



FREE LIBERTARIAN

Monthly Newsletter of the Free Libertarian Party

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1 JANUARY 1973

HOSPERS/NATHAN 3RD IN ELECTORAL VOTES

John Hospers, the Libertarian Party candidate for President, finished third in the presidential election receiving one electoral vote from Robert MacBride, an attorney from Charlottesville, Virginia. The one electoral vote placed Hospers and his running mate Toni Nathan 16 votes behind Democrat George McGovern of South Dakota.

Robert MacBride, a lifelong Republican, stated: "In casting my vote for another candidate I am trying to tell (President Nixon) that he has lost his way; that this country should not move to a controlled mercantilistic economy . . ." He further stated that he voted for the Libertarians "on behalf of the millions in this country who have helplessly watched presidential leadership inexorably move the federal government in the direction of ever-greater control over the lives of all of us."

Toni Nathan thus became the first woman to ever receive an electoral vote. Several women's magazines are now interested in doing an article on Ms. Nathan.

According to long-standing custom the electors for each state, equal in number to its congressional representation, vote for the nominees of their own party. MacBride ignored this tradition, broken several times in the 181 year history of the Electoral College, in "an attempt to put party principles ahead of party politics."

The defection of a lifelong Republican was front-page news in the *Washington Post*, received mention in *The New York Times*, *Daily News*, *New York Post*, and was reported on ABC and NBC national news

The news of MacBride's electoral vote was received with elation by members of the Libertarian Party. Many members expressed a renewed faith that conscientious men are still willing to put principle over party politics. MacBride's vote was regarded by party members as a major step forward for the Libertarian Party.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: EVERY FLP MEMBER RECRUIT ONE NEW MEMBER IN 1973

FLP FINDS HOME

The Free Libertarian Party of New York has finally found a permanent home. The party headquarters are moving to:

15 West 38th St., New York City 10018

where we will have permanent office space, mailing address and telephone listing. The telephone number will be announced in the next newsletter, and hopefully will be listed by Ma Bell in the directory. One never knows, but members are urged to ask Ma anyway.

Anyone with electrical, carpentry, design or other skills is urged to contact Howard Rich at (212) 299-0686. The office will be decorated in neo-modified classic libertarian style.

An office-warming party is planned in the future for all members and friends who contributed so generously to make this bastion of libertarianism possible.

NEW PARTY MAILING ADDRESS

FREE LIBERTARIAN PARTY, INC.
15 West 38th Street
New York, N.Y. 10018

PLEASE MAKE THIS NOTATION ON ANY LITERATURE YOU MIGHT DISTRIBUTE.

AS PROVIDED IN THE FLP BYLAWS, MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUES FOR 1973 ARE PAYABLE AS OF JANUARY 1, 1973 AND SHOULD BE PAID NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15, 1973. "ANY MEMBER WHO HAS NOT RENEWED MEMBERSHIP BY PAYMENT OF DUES ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 15TH SHALL LOSE ALL FORMER MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS."

FROM THE CHAIR

New Year's Eve is the time for resolutions, new beginnings, pep talks and all that jazz. Considering the importance of the story on our national candidates on page 1, I think any exhortations from this column would be anticlimactic. Even so, I think there are several important upcoming events for the FLP that deserve all of our attention.

The most immediate and pressing matter is the State platform. By mid-January the report(s) from the Platform Committee will be available to the membership. All FLP members who desire copies of these reports, i.e., working drafts of the platform, will receive them IF they send to the Party office a self-addressed 9x12 envelope bearing 16 cents in postage. With the reports will be a notice of the date of the open hearing on the platform, (the date will also appear in the February newsletter) and those members who wish to speak at that hearing may do so if (1) they intend to submit complete alternate plank(s) or (2) if they intend to advocate the elimination of plank(s) altogether. All planks must be submitted a week prior to the date of the hearing and the committee will require ten copies of each.

