (2-3 page) essay on each of the 10 Amendments describing the meaning, historical application, current assaults on the rights enumerated, and description of the consequences if the individual rights aren’t successfully defended. 2. Attempt to have the essays appear as an op-ed series in local newspapers; 3. Hand out appropriate literature to law school students; 4. Pass out literature at each Philip Morris exhibit; 5. Provide speakers to high school classes; 6. Prepare literature targeted at specific groups angry about a particular assault on a guaranteed right; 7. Letters to the editor; 8. Series of 10 advertisements in local newspapers; 9. Produce a half-hour television show on the Bill of Rights for use on local cable access; 10. Series of mailings to every member of Congress; 11. Sponsor debates on the issue on campuses and in communities; 12. Draw attention to local judicial decisions or state legislation that erodes the Bill of Rights; 13. Offer to participate in local bar association observances of the bi-centennial and then make sure the observance has substance; 14. Discuss the issue on radio and TV talk shows. These suggestions just scratch the surface. Your local party can, by using its members’ imaginations, think of dozens of specific ways to be viable standing up for the Bill of Rights and the constraints they imposed on government powers. Your church, your school, and your business and service associations all present further opportunities to use the Bill of Rights theme in the next 12 months.

Worth doing or not? Let us hear from you concerning this proposal or, if you don’t like it, your idea for the kind of projects you’d like to see from the Libertarian Party in 1991.

From the Chair

Dave Walter, LP National Chair

Vote Libertarian
1-800-628-1776

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Only $2.00

Mary Lou Graham
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FIJA Names Conference Speakers

The FIJA Bill of Jury Rights Conference, scheduled for November 9-11 in St. Louis, Missouri, has announced its’ current list of speakers.

Libertarian presidential candidate Dick Boddie, a motivational speaker, lawyer, mediator, and arbitrator, is the latest addition to the conference. Several other speakers include Jerry and Darlene Span, out of jail on appeal on charges of ob-
Johnson Seeks Victory in Idaho

continued from page 1

whether a Libertarian can win a state house seat this year. It also has my cam-
paign volunteers so jacked up I can’t slow them down—literally. We spent all week-
end knocking on doors,” Johnson said.

Johnson, a 32-year-old Middleton busi-
nessman, has visited plant gates, spoken
at churches and civic meetings, and is now
running more than 180 30-second televi-
sion ads on all the major network stations
in his district. “The ads will appear during
everything from ‘Good Morning America’
to ‘Johnny Carson’ to the ‘Evening News,’”
according to Johnson. Forty percent of the
ads will appear during prime time.

The ads hit hard on the issues of reduc-
ting taxes and “returning the power of
government to the people.”

In part, one ad states: “Together we can
reduce taxes. We can require restitution
by criminals to their victims. And we can
cut back the bureaucracy that plagues our
government. Help me return the power of
government to the people.”

Johnson has already received the en-
dorsement of one area newspaper and is
hoping that others that have yet to commit
will select him. He was given an “A” rating
from the National Rifle Association, while
his opponent was given a “B.” Still, the
NRA refused to endorse Johnson, saying
that his opponent was “not bad enough” to
offend, according to Johnson.

Johnson firmly believes that his race
will show whether it is possible, in 1990,
for a serious Libertarian candidate to be
elected to a state house. He feels he has
done everything possible to insure victory.

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AT FIJA’S FIRST

Bill of Jury
Rights
Conference

Bill of Jury Rights Conference

Spent a fall weekend in
conference, working with legal
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other experts. The task is to
produce a comprehensive list of
jury system reforms which, if
implemented would return
control of the government to
the people.

All attendees will be eligible
to participate in ratification
votes and the signing ceremony
which will mark completion of
this “Bill of Jury Rights.”

Workshops on lobbying and
media relations will be included
for those who intend to follow
up the conference by pitching
the bill at their state’s next
legislative session.

Help make
liberty history:
Join us in St. Louis
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Basic Package Only $95
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Call Don or Larry at
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OR WRITE DON DOIG OR LARRY
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MT, 59843.
Campaign '90

NEWS Notes

Larry Livingston is mounting a serious challenge for the race for county commission in Davis County, Utah. Livingston is using his telemarketing skills to reach thousands of voters who are already dissatisfied with the county government. Livingston has earned a reputation in the county for exposing corruption and fraud in the county government.

