

April 15

***What are YOU Going
to Do About It?***

(Protest Planning Inside)



Larry Elder

Journalists & Economics

Costa Rica

Five Libertarians Win!

From the Chair

Yesterday we received \$10,000 from a happy donor. Why was this possible? Because we've been becoming more donor-worthy.

During the last year this donor has watched this party's progress.

This donor has seen the LPC mobilize more volunteers this year than in the last five years combined. This donor has seen candidates elected to office in greater numbers in an off-election year than we've



Aaron Starr

seen in normal election years. This donor has seen successful signature gathering efforts to put tax-reducing initiatives on the ballot. This donor has seen us maintain a professional office and professional staff. This donor has seen us turn a bi-monthly newsletter into a four-color monthly newspaper at half the cost.

We are becoming more donor-worthy all the time because we are starting with reasonable goals and achieving them by executing sound strategies.

And it doesn't necessarily stop here.

This same donor wants to talk with us about how to spend \$10,000,000 over the next ten years to advance the cause of Liberty, perhaps through the LPC, perhaps not.

This conversation is only possible because we've shown a heartfelt respect for the financial sacrifices our donors make. We do not take them for granted and we want the results of their donations to exceed their expectations.

For some, the temptation is to think of all the good things we can do with some other person's money. In my opinion, that's the wrong way to think. It's more important that we ask what the donor wants to accomplish and whether we have a reasonable chance of advancing this donor's goals without steering far from our mission as a party. And if we can't achieve this, the right thing to do is not accept the money.

Why? Besides the need to maintain our integrity and not lose sight of our goals, we cannot afford to fail. Consistent failure is the path to becoming less donor-worthy.

As long as we focus on building upon successes there will be other opportunities where donors and the party can work together.

If you have goals that advance the cause of Liberty and also have the means to fund them, let's have a conversation. If we can't help you, we will try and steer you to someone who can. If we can help you, we'll move mountains for you. Give Executive Director David Molony a call at 818-782-8400.

LPC

There's only one way to kill capitalism — by taxes, taxes, and more taxes.

— Karl Marx

Blessed are the young, for they shall inherit the national debt.

— Herbert Hoover

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JOURNALISTS AND ECONOMICS 101

By Larry Elder

Is deficit spending "a potent recession cure when administered properly"?

A newspaper business writer made this assertion in an article entitled "The Budget Deficit



Larry Elder

Faced by "Many States." But is it true, that it's a good thing when governments spend more than they take in? Remember, in "Bias: A CBS Insider Exposes How the Media Distort the News," former CBS-reporter-turned-media-critic Bernard Goldberg called reporters who write about business and the economy economic "dunces."

So, I sent the newspaper article to economics professor George Reisman, author of the well-received book "Capitalism: A Treatise on Economics."

Elder: Is deficit spending a potent recession cure when administered properly?

Reisman: That is a view held by a large school of economists, perhaps the majority school, for the last 60 years or so — that's the Keynesian school — but there are other economists like those in the Austrian school, which holds a very different position. In their view, an essential requirement to a sound economy is balanced budgets with small government. We want government limited to protecting life and property. The government should be attacking terrorists, providing police protection against common criminals, and that should be essentially it, and the people in an environment free from terror will proceed to provide for themselves economically. That has been the basic philosophy on which the United States was built.

Elder: I know you're not a journalist, but isn't it unfair to make this statement, "Deficit spending is a potent recession cure when administered properly," as if it's a fact?

Reisman: No, it is definitely not a fact, and it displays considerable ignorance which leaves out of account any alternative point of view, and, in fact, it's easy to argue that deficits can pretty well worsen recessions with depression, because one of the main characteristics of any severe recession is widespread bankruptcy. Deficits contribute to that by withdrawing capital from availability for business — the deficits absorb savings, and those savings are then not available to be lent to business firms in need of credit, so more firms go under than would otherwise have gone under, and that worsens the depression or recession.

Elder: Is it too strong to say that this guy is simply wrong?

Reisman: I would say he's definitely wrong. The most logical case to be made for what he's saying — it's not deficits in and of themselves that promote spending, although he seems to think so. He seems to think that a dollar spent by the government is somehow more beneficial than a dollar spent by you or me, which is ridiculous. What people really have in mind to advocate this position is that the government will run at a deficit and not borrow from the general public ... but will manufacture the money — print it. So they'll enlarge total spending. So it's this mentality I would think more than anything else that's been responsible for our problems with inflation for the last 65 years or so. Every year there is more and more money out there ... the rise in spending just outstrips the increase in production and the supply of goods, and so prices continually rise ...

Elder: Give me your quick reaction to politicians who support ... increasing minimum wage laws ...

