

The Porcupine

Volume III

"Liberty Enlightening The World"

Number 10

National Convention on C-SPAN

by Gordon Morris

If you've ever watched "Viewer Call In" on C-SPAN then you know that there is a C-SPAN audience. While they must seem like glutons for punishment, to those of us that equate watching Congress in session with watching ourselves being robbed, we can at least be thankful that a vigilant segment of the populace is patient enough to watch regularly. Even though they've managed to refrain from destroying their TV sets, it's quite possible they've become dazed or immune after exposure to repetitious Congressional spending.

Maybe they think that problems are actually being solved with each bill that is passed. Maybe they're taken in by the euphemistic rhetoric of crisis politics. At any rate, the C-SPAN audience received the "antidote" when, for the first time, a Libertarian National Convention was aired from August 31, through September 3, 1989.

What did America see? They saw a convention that didn't have wall to wall flags and striped banners. They saw a convention that didn't portray pomposity and bombastic behavior. No anthem, pledge, or prayer preceded the unceremonious sessions. No room full of suits and shinola. No rhetoric, no gobbledygook, and though the convention was conspicuously lacking of "famous" people, there were plenty of "great" people in attendance. The viewers saw and heard these great people speak of tax repeal, prohibition repeal, nuclear disarmament and dismantlement, military recall, draft registration repeal, federal spending cuts, free trade, demonopolization of banking, AIDS treatment deregulation, education deregulation, immigration justice, women's, children's and Native American rights, environmental

solutions, and much more!

America also got a good look at two possible contenders for the LP presidential ticket in 1992, (in which Las Vegas may be the host!) Walter Williams and Charles Murray. Other prominent notables receiving national exposure included National Chairman Dave Walter and LP founder Dave Nolan. The airwaves covered LP By-Law and Platform debates as well as speaker panels galore.

It must have been pretty heavy stuff for the C-SPAN viewer who feels like a hostage to Congressional captors and has been waiting for liberation.

Unfortunately, the antidote is not yet as strong as the poison, but C-SPAN is paving the way with this milestone event in the Libertarian Party's 18th year of existence.

The LPCC would like to thank C-SPAN for its excellent coverage of the LP National Convention and send a special thanks to our own Julie Vorce who "tuned in" the proceedings. For Convention tape information, call your LP at 734-FREE.

Petition Progress

by Gordon Morris

With approximately 4500 signatures gathered to date, the LP petition drive is nearly halfway completed. Though we are solvent at this point, with no debts, the LP is still recruiting petitioners and raising funds.

Petitioners can earn 50 cents per signature and gain a \$50.00 bonus for attaining 1000 signatures in a week. It is generally possible to get 20 signatures per hour at the right locales and training is available through the LP. Your petition is enclosed, please do your bit.

see "Progress," page 2.

"Progress," contd.

The LP has also recruited a Notary Public to witness, for free, the signing of the petitions by the petitioners. We are ahead of schedule! If you have any questions concerning the petition drive or ballot status, call the LP at 734-FREE.

Standing Committees Hard at Work

by Gordon Morris

Paula Miller, LPCC Program Committee Chair, and Julie Vorce, LPCC 2nd Vice-Chair, have proven themselves to be capable fundraisers. These ladies of liberty have managed to add hundreds of dollars to the coffers of the LPCC. Both activists managed, almost single-handedly, to raise over \$300 for the LPCC by organizing and conducting a rummage sale in the recent past. These talents become especially valuable to the LPCC with the resignation of Finance Chair Chuck Geshliger. With your participation, they can raise thousands instead of hundreds.

Jeff May, LPCC Membership Committee Chair, has been forwarding LP position papers to individuals who profess a libertarian stand in the "Letters to the Editor" section of local newspapers. A follow up to these mailings has resulted in at least two new recruits into the LP registration rolls. Jeff, a U.N.L.V. student, is also attempting to resurrect the now defunct Students for a Libertarian Society on campus. Transportation service for LP'ers who have none remain a target area for the Membership Committee.

Chairman Jack LeVine's Publicity Committee is bursting with potential thanks to the addition of LPer's Jim Lambert (writer), Jon Lindquist (licensed broadcaster), Larry Gabaldon (photographer), and Randy Coons (copy service). Special thanks also go to Randy for placing the LP Credo into "Casino Times" magazine.

In other notes, artist Marcus Dansker has offered his services to the LPCC and Carl Long's LP Potlatch Social project is in the planning stage.

