



August / September 2001

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Geoff Neale Announces Bid for National Chair

At the opening of the State Conference last July, State Chair Geoff Neale made a surprise announcement that he would not be running for reelection as State Chair in 2002. He further went on to announce his campaign for National Chair.

If elected, he plans to take a hands-off approach to the position. He stated the role of national chair is not to set an agenda based on personal experience and expect other Libertarian National Committee members to obey. As representatives of thousands of Libertarians, the opinions of all other members of the LNC should be equally instrumental in setting national policy.

"I believe that each state organization must be free to choose its own course. In Texas we did what we could, in the way we thought best. But the same may not work everywhere else. As National Chair, I will put the priority on expanding discourse, not discouraging it. I will also hold the National Committee to the highest standards of ethical behavior, while relying on LNC members for their professional expertise."

Prior to his election as State Chair in 1998, Neale served four terms on the Libertarian National committee. He was National Convention Oversight Committee chair and Audit Committee chair. Additionally, he served on the National Platform Committee, the National Bylaws Committee and the National Credentials Committee.

While he has no master plan for the party,

he believes that new party members and candidates should be true adherents of the Libertarian philosophy.

"Our victory, when it comes, must be a *Libertarian* victory. And we can only achieve this if we build on what we are as Libertarians. To win 'at any cost' is to belie what we hold most dearly: That principles matter.

But he believes as well that diversity is important within the party. "Likewise, we cannot exalt individuality while at the same time promoting a single battle-plan, for to deny our diversity is to deny our strength. We must fight on every front with every weapon at our disposal, every tool we can invent.

"Dissension within our party will always exist, so it must become fertile ground for innovation. We must realize that every individual has a role in our cooperative fight for Liberty. We must till and cultivate the earth, not scorch it.

"As National Chair, I will put a priority not only on how much we grow, or how fast we grow, but on how well we grow, building on the foundation of a secure infrastructure – and on our libertarian principles. We must improve daily and learn from our mistakes. The LP is the example to the world of how Libertarians function in a governing role, so we must be a worthy example."

Neale joins Eli Israel, chair of the Massachusetts Libertarian Party, as a contender for the position of National Chair.

Candidate 2002 Recruitment Time Is Now

From Clyde Garland,
CLYDEGARLA@AOL.COM

Candidate 2002 recruitment time is now. Please ask around for candidates.

Our goal, right now, is to get a list of "may run" candidates. When you find a possible candidate send that info to CANDIDATES-L@LPTXAS.ORG and they will be listed on our LPT Web Site.

Right now, for 2002, we have 20 candidates listed.

Eighteen counties had from one to 18 candidates in 2000. If most of the 118 candidates we had run in 2000 inform CANDIDATES-L@LPTXAS.ORG that they will "probably" run again, three wonderful things may happen:

1. LP (National) News may run a story saying how LPT is ahead of all states in candidate recruitment, which

2. May cause many more of the 1,000 Texans that receive LP News to sign up to run, which

3. May cause many more people in the US to run for office.

For those counties that want to have a sure win, have someone run for the obsolete

position of County Hide Inspector. In 2000, we had five people run for the obsolete position of County Public Weigher, and they all won.

Don Gorman Campaign School for Winners in Austin

From Rock Howard, ROCK@TWR.COM

I am pleased to announce that Don Gorman has reserved October 27 and 28 to conduct his "Campaign School for Winners" in Austin. Candidates, campaign managers and campaign workers from throughout Texas are invited to attend this free event. See the following website for additional details and a link to Don Gorman's website [HTTP://GROUPS.YAHOO.COM/GROUP/ROCK4REP](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rock4rep). The venue will depend on the number of reservations that I receive and seats may become limited accordingly, so please sign up as soon as possible.

Please disregard previous notices from others that implied that this event required a fee in order to attend. It is entirely free, although certainly there will be fundraising efforts associated with the event to replenish my campaign warchest. (I am running for state rep in 2002.)

Help Needed for Oral History Preparation

From C. David Eagle,
MINGOVIA@WT.NET

This is a special appeal to find someone to help Angela Keaton, who is preparing an oral history of the Travis County Libertarian Party. She needs someone to help her with the paperwork. She plans to have the history completed before the Libertarian Party's 30th Anniversary, December 11. If you can help her, please contact me, David Eagle, as soon as possible at 671-3765 or MINGOVIA@WT.NET.

Platform 2002

From C. David Eagle,
MINGOVIA@WT.NET

Now that the 2001 conference is over, it is time to prepare for the 2002 convention. I am, reluctantly, serving as the chair of the

Submissions Policy and Deadlines

Unsolicited manuscripts and submissions are welcome and will be considered for publication in upcoming issues of *Lone Star Liberty*. Manuscripts may be submitted via mail, fax or email. Length should be no more than 750 words per manuscript. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and length. Submissions are articles, letters to the editor, or information for the AAround the State@ column. Indicate in which category the submission is to be considered.

The deadline for a particular issue is the 25th day of the month, two months prior, i.e., for January, the deadline is the preceding November.

Late breaking news will be considered according to timeliness and relevance.

Advertising space is available in a variety of formats.

Send submissions, article ideas and requests for advertising rates to

Barbara Cunningham, Editor
Lone Star Liberty

301 Porter
Caldwell, TX 77836-1825
(979) 567-3313 fax
CHARLESB@TCA.NET

Texas LP Platform Committee. At this point in time I would like to invite Libertarians from around the state to submit proposals for the committee to review.

Only submissions which meet the following guidelines *precisely* will be considered

1. The proposal may only address a single plank in the platform.

2. The exact wording of the new text must be given.

3. The exact place in the platform where the proposed plank is to go must be identified. Any current wording to be replaced must be specifically listed.

In other words, the submission should be easy to convert into an actual motion which the committee may vote on.

Please alert your local members to this opportunity. Submissions may be emailed to me at MINGOVIA@WT.NET. No deadline, but I would say after next January will be getting uncomfortably late. We would like to have the platform committee report ready early enough for distribution before the 2002 convention. Convention delegates should have time to consider the proposed platform amendments carefully *before* the convention.

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The Plastic Butter Knife Revolt

From George Schwappach,
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The School Liberator e-mail of a few weeks ago (WWW.SEPSCHOOL.ORG) included a reference to a story about how Zero-tolerance was actually meant to train children up to believe that ideas are, of themselves, dangerous. This conditioning will prepare future generations to accept the round-up of those people whose ideas don't fit into the politically acceptable mold. The day will come when you could expect to overhear; Well, it's no surprise that she was arrested...She used to draw pictures of guns when she was ten.

This story got me to thinking about acts of civil disobedience. It was while standing in line for a ride at Cedar Point with my brother-in-law, John, that an idea came up as we discussed zero tolerance. I've come to call this idea, The Plastic Butter Knife Revolt.

Together, we approached a boy standing in line with his (step) dad ahead of us. "You look like you are in high school."

"Yeah," he replied, "I'm a Junior at Union [PA] High."

"So, what do you think about these rules where a kid gets suspended for drawing a picture of a gun," holding my fingers up to show the 2 inch size, "or for bringing a GI Joe gun to school?"

"I du know," he responds, as if he had really never thought about it before.

"There's some pretty stupid people running the schools," his dad injects.

Then I asked him the question. "So what would happen if you were to bring a plastic butter knife to school? Not the ones with a serrated edge, but just a smooth edge. You know, the ones made of soft, flexible plastic like you get from Kentucky Fried Chicken."

"I'd probably get in trouble," was his answer.

"What if all your friends brought plastic butter knives to school?" I quicken the query. "Thirty, forty friends carrying plastic butter knives?"

About this time, his dad was starting to look a little nervous about John and me standing there, talking to them. He comments; "He already gets into enough trouble."

But our target was starting to look a little curious about the proposition. "We have to challenge stupid rules to stop them."

Just then, our position in line had moved to the top of the steps, and it was our turn to

take our places for boarding The Millennium Force. As a final inducement to my prospect, I said in an adjusted volume as we moved apart to our boarding areas, "If you really want to have some fun, call the newspaper, and tell them you'll be bringing plastic butter knives to school to protest zero tolerance. Call the local TV, and you may end up on the national evening news!"

His dad put an arm around his shoulder to direct his attention to the awaiting seats. I was satisfied that we had planted a seed of discontent into the two of them. I would bet that their 2½ hour drive back to Union City, PA would include talks about plastic butter knives and an American heritage of civil disobedience.

And so, it was on June 29th, while waiting in line at Cedar Point, that I envisioned an idea that I would like to propel into a national phenomenon. What could the bureaucrats do when hundreds of thousands of students show up at school toting plastic butter knives? Anything to prominently display them.

And there would be tee-shirts proclaiming the plastic butter knife revolt. Down below would be a hot cross bun with a pat of oozing butter. On the back would be the message LIKE IDEAS, PLASTIC BUTTER KNIFES ARE NEVER REALLY DANGEROUS.

I'm ready to get started. I just need some direction to find a successful jumping off spot. Your comments and ideas are encouraged.

Government vs. Charity: What We Can Learn from the Flooding

By Brian Drake,

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Webmaster, Libertarian Party of Montgomery County

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Many people think that without government agencies like the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) there would be no mechanism for recovering from disastrous events. The recent flooding in the Houston area shows us that this is not the case.

Just turn on the radio or the television. The airwaves are saturated with opportunities to make donations to charitable, non-gov-

ernmental causes. Clear Channel Communications, which owns several Houston-area radio stations, provides a shining example. The media company established several drop-off locations around the city and encouraged its listeners to help those ravaged by the floodwaters. Listeners poured in by the hundreds to contribute to the effort, to help out fellow Houstonians in need.

This is just one instance of volunteerism. The Red Cross is another. The Salvation Army is another. Churches that have opened their doors to those needing a place to stay are another.

Nobody forced these organizations to help the flood victims. No politician passed any law to provide "relief" for those who watched their homes fall to the rising water. No law enforcement agency had to issue a single citation or make a single arrest to assure compliance.

Government represents the polar opposite of volunteerism. Politicians often talk about "compassionate" government, as if government was some sort of benevolent entity. In reality, government holds a monopoly on the legitimate use of physical force. Think about it. People (law enforcement agents) with guns ultimately back up every law that passes through a legislative body.

FEMA and other government agencies owe their existence to the principle of force. They operate on money taken from the American people, people who go to work each day, sometimes for ten or twelve hours per day, to earn it. Unlike the donation centers set up around town, taxation is hardly

Continued on page 18

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A Libertarian of Some Small Means

From Hollis Ramsey,
HOLLISER@EV1.NET

I am the quintessential Libertarian.

Until seven years ago, I was a legal word processor. In 1994 I became unemployed, after being diagnosed with bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome. I had become a liability. The law firm for which I worked was able to dismiss me in a manner that didn't go against ADA guidelines: they carried out a systematic campaign of subtle intimidation and persecution that succeeded in wounding me at a very sensitive period of my life — I was faced with the end of my career and the loss of all my hard-earned possessions. I spiraled helplessly into severe depression; within six months of my diagnosis, I was let go due, as Human Resources put it, to “performance” issues. Until that time, I had received excellent reviews every year and was well-known for my ability to perform at a consistently high level in the workplace.

Now I'm seven years older and it's a lot harder to get a job with benefits. I have no health insurance and don't want any. I want rather to be able to afford to pay for my own medical treatment as and when I require it. I want to decide for myself, not have to depend upon some amorphous bureaucrat to review my case and then approve or disapprove the funding for the treatment requested. I didn't know that I wanted these things, until I experienced that bureaucratic oxymoron known as Workers' Compensation.