Reisman: They're responsible for causing unemployment and preventing people from gaining the job skills they would learn if they got a job, and keeping them unqualified, possibly, for their entire lives.

Elder: The correct minimum wage should be zero?

Reisman: There should be no government interference with wage rates; they should not attempt to make wage rates higher or lower than the free market momentum.

Elder: Medicare?

Reisman: Medicare is responsible for a further run-up in the costs of medical care. The government is throwing more money in to a situation in which it has artificially limited the supply of doctors and limits the availability of new medication. Imagine if we had an auction — and there are people who would be outbid because of previous government interference, and now the government throws more money into the hands of the bidders so the prices will just go on higher and higher.

Elder: Why the widespread myth that FDR's policies "got us out of the Depression"?

Reisman: I think that fits with the statist preconceptions. If you view the government as some kind of deity, and you think it's omniscient and omnipotent, then that's your basic expectation ...

Many believe, like that business writer, that governments can spend their way out of a recession. Never mind that Argentina and Japan met disaster following that course. As economist Paul Craig Roberts once said, "As the adage goes, it is hard to teach old dogs new tricks, and Keynesians, who have spent four decades thinking in terms of spending and demand, find it hard to understand arguments about incentive and supply."

Dunce cap, anyone?

Larry Elder is an attorney, syndicated columnist, Los Angeles radio talk-show host and the judge on TV's "Moral Court."

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Do You LOVE Paying Income Taxes?

Get Out and Protest!

One of the most sacred Libertarian events is our annual tax protest. Let's

Except for rapidly yellowing newspaper clippings in a scrapbook, most Tax Day protests

Libertarian Party message of lower taxes - and make your volunteers happier!



Libertarian One Million Dollar Bill

hit the streets *en masse* and exercise our right to protest our unfair and excessive income tax. How do we do this? In this article, we are going to tell you exactly how to mount an effective protest based on others' experiences.

In most cases, last-minute tax-filers shy away from LP protesters. Some people take literature, but very few ever request additional information. No effort is made to sign up prospects.

accomplish little except for vaguely "spreading the word."

The "\$1,000,000 Tax Day Outreach" is designed to increase the number of prospect names collected at a typical LP Tax Day rally, and to increase the number of new members generated. As an added bonus, the \$1,000,000 bills can help create more publicity for your Tax Day protest, break through the public's resistance to take our literature, spread the

Background

For decades, Libertarian Party members have been holding Tax Day rallies on April 15th to protest the income tax and the IRS. Signs are waved, literature is distributed, and slogans are chanted.

The "\$1,000,000 Tax Day Outreach" - inspired by the LP of New Hampshire - is designed to make this "typical" Tax Day protest more productive ... and successful.

(continued page 7)

Executive Director Report

All You Want To Know

By David Molony

Advertising. Don't you hate it? However, advertising must work. Companies keep paying money for it, so it must work. I do not believe in re-inventing the wheel, so I am going



David Molony

to do what successful companies do: repeat the message and projects that are necessary for us.

What message and projects? Tax Day Protest, *Operation: Energy Tax Revolt!* and *Operation Breakthrough*. Please

protest the income tax on Monday, April 15th, please participate when a utility tax protest comes to your area, and run for office this year.

Tax Day Protests

Are you ready to exercise your freedom of speech? Through exercise alone do we strengthen our minds, bodies, and political rights. If you LOVE paying taxes, stay at home and do nothing. Otherwise, let's drag our weary bodies, minds, and politics to the post office. Let's get out and protest the exorbitant tax rate on April 15.

Operation: Energy Tax Revolt!

April 15th is the largest protest day for Libertarians - it is also true that we probably will not bring the income tax down to zero this year. However, this year, we CAN and HAVE taken steps

lowering local taxes. Due to Libertarian pressure, the Bellflower City Council will not collect \$580,000 in residential utility taxes (and an incalculable amount from business) from February 2002 to June 2002. Our Culver City effort qualified for a vote by the residents. If passed, this will save \$100 MILLION over 10 years! According to Libertarian State Chair Aaron Starr, "Taxes have been added incrementally, one tax at a time, and that's how we'll have to remove them." When *Operation: Energy Tax Revolt!* comes to a city near you, we look forward to your help.

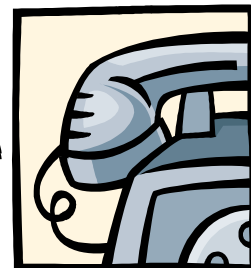
Operation Breakthrough 2.0

We only have a few months before we need to start filing for local offices (Park and Rec districts, water districts, city councils).

(continued page 6)

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Cal-Opinions Be Heard

Here is the first column responding to our previous question. The question: "What is your opinion or view on the World Trade Center attack?"

