

SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN



SEPTEMBER 1981

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY

FROM THE EDITOR...

Dear friend,

This first edition of SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN is being sent to everyone on our mailing list. Many of you are members of the state party, and you will continue to receive SCL each month. Others on our list are not members, but have either requested information about the Libertarian Party or about Presidential candidate Ed Clark. To those readers, we hope you will join us in our quest for a free South Carolina and America. The 1982 elections are closer than you think. The time to start planning is right now. Let us hear from you.

Tom Norman, Editor

FROM THE CHAIRMAN...

A MESSAGE FROM S.C.
STATE CHAIRMAN
TOM WALDENFELS

*"Freedom, Air, and the
South Carolina
Libertarian Party"*



Waldenfels

"Freedom is like air, not so much an end in itself, as an utter necessity for accomplishing anything." That's a rough rendering of a quotation from John Harllee, Libertarian Philosopher and secretary of the SCLP. Having just returned from Washington, I can tell you that just as our air has become fouled, so has our system of republican government, originally designed to safeguard our freedom. Freedom and the American way are being "nibbled to death by ducks", those faceless hordes in Washington.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

YOU MAY BE A LIBERTARIAN AT HEART WITHOUT EVEN BEING AWARE OF IT.

Do you believe in an economic system based on open competition instead of big-business-controlled government agencies? Do you believe, for instance, that the CAB should be stopped from restricting competition and fixing airline prices for the benefit of the giant airlines?

Do you believe the government — through its meddling, corruption, catering to special interests, awarding of subsidies and bail-outs and special bank privileges — has shown itself to be totally incapable or unwilling to control the declining dollar, or in fact, to act benevolently for the working person?

Do you believe that voluntary agreements between companies or individuals are none of the government's business — provided that no force or fraud is involved nor intended against anyone else?

Do you believe the government should stop trying to impose its morality on the American people, that no crime has been committed if there is no victim? Do you believe it is wrong to use the time, budgets and resources of our police, courts and prisons to persecute people who may be harming no one but themselves?

Do you believe government should leave the buying of seatbelts, motorcycle helmets or any other item designed for personal safety up to the individual?

Do you believe government spending and taxation should be cut?

If you answered "yes" to most of these questions, congratulations. You may be more of a Libertarian than you thought.

NEED ANSWERS ???

Want to learn more about the
LIBERTARIAN PARTY ?

Write for a comprehensive
Q & A brochure. It's
available on request from
THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY.



NEWS SECTION

Atheists challenge constitution in Arkansas

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (UPI) — The American Atheists organization founded by Madalyn Murray O'Hair filed suit Tuesday challenging a requirement in the Arkansas constitution that all officeholders and court witnesses believe in God.

Naming Gov. Frank White and President Reagan among the defendants, the suit asked that all federal funds to Arkansas be stopped because they are being used to run agencies and departments "founded on patently void and illegal religious discrimination."

"Even if the concept of God could be clearly defined, a state could not inquire into the beliefs of its citizens in that regard," the suit said. "Freedom to believe as well as not believe in 'God' is absolute."

Article 19, Section 1 of the Arkansas Constitution states: "No person who denies the being of God shall hold any office in the civil departments of this state nor be competent to testify as a witness in any court."

Only Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi and South Carolina still require public officials to believe in God and only Arkansas requires it of witnesses in court, Mrs. O'Hair said. Arkansas also was the last state to arrest anyone for claiming to be an atheist, jailing a Hot Springs man in 1920, she said.

American Atheists, based in Austin, Texas, won a suit in North Carolina to remove a religious requirement from the constitution and has a case pending against the state of Texas.

Man sentenced on tax charge

CHARLESTON — A former Charleston Baseball Club Inc. president, Raymond G. Blomquist, has been sentenced to six months in prison in connection with failing to file federal quarterly employment tax returns.

According to U.S. Attorney Henry Dargan McMaster, Blomquist, 50, was charged in April 1976 with failing to file the returns for the second and third quarters of 1973 while he was club president.

An investigation by the Internal Revenue Service revealed total taxes of more than \$20,000 that were neither reported nor paid.

BRIEFS: Federal, state, and local governments will spend \$1.07 trillion in fiscal 1981, or \$4,678 for each American, the Tax Foundation estimates; that's nearly \$126 billion more than the estimated 1980 total. . . . A Senate Finance subcommittee plans a hearing Monday on a bill to step up federal debt-collection efforts.

