



LP on OK

Tragedy no excuse for restrictions

The tragic bombing in Oklahoma City should not be used as an excuse by the government to restrict civil liberties, the Libertarian Party warned recently.

"Law-enforcement agencies should act swiftly to bring the criminals who committed this heinous act to justice, and to punish them to the fullest extent of the law," said Steve Dasbach, chair of America's third-largest political party. "However, we must not dishonor the men, women, and children who died in that brutal and senseless act by linking their tragedy to any effort to undermine fundamental American liberties.

"The freedoms recognized under the Bill of Rights are our strongest bulwark against terrorism," asserted Dasbach. "Security measures that infringe on those freedoms will inevitably lead to abuse, ultimately making us less secure in our lives and property."

Dasbach said he was concerned specifically by President Bill Clinton's demand for increased police powers to spy on "right wing" groups, even when there was no evidence of criminal activity.

Under Clinton's proposal, the FBI would have the power to examine financial, travel, and telephone records, conduct wiretapping, and infiltrate "suspect" groups. Clinton said such powers were needed to protect "our way of life." "An abiding respect for liberty is our way of life," coun-

“ ————— ”

The freedoms recognized under the Bill of Rights are our strongest bulwark against terrorism. Security measures that infringe on those freedoms will inevitably lead to abuse, ultimately making us less secure in our lives and property.

”

tered Dasbach. "Law-enforcement agencies already have wide-ranging powers to engage and monitor criminals — after they demonstrate the probable cause required by the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Clinton's proposal would undermine the Fourth Amendment, while doing nothing to increase our security."

Dasbach said he had vivid memories of past FBI abuse, such as the harassment of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.. "It's ironic," said Dasbach. "Then, we had a conservative president using the power of government to see LP on OK on page 2

Echoes of April 19

BY DAVID F. NOLAN

It is likely that the repercussions from the Oklahoma City bombing have barely begun to be felt.

Nobody disputes that this event was a terrible tragedy, a truly hideous act of destruction and terrorism that ranks with the worst atrocities of any group of thugs, anywhere. Beyond that, however, there is little agreement on any aspect of the whole affair. Was this the act of a few isolated nuts, or part of a larger conspiracy? If the latter, WHOSE conspiracy—a shadowy network of militia groups? The Feds? Arab or Japanese terrorists? All of these have been suggested by one theorist or another, and as of this writing (May 10) no clear answer has emerged.

April 19 - again

It has been widely noted that the bombing occurred on the second anniversary of the Waco Massacre, an equally awful event in which FBI agents incinerated the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, after a two-month siege. Some 80 people perished in the blaze at Waco, and for no more just cause than those who died in Oklahoma City.

Oddly, however, few commentators have noted that April 19 is also the date of the battles at Concord and Lexington, the first battles of the First American Revolution. On that date in 1775, 70 Minutemen took their stand against a 700-man British task-force sent by General Gage to seize their arms.

April 19 was also the date in 1943 when the courageous Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto rose up to fight the Nazis, holding out against their vastly better armed oppressors for nearly a month.

Did the perpetrators of the Oklahoma bombing have any of these events in mind when they chose April 19 for their despicable act? I do not know, but the synchronicity is eerie.

The "climate of hatred"

Since the bombing, there has been a chorus of voices from the champions of Big Government, blaming the event on "right wingers" and a vaguely-defined "climate of hatred" that is supposedly somehow the fault of Rush



NEWS photo by Ken Bush

ST. LOUIS PROTEST - Protesters against the income tax and the IRS spread across the steps of the historic Old Courthouse in downtown St. Louis to hear "IRS Buster" Jeff Dickstein, at left. The Tulsa-based attorney was the main speaker at the rally that was coordinated by the St. Louis Area Libertarians. For more on protests, see page 11.

Commentary

Limbaugh, Newt Gingrich, and anyone else who has questioned the virtues of the bloated federal government.

President Clinton correctly denounced the bombers as "evil cowards"—but where was he when equally evil and cowardly men surrounded and slaughtered the Davidians in Waco? If Clinton had promised (and delivered) just as relentless an investigation into that occurrence—prosecuting and punishing those responsible as "swiftly and surely" as he has promised to find and punish the Oklahoma City culprits—the Oklahoma tragedy might never have occurred.

For the hard, bitter truth is that an increasing number of Americans now hate and fear the Feds, seeing the ATF, the DEA, the FBI, and others as out-of-control storm troopers. These fearful (and sometimes hateful) citizens see the FedCops as agents of a neo-fascist oligarchy that has been turned loose on the land to terrorize innocent people and implement a sinister New World Order.

It is easy to dismiss these people as paranoid fringe-dwellers. But there is enough substance to their fears to lay most of the blame for the "climate of hatred" at the feet of Bill Clinton, Janet Reno, and the other smug apologists for federal thuggery. And the proposals to further "beef up" the Feds' power to investigate and intimidate everyone they disagree with will simply make matters worse. Police-state measures bring about terrorism, and vice-versa.

Renouncing violence

One of the few groups to specifically and explicitly renounce the initiation of force as a political tool is the Libertarian Party. Anyone who wishes to join the LP is required to sign an affirmation that they do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals. A few short-sighted individuals have tried to eliminate this requirement for membership, but its continued presence will serve the Libertarian Party well in the dark days of witch-hunting and scapegoating that may well lie ahead.

David Nolan is the founder of the Libertarian Party. This commentary is scheduled to appear in the current California Liberty.

LP on OK

continued from page 1

persecute liberal causes. Now, we have a liberal president demanding the power to bully conservative causes. It was wrong back then — it's still wrong today."

Dasbach also said he hoped the Oklahoma City bombing would not be used to discredit legitimate, peaceful efforts to discuss abuses of government power, and said Clinton's demand for "some discipline" in freedom of speech and association was "chilling."

"Clinton's attack on talk radio is really an attack on the First Amendment," said Dasbach. "Doesn't the president understand that by allowing citizens to freely express their opinions about the government, freedom of speech discourages violent actions like the bombing in Oklahoma City?"

"Talking about government abuses—such as the loss of innocent lives at Waco, Texas—didn't cause the distrust and fear of government we see today. Ignoring government abuses is what causes problems," he said.

Dasbach also warned about the consequences of the Omnibus Anti-Terrorism Act (S. 390 and HR 896), which may be rushed through Congress in the aftermath of Oklahoma City.

The bill would grant the president arbitrary power to declare individuals "terrorists," authorize secret trials, reverse the presumption of innocence for suspects, and allow the military to participate in law enforcement.

"The true victims of this frightening bill would be honest American citizens—not international terrorists," he said. "This bill is a license for government agencies to investigate political groups and causes almost at will." Dasbach said the Libertarian Party has joined the National Committee Against Oppressive Legislation (NCARL)

to work against the bill.

"I understand why politicians feel the need to make proposals like this," said Dasbach. "We have suffered a national tragedy — and politicians feel they have to do something, anything, to prevent it from ever happening again. But undermining our fundamental liberty is not the answer. The men, women, and children who died in Oklahoma City deserve better."

This article is a national LP news release that received a great deal of media attention.

CA chair comments

Gail Lightfoot, chair of the Libertarian Party of California, joined with people around the nation in expressing sympathy and in deploring and condemning the federal building bombing in Oklahoma City.

"The Libertarian Party of California and its members," Lightfoot said, "extend sympathy and heartfelt sorrow to all those individuals affected by the bombing. We join in mourning the loss of life and offering solace to the survivors."

She went on to say, "As Libertarians, we especially abhor the use of force or violence in any human interaction or relationship. The incident that resulted in the death and injury of innocent children along with government employees can only be deplored and condemned."

Lightfoot added, "We hope all people will recognize the need to preserve and protect our individual civil liberties in the face of such unthinkable violence and danger to the individual."

LPVA urges cautious reaction to bombing

Expressing his sadness at the criminal bombing in Oklahoma City, the chairman of the Libertarian Party of Virginia recently wrote to Virginia's U.S. senators to caution them about reacting too severely in the crime's aftermath. In particular, he reminded the senators of the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of freedom against unreasonable searches and seizures in the Fourth Amendment.

Writing to Sens. Charles S. Robb and John Warner, LPVA Chairman Richard Sincere said:

"We are all disturbed and saddened by the criminal bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City last week. The United States has, by and large, been secure from such terrorist acts, a blessing that distinguishes our land from many other countries.

"I write to you today to urge you to resist any efforts, based on this single, isolated incident, to circumscribe the fundamental Constitutional rights of Americans. Do not allow the emotions of the moment to overcome your duty to be deliberative and cautious.

"In particular, as you consider S. 390 and H.R. 896, also known as 'The Omnibus Counter-Terrorism Act,' please keep in mind this text, Article IV of the Bill of Rights, which reads:

"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches

and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.'

"We should not allow misplaced fear to coerce us to overturn these basic human rights.

"You and your colleagues in the House and Senate are under severe pressure to 'do something.' As you search for 'something to do,' it will be valuable to repeat the words of Benjamin Franklin, who said: 'They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.'"

Sincere said he looks forward to receiving a firm, clear response from Warner and Robb.

The Libertarian Party is one of the three largest political parties in the United States. Libertarian Party members must state in writing that they oppose the initiation of force to attain political or social goals. The party has elected hundreds of its members to state and local office throughout the country.

For more information about the Libertarian Party and its activities in Virginia, please call (toll-free) 1-800-619-1776, or write to P.O. Box 17474, Arlington, VA 22216. E-mail may be sent to lpva@aol.com.

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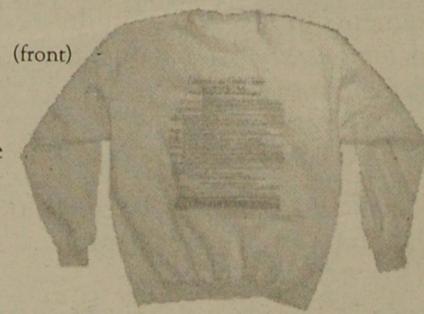
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The Bill of Rights is under attack from the right and the left today. The left wants to restrict freedom of expression by limiting "incorrect" political speech and by censoring the Internet. The right is trying to chip away at the rights of the accused. Together they have conspired with the President to deprive you of your second amendment rights.

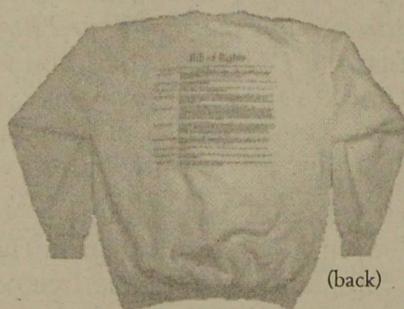
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A friend of mine spent years building up his successful gold coin business. He was unpleasantly surprised one day by a visit from two IRS agents.

They complained that some of his customers were not paying taxes on their gold profits. They demanded detailed records of everything his clients bought. They wanted to know what type of cars they drove, if they wore expensive watches, and the addresses of girlfriends. The IRS also ordered him to secretly tape conversations with his clients, following IRS scripts.

My friend was outraged. The IRS' demands went far beyond the requirements of law and plain human decency. My friend told the IRS to get out of his offices.

Guns drawn, government agents took over his offices.

Nothing happened for four months. Then one morning my friend came to work to find his employees and customers held at gunpoint. Customers were ordered to leave; employees were told to cooperate. These government thugs proceeded to ransack my friend's offices.

Without charging him with any crime, they opened safes, confiscated his gold inventory, seized his business records, froze his bank accounts, and sealed his offices.

Every computer file was examined.

My friend was out of business, but that was only the beginning. Government experts poured over every file in his computers and located every asset he owned.

Three months later, the IRS in-

formed my friend he had made mistakes on some of his IRS and SEC paperwork. These were technical violations of the law, minor paperwork errors anyone could easily make. But that didn't stop the IRS from seizing everything he owned.