"The bombing conducted by the Bush military in response to the WTC attack violates the rights of the innocent Afghans who are dying, and also violates the rights of the innocent Americans who are being taxed to pay for this war on terrorism. Moreover, those responsible for these rights violations are unwilling to take responsibility, stand trial, and pay restitution."

Michael R. Edelstein
San Francisco

This Month's Question

"How did you become a Libertarian?"

(Dear Libertarians: the views expressed herein are the views of the writers. Please submit to cal-opinions@ca.lp.org. Please keep responses short!)

LPC

a novel by
JAMES RUSHING

"...Your rights are guarded by the Statue of Armed Freedom - a statue that crowns our National Capitol building - a statue enshrined there by freemen, so that every freeman here and throughout the world will never forget that a corrupt government knows only one force that can cure it: That every freeman will stand as one in defense of freedom. Freemen unite! Harm no one. Let no one harm you."

- FREEMAN

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OPERATION: ENERGY TAX REVOLT! The Victory Machine Keeps Rolling

By David Molony

Great news. *Operation: Energy Tax Revolt!* is going gangbusters. We have three cities cowering before the onslaught of Libertarian



Fight the Energy Tax!

activism. Bellflower, Culver City and Santa Cruz are shivering in their shoes right now.

LPC members are steamrolling over local taxes. Flat tax indeed. The City of Bellflower zapped two Libertarian efforts to reduce their energy tax. Their first excuse to reject the petition: the publication we used for our public notice was no longer the 'official' newspaper - even though the city had been using this newspaper for years for official notices. Bellflower City Clerk disallowed our second effort because they said our

signature gathering form did not comply (it did). This is how far a city will go to keep the money injection flowing into city officials' arms. However, the city council

must have gotten the message. They rescinded taxes for four months, February 2002 through May 2002. This will put \$580,000 back into residents' hands. The effect on businesses could not be calculated. We will continue to follow up

and sue if we have to in order to get our proposition on the ballot.

Our effort to roll back taxes in Culver City has payed off. The proposition has qualified and will be voted upon! This is exciting news. Culver City has one of the highest utility tax structures in California. We will change the tax rate so that it is the average of the 10 cities closest in size. This will bring Culver City's utility tax down to 1%, since 7 of the cities have no energy tax, two have 3% tax, and one has a 5% tax.

Finally, Libertarians in

Santa Cruz joined with a coalition of property owners, Republicans, and other concerned citizens to repeal utility taxes. The initiative qualified for the March 5, 2002 ballot as "Measure L."

Here is what one Santa Cruz resident wrote:

Are you mad as L that the County ignores Props. 13, 62, and 218, by continuing to collect an illegal Utility Tax? "L yes!"

Are you mad as L that the County claims to need a \$10M Utility Tax when it has a \$24M revenue surplus? "L yes!"

Are you as mad as L that the County Supervisors can give themselves a raise, using money they never should have taken in the first place? "L Yes!"

Say it with me! "L Yes!"

"I'm mad as L and I'm not going to take it any more!"

(I'm mad as L and I'm not going to take it any more!)

"L Yes! L Yes! L Yes!"

LPC

"Marx and Engels openly declared that the progressive income tax and the death tax are 'economically untenable' and that they advocated them only because 'they necessitate further inroads' upon the capitalist system and are 'unavoidable' as a means of bringing about socialism."

— Ludwig von Mises

"To tax the larger incomes at a higher percentage than the smaller, is to lay a tax on industry and economy; to impose a penalty on people for having worked harder and saved more than their neighbors."

— John Stuart Mill

"The fundamental class division in any society is not between rich and poor, or between farmers and city dwellers, but between tax payers and tax consumers."

— David Boaz, CATO Institute

This is the season of the year when we discover that we owe most of our success to Uncle Sam.

— *The Wall Street Journal*

I believe we should all pay our tax bill with a smile. I tried but they wanted cash.

— Anonymous

LPC

COSTA RICA

Movimiento Libertario

By Zach Vowell

Less than ten years ago in Costa Rica, Raul Costales approached a man named Otto Guevara to discuss the possible formation of a Libertarian Party in their country. Costales



Otto Guevara first asked Guevara if he was familiar with the libertarian philosophy. "No, what the heck is that?" was Guevara's reply.

Otto Guevara, who holds a Master of Law degree from Harvard University, has since acquainted himself quite thoroughly with the libertarian philosophy: in 1998 he became the lone Libertarian congressman in Costa Rica, and on February 5th of this year, he ran for President as a libertarian. Although he did not win, he paved the way for an increasingly popular movement in Costa Rica known as Movimiento Libertario. The party, founded by Guevara, Costales, and Rigoberto Stewart, has attracted wide coverage in the Costa Rican media and garnered more congressional seats in the 2002 elections. As of February 11, the Libertarians have gained 5 seats (out of 57 total), with two more seats still going

through recounts.