Although there were diagnoses of bipolar symptomatology (e.g., depression, anxiety) attendant to my physical disability, relevant treatment was denied. The two brief experiences I did have, with therapists paid for by Texas Rehabilitation Commission, were ineffective at best or downright traumatic. Had I my own money to spend, I could have paid for the care I needed; actually, for several weeks immediately before and subsequent to my dismissal, I did pay a private therapist — almost \$100 a week out of my own savings. That didn't start out very well: on my first visit, in answer to my frantic assertion that my firm was going to fire me (I could read well enough to read the writing between the proverbial lines), she reassured me that I didn't have to worry, that they wouldn't dare do something like that because of the ADA. On the very next day, I was fired.

I am coming out of the depression on

my own, without drugs or treatments or counseling. I'm thinking again, and writing, too, about the essentials of the human condition. For a long time, I couldn't keep a thought in my head, couldn't remember what I read from one paragraph to the next. Maybe it was a kind of “writer's block.” I was unable to explain myself to my doctors, and they were unwilling to listen to any attempts I made. I needed my mind back, my ability to think well and thoroughly, and to express myself adequately — to contemplate, to ideate, to create, to regain my self-respect and get back to work ... all those things constitute my treatment, not government-prescribed palliatives targeted to the “minimum daily requirement” state of mind. I need sapience in my life, not bureaucracy!

I am probably the poorest Libertarian you could ever know, excepting only homeless Libertarians (*are there any?*). Nonetheless, I do not want to be beholden to anyone other than myself. I want the freedom to fail. I want to be the master of my own fate, whatever it be. I think that's what life is about. I've started to think that maybe when each baby is born, someone ought to attach a tag to the baby's toe that says: *AT YOUR OWN RISK*.

People who want certainty from their government should have had the experience of life in the Soviet Union: visit GUM (*Gosudarstvennyy Universalniy Magazin: Government Department Store* to us Amurricans) back then and what would you see? Aisles and aisles of commodities, but only one of each. And more empty space than produce, at that. There was a commercial a few years ago that featured a Communist Russia fashion show; it showed one (homely and dumpy) woman stalking a runway in the same drab outfit, three or four times. Funny? Sure, but with more than a modicum of truth to it.

Do libertarians have a transition plan for the things they want to do?

A question I've been asking lately. Until a few months ago, I never realized there was a party with which I could agree. I've been thinking about what Libertarian efforts could be made throughout the years as an ongoing project, to educate Americans on where they stand, what they stand for, and how to accomplish their goals. Here are some of the things I thought might be doable:

1. A National Spelling Bee for adults, not schoolchildren.

Children are *required* to study and (hopefully) learn, and are more easily able to retain

memorable knowledge; whereas, adults are not required to continue intellectual pursuits (after high school), and are less easily able to retain short-term stuff. This means: no cramming, only legitimate knowledge can be relied upon. It's not like studying for a test, or teaching to a test; it's finding out what people actually know.

Words and learning become more important as we age, not less.

A culture's intelligence/wisdom depends upon its ability to articulate. Let's feature really articulate, well-read (for that is what makes good spellers through life) citizens; let's call them “heroes” of our culture; let's validate lifelong learning for its own sake.

2. Establish an *Informed Voter certification*.

Let's start relying upon ourselves and those with whom we come into contact, rather than talking heads in the media who are increasingly personal in their reportage. If we're going to listen to people about what's pertinent and what's not, what we should read and think and do and what not, why should we listen to people we don't know, who don't know us or our experiences or our philosophic backgrounds, by virtue of their TVQ or their public personage? I'd love to take such a course of study; it would be cathartic

3. Stimulate the desire for literacy.

Establish essay contests about important philosophic and political themes that could be gathered into volumes which could become part of a K-12 curriculum (see below).

Introduce a K-12 course of study in philosophy. As Bertrand Russell points out: “[T]he philosophy that should be a part of general education is not the same thing as the philosophy of specialists. ... Academic education should aim at giving, as a corrective of the specialization which increase of knowledge has made unavoidable, as much as time will permit of what has cultural value in such studies as history, literature, and philosophy. ... Philosophy has ... been closely related to science on the one hand, and to religion on the other. ... [P]hilosophical speculation as to what we do not yet know has shown itself a valuable preliminary to exact scientific knowledge.” (Russell, Bertrand. *Unpopular Essays: Philosophy for Laymen*, (Simon and Schuster: New York, 1950), p. 24).

Re-animate the Great Books Program and make a concerted effort to become more conversant in the Great Ideas illuminated in those books. After all, philosophy is everybody's business. Remember: If you do

Libertarians, the Party of Pragmatists

posted at [HTTP://WWW.DCMINDWORKS.COM/LPBC/010723IDEAL.HTM](http://www.dcmindworks.com/LPBC/010723IDEAL.HTM)
by Penny Hendrix, PENNY@DCMINDWORKS.COM

At the LP Texas conference (July 13-15, 2001) I was involved in a conversation with some folks who have been long time party members. (I myself am new to the Libertarian Party, although I clearly have been libertarian all my life). One of these early pioneers suggested that we "new" Libertarians are too willing to compromise the "ideals" of the party, and that our pragmatic nature is to blame.

First I took exception to being classified as a compromiser, and then I voiced my confusion over his use of the term "pragmatic." I consider myself to be very pragmatic, and my pragmatism is what makes me a Libertarian!

You might say, "Shut up already, it's just semantics, not worth arguing about." But I encountered this distraction more than once during the weekend conference, and it occupied time that could have been spent on more important matters. Not to mention the agony I suffered over my loyalty being questioned. OK, that might be a stretch for me, but it might not be for other new members. So let's get it right.

I think Carla Howell addressed the real issue when she contrasted "gradualism" with "boldness." And if you haven't heard Michael Cloud's "Prune the Weeds Fallacy," check it out. It's one of the tests he uses to determine whether someone is *really* a Libertarian. We do have a division in the party, but it is not a division between idealists and pragmatists.

I looked to Merriam Webster for support of my contention that the Libertarian Party is NOT a party of idealists, much to the chagrin of those of you who have proclaimed this fact for the whole of your Libertarian lives

practical - . . . of, relating to, or manifested in practice or action; not theoretical or ideal

idealist - . . . one guided by ideals; esp one that places ideals before practical considerations

pragmatic - . . . relating to matters of fact or practical affairs often to the exclusion of intellectual or artistic matters; practical as opposed to idealistic

pragmatism - . . . a practical approach to problems and affairs

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Help The Lubbock County Libertarian Party Succeed!

From David DeLamar,
THINK@DOOR.NET

20,000 signatures with names of voters who are pro freedom. That is our goal in our petition effort to repeal Lubbock's (pop 200,000) recently passed smoking ban.

We need help with printing cost and also need an attorney to look at our repeal language.

Please call me if you know of an attorney that would review our repeal at no charge. Time is of essence as we have a news conference scheduled for September 10 to start the petition.

Please make checks or money orders payable to Lubbock Citizens For Private Property Rights POB 98131 Lubbock, Texas 79499.

If we can get the signatures and win the repeal it will catapult several quality Libertarian candidates into contention for local offices next year including Dr. John Turnbow who may run for city council in May.

Thanks for your help and support.

Barring the People from the Land

by Vin Suprynowicz, VIN@LVRJ.COM
Reprinted from *The Libertarian Enterprise*, Issue 129, July 09, 2001

Who could be against “protection?” Parents are expected to “protect” their children. Everyone wants to “protect” a litter of helpless puppies.

But the word can have other meanings. If the head of the household has died and the property tax payments aren't being made, the authorities may eventually decide to “protect the asset” on which they have filed their liens. Such a gentle way to describe the process of evicting the tearful widow and her kids, setting their belongings on the public sidewalk, changing the locks and securing the place with yellow police tape till auction day.

It's this latter use of the word “protect” we must keep in mind as we read that U.S. District Judge Tena Campbell ruled June 25 in favor of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and the Sierra Club in their suit against three counties in southern Utah, in a case concerning county roads through the so-called Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

In the waning days of the late Clinton administration, the president decided to override the objections of local states and counties, paying off his supporters on the extreme fringes of the environmental “protection” movement (as well as any supporters who might have controlled, say, Indonesian coal deposits, hardly anxious to compete with high-quality coal newly scheduled to be mined in southern Utah) by waving his magic executive pen and declaring a great swath of southern Utah off limits for productive use ... possibly including coal mining.

(You remember coal. We burn it to make electricity, and Utah's is particularly hard and clean-burning. Try telling the residents of California now suffering rotating power blackouts they're being “protected” from the over-hasty development of Utah's coal reserves.)

At any rate, the three counties in question decided to make use of an 1866 federal law which provides them “the right of way for the construction of highways across public lands not reserved for public uses.”

Congress repealed that law in 1976, but existing rights of way were “grandfathered in” and thus still protected. So the Utah coun-

ties went in and re-graded the roads they intended to keep open through the new “monument,” around which the green extremists now planned to wrap the legal equivalent of yellow police tape, “protecting” vast acreages against any trespass or productive use by the people of the United States.

In their lawsuit, the environmental groups contended the roads in question were not protected under the law because they were not actually “built,” did not access particular destinations, and in some cases were on land already “reserved for a public use” ... coal development, oddly enough. The counties responded that the roads were important transportation links and had been in use since the 19th century.

A federal court ruled in 1998 that the counties' maintenance of rights of way would not constitute trespass onto federal lands, but then stayed its decision pending a ruling by the Bureau of Land Management on whether the rights of way were valid (an odd measure of deference for an independent branch of government to show mere appointed regulators.)

Not surprisingly, the green-infiltrated BLM concluded in 1999 that with one exception, the rights-of-way were not valid.

Judge Campbell's ruling now upholds the BLM's determination that the counties did not have rights of way on 16 of 17 routes, a precedent which could affect control of tens of thousands of routes and trails on public lands.

Thus are effectively barred the hunters, the shooters, the hikers, the fishermen, the rock collectors, the off-roaders; thus is the human-hating agenda of the Green Extreme made flesh.

“No more will the counties be able to undermine the protection of national parks, Bureau of Land Management lands and wildlife refuges with the blunt edge of the bulldozer,” crows Heidi McIntosh, an attorney and “conservation director” for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance ... using that interesting word “protection,” again.

Significantly, Judge Campbell said the goal of Congress in repealing the 1866 law, “that federal lands be governed in accordance with national interest, would be undermined if the interest of the various states, rather than the interest of the federal government, governed the validity.”

In fact, the only way the federal government is authorized by the Constitution to control any lands within the several states is

to “purchase by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, (places) for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards and other needful Buildings.”

Has the Utah state Legislature consented to sell the federal government this “Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument?” Does the federal government need all this land for “Forts” and “dock-Yards?” Has the federal government, in fact, ever attempted to buy this land from the state? How much did it offer? Cash or check?

Judge Campbell here vacates, violates, and eviscerates the 10th Amendment (an integral part of the Constitution which she has sworn an oath to protect and defend); the amendment which informs us that in fact it is the powers and prerogatives of the states, not the sharply limited interests of the central government, which must take precedence, since “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to state states respectively, or to the people.”

Of course, Judge Campbell is not the first federal functionary cynical enough to look at the return address on her paychecks and promptly turn this vital “default setting” of the constitution upside down.

But she's still wrong.

Vin Suprynowicz is assistant editorial page editor of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. Subscribe to his monthly newsletter by sending \$72 to Privacy Alert, 561 Keystone Ave., Suite 684, Reno, NV 89503, or dialing 775-348-8591. His book, *Send in the Waco Killers: Essays on the Freedom Movement, 1993-1998*, is available at 1-800-244-2224.