Bill McCord, Libertarian candidate for the United States House in Washington state, reached 3.4 percent of the vote in the primary (a five-way race), thereby assuring him a spot on the November ballot. McCord needed 1 percent of the vote to achieve ballot access.

One of the primary issues of the McCord campaign is fair ballot access. His opponent in the race is Rep. Al Swift, D-Federal Way. Swift has protested the possibility of another race, as he has promised to put his best effort into the contest.

In California, John Walliner, LP candidate for Congress, defeated both of his opponents in a poll conducted by KSDKO radio. The poll was conducted after each of the three candidates appeared on a talk show. Walliner received 51 percent of the vote in a one-to-one poll against his Republican opponent, and 42 percent against the Democratic incumbent. There is a growing consensus that the two major parties are ineffective in addressing the crucial issues of the day, Walliner said.

David Atkinson, Libertarian candidate for the governor of Vermont, just finished a fundraiser which raised $25,000. This will go to support the Constitution الصف، which the citizens of the country could protect themselves from the government, not bears and neighbors, Atkinson said.

The first election returns in, and in Louisiana, Jeff Dikett finished 10th in a 12-person race for Congress. Dikett participated in a number of candidate forums, handed out lots of Libertarian literature, and has added a lot of new ideas, including privatization of wetlands. The people got a good taste of libertarianism, Dikett said.

Jeff Jared, Libertarian candidate for the Utah House of Representatives, got 18.7 percent of the vote in the two-way primary where he was up against the same opponent he will face in November.

Libertarian Education Institute, Ltd.
Hosts 1991 LP National Convention

By LEI, Ltd. Staff

The 1991 national Libertarian Party Presidential Nominating Convention, “LIBERTY TRUMPHANT,” is being sponsored by the Libertarian Education Institute, Ltd. LEI is a not-for-profit corporation formed for the purpose of educating the public about libertarian ideas through seminars and conventions. The board of directors of LEI consists of Robert Coolidge, Sue DeBusk, Mary Alice Strazalka, Scott Walton, and Sue Walton.

Robert is a long-time LP activist and former state chair of Illinois. Sue D. is a medical industry executive with professional meeting planning experience. Mary Alice is a bank executive, CPA, and attorney. Scott and Sue are LEI consultants with meeting planning experience. This well-qualified, well-rounded team has been working diligently to put together what promises to be one of the most exciting, interesting, and professional conventions the LP has seen — setting a new standard and goal for all future conventions.

Mary Alice, who has attended every convention since the 1974 convention, stated, “We are very excited about the direction this convention is moving in. Having been to six conventions, I have seen what worked and what didn’t work. I am doing my very hard to make sure this convention falls into the former category. We hope to have something for everyone.”

LEI has goals that are two-fold — they want the convention to be both exhilarating and professional. Each member has their own buzz: work they keep in mind while planning from “organized” and “risk-prudence” to “theatrics” and “energizing.” Sue Walton said, “We want to present libertarians to the public over C-SPAN as being sound, intelligent, and responsible individuals who have a well thought-out, cohesive philosophy.” Scott added that he wants to present that same image to the convention attendees. He is dedicated to keeping accurate planning and fiscal records to aid his successors in their negotiations, planning, and pricing efforts.

Responsibilities have been split as follows: Robert Coolidge, speakers and workshops; Sue DeBusk, exhibitors, press room, and hospitality; Mary Alice Strazalka, event convention office, and financial and legal advisor; Scott Walton, finance and registration administration; and Sue Walton, hotel, LNC, transportation, and vendor liaison. Your questions and comments can be directed to LEI, Ltd. at P.O. Box 0848, Chicago, IL 60690-0848. They welcome your input.

1991 Convention on Chicago’s Magnificent Mile

By LEI, Ltd. Staff

“LIBERTY TRUMPHANT,” the 1991 Libertarian Presidential Nominating Convention, will be held at the Marriott Hotel located on Chicago’s Michigan Avenue. Known as the “Magnificent Mile,” this section of Michigan Avenue is resplendent with plush hotels, elegant dining, exclusive shops, and numerous art galleries. As you walk along the “Mile” (which Chicagoans say is a “must do”) from the Chicago River to Oak Street, you’ll enjoy handsome architecture, tree-lined sidewalks, imaginative window displays, and an incredible variety of things to do.