If my friend had read my book, 90% of his assets would have been safe.

There's no way to come out of a confrontation like this with the government 100% unscathed. But if my friend had read my new book, *How to Keep the IRS and Other Snoops Out of Your Phone, Fax and Computer*, most of his assets would have remained anonymous and safe. And the IRS just wouldn't have had the information they needed to threaten him with criminal prosecution.

What happened to my friend in the gold business could easily happen to you. Government agents now operate with little regard for the law. The assets of thousands of innocent people are seized every week. But government agents aren't omnipotent. If they can't read your computer records, listen to your calls, or locate your assets are, they can't seize them.

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Affiliates

States getting new candidates and officers

California

• **Kate O'Brien**, newly elected Region 41 chair, was recently appointed to the Menlo Park Arts Commission by the city council. O'Brien's duties will include making recommendations to the city council regarding displays of public art, making decisions regarding arts programs for adults and children, and making spending decisions. Part of the job description includes adopting a "pet" project, which O'Brien said probably will be something along the lines of voluntary funding or First Amendment versus public funding issues.

• **Lawrence Goldberg** reports that there are now 23 new racks out on the streets for *California Liberty*—17 in Long



National pulse

News from the states

Beach, four in Sacramento, and one each in Gold Country and Central Valley. Initial reports of distribution are encouraging. There are still 77 racks available for placement. For information, contact Goldberg at 818-557-0901.

Delaware

Rudy Alfonso, an LP member, ran for the Red Clay Consolidated School Board in a mid-May election. No returns were avail-

able at presstime. Alfonso is a 38-year-old engineer and veteran of the U.S. Navy. He campaigned on "eliminating the educators' tenure system, implementing pay for performance (merit pay), holding down spending, emphasizing fiscal responsibility and accountability, reducing the dropout rate, and improving SAT scores."

Idaho

The state party is planning on setting up outreach booths at the three major state fairs this year as its involvement in Project TimesTwo, the national party's 1995 membership drive. Coordinators for the fair booths are **Peter Hull**, **Joe Rohner**, and **Chris Struble**.

Illinois

Robin Miller, the state party's leading vote-getter—gaining about 400,000 votes in the 1994 elections as candidate for University of Illinois Trustee—is now the state party's endorsed candidate for U.S. Senate in 1996.

The following new officers were elected recently: **Michael Ginsberg**, chair; **Michael Dixon**, northern vice chair; **Robert Johnston**, south/central vice chair; **James Boyd**, treasurer; **James Solomon**, corresponding secretary; and **David Peerenboom**, recording secretary.

Kansas

The state party recently elected the following new officers: **Dale Wilson**, chair; **Seth Warren**, vice chair; **Ena Wheeler**, secretary; and **Scott Damewood**, treasurer.

Louisiana

Baton Rouge lawyer **Michael S. Wolf** recently announced that he is a candidate for the state senate in this year's election, which will take place on Oct. 21. Wolf is a member and former chair of the LP of Louisiana, but will be running for the senate as an independent.

"I am running for the legislature to help restore our constitutional tradition of self-government and personal responsibility in Louisiana," said Wolf. "For many years most of the politicians in our country and their ill-informed supporters have been leading us deeper into the folly of paternalistic government, the cruel myth that government officials, furnished with unlimited taxes and debt, can solve all our personal problems for us."

"The results of this 'government-knows-best' philosophy have been the

see **Affiliates** on page 6

OR Libertarians gaining ground

By **RICHARD P. BURKE**

This year's spring elections have brought Libertarians one of their strongest showings ever. For the first time, Libertarians defeated every Republican they ran against, making them the "spoiler candidates" for a change.

In Molalla, where LPO member Maurice Aho won a seat on the city council, Keith Swigart narrowly lost a school board race to local activist Phillip Howard. The margin of victory was a mere 61 votes in a two-way race. Nick Kirkpatrick, running for another seat on the same school board, lost his race by only 121 votes. About 3,000 votes were cast in both races.

Swigart advertised his activity in the Libertarian Party while Kirkpatrick did not. The fact that Swigart did better than Kirkpatrick in the side-by-side races suggests that LP affiliation was not a liability,

as it has sometimes been regarded in the past.

Both candidates suffered from a low voter turnout, common throughout the tri-county area. Generally, public employees were among the few constituencies that were able to mobilize their supporters on election day. While an unpleasant reality, it serves as a reminder that there is no substitute for old-fashioned legwork and organization when working for votes.

In the Beaverton School District, Daniel E. Wilson came in second among three candidates running for the Beaverton High School Local School Committee. Like Swigart, Wilson took the bold step of advertising his LP affiliation. He was not punished for it, and defeated a candidate who was both a Republican and a parent.

Thomas G. Marks, a former Republican political strategist and recent LP recruit, ran for the Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue

Board of Directors. Marks came in second among four candidates, losing by less than 800 votes out of about 20,000 cast. Marks defeated the incumbent but lost to a union-backed candidate. John Craig, a member of the LP of Greater Portland, managed the Marks campaign.

None of the four LP of Oregon races resulted in an electoral win, but no LPO candidate was "blown away" or marginalized as an "also ran." The LPO is now a real contender in local political races.

Local politics is where the LPO is getting its start as a real party: Local races will be the primary vehicle for party growth and organization during the next few election cycles. The plan is to build from the ground up, by working for liberty where politics matter most.

Richard P. Burke is the chair of the Libertarian Party of Greater Portland.

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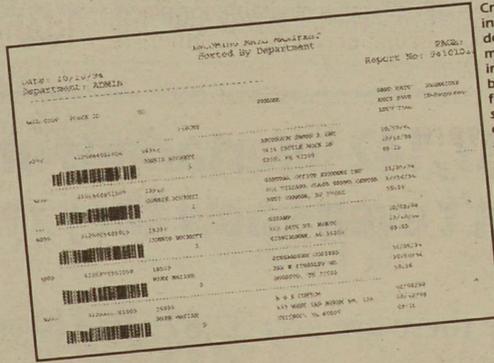
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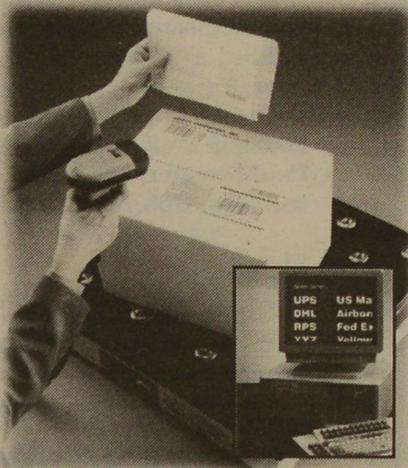
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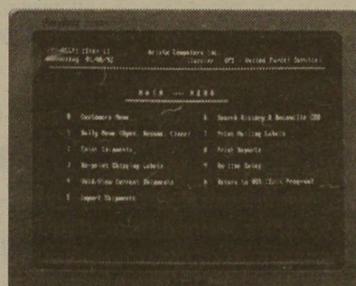
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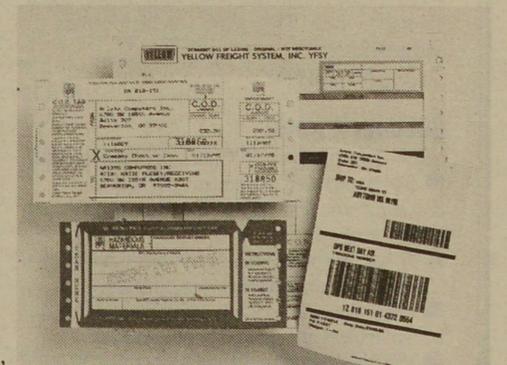
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Affiliates

continued from page 4

improvement and corruption of our society. Government at all levels operates as a giant gravy train dishing out welfare and subsidies forced from taxpayers to favored groups and individuals, while lowering the living standards of most of us," he said.

Wolf said he favors "eliminating the insanity defense for criminals; reducing corporate franchise taxes, personal property taxes, occupational license taxes, and corporate income taxes; instituting a voucher program for elementary and secondary education; cutting welfare to individuals

and businesses; and preserving freedom of choice in personal affairs such as reproduction and medication."

Wolf is married to **Lessie Johnson**, a special education teacher. They have one daughter, **Elyse**. Wolf has practiced law in Baton Rouge for 22 years.

Michigan

• **Brett J. Cashman**, treasurer of the LP of Washtenaw County, was recently invited to be a member of the Superior Township Road Commission. The group is a citizen oversight commission that makes suggestions to the Township Board of Trust-

ees on issues affecting the public roads in the township. The commission helps to add citizen input into an area of local government that often creates controversy, namely on which roads the limited funds available will be spent.

"The greatest obstacle to a free society isn't the people that make up the government, but the apathy among citizens that elect those people," he said. He observed that it is easier to get people to attend a game of horseshoes than it is to attend a meeting where hundreds of thousands of their tax dollars are at stake.

• **Jon Coon**, the LP's candidate for U.S. Senate last year, has begun campaigning

for 1996. Coon has announced that he is a candidate for state representative in District 24. The district comprises Southgate, Riverview, Wyandotte, and southern Allen Park.

Coon received a great deal of public attention and support in his campaign last year. Next year he will face a five-term incumbent liberal Democrat. According to the Coon campaign, the Republicans have "virtually written off this district. . . A vote for the Republican candidate, who will be severely underfunded and get zero party support, will be a 'wasted vote.'"

"We have so much more going for us now than we did in the early stages of the [U.S.] Senate race—a virtual army of volunteers, thousands of people who support Jon, a large contributor base, and a campaign staff that is second to none," according to a campaign flyer.

For more information, contact The Committee to Elect Jon Coon, P.O. Box 278, Hazel Park, MI 48030, or call 800-JON-COON.

• LP member **Robert W. Toepfer**, a 35-year-old automotive designer, has announced that he is running for the Warren City Council in the September primary election. Warren, a working class city just north of Detroit, is the third-largest city in Michigan.

A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Toepfer said his intent is to bring a libertarian perspective to the mostly left-liberal policies that have governed Warren for generations. Toepfer was active in the Jon Coon campaign for U.S. Senate last year.

For more information, call Campaign Manager **David Culver** at 810-758-0208.

• A new state party affiliate has been formed: the Kalamazoo-Calhoun LP. Officers include **Phil Folkler**, chair; **Paul Kriner**, vice chair; **D. Flatt**, secretary; and **Doug Houts**, treasurer.

Minnesota

In late March, the state party completed the necessary requirements to become certified a "minor political party" in the state.

The state party recently elected the following new officers: **Charles Test**, chair; **Paul Streeter**, vice chair; **Caryn Cohen**, secretary; **Bob Kuhn**, treasurer.

Nevada

• Libertarian Sparks City Councilman
see **Affiliates** on page 18

There are over 7,687,142 libertarians in America — and most of them don't even know they're libertarians.

— Times/Mirror 1994 nationwide survey

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CO governor picks LP over GOP on radio

BY LARRY HOFFENBERG

Colorado's two-term Democratic Gov. Roy Romer scorned the Republican Party on April 11 by announcing he would sooner be a Libertarian than a Republican.

The governor was making his regular monthly talk radio appearance on "The Mike Rosen Show" (KOA 850 am, also simulcast on a statewide radio network). At about 10:15 a.m., the standard banter took a curious turn:

Rosen: Gov. Romer, I saw in the news today another Democrat congressman, I think this is the third member of Congress now, has switched over to the Republican Party. Do you feel like making any kind of announcement this morning?

Romer: No, I don't, I don't, I . . .

Rosen: All right, I just wanted to give you the opportunity. If you were in the mood, this would be a good place. Have you been considering the switch?

Romer: Oh, na, no.

Rosen: I mean they're coming over in droves!