Switch Over to New LPTexas List Server

From Bob Smither, SMITHER@C-C-L.COM

The lptexas list is now hosted on LPTEXAS.ORG, the state party's web server. Just so everyone is aware, there are two limitations for this list

1. There can only be a maximum of 1000 e-mail addresses associated with the address of the list.

2. Attachments exceeding 75KB in size will not pass to the list.

The address to post to the list is LPTEXAS@LPTEXAS.ORG

Vote No on Paid Consultants

From David Wallace Croft,
DAVID@CROFTSOFT.COM

I was dismayed to hear at the recent state conference that we are considering hiring a paid political consultant. I ask that the State Executive Committee disapprove of such a motion for the following four reasons

1. It leads to a serious conflict of interest. Paid staff members will have a financial interest in the outcome of state party elections, motions to renew their contracts, and consequent fund raising activities, interests not necessarily aligned with the goal of propagating the libertarian agenda. If this were merely an administrative position I would be less concerned. However, one would assume that a savvy political consultant within this role would be tempted to use his influence for self-interest. Consider the words of Perry Willis, from his unapologetic letter on the subject of conflict of interest ([HTTP://WWW.HARRYBROWNE.ORG/POLICY](http://www.harrybrowne.org/policy)), "With regard to monetary interests Libertarians often campaign for a particular candidate because they expect that candidate to hire them for party or campaign jobs. It happens all the time." Those interested in a documented example of such activity at the National Party level are encouraged to visit the Jacob G. Hornberger website ([HTTP://WWW.JACOBGHORNBERGER.COM/](http://www.jacobghornberger.com/)).

2. We have no assurance as to the loyalty or ethics of the political consultant. I was shocked to learn of the stated possibility that the paid consultant may be neither Libertarian nor libertarian. When advising our candidates on their campaign strategies, will this person understand our libertarian principles and ethical standards? Will his experience on our campaigns be used against us in the future while in the employ of a higher bidder?

3. It diminishes the role of our unpaid volunteers. It has been argued that we need paid party bureaucrats to ensure a level of "professionalism" that our current volunteers do not provide due to constraints on their time. They dismiss the part-time efforts of working contributors and ignore the potential for full-time efforts from the pool of retired and semi-retired, individuals with working spouses, and independently wealthy libertarians. We may lose our current and future volunteers if they feel unappreciated or otherwise uncompensated in comparison.

4. It will reduce funds available for lib-

ertarian efforts. As a child, I was once told of an organized religion in which the pastors served without salaries, relying instead upon their independent secular professions within the community to fund their personal needs and desires. I believe that our current staff of unpaid professional volunteers reflects well upon our organization and serves as a reassurance to our financial donors of the nobility of our interests and of our integrity.

When I contribute to a charity, I want to see what percentage of the funds go to overhead and what remnant is left for the cause. I believe we can continue to give 100% with an all-volunteer force. Please join me in voting no to any effort to hire a paid political consultant.

One Way to Get a List of Supporters

From Robert West
WESTR@MASCORP.COM

This might have been done before since nothing is new under the sun but I thought I'd share this anyway. I have begun collecting signatures to get the City of Little Elm to "ALLOW" the residents in my area to install speed bumps. It does not sound like a huge issue but whenever 18 out of the first 19 people asked grab the clipboard out of your hand you have a big issue. Many of these people have even asked the Council to allow this in the past and have gotten no where. I will be gathering 400-500 signatures in the next couple of weeks in preparation for the city council meeting on the 17th of July. I am letting everyone know what party I am with and my intention to run for the State Representative position in 2002. I have been invited in and had some very encouraging conversations (two volunteers and one potential candidate). I plan on calling the people on the list and getting them and their children whom this issue is designed to protect to the City Council meeting on the 17th (maybe 500 to 1,000 people counting the kids). The local paper will get editorial letters the week before and an article; a friend who is a graphic artist in Houston is doing a tombstone with, "No speed bump caused this loss, and the caption will be "YOUR CHILD'S NAME HERE." I am working on getting a camera crew out, as 1,000 people is worth the film on a slow news day.

When this is over, the council will either say, "No," in which case we have a list of

voters whom they refused to listen to when re-election rolls around (only 500 people voted in the last local election) or a victory to crow about and an energized electorate which can see that they really can make a difference. Either way, this is a big win for the LP. Not only that, but it lets people with the misconception that we are against ALL government, know we are not.

Something like this can get you voters who have never bothered before and people who vote all the time to consider how little their representatives listen to them. I urge all people considering a run in 2002 to find a local issue and solve it with the help of your fellow citizens; after all if you did that much for them before you were elected. . .

Plano Balloon Festival to Have OPH Booth

From Dave Spaller,
DAVE_SPALLER@YAHOO.CA

There will be an LP/OPH booth at the 21st annual Plano Balloon Festival, Plano, Texas, to be held September 21-23. Clyde Garland will be the main booth volunteer coordinator. People interested in volunteering can best contact Clyde at CLYDEGARLA@AOL.COM or me at DAVE_SPALLER@YAHOO.CA (yes, that's ".ca", not ".com")

The festival expects 200,000 people.

One of the Plano / Dallas / Fort Worth area's most proven family events and Texas' largest balloon event, The 2001 Southwestern Bell Plano Balloon Festival, WWW.PLANO-BALLOONFEST.ORG/, has a tremendous amount to offer to advertisers, sponsors and the community. This will be the third year at the new larger location in Plano. Over the past twenty-one years the Festival has

- * Attracted weekend crowds in excess of 200,000 people.

- * Expanded from five ballooning events to a full weekend of activities including unique arts, crafts, and gift market, performing arts stages, children's hands-on activities and more.

- * Received wide coverage in all media, including national coverage in 1999.

- * Been designated as the Balloon Capital of Texas and honored by support from federal, state, and local government agencies such as the Governor of Texas, The Federal Aviation Administration, the Plano Mayor and City Council, Parks and Recreation Board, Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Fire Department's Learn Not to Burn Program.

Buying a Book

by Chuck Bridgeland,
CHUCKBRI@MWCL.NET

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Imagine buying a book.

Most people really don't know what it takes to buy a book. TV shows make it seem like just about anybody can walk into a store, lay down money and walk out with a book. Not so.

To buy a new book you need to go through someone with a Federal Bookseller's License (i.e., a bookstore). This license is administered by a federal agency known to be indifferent or hostile to private citizens' right to read.

De facto policy over the last few years has been to up the cost and trouble of keeping the license. The cost and hassle is squeezing small booksellers (the so-called kitchen table bookstore) out of business. It's not surprising that the total number of book dealers has fallen sharply over the last decade. A city of 200,000 people might have 2 or 3 good bookstores.

The last administration's Justice Department declared, in writing, in court, contrary to the plain reading of the First Amendment and the best current scholarship, that the right to read is not an individual right, but was somehow a collective right of the states. The current Attorney General disagrees, but so far this has made little discernable difference.

Hardbacks you can buy anywhere, but you can't buy paperback books outside of your home state, and haven't been able to for over thirty years. (Remember when you could just order books through the mail? Pay your money, get your book and noone cared?) Purchases from Amazon have to go to your local FBL holder ("click here for to find a local dealer"), who handles the recordkeeping paperwork and the background check and charges you for his time and trouble. Walmart and Kmart still sell some books, but not many and not very interesting books. You go there for a cook book or a car repair manual. They

will special order, but don't even think about ordering philosophy books. The clerk will walk your purchase out to your car, and make sure you stow it in the trunk.

There's a patchwork of laws in different states and cities relating to book sales and ownership, transportation and where and what you can read. You're supposed to know them all for everywhere you travel, and woe to you bigtime if you screw up and get caught. If you're lucky your book just gets confiscated.

You have to pay a \$200 tax to the abovementioned agency to buy a book with an index. That's \$200 per book, by the way. That's if your state lets you have an indexed book at all. Books with indexes haven't actually been published for other than official use for years.

Vocal publicity hungry book banners get all foamy-mouthed about cheap romance novels. Book enthusiasts (aka "book nuts") generally hold mass market paperbacks in contempt (they tend to fall apart after minimal use), but do admit that revenue challenged individuals often can't afford better. Restrictive laws have driven prices up. Nothing physically smaller than the paperback edition of Atlas Shrugged can legally be imported.

Book shows are the latest boogie-man. Legislation is pending that's supposed to "close the book show loophole" by raising the legal stakes so high that noone will want to run a book show.

People under 18 can have hardcover books, but only if their parents buy them for them, and are present when they are read. Some states and cities now require that books be kept locked away from vulnerable young minds ("for the children"). The Founding Fathers universally favored reading books. Even so, the reading of books, once widespread in schools, has been in steep decline since the 1960s, especially in big city schools.

They say that there's a big black market in illicit books. They say "straw purchasers" buy books in the states where the rules are lax and sell books privately in restrictive states. They say this is a Big Problem. You're a nice law-abiding kind of guy. You don't have those sorts of connections, and don't personally

have a clue where to get a black market book if you needed one.

Comic books are regarded as "mostly harmless". They are largely unregulated though you're still likely to get hassled by the cop on the scene.

Do you live in New York City, Chicago, DeeCee? Forget it. The powers that be would never let an ordinary peon like you buy a book. You need to be somebody or know somebody. Politicians and their "associates", movie actors, rich and famous people have no trouble getting books, though they don't advertise it. You may as well just watch TV.

Notwithstanding all this, United Statesians love their books. It is estimated that 3/5 of the world's books in private hands belong to Americans.

Over the top? Maybe a bit. "This Can't Happen Here." Wanna bet? "This would go to the Supreme Court in a heartbeat." It should.

Some of you saw where this was going from the first paragraph. For the everybody else, a mental exercise in paragraph 4 above, where it says "First Amendment", replace it with "Second Amendment". In all paragraphs above, replace "book" with "gun". Understand the analogy. Make appropriate semantic adjustments (cheap romance novel = "Saturday Night Special," etc.). Read it again. It's an exact description of the United States that gun owners inhabit. Some of us already live in a police state.

Compare what you do to exercise one of your First Amendment rights (freedom of the press, and by extension, freedom to buy books, possess them and read them) with what a gun owner goes through to exercise Second Amendment rights (RKBA, and by extension, the right to actually buy, possess, bear and use personal arms).

The right to keep and bear arms is a right that is guaranteed in the Bill of Rights, right up just behind freedom of religion, press and assembly. The best current scholarship affirms that this was not intended as a "collective right". (We'll ignore for now the questionable validity of that concept.) The Bill of Rights promises that this right specifically "shall not be infringed."

What? Guns are dangerous and books aren't? You can meet God in a book. Or Ayn Rand. There ain't nothing more dangerous

For Separation of School and State

From Jeff Daiell, JEFFDAIELL@YAHOO.COM

Let me begin with a little poll. How many people here would oppose nationalizing the petroleum industry?

Now let me ask this; if we don't trust politicians and bureaucrats with our oil wells, why should we trust them with our children's minds?

The answer is: we shouldn't. Let me give you some reasons why I support taking the politics out of education. And let me very gratefully give credit in advance to Jim Barlow, business writer for the *Houston Chronicle*, for his writings on public education; and the Foundation for Economic Education and the Alliance for Separation of School and State for their excellent work on this subject, which I drew on in preparing this presentation.