For art lovers, dozens of large and small galleries can be found along and near Michigan Avenue. For those interested in viewing the latest in modern art, the Museum of Contemporary Art (237 E. Ontario), located east of the Marriott, provides exciting special exhibits and programs. The world famous Chicago Art Institute, with its fabulous collection of Impressionism, is about one mile south of the hotel — an easy and safe walk, or a 5-minute, $1 bus ride.

Two of Chicago’s most noted landmarks stand along North Michigan Avenue — the John Hancock Center and the historic Chicago Water Tower and Pumping Station, which now serves as a Visitor Information Center. Between these two landmarks is Chicago’s top shopping attraction, Water Tower Place. Be sure to bring your credit cards, as you’ll visit the Mercado only four blocks north of the hotel. It has over 125 stores, seven theaters, and 10 restaurants offering something for everyone. But we must warn you, that four-block walk passes you past stores like Burberry’s, Dior, and Johnnie O’Hare’s.

But don’t let the general opulence of the “Mile” make you think you can’t afford the 1991 convention. The street boasts its very own McDonald’s, and the infamous Billy Goat Tavern (made famous by the “Saturday Night Live” “cheeseburger/beer/ski” only four short blocks south of the hotel). A complete listing of “cheap eats” and a map have been promised by the convention staff, who, (they claim) have all of them at one time or another. They will not, however, provide complimentary Pepto.

LEI was also pleased to announce that the convention hotel will cost $89 per night (single or double) — a less than 5 percent increase over the cost of the Wyndham in Philadelphia. With rates for a single in Michigan Avenue hotels approaching $90 a night, LEI has done an excellent job in keeping the price down so you can afford to join fellow libertarians on the Magnificent Mile in the magnificent city of Chicago, for the Magnificent 1991 “LIBERTY TRUMPHANT” Presidential Nominating Convention. See you there!

Exhibition Hall Extraordinaire

By LEI, Ltd. Staff

The “LIBERTY TRUMPHANT” convention will feature the traditional Exhibit Hall where purveyors of libertarian goods, special interest groups, potential candidates, and think-tank educational groups can meet convention attendees and display their products.

This year the Exhibit Hall is truly that, a separate room, adjacent to the Convention Hall. In addition to the usual (and often unusual) exhibits, the Hall will contain several unique features, LEI, Ltd. believe will meet with (nearly) universal approval. In addition to suggestions they received from the questionnaires they handed out in Philadelphia, LEI has contracted with the hotel to have a refreshment area set up. The stand will have libations such as coffee, tea, and soda, and energy foods such as cookies, candy, and fruit available throughout the hours the convention floor is open. This should prove to be a popular place so tables and chairs will also be provided. Second, another section of the hall will contain a TV and VCR viewing area to enable visitors (and exhibitors) to view C-SPAN coverage of the convention. The same area will be used during evening hours to show libertarian videos and movies for those not participating in other events. Suggestions and loans are most welcome.

Two levels of exhibit space will be available — the standard 6-foot x 30-inch tables and a 5-foot x 10-foot booth, complete with draped, backdrop, and sign. While prices have not yet been established, LEI expects a nominal, if any, increase over prior years’ rates. LEI knows that attendees enjoy the Exhibit Hall and wants to encourage exhibitor participation.

Checklists will be provided for the event, first time set. To be sure of receiving information on prices and locations, those interested in exhibiting should write to LEI, Ltd., APT: Exhibit Manager, Tim Griffin, P.O. Box 0848, Chicago, IL 60690-0848.

IS ABORTION HOMICIDE? Liberteer activists say we need to think of abortion as murder, and why it violates libertarian principles. $3 (For introductory information only: SASE)

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Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

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Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

November 1990 Liberteer Party NEWS
With Activists Like Donner, Libertarian Future Is Bright

Rebecca Donner is not your average 19-year-old. She is busy holding news conferences and campaigning against one of the most famous incumbents in the California state assembly.

