

Don't tread



on me.

Santa Clara Libertarian

August, 1993

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I think that we should be men first, and subjects afterward. It is not desirable to cultivate a respect for the law, so much as for the right.

—from *Civil Disobedience* [1849]
Henry David Thoreau (1817—1862)

LPC ExCom Notes

by Jon Petersen

The state Executive Committee met in Sacramento on June 12th. Aside from a few items that were covered quickly, the entire time was devoted to trimming the budget, occasioned by the fact that membership renewals have been lagging far behind projections.

Since expenses were kept down as well, there was no likelihood of going broke, but there also was no chance of repaying the regions their back dues without a significant surplus of revenues over expenses.

Since the contract services (newspaper, 800 number, and database) are the largest expense items, they were the main areas of investigation. Others were also reviewed, and the budget was reduced from \$101,125 to \$64,700.

Naturally, there was a lot of pain in making such large cuts. The main hit was to Liberty Bell, the LPC newspaper, which is being changed to bimonthly publication and reduced press runs. A call for bids to provide the state publication is being made and a new contract will be awarded after evaluating them. (The request for bids has been sent to all local chairs and the current editor.)

Database accounting is being changed to apply charges to the areas that incur them rather than lumping all expenses into "database". Database costs and

services are recorded separately as well, and all contracted services will be closely tracked eventually.

Many areas, including 800 number services, had their budgets reduced to reflect current and projected activity. Fund-raising projections were cut in half, but we look to surpass those pessimistic numbers.

Even with all the cuts, the 1992 back dues will not be paid by the end of the year, but it looks like a significant portion will. (The first payment went out in early July.)

Williamson Evers was appointed National Platform Committee rep, Ed Moss was appointed National Credentials Committee rep, and Sharon Ayers was ratified as NatCom Second Alternate.

Reports were given for the Audit Committee (headed by Eric Lund) and the Multi-Party Unity Committee (Ed Moss plus George O'Brien and Brian Schar). The joint effort on NOTA is essentially dead. Proportional representation is moving forward, with some concerns. Libertarians may spearhead an "Alternative Parties" booth at the Los Angeles County Fair.

San Diego is using a membership form that has no pledge but notes that people who use it cannot vote in LPC affairs. They have also missed three ExCom meetings, thus forfeiting their right to a seat. Region 62 was given the seat, effective next meeting: Sunday, September 19 at the Long Beach LP office, 9:00 AM.

Activist's Corner

by Sam Aurelius Milam III

• A letter by **Alan Newman** was printed in the San Jose Mercury News on Friday, July 9, 1993. In his letter, Alan presented a concise and effective commentary in opposition to the so-called war on drugs and the consequent theft of private property by government.

• We need someone who's willing to attend local events (political rallies, city council meetings, protests, trials, hearings, etc.), and write eye-witness reports for this newsletter. This isn't a paid position, but money isn't everything, and you can choose your own title. Anybody interested?

Buck Hunter Shoots Off His Mouth

Dear Buck

What do you think about Beethoven's Fifth?

—Enthusiast

Dear Enthusiast

Stay away from the stuff if you're gonna be drivin'.

Santa Clara Libertarian

This newsletter is the monthly publication of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, a non-profit organization. A membership application may be found in this issue. Interested parties may contact our office or visit one of our scheduled meetings (listed in the Calendar of Events) for more information. You may also log onto the Liberty Bell BBS at 408 243-1933, or send comments to newsletter editor Donald Cormier at 439 S. White Road, San Jose, California 95127. (408) 254-2746

Deadline for Submissions

Second Friday of the month prior to the month of publication.

Subscriptions

A subscription to the Santa Clara Libertarian costs \$15 per year. A subscription is included with any membership available on the Membership Application.