That's about ten percent of the national Congress! For Costales, a former Florida Libertarian Party Chair, Guevara, and the rest of Movimiento Libertario, this is an exciting departure from the days of the movement's founding. For any libertarian, this rapid spread of libertarianism (virtually from nowhere) is particularly encouraging.

Five definite congressmen of Movimiento Libertario will have a tough road ahead. But is there anything more motivating for a Libertarian?

There are two Libertarians from the San Jose Province: Federico Malavassi and Ronaldo Alfaro. Malavassi is an attorney and the Movimiento Libertario Presidential Candidate for 1998. He graduated from the University of Costa Rica, majoring in Public Law. Besides practicing law for 20 years, Malavassi also conducts a daily radio program on a major radio station; he teaches at the Universidad Autonoma de Centro America (UACA) and is the Dean of one of its campuses. To circulate the



Federico Malavassi

libertarian message, Malavassi is the President of the National Association to Promote Economic Progress (ANFE) and regularly appears in the national media to discuss various national problems.

Ronaldo Alfaro graduated from Barry University (in Florida) with a degree in Business Administration, and is also formally trained in Top Management and International Credit. He was the General Manager for an electric tool company as well as an agro-industrial company. He served as manager for City National Bank in Miami and the Union Planters Bank, also in Florida.

In the Alajuela province, Carlos Salazar brings a libertarian voice from the farmer's point of view. He graduated from Oklahoma State University, and has since become an Agricultural Economist. He has specialized in



Ronaldo Alfaro



Carlos Salazar

the basic grains field, while administrating agricultural projects for investors in the northern zone of Costa Rica. Salazar was the Assistant Manager of a timber company, and recently been involved in real estate and transportation activities. In his community, he serves as the Vice President of the Tourist Chamber of the Northern Zone and the President of the Environmental Committee of the Curtis Subregion, while simultaneously helping out with other various community development committees.

Jose Fransisco Salas will serve as a Libertarian Congressman from the Heredia province. He received a Business Administration degree from the University of Costa Rica as well as a Master's degree in Administration from the Universidad Panamericana (Puerto Rico). He started out as a private accountant, then became the auditor for the General Comptroller of the Republic and is currently the President of various companies. He has also been the professor for many courses at the University of Costa Rica's Economic Science faculty and brings ample experience in planning, organizing, developing, and controlling the many facets of a business venture.

Finally, Carlos Herrera represents the Libertarian contingency of the Cartago province. He attended the Universidad Nacional, graduating with a Labor Administration degree. He holds a Public Accounting degree from the Universidad Latinoamericana de Ciencia y Tecnologia (ULACIT). He is an accountant who currently works as the Financial Manager of Proventas de Cartago. He works with a well-known importer of veterinary products and consults with many other companies in his many fields of expertise. Herrera helped organize the 19th World Congress of the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) which was held in Costa