Donner, of Santa Monica, is the Libertarian candidate for the 44th district seat currently held by Tom Hayden. Her Republican opponent is Fred Beteta, a trustee at Santa Monica College, which just happens to be the school Donner is currently attending.

She is the daughter of Neal Donner, long-time Libertarian activist, local outreach chair, and former candidate for the same seat daughter Rebecca is now seeking. Donner’s mother, Carol Linnell, is also a Libertarian Party member.

She decided to be a candidate because she “wanted to offer the 44th district a choice,” Donner explained.

“Fred Beteta and Tom Hayden are stale and boring and too far removed from the issues at hand. It’s time for some fresh blood,” Donner said.

Donner is a professional actress—she spent seven years as a member of a repertory company and has done a television movie of the week—and has worked as assistant to the public relations director at the Reason Foundation.

Both of these work experiences have assisted her in her campaign. “She has a lot of poise,” her father noted, and she knew how to handle herself in front of a crowd.

Although she gets questioned about her age and experience, Donner said her age makes her “closer to the problems that people of my generation face. My generation really doesn’t have a spokesperson.”

Donner is personally concerned with the issues of education and the environment. Just recently removed from the public education system, she sees public schools as little more than “day care centers.” Donner favors the use of education vouchers, introducing competition into the education system.

She believes the environment is a “hot issue” with young Americans, but she opposes the so-called “Big Green” initiative in California which is co-sponsored by Hayden. Donner said it is the wrong approach to the environmental issue. She favors using emission credits.

“I’ve gotten a lot more attention than I thought I would,” Donner admitted.

She has participated in Libertarian activities for a number of years, attending and participating in supper clubs and being a strong supporter at protests and rallies.

Donner is not sure yet about her future goals. “I’m very interested in many fields,” she said. “I’m especially interested in education and one avenue open to her may be the media, she explained.

One thing is certain, Donner has no plans on being a professional politician, even if she should win this election. During her campaign she has come out in favor of an eight-year service limit for elected officials.

With young Libertarians and candidates like Donner, the future of the Libertarian Party looks bright indeed.

What Else Do You Do?

You are a Libertarian. But that is not the whole of your life. You must have other activities and memberships. They may provide growth opportunities for the LP. Do you belong to a professional association, a hobby group, a computer forum, or a community service outfit?

If you attend meetings of associations whose members might be ripe for Libertarian Party membership, we can provide materials for a literature table. If there is a newsletter we could place an inexpensive ad in and gain party members, tell us about it. If you could place a teaser on a bulletin board, but need help composing the message, call us.

Every member of the LP is officially deputized as a member of the outreach committee. Think about all the connections you can make to other individuals and contact the national office, or Outreach Chair Toni Black at 110 Riggs Drive, Glenwood, SC 29611-1426, or phone 803-653-7515.

LP of GA Sues Over Debates

continued from page 1

The GPTC offered Chandler 30 minutes of air time after the debates to explain the Libertarian Party platform, but Chandler refused the offer, saying he wanted to debate his opponents.

“The government owns the station, right? So this is a clear example of saying, ‘OK, we’ve got two government parties, we’re going to exclude the independents,’” Chandler said.

The suit, which calls a “perjury,” asked the federal court to stop the two televised debates. The American Civil Liberties Union has supported the Libertarian position.

In an initial hearing, “the judge was clearly sympathetic to our cause,” Hudson stated. Although a final ruling was delayed, the hearing was “very encouraging,” he said.

The judge was especially interested in determining if the Libertarian candidates were equal in status, in the eyes of the law, with the two other party candidates, Hudson explained. Since all will appear on the ballot, Hudson said it was clear “we have the same legal status.”

“The most promising thing of all,” according to Hudson, was that the judge “twice said that it was his personal opinion that the LP should be included in the debates.” The judge said he thought the Libertarian candidates would make the debates more much interesting, according to Hudson.

The judge asked the GPTC lawyer to try to reach this conclusion and reconsider their decision to exclude the Libertarians, but apparently they would not change their position, Hudson said.

A final decision was expected in mid-October, several weeks before the date of the proposed televised debate.

Lithuanian Project Update

By Marla Bottemiller

“Two days ago, your parcel with books arrived to Vilnius. It took almost two months to reach me . . . Times are very hard in Lithuania now, as we’re not yet free in fact, we don’t control our borders. Moscow is still interested to keep us under its hold. People are very demoralized during the past fifty years. I would like to express gratitude for your kindness and wishing to help us . . .”