LPCC Demographics

by Gordon Morris

Thanks both to the LPCC Membership Committee and the pressure exerted on the Nevada State Department of Motor Vehicles Voter Registration Division, a local survey shows that LPCC membership is up 30% since May, 1989. The National Libertarian Party also reports that Nevada increased its numbers registered with them by 13%.

LPCC membership:

Men.....	71%
Women.....	29%
Age Under 30 years.....	17%
Age 30 to 40.....	39%
Age 40 to 50.....	22%
Age 50 to 60.....	16%
Age Over 60.....	16%

LPCC precinct distribution is, basically, spread evenly over 175 voting precincts throughout Clark County. If each member would display a sign and/or bumper sticker,...

LP NOTES

Libertarian Party of Nevada officers Gordon Morris, Dr. Florence Toussaint, Jim Lambert, and John Ketchum will be meeting, with LPN Chair Dan Becan's sanction, to put into effect a major statewide direct mail campaign.

RSVP 734-FREE.

Michael J. Fox, in his role as Michael Keaton on "Family Ties," said he was a Libertarian!

You can tell President George Bush how you feel about China, Cambodia, Palestine, Panama, flags, guns, taxes, drugs, banks, babies, or anything else! Just call 1-202-456-7639.

The Society of Individual Liberty, founded in 1969 by current National Chair Dave Walter, Don Ernsberger, and James Wolstein has merged with Libertarian International. With representatives in over 50 countries, the pooling of resources means

see "Notes," page 3.

"Notes," contd.

great things are in the making. You can write the "International Society for Individual Liberty" at: 9308 Farmington Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23229
PHONE: 1-804-740-6932

LPN Director Gordon Morris was heard castigating ballot access restrictions, petitions, and DMV registration denials, and more, on KNEWS. The four-part interview was aired once every hour for three days!

The LPCC Executive Committee, and Chuck Geshliger, composed an advertisement for the LP which was aired ten times on KLAJ over a week!

For information regarding the petition being circulated by the group known as "Common Cause" to let the voters decide whether or not Nevada Legislators should get a 300% pension increase, call Knight Allen at 382-4244, or drop in and sign up at their headquarters located at 1114 South 3rd Street.

Nuclear weapons always kill innocents, a very unlibertarian activity. To communicate with the "American Peace Test" Call 731-9644.

For a free copy of the book "Turn the Clock Back Uncle Sam," discounts on Libertarian publications, or audio tape rentals: RSVP: 734-FREE.

AIDS Town Meeting a Flop for Liberty

by Gordon Morris

The only good thing to be said for the "AIDS Town Meeting," held at U.N.L.V. this past month is that it wasn't televised. According to LPCC member Jon Lindquist, who voluntarily attended the function, there was too much misinformation and scare tactics were used as propaganda to intimidate the crowd.

One highlight of the event was when Mr. Lindquist abruptly stood up and gave the guest panel his verbal opinion of their latent fascism—a move that drew rousing applause from the student audience.

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To the Editor

Thank you for printing the News Release on "Project 51-'92's role in the Oregon LP's successful reduction of ballot status requirements. Andre Marrou's vital guidance of the lobbying was lauded by Oregon State Chair Paul Smith, NatCom Representative Joseph Dehn, and Oregon activist Martin Buchanan. These three Oregon LP leaders, incidently, were the vital few who did the nitty-gritty work to make the bill law.

Paul Jacob's claims of contributing to the Oregon success was self-serving "PR" to raise money for the National Ballot Access Committee. This opinion is shared by the BAC Chair, and Paul's boss, Steve Givot, as well as Libertarian National Chair Dave Walter. Both Givot and Walter told Andre Marrou that the Oregon legislative success was a result of teamwork between the above members of the Oregon LP and Project 51-'92 and that Jacob was making untrue claims of credit.

You asked what role, if any, 51-'92 will play in the Nevada petition drive:

1. Earlier this year, Andre Marrou and I offered to help lobby the Nevada legislature to lower LP requirements for getting on and staying on the ballot. We offered to telephone, testify, and lobby. Again and again, the Nevada State LP told us that the bill "was wired," i.e., a sure thing. Project 51-'92 ballot expert Richard Winger also called the State LP several times offering his experience and assistance.

The bill failed. Once again, we offer our lobbying services for the next session. Andre Marrou's experience as an elected Libertarian State Legislator in Alaska and mine as a political consultant give us skills that can stack the deck for liberty.

2. LP Ballot Access Committee Chair, Steve Givot, and Andre Marrou discussed which organization would go where so that we

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"Editor," contd.