Advertising Rates

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Change

Documented by Sam Aurelius Milam III

*Many have fallen by the edge of the sword:
but not so many as have fallen by the tongue.*

—Ecclesiasticus 28:18, *The Apocrypha*

Changes in the meanings of words can happen suddenly. One day gay apparel was something you donned at Christmas time. The next day you wondered if maybe it was a dress on a transvestite. Sudden changes in meaning might cause embarrassment for the incautious, but the greater danger lurks when changes in meaning accumulate slowly. When words don't mean what they meant 50 years ago, the potential for harm can be sinister. See for yourself:

<p>1941: Fascism was defined as “any system of government in which property is privately owned, but all industry and business is regulated by a strong national government.” <i>Thorndike Century Senior Dictionary</i></p>	<p>In 1941, this probably didn't seem like a description of the USA.</p>
<p>1955: Fascism was “a centralized system of government which exercises absolute control over industry, and which advocates strong national policies, regulates all news and suppresses opposition.” <i>Webster's New School and Office Dictionary</i></p>	<p>The addition of key words (i.e. absolute control) and selected ideas (i.e. regulates all news) prevented people from perceiving the definition as a description of the USA.</p>
<p>1961: Fascism was “Any program for setting up a centralized autocratic national regime with severely nationalistic policies, exercising regimentation of industry, commerce, and finance, rigid censorship, and forcible suppression of opposition.” <i>Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary</i></p>	<p>By 1961, fascism wasn't anything that was actually happening. It was only a program for setting it up. This rendered the idea safely remote. In any case, words like <i>autocratic</i> and <i>censorship</i> kept it from being perceived as applicable to the USA.</p>
<p>1965: Fascism was “a political philosophy, movement, or regime that exalts nation and race and stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition.” <i>Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary</i></p>	<p>This definition is even more remote. Fascism wasn't even a program any more, but only a philosophy or possibly a movement. The word <i>regime</i> was generally applied to foreign autocratic governments which practiced forcible suppression of opposition. LBJ was a Good Ol' Boy.</p>
<p>1973: Fascism was “a political philosophy, movement, or regime (as that of the Fascisti) that exalts nation and race above the individual and that stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition.” <i>Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary</i></p>	<p>This definition more carefully identified a fascist regime, the Fascisti, which was safely remote from the USA in both time and place. Also, it was no longer fascist to exalt nation or race. To exalt nation or race <u>above the individual</u> was fascist.</p>
<p>1987: Fascism was “a political philosophy, movement, or regime (as that of the Fascisti) that exalts nation and often race above the individual and that stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition.” <i>Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary</i></p>	<p>After 1987, fascists didn't <u>always</u> exalt race above the individual, they just <u>often</u> did. I suppose that way selected racists could avoid being fascists.</p>
<p>1992: Last year, fascism was “A system of government marked by centralization of authority under a dictator, stringent socioeconomic controls, suppression of the opposition through terror and censorship, and typically a policy of belligerent nationalism and racism.” <i>The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language</i></p>	<p>It's no longer fascist to have a centralized autocratic government headed by a <u>dictatorial leader</u>. Now, there must be an actual <u>dictator</u>. To exalt nation or race above the individual doesn't denote fascism. Only <u>belligerent</u> nationalism or racism indicates fascism. Finally, it's no longer fascist to employ forcible suppression of opposition. Suppression must be by the use of terror and censorship in order for a state to be fascist.</p>

Does the 1941 definition describe the Fascisti, or the USA today? How about the “modern” definition? Don't answer too quickly. Take time to ponder the IRS, the FBI, the BATF, the INS, the CIA, the DEA, the Secret Service, the SWAT teams, mandatory ID, Social Security numbers for children, the INS Form I-9, the tax courts, business licenses, franchises, mandatory car insurance, mandatory seat belt laws, mandatory crash helmet laws, national health care, the MOVE bombing, the Rodney King beating, the Randy Weaver killings, the Branch Davidian massacre, civil assets forfeiture, the US Tax Code, pre-employment drug testing, roadside sobriety testing, no-knock search warrants, executive privilege, police immunity, anti-gun laws, phone taps,

Erosion

by Sam Aurelius Milam III

It wasn't bad enough yet when I lost the option of sending my daughter to the store to buy some paint for me. I still had way too much freedom. Recently, I lost a little more.

The San Jose Municipal Code, Chapter 6.74, Title 6, now requires sellers to lock their spray paint. That means that when I interrupt my project (because the codes won't allow me to send my daughter for paint), get cleaned up, and go to the store myself, I can no longer browse the shelves to decide what paint to buy. I must find an attendant (a challenge in itself) and read the labels while he stands behind me tapping his toe.