Blue laws under fire in House

COLUMBIA (AP) — Despite Bible thumping and religious professions by several state representatives, the House tentatively approved a measure Wednesday to repeal many of the state's blue laws.

Lawmakers voted 62-36 in favor of the bill, which allows more than three employees to work in grocery stores, permits athletic events, entertainment events, arts and crafts shows and funerals on Sundays.

The bill also allows the sale of educational supplies, cameras, film, flash bulbs, batteries, baby supplies, hosiery and undergarments, all of which are currently banned for Sunday sales.

Rep. Lloyd Hendricks, chief sponsor of the bill, said the measure would allow athletic events like the Heritage Golf Tournament and other professional sporting events on Sundays if promoters obtain local permits.

The measure marks the first time since 1962 that the blue laws have been weakened. The laws, which ban specified activities and the sale of certain items on Sundays, date back to 1691 when South Carolina was under British rule.

Denunciations

The bill drew strong religious denunciations by several members, including Rep. Rick Rigdon, R-Greenville.

"What we are going today is wrong — it's against Scripture," Rigdon said. "We are in violation of the word of God and we are going to live to regret it."

But Rep. Bob Sheheen, D-Kershaw, disagreed.

"I am as strong a Christian as anyone in this body," Sheheen said, "but I don't think we should sell the blue laws to the citizens on that basis. They haven't been upheld in the courts on that basis."

Sheheen said lawmakers not only represent Christians but also people of other faiths who observe the sabbath on days other than Sunday.

Rep. William Branton Jr., D-Dorchester, urged the House to strengthen instead of weaken the blue laws and ban all activities and sales on Sundays.

Branton waved a Bible and read from it, quoting the Ten Commandments' call to observe the sabbath as a day of rest.

Rep. B.L. Hendricks, D-Pickens, said, "The financial loss (from store closings) we will take will be far less than the blessing we will receive if we follow the Bible."

Government may regulate hang gliders

United Press International

Washington

The free-floating freedom of hang gliding may be grounded a bit in the future by the heavy hand of the federal government.

The Federal Aviation Administration Thursday proposed rules to regulate the growing numbers of hang gliders and so-called ultralight aircraft.

Under the FAA proposals, hang gliders and ultralights under 155 pounds will be subject to certain operational requirements such as visual flight rule criteria, which would have the effect of prohibiting flights in marginal weather. Night flights also would be banned.

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RETIREMENT PLANS IN TROUBLE

"No man's life, liberty, or property are safe while the legislature is in session," said South Carolina Libertarian Party chairman Tom Waldenfels of Landrum, "but it is unusual for Congress to attack all three in one act, as they have in forbidding hard asset retirement investments." Waldenfels said the provision in the tax reform act just passed would "deprive most American citizens of the right to provide for their old age by investing their money in assets that would have some protection for them against the inflation that the government is causing." Waldenfels traveled to Washington with the National Committee for Monetary Reform in August "to petition for redress of grievances."

"Either Congress did not know what it was doing," said Waldenfels, an investment counsellor, "or it is trying to reduce older Americans to a state of complete dependency on government handouts by confiscating their savings through high taxes or inflation, as it has been doing for almost 50 years."

While the Libertarian Party favors tax cuts, he added, "the present act has several other things seriously wrong with it; the tax cuts are far too small, and there is no requirement for reducing waste and extravagance in federal spending to ballance the federal budget." Provisions of the tax cut act forbid investing in pension funds, such as IRA's, in art works, gold & silver coins, diamonds, or alcoholic beverages after the end of 1981, and allow the government to extend the list to include other types of tangible personal property.

Ron Holland, president of Retirement Consultants, Inc., of Taylors, S.C., called provisions of the act "taking away the right of the individual to chose how to invest his own retirement funds." He added, "This is the same type of controls that Germany had before World War II. This matter is totally unrelated to plans to reduce taxes, and is a piece of special interest legislation to favor other types of investments by the cruel means of depriving citizens of control of their savings decisions."

SC LIBERTARIAN ELECTED IN ELGIN

For those of you who don't already know it, former state chairman Marshal Dannenburg was elected to the city council in Elgin, S.C., recently. Marshal is the first Libertarian to be elected to public office in the deep South. Congratulations!