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Libertarians can get maximum results. The BAC agreed to petition in Maryland, Nevada, Florida, and New York City.

Project 51-'92 is responsible for petitioning in North Carolina and Oregon. In September we will have begun lobbying the Arizona Legislature to slash ballot and petitioning requirements for Libertarians and other Third Parties.

Al, we've done a lot this year and we'll be doing even more this Fall. We are able to do more because we cooperate with BAC Chair Steve Givot. Neither of us win by interfering with each other's agreed upon projects.

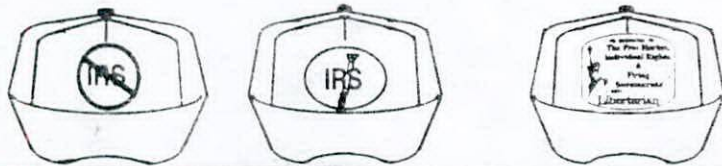
Keep up the good work Al. We're all behind you.

- Michael Emerling

LPCC Business Meeting: October 15, 1989: 7:00 P.M.

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PURSUANT TO NRS 293.1715

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STATE OF NEVADA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF _____)

_____ (name), does hereby swear (or affirm) that I signed and circulated this page of the petition; and that I hereby verify and affirm that the above _____ (number) signatures and statements are true and genuine; and further, that each individual signed in my presence and was at the time of signing a registered voter in the county of his or her residence, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Signature)

Subscribed to before me
this _____ day of _____, 19____.

Notary Public.

From the Judicial Chair
--by Michael Prescott

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

Many will recognize the above words as the trademark of the witty, satiric, ironic, sardonic, intelligent, irreverent, and eminently entertaining comedy team, Monty Python. The Python is a shining example of the practical use of liberty. Freedom is just theoretical unless you say or do something, from time to time, that George Bush or Michael Dukakis--or at least somebody--would love to throw you in jail or have you shot for. Freedom of speech was never more happily utilized, never more fruitfully pushed to its libertarian ideal, than by Monty Python in such great movies as The Life of Brian (a satire on religious gullibility and fanaticism), The Meaning of Life (likewise not for the funny mentalist), The Search for the Holy Grail, etc. The Python potency is even evident in the more censored realm of broadcast television, as anyone can discover by watching re-runs of the series "Monty Python's Flying Circus" (midnight on weekdays, MTV). Artists of all sorts--especially those hated by the likes of Jesse Helms--are in the vanguard of those who push freedom from the world of theoretical words into the struggle for existence in reality.

Those who saw The Life of Brian saw the Python crew at their philosophical best. A feast of intelligent comedy, it was well seasoned with sympathetic understanding of the human condition and thoughtful philosophical insight. The scene featuring Graham Chapman, in the lead role of "Brian," toe-tapping to the song "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life, Always Look on the Light Side of Life," recommending that all the good of this brief life be enjoyed and appreciated, in spite of the admittedly inevitable triumph of death--was a memorable artistic achievement.

For those who haven't yet heard, I regret to have to inform you that the great Graham Chapman has died.

Difficult Listening

Speaking of intelligent artistry, catch the Difficult Listening show on KUNV, 91.5 FM, every Wednesday from midnight to 2 A.M.--especially if you like surrealism and Dada. Created by two local luminaries, Frank and George, the show now includes the talents of Kendall, who works with Frank and George to produce a radio program that confirms the fact that freedom results in rich diversity and alternatives. You have to listen to a few shows to appreciate the creative power of this trio, who are not just DJs, but are artists of sound. Remember: FREEDOM--use it or lose it.

The Clark County Libertarian Party IS the Southern Nevada Libertarian Party

Clark County is Southern Nevada; and there is one Libertarian Party in it. It is the one and only legitimate affiliate with the State Libertarian Party of Nevada; and there can only be one Libertarian Party with jurisdiction in Clark County--just as there can be only one State LP affiliated with the National LP. The sole legitimate LP in Southern Nevada is the Clark County Libertarian Party. You may have received a notice in the mail from a man who wants to form a group and call it "the Libertarian Party of Southern Nevada." He claims that he offered Libertarians a "new approach" that was opposed because it was a "new idea." Actually, no one opposed his forming a group of his own and implementing any of his ideas. We opposed, and still oppose, his insisting on calling his own organization "the Libertarian Party." Be advised that he has no jurisdiction in Clark County--i.e., Southern Nevada--and is not part of the Libertarian Party in Clark County (or Southern Nevada). The CCLP has a proprietary interest in the LP label in Clark County, and no other group has our permission to use it.

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