Considering the crucial importance of the platform it is hoped that many of you intend to participate in that hearing. The FLP is fortunate in having more than its share of knowledgeable people and the platform and the Party will be the better for their participation.

The next event of crucial importance is the State Convention. The tentative dates are March 30, 31 and April 1. What transpires at the Convention will decide whether or not the FLP is to become an effective political force in New York State.

This convention will adopt the State platform. This convention will also elect the Party officers for 1973 and nominate candidates for the 1973 elections. It would be impossible to overstress the importance of these two tasks.

During this first year of the FLP's existence, the officers of the Party were, primarily, volunteers elected by an exceedingly small membership (or appointed to fill vacancies) Whether or not you think they have done a creditable job, the fact remains that they were not elected by the 200 members we now have. The FLP must have strong leadership capable of mobilizing the Party to achieve its goals, and such leadership can best be developed through the process of open and vigorous campaigning. It is hoped that all members will seriously consider what is required of the Party leadership and strive to elect those candidates who seem best able to fill those requirements. *You* will pick the Party's officers and your choices will be only as good as the effort you put into choosing.

As for the FLP's candidates for next year, the same comments may be made. 1973's local elections give us the best chance we will have for the next four years to make our presence known and felt locally. We will be dealing with issues that are often of much more immediate concern than those in national elections. Mayors, City Councils, School Boards, etc., have an immediacy that we can capitalize on. Neighborhood issues generate heat and we can use that heat to burn the politicians who are responsible in the first place for most of those issues being there. And if our candidates are effective, the FLP will be recognized as a group to be reckoned with.

Thus, our first *real* convention is an important one. It will, I think, decide whether New York libertarians are going to remain armchair commentators or whether they're ready to start *doing*. I've spoken often enough of the seventy or so who accomplished so much last July, August and September. With that team as the core we *can* make our presence felt .. but they can't do it alone, and the convention, its attendance and level of active participation, will tell us whether they can expect help.

We've made a hell-of-a-good start. 1972 was successful beyond our hopes. Let's make 1973 successful *beyond* Ed Koch's fears.

Yours in liberty,
Jerry Klasman

HOSPERS OUTPOLL TED KENNEDY

In a recent *Newsday* article Marc Schogol reported for the Long Island newspaper that John Hospers received more votes for President in Nassau County than Edward Kennedy, Barry Goldwater, John Lindsay, Harry S. Truman, Sen. J.W. Fulbright, Rep. Wilbur Mills, Gov. Terry Sanford, Judge Sol Wachtler of Great Neck, L.I., Adm. Hyman Rickover, Groucho Marx and Archie Bunker.

Officials were mystified as to who John Hospers was however. Laura Davis, the chief clerk for the Nassau Board of Elections said, "He must be somebody because those votes (he received six write-ins) were scattered about the county." In at least one place John Hospers had a running mate named Toni Nathan which led officials to ask, "Who is Toni Nathan?"

Inquiries with the White House produced a spokeswoman who said that she had never heard of Hospers, but was impressed with his showing in Nassau County. The spokeswoman said, "He's got a good leg up for 1976."

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MARKETING LIBERTARIANISM

The True American Values

by PAUL STREITZ

In the world of marketing/advertising the concept of product positioning is often crucial to the success or failure of a product. Position can best be described as the relation the consumer sees between the product and all other products he considers in the same universe. For example, a Cadillac is seen as being very similar to a Lincoln while a Volkswagen is seen as being more similar to a Volvo. The concept of positioning can be thought of in spatial terms with some products closer together (similar) and some farther apart (dissimilar).

The producer can make two fundamental mistakes in the positioning of his product. One, he can be trying to convince the wrong consumers. For example, the producer who advertises a Cadillac as an economy car is not going to convince most consumers who perceive the Cadillac as a luxury, expensive car. The second mistake is made when the producer tries to position his product in the wrong universe; for example, a producer who advertises motorcycles on the basis of economy to compete against Volkswagen. Most consumers regard motorcycles in an entirely different universe with very few similarities to automobiles.