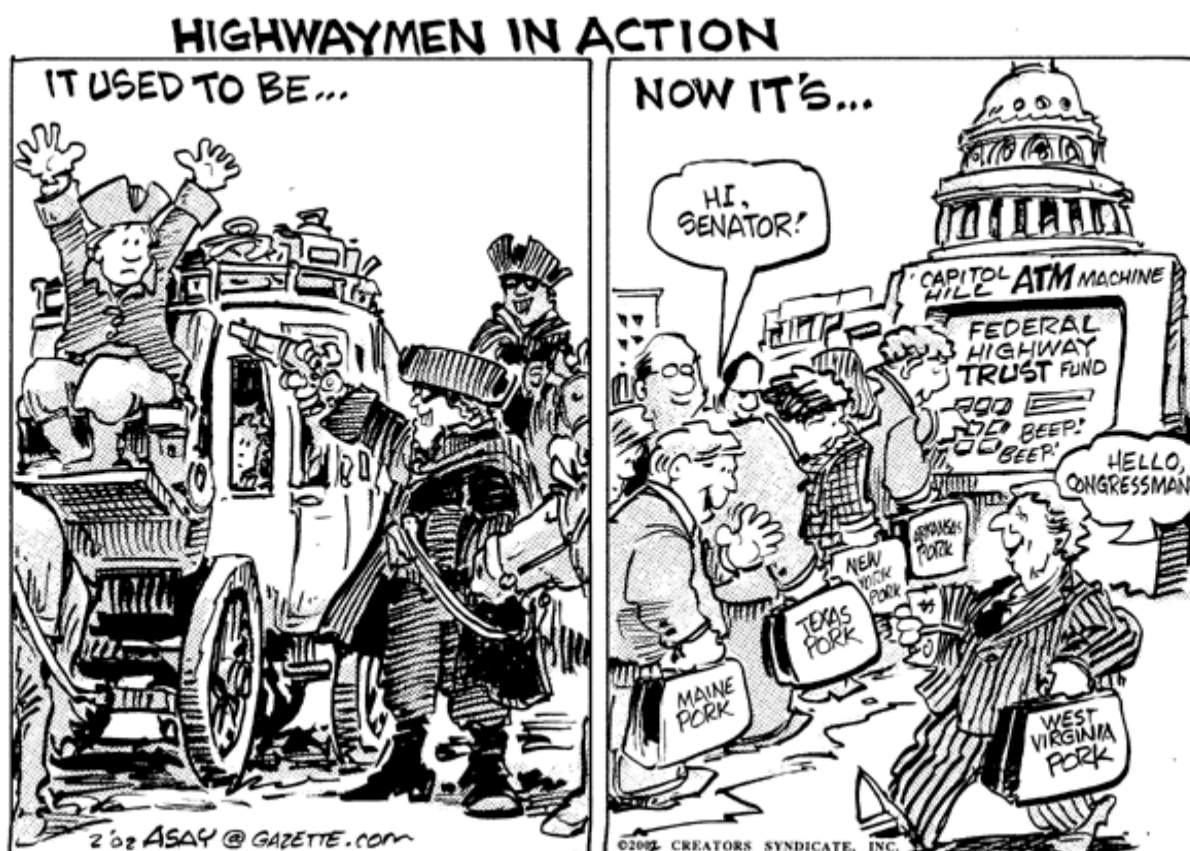
Rica, and in 2000 he was invited to the 20th Congress of that important society in Ontario.

This abundance of talent and experience will go a long way towards making Costa Rica a more free society, as well as giving libertarianism a more prominent place in the world arena. Just think what these five men could do, when one considers how much Otto Guevara achieved all by himself. In terms of public exposure, not only has Guevara gained much attention from the news media, but the news media is firmly convinced of the excellent work he has done for the people. A leading newspaper in Costa Rica, La Nacion, surveys various media journalists, asking them to name the best congressman out of Costa Rica's 57 legislators. After less than eight months in office, Guevara was named Best Congressman by 75% of the participants in 1998, and he continued to win the award the next two years by more of a margin.

The libertarian presence in the Costa Rican Congress will help forward the libertarian cause through legislation. When it was Otto Guevara against everybody else, he had little probability of passing a bill of his own. He had to resort to improving the law bills of fellow congressmen. However, he made major headway by stopping frivolous tax increases, and in one instance halted a bill that would have given the Treasury Secretary the power to arbitrarily increase consumption taxes. He stopped a bill forcing independent workers to "contribute" to a social security pension under the threat of closing down their businesses.

Five Congressmen (or more!) could accomplish much more. They could have the power of introducing bills. What a satisfying feeling this must be for Raul Costales, Otto Guevara, and everyone in Movimiento Libertario. But they are anticipating victories ahead. The hope of a Libertarian President in 2006 doesn't seem impossible anymore. With the increase in libertarian Congress, their country increased their freedom.

Now the rest of the world will see what they see... **LPC**



Letters to the Editor

Gasoline Prices

"The United States spends an estimated \$30 billion to \$60 billion a year on safeguarding Middle East oil...its annual oil imports from the region totaled only \$10.25 billion between 1992 and 1999."

— CATO Institute, August 1, 2001

"... Persian Gulf sources accounting for about 22% of U.S. oil imports during the year [2000]..."

— Energy Information Administration

(<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/usa.html>)

Every gallon you spend at the gas pump should cost \$7.35 to \$14.70/gallon. For the illusion of cheap oil, you subsidize fuel sales with your income taxes and government borrowing.

Those who don't drive subsidize those who do. Those who have fuel efficient vehicles subsidize those who don't.

Were the true costs accurately represented in the price, your buying patterns would be different. Company profits would be different. Stock valuations would be different.

Government regulations and subsidies waste company resources complying with them and make the entire economy less efficient. End waste by ending the interference. *Register Libertarian.*

Is meddling in the affairs of Middle Eastern nations for 22% of our oil worth a world war with Muslims? The federal government should mind its Constitutionally limited business at home and abroad. *Vote Libertarian.*

Bill Holmes

Fast Food Lawmaking

I am worried about the increasing public support for regulating the fast food industry. A large percentage of Americans are obese and now some special interest groups are blaming the restaurants! They want to limit advertising, and force restaurants to change their ingredients. Before we pass another well-meaning law, I want to "weigh" in on behalf of individual responsibility.

