



# ALABAMA LIBERTY

PUBLISHED BY THE  
ALABAMA LIBERTARIAN PARTY

VOL 5 NO 4

NOV/DEC 1986

## FRANK TALK

By  
Frank Monachelli



The ALP really seems to be moving into high gear. Activity is picking up all over Alabama.

Active groups are organizing in Huntsville and Mobile. ALPA is helping with fundraising by planning great social activities. The Downtown Libertarian Supper Club is continuing to schedule stimulating speakers. The ballot access drive will soon begin, and our outreach programs are making progress.

It is important that so many people are involved in advancing the ideas of Liberty. ARE YOU?

Consider the words of Dave Bergland, the LP's most recent presidential candidate:

"Today, regardless of what else it may or may not be, the Libertarian Party is the largest organized group explicitly supporting the free market."

"Today, regardless of what else it may or may not be, the Libertarian Party is the sole political force that derives all of its positions and proposals from a clear and basic statement of principle: the principle that force should not be initiated by anyone, or any institution, to advance a social, economic, personal, or political cause."

The Libertarian Party needs the support of every libertarian. That means every person who believes America requires less government. If you have never joined, or your membership has lapsed, take advantage of the special membership offer on page 2.

## REACH OUT AND FREE SOMEONE

By Steve Smith

Libertarian success depends on persuading others that freedom is moral, practical, desirable and achievable.

Being on the ballot means little if most people do not know we exist, or have only a fuzzy view of where we stand.

All of us can do outreach, even if it just means explaining our ideas to friends and relatives who ask what this libertarian stuff is all about.

One of the best methods of outreach is giving people something to read. Not everyone, of course, will read a libertarian pamphlet or book. But a willing reader is a great find. His receptivity relieves you of the burden of trying to orally explain our ideas from square one.

Someone who has read a well-written libertarian introduction is that much closer to joining us. At the very least, that person has learned enough to be able to argue with us from knowledge rather than ignorance.

If you want to spread the printed word, Frank Monachelli and I can help.

We are purchasing (out of our own pockets) bulk quantities of libertarian outreach pieces that we will let you have at cost.

You might want to get copies of David Bergland's booklet, *Libertarianism in One Lesson*, to give to friends. Or you could get copies of the recent outreach issues of the national LP News to place on newsstands in your community.

You can get three copies of the Bergland book from us for \$1.75. This includes postage. If you drop by Frank's house to pick them up you

WELCOME

TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

DAVID SINGLETON OF BIRMINGHAM

TOM ISENBERG OF HUNTSVILLE





## BALLOT ACCESS

by Frank Monachelli

We will need over 13,000 signatures to obtain ballot access in 1988. Everyone who has petitioned before knows what an undertaking that is.

So far ten members have pledged to obtain 100 signatures each by April 1987. Our campaign will kick off on November 29th in three locations. Auburn (contact Mark Thornton or Scott Placek), Huntsville (contact John Sebastian or Alan Barksdale), and Birmingham (contact Steve Smith or me).

If you cannot pledge a specific number of signatures or do not want to petition with a group, copy the enclosed petition and get any number you can. **EVERY SIGNATURE HELPS.** Ballot access contributions are also needed and solicited.

I have been in contact with the National Ballot Access Committee. They will help the Alabama effort; so it is vital we make a strong start ourselves.

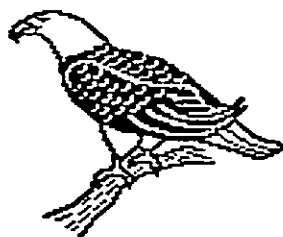
When you consider the recent election machinations, you really appreciate how important ballot status is. With it and a little luck, John Sebastian would be the governor-elect.

Statewide twice as many voters as ever before cast protest votes. In addition at my polling place with 34 races on the ballot, twenty-one were unopposed.

If we all pitch in, Alabamians will once again have a real choice in 1988.

## FEEL FREE JOIN US!

While supplies last new members will receive a hardcover edition of Robert Ringers bestseller *Restoring The American Dream*.