This is a section taken from the letter by Mary Roffers, Wisconsin state chair, received in response to the 250 pounds of boxes sent so far to Lithuania. A second letter was recently received, but had not been translated in time for this article.

“Judy Miliken’s preparation, including page-by-page translations of correspondences, background information, and knowledge of the country’s history, plus contacts in Milwaukee and in Madison, helped us feel a unity with the Lithuanians and their struggle for freedom,” said Roffers.

Future plans include the additional shipments of books. The group has been asked by a female professor to send American literature and books on the feminist movement.

Roffers requests books, periodicals, and cash be sent as soon as possible by the Libertarians to aid in this cause. Donations may be sent to Mary Roffers, 2462 Lake Shore Road, Glendale, WI 53204, or call 414-375-0068 for more information.

Marrou continued from page 1

commERCials in 1992 — the largest Libertarian TV budget since the 1980 Clark presidential campaign.

But it’s not just a matter of a big, splashy Libertarian presidential campaign, according to Emering. Marrou wants to build a bigger, better Libertarian Party.

“Is it a matter of Libertarian REALpolitics. Recruit new members. Educate them about libertarianism. (We don’t want to dilute or pollute our principles. This is crucial.) Activate them. (A bystander doesn’t contribute to a free world.) Libertarian. Recruit. Educate, Activate, and Liberate. That’s Libertarian REALpolitics.”

“Grow or die. That’s a law of life. It’s time to grow. The Marrou for President Campaign is committed to getting the most number of votes, addresses, and phone numbers of 100,000 prospective Libertarians during the campaign. We are committed to increasing national Libertarian Party membership to 20,000 dues paying members. This would be more than double the highest LP national membership. By focusing on these two goals, we will attain one other on election day 1992. We will receive over 1,000,000 votes — two and a half times the vote total that Ron Paul and I received in 1988."

The campaign can make a difference in 1992, according to Jim Lewis. “Andre Marrou is a proven Libertarian, a proven LP candidate, and a proven elected Libertarian legislator. He’s shown the integrity, brains, and gumption to run the good race,” Lewis said. “Let’s break through with Marrou in ’92.”

LP Active In USSR

In mid-October, the Associated Press reported that Yevgenia Debyranskaya, a member of the Soviet Libertarian Party—that’s right, the Soviet LP—nearly caused a riot one block from the Kremlin when she tossed hard-to-find condoms into the air and demanded that prostitution be legalized.

The report said that over 100 people, including Soviet journalists, scrambled for the hundreds of American-made condoms which were distributed on one of Moscow’s busiest streets.

Debyranskaya also threw copies of “English-language manuals on safe sex into the air, and the wind swept them across the sidewalk in the direction of the Kremlin,” the report stated.

Other protesters held banners reading: “A sexual blockade on members of the Communist Party,” and “One nuclear submarine equals the cost of 5 billion condoms.”

Another report said that since March, when the Communist Party gave up its constitutional guarantee of power, many new political parties have been formed, “from socialists to free-market libertarians.”
Libertarian Party Program

The Libertarian Party Program is a 10-point program offering Libertarian solutions to current problems. The NEWS will publish portions of the Program in future issues. This month we offer the Program's statement on education.

Choice in Education

Government-run schools have failed our children. Their cost keeps rising while student performance drops. Today one out of five teenagers can't even read at a grade school level, and colleges must teach many students how to read and write.

Poor children suffer most because they attend the worst schools. Few families can afford tuition for private schools while paying taxes for public schools. Private schools provide better education for a much lower cost.

Most families have no choice but to send their children to the neighborhood public school, regardless of its quality. This makes public schools a protected monopoly. Like most monopolies, they do a poor job of serving the public. Education suffers.

This same lack of choice frequently compels families to send their children to problem schools. Youngsters are exposed to violence, drugs, and other threats. Without other choices, parents feel helpless to change this.

The libertarian approach to education is to let parents choose the education that is best for their child.