I am not property of the state. What I choose to eat is my own business. Isn't it a little insulting that our government assumes we can't make decisions for ourselves? They assume they know better than us what is the proper balance of convenience, taste, expense, and nutrition in our meal selection. This isn't Russia. We are a nation of individuals who have different lifestyles.

And have you thought of how the government plans to enforce its agenda of turning us into healthy subjects? I'm sure it will start innocently with simple dietary recommendations. Then it will be laws. Then before you know it, some social worker is taking your children into foster care because you've been feeding them whole milk.

I'm a Libertarian and I believe people should take responsibility for their own lives. We don't need to Super Size our government to make decisions about what to have for lunch. Let's reject this movement now and keep our meals "happy".

Michael Foley

New laws mean more problems

By Michael Jacobowitz

Michael Jacobowitz is a Libertarian and lives in San Leandro, CA. The article above appeared in The Daily Review, a local paper in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The article in your newspaper, "New laws to benefit many, even hat lovers," displays fuzzy economic concepts common to many other media sources and state legislators.

The underlying premise appears to be that intrinsically wise politicians can pass 948 new laws fundamentally fine-tuning private economic and social relationships with clear benefit but no significant detriment worthy of note.

Of course, history teaches that politicians will always favor a good sound bite based on the latest fad, ignoring subtle but enduring underlying negative consequences. Witness Gov. Davis' debacle in secretly entering into expensive energy contracts that expensively bind the ratepayers for years, but upon more rigorous public examination did not bind the utilities to provide that electricity.

It is this same type of political genius that now has

MTBE leeching through our water table. Many of the laws cited in the article raise state expenditures, which has caused the state sales tax to be increased during a recession to the disadvantage of anyone who buys anything in 2002.

The "hat" law mentioned in the headline is illustrative of a Legislature that overindulges its latest whim. In the name of sun overexposure, the statute restricts the flexibility of a school principal in establishing and enforcing a dress code.

Don't be surprised when most students wearing an objectionable item of clothing claim protection under the statute. I have looked and looked and cannot locate substantial evidence of a statewide crisis involving a rash of school principals malevolently overexposing innocent youth to the sun.

As a parent of public school children, I want to encourage my local school principals to have an ownership interest in our schools along with the commensurate authority. Why on earth does our Legislature continually display the hubris to micromanage and

thereby diminish that fundamental authority?

Shouldn't the local principal have the flexibility to set and adjust appropriate grooming standards in consultation with the local community? Self-absorbed legislators have introduced a new rigidity, further undermining the authority of local principals in favor of the latest make-believe crisis.

To the extent there may have been a problem, it should have been left to local give and take.

These 948 new laws mean 948 new rigidities introduced into the lives of every Californian. Once introduced, these new rigidities will tend to persist indefinitely, no matter how counterproductive or annoying the underlying consequences may prove to be.

I hope that it's not too hypocritical to propose a law to help stop our politicians before they legislate again — and newspaper reporters who uncritically support the latest, greatest, new and improved mandates. **LPC**

Executive Director Report (continued from page 3)

Unlike partisan offices — where signatures must be gathered — local office candidates only have to file the paperwork at the county clerk's office. Some people don't want to become a candidate because they don't want to make the time commitment. Kate O'Brien won the Simi Valley Park and Recreation office and did not spend one hour or one dollar campaigning.

Over the last several years, we have a consistent record of winning 8%. This year, we want to run 400 to 500 candidates for local elections. If we do, we should win 32 to 40 offices. However, we will only get up to this number with your help. Even if you put in

NO time or NO effort, your filing will help us win - just like Kate O'Brien won.

If you really cannot become a candidate this year, please support our efforts. We will require \$70,000 to fund this effort. This money will go towards renting telephone calling space, advertising, and a mailing to registered Libertarians.

Become a Libertarian candidate today. Please help us out this year. Please call me at 818-782-8400 or email me at director@ca.lp.org.

Medical Marijuana

Far and away, the most

often asked question I receive revolves around the United States drug policy. Democrats, Republicans, Libertarians. You name it. Everyone I talk to wants to get rid of odious drug laws. Today I received a call from a former police officer who arrested drug users. He had a few questions, and after a short conversation, he agreed with the Libertarian position.

This year, I will be developing a program fighting the draconian drug laws. We Libertarians know that the crime and the lawlessness of Prohibition is identically mirrored by our "drug wars." Stay tuned for more. **LPC**

There is no art which one government sooner learns from another than that of draining money from the pockets of the people.