YES! I want to join the Alabama LP in the following membership category:

- ☐ ALP \$15.00 ☐ ALP & National LP \$25.00  
☐ Student \$5.00  
☐ Student and National LP \$20.00  
☐ I cannot join at this time. Enclosed is a contribution to keep up the good work. Keep me on your mailing list this year.

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals."

X

Signature required for membership

## RON PAUL IN 1988?

by  
Frank  
Monachelli



At this writing, former GOP congressman, Ron Paul, is the leading candidate for the LP presidential nomination.

If you are not familiar with Dr Paul be sure to see the enclosed interview which is reprinted from a recent issue of *The New American*.

Dr. Paul will receive a great deal of support from a wide segment of the American people. The Democrats and Republicans will nominate their normal Tweedledee and Tweedledum. It will then only require exposure (and ballot access) for the average voter to see the clear superiority of our candidate and party.

Media coverage and invitations to presidential debates will be possible for a nationally known former congressman.

The first Libertarian president in 1988? At this point, it seems more probable than a Republican governor in Alabama seemed in 1984. Remember, you read it here first.



## ALPA UPDATE

by  
Desta Monachelli

The Alabama Libertarian Party Auxiliary has had a variety of events this year. In May, we

celebrated the Tax Independence Day of Thanksgiving with a complete turkey dinner. In July, we ate and made merry at the First Annual Liberty Picnic. We topped off the day with an auction filled with liberty related items. In August, we held a yard sale. September hopped to the beat of the 50's. The typical Election day gamble resulted in Casino Night with risk-taking Libertarians throwing around thousands of Liberty dollars to win fabulous prizes.

The last scheduled event will be the Christmas party on Dec. 12th. Along with a buffet dinner, Santa will be there to preside over a gift exchange plus coal for bad little politicians. Also the Libertarian of the Year will be named. Who will it be?

The Auxiliary is considering future events. Any suggestions?

ALPA provides a great time for the participants while raising money for the Party. We have gotten off to a great start. Very special thanks to Kathy Hodges and Bessie Ridge for all their efforts.

## PLEASE

Save your **EVEREADY SUPER HEAVY DUTY** battery packages (any size). If we collect 5 more, we can get a free American flag.

## NATION

# Treating an Ailing Economy

*Dr. Ron Paul prescribes a gold standard for the United States*

Dr. Ron Paul is a former Member of the United States House of Representatives from Texas, a practicing physician, the founder and president of the Foundation for Rational Economics and Education, advisor to the Mises Institute, chairman of the Council for Monetary Reform, author of *The Case for Gold* (with Lew Lehrman), *Gold, Peace and Prosperity*, and *Ten Myths about Paper Money*, publisher of *The Ron Paul Investment Letter*, and a contributing editor to THE NEW AMERICAN.

As a Member of Congress and the United States Gold Commission, Dr. Paul proposed legislation providing for the minting of United States gold coins, and reforming our monetary and banking systems in numerous other ways. Through a subsequent bill his gold coin proposal has now become law, and the first official United States bullion gold coins minted in over 50 years, and bearing the designs that Dr. Paul proposed, will be coming on the market at the end of this month. Dr. Paul is an internationally recognized expert on monetary affairs. He was interviewed by THE NEW AMERICAN contributing editor John W. Robbins.

**Q. Dr. Paul, have our money and banking systems improved or deteriorated since you left office in early 1985?**

A. Obviously we are in worse shape. Congress is continuing to do more of the same thing. About the only thing the federal banking regulators can do is to continue the bailout. Because the overwhelming debt, both private and public, is so much greater than it was just 22 months ago, the system is much less stable today than it's ever been, and it's getting worse every day.