The first reason is that taking the politics out of education would mean better education for the poor. As the grandson of a tailor on one side, and a farmer-turned-coal miner on the other, this has personal importance to me. Jim Barlow has pointed out several times that government schools focus on those children preparing for college, and I would say that an even closer look will tell you that the even narrower focus is on those planning on liberal arts educations. The poor, who are often assumed by elitist educrats to be preordained for other channels, and even those children of moderate-income families who prefer other educational goals, are short-changed. We have been indoctrinated to believe that the poor would be left behind in a purely private educational system, but history shows that it is in fact government schools which favor the already-privileged.

A second reason to take education away from the politicians is that educators could concentrate more on educating and less on complying with bureaucratic rules. Don't take my word for how much time teachers and principals spend on these matters; ask them. And with greater focus on teaching, history has shown that children can learn material in less time. De-politicizing our schools will see students mastering what are now high school subjects before they leave middle school, as, in fact, they used to. Wouldn't it be nice if high school diplomas were once again a matter of pride, and if colleges were once more for studying college material, rather than having to teach some of their students how to read, or how to do basic arithmetic?

A third reason is accountability. Those who

fund private schools have a choice; those who pay government school taxes don't. With accrediting services already in place, schools would have incentives to perform well, whereas government school bureaucracies do not; in fact, like most government agencies, their incentive is to keep coming up short, to justify annual increases in their funding. To put it more bluntly, it's time to do what's right for our children, not what's right for the educrats.

A fourth reason is safety. Non-governmental schools cannot afford to tolerate violence; they'll see customers leaving them for safer settings. In government schools, violence is another excuse for demanding more money.

Fifth among the reasons for taking the politics of our education is that nongovernmental education would be much more individualized. It's one of the ironies of our times that many of those who claim to support "diversity" are among the most vehement upholders of a government school system that punishes individuality and enforces conformity. I remember being on a "Meet the Press" type program the first time I ran for Governor in 1990 on Channel 8, Houston's tax-subsidized TV station. One of the panelists told me that if we took education away from the politicians, "we wouldn't have standardized education." When I pointed out to him that we don't have standardized children, he had no answer.

A sixth reason to favor the separation of School and State is fairness. Those who do not have children in school will not be forced to choose between helping to pay for schools or losing their homes to a tax lien. Since studies show that non-governmental schools have a much lower per-pupil cost, and that private schools generally do better by their students than politicized schools, we will see more students learning more for less money.

For lower- and even some moderate-income parents, the savings in taxes could mean the difference between being able to afford health care and not being able to; between being able to afford transportation to look for work or being limited to jobs on a bus line or within walking distance; in some cases, between being able to feed their children regularly or seeing them go without. Despite what we've been told for decades, alleviating want and privatization is more effectively done by reducing taxes, not by increasing them.

Finally, after all of these compassionate reasons for taking the politics out of education, there is a very practical reason: giving access to education to more children, and making that education better, will mean more Tex-

ans and more Americans will be able to accomplish more. It will mean businesses will not have to provide remedial schooling for employees, and will have a better-educated, better-motivated pool of potential employees to choose from.

The question is how do we get there from here? And the answer is there are several different ways, few of them mutually exclusive. As the dissatisfaction with politicized education grows, and the movement toward separation of School and State gains momentum, there will likely be a different route in each State, and, in many States, in each county and school district.

Some States will exempt from school taxes those parents who send their children to non-governmental schools, as a way of gradually phasing out the government school system. Some will grant tax credits or exemptions for those individuals or companies who contribute to such schools, or who help pay for a child's tuition. Others will, as the British government several years ago got out of the housing business by selling the residences to the lower-income families who lived in them, sell individual schools to the residents of the neighborhoods containing them. Some States will use a combination of these, and other methods.

Some things are certain; there will be more educational entrepreneurs than now, and there will be greater involvement by churches and other community groups in education than there is now.

Another thing is certain; there will be no more political controversies over matters such as dress codes, prayer in school, or political correctness, because schools will no longer be part of the political sector; the schools and their clients, the parents and students, will make those decisions, not legislators and government appointees.

Will some students nonetheless fail to learn what they should? Will some students lag behind others? Will some children be disinterested in learning? We know the answer is, unfortunately, yes.

Will the number falling into those categories be far lower when School and State are separated than it is now? History, not theory, but experience, and what we know of how Government works and how non-governmental alternatives work, makes it certain that the answer to that is also yes.

For too many children, it's too late. For the sake of those for whom it is not, including those not yet born, let's start now to separate School and State.

Letters

I refer you to "Constitutional Drift" by JAMES J. Odie, *Lone Star Liberty*, Jan, Feb Mar, pages 9, 16-18.

In column 3, page 17, "Throughout this century we have been led into war by one power-crazed president after another. Three have committed war crimes." Bullshit! At least 5 consecutive U.S. Presidents committed mass murder! On 2 October 1946, Harry S. Truman and Charles de Gaulle started the Vietnam War by shelling Haifong Harbor. The provisional government of Vietnam had not threatened France or the United States and were physically incapable of reaching France or the U.S. with any fighting force. The Vietnam War was a war of aggression. A war of aggression is, by definition, MURDER.

The United States government furnished all the money and air cover (with U.S. pilots) for the "French Phase" of the Vietnam War. Therefore, it was a U.S. war from the very beginning. Over 58,000 Americans were murdered by U.S. Presidents in Vietnam. Over 6 million Vietnamese were murdered by U.S. Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon!

Murder is not a misdemeanor.
Victor L. Morgan

Can you help me get in touch with Wayne Saums, who wrote "The Great Deed Restriction Shakedown?" This article was published in *Lone Star Liberty*, Vol 12, Issue 1 (Jan/Feb/Mar 2001). I'd like to discuss the article with Mr. Saums and possibly invite him to speak to some of my neighbors.

Many thanks.

Dale K. Osborne

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214-692-7642, OZFOLLY@AOL.COM

My name is Bobby E. Hearn Jr. and I am running for State Rep in district 89 Fort Worth.

I know we have a lot of good people in our party that would make very good Candidate's for office in Texas and we need

them very bad I ask you to place an ad in the paper asking some of them to Run for Office in 2002 this is the only way we can make our party work for the betterment of our government.

Thank You

Bobby E. Hearn Jr.

Candidate State Rep District 89

Fort Worth Texas

817-238-6937

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HEARNTX@AOL.COM

This is in response to the article "War Crimes at Hiroshima and Nagasaki" by Jacob G. Hornberger, published in the July, 2001 *Lone Star Liberty*.

I find it peculiar that you chose to publish this article. Frankly, I think that there are far more relevant issues we should concern ourselves with, notably those that we might influence in some way. Still, I feel that it demands a response.

If you buy Mr. Hornberger's central argument that aerial bombings were war crimes, why not focus on conventional bombing attacks (Tokyo, Dresden, e.g.) that killed far more civilians than those cited? That aside, he only cites HALF of the justification for these bombings (i.e., saving thousands of GI lives). Any factual analysis of the way in which Imperial Japanese fought (at Iwo Jima or Okinawa, e.g.) would make it clear that not having to invade the home islands ALSO saved far more Japanese lives, military and civilian, than the bombings cost. As to his charge of cowardice, I would like to see him make that statement to the face of a combat veteran of the Pacific war!

His "alchemy," making the tactic of aerial bombing into a war crime, ignores several basic facts.

First, no such bombing would have been required at all without the attack on Pearl Harbor. Those servicemen in theater preparing for an invasion of Japan were only there because of aggression against the United States.

Second, World War II was about the future of civilization itself. To not have prosecuted it with every means at our disposal

would have doomed mankind to a dark fate. THAT might have been properly construed as a crime! What would be the state of our liberties today had the Axis Powers prevailed?

Given the above, I believe that the decision taken regarding the atomic bomb was correct, and worth it if the only result had been to save the life of only ONE U.S. Serviceman!

Frank Morgan, FAMORGANTX@YAHOO.COM

P.S. I am a member of the Libertarian Party, and proudly served five years on ACTIVE DUTY as an officer on nuclear submarines.

Editor: Unless one is a total apologist for FDR, history has since shown that the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in response to deliberate moves on the part of FDR to entice them into attacking us. FDR was desperate to get the United States into the war to save his presidency and retain his grasp of power. Whether or not the United States would have been involved in World War II without FDR's machinations is something posterity never will know. Not will posterity ever know if the apologists for the necessity of bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki are correct. BUT one must always keep in mind that there is a vast difference between surrender and unconditional surrender, and insistence upon the latter always prolongs hostilities and provokes deep resentment from the finally conquered and humiliated enemy.

It seems to me that having won the case in the Arizona Supreme Court that it is evident that the rights of Harry Brown were grossly violated by persons and anyone's rights are worth up to one million dollars per day, per person violating or infringing them.

There should now be an on-going damage suit brought against everyone that had a hand in this violation to begin with. That would make other election boards or commissions sit up and take notice and the LP would be begged to be on the ballots around the Nation. It is time to go on the offensive and show them we really aim to win for the LP and the good of the Nation.

Bill Halbert, WILDBILL@VZINET.COM

Patriot Publisher

SHARING & CARING Magazine

News from National

Will the U.N. try to force Americans to fund slavery reparations to Africa?

An upcoming United Nations conference on racism is expected to demand massive financial reparations from Western nations for the "terrible exploitation" of slavery, but the U.S. government should refuse to take money from taxpayers to pay for such historic misdeeds, the Libertarian Party said.

"Reparations will not right a historic wrong; they would only impose a modern wrong on Americans who are not responsible for the historic crimes of slavery," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director.

"Even worse, reparations would obscure the fact that slavery is not merely something that Western nations did to Africans, but is a worldwide phenomenon that has existed for thousands of years. Reparations would also deflect attention away from the fact that hundreds of millions of people still live in bondage, not to slave masters, but to their own governments."

As U.N. representatives from around the world prepare to meet in Durban, South Africa for the World Conference Against Racism, August 31-September 8, African nations have begun to lobby for a proposal that declares slavery a crime against humanity, and calls for former slave-trading nations to make "restitution."

The exact nature of the restitution is not specified, but at pre-conference meetings held in Geneva, Switzerland last week, some representatives of the African Group's 53 nations proposed no-strings-attached foreign aid from Western nations, perhaps running into the billions of dollars. The African representatives argued that their countries were "devastated" by slavery, so they deserve compensation.

The U.N. High Commissioner on Human Rights, Mary Robinson, has said the West "must pay for past mistakes on slavery," perhaps through a "broad sweep of measures [such as] development aid."

Pre-conference meetings will continue in Geneva for the next two weeks, and more meetings are scheduled for July.

However, the whole concept of paying financial reparations for crimes committed hundreds of years ago is fundamentally flawed, said Dasbach.

Reparations for relatively modern slavery ignores the fact that individuals, tribes, and nations have enslaved others for all of re-

corded history, said Dasbach.

"Slavery isn't something invented by U.S. plantation owners in the South," he said. "The ancient Greeks, Mesopotamians, and Egyptians used human slaves. The early Indian and Chinese civilizations were built on the backs of slave laborers. In South and Central America, the Aztecs, Incas, and Mayans employed slaves. The Romans used slaves throughout their vast empire. In the Middle East, the Islam religion approved of slavery from the 7th century on. Blacks even enslaved other blacks in West Africa and Zanzibar.

"Given its worldwide scope, there is practically no nation that can 'cast the first stone' when it comes to accusing other nations of exploiting human slaves."

Nor is slavery just a historic relic, since the American Anti-Slavery Group estimates that 27 million people currently "live in bondage" around the world, either in forced labor, forced prostitution, or chattel slavery.