— Adam Smith

Our forefathers made one mistake. What they should have fought for was representation without taxation.

— Fletcher Knebel

An economy hampered by restrictive tax rates will never produce enough revenue to balance our budget, just as it will never produce enough jobs or enough profits.

— John F. Kennedy, 1962.

When the state controls a man's money, it controls the man. That is why the liberty of citizens rests in many people having lots of money, instead of the State having most. When private citizens have money, they must tend it, use it wisely, or lose it: and they will lose it only to more clever citizens, in whose hands it will be better used.

— Mary Ellen Synon, "The Sunday Independent"

THE CHARMER AND THE TORTURER

By Michelle Malkin

A gaggle of gullible women from Seattle flew to Havana last week to meet with Cuban dictator Fidel Castro. They found him “charming” and “eloquent.” They were especially flattered that Castro — the head of one of the world’s most repressive regimes, listed by the State Department as a sponsor of terrorism — took time out of his



Michelle Malkin

busy schedule to lavish personal attention on them.

“He obviously had read the biographies and knew who each person was,” gushed Susan Jeffords, dean of social sciences at the University of Washington. “Charming,” she said. Golly gee, Ms. Jeffords, is that because Castro’s just such a people person? Or is it because he has had decades of practice memorizing the dossiers of countless political prisoners? Castro also reportedly spent two hours with Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., and even chaperoned her to the airport in his Mercedes-Benz. You just can’t beat communist hospitality.

Connie Niva, another member of the Washington state delegation, sounded like a teen-age groupie who had just returned from a Backstreet Boys concert. “It was an amazing trip,” she bubbled to the Everett (Wash.)

Herald this week. “You don’t have any sense that this is a police state.” Well, gosh, Ms. Niva, you wouldn’t get that sense from dining on seafood, yukking it up with Castro for five hours, and hopping around Havana all week with government-approved chaperones, would you? Reciting straight from the dictator’s propaganda primer, Niva told the Herald that Cubans “are in poverty, but they are very happy people.”

These women should have stayed right here in the United States and talked to some of the “happy people” who escaped Castro’s regime. They should have lunched with Eugenio de Sosa Chabau, who fled Cuba after two decades as a political prisoner. He could have told them about his 52-page complaint against Castro for crimes against humanity, which he filed with a group of nine Cuban exiles last fall under a Belgian war crimes law. He could have told them about his torture at the hands of Castro’s Cuban Security Services in a Havana psychiatric hospital. He could have told them how he was hooked up to wet electrical prods and “treated” with 14 sessions of shock therapy delivered to his temples and testicles.

But he can’t tell them now. The 85-year-old de Sosa Chabau, whose torture was documented in a ground-breaking book about Cuba’s psychiatric abuse of political dissidents, died earlier this month as the Washington women were giddily packing their Eddie Bauer bags for Castro’s dog-and-pony show.

Before his death, de Sosa Chabau had been preparing to testify as a key witness in a federal

trial against his torturer - Castro henchman Eriberto Mederos, known by Cuban exiles as the sadistic “El Enfermero” or “the nurse.” In 1991, de Sosa Chabau spotted Mederos working at a nursing home facility where one of his relatives resided. Despite detailed media reports of Mederos’ abuse, vocal protest from Florida’s Cuban-American community, and dogged whistleblowing by former State Department official Richard Krieger, our immigration authorities rewarded Mederos with U.S. citizenship in the spring of 1993.

Krieger, who runs a watchdog humanitarian group called International Education Missions in Florida, spearheaded the drive to denaturalize Mederos. In September 2001, Mederos was arrested for illegally obtaining citizenship and will face trial in July 2002. Although de Sosa Chabau was the key witness against Mederos, more than a dozen other surviving victims have agreed to provide depositions and testimony. In the meantime, Mederos is out on \$500,000 bail in Miami - and Castro has condemned the trial against Mederos as a trick by his enemies to discredit his “revolution.”

The subject didn’t come up when the Seattle women lunched with Castro earlier this month. Instead, Connie Niva praised the “good quality health care” Cubans receive and learned that Castro is more of a “merlot guy” than a champagne guy. “Terribly charming,” Ms. Niva said of her host.

No. Just terrible.

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LPC

Do You LOVE Paying Income Taxes?

(continued from page 3)

The \$1,000,000 bill is by far the most popular outreach tool the LPNH ever created. Using the cheerful line... “How would you like a million dollars to help pay your taxes?,” *LPNH volunteers report an acceptance rate of over 80% from passers-by*. People smile, laugh, and joke when they get it, and some even return for extra copies. This is in marked contrast to many other outreach events, where people recoil from taking literature.