Romer: No. But if I were to switch, it wouldn't be to Republican, it would probably be to the (lib. . . le. . .) Libertarian Party. You know that.

Rosen: That's not bad. That's a cousin of the Republican Party.

Romer: No, I'm not considering a switch.

Over the years, Rosen and Romer have had an amicable but uneasy on-air relationship, and Rosen appeared to be taunting and provoking the governor just a tad. Rosen is a staunch Republican, but he frequently supports libertarian and quasi-libertarian viewpoints, particularly in the economic and tax arenas. Romer's unexpected retort caught Rosen off guard. Calling the Libertarians cousin to the Republicans was a pretty lame response from the normally quick-witted and sharp-tongued Rosen.

For the record, the Libertarian Party clearly does not consider itself a cousin of the Republican Party. The ideologies may be parallel on some issues, but mainstream Republicans are closer to Democrats than to Libertarians. Perhaps Rosen was alluding to the flourishing republican-libertarian wing of the GOP, inspired by the likes of State Rep. Penn Pfiffner (Lakewood) on the local level and (semiconsistently) Colorado's U.S. Sen. Hank Brown on the national scene.

Romer, a down-homesie-yet-slick-as-a-used-farm-tractor-salesman orator, clearly struggled to enunciate the word "Libertarian." Perhaps this was the first time the

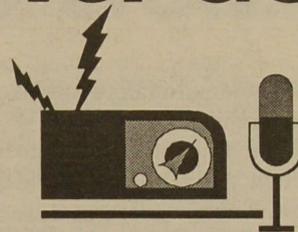
governor ever tried to speak the word "Libertarian!"

Certainly, Roy Romer is no libertarian, at least not in terms of his past voting record. He's not even close.

Matt Sugar of the governor's press office would not comment on why the governor made reference to the Libertarian Party. He would only confirm that "the governor has absolutely no plans to change his party." And no, the governor wouldn't be interested in explaining or elaborating on his

remarks.

To borrow from Mike Rosen's own quip regarding Ben Campbell's recent defection from the Democrats, "Romer may want to join our party, but do we HAVE TO take him!?"



Who knows, maybe Roy Romer HAS had a political "religious experience." If so, we'd certainly have to welcome him to the Libertarian Party. But not until he can pass The World's Smallest Political Quiz with a libertarian score. Not until he is willing to sign the national Libertarian Party membership pledge.

And not until he's practiced saying "Lib-er-tar-i-an, Lib-er-tar-i-an, Lib-er-tar-i-an."

Larry Hoffenberg is the membership director of the LP of Colorado.

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schools which smothers diversity and discourages innovation, rent control that consumes housing, extortion through transfer payments and stifling regulation of markets are all man's political attempts to repeal the natural laws of economics and sociology, and thus of nature. The familiar results are crumbling buildings and rotting railroads, bored and uneducated students, reduced capital investment, reduced production, inflation, stagnation, unemployment and ultimately widespread resentment and unrest. Institutionalized policies such as these create increasing instability and have the power to turn a nation of conscientious producers into a private sector of impatient gamblers and a public sector of unprincipled plunderers. When the fifth wave of the fifth wave tops out, we need not ask why it has done so. Reality, again, will be forced upon us.

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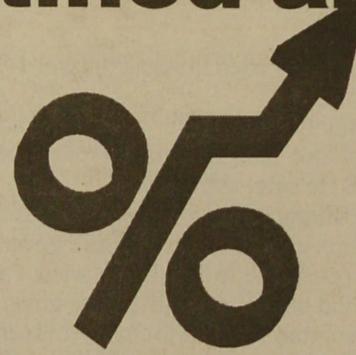
Maryland LP now certified and growing

When Maryland residents register to vote, they'll soon have a new choice. The Libertarian Party filed petitions recently with the State Administrative Board of Election Law making it the only third party filed to be legally certified.

According to state party Chair Jesse Markowitz, the group gathered more than 13,000 signatures, 30 percent more than required by law. Certification means Libertarians will automatically have their presi-

dential nominee placed on state ballots next year. It also means that all voter registration forms will now carry the Libertarian Party option besides the Democratic and Republican parties.

Under a new federal law, people may register to vote when they get their drivers' licenses. New voters under the Motor Voter Law are rejecting both major parties. In February 18.8 percent of voters registered at MVA offices rejected the two big parties. That compares with 9.6 percent of the 2.4 million Maryland voters now registered as



independents.

According to Libertarian Party of Maryland Secretary Susan Gaztanaga of Balti-

more, party membership is growing at a rapid pace. "Membership went up 25 percent since the first of the year. With the Motor Voter option plus our new growth, we're excited about the future," said Gaztanaga.

"After a hundred years of bigger government coming from the two big parties, the people see it's time to get back to the basics," Markowitz added.

For more information about the Libertarians in Maryland, call toll free 800-657-1776 or e-mail MarylandLP@aol.com.

Bad new AL access law

The Alabama Libertarian Party (ALP) submitted 23,000 signatures to the secretary of state on May 1, to gain ballot access for 1995. That's the good news.

The bad news is that three days later, the Alabama House passed a bill, by a vote of 89-6, that increases petition requirements for both third parties and independent candidates from 1 percent of the last gubernatorial vote to 5 percent of the last gubernatorial vote. The bill already has passed the state senate committee.

"This is just terrible," said Richard Winger, editor of Ballot Access News and nationally recognized ballot access expert. "The bill increases statewide petitions from 12,000 signatures to 60,000."

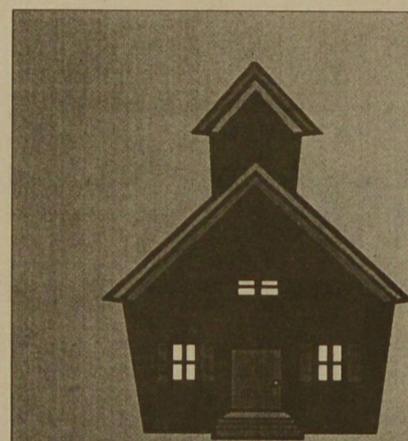
According to Bob Burns, LP state treasurer, the state party "spent \$22,700 since February to collect the 23,000 raw signatures that are needed to ensure that 12,000 are valid."

The Libertarian Party faces the increased access requirement for 1996, and retaining ballot status without the petitioning is very difficult in Alabama.

"Alabama has the most difficult ballot retention laws in the country," said Burns. "A party must obtain 20 percent of a statewide vote to retain ballot status for the next election. The next-highest requirement in any state is 10 percent, and only three do that."

"No reasonable argument can be made that the Alabama ballot is overcrowded," said Burns. Alabama was one of nine states in 1994 that did not have a third party or independent candidate running for statewide office. In fact, "According to Bob Belcher of United We Stand, the recent elections had 47 of 105 (45 percent) House and 16 of 35 (46 percent) Senate seats unopposed by even a Democrat or Republican," said Burns.

"It is obvious that the Democrats and Republicans want to close the Alabama ballot to all views except their own," Burns said.



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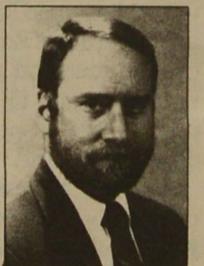


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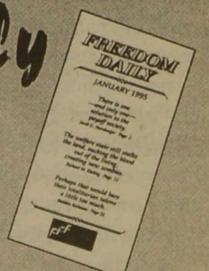
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Clark censured by LP National Committee

At its quarterly meeting in April in Phoenix, the Libertarian Party National Committee (LNC) voted 9-3, with two abstentions, to censure committee member and former LP candidate Tamara Clark.

The censure stemmed from information Clark provided the national committee concerning expenditure of funds the national party had provided for Clark's 1994 Nevada state senate campaign.

Last year, the LP contributed \$4,500 to Clark's campaign, based on her very strong showing in a similar 1992 campaign. After the contribution had been received, Clark

notified LP Campaign Committee Chair Ron Crickenberger that she believed her race had become unwinnable and that she was going to drop out of the race.

In August, Clark agreed to turn over any usable assets to another LP candidate and agreed to account for all funds that had already been spent. However, the assets were not turned over and an accounting was not provided until the December LNC meeting. Several national committee members raised questions about the accounting (Clark's filing with the Nevada secretary of state), the expenditures, and Clark's fail-

ure to turn over the assets.

"The issue of accountability to our contributors was the major concern expressed by the Libertarian National Committee," said Steve Dasbach, LP national chair. "Our contributors have the right to expect that the LNC account for its expenditures and investigate when questions about those expenditures are raised."

Crickenberger instituted an investigation into the information provided by Clark, and he presented a report to the full national committee in April. Crickenberger found that the report Clark had provided to

the LNC had never been filed with the Nevada secretary of state, that she had raised significantly more money than she had reported to the LNC, and that the vendor addresses she provided the committee were false.

Following a review of Crickenberger's report, Clark admitted that both the vendor names and addresses she provided to the national committee were false. She claimed that she provided the false information because the people she had done business with did not have business licenses in Nevada, and she believed that if she provided those names to the committee, political enemies she had made in the state would take action against her associates.

Clark also made clear that she would not, under any circumstances, provide the actual vendor names and addresses to anyone. Shortly thereafter, the committee voted to censure Clark (see censure motion below) for providing false information. Since Clark refused to provide the committee with accurate vendor names and addresses, the committee was unable to determine if any misuse of funds occurred.

"There is no question that Tamara has done some of the best campaigning the party has ever seen, but there is also no question her actions in this case are inexcusable," said Crickenberger.

In order to ensure proper accountability and to avoid similar occurrences in the future, Crickenberger is modifying the forms used by candidates to request funding from the national party. Candidates who receive national funding will be required to agree to provide the committee with an accurate accounting of how funds received were actually used and to file accurate campaign finance reports as required by state and federal law.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

The following is the actual wording of the Libertarian National Committee's censure motion:

"Whereas Tamara Clark has deliberately supplied false information to the National Committee,

"Whereas she has purported this information to be her sworn statement of truth,

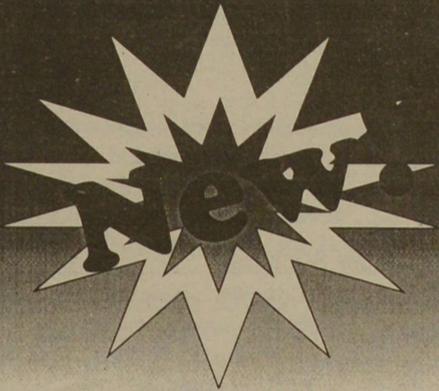
"The National Committee does hereby censure Tamara Clark for this action."

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The Libertarian National Committee has incorporated as the Libertarian National Committee, Inc. This action was taken after an extensive investigation and on advice of counsel for the purpose of limiting liability and providing a corporate structure for future business arrangements such as the purchase of insurance. Many political action committees as large as the Libertarian National Committee are incorporated. The bylaws of the LNC Inc. are the bylaws of the Libertarian Party, and the officers and members of the LNC Inc. are the officers of the Libertarian Party and those elected members of the LNC as provided for in the bylaws of the Libertarian Party.