Almost all libertarians know how difficult it is to explain what Libertarianism is. The uninitiated person conceives of a linear universe of political parties with Conservatives on the right and Liberals on the left. Within this linear universe the unfamiliar person is forced to put the FLP either on the extreme right or extreme left depending upon the issue discussed because he sees no other position for it. This is a very critical problem because the uninitiated person immediately begins to associate libertarianism with either an extremist position or all the skulduggery of the conventional political parties.

To avoid this very critical problem the Libertarian Party must position itself in a universe that evokes favorable connotations to the voter and does not involve conventional political parties. The Libertarian Party must position itself in the same universe as the traditional values explicit in the founding of this country. The words "Liberty," "Freedom," "Unalienable Rights" are valid, meaningful words today as they were in the 1770's.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That, to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just Powers from the consent of the governed. That, whenever any form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it .

"When a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future safety."

It does not take much explaining to the average citizen to show that the government is moving ever closer to despotism, that in the most recent war it never had the consent of the governed, and that the citizen has been subjected to a long series of abuses by the government that is supposed to protect, not usurp, his liberties.

The Free Libertarian Party and its candidates must constantly declare that we are the mainstream of American philosophy and tradition. We must constantly declare that the major political parties are the extremists and that the Free Libertarian Party represents the true American values, of unalienable rights to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

GREENBERG SPEAKS TO STUDENTS

On Wednesday evening, December 13, Gary Greenberg, 1972 FLP Congressional candidate, spoke to a class of about 30 students at Lehman College (of the City University of New York) in the Bronx.

The class was taking a course in the health and phys ed department entitled, "Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs." Gary's talk (one half-hour of presentation followed by one half-hour of questions) was on the subject of repealing victimless crime laws in general, and heroin prohibition laws in particular.

Stating that he was personally opposed to the use of heroin (and of methadone as well), Gary pointed out that drug abuse is rightly considered a medical and psychological problem, *not a legal one*.

Although he made mention of the fact that he took a moral position, Gary stressed the practicality of his stand. He then devoted most of his speech to the consequences of considering heroin a legal problem, stressing to the class the impracticality of heroin prohibition and the practicality of its repeal.

In delineating the harmful effects of anti-heroin laws, Gary touched on three major points:

1. that such laws create crime by making heroin so expensive that addicts have to steal to support their habit;
2. that the increased crime thus created overloads the court system and degrades justice by creating a plea-bargaining system;
3. that attempted enforcement of anti-heroin laws (and of all victimless crime laws) wastes police resources and often engenders and encourages police corruption.

The questions that followed indicated that although many students disagreed with Gary, apparently none were openly hostile to the repeal of heroin prohibition.

At the end of the hour, the professor spoke with Gary and arranged to have another talk on the same subject next semester to a new class of students, this time for a full three hours instead of just one.

ADVENTURES IN CHARTERLAND

In early December The Temporary State Commission on Charter Revision for New York City (sic) was roaming around holding public hearings. On the week of the 11th the Commission hit Manhattan; and members of the FLP joined the procession of community leaders, politicians and professional testifiers that turned out.

At the Monday afternoon session Martin Nixon delivered a forceful speech on the evils of big government and the virtues of decentralization. He gave a catalogue of how "the bureaucrats and self-appointed messiahs of City Hall and the Municipal Building have ignored the wishes of the community and have made a mockery of the principles of democracy."

He proposed that the Commission "bring decision-making down to the neighborhood level." And he added, "If need be, repeal the 1898 Act of Consolidation."

Walter Block followed with a cogent address on what the City government should not be doing. He said, "Only a truly radical approach to the problems of the City can be expected to work."