**Q. What do you think can be done? Do you think Congress has the courage to do anything?**

A. Nothing is going to be done by the present Congress other than a continuation of the bailout of the banks through perpetual and accelerated inflation. Something could be done if enough peo-



Ron Paul

ple put pressure on Congress to do what they should do: abolish the Federal Reserve System and restore soundness to our currency with a gold standard. But that's not likely to happen because the different segments of our society are always demanding more government spending for individual welfare, for food stamps, for cor-

---

***The banking system  
is less stable today  
than it's ever been  
and it's getting  
worse every day.***

---

porate welfare, and for the military-industrial complex. The Members of Congress continue to vote for these programs and the Federal Reserve is required to accommodate the deficits by continuing to inflate the money supply.

**Q. You mentioned a gold standard, Dr. Paul. Do you think the new coins that will be sold are a step in that direction?**

A. I think that they are a very positive

step, though the coins do have some shortcomings. It would have been better had the coins been denominated simply by weight rather than by dollars, for the dollar designations on them will tend to confuse, rather than enlighten, people. It would have also been better to use only the Treasury gold reserves to mint the coins. But, even with the shortcomings, I think the coins are a major step in the right direction because they will popularize the concept of private gold ownership. Many more Americans will buy gold, and it may teach them a very practical economic lesson. Some day in the future, once this paper money system fails to function, I believe these coins, and the ones already minted by private and government mints, will serve as a base for a gold standard with the monetary unit being the troy ounce of gold.

**Q. Do you think the people's interest in gold will increase when the new paper currency is introduced?**

A. It might, but I don't think the new currency will have an effect as important as the gold coins, simply because people can see and purchase them. Whether or not the new currency gives a boost to gold probably depends on the immediate economic events occurring at the particular time it is introduced. If the currency comes when inflation is accelerating and there is a lot of economic concern, it might coincide with a greater interest in gold. But, if the new paper currency is put into circulation the way the Treasury claims it is going to do it, and under circumstances similar to today's markets, I don't think it would cause a big stir in the gold market.

**Q. The list of 1,400 problem banks that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation has released is the longest such list in American history. But the FDIC seems to be preparing us for something new by also projecting the number of expected bank failures over the next year or so. The government says it expects 250 savings and loans to fail in the next fifteen months. Do these figures strike**

you as ominous, especially when we recall that in 1950 only five banks failed? Why do you suppose the government is now projecting hundreds of bank failures in the next year?

A. Yes, the figures are ominous, and I think there might be a real purpose for the regulators to release these figures and projections. I always work on the assumption that they know exactly what is going on in the banking system, and therefore they have to plan for a financial holocaust. By making these projections I think they are conditioning the public and Congress for a specific reason relating to the bill that just passed the House of Representatives and may become law later this year, the bill to recapitalize the FDIC. In that bill, for the first time, is a provision saying that the FDIC can take over a potentially failing bank, not just a failed bank. Historically, the FDIC was supposed to step in and protect depositors in a bankrupt bank. Now the whole concept is changing into that of taking over banks that are in trouble. This whole process of saying that there are a lot of banks in trouble and there are a lot more failures to come is setting the stage for the nationalization of banks.

**Q. Similar to what happened in Mexico?**

A. Well, yes, it could get that bad. Certainly we saw the nationalization of Continental Illinois outside of the law a few years ago. Now what they are doing is to change the law to allow the bank regulators to take ownership in a bank before it fails. With the sweeping powers given to the FDIC, the Comptroller of the Currency, and the Federal Reserve under the Monetary Control Act of 1980, they could declare an emergency, let's say, in the Farm Belt. They might just decide that all the Farm Belt banks or the Texas banks are unsafe and therefore they better assume ownership of these banks. That, to me, is conceivable, although it is not imminent. I believe the regulators are preparing legislatively and legally to perform these nationalizations later on.

**Q. The banking regulators have been very clever and very resourceful until now. Do you think that that can go on indefinitely, or do you anticipate a paper hyperinflation?**

A. I think the regulators are very good at this, as far as technicians go. I think they have done a superb job in that sense. Paul Volcker, the Chairman of the Fed-

eral Reserve Board, has done a good job in holding an unworkable paper system together. Therefore, I think this programmed bailout will continue.