"The best way to pay for the sins of slavery is to work to create a world where all people can live in freedom -- free of slave masters, forced bondage, and oppressive governments," he said. "The greatest gift we can give to the descendants of slaves is a lifetime of real freedom." (7 Jun 2001)

Chilling new survey: Americans want more government censorship of media

A new survey found that 46% of Americans think the press has "too much freedom" and a whopping 71% say the government needs to hold the media in check.

The New York-based First Amendment Center revealed that a startling number of Americans are willing or eager to give the government more control over speech and the press. Of the 1,102 adults randomly surveyed by telephone across the nation,

* 46% said the press in America has "too much freedom to do what it wants." By contrast, only 36% think there is "too much government censorship."

* 71% think it is somewhat or very important for the government "to hold the media in check."

* 39% agree "the First Amendment goes too far in the rights it guarantees." That's up dramatically from just 22% who held that opinion last year.

* 64% disagreed that "people should be allowed to say things in public that might be offensive to racial groups," with 36% saying

there should be laws against such speech. 5 Jul 2001

Tampa starts 24-hour video surveillance of public streets. Will your town be next?

The city of Tampa has installed a network of high-tech security cameras on public streets to monitor everyone who passes by, a repugnant police-state tactic that should be outlawed before it spreads to more cities, Libertarians say.

Tampa became the focus of a nationwide firestorm of controversy when it installed a permanent surveillance system that uses a "face-printing" computer software program. Police set up a network of 36 cameras that scan crowds in the Florida city's entertainment district and match the results against a database of mug shots of people with outstanding arrest warrants.

The company that produced the technology, Visionics Corp., bragged that Tampa, the first city to install the system, "is leading the pack."

But no other city should follow Tampa's Big-Brotherish lead, said Dasbach, because

* Constant police surveillance strikes at the heart of Americans' most basic right: The right to be left alone.

* It violates the Fourth Amendment.

* It would allow the government to compile a vast photographic database of people. 9 Jul 2001

Who's safer when a 75-year-old man is sent to jail for growing marijuana?

Do you feel safer today? You ought to. A few weeks ago, a 75-year-old Wisconsin farmer with severe arthritis, glaucoma, and diabetes was sent to jail for growing marijuana. His 80-year-old brother also faces charges for the same crime.

And they're not alone in the "Who'd-a-Guessed-They're-In-the-Drug-Business?" Department. Over the past few years, two Old Order Amish men, a Rabbi of the Year, and a 9-year-old boy have been charged with selling drugs.

In June, 75-year-old David Burmesch was sentenced to one year in the county jail for growing marijuana on his farm. He was also ordered to serve five years' probation, pay a fine, and perform 200 hours of community service. His brother, Eugene, 80, is undergoing competency hearings and could face a similar sentence. Burmesch said he grew marijuana to help pay for the costs of

Our Favorite Founding Father

Reprinted from *The Federalist(r) Digest, The Conservative e-Journal of Record*, 04 July 2001, Federalist #01-27.dgst

As we celebrate the 225th birthday of the United States of America, we honor our country and the ideals of our nation's founding. Rarely, though, do we give sufficient contemplation to the Founders, who pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to declare the united colonies free and independent states, with the separate and equal station of full nationhood among the powers of the earth.

Founder Benjamin Rush recalled Independence Day 1776, "Do you recollect the pensive and awful silence which pervaded the House when we were called up, one after another, to the table of the President of Congress [John Hancock] to subscribe what was believed by many at that time to be our own death warrants?" He lamented, on the 35th independence celebration, "scarcely a word was said of the solicitude and labors and fears and sorrows and sleeplessness nights of the men who projected, proposed, defended, and subscribed [signed] the Declaration of Independence."

In our age of fillips and flippancies, we may find the Signers' courage and character impossible to fathom. ...Or, perhaps, better to use more classical terms, in all their senses, for our Founders were men of virtue and integrity.

One Signer of the Declaration of Independence particularly inspires us. We hope the spirit that motivated Samuel Adams imbues our work.

Adams provided the most complete expression of the ideas driving the American Revolution. He was also one of the earliest to recognize the ultimate objects of growing British tyranny in the 1760's, and his popularity waxed and waned with the temper of the times. When in 1770 the British repealed most of the burdensome taxes imposed on the colonies, his influence declined. His presence and precision in language earned him the descriptor "incendiary," his principles earned him the reputation of "radical." But he was mistakenly so branded, as shown in this passage from October 1773: "We are far from desiring that the connection between Britain & America should be broken. *Esto perpetua*, is our ardent wish; but upon the terms only of equal liberty."

Adams often wrote anonymously, as we do; among his more colorful pseudonyms were "A Chatterer," "Candidus," "Vindex," "Determinatus," and "Valerius Poplicola." This, which he penned in April 1773, could as easily describe The Federalist today: "It is no wonder that a measure calculated to promote a correspondence and a free communication among the people, should awaken apprehensions; for they well know that it must detect their falsehood in asserting that the people of this country were satisfied with the measures ... and the administration of government." And Adams could have been paraphrasing our aspiration to humilitas, in "political literature ... as selfless as politics itself, designed to promote its cause, not its author."

Adams believed, as we do, that liberty and virtue are inseparable. "Liberty will not long survive the total extinction of morals." And, "As long as the people are virtuous they cannot be subdued; but when once they lose their virtue they will be ready to surrender their liberties to the first external or internal invader....If virtue and knowledge are diffused among the people, they will never be enslaved. This will be their great security." He was a devout Christian. "First of all, I ... rely upon the merits of Jesus Christ for a pardon of all my sins."

Samuel Adams studied classics and science, eventually earning a master's degree from Harvard College. From an early career in merchant trades, he later joined his father's brewery business. He was never financially prosperous; at times, near poverty. But his natural genius was in politics.

Personally modest and unpretentious, he shunned such stylish affectations as powdered wigs. His cousin John Adams described him as "in common appearance, he was a plain, simple, decent citizen, of middling stature, dress, and manners."

But John also coined the term "working the political machine," complimenting Samuel as a master of those arts of practical politics from forming activist groups like the Sons of Liberty and organizing galvanizing events such as the Boston Tea Party, to literary agitation and revolutionary philosophy. His oratorical skills incited passions for liberty, as John recalled, "Upon great occasions, when his deeper feelings were excited...nature seemed to erect him, without the smallest symptom of affectation, into an upright dignity of figure and gesture and gave a harmony to his voice which made a strong im-

pression on spectators and auditors – the more lasting for the purity, correctness, and nervous elegance of his style."

A delegate to both the First and Second Continental Congresses, Adams also voted to ratify the Constitution. When the colonial governor offered a blanket amnesty to colonials who would lay down their arms, he specifically refused to pardon only Samuel Adams and John Hancock. Mid-career, Adams fell into disfavor over his vehement opposition to a strong national government.

His "The Rights of the Colonists," also called "The Report of the Committee of Correspondence to the Boston Town Meeting, Nov. 20, 1772," contained original outlines of the political philosophy undergirding both the Declaration and the Constitution. Indeed, the lack of self-promotion his virtuous modesty required means that Adams is rarely credited sufficiently for his contributions to our nation's founding. Referring to this Adams essay, the Massachusetts colony's Governor Thomas Hutchinson noted, "The Grand Incendiary of the Province prepared a long report for a committee appointed by the town, in which, after many principles inferring independence were laid down, many resolves followed, all of them tending to sedition and mutiny, and some of them expressly denying Parliamentary authority."

And as John Adams wrote 50 years afterward, erroneously minimizing his cousin's role, "As you justly observe, there is not an idea in it [the Declaration of Independence] but what had been hackneyed in Congress two years before. The substance of it is contained in the Declaration of Rights, and the Violations of those Rights, in the journals of Congress in 1774. Indeed, the essence of it is contained in a pamphlet voted and printed by the town of Boston before the first Congress met, composed by James Otis, as I suppose, in one of his lucid intervals, and pruned and polished by Samuel Adams."

Samuel Adams speaks to the afflictions of our superficial age still, if we would but listen. He questioned the patriotism of anyone "who gives his suffrage for any man to fill a public office, merely because he is rich.... The giving such a preference to riches is both dishonourable and dangerous to a government, [which] argues a base, degenerate, servile temper of mind. I hope our country will never see the time, when either riches or the want of them will be the leading considerations in the choice of public officers. Whenever riches shall be deemed a necessary qualification, ambition as well as avarice will

The Top 10 Misconceptions about Government

by Harry Browne

FREEDOMWIRE@MJX.HARRYBROWNE.ORG

When people argue for or against some new government program, a lot of what's said is based on assumptions about government that just aren't so.

Direct from the home office in the slums of Washington, D.C., here are the top ten misconceptions commonly peddled about government today. . . .

The Budget and Social Security

Misconception No. 10: "The federal budget has been in surplus since 1998."

Not so.

The federal debt increased by \$109 billion in 1998, by \$127 billion in 1999, and by \$23 billion in 2000.

The politicians are taking excess Social Security receipts and using them to cover spending on foreign aid, corporate welfare, and thousands of other boondoggles. Lumping Social Security in with the general budget transforms a budget deficit into a surplus, but the federal debt continues to get larger and will have to be repaid someday.

Misconception No. 9 "The politicians are keeping Social Security funds separate and safe."

See Misconception No. 10. Even as politicians posture that they're protecting Social Security, they're stealing from it in order to hide the budget deficits. So long as Republicans and Democrats continue to peddle this lie, they're demonstrating that you shouldn't believe *anything* they say.

Federal Programs

Misconception No. 8 "The Republicans prevented a takeover of health care by the federal government in 1994."

The Republican Congress has already enacted a large part of HillaryCare. Today half of all health-care dollars in America are spent by government, and another 20% by health-care plans that might not exist if it weren't for the income tax code.

HillaryCare is a bogey man raised by one party to persuade you it isn't as bad as the other party.

Misconception No. 7 "The federal highway system allows poor states to have roads as good as those of the richer states."

The truth is just the opposite. The federal highway program allows the richer, more

powerful states to plunder the poor states.

A main recipient of highway funds is Pennsylvania. Why Pennsylvania? Because the chairman of the House Transportation Committee is Bud Shuster of Pennsylvania.

The people in states like Alabama or Montana are taxed so that Congressmen and Senators can reward friends with contracts for a \$2-billion subway system in Miami that doesn't work, a "People Mover" in Detroit that hardly anyone uses because it goes hardly anywhere, a billion-dollar airport in Denver that no one but the Denver mayor wanted. These are "Your highway dollars at work."

Intruding on your Life

Misconception No. 6 "The defeat of the 'Know Your Customer' program in 1999 stopped banks from spying on you."

Not so. Banks have been required to report large or suspicious transactions since 1970. And the definition of "suspicious" has included more transactions every year.

Now the government has expanded the reporting to include private financial companies. And the Post Office has a surveillance program called "Under the Eagle's Eye." Big Brother is watching you.

Misconception No. 5 "The problems created by the Drug War are necessary to hold down drug use."

To believe that, you have to believe that only the drug laws keep you and me and everyone you know from shooting up heroin. Otherwise, how could drug use be much greater than it is now?

Any teenager can get drugs just by asking around at school. Since 1972 the U.S. government's National Institute on Drug Abuse has surveyed teenage drug use, which in every major category has doubled, tripled, or quadrupled.

We have lost the Constitution and its Bill of Rights; innocent people have been sentenced to life imprisonment on the say-so of admitted drug dealers seeking reduced sentences; the drug business has been taken from legitimate pharmaceutical companies and turned over to criminal gangs; the politicians have played with hundreds of billions of dollars of our money. And all this has led to greater drug use, not less.

Protection

Misconception No. 4 "The government keeps the environment clean."