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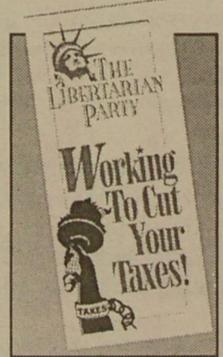
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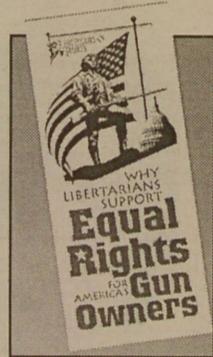
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- **Libertarianism in One Lesson** by David Bergland. 126 pages, 6th edition. The classic, critically praised introductory work about Libertarianism. Cost: \$8 each or 5 for \$25
- **LP Platform.** 24 pages, dark purple ink. The 1994 platform of the LP, with the "official" party positions on individual rights and civil order, trade, the economy, domestic concerns, and foreign affairs. Cost: Sample: \$1 or \$50 for 100
- **LP Fact Sheets:** 2-page LP history (political highlights from 1971 to 1993) and 2-page bibliography (over 150 books about Libertarianism). Sold as a set only. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100
- **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. An excellent overview of Libertarian philosophy, covering politics, free markets, social issues, and more! Cost: \$1 each
- **World's Smallest Political Quiz cards.** Perfect for "politically homeless" booths, and an excellent low-cost hand-out! Cost: \$1 for 100

Tools for Campaigning

- **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Cost: \$1 each
 - **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk. Cost: \$3 each
 - **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party—Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each: general, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, taxes. Cost: \$3 for set
 - **Libertarian TV Ads:** A videotape compilation of TV ads by LP candidates, from State Representative to President. (For information only; not broadcast quality.) Cost: \$20.00 each
 - **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning.** 32-page handbook written especially for LP candidates. Cost: \$3.00 each
- ## Buttons
- Cost: All buttons are \$1 each or 75¢ for 5 or more.
- **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776
 - **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776
 - **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-682-1776

Windbreaker

■ **High-quality, lined windbreaker,** blue with LP logo and party name on front. Available in M, L, XL. (Specify on order form.) Cost: \$25 each

Bumperstickers

- Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100
- **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; LP address and phone # below.)
 - **Enough is Enough/Vote Libertarian** (Red, white, & blue.)
 - **Vote Libertarian/800-672-1776** (Blue & white.)
 - **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)
- ## Large & Small Banners
- **Small Banner.** (12" x 5"). White on blue. One line: "Libertarian Party." Cost: \$25 each
 - **Large Banner.** (18" x 5"). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party," second line your choice (specify on order form): ★ 800-682-1776 ★ Defenders of Liberty ★ Freedom is the American Way. Cost: \$40 each

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_____	Brochure: "What Happened To Your Family Budget?"
_____	Brochure: "Solving the Health Care Crisis."
_____	Brochure: "Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners"
_____	Brochure: "Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again"
_____	Brochure: "Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy"
_____	Flyer: "Which Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____	Flyer: \$1,000,000 Bill
_____	Liberty Today tabloid newspaper (New 4th ed.)
_____	1994 LP Program
_____	1994 LP Platform
_____	LP Fact Sheets. 2-page LP history & 2-page bibliography. (Offered as a package only.)
_____	World's Smallest Political Quiz
_____	Libertarianism in One Lesson book
_____	America's Libertarian Heritage booklet

Bumper Stickers

_____	Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian
_____	Enough is Enough/Vote Libertarian
_____	Vote Libertarian/1-800-682-1776
_____	I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!

Buttons

_____	Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian
_____	VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-682-1776
_____	Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Windbreaker

_____	Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL.
-------	--

Tools for Campaigning

_____	LP Statue of Liberty logo master
_____	LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
_____	Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.
_____	Libertarian TV Ads
_____	Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning manual.

Large & Small Banners

_____	Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" h x 5" w)
_____	Please check preferred second line:
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> "Defenders of Liberty" <input type="checkbox"/> "Freedom is the American Way" <input type="checkbox"/> "1-800-682-1776"
_____	Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" h x 5" w).

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Tax Protest Day

Libertarians get warm reception from public

Libertarian Party members across the country participated in annual tax protests in mid-April. Many members report that public response was particularly positive this year, reflecting the Libertarian mood of the American people, which is finally being noted by the media.

This year's pair of tax protests organized by the Libertarian Party of Clark County (LPCC), NV, were huge successes, bringing the Libertarian message to thousands of Las Vegas Valley residents and garnering extensive media attention.

On April 15, the LPCC led a midday protest at the local IRS district headquarters. During the course of the protest, nearly 100 Libertarians and sympathizers participated. Chris Azzaro, LPCC chair, said, "This was, undoubtedly, the most successful tax protest Las Vegas has ever seen."

On the following Monday, April 17, the LPCC was joined by some members of the tax protest group CATS, led by Gary Wood, the 1994 LP candidate for Congress, for a seven-hour protest at a postal service branch office.

"An enormous quantity of literature including more than 2,000 LP pamphlets and '\$1 million bills' were distributed to late filing taxpayers," Azzaro said. "The taxpayers loved our 'funny money.'"

For Monday's protest, considerable groundwork had been laid, according to Azzaro. The national LP provided a detailed statement outlining the Constitutional guarantees and court decisions providing a legal basis for the protest, and a statement expressing approval of the protest was obtained from the legal department of the Postal Service headquarters in Washington, DC. Advance notice of the protest, together with copies of the documents in question, were sent to the Las Vegas postmaster and the office of the Clark County sheriff.

Despite all this preparation, the event at the post office was almost aborted by postal officials, who indicated that they had been extremely displeased by the belligerent attitudes of past protest leaders. However, after extensive negotiations, Azzaro was able to obtain permission to proceed with the protest. The seven-hour event turned out to be a friendly and positive activity. Virtually all of the late filers showed a positive response to the literature distribution, and the *Las Vegas Sun* gave good coverage to the event, including a photo on the front page.

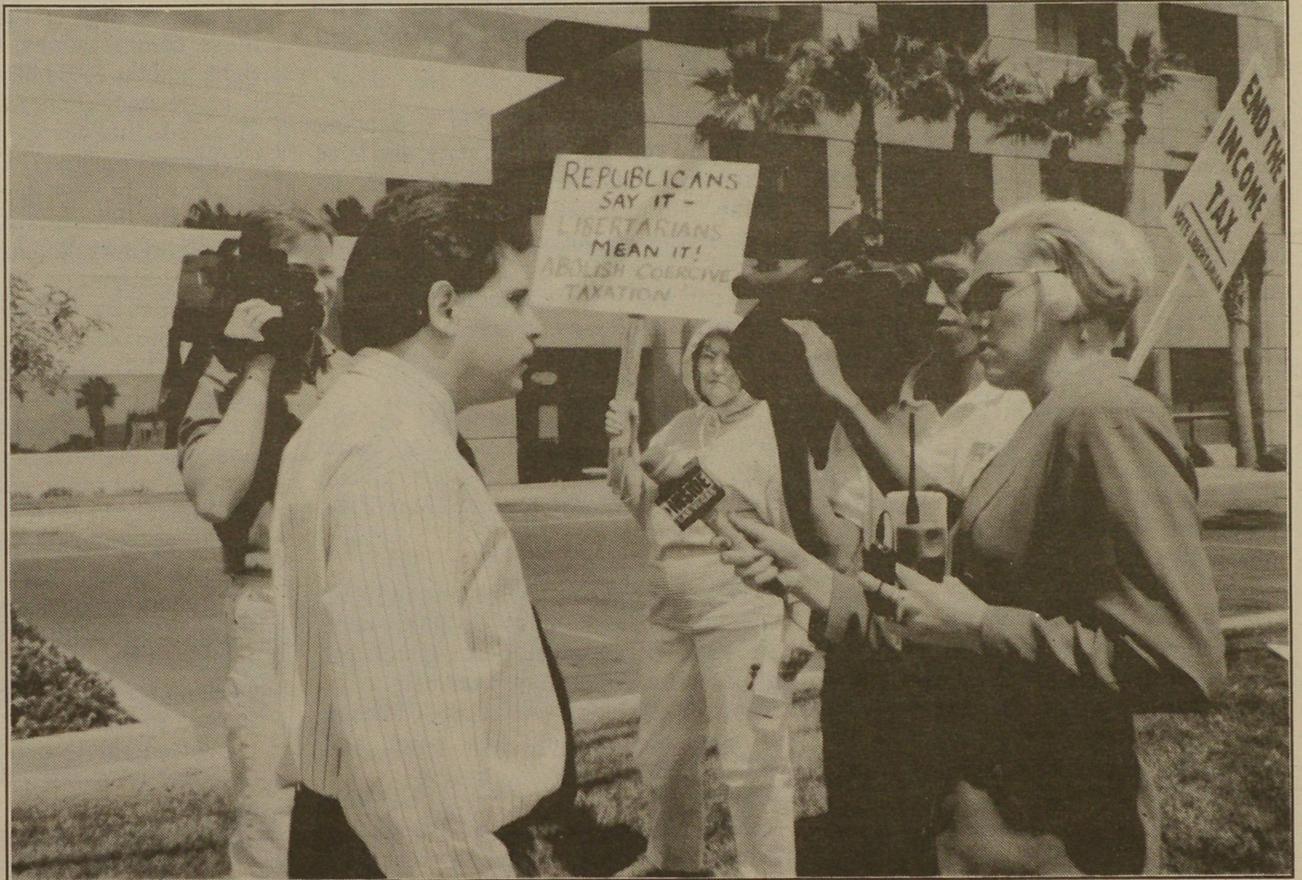
"Both protests provided ample evidence that the Libertarians in Clark County can make a difference," said Azzaro. "Both the media and the authorities demonstrated a willingness to be cooperative, if approached in a friendly and respectful manner. "The enthusiasm and dedication of the Libertarians who helped prepare for, and participated in, these two events was inspiring and humbling."

Azzaro also said that similar events are planned leading up to the 1996 elections. "If we are given a chance to follow through on these plans, there is no reason why we cannot see at least one Libertarian candidate elected to a major office in Nevada in 1996."

In Cincinnati, a successful TEA (Taxed Enough Already) party took place on April 17 on the city's Fountain Square. The event included speeches and appearances by Gary Sweeney, LP candidate for city council, dressed in a Revolutionary War costume, and Everett DeJager, dressed as George Washington. LP members Carolyn DeJager, Jim Berns, and Steve Schulte passed out tea bags and copies of the World's Smallest Political Quiz.

In Minneapolis, Libertarians made use of the LP's \$1 million bills at their six-hour protest at the city's main post office.

"In the time it takes us to hand this fake money to a taxpayer," said former state chair Caryn Cohen, "the federal government will spend \$1 million in real money.



TAX DAY PROTEST - LPCC Chair Chris Azzaro explains the Libertarian Party position on taxes to a local television news crew. Libertarian protesters received a great deal of media coverage across the country.

We think these \$1 million bills are a graphic way to show taxpayers how their money is being wasted by government."

"Taxes are just the method politicians use to steal money from us," said Cohen. "Only the Libertarian Party is working to change that."

In Missouri, St. Louis Area Libertarians (SLAL) conducted four events to mark the LP's opposition to the income tax.

At its monthly meeting on April 14, SLAL brought in two guest speakers, constitutional/tax attorney Jeff Dickstein and tax paralegal Vern Holland, both of Tulsa, OK, for an "IRS Expose."

Both speakers arrived early in the day and appeared on various radio talk and new shows. The advanced publicity resulted in a packed auditorium. Since about 80 percent of those attending were not LP members, "the evening proved to be an effective outreach tool and public relations coup with the public and with area journalists," said Charles Kempf, SLAL president and state party vice chair. "The entire effort was coordinated by longtime Libertarian activist Ken Bush."