* * * * *
State Senators may be reached in Columbia when in session at 758-5670.
House members at 758-5049.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

NATIONAL CONVENTION

By the time you read this, the Tenth LP National Convention in Denver should be over. Delegates from S.C. are: State Chairman Tom Waldenfels, Landrum; Vice Chairman Lee Bowie, Clemson; Ron Holland, Taylors; Dr. Steve Kreisman, Spartanburg; Marshal Dannenberg, Elgin; Drew Smith, Seneca; and Vance Butts, Rock Hill. A full report on LP/10 next month.

LOCAL MEETINGS

Upstate Libertarians will meet September 16th at 8 p.m. at the Aloha Restaurant, 101 Wade Hampton Blvd., Greenville. Come at 7 if you want to have dinner. For latest information about the program call Greenville County Chairman Ron Holland at (803) 895-4300, or Tom Waldenfels at (803) 573-9164.

Pee Dee area Libertarians met August 7th at the Schlitz cabin in Florence. For details on the September meeting call State secretary John Harllee at (803) 669-8345.

MEET ME AT THE FAIR...

The SCLP will have a booth at the S.C. State Fair again this year. Last years booth was a GREAT success. Vice chairman Lee Bowie is heading up the project. If you can help man the booth, or if you can spare a few bucks to help get literature printed, call Lee or write headquarters.

We will also be at the Spartanburg County Fair this year. The fair will be October 12-17 in Spartanburg. Dr. Steve Kreisman is in charge this year and is looking for help in manning the fair booth. It should be fun. The SCLP will be right across from the Republicans & Democrats.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN...
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

I offer section 314(b) of the tax bill as an example. (See details elsewhere in this issue.) If remedial legislation isn't passed, I'll be out of business as of December 31st. I've been an active Libertarian for some time, but this has hit home. I feel like Martin Luther returned from Rome, ready to slay the bureaucratic beast.

What can we do as a state party to more effectively do battle? I suggest we can strengthen our organization through:

1. A NEWSLETTER to alert party members to upcoming meetings, to pass along news, and to serve as our voice to the non-Libertarian community. A thousand thanks to Tom Norman for getting this project off the ground.
2. A SPEAKERS BUREAU to carry our philosophy to community civic groups, schools, professional organizations, etc. Thanks to Dr. Steven Kreisman for undertaking this demanding assignment and making it work.
3. LOCAL MONTHLY MEETINGS with programs to attract new members.
4. QUARTERLY STATE MEETINGS (more often as election year pressures demand.) This should increase attendance and make our discussion more substantive.
5. A LETTER TO THE EDITOR PROGRAM.
6. RECRUITMENT of qualified candidates for as many races as possible.

I'm looking forward to my job as chairman. Please help me to be effective. I don't want to find out what it's like to live without freedom...any more than air. Let's get to work and be aggressive.

-Tom Waldenfels

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YES! I WANT TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIANS.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____
(Make checks payable to the South Carolina Libertarian Party.)

() I want to do volunteer work for the Libertarian candidates.

Name _____ Phone () _____

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Mail to:

South Carolina Libertarian Party
P. O. Box 50115
Columbia, South Carolina 29205

The SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY was certified as an official political party by the South Carolina State Election Commission in January, 1979. As a State Committee of a political party, the South Carolina Libertarian Party qualifies under federal income tax laws for political contributions. State and national dues also qualify as political contributions for income tax purposes.

*DUES, SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY
Regular \$15, Joint \$25, Student \$5*

I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

SIGNED: _____

I am registered to vote in _____ County, SC

Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual; namely, (1) the right to life - accordingly we support prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action - accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property - accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders, and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

LIBERTY! If it's worth fighting for, and dying for, it's certainly worth voting for!

SPEAKERS BUREAU

The Libertarian Speakers Bureau is now in full operation. Heading up the program is Dr. Steven Kreisman of Spartanburg. Steve has made several talks already, and is lining up speakers and audiences around the state. He also gave a Libertarian response to President Reagan's tax (increase) cut speech of July 27th on WSPA-TV, Channel 7 in Spartanburg. Groups wishing to arrange for a speaker should call Steve at 574-0752 (home) or 573-6000 (work).



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