The following steps should be taken immediately to promote choice and return control of education to parents and students:

1. Allow parents to send their children to the teacher and the school of their choice by implementing a voucher system.
2. Eliminate the U.S. Department of Education which spends billions on administration and educates no one.
3. Institute tax credits for any person or company which pays for the education of any student, or any number of students, at any school, public or private.
4. Remove restrictions which limit such private educational choices as home schooling.

Educational Liberty: A First Step

By Karl Hess
Editor Emeritus

Libertarian Party political action operates at two distinct levels.

Every four years there is the party's major educational outreach through the national presidential election.

The most successful of those efforts, most agree, was the Ed Clark campaign which, not by coincidence, was also the one which spent the most time and money on national television advertising.

Undergirding the educational effort there are the practical local levels where Libertarian Party candidates have actual chances to win offices and to peel back bureaucracy and limits to liberty. Those who win office can defend liberty directly, never exercising power over people but always seeking to limit it or to eliminate it. Even for those who do not win office, the outreach opportunities are significant.

At the national campaign level, Libertarians can speak of the broadest issues, and in so doing usually offer the only alternative to the tweedledum, tweedledee positions of the old, tired mass parties.

At the local level, Libertarians can apply principle to the most sharply defined and meaningful issues. National issues often engage our emotions but also enrage our sensibilities when it is seen how little can be done through the electoral process to encroach on the huge monopoly of power built up over the years by the two old parties.

At the local, county, and state levels, Libertarians can apply the principles of liberty and non-aggression directly to matters that are locally familiar, locally significant, and locally changeable. At the various local levels, it is not only high-sounding abstractions that command attention. Down-to-earth, problem-solving good sense can make a great impact.

At the moment there seems to be no more natural and advantageous issue for Libertarians to press at the local, county, or state level than education.

A pure libertarian answer would call for the abolition of government education altogether, and many libertarians are unhappy with any position to the left or right of that.

Let's face it: in almost every real-world political scenario that can be imagined, libertarian purity, or fundamentalism, must give way to libertarian gradualism and practicality. Only at the level of personal behavior can a libertarian, here and now, hope to live a life largely devoid of statist taints.

And so it is with education. Telling your neighbors, or other people whom you hope will form a political constituency for you, that we simply must abolish government education is noble and shining. It is not a good place to begin a political campaign. Later. Not in the beginning!

So where can libertarians locally take a good and constituency-building stand on education?

Oregon libertarians have shown the way with their pathbreaking and successful campaign to put an educational choice initiative on the ballot for the election this month. The good, hard work that they did to achieve the first success, of just getting the issue on the ballot, was described earlier in the NEWS.

Whether the initiative is voted up or voted down this month (it will make headlines either way, you can be assured), it should be a powerful incentive for any other Libertarian candidate looking for a good and hot issue in upcoming elections.

In Oregon, the initiative is framed in terms of an amendment to the state's constitution. Such an initiative is the most straightforward way of attacking the problem since many state constitutions, unless amended, probably make it impossible for local jurisdictions to take such a major step.

The Oregon initiative would allow parents to choose what schools their children will attend. Open enrollment would permit parents to choose between government schools, even if the schools are in other school districts. And a basic education tax credit would provide a state income tax credit for kindergarten to 12th grade education expenses in alternative schools. The credit in Oregon would be $2,500 per student.

Now there's a practical, substantial first step toward educational liberty. Simply denouncing government schools is not enough. Step-by-step, practical alternatives are required in a political arena. And Libertarians running for political office should not forget that.

Taking the political course, as the Libertarian Party has chosen to do, takes us out of the realm of the angels and puts us solidly down to earth where we must offer practical solutions as well as impeccable principles.
Start Where They Are

My position as national director of media relations requires that I contact a great many producers of radio and television shows, as well as syndicated columnists. In this capacity, there is one principle by which I have always operated. It is the “First Principle” of persuasion and the most important principle anyone can apply if one wishes to be influential and effective.

The principle is: Start where they are, then bring them to where you are.

It is important that those of us who contact the media learn the above principle. In line with the above principle, I need to let those activists who have contacted the media know that their efforts are appreciated and that I can understand the chagrin and frustration you all must feel by the often preemptory and callous response to your requests for coverage of attention to some matter of serious importance to you.