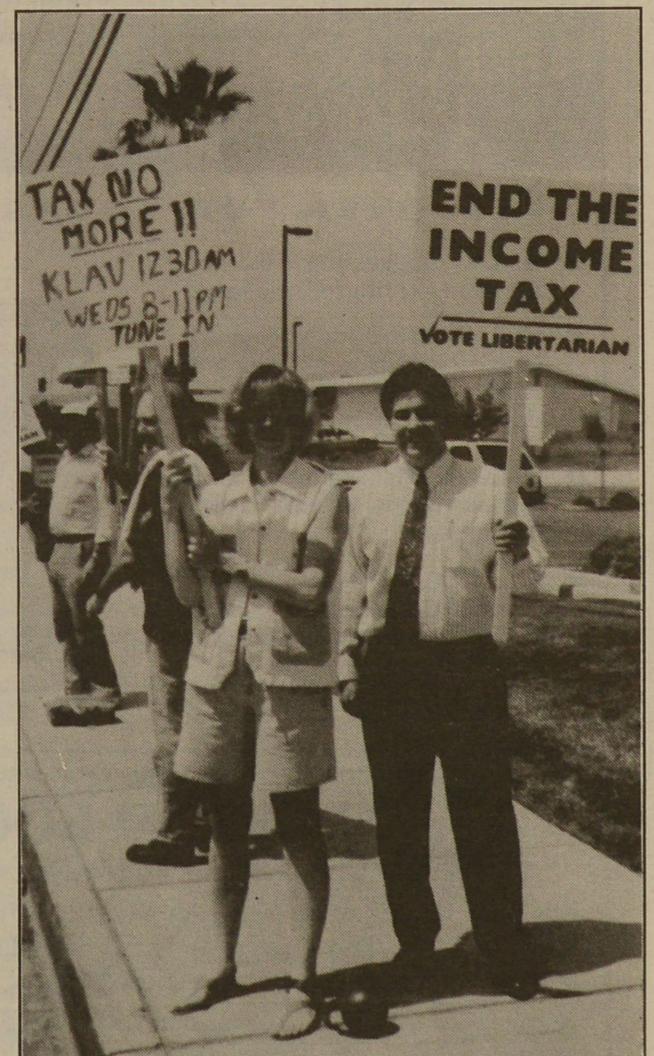
Bush, emcee of the event, reminded the audience that only the Libertarian Party has specific proposals to stop IRS abuse and abolish the income tax. Pointing to the guest speakers, Bush quipped, "Would Democrats or Republicans put on a meeting like this?" The audience laughed and applauded.

On April 15, the SLAL held a "March of Crimes" outside the Federal Reserve Bank in downtown St. Louis. The protest started at 10:40 a.m., and the crowd carried signs such as "Abolish the Income Tax," "Just Say 'No' to IRS," and "Lower Your Taxes—Vote Libertarian."

Bush, who also coordinated this event, noticed that one protester was confined to a wheelchair. Bush went back to his car and made a sign that the man eagerly held in his lap. The sign read—"Crippled By The IRS."

Following the protest, another rally was held at the historic Old Courthouse, with many guest speakers including Steve Palesch of United We Stand America, Steve

see **Protest** on page 12



NEVADA PROTEST - Chris Azzaro, right, and Michelle Carter, who is wearing the ball and chain of the income tax, were among the 100 Libertarian protesters who gathered in Las Vegas in mid-April to highlight Tax Protest Day.

Every day could be Tax Freedom Day

According to the Tax Foundation, a non-profit Washington, DC, research group, the average American worked 126 days this year to pay their federal, state, and local taxes, meaning "Tax Freedom Day" fell on Saturday, May 6.

The Tax Foundation said taxes consume 34.4 percent of the typical worker's gross income, with federal taxes grabbing 22.6 percent and state and local taxes taking an 11.8 percent bite.

"That's a higher percentage than the typical American spends on food, clothing, and housing—combined!" noted Bill Winter, LP director of communications. "Is it any wonder that Americans think their taxes are too high?"

But there is a solution, said Winter.

"It's simple: Vote Libertarian. The Libertarian Party is working every day to slash taxes and let Americans keep more of what they earn. In fact, no elected Libertarian officeholder has ever voted to raise taxes," he said.

"The Libertarian Party believes that if government's role were limited to protecting our lives, rights, and property, then America would prosper and thrive as never before. And, with less government and lower taxes, we could keep more of what we earn," he said.

"After all, who can spend your money better: You or the politicians?" asked Winter.

Other interesting tax statistics:

☞ Citizens for an Alternative Tax System estimated that it takes six billion hours and costs more than \$600 billion a year for individuals and industry to calculate and file their taxes.

☞ Merrill Lynch said that "depending on where you live, federal, state, and local taxes can consume nearly half your income." For example, the investment company estimated that individuals in the top income bracket in New York City can pay 47.1 percent of their income in taxes; in California 46.2 percent; and in Massachusetts 46.8 percent.

☞ Add the cost of regulation and the deficit, and the average American works until at least July 19 for the government, estimated the research group, Americans for Tax Reform.

☞ Despite all the money you now pay in taxes, the government continues to spend even faster. According to Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-UT, the national debt continues to increase \$9,600 every second, \$576,000 per minute, \$34,560,000 per hour, and \$829,440,000 per day.

☞ A 1994 Associated Press poll found that 95 percent of Americans think the federal government wastes "a great deal" or "quite a lot" of money.

Cato study finds IRS ineffective, intrusive

This year some 40 million Americans will clash with the Internal Revenue Service. In a new Cato Institute study, "Why You Can't Trust the IRS," author Daniel J. Pilla says that in a rising number of these confrontations, the taxpayer is right, and the \$7.6 billion IRS is wrong.

In the study (Policy Analysis no. 222) Pilla finds that despite a doubling of its budget over the past 10 years and a nearly 20 percent increase in enforcement personnel, the IRS is increasingly incapable of administering and enforcing the nation's tax law.

Pilla cites the following as among the reasons the IRS can no longer be trusted.

- The IRS telephone taxpayer assistance program provides about 8.5 million Americans the wrong answer to even the most basic inquiries about tax laws.

- This year roughly 10 million Americans will receive correction notices from the IRS assessing about \$4 billion. About half of those notices will be erroneous.

- About 40 percent of the revenues the IRS collects through penalty assessments are abated when citizens challenge the penalties. In 1993 taxpayers were overcharged \$5 billion.

- A General Accounting Office audit

of the IRS in 1993 found widespread evidence of financial malfeasance and gross negligence. The IRS could not account for 64 percent of its congressional appropriation.

Pilla says the IRS fails to meet the standards of financial accountability and diligence that it imposes on the citizenry. Since the IRS can no longer adequately police itself, it can no longer be trusted with the authority to police individual American businesses and taxpayers.

The time has come to abolish our complicated, intrusive and ineffective income tax system. Never before has the political will and popular mandate converged in support for structural overhaul of our tax system. Both politicians and the public are now calling for a simplified, fair, and effective tax collection system. Pilla says policymakers should act now—abolish the IRS and replace it with a national sales tax.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

The study can be ordered for \$4 from Cato Institute Books at 800-767-1241.

Selected studies will soon be available through the Cato Institute's Web site: URL <http://www.cato.org/main/home.html>

Protest

continued from page 11

Lechner of Citizens Against Government Waste, and LaDonna Higgins and Brad Ems of the St. Louis County LP.

On April 17, local Libertarians gathered at the main post office in St. Louis. For the 10th year, LP members burned real 1040 tax forms and a giant replica of the 1040 form at 10:40 a.m.

"We passed out the national LP counterfeit currency that had anti-tax information on the back," said Bush. "The fake currency was a big hit here. The national LP office is to be congratulated for the idea."

Later that day, Libertarians returned to the post office for a six-hour "Honk If You Hate The IRS" protest.

"Horns blared all evening!" said Jim Higgins, a longtime LP member and local congressional candidate last year.

News coverage was extensive for all the St. Louis events, and in fact, the LP was mentioned three times in a front page article in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* the following day.

Not all Libertarians found the tax protest activity enjoyable, however.

In Spokane County, WA, about a dozen LP members showed up at the main post office and distributed more than 1,000

pieces of LP literature. While the taxpayers seemed pleased to have the LP presence, postal officials, who called in the Spokane police, were not. LP protesters were warned that anyone who stepped off the public sidewalk and onto USPS property would be in trouble. By contrast, an ice cream vendor handing out treats was allowed free run of the place.

In Columbus, OH, police officers used force in an attempt to stop LP tax protesters from passing out anti-tax and anti-government literature at the main post office.

Brian Ryman, an LP candidate for the state legislature, was arrested at 11 p.m. on charges of criminal trespassing as he handed out LP flyers to passing motorists.

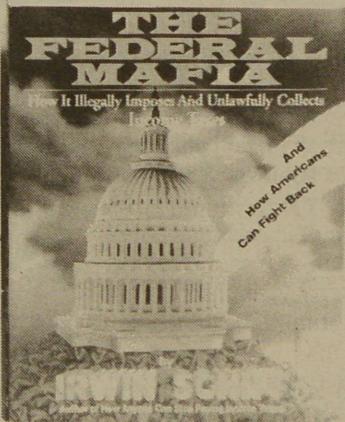
The peaceful rally began at 5 p.m., and Libertarians passed out thousands of pieces of literature without incident until later in the evening when officers forced the protesters to stand behind barricades and stop handing out flyers. Ryman was arrested when he refused to obey the authorities' orders and continued to dispense LP literature to the receptive audience, according to LP member Dena Bruedigam.

Ryman was later released on his own recognizance, but the LP of Ohio is pursuing a full investigation into the matter.

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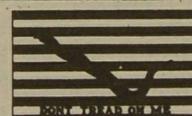
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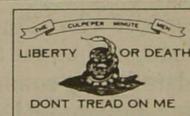
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Connecticut

Former GOP official now running as Libertarian

The Libertarian Party of Connecticut has endorsed George Eggert, former two-term selectman, as its candidate for Bethlehem's Board of Selectmen. Eggert, who with his wife, Mary Ann, recently changed party affiliation to Libertarian, is the latest in a series of defections to the LP.

"All along I've believed in freedom of choice, personal responsibility, and limited government," said Eggert. "The old parties tragically just give lip service to these concepts. I've seen how active the Libertarian Party of Connecticut has been of late and have found their views closely mirror mine. I'm excited to be their candidate for selectman in Bethlehem this fall."

Eggert's public service, in addition to being elected First Selectman from 1987-1991, includes a string of electoral wins during his 10-year stint on Bethlehem's Board of Selectmen. He also has chaired the town's Conservation Commission and Planning Commission.

A certified police officer, Eggert is principal of Carbon Products, a manufacturer of electrical motor components, and a 30-year resident of Bethlehem.

"George brings a great breadth of public service to our party," said Carl Vassas, state party chair. "He seeks to open up the political process to all members of his community, and his personal, caring style will make him a successful Libertarian candi-

date this fall. We welcome those like Mr. and Mrs. Eggert who have tired of the professional politicians of both 'old' parties to learn more about the LP—the Party of Principle."

The high-profile defection is part of an ongoing Libertarian surge in Connecticut, according to Mark Tuniewicz, state party director of communications. "Nationally,

the number of registered Libertarians is at the highest level in our 24-year history. Voter dissatisfaction with the two-party system is driving our growth, as is the appeal of a political party based on the philosophy of live and let live.

"Libertarian strength draws from the activist core of both old parties. For example, former Republicans agree with our

stands on limited government generally, self-reliance, and free markets. Many former Democrats who have defected to the Libertarians cite our firmly pro-choice stand on reproductive rights, our unflinching defense of the Bill of Rights, and opposition to government restrictions on the property or personal lives of individuals," Tuniewicz said.

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Eating Will Kill You 7

O'er Amber Waves of Axles 10

GOPBS 11

We Hold These Obligations To Be Self-Evident 12

It's Easy Being Green 13

Blather.....2
Other Blather.....2
The Art Gallery.....8
Rants.....15

NASA - To Boldly Spend What No Man Has Spent Before

There are few spectacles that can match the scheduled launching of a NASA (National Aeronautics and Something Administration) space shuttle. Hearts race and sweat beads as the countdown winds its way down to zero. Then, like a well-oiled machine, the launch is spectacularly delayed as the engines are shut down in a dazzling display of steam. The crowds grow quiet, their stare transfixed on the shuttle as it sits majestically on the launch pad, a glorious testimony to the awesome power of gravity.