There are a lot of unsound banks. It seems that the regulators have been able to make sure that only two or three fail a week. They don't let 25 fail at one time, even though there may be 25 that are unsound at any given moment. I think they will be able to continue this for a while longer, at the expense of the value of the dollar. But even though they can bail out the banks and even delay the rapid depreciation of the dollar, which is what has happened over the last few years, eventually there is going to be a rejection of the paper money.

I can foresee a time when foreign investors quit buying our Treasury bills and bonds and sell the ones they now have because the dollar keeps going down on foreign exchange markets. We

---

***Congress should  
abolish the  
Federal Reserve  
and restore  
a sound currency  
backed by gold.***

---

may even be getting dangerously close to that point. That could then be translated into inflation and a rapid loss of the purchasing power of the dollar. I would expect something like that to happen before you literally see a closing of the banks' doors and the Federal Reserve being unable to manage the bankruptcies.

**Q. What can one person do both to protect himself and to achieve the type of monetary reform that needs to be accomplished?**

A. I've been in the business of trying to offer solutions for a long time. Unfortunately, no solution is very easy. One involves long-term education, which eventually gets translated into political action. This is what The John Birch Society has tried to do for so many years and in many ways successfully.

But we have a lot more to do. We must educate as many people as possible to understand what sound money is, why the Federal Reserve System has to go, why Congress should abolish central banking and restore a gold standard. But

that's a long term project, which is not likely to happen until after a crash. Even then it will be very dangerous, for the momentum for some international "solution" to the problem might be so great that we cannot stem the tide.

In the short term we should try to protect ourselves against the depreciation of paper money by holding gold and silver and other real assets in the hope that we can keep something of value. Of course, none of these things that we own will be worth much if we don't maintain our freedom. Freedom and sound money go together.

We have gone through a period of time when there have been a lot of price increases — the end of the 70s and early 80s — and now subdued price increases and even price decreases in commodities. This makes it very difficult to have a magic formula to protect oneself financially. Because of this, everyone should work very hard to stay out of debt and pay off as much of his debt as possible. Debt is a tremendous disadvantage when there are major fluctuations in the rate of inflation. That is the lesson many farmers are learning right now.

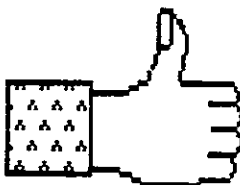
**Q. Dr. Paul, do you think one of the possible "reforms," one of the possible gimmicks, the money managers might try is to use the "mystique" of gold to prop up a central banking system — not having a real gold standard but a pseudo-gold standard, sort of a gold-plated Federal Reserve or World Bank?**

A. I think that is very definitely a possibility, especially since something similar has already been proposed by the supply-siders. They propose a "gold standard" that really would be a pseudo-gold standard with none of the discipline of gold. The supply-siders would love to see the benefits of the gold standard, such as low interest rates and zero inflation, but they are not willing to accept balanced budgets and reduced government spending, nor to refrain from manipulating the banking system.

A gold standard could backfire on us if we let the supply-siders succeed in enacting their plans. It is very important that we present our position on a real gold standard rather than letting the supply-siders distort what a gold standard actually is. They are confused on this issue, and they are confusing many other people as well. ■

## KATHY'S KUDOS

By  
Kathy Hodges



Many of our group deserve praise for their recent freedom seeking efforts.

Thanks to Ross Lowe for a fine letter to the Birmingham News regarding ballot access. Our best access to the news media is through letter-writing and well written letters are effective in spreading the word.

Scott Placek deserves recognition for his recent candidacy for Auburn City Council. It was a hard fought race with lots of effort exerted by Scott, Mark Thornton, and other volunteers. Thanks Scott.

A pat on the back to John Sebastian for his write-in campaign for governor. John did a great job as he was interviewed across the state and was a candidate we could be proud of. Way to go, John!

And thanks to Frank and Desta Monachelli for all their hard work in support of the Party. Their tireless efforts have kept things going through thick & thin. Thanks!

And thanks to Bill Wingo for spreading the libertarian "Word" through two debates at the Unitarian Church in Birmingham. Keep the Faith!