He proposed an end to all victimless crimes (gambling, prostitution, drugs, etc), the de-municipalization of all government services (sanitation, fire protection, street repair, etc.) and an end to all City taxes. Walter pointed out that "each problem New York City faces can be traced directly back to government usurpations."

On Wednesday afternoon Howard Katz gave the Commission a lesson in government and business. He said, "City government in New York today does not work because it is trying to do jobs appropriate to business with a structure appropriate to government."

He pointed out that the object of business is to make profits, that it must be efficient and is dependent on the free choice of the consumer. On the other hand the purpose of government is justice, public officials must get elected, and government is dependent on coercion. Howard proposed that the economic activities of the City be divorced from the government and be run on a strictly business basis.

While it is probably too much to hope that the Commission will produce a libertarian City Charter, the general trend in the testimony and in questions asked at the hearings was directed towards some form of decentralization.

CALENDAR

NYLA MEETINGS

Held the first and third Friday of each month at 8PM at the Laissez Faire Bookstore in Greenwich Village.

January 19th speaker will be Nicholas Raeder, former publisher of *Sol III*.

The New School has announced two courses for its Spring Term which are of special interest to libertarians.

Henry Binswanger will be giving a course entitled, "Introduction To Objectivism: Ethics, Politics & Esthetics," Wednesday evenings at 7:45 PM; Tuition: \$70.

FLP member Jerome Tuccille will be teaching a course on "Anarchism & The Urban Community" Monday evenings at 7:45 PM; Tuition \$70.

Registration will continue through most of January. Contact The New School, 66 West 12th St., NYC 10011 for further details.

CLUB NEWS

If you wish to organize an FLP club, contact Howard Rich at 111 Constitution Drive, Orangeburg, N.Y. or (212) 299-0686. An organizing kit will be provided which consists of model bylaws, instructions for organizing, literature and PR handbooks, party literature, names, addresses and telephone numbers of members and prospects in your area, speaker(s) for organizing meetings, charter application, etc. The FLP Membership Committee will provide as much help as needed to get you started. It will even suggest projects for those clubs requesting ideas.

If you wish to join a club, the choice of existing clubs follows. If none suits you, you'll have to sit around and wait for someone else to form one in your area or **YOU'LL HAVE TO DO IT YOURSELF!**

THE AGORA LIBERTARIAN CLUB (TALC) (Manhattan) (Chartered) TALC has started work on a major project—the NYC housing crisis. The club expects to develop, as its first result, a campaign position in time for next year's city elections. The full study and report is expected to require two or more years for completion. All FLP members and others with experience and expertise in history, construction, zoning or other housing law, building codes, architecture, labor relations or any other discipline bearing on the problem are urged to contact Jerry Klasman at (212) 687-1070 (days) or (212) 686-3986 (evenings).

ALBERT JAY NOCK FLP CLUB (AJN) (Queens) (Unchartered). This will be an oral reading club of libertarian literature. Contact Robert Cohen at (212) 762-3203.

BRONX LIBERTARIAN CLUB (BLC) (Bronx) (Unchartered). The BLC had its first meeting in December and plans a second meeting for January. The club by-laws are now being drawn up and will be discussed, voted on and submitted to the state committee sometime within the next few weeks. Among the interests of the members are the repeal of victimless crime laws, administration of drugs to "overactive" school children, and research on information pertaining to the workings of the state and local governments. For information contact Steve Flier (212) 892-2944 or Thomas Avery (212) 584-5493.

BROOKLYN LIBERTARIAN PARTY CAUCUS (BLPC) (Brooklyn) (Charter). The BLPC meets the second Wednesday of each month at a different address. The next meeting will be held January 10, 7:30 PM, at the home of Paul Tanzer, 164 Prospect Place, (212) 857-6751. BLPC has begun work on Brooklyn's problems. Under investigation are such subjects as city planning, education, decentralization, housing, public services and parking violations. For further information, contact Richard Hansen at (212) 433-5227 (9 to 5 PM) or George Borecky at (212) 435-4030 (after 7:30 PM).