Of course, occasionally the shuttle actually lifts off, forcing one's breast to swell with patriotic pride, especially when it doesn't explode killing everyone aboard.

Night launches are the most spectacular since after the flight has been postponed, all the launch pad lights are left on, which looks really pretty in the dark. When the shuttle does lift off at night it casts a brilliant light that can be seen for miles. To help you get a better idea of just what that looks like, picture how bright it is when someone shines a standard hand-held flashlight in your eyes, only instead of just the one flashlight, imagine that tens of thousands of tons of rocket propellant are being ignited at the same time.

(Continued on Page 3)

1998 LP convention

The Libertarian National Committee received no acceptable bids for the 1998 national convention.

For this reason, National Director Perry Willis has been assigned the responsibility of writing a preliminary recommendation for the 1998 convention. As always, the final decision on the site and date of the 1998 convention will be made by the Libertarian National Committee.

Recent changes in FEC regulations have made the national committee responsible for all financial reporting in convention matters. This change makes it more practical for the responsibility of the convention to fall to the national party rather than an independent contractor.



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see page 4

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Talking points

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Cliches and uninformed statements are easy to dismiss as senseless prescriptions from political outcasts and fringe ideologues. Libertarian advocates—be they candidates, state officers, speakers, pamphlet writers, or other spokespersons—may gain credibility for Libertarian ideas by presenting facts and quoting expert opinion that bolster LP positions. This column will provide the ammunition you can use to confound the skeptics and impress those searching for answers by citing mainstream publications and recognized opinion leaders (for and against individual liberty). Send in your submissions, with a clipping to verify the statement and the source, for inclusion in future issues of the NEWS.

Issue: Libertarian trends worldwide

Even in countries where centralized government has long been a way of life, the inherent superiority of the free market over its statist alternatives is becoming undeniably evident. Capitalism still has enemies in high places, but Libertarians nevertheless have reason to be encouraged by an apparent global trend in which policy makers are beginning to resist the seductive allure and superficial plausibility of collectivism.

• In the Houses of Parliament in London, a top Labor Party strategist says its goal is an 'investment-led economy.'

• Even in impoverished postcolonial Africa, as the *New York Times* quotes one leader in Accra, Ghana, 'All the talk is about floating currency, private enterprise, and getting hold of capital.'

"This is a creditors' world, an interconnected economic web where government is disciplined by markets in which private investors make the decisions. State governments can't use budget gimmicks disapproved by bond rating firms. The federal government can't easily raise taxes and spending because lenders, sniffing inflation, will bid up interest rates. Foreign countries must alter their economic and even political institutions. (The good news: Wall Street likes fair elections.) Traditional socialist parties in government and in opposition have largely given up on state ownership and instead hope to use government to increase the flow of private capital. In the post-cold war world, if you want to use the money of others, you have to satisfy them that you're doing the right thing with it.

"All this means that we are living in a world that, as Henry Kissinger noted on the 80th anniversary of the assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, looks more like the pre-1914 world than it does like the world between 1914 and the end of the cold war. Totalitarianism is gone, military forces are scaled way back, trade is crossing borders almost everywhere and capital is flowing rapidly regardless of national boundaries, as it did from the invention of the telegraph until the start of World War I. Even more freely today: Before 1914, capital was concentrated in London; now, there are lenders and investors from London to Los Angeles, Wall Street to Hong Kong, Zurich to Tokyo. If you can't borrow from

Libertarian talking points

Charles D. Poe
Editor

one lender, try another."
Michael Barone, U.S. News & World Report, Aug. 15, 1994.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

"Chile, Argentina, Colombia, and Peru now allow workers to invest their social security payroll deductions into privately managed funds. Earlier this year, the Netherlands held an initial public offering for 25 percent of the Dutch postal and telephone system. And France, long a bastion of nationalized industry, has sold off \$10.3 billion in state companies this year, including oil producer Elf Aquitaine, the nation's biggest company. All told, European countries plan to privatize some \$250 billion of assets over the next decade."

Business Week, Dec. 12, 1994.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

"All over the world, the state is under assault from individuals exercising their right to have more control over their own lives. A century ago there was a word for this. The word was *liberalism*. It might be too early to save the word itself; conservative sloganeering has turned 'liberal' into an epithet. But the idea still has power."

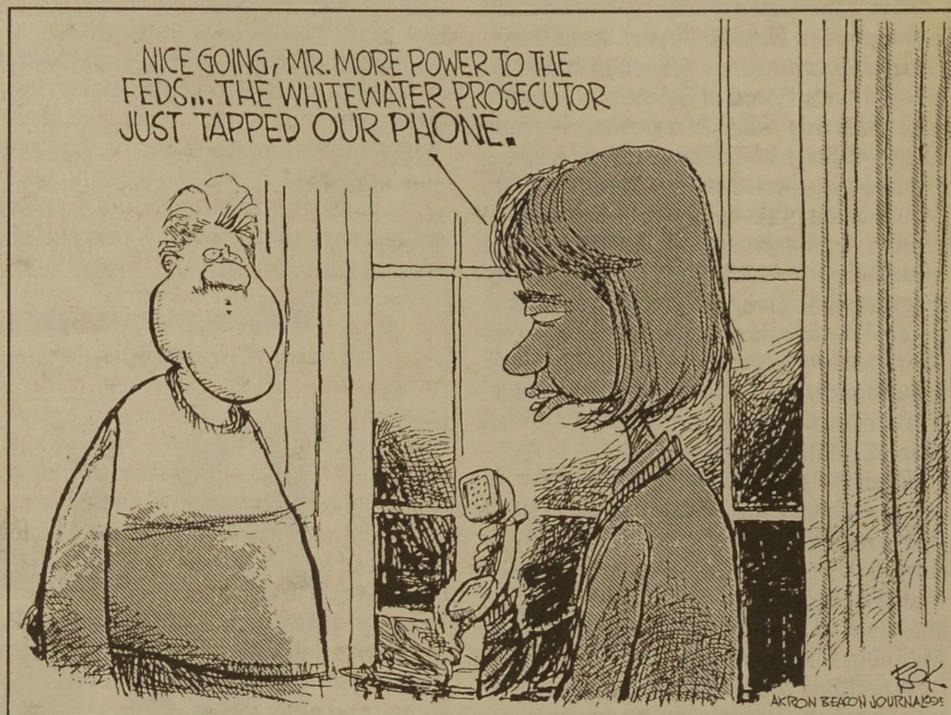
Jonathan Alter, Newsweek, Dec. 5, 1994.

Issue: The Food and Drug Administration

Unsatisfied, apparently, with the power it already has to regulate drugs, the FDA has attempted to expand the scope of its jurisdiction to nutritional supplements as well. The FDA has, however, a poor record of past performance pertaining to nutritional matters in particular and to health regulation in general. It is quite obviously more interested in exercising its bureaucratic prerogatives than in protecting the health of the American people, and its authority should be, if anything, curtailed rather than expanded.

"Until recently, orthodox physicians tended to ignore the relationship between nutrition and disease, and in this area the FDA has acted in conformity with the beliefs and interests of the medical establishment. The agency has taken the position that eating a balanced diet is sufficient for good health and dietary supplements are a waste of money. Almost everyone else now recognizes that the long-standing recommendations for a balanced diet, expressed in the government's guidelines for the 'four food groups,' were themselves unbalanced—too much animal fat and not enough fiber, whole grains, fresh vegetables, or fruit. The FDA, however, continues to regard nearly all dietary supplements as 'snake oil' and their purveyors as charlatans who should be suppressed.

"Not surprisingly, the FDA maintains



that it seeks only to protect us and that we are incompetent to make judgments about nutritional supplements on our own. In the words of FDA Commissioner David Kessler, 'The American public does not have the knowledge to make wise health care decisions. . . The FDA is the arbiter of truth. . . Trust us. We will tell you what's good for you.' Before we surrender to the tender mercies of the bureaucrats, however, we would do well to recall the agency's history of 'protecting' us from dietary mistakes.

"Consider, for example, that until the early 1970s—while heart disease was the leading cause of death in the United States—the FDA stifled advertising claims that lowering dietary fat and cholesterol would reduce the risk of heart disease. As the Federal Trade Commission dryly commented in a 1989 report, 'Now that a considerable consensus has emerged on the relationship between fat, cholesterol, and heart disease, it appears that a . . . regulatory error, resulting in considerable consumer injury, was probably made.' Indeed, had the forbidden information been disseminated more widely, hundreds of thousands of lives might have been prolonged.

"Obviously the FDA, the would-be 'arbiter of truth,' cannot get its facts straight. The record shows that the agency is incurably biased against dietary supplements and will go to any length to inhibit their use. It works incessantly to 'protect' the public against products that pose little, if any, real danger, while suppressing information that might save thousands of lives each year."

Robert Higgs, independent economist, historian, and policy analyst, in Insight, Sept. 5, 1994.

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"An FDA-instigated, several-year delay in the approval of transvenous implantable defibrillators for preventing cardiac arrests caused by ventricular fibrillation has resulted in numerous patients being unnecessarily subjected to open-heart operations, with the inevitable risks and mortality.

"Compare clinical outcomes in the U.S. with developed countries where the time for regulatory evaluation of new products is typically many years shorter. There are no current examples of diminished patient safety as a result of more efficient regulatory assessment in either Canada or Western Europe. And patients in those countries receive the benefits of new treatments much earlier than we do, even though in many cases the treatments were actually devised by U.S. physicians and corporations."

Dr. David G. Benditt, professor of medicine, University of Minnesota, in Business Week, Jan. 9, 1995.

Issue: The exclusionary rule

The Republicans who now hold a majority in the House of Representatives lost no time in retreating from whatever genuine commitment they may have had to limited government when, on Feb. 8, 1995, they passed legislation that greatly weakened existing legal restraints against unreasonable searches by federal law enforcement authorities. By abandoning the exclusionary rule the GOP has betrayed those who voted Republican because they wanted less, rather than more, government intrusion into their lives, but has at the same time done little or nothing to enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement.

"It's hard to figure out these Republicans.

"Don't they understand that a policeman storming a house without cause is a greater threat to democracy than, say, paying for school lunches for poor kids?

"The House of Representatives must not understand. It has voted to throw out most of the rules used to enforce our constitutional right to protection against unreasonable searches by federal police.

"The Senate must not understand, either. It is talking about throwing out all the safeguards against federal agents raiding our homes.

see **Talking points** on page 15

Talking points

continued from page 14

"This is frightening.

"These Republicans—led by Bill McCollum of Florida in the House and Orrin Hatch of Utah in the Senate—are trying to repeal the Fourth Amendment.

"Right now, if the government thinks you're, say, a drug dealer and wants to raid your house, it has to go to court. There, it must convince a judge—a neutral party—that it has a reliable tip or other legitimate reason to believe you're a criminal. Then it must seek a search warrant, and it must specify what it's looking for.

"If it doesn't do this, the search is in vain. If the police gather evidence improperly, that evidence will not be allowed in court. This is called the "exclusionary rule." It was established by the Supreme Court in 1914 to enforce the Fourth Amendment.

"It is this—and this alone—that stops police from kicking down doors every time they have a vague hunch, a sketchy tip, an old grudge. It is this—and this alone—that guarantees our safety and our privacy.

"The rule has worked well. Occasionally there's a celebrated case in which an obviously guilty person gets off because evidence was gathered illegally, but statistically those cases are rare. And they're a small price to pay for freedom and peace of mind—freedom from storming police, peace of mind knowing we are secure as we tuck the kids in bed.

"The police themselves aren't clamoring for change. The FBI says the exclusionary rule doesn't hamper it. E. Michael McCann, for 27 years the district attorney of Milwaukee County, WI, and the man the American Bar Association designated to testify this month against the Hatch proposal, says, 'Few cases are lost because of the Fourth Amendment and the exclusionary rule.'