A 1999 *Boston Globe* investigation concluded that the U.S. government is the worst polluter in America. And most of the rest of

pollution occurs on government property, in government lakes and rivers, and on government land.

Private owners worry about the future value of their property, so they're careful not to pollute their own assets. But the future is of no concern when they use government property. So there's tremendous pollution on government property, where bureaucrats have no personal stake in protecting it.

The best answer for pollution is to get as much property out of the hands of government as possible. Then the remaining pollution problems shouldn't require the oppressive regulatory nightmare being imposed today by politicians, bureaucrats, and social reformers.

Misconception No. 3 "Government regulation saves lives by making medicines safe."

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has routinely kept life-saving medicines off the market for years until its administrators were positive they couldn't be held responsible for a single death.

Robert Goldberg of Brandeis University has estimated that FDA delays in approving drugs already used safely in other countries have cost at least 200,000 American lives over the past 30 years. These delays killed Alzheimer patients who weren't allowed to take THA, people with high blood pressure who couldn't get beta-blockers, kidney-cancer patients deprived of Interleukin-2, and AIDS patients who died waiting for AZT.

For true safety, we rely on doctors, research labs, insurance companies, and other private agencies to determine what's appropriate for each individual, not what is politically safe for the regulators. Doctors sometimes make mistakes, but they don't make decisions on a political basis.

Why We Tolerate Government

Misconception No. 2 "We have to tolerate the bad things government does in exchange for the protection it provides against violence, domestic and foreign."

Far from protecting us from violence, the government seems to be the foremost cause of it. Its Drug War has spawned inner-city chaos and gang warfare, and its SWAT teams kill innocent people during mistaken drug raids. Government doesn't protect our children in the schools; it doesn't protect adults on the streets; and depending on 9-1-1 for protection makes as much sense as relying on the lottery for your income.

Scenes from the State Conference



Carla Howell and Ron Paul



Carla Howell



Marshall Fritz



Marshall Fritz



Russell Means speaking at the Banquet



Hospitality Suite



Hospitality Suite

News from National

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raising his developmentally disabled son.

The Burmesch brothers are just one example of America's surprising new breed of drug dealers

* In New York, Eli Gottesman, 74, who was once named "Rabbi of the Year" by his colleagues, is facing charges that he smuggled cocaine and marijuana into a federal prison. If convicted, he faces 20 years in prison.

* Continuing the Torah'd crime wave, Yitzchal Fried, a 52-year-old Orthodox rabbi, was arrested in February 2000 for selling seven ounces of marijuana to a police informant in Brooklyn. Fried said the marijuana was an "exit drug" that helps people get off heroin.

* In 1998, two Amish men in Pennsylvania were sentenced to a year in prison for conspiring with a motorcycle gang to sell cocaine at an Amish hoedown. Ironically, both men are Old Order Amish, the most conservative of all Amish sects, and reject the use of automobiles, electricity, and most modern conveniences.

* In May, a 9-year-old boy in Villisca, Iowa, was arrested for selling marijuana to three 14-year-olds. The boy, who wasn't named because he is a juvenile, will be sent for rehabilitation.

* In November 2000, the Reverend Travers C. Koerner, 55, was arrested in Maryland for intent to distribute methamphetamines. The Episcopal priest was found with \$10,000 worth of drugs in his rectory.

What do these cases have in common? They prove that when the government makes something illegal, the price goes up, which tempts more people into becoming criminals, said Dasbach.

"According to Joseph D. MacNamara, a research fellow at the Hoover Institution, drug prohibition causes the price of drugs to be marked up by as much as 17,000%," he said. "And the United Nations estimates that the international black market in drugs is worth \$500 billion annually.

"So we shouldn't be surprised that people choose to violate the law when the law itself creates the enormous profits that fuel the drug trade. If we want to stop tempting people into breaking the law, then we need to eliminate the seductive lure of easy drug trade money. And the only way to do that is by ending the War on Drugs.

"If we don't, then we better get used to the fact that people like 75-year-old David

Burmesch will continue to fill our prisons. And no American will be safer if that happens." 10 Jul 2001

Our Favorite Founding Father

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prompt men most earnestly to thirst for them...."

What would be his perspective on economic globalization? "If our trade may be taxed, why not our lands? Why not the produce of our lands, and every thing we possess, or use? This we conceive annihilates our charter rights to govern and tax ourselves. ...If tastes are laid upon us in any shape, without our having a legal representation, where they are laid, we are reduced from the character of free subjects, to the state of tributary slaves."

On representative leadership amid cultural conflicts? "We cannot make events. Our business is wisely to improve them. ...It requires time to bring honest men to think and determine alike even in important matters. Mankind are governed more by their feelings than by reason. Events which excite those feelings will produce wonderful effects."

About the friction between religious liberty and faith-based initiatives? "The civil magistrate has everywhere contaminated religion by making it an engine of policy; and freedom of thought and the right of private judgment, in matters of conscience, driven from every other corner of the earth...." And "...our enemies have made it an object, to eradicate from the minds of the people in general a sense of true religion and virtue, in hopes thereby the more easily to carry their point of enslaving them."

After the unsatisfactory conclusion to Mr. Clinton's impeachment, we were sustained by Samuel Adams. "If ye love wealth greater than liberty, the tranquility of servitude greater than the animating contest for freedom, go home from us in peace. We seek not your counsel, nor your arms. Crouch down and lick the hand that feeds you; and posterity forget that ye were our countrymen."

How, then, can we best honor Samuel Adams and the other oft forgotten Founders this Independence Day? By striving to rebuild the foundation they so carefully laid for our national home. As Adams himself would have chided us, "...no people ever yet groaned under the heavy yoke of slavery, but when they deserv'd it. ...The truth is, all might be free if they valued freedom, and defended it

as they ought. ...If therefore a people will not be free; if they have not virtue enough to maintain their liberty against a presumptuous invader, they deserve no pity, and are to be treated with contempt and ignominy."

He would have warned, "If the liberties of America are ever compleatly ruined, of which in my opinion there is now the utmost danger, it will in all probability be the consequence of a mistaken notion of prudence, which leads men to acquiesce in measures of the most destructive tendency for the sake of present ease. When designs are form'd to rase the very foundation of a free government, those few who are to erect their grandeur and fortunes upon the general ruin, will employ every art to sooth the devoted people into a state of indolence, inattention and security, which is forever the fore-runner of slavery. They are alarmed at nothing so much, as attempts to awaken the people to jealousy and watchfulness; and it has been an old game played over and over again, to hold up the men who would rouse their fellow citizens and countrymen to a sense of their real danger, and spirit them to the most zealous activity in the use of all proper means for the preservation of the public liberty, as 'pretended patriots,' 'intemperate politicians,' rash, hot-headed men, incendiaries, wretched desperadoes, who, as was said of the best of men, would turn the world upside down, or have done it already."

He would have reminded, "The liberties of our country, the freedom of our civil constitution are worth defending at all hazards. And it is our duty to defend them against all attacks. We have receiv'd them as a fair inheritance from our worthy ancestors. They purchas'd them for us with toil and danger and expence of treasure and blood; and transmitted them to us with care and diligence. It will bring an everlasting mark of infamy on the present generation, enlight'ned as it is, if we should suffer them to be wrested from us by violence without a struggle; or be cheated out of them by the artifices of false and designing men. Of the latter we are in most danger at present. Let us therefore be aware of it. Let us contemplate our forefathers and posterity; and resolve to maintain the rights bequeath'd to us from the former, for the sake of the latter. Instead of sitting down satisfied with the efforts we have already made, which is the wish of our enemies, the necessity of the times, more than ever, calls for our utmost circumspection, deliberation, fortitude and perseverance. Let us remember, that 'if we suffer tamely a lawless attack

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Our Favorite Founding Father

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upon our liberty, we encourage it, and involve others in our doom.' It is a very serious consideration, which should deeply impress our minds, that millions yet unborn may be the miserable sharers in the event."

Samuel Adams knew the stakes are high. "Courage, then, my countrymen, our contest is not only whether we ourselves shall be free, but whether there shall be left to mankind an asylum on earth for civil and religious liberty."

The Top 10 Misconceptions about Government

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Overseas it is our government that's roaming the world stirring up trouble. It has killed hundreds of thousands of Iraqi adults and children by forcibly preventing them from getting food and medicines. It subsidized the Afghan "freedom fighters" in the 1980's, but now claims those same "freedom fighters" are a main source of terrorism in the world. It bombed innocent people in Serbia to aid the Albanians, the same Albanians it now wants NATO to attack.

Some protection. No wonder the U.S. is the main target of terrorists.

Here It Comes . . .

And by far the No. 1 misconception about government issssss . . .

Misconception No. 1 "The next government program will work the way its sponsors promise."

The government's War on Poverty has transformed poverty from a short-term misfortune into a career choice. Its War on Drugs has escalated drug use. Medicare has made health care more expensive and less accessible for senior citizens. Nothing the politicians have enacted has turned out as promised, and most programs have made matters worse.

So do you really believe George Bush's voucher program will make education better, or his "faith-based" charity plan will make welfare work? Do you think the Democrats' prescription-drug program will make medicines easier to obtain? Or John McCain's campaign-finance bill will make politics cleaner?

If you believe any of that, consider buying a marvelous bridge I own in Brooklyn.

The solution to today's problems isn't to pass more government programs, or to reform government programs, or to get better people to manage them. The answer is to end completely all these government programs that have caused so much misery, waste, corruption, and tyranny. Get government entirely out of health care, education, welfare, drugs, policing the world, and anything else not specifically authorized in the Constitution.

The worst misconception of all is the idea that government will give you what you want.

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In memory
of the innocent victims
from the four
h i j a c k e d
planes which
crashed into
the World
Trade Center,
the Pentagon,
and a field in
Pennsylvania,
11 September
2001.

Government vs. Charity: What We Can Learn from the Flooding

Continued from page 3

optional. You have two choices (1) pay your taxes, or (2) face fines and/or jail time. Remember, government is an agency of force.

Nobody, not even the politicians, should force you to be nice to other people. They don't have to. If given the chance, people will voluntarily contribute to a worthwhile cause. Besides, by the time FEMA rolls into the Houston area, their bureaucratic methods will be superfluous. The charities will have already provided real relief to the flood victims.

A Libertarian of Some Small Means

Continued from page 4

not consciously choose your philosophy, one will be chosen for you by default. This is exemplified by the less-than-informed voter.

4. Publish popular literature in the libertarian mold.

Anthologies, *e.g.*, my own school project PRESCIENCE – AN ANTHOLOGY OF CLASSIC SPECULATIVE FICTION.

A modern interpretation of the trial/defense of Socrates – without Plato, or balancing him w/ Xenophon (?).

A popular series re: Western (and Eastern, etc.) philosophy similar to Mortimer Adler's *Aristotle for Everybody*, Ayn Rand's *Philosophy: Who Needs It?*

New editions of the classics of the Western canon.

5. Create, publish, and disseminate pamphlets.

How can libertarian ideals be attained?

Methods of dealing with injustices/wrongs, *e.g.*, job discrimination (age, sex, etc.), saving/investment concerns, environmental pollution, drug/alcohol addiction,...

Delineate various libertarian platform issues, *e.g.*, foreign policy, national defense/of-fense, individual rights,...

6. Create an internet webring aimed at students/young adults.

E.g., hypertext literature (see above); courses of study (accredited or not), study guides; employment opportunities, career choices; suggested reading list, discussion topics (for Great Books Program, above); interactive games, contests, etc.; political clubs; related links.

7. Establish or become affiliated with a think tank.

E.g., create a website (as above); issue

position papers; act as the watchdog (as above) and issue reports in that vein; set up speakers and panels.