Congratulations to Yana Davis for his advancement to Managing Editor of the Birmingham Business Journal. Yana, former State Chair, has written a fine series of columns extolling the virtues of free enterprise.

And thanks to all the members and friends working behind the scenes to support efforts in the advancement of Freedom.

## Dear Libby

Dear Libby,  
I am madly in love with the Associate Director of the US Agency for the Importation and Naturalization of Foreign Wildlife



to the United States. My problem is that he cannot understand why I cannot take time off from my job as Production Supervisor at the plant to share his 4 hour lunch and morning-long coffee breaks. He says he gets so bored that he wants me there to talk to. The other night he really blew up when I told him I could not get time off to fly to the Riviera for a 3 week conference to discuss the importation of Australian kangaroos with the Russians. He said if I truly loved him I would go for his sake.

Libby, I do love him, but I have to work overtime these days. What should I do?

Ms. Heartsick  
Gear, AR

Dear Heartburn:

Dump the bureaucratic bozo. It is not wise to marry outside of your faith. Find a nice young man from a productive family.

Problems? Write Dear Libby, c/o Alabama Liberty. For personal responses enclose \$100.00 in gold.

## OUTREACH FROM PAGE 1

can have three copies for an even buck. (Single copy 75 cents by mail.) Copies of the outreach newspapers are 10 for \$2.50 by mail; \$1.00 picked up.

You may be interested in two projects of our own. They are aimed at 1) finding people who are libertarians and don't know it; and 2) educating Alabama's media about libertarianism.

**Finding libertarians:** We have placed the LP News outreach issues in Birmingham area newsstands and other outlets. A letter from Frank (with response form, calendar of libertarian events and phone numbers) is inserted in every copy. This has already produced several inquiries.

**Educating the media:** One of the frustrating things about working for the libertarian cause is that the media ignore us. When they do give us attention they often misstate or distort our views.

To change this, we are going to send copies of the Bergland book and/or Jim Lewis's book, *Liberty Reclaimed*, to every newspaper, TV, and radio reporter and editor in the state.

The books are being sent in staggered batches and it may take a year to complete the project. Jefferson County, the state's main media center, is being covered first.

Alabama LP members and supporters who think these projects are worthwhile can help. Additional financial support will enable us to proceed more quickly and Frank and I to maintain our solvency (and marriages) a while longer.

Contributions or book/newspaper orders may be sent to Frank Monachelli, 1157 11th Ave. S. B'ham AL 35205.

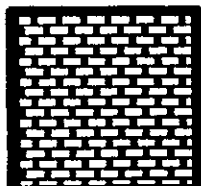
You may have your own ideas for advancing freedom. The main thing is to get out there and do it. You don't need anyone's permission, and every positive action you take, no matter how small, brings the free society closer to reality.

If you hit upon a particularly good idea, don't keep it a secret. Drop a note about it to Alabama Liberty and we'll tell everyone about it.

Good luck, and thanks!

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM  
ALABAMA  
LIBERTY





# UPCOMING EVENTS



NOVEMBER 29TH  
BALLOT ACCESS  
KICK-OFF



DECEMBER 17TH  
SUPPER CLUB  
Shoney's Downtown  
6:30 Dinner  
7:00 Speaker

UAB Professor, Scott Arnold, will speak on  
"Why the Free Market Works Better than  
Socialism" Question Period to follow

DECEMBER 12TH  
CHRISTMAS PARTY  
6:30 PM

1157 11th Ave., South, Birmingham  
\$5.00 per adult, \$2.50 per child  
Bring a wrapped gift (under \$5.00)  
Buffet Dinner and Cash Bar  
Award Night RSVP 322-2991



JANUARY 21ST  
SUPPER CLUB  
Shoney's Downtown  
6:30 Dinner  
7:00 Speaker

Martha Herrin will speak on  
home schooling.  
Q&A to follow.



**ALABAMA  
LIBERTARIAN  
PARTY**

P.O. BOX 11514 35202  
BIRMINGHAM, AL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Non profit  
Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Birmingham, AL  
PERMIT NO. 4757