"And then McCann—remember, he's a prosecutor of crooks, not a defender of them—adds:

"If I awake in the night and find a burglar in my home, I fear for the lives of my family and (for) my property. If I awake in the night and find an armed police officer illegally in my home, I fear not only for the lives of my family and (for) my possessions but also for the loss in the republic of freedom, which, with my faith, I hold as the most precious gift I hope to pass on to my progeny.'

"That's what democracy is all about.

"That's what the government is supposed to protect.

"That's what the Republicans don't un-

derstand."

Michael Gartner in USA Today, March 28, 1995.

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"Surprisingly, despite popular notions of large numbers of criminals being turned free because of excluded evidence, there is a consensus on both sides of the debate that this isn't true.

"A source on the House Judiciary Committee says that about 1.1 percent of all federal prosecutions are thrown out because of excluded evidence.

"A 1988 survey by the American Bar Association found that most local prosecutors say that less than 5 percent of all their cases were thrown out because of excluded evidence.

"Another ABA study estimated that no more than 2.35 percent of all felony adult prosecutions are lost because of illegal searches.

"There's also a strong consensus that most of the cases lost are not violent felonies or even property crimes, but instead involve drug possession, weapons violations, and other vices.

"It's basically drugs,' said Gerald Arenberg, executive director of the National Association of Police Chiefs."

Charles Oliver in Investor's Business Daily, Jan. 19, 1995.

Issue: Allegations of discriminatory lending

Politicians and bureaucrats have been aware for some time that the American taxpayers are increasingly unenthusiastic about this country's vast array of social welfare programs funded from the public treasury. The politicians and bureaucrats themselves, however, have lost none of their enthusiasm for spending other people's money. Some of the more recent social welfare arrangements, therefore, have been designed to redistribute wealth taken directly from businesses rather than from general tax revenue. The results are pretty much the same either way, because (1) the American people, as taxpayers and consumers, must ultimately pay for it all, and (2) the only beneficiaries are the political-bureaucratic officeholders and (perhaps) the members of their favored client groups who have at least the illusion of getting something for nothing. There is no better example of this than the government policy (at both the state and federal level) of turning banks into social welfare agencies under the pretext of acting against discrimi-

natory lending.

"It used to be said that banks were places that lent money only to people who didn't need loans. Nowadays, thanks to a series of new government regulatory policies, banks are becoming places that lend money only to people who can't afford loans. This is bad news not just for bank stockholders but also for taxpayers, who guarantee bank deposits and are thus ultimately liable for hundreds of billions of dollars of potential losses.

"The crux of the problem is that state and federal lawmakers can't decide whether a bank should be a for-profit lending institution or a social-welfare agency. The most obvious example is the recent spate of lawsuits against banks for allegedly discriminatory lending practices. James McLaughlin of the American Bankers Association says the Justice Department is 'developing law by consent decree.' Paul Craig Roberts of the Institute for Political Economy complains that the government has the power to 'hold all banks liable to sham suits up to the approximate cost of the bank's legal defense.' It's better to make a questionable loan to a member of a socially disadvantaged group than to risk a baseless but costly inquiry from Justice Department do-gooders.

"In the latest injection of political correctness into the banking industry, *American Banker* reports, eight states have passed laws 'forcing banks to offer low-cost checking accounts' to 'give low-income customers greater access to banking services.'

New York, which approved such a law last year, wants to require banks to offer checking accounts with a minimum balance of \$1 and 12 free withdrawals. (That's 12.5 cents per withdrawal on the minimum account.) Many banks don't offer such low-deposit checking accounts for the simple reason that they lose money on them. Requiring them to do so is as absurd as requiring grocery stores to sell food for less than the wholesale price.

National Review, March 20, 1995.

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Thanks to the following for clippings used this month: Alan Perlman, Highland Park, IL; Melissa Ryan, Chicago, IL; Scott Shreckhise, Roanoke, VA; Dave Walter, West Chester, PA; and Research Etc., Princeton, LA.

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Letters

Term limits, AZ primary, gun stand, and lots more

WELL

I enjoyed the articles about various electronic forums that exist and are of special interest to Libertarians. As one of the founders of the Liberty Bell BBS in San Jose back in 1985 (with Mike Iddings and Mark Hinkle), I am also pleased to see these efforts continuing to bear fruit.

However, I was rather dismayed that you totally failed to mention the discussion area that I have been operating on the WELL for the last 10 (ten) years, called the Liberty Conference. This conference has been focused on alternative politics in general, and libertarianism in particular, since I first started it. Our impact, both within that conference as well as around the WELL in general, has prompted more than one journalist to refer to the WELL itself as a "hotbed of libertarianism" — an appellation which quite startled me, you may be sure!

Several years ago, I enhanced the Liberty Conference by collecting some good materials together into a menu system; last year, I created a Web page for it as well. (The URL is <http://www.well.com/Conferences/liberty/> for you Web surfers.) For the last several months, with the very kind help and cooperation of Richard Winger, I have been placing the complete contents of each issue of Ballot Access News both in the conference and in the menu system; these will soon be available in the Web space as well.

Also in that Web space is my version of the Libertarian Organizations FAQ, with much improved layout and somewhat more current info than that which is usually posted to the Net.

Please let your readers know that the Liberty Conference on the WELL has been going strong for these last 10 years, and we look forward to another 10 as well!

Bob Bickford
Marin County, CA

Term limits

Polls consistently rate term limits as one of the most popular issues around. I see an opportunity for us to capitalize on that and really set ourselves apart in the voters' minds by doing the following: Promise the voters that they will never see an LP re-election campaign.

If all LP candidates publicly pledge not to seek re-election (a la the Contract With America) and then stick to it, the voters will see that we are not just another political party out for power—they will see that we really are the party of principle. It's not as if we've got all that many elected LP officials now, anyway, so what have we got to lose? This could be great public relations against both Republicans and Democrats.

J. Peter Saint-Andre
Maplewood, NJ

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I became a member of the Libertarian Party because I resented the thought other people felt they could think for me better than I could for myself. I feel the same about government programs such as Social Security, nobody can plan for my future better than I can. The vast majority of Libertarians (big and small "I") would agree with me. I have trouble reconciling



Staying in touch

Letters to the editor

our abhorrence of the government doing our thinking for us with the clamoring within our party for term limits. If we're offended by the fact the government tells us we're too stupid to care for ourselves in our old age, as they do by forcing us into programs like Social Security and Medicare, why are we willing to allow them to tell us we're too stupid to know whom to vote for. I realize that once a person is elected, he or she has vast resources at his or her disposal to insure re-election. This in no way mitigates our responsibility to vote for whom we feel is the best candidate. All it takes is a little work, a little looking past the campaign rhetoric, to decide who is working in our best interests as opposed to their own. Term limits should be as anathema to us as Social Security, registering for selective service, and handicapped parking spaces.

Herbert P. Hamersma
Hilo, HI

Numbers

During a recent political round table program, two interesting and related numbers were mentioned: the \$5.7 billion "Low Income Housing Subsidy" cut proposed by the House and seconds later, the number of beneficiaries—63,000 unfortunates and slackers—"helped."

I have no idea what the average subsidy is, but the total cost per recipient comes to more than \$90,000. And these clowns want to make our health care more efficient by nationalizing it? Good grief.

Steve Allison
Ramona, CA

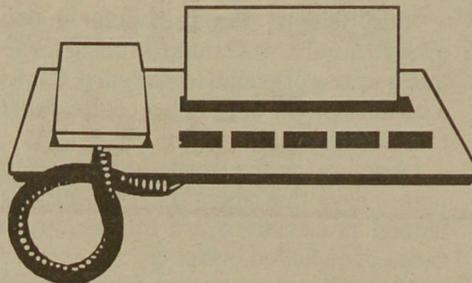
Arizona primary

Although the 1996 presidential elections are somewhat distant, steps need to be taken now in order to insure our candidate with the most opportunity for the most impact in what could be an historic event. All indications are that 1996 could be our year for a genuine breakthrough.

Everyone knows that New Hampshire has the first primary. This year Arizona changed its primary to one week later. This places the Arizona primary high on the list of places to watch. The LP is already guaranteed a spot on the New Hampshire primary ballot. That is not the case in Arizona. But we are very close to doing that. If the LPAZ can register only 6,000 more voters as Libertarians, we will have a spot in the Arizona primary next February. We can not get in the primary by petition.

Time is short because the registration deadline is Oct. 1 of this year. If we fail in Arizona, a golden opportunity will be missed. We have both a volunteer and paid registration effort under way. Every week dedicated volunteers are going door to door, standing outside auto emission testing stations, and working the crowds at gun shows and other public events.

If you are a member in Arizona, get involved with the volunteer effort. We aren't asking anyone to knock themselves out. If



you live outside of Arizona, consider sending a donation to make sure we don't come close but miss by a few registrations.

John Nemeth
Tucson, AZ

Effective policies

With the increasing tide of anti-government feeling and the surfacing of "creeping libertarianism" in both left- and right-wing circles, as well as in the "mainstream" media, we Libertarians have just cause for optimism these days. It is imperative, however, that this optimism be tempered with caution and practicality if our ideas are to catch on with the masses.

While the majority of Americans may profess to want government off their backs, most opinion surveys show that most of them also bristle at the very idea of "cutting back" programs like Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, farm subsidies, etc. Only when these people clearly understand that Uncle Sam can only "provide" for them by robbing them and denying them their right to privacy, and that the free market is a much more effective and ethical provider of needed services, will honest-to-goodness libertarianism become fashionable.

By offering detailed, solution-oriented public policy proposals like Operation Safe Streets, Project Healthy Choice, and with new proposals concerning education, poverty, and foreign policy in the works, the LP is taking, I believe, a giant step in the right direction. If we can continue to address specific issues and speak to concerns of people of all political stripes, while stressing both the effectiveness and nobility of individual liberty and personal responsibility, we may just be able to ride the current wave of government skepticism to our long-awaited day in the sun.

Scott Shreckhise
Roanoke, VA

Education

In reference to the recent concern about the quality of our local public schools, some questions come to mind. Can the powerful government education establishment propose or carry out any meaningful reform? Half of our educational tax dollar never reaches the classroom, instead it is plundered by a massive bureaucracy which seems to spend most of its effort either hiding out or attempting to justify its continued existence. That may be why government schools cost twice as much as private schools. Hoping for this establishment to reform itself is like asking the fox to guard the chicken coop. Good for the fox, but the pits for the chicken.

Virtually all successful school reform for quality has had its genesis outside of

the system. Such is so now. The common thread of most of this reform seems to be shifting control from government to the parents. This tends to add meaning and purpose to learning. As an example, the student would more likely learn that he or she is personally accountable for where they have been, where they are, and where they are going. This personal accountability is based on the incredible power to choose. Power to choose not only human action but also mental attitude itself. This fundamental wisdom does not exist in any collectivistic system.

Confucius said, "It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness." Here are three candles: "Separating School and State," by Sheldon Richman; "Dumbing Us Down," by John Taylor Gatto, and "Inside American Education," by Thomas Sowell.

I truly believe that if only 10 percent of the people who care would read these works, the healing process would start now.

Albert J. Segalla
Twain Harte, CA

Gun stand

In light of the events in Oklahoma, it is time for the Libertarian Party to give serious consideration to our stand on the possession of weapons. The belief that people have an unrestricted right to the possession of weapons conflicts with the establishment of a government that provides for the security of its citizens. We have a clash between two of our basic principles: the liberty of each person to do what they want and the duty of government to outlaw the initiation of force.