However, you should be aware that I also receive quite a few complaints about the attitudes of many libertarians who have contacted media people. I believe the complaints arise because of certain often erroneous assumptions about the role of media people. Perhaps I can help those of you who want to get more coverage for your issues, events, or candidates to be more effective by discussing one of those assumptions.

The job of the reporter, programer, or executive in media is always to consider the interests of his/her audience, not to ignore or frustrate the Libertarian Party. No matter how important you think your subject is, you must ask yourself how your statement can be of interest to the media person’s audience and prepare to sell your view. (Example: “I saw your news story on the problems of the school budget and thought you might be interested in a new solution that your viewers may not have heard.”)

The assumption behind the above statement is that the media person wants to know about different or additional viewpoints and will use your suggestions if he/she thinks it sufficiently interesting or newsworthy. While there certainly are media people who are biased against libertarians, one should always approach them as if they were fair-minded, objective people who are willing to air all sides of any issue. By continuing to argue for the fairness of the issues (I’m sure you want the voters to hear all sides of the issue, don’t you?), you are more likely to get a favorable response. Journalists and the public at large believe they are fair-minded. Encourage them to think to this and show them how to provide the forum for viewpoints they may not like, but to which they know they ought to pay attention.

I cannot overstate the importance of the above since I sense so much anger among many libertarians. Among ourselves we love to trash the media, bureaucrats, and politicians because we know that they stack the deck against us. We all have our favorite stories of outrageous bias and covert manipulations to keep libertarians and their ideas out of public view. But we cannot win more coverage by assailing the media with accusations of unfairness, even though true. Instead, we must appeal to media presuppositions of fairness and full disclosure and courteously, but insistently, request fair and democratic treatment.

Lastly, don’t forget that a trade is involved in any media transaction. If you give them a good story, they give you publicity. You have to give them something they want, so you can get something you want. Concentrate on giving them what they want, not criticizing their judgment or values.

(Note: The best reason you can give the media for covering libertarians is that recent polls show widespread voter dissatisfaction with the older parties and increased registration of independents. Primary elections favored “outsiders.” Shouldn’t the media let the public know the alternative?)

(Note 2: Please do not send any more letters to Glen Dixon of PBS. PBS is well aware of the Libertarian Party’s desire to be included in the 1992 presidential campaign. The network has always been very fair to us. I am sure they will continue to give us fair treatment.) TN

Nixon Seeks Run-off in Georgia House Race

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Quiz,” and reports over 200 people scored in the libertarian quadrant. Their names will be added to both the campaign and state party mailing lists. Several of the respondents returned later in the week to help at the booth.

“A letter from Ron Paul, endorsing my candidacy, is being sent to thousands of previous Republican voters in our county the week before the election,” Nixon noted.

As he continues working door-to-door and meeting the voters at public events, Nixon is “finding very strong discontent with the incumbents, and many people are anxious to take my campaign flyers, including extras to give to their friends, and wanting to know more about Libertarian positions on the issues,” he said.

“If we can get the word out to the voters, if they can learn what we’re about, they’re just mad enough to vote Libertarian,” Nixon stated.

If Nixon qualifies for the run-off, he will have only three weeks to campaign. Additional campaign funds will be urgently needed. To find out if he makes the run-off election, you may call him at 404-963-7570 the day after the election.

Friends of Toby Nixon, 2595 Waterford Park Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30044.
Aitken Replaces Heid in CO

In a last-minute switch made necessary by the failure of the Denver District Court to consider the constitutional arguments put forward by the Colorado LP in its challenge to state election law, David Aitken was named to replace Robin Heid as the Libertarian candidate for governor. Aitken, 48, is the owner of a computer software company in Denver. He has been active in Libertarian politics since 1986, when he ran for state representative. Heid was denied candidate status by the state because of his voter registration—he is a registered Republican. The Colorado LP has gone to court to challenge the constitutionality of Colorado’s law that limits the nomination choices of smaller political parties. The state law says a candidate cannot be nominated by petition unless he was registered as unaffiliated, as shown on the books of the county clerk and recorder, for at least twelve months prior to the date of filing of the petition.

The Colorado LP’s own rules do not require registration as a Libertarian as a condition of nomination or membership. Heid has been a member of the national LP since 1988 and joined the Colorado party shortly before his nomination.

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