This positive response makes the \$1,000,000 bill very popular with LP volunteers. Instead of the typical hostility or indifference, they get smiles, “thank you’s,” and genuine warmth.

This all-around good cheer also creates a jovial, upbeat atmosphere at these outreach events. This helps dispel the image of Libertarians as grim zealots eager to abolish everything in sight.

Take a focus on collecting prospect names on the spot (Rule of thumb: Every one person who signs up for more information is the equivalent of handing out 100-200 pieces of literature.) You’ll build your mailing list faster - and, correspondingly, your membership base.

Results

A properly organized one-day, one-site “\$1,000,000 Tax Day Outreach” can generate between one and 20 new members. Most parties can expect a 1% to 2% membership increase.

Project Steps

- 1) Obtain \$1,000,000 bills (print yourself or order from LP HQ.) (<http://www.ca.lp.org/lpc-tax-day-mdb.html>)
- 2) Select the Post Office(s).
- 3) Recruit volunteers.
- 4) Prepare signs.
- 5) Three to seven days before the outreach/protest event, send press release to the media.
- 6) Bring \$1,000,000 bills, signs, clipboards, sign-up sheets, food, water for everyone, and legal documentation to volunteers.
- 7) Hold your event. Focus on

collecting prospect names.

- 8) April 19th, send follow-up information

Selecting A Post Office

Select a Post Office that will be open until midnight, if possible.

Call your local TV stations and ask where they will be.

Tangible Results

Increase your membership: sign up prospects on the spot.

Publicity, “spreading the word,” camaraderie, “raising consciousness,” and so on, should be secondary.

To dramatically boost the prospect/new member payoff from your rally, you must have one or more clipboard-wielding volunteers with prospect sign-up sheets working at all times!

Do not rely on people to send back the \$1,000,000 bill coupon to request more information! Only one in a hundred will do so. This means that one person signing up for information is the equivalent to handing out 100 to 200 pieces of literature.

Anyone who stops to talk about the LP, or the \$1,000,000 bill, or about how they hate the IRS, should be asked immediately to sign up to get on your mailing list. Even if they don’t initiate a conversation, ask everyone cheerfully: “Would you like more information about the Libertarian Party?” Or: “Would you like information about how we’re working to reduce taxes?” Or: “Would you like to get on our mailing list?”

A few other rally tips

1. When handing out the \$1,000,000 bills, use the cheerful line: “How would you like a million dollars to help pay your taxes?”
 2. Dress well. Be polite, well groomed, and clean. Don’t wear bizarre “message” tee-shirts, or dozens of “message” buttons.
 3. Don’t get into arguments. Just smile politely.
 4. Have several extra pens available.
 5. Photograph your event.
 6. See <http://archive.lp.org/lit/mdtdo/> for more information.
- GOOD LUCK!**

LPC

Have Something to Say?

Say it in the
LPC Monthly.

Submissions:
Right now.
director@ca.lp.org

CONTRIBUTION CORNER

Libertarians - Are you seeking ways to help our cause of Liberty? Here are ways to help:

Volunteer Time

LPC Headquarters (San Fernando Valley, California)

Data Entry
Telephone help
Press releases
Newspaper layout
Bookkeeping
Graphic Artists



We all need to offer liberty a helping hand.


In-Kind (Materials)

Printers/Printing Services
Mail House
(folding/stuffing envelopes)
Office Space (San Fernando Valley, Malibu)
Laser printer (HP 4100 for PC)
Laser printer (any)
Digital Camera



Financial

\$10,000 Operation Breakthrough
Help 500 candidates run for office in California in 2002
\$ 2,000 Operation: Energy Tax Revolt!
Reduce energy taxes in 170+ California cities
\$ 500 Scholarship Fund

Please contact Executive Director David Molony at director@ca.lp.org or call him directly at 818-782-8400. 

“Animals ‘rights’ might evolve in a libertarian society through the failure of juries to award abusers compensation for the rescued animals. Failure to award compensation would essentially be a verdict of ‘not property.’ Prior to the Civil War, juries acknowledged rights of escaped slaves by returning a verdict of ‘not guilty’ when they or their rescuers were captured.”

By Dr. Mary Ruwart

Libertarian Party of California

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“Drugs have so contaminated amateur sport that a radical solution is called for. A modest proposal: Would it make sense to usher in a new era of **libertarian** athletics — to make everything legal, including anabolic agents, human growth hormones, stimulants, beta-blockers and the rest? The athlete with the best dealer — or best pharmacy — wins? Why not get the narcs out of the Olympics, eliminate the demeaning ambush tests, the sudden preposterous demands for urine samples, and let athletes and coaches govern their behavior, weighing the risks of permanent damage to their bodies against competitive benefits?”

— Time