DEVELOP ALTERNATIVES FOR NEW YORK LIBERTARIAN CLUB (DAFNY) (Queens) (Chartered). Contact Mike Higgins at (914) YO 8-1485 or write to him at 17 Summit Street, Yonkers, N. Y. 10701.

FREE LIBERTARIANS OF WESTCHESTER (FLOW) (Westchester County) (Unchartered) Contact Roger Eisenberg at (914) 949-9596 or write to him at 484 East Main Street, White Plains, New York 10604.

FLP radical caucus (FLPrC) (Manhattan) (Unchartered) Contact Sam Konkin at 635 East 11th Street in NYC or J. Neil Schulman at (212) 595-9143.

GREENWICH VILLAGE LIBERTARIAN CLUB (GVLC) (Manhattan) (Chartered) GVLC is preparing materials for use by the Platform Committee. The platform materials will be used as a check list for evaluating the platform and/or as building blocks for any future planks the club may wish to submit. For further information, contact George Jacobs at (212) 989-7351.

KID LIB CLUB (Manhattan) (Unchartered) The prime purpose of this club is to discuss and promote the Kid Lib movement. Contact Andrea Millen at (212) 988-7814.

LIBERTARIAN ABORTION ACTION GROUP (LAAG) (Manhattan) (Unchartered) This club is devoted exclusively to the abortion issue and is open to men as well as women. LAAG's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 8th, 7:30 PM, at the home of Francine Youngstein, 201 East 66th Street in NYC. For further information, contact Fran at (212) 223-4136 (9 to 5) or (212) 249-0172 (evenings).

THE MID-HUDSON LIBERTARIAN CLUB (MHLC) (Poughkeepsie) (Chartered) Contact Guy Riggs at (914) 462-0613.

NASSAU LIBERTARIAN CLUB (NLC) (Nassau County) (Unchartered)

NLC is concentrating on the issue "Legalization of Drugs to Aid in the Control of Crime." The club plans a January Colloquium with various community groups being invited to participate. NLC is also planning an "Income Tax Avoidance Program" to start early in 1973. For further information write P.O. Box 32, West Hempstead, N.Y. or call Mary Jo Wanzer at (516) 481-6010.

OUTLOOK LIBERTARIAN CLUB (OLC) (Manhattan) (Unchartered) OLC is devoted to making OUTLOOK an influential national publication stimulating projects mutually beneficial to the party and OUTLOOK. Contact Walter Block at (212) 864-7165.

STATEN ISLAND LIBERTARIAN CLUB (SILC) (Staten Island) (Unchartered) For information, contact Timothy Killoran at (212) 761-5596.

SUFFOLK LIBERTARIAN CLUB (SLC) (Suffolk County) (Unchartered) For further information, contact Richard Lerner at (516) 543-9463 (evenings).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I disagree with some of the statements made in Howard Katz's letter that appeared in this column last month. I would like to state my opinions on two issues raised in that letter.

1. *If a candidate of the Party can forego full-time employment and devote full-time instead to a political campaign, fine. But the party should neither expect nor demand this. Such a demand may be impossible for any prospective candidate to meet. Should we then run a campaign without a standard-bearer? The other political parties may be able to exact such requirements, not because they take themselves more seriously, but because they are [most of them] more affluent. [They also preach self-sacrifice and expect it from their members as well as their supporters.]*

Furthermore, the question of who gets the "glory" is unimportant. I expect each of us to work as hard as he or she can on the next campaign without any concern about who gets the "glory." Who gets the liberty is more to the point.