We seem to flip-flop in our rhetoric between wanting to be a political party or wanting to overturn the whole system. It's time for us to decide whether we want to be part of the establishment or revolutionaries. Part of acting as a responsible adult is to head off a problem before the damage is done. In law enforcement, controlling weapons as a preventative measure is part of the responsibilities. For example, I am heartened that companies like Millitech are working on devices that would help detect if someone is carrying a concealed weapon. Doing so is an act of fraud and should be treated as such. If you are going to carry a gun, you should be honest enough to carry it in the open.

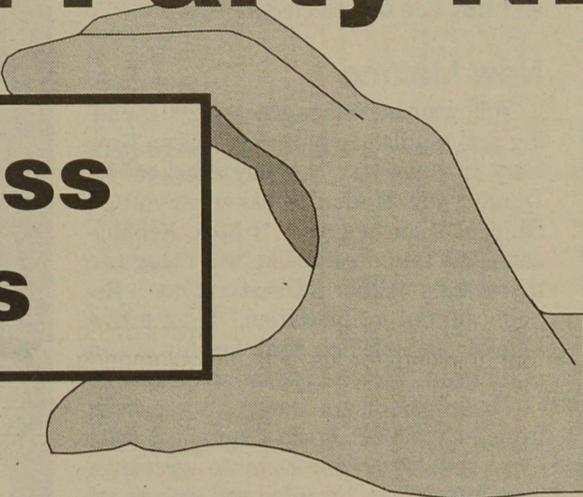
It is not unusual to see phrases like 'federal stormtroopers' used in these pages. I find it offensive to dehumanize anyone, and to use phrases like this dehumanizes. I am reminded of the response from one right-wing spokesman after the bombing that it was foolish to have a day-care center in a building that holds government offices. This person could not even think of the people who worked for these government agencies as fathers and mothers who wanted to be with their children.

Insofar as we have allowed such people to consider such an act as a valid response to bad government, we bear a responsibility for this violence. We may pledge not to initiate violence, but with our rhetoric we can be considered guilty of inciting it.

Antony Van der Mude
Summit, NJ

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Affiliates

continued from page 6

Ernest Walker recently announced his bid for re-election to a second four-year term. Walker also announced two endorsements, one from Republican assemblyman Thomas Batten and the other from former Republican Assemblyman and gubernatorial candidate Jim Gibbons.

Walker pointed out that he has remained true to his character and to his campaign promises of four years ago by consistently voting against tax and fee increases and by not losing sight of the fact that as a councilman, he is a public servant and not a servant of special interests or himself.

Walker voted against a proposed 72 percent council salary increase, against a \$10,000 increase in the council travel budget, and against spending tax money on secret water negotiations. He also voted against a 17 percent increase in building permit fees, against the 63 percent sewer rate increase, against a 5-cent per gallon gasoline tax, and against every proposed property tax increase in the last four years.

Walker was an advocate of open government and was instrumental in bringing cable television coverage to city meetings. He is against state and federal unfunded mandates, and he introduced a city resolution expressing opposition to the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste dump.

Walker is also the head of STOP (Sparks Taxpayers Opinion Petition), a citizens' group that placed a measure on the ballot to require a two-thirds vote of the people for any tax or fee increases by the city.

For more information, contact Ernest Walker for Sparks City Council, 410 L St., Sparks, NV 89431.

• In early April, the Nye County LP was reorganized. **Denis Sholty**, the LP's 1994 candidate for governor, was elected chair,

and **Jim Lee** was elected secretary.

New Mexico

Following his vetoes of nearly 200 spending and regulatory bills, Republican Gov. Gary Johnson was "verbally attacked" by Democratic House Speaker Raymond Sanchez. Sanchez said, "I hope Republicans and Democrats alike will recognize this man is neither a Democrat nor a Republican, but a Libertarian." Even fellow Republican State Rep. Jerry Lee Alwin said of Johnson, "He's a Libertarian dictator."

These comments brought a response from the state LP. **Attila Csanyi**, LP state chair, said, "Everyone seems to agree that, for a Republican, his mind and actions appear to be going in the right direction."

Johnson was criticized by fellow Republicans for approving gambling on Indian reservations, signing a lottery bill, and "abandoning family values."

The governor's staff was quick to respond to the media that the governor was not yet ready to completely embrace the Libertarian point of view.

North Carolina

The state party elected the following new officers: **Chris Spruyt**, chair; **Steve Craton**, vice chair; **Douglas S. Adams**, recording secretary; and **Dwight House**, treasurer. It is interesting to note that Dwight House is the only treasurer the state party has ever had, having served for 20 years now.

Ohio

The state party has endorsed two candidates: **Terry Bowen**, candidate for Cincinnati City Council, and **Ralph Mullinger**, candidate for Findlay School Board.

More libertarian on-line sites

The Libertarian Party of Massachusetts (LPM) is now "on line."

With its new "home page" on the World Wide Web, a major Internet sphere of information exchange, the Massachusetts affiliate joined the National Libertarian Party and the eight other state affiliates already on-line.

"The Libertarian Party is a natural for the Internet," said Vernon Imrich, state committee member and on-line coordinator. Both stress the free and open exchange of ideas, decentralized control, and spontaneous user-driven order, he claimed. "You've got to cooperate to get along because there's no government around to force people to do it your way."

In addition to the LPM Program, which details the legislative agenda of the party, the site has a storehouse of membership information, officer contacts, news, events, and links to government and political sites all across the country.

"From here you can do everything from researching the writings of John Locke to finding out how to get to the

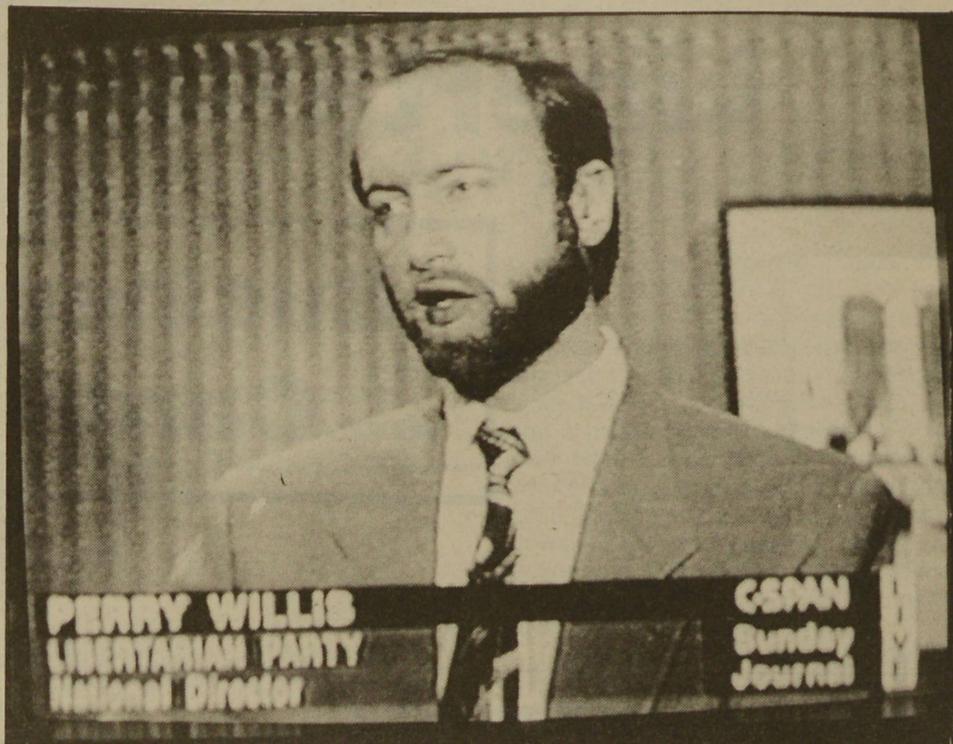
next Executive Committee meeting," said Mr. Imrich. "There's something here for everyone."

Net surfers can find Massachusetts' and America's third-largest political party on the World Wide Web at the URL: <http://www.mit.edu:8001/activities/libertarians/malp/home.html>

The NEWS also received information about a new electronic mailing list for discussion "of issues in the realm where faith and politics meet—specifically Christian faith and libertarian politics."

The list is designed for libertarian Christians; people who hold one half of that pair of beliefs, but not the other, and who are interested in discussing the matter; and third, people who hold neither, but who are also interested in discussing the matter. There was a caution that "flamers" were not welcome. "If you are implacably opposed to either libertarian politics or Christian faith, this is NOT the list for you," the notice explained.

For more information, contact bruceab@teleport.com



NEWS photo provided by Ken Bush

MEDIA ATTENTION - Libertarians have received a great deal of media coverage in recent months. Here National Director Perry Willis is seen during a guest appearance on C-SPAN's "Sunday Journal" television program. In addition, Nancy Lord, the 1992 LP vice presidential candidate, has appeared on a number of television programs, including "CNN & Company" and "The Montel Williams Show."

MO LP talks to UWSA

By LADONNA HIGGINS

On March 18, the St. Louis chapter of United We Stand America (UWSA), the political organization started by Ross Perot, hosted a panel discussion, one of a series of hearings being held across the country to determine whether popular support exists for the formation of a new political party.

Moderating the panel was Ken Warren, author, media consultant, and political science instructor at St. Louis University. The panel consisted of Ralph Perkins, of UWSA, Lloyd Sloan, LP member and former congressional candidate, Erie Lionberger, chair of the St. Louis County Republican central committee, and Gregory Kloeppel, past president of the Young Democrats.

Sloan did an outstanding job of presenting the Libertarian point of view and invited all present to join the LP. "The Democrats are dead, we might as well stick a fork in them," stated Sloan. As for the Republicans, "I give them two to six years. Then they're finished," he said.

The Democrats realize that without a third party splitting the vote, Bill Clinton cannot win another election. So they support the formation of a new party. The Republican applauded the efforts of UWSA, but urged attendees to join the Republican Party. However, she was sadly out of touch on the issues, dwelling on the school lunch

program. Her opinion on third parties: "Oh no, we don't need third-party candidates messing up the electoral and legislative process." Several members of the audience actually hissed at this remark.

The Republican also was unaware of the change in Missouri ballot access laws. Moderator Warren had to inform her of the passage of the Fair Ballot Access Law, and he praised the Missouri Libertarian Party for its successful leadership in getting the law passed. The law was written by Libertarian Ken Bush.

One person in the audience asked if the politicians on the panel could explain what the function of government should be. Both the Democrat and the Republican seemed totally confused by the question, but Sloan was quick to answer.

Many St. Louis Libertarians attended the event and invited UWSA members to join the LP in lieu of starting another party. LP members handed out literature and membership forms.

We urge Libertarians to contact their local UWSA chapters and find out if similar panel discussions are scheduled to take place, and make sure a Libertarian is included in the panel. Then attend and make sure to go equipped with flyers and membership forms. This is a prime opportunity to inform disgruntled voters about the Libertarian alternative.

New LPHQ Address

The national headquarters of the Libertarian Party is tentatively scheduled to move to its new offices in early July. At that time, the new address will be: LPHQ, 2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite B100, Washington, DC 20037. The next issue of the NEWS should include firm dates for this move.

State Chairs, National Committee, and Officers

- Alabama Chair**
Mike Probst
6133-H Eden East Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117
205-270-8643
Alabama HQ
P.O. Box 11209
Montgomery, AL 36111
800-207-1770 (inquiries)
- Alaska Chair**
Len Karpinski
3030 Balchen Drive
Anchorage, AK 99517
907-248-4367
CompuServe: 73237,422
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RR 2, Box 703H
Laveen, AZ 85339
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Arizona HQ
P.O. Box 501
Phoenix, AZ 85001
602-248-8425 (inquiries)
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Little Rock, AR 72205
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P.O. Box 3207
San Dimas, CA 91773-7207
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California HQ
655 Lewelling Blvd., #362
San Leandro, CA 94579
(Mail inquiries only)
California Inquiries
310