These are some of the things I've been thinking about.

Who the Hell do I Think I Am?

As far as being an extrovert with a desire to promote myself: I am a terrible businessman. The time it would take me to understand monetary manipulation is too valuable to so waste. I prefer to read and study and think about *other* things that are more important to me. I know I'll never be wealthy in dollar value, but I feel very rich in the things that I value. I also happen to be an artisan: I tie knots in string (and *nots* in *strings*, philosophically speaking), *i.e.*, thread crochet, which takes lots of time and patience, two items not intrinsically valued in our culture. I'll indulge the personal by inviting you to see some of my creations at STRINGSATTACHED — the time involved in each piece is directly nonproportional to the price it commands on the open market.

Education should be about learning how to ask questions properly, not how to supply proper answers. Answers limit you to the practice of "teaching to the test" and assure that you will learn only what is required — *Why did the medical student cross the road? Because it was required.* This is the antithesis of wisdom; it is a *minimum daily requirement* rather than a love, a thirst, a way of life, etc. Our kind of "education" is perhaps due to our culture's background of Judeo-Christian teaching (or perhaps of any religion's teaching — pardon the sin!), that there are Answers, and that these Answers are the end of questioning; and, moreover, that this is ideal. I call this the *Why? Because.* school of thought. Proper education should rather stress that there are Questions, and all answers lead to more Questions. Confidence should not be based upon the end of questioning in favor of Answers; we humans should unbend enough to relax our vigilance against being incorrect, enough to open up to learn something new and have confidence, not in our moral infallibility (which is a set-up for failure), but in our mental flexibility (which is the beginning of wisdom).

More Esoteric Musings on Life and the Universe, etc.

In part, reality is a game. Superstring is a playful name for one type of theory about reality as we don't know it. And play, according to Hardison, is an essential part of the activity [modern theoretical science] that gives rise to them. I'm interested in mathematics

and philosophy, time and being; they seem to go well together. Things like geometry (fractals), physics (uncertainty), quantum physics (superstrings, unified field theory). I'm not well-read in any of these areas, mind you, I just really like reading and thinking about them. For more on superstrings, etc., read *Disappearing Through the Skylight: Culture and Technology in the Twentieth Century* (O.B. Hardison, Jr., 1989), *A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes* (Stephen W. Hawking, 1988), *Fractal Geometry of Nature* (Benoit Mandelbrot, 1982), *Chaos: Making a New Science* (James Gleick, 1987).

I'm talking about the proverbial *nots* of rational argument — Consider these *vs.*, for example: what is *v* what is not, answer *v* question, certainty *v* uncertainty, complacency *v* curiosity, superiority *v* humility, comfort *v* discomfort, unwillingness to empathize *v* willingness to empathize, (will to) power as a desirable positive *v* (will to) wisdom as a desirable positive.

Just what *is* our relationship to infinity and space-time? I don't think death is final, just as life is not final. That's what I like about Plato's "proof" of the immortal soul through the existence of opposites. And about speculative fiction aka SF, which also treats these topics.

Gods only create in their own images. That's what gods do: replicate themselves, because they are the end all and be all of their universe. By definition, that's the way it is. What makes a god different from other life-forms? The all-powerful and all-knowing qualities of its *esse*, its omnipotence and omniscience. And the greatest of any god's creations also possess these qualities, albeit in human (*i.e.*, non-divine) doses.

To a high-school student:

Try to resist the temptation to say, *I simply don't have time to do any extracurricular reading.* It's essential to make time work for you and not *against* you. And life is *extracurricular* as well as *curricular*. Don't get lured into the easy mindset of what I call the *lowest common denominator* — you know, only doing what's expected of a statistical norm, even though, for you, that might not be your best (it usually isn't, as the statistics are set to reassure the bruised egos of lazy minds). I can't over-emphasize the importance of reading and writing and thinking in human life.

Around the State

On-line and Wired

Web Pages

State Web Page WWW.TX.LP.ORG
County Chairs WWW.TX.LP.ORG/COUNTY_CHAIRS.HTM
County Chair duties WWW.TX.LP.ORG/COUNTY_CHAIR.DUTIES.HTM
Press Releases WWW.TX.LP.ORG/DATABASE_RO/PRS/INDEX.HTML
Bell County WWW.LPTEXAS.ORG/BELL
Bexar County WWW.TX.LP.ORG/BEXAR
Brazos County WWW.BRAZOSLP.ORG
Aggie Libertarians at Texas A&M LIBERTARIANS.TAMU.EDU/
Collin County WWW.TX.LP.ORG/COLLIN/INDEX.HTML
Dallas County HTTP://LPDALLAS.ORG
Denton County WWW.TX.LP.ORG/DENTONINDEX.HTML
El Paso County WWW.TX.LP.ORG/ELPASO/INDEX.HTML
Harris County WWW.TX.LP.ORG/HARRIS
Montgomery County HTTP://LPMC.MAIN.COM/
Nacogdoches County WWW.TX.LP.ORG/NACOGDOCHES/INDEX.HTML
Tom Green County HTTP://TGCLP.TRIPOD.COM
Travis County WWW.AUSTINLIBERTY.ORG

Forums

LP Texas: Email LPTexas@LPTexas-AS.org with "subscribe lptexas" in the body.

ChristLib: Send an email to MAJORDOMO@SWCP.COM with "subscribe christlib" in the body.

Other Sites of Interest

Incumbent voting records HTTP://SCORECARD.TAXPAYER.NET/STATE.CFM
Texas Election Code CAPITOL.TLC.STATE.US/STATUES.-ELTOC.HTM
District Boundaries WWW.CAPITOL.STATE.TX.US/REDV/REDVIEW.HTM
Political Contributions returned by zip code POLITICALJUNKIE.COM/MAIN.INDEX.HTM
Federal Election Commission WWW.FEC.GOV
The Separation of School and State Alliance WWW.SEPSCHOOL.ORG
Bill of Attainder Project WWW.ISC-DURANT.COM/TOM/BILLOFTAINDER/
League of Women Voters DNET.ORG

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29 Sept 2001 SLEC Meeting, Pflugerville

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Steve Kirby 915-676-9026 home
850 Ross Kirby4Liberty@aol.com
Abilene, TX 79605-3237

George Schwappach 915-691-1776 home
8318 Saddle Creek Rd. 915-691-1776 work
Abilene, TX 79602-5424 915-691-1943 fax
GEORGES@SWCONNECT.NET

District 25:
Ray Jagge 830-931-2018 home
PO Box 582 RLJAGGE@hotmail.com
Castroville, TX 78009

Patricia Wedel 512-267-1843 home
18008 Easy Way CATW_L1@SPRYNET.COM
Jonestown, TX 78645

District 27:
Mark Ciocheti 956-423-2522
609 East Filmore CIOCH@AOL.COM
Harlingen, TX 78550

John P. (Jack) McNally 956-423-7345 home
1205 East Polk Ave. 888-899-5095 work
Harlingen, TX 78550 JACKMC@LIBERTYSHOPPE.COM

District 30
James Gholston 940-382-1763
403 Bryan, #205
Denton, TX 76201-3983
JAMESG@DIMENSIONALITY.COM

Around the State

Continued from page 19

Robert West
1525 Lakeshore Dr.
Little Elm, TX 75068
WESTRL@MSN.COM

County Activities

Aransas County:

Walt Hartlove (361) 727-0802
1919 Hwy 35 N, PMB 326
Rockport, TX 78382-3344
ARANSAS@SWBELL.NET

Atascosa County:

Edward Elmer (830) 569-6006 night
1240 W Oaklawn RD, #101
Pleasanton, TX 78064-4302
EBEMDPA@FLASH.NET

Bastrop County

Gary D. Hicks, Jr. 512-360-4134
285 Pine Canyon
Smithville, TX 78957
BASTROP@LPTXAS.ORG

Bell County:

Penny Hendrix (254) 70-9582
277 Woodland Point Rd.
Belton, TX 76513-9749
DIGITALCULTURE@EARTHLINK.NET

Bexar County:

Jay Moore 210-824-6242
4414 Moana Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78218-1241
WWW.TX.LP.ORG/BEXAR
Jeffrey C. Blunt (vice chair) (210) 696-8756
JCBLUNT@JUNO.COM

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Unlimited Thought Bookstore, 5525 Blanco, Ste 107

Brazoria County:

Royce Mitchell Jr. RMITCHEL@FLASH.NET
10231 Hanselman Rd.
Manvel, TX 77578
Information: GHARPER@COMPUTRON.NET
Meeting: 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Golden Corral, Hwy 388
Business, Angleton, TX

Brazos County:

Christopher Jagge (979) 695-9646
PO Box 8064
College Station, TX 77844-8064
C_JAGGE@EMAIL.MSN.COM
WWW.BRAZOSLP.ORG

Brewster County:

Leo "Doc" Ofenstein (915) 837-5186 day
601 N 7th St. (915) 837-1192 night
Alpine, TX 79830-3515
LEO@SCRCORP.COM

Burleson County:

Barbara Cunningham (979) 567-7262
301 S Porter St. (979) 567-3313 fax
Caldwell, TX 77836-1825
CHARLESB@TCA.NET

Burnet County:

Ben J. Jones (830) 798-9051 night
400 Parr Ave. CJONES@TSTAR.NET
Marble Falls, TX 78654

Cameron County:

Jack McNally (210) 423-6030 day
1205 E Polk St (956) 425-5064 night
Harlingen, TX 78550-7223 (210) 423-7345 fax
JACKMC@LIBERTYSHOPPE.COM (888) 899-5095
Meeting: Once a month in Harlingen. Call (956) 423-7345 for the time and place.

Collin County:

Gordon E. Mobley (972) 527-0914
1402 Cherokee Trail
Plano, TX 75023
MOBLEY1@AIRMAIL.NET
party email: LPCCTX@YAHOO.COM
Meeting: 3rd Tuesday, Paesano's Restaurant

Cooke County:

Matthew Murrell (940) 665-7528

1302 Hillcrest Blvd.
Gainesville, TX 76240
MATTHEWMURRELL@HOTMAIL.COM

Crosby County:

Greg Fisher (806) 749-2010 Lubbock
HCR 1, Box 12 (806) 263-4522 home
Post, TX 79356 MEDAGGF@TTUHSC.EDU
Meeting: Last Thursday, 7:00 PM; Llano Masked Rider
Room Texas Tech University Center, 15th Street and Akron Ave., Lubbock, TX. *Campus Libertarians*, 1114 Ave. Q, Lubbock, TX 79401

Dallas County:

William B (Bill) Bunch wbbunch@yahoo.com
6231 McCommas
Dallas, TX 75214-3033
LPDALLAS.ORG INFO@LPDALLAS.ORG
Meeting: 2nd Thursday, Al's Pizzeria, 3701 W. Northwest Highway, Dallas, TX
Activities and changes are posted on the website. Weekly public affairs program on the Dallas Community Television: "America - Outside the Beltway"

Dawson County:

James D. Mitchell (806) 872-5092 day
PO Box 969 (806) 872-6017 night
Lamesa, TX 79331-0969 JAMESM@MAIL.PICS.NET

De Witt County:

Jeanie Blalock (361) 275-3275
611 MacArthur St.
Cuero, TX 77954-3128

Denton County:

James Gholston JAMESG@DIMENSIONALITY.COM
403 Bryan, #205
Denton, TX 76201

Erath County:

Tommy Richardson (254) 968-4636
307 N. Dale
Stephenville, TX 76401
Meeting: 2nd Tuesday

Fisher County:

Meetings: 2nd Monday, 7:30 PM, Farolito's Mexican Restaurant, 209 Cotton Wood, Abilene, TX (concurrently with Taylor County)

Fort Bend County:

Kevin Foto (281) 277-5886 day
16338 Maple Downs Ln. (281) 879-2123 night
Sugar Land, TX 77478-7101 ALPINE@WT.NET

Galveston County:

Randall H. Waibel (281) 224-4098 day
1902 Dove Ct. (281) 996-0527 night
Friendswood, TX 77546-5884 PSAMO@NETZERO.NET

Gregg County:

Judy Dailey 903-297-4475
19 Rockwell MDAILEY@JUNO.COM
Longview, TX 75604

Hamilton County Contact:

Tony Lee Belding TLBELDING@HTCOMP.NET
PO Box 512
Hamilton, TX 76531-0512

Harris County:

Laura Coker-Garcia (713) 271-1776
9835 Sagedowne Ln. (281) 997-8141 home
Houston, TX 77089-3517
LIBERTY@NEOSOFT.COM WWW.TX.LP.ORG/HARRIS
Meetings: Harris County LP Business Meeting, 1st Thursday 9614 Oregon Circle, Houston, TX; San Jacinto Supper Club, 3rd Thursday, 7:00 PM, Chan's Restaurant, Fairmont Pkwy @ Burke, Pasadena, TX; *Second Thursday Supper Club*, 2nd Thursday, 7:00 PM, Pappas Bar-B-Q, 7007

Hwy 59 South, Houston, TX

Hays County:

Ron Neal (512) 295-6817
312 Windy Hollow Lane
Kyle, TX 78640-9271

Hidalgo County:

Dr. Donald L. Hall (956) 686-6616 home
112 West Lex Ave. BHALL10113@AOL.COM
McAllen, TX 78504

Hopkins County:

Warren (Hank) Vine (903) 866-3813
Route 1, Box 262 4-PINES@1STARNET.COM
Sulphur Springs, TX 75482
Information: HOPCO-LP@1STARNET.COM

Houston County:

James M. Lassiter (409) 636-2427 night
PO Box 445 LASSITER@LCC.NET
Lovelady, TX 75851-0445

Hunt County:

Donald Lee Holloway (903) 356-4350 night
PO Box 1382
Quinlan, TX 75474-1382

Hutchinson County:

Cliff Collard (806) 866-4471 day
PO Box 626 (806) 273-6345 night
Borger, TX 79008-0626 CCOLL79007@AOL.COM

Jefferson County:

Virginia G. Walker (409) 866-2100
840 Lockwood Dr. WALKERRE@SWBELL.NET
Beaumont, TX 77706-5546
Meeting: 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 PM, Golden Corral Restaurant, 4145 College Street, Beaumont, TX

Jones County:

Lila Roberts (915) 672-7951
40 Poverty Point Circle
Abilene, TX 79601-8427
Meetings: 2nd Monday, 7:30 PM, Farolito's Mexican Restaurant, 209 Cotton Wood, Abilene, TX (concurrently with Taylor County)

Kendall County:

Lawrence Ciano (210) 816-2140 night
108 Ranger Ave.
Boerne, TX 78006-8916

Kerr County:

Kelly Scott (830) 367-5021 home
PO Box 291803 (830) 896-6464 work
Kerrville, TX 78029-1803 ELPATRON@MAVERICKBBS.COM

Kleberg County:

Frank Mullen (512) 595-7727
525 E. Huissache Ave.
Kingsville, TX 78363-5644
MULLENA@INTCOMM.NET

Liberty County:

Charles Wiggins 409-336-6956
P. O. Box 3070 CLETUS80@SWBELL.NET
Liberty, TX 77575

Lubbock County:

David DeLamar (806) 766-7288 night
PO Box 98131 (806) 766-7288 fax
Lubbock, TX 79499-813 (806) 795-6901 day
THINK@DOOR.NET

Meeting: Last Thursday every month, Texas Tech University Center, 7 P.M.

Madison County:

Lili Lyddon (936) 399-5000
18696 Hwy 21 W LILI@TCYBER.COM
North Zulch, TX 77872-7056

McLennan County:

Vince Hanke (254) 776-1695, ext. 15
PO Box 20667 (254) 751-1163 night

Around the State

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Waco, TX 76702-0667 VINCEBOOM@AOL.COM

Medina County:

Jean Kutzler 830-931-3871
209 South County Road 5603

Castroville, TX 78009

Milam County: Contact

Casey Stanislaw (254) 605-0380 work
PO Box 793 (254) 602-2060 mobile

Cameron, TX 76520-0793

CSTANISLAW@EARTHLINK.NET

Montgomery County:

Ron B. Hard 281-363-9211

24403 Pine Canyon Dr.
Spring, TX 77380

ELLYHARD@EMAIL.MSN.COM

WWW.MAIN.COM/~MRBEAR/LIBERTAR.HTM

Motley County:

Warner Sailsbury 806-348-7275

P. O. Box 58 SCRUBBIT@CAPROCK-SPUR.COM

Roaring Springs, TX, 79256

Nacogdoches County:

Joe Allport (936) 569-8832 night

PO Box 632873 ALLPROPATRIA@HOTMAIL.COM

Nacogdoches, TX 75963-2873

WWW.TX.LP.ORG/NACOGDOCHES/INDEX.HTML

Meeting: 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 PM, Dr. Brad Wilson's office, University Drive

Navarro County:

Tommy Hart (903) 874-1387 home

1060 Oak Valley Lane (903) 872-4849 work

Corsicana, TX 75110 BREHART1@AIRMAIL.NET

Nolan County:

Meets concurrently with Taylor County, Contact George Schwappach for information, GEORGES@SWCONNECT.NET, Meetings: 2nd Monday, 7:30 PM, Farolito's Mexican Restaurant, 209 Cotton Wood, Abilene, TX (concurrently with Taylor County)

Nueces County:

Robert Powell (361) 850-9601 night

4622 Grand Lake Dr. REP@CIRRISS.NET

Corpus Christi, TX 78413-5246

Meeting: Thursday, 5:30 PM, Town and Country Restaurant, Alameda/Everhart intersection

Orange County:

David Constant (409) 822-0349

2913 Fairway Dr. (409) 882-0409 fax

Orange, TX 77630 CONSTANT@IJNTB.NET

Palo Pinto County:

Lance Bailey (940) 325-8221 x 111 day

221 Country Club Parkway (940) 325-6079 night

Mineral Wells, TX 76067-8309

BAILEY@SEAMUX.COM

Meeting: 1st Tuesday

Parker County: Contact:

Raymond Ford (940) 682-3308

315 Howard Rd.

Weatherford, TX 76088 FORD5@AIRMAIL.NET

Parmer County: Contact:

Helen Precure (806) 965-2981

RR 1, Box 560

Muleshoe, TX 77347-9633

Polk County:

Kris Overstreet (409) 685-2028 work

Rt. 14, Box 5560 (409) 685-4992 home

Livingston, TX 77351 REDNECK@DETNET.COM

Randall County:

David K. Kelley (806) 355-1934 night

4404 Summit Cir.

Amarillo, TX 79109-5322

Meeting: Sunday 8:00 PM, irregular schedule. Call for information

Real County:

Letha L. Dulaney LETHA@HCTC.NET

PO Box 221 (Live Oak Street)

Leakey, TX 78873

Robertson County:

J. R. Prestidge (409) 828-3398

PO Box 40 THEHAVEN@TXCYBER.COM

Wheelock, TX 77882-0040

Rockwall County:

Chuck Hampton (972) 412-4020 home

6806 Chimneywood Circle (214) 638-1301 work

Rowlett, TX 75089 YOU CRAZY KIDS@AOL.COM

Sabine County:

John F. Ivy (409) 579-2034

HC 52 Box 553 (409) 579-2117 fax

Hemphill, TX 75948-9620

San Patricio County:

Terrance Stewart (512) 758-5546

1367 Oak Park Dr. TCS_VERMIN@HOTMAIL.COM

Aransas Pass, TX 78336-3207

San Saba County:

Marvin Foster (915) 622-4572

HC: 12, Box 105 JOAQUIN@CENTEX.NET

Cherokee, TX 76803-9704

Tarrant County:

Larry Nickerson (817) 329-5014

6055 Monte Vista Ln., #914 (817) 762-8616 day

Ft. Worth, TX 76132 (817) 370-0941 night

PO Box 953 LNICKERS@CSC.COM

Fort Worth, TX 76101-0953

Tarrant County Libertarian News PO Box 953, Ft. Worth, TX 76101, (817) 329-5014 or (817) 370-0941

Meeting: 2nd Thursday, 7:00 PM

Taylor County:

George Schwappach (915) 698-3405 work

8318 Saddle Creek Rd. (915) 691-1943 fax

Abilene, TX 79602-5454 GEORGES@ABILENE.COM

Meetings: 2nd Monday, 7:30 PM, Farolito's Mexican Restaurant, 209 Cotton Wood, Abilene, TX

Tom Green County:

Michael Brady (915) 942-5636

1921 Walnut St. WTGADFLY@CS.COM

San Angelo, TX 76901

HTTP://MEMBERS.TRIPOD.COM/~TGCLP

Meeting: 1st Tuesday, 7:30 PM, Cheddar's Casual Cafe,

1309 Knickerbocker Rd., San Angelo, TX

Travis County:

C. David Eagle (512) 671-3765

3133 Wavecrest Blvd. MINGOVIA@WT.NET or

Austin, TX 78728 EAGLE@EARTH.COM

WWW.AUSTINLIBERTY.ORG

Austin Libertarian: WESLIBERTY@AOL.COM

Meetings: 1st Tuesday, 6:45 to 8:45 PM, business meeting;

3rd Sunday, 4:00 to 7:00 PM, outreach

Radio: KOOP 90.7 FM, "The Liberated Space", Thursday, 6:30 PM

Television: Cable Channel 10: "Live and Let Live", Saturday, 8:00 PM, "Smash the State", Saturday, 9:00 PM; Cable

Channel 16: "LP TV," Sunday, 1:00 PM

Upshur County:

Stanley Vance Lowry

707 Madeline Dr.

Gilmer, TX 75644-3146

Val Verde County:

Karl Bollmann, III

PO Box 421715

Del Rio, TX 78842-1715

Van Zandt County:

Gene Johnson, Sr.

RR4, Box 184B

Wills Point, TX 75169-9793

Victoria County:

Tim Purcell

PO Box 1174

Victoria, TX 77905

Wichita County:

Mark Rippetoe

3000 Kemp Blvd.

Wichita Falls, TX 76308-1019 TORSHAMMAR@AOL.COM

Williamson County:

David Carter

1108 Green Downs Dr.

Round Rock, TX 78664

Wilson County:

Tom Kane

912 4th St.

Floresville, TX 78114-1802

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Steve Grupe

1055 S. Poplar St.

Kermit, TX 79745-5010

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Grant Goble

1217 Texas St.

Graham, TX 76450

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MACMAN@FLASH.NET

(830) 775-7851

RCASS@DELRIO.COM

(930) 896-1654

(512) 573-1885

DREAM3@WEBTV.NET

(817) 696-0829 day

(817) 592-2277 night

TORSHAMMAR@AOL.COM

DCARTER@IO.COM

(830) 216-4664 night

FREEDOM2@FLASH.NET

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3100 Rolling Glen
Bryan, TX 77807-3209
(979) 779-1775
(979) 779-1775 fax
CLYDEGARLA@AOL.COM

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Candidate

Office

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George Schwappach
8318 Saddle Creek Rd.
Abilene, TX 79602
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