2. *The issue of "vice or virtue" is irrelevant to the priorities of a political party defending individual rights. I suggest that the following standard for judging priorities is more appropriate: Those rights whose denial by government causes the most serious and the most harmful effects [considering both the short run and the long run] to us as individuals in society should be given highest priority*

Although heroin abuse, for example, is a vice, I urge that the Party consider heroin prohibition a priority issue because of the consequences of heroin prohibition laws [and all victimless crime laws in general]. Addict-related crime is a serious problem in our society, particularly in urban areas. Moreover, the statist "solutions" to crime are also a serious problem in our society [they are a threat to civil liberties], and are often implemented to deal with victimless crimes [e.g., no-knock laws, government wiretapping, unreasonable searches and seizures, etc.]. Consider the deterioration of the criminal justice system. Consider also the tragic and avoidable racial strife engendered by fear of addict-related crime. Consider the deterioration of urban areas, and the large-scale exodus from the cities, caused in part by concern over violence and street crime. [Then listen to the statist arguments that the federal government, with its power to tax ex-urban dwellers, must be given increased power to "solve" the problems of the cities.] The statists have their own priorities and their own proposals to boot. If we ignore these simple facts, our problems will become even worse.

I think that we ought to stress to non-libertarians that our defense of "rights which represent vices" does not entail a moral sanction of those vices, but is undertaken because of the consequences of government denial of those rights. Needless to say, the Party should staunchly defend "rights which represent virtues," but we should, in my opinion, establish priorities using the standard I stated above.

Thomas Avery
Member, FLP, Inc.



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537 MEDICAL AVENUE
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FREE LIBERTARIAN PARTY, INC.

CLASSIFIED

WANTED: OFFICE FURNITURE - desk, chairs, file cabinets, chairs, lamps, chairs, conference table, chairs, accessories, waste paper baskets, trays, supplies, refrigerator, chairs, chairs, chairs. Donators should contact the NEW OFFICE of the FLP (15 West 38th St, NYC 10018) or Howard Rich at (212) 299-0686.

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LYSANDER SPOONER BIRTHDAY SALE January 19, 20, 21, featuring a selection of revisionist books in hardbound -- less expensive than paperbacks. Plus other surprises.

LAISSEZ FAIRE BOOKS, 208A Mercer Street, (corner of Bleeker) NYC (212) 674-8154

Jefferson-Jackson day protest

The Committee to Reestablish the Gold Standard has set its protest against the Democratic Party for:

Feb. 24, 1973 from 12:00 to 1:00 PM

The New York City protest will be held in front of the Dryden East Hotel; 150 E. 39th St. (which is State Democratic headquarters).

Out-of-towners are urged to hold their own demonstration in their own community. Call Howard Katz at (212) 254-4791 for information.

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A subscription to the newsletter costs \$4 per year. The newsletter is included in membership fees to all FLP members. Friends of Libertarianism who wish to continue receiving the newsletter on a regular basis are urged to fill out and return the coupon.

NEW LIBERTARIAN NOTES: Articles, news, theory for East Coast radical libertarians and science fiction reviews for freedom fen. \$3.00/12 issues. Checks payable to Samuel E. Konkin, III, 635 East 11th Street, New York, N. Y. 10009

1973 LIBERTARIAN CALENDARS: 98 important libertarian dates, for desk or wall hanging. Send \$1 to SIL, 304 Empire Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107.

OUTLOOK: The Libertarian Monthly: The liveliest, most provocative political magazine, featuring leading libertarian writers and thinkers. \$6/year. OUTLOOK, Box 1027, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

We will give a gold sovereign to anyone securing 10 subscribers to GOLD NEWSLETTER. National Committee to Legalize Gold, 1524 Hillary St., New Orleans, La. 70118. Offer unlimited.

HELP WANTED Enthusiastic people are needed to work on the newsletter each month. Contact Andrea Millen (212) 988-7814

THANK YOU

A very special thank you to Mike Shaw, FLP member and owner of COMPUTYPE, 15 West 38th Street, NYC 10018, (212) 594-3020, for the use of his typesetting equipment to produce this newsletter.

A special thank you also to Howard Katz for his expertise in using the equipment and the willing donation of his time.