The requirement (supposedly) is intended to prevent graffiti. So was the requirement that said my daughter couldn't buy paint for me. That one didn't work and neither will this one. The law makes things more difficult for me and the seller, it gives the government more authority, and it has no effect whatsoever of graffiti. Two lessons are apparent:

1. Any statute, whatever it's advertised purpose, will ultimately restrict the behavior of people who didn't cause the problem.
2. When paint is outlawed, only outlaws will have paint.

Attrition

By Sam Aurelius Milam III

Never did we lose our freedom.
Not once did the state intrude.
Every statute had a purpose,
For our benefit construed.

But the drops of crystal water,
Each one passing in a blink,
And the sands of time unending,
Took our cause beyond the brink.

Like those drops of crystal water,
And those gritty little grains,
Little laws with good intentions,
Overwhelmed our hard-earned gains.

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than*



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Hugh & Rita Curley



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Membership Application

Libertarian Party of California
3249 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Suite 207
San Jose, California 95117
408 243-2711

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

Signature _____ Date _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

- Basic Membership \$25
- Household Membership \$35
(requires each member to sign)
- National Membership: add \$20 per person
- I wish to pledge \$ _____ per month
- or a one-time additional donation of \$ _____
for the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara.

Payment by:

- Check payable to Libertarian Party of California
or charge my: Visa or MasterCard

Number _____ Expires _____

Name on card _____

Signature _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Calendar of Events

Discussion Groups

These meetings are for anyone who wants to learn about libertarian ideas.

San Jose—August 12, 7 PM
(second Thursday)

Hosted by Terry Savage, 3021 Via Montez.

For more information call
408 920-2193 or 408 945-7633

Sunnyvale—August 11, 7:00-9:30 PM
(Second Wednesday)

Coco's Restaurant, 1209 Oakmead Parkway.

Mountain View—August 26, 7:00-9:30 PM
(fourth Thursday).

Harry's Hofbrau, 399 W. El Camino Real.

Libertarian Hike

East Bay—August 14
(second Saturday)

For details, contact Bob Russell at 510 937-8380

Fourth Annual Santa Clara County Libertarian Picnic

Sunnyvale—Sunday, August 1, Noon - 6 PM

Raynor Park, off of Quail, near Homestead

\$5.00 per person

LPSC Business Meeting

Sunnyvale—August 19
(third Thursday)

Dinner—7:00 PM; Meeting—8-10 PM.

Coco's Restaurant, 1209 Oakmead Parkway.

If you want to have dinner or a snack and participate in the pre-meeting discussion, arrive promptly at 7 PM.

Save Our Liberties Meeting

Mountain View—August 12, 7:30-9:30 PM
(second Thursday)

Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Avenue.

For More information, call S.O.L. at 415 964-3655

Libertarian Party Party (BYOB)

San Jose—August 28, 7 PM
(fourth Saturday)

Hosted by Terry Savage, 3021 Via Montez.

For more information call

408 920-2193 or 408 945-7633

Why you received this newsletter

If you're a dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, you'll receive this newsletter every month. We also mail it to people who we'd like to join the party.

If your mailing label says *Valued Prospective Member*, you asked for information about Libertarianism, and this newsletter is part of our reply; you have a 3-month complimentary subscription. We hope you'll register to vote Libertarian and become a dues-paying member.

If your mailing label says *Valued Former Member*, you were previously a dues-paying member, and we want you back! The newsletter is a reminder of what you're missing.

If you've registered to vote Libertarian but are not a member, you'll also receive the newsletter. In this case your mailing label is in all capital letters. You've taken the first steps, and we encourage you to become more fully involved in helping us spread libertarian principles.

The Libertarian Party of California— State Central Committee

Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County
3249 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Suite 207
San Jose, CA 95117

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END THE DRUG WAR THIS YEAR ??? YES - IF YOU HELP!

The resolution for peace by the Coalition for National Drug Policy Change as signed at the Hoover Institute is on the reverse of this page. It is our way to bring the drug war to an end. Libertarians have a significant part to play in pressuring Congress and the President into calling the requested Commission.

The Outreach potential for Libertarians is enormous as public sentiment **HAS** shifted support away from the war on drugs. There are significant parallels here with the end of alcohol prohibition in this effort. That is where Libertarians can play key roles in shaping future drug policies.

This is accomplished at two levels, nationally as a party and locally as 'friends of the people' in outreach.

The chance here is to sprinkle Libertarians "dust" on Democrats and Republicans alike in their desire to see our national nightmare end, and end tomorrow. The objective here is not so much as to make new converts as it is to plant seeds of Libertarian thoughts, for future harvest, in the minds of those we work with to end the drug war.

This resolution is our vehicle of outreach for 1993-4 as we "pooff" our dust on America. After all, if Eastern Europeans can get it that the centralized governments be they of American or Russian varieties do not serve the needs of the people, then Americans as well can get it that government is the problem not the solution.

Beyond the immediate rub off to the Libertarian Party our **FIRST** concern **MUST** be to end the drug war because it is bankrupting America. The 'Hoover' resolution is the way to do just that.

The first reality is that the local and national politicians, to a person, are cowards and will not respond to a call for a drug war commission unless they know there are large numbers of votes connected. An excellent way, and one which was used to call for a similar commission to study alcohol prohibition in 1930-31, is a "chain resolution" in which courage is imparted one resolution at a time to our Washington leaders(?).

The objective is to have friends, neighbors, relatives and their friends, neighbors and relatives to sign and send the resolution **once** a month to the President, two Senators and one Congressperson. This will create wave after wave of resolutions flowing into the Capitol and give the needed courage to call the requested commission. These resolutions will create doses of courage, give them enough.

To aid our efforts we have created our "END THE DRUG WAR" SAVE OUR CHILDREN stamps after the successful Alcohol Repeal Stamps of the 1930's. We want these stamps to be used under your return address and on the back as a seal. They will soften public attitudes towards the war on drugs by making the connection between ending the drug war and the saving of our children.

If just 1/20 (5%) Libertarians were to 'work at this' resolution, we would end this drug war against Americans. What we need to do is to be part of the building of this Coalition as individuals and groups circulating the chain resolution.

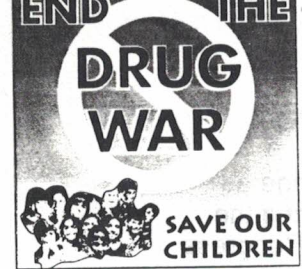
To the "purist", this is working with the 'enemy'. I agree. However, when the ship is sinking, as ours is, such distinctions are meaningless in the face of survival. These 'aversions' must be set aside and a commonality, working for peace in America, found.

Order your stamps today. Each day delayed means more lost lives, hopes and resources. Start a "Chain Resolution For Peace" on your block, in your home or office, today. For a sheet of 30 stamps send \$5 (3 sheets/\$10) and T-shirts for \$17. Remit to:

Save Our Liberties, 187 Acalanes Dr., #14, Sunnyvale, Ca 94086 (415) 964-3655

SEND COPIES OF THE RESOLUTION % The White House, Wash D.C. 20500,
% The Senate, Wash D.C. 20510, The House of Representatives, Wash D.C. 20515.

Santa Clara Co. Libertarian Party Activities Chair, Eric N. Harlow



RESOLUTION "FOR PEACE"

by THE
COALITION for NATIONAL DRUG POLICY CHANGE
(Signed at the Hoover Institute)

WHEREAS, the overall situation regarding the use of drugs in our society and the crime and misery that accompanies it has continued to deteriorate for several decades; and

WHEREAS, our society continues to attempt, at enormous financial cost and loss of civil liberties, to resolve drug problems through the criminal justice system, with the accompanying increases of prisons and numbers of inmates; and

WHEREAS, the huge untaxed revenues generated by the illicit drug trade are undermining legitimate governments world-wide; and

WHEREAS, the present system has spawned a cycle of hostility by the incarceration of disproportionate numbers of African-Americans, Hispanics, and other minority groups; and

WHEREAS, the number of people who have contracted AIDS, hepatitis, and other diseases from contaminated hypodermic needles is epidemic under our present system; and

WHEREAS, in our society's zeal to pursue our criminal approach, legitimate medical uses for the relief of pain and suffering of patients have been suppressed.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that our society must recognize drug use and abuse as the medical and social problems that they are and that they must be treated with medical and social solutions; and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that an objective commission be immediately empowered by the President and by Congress to recommend revisions of the drug laws of these United States in order to reduce the harm our present policies are causing.

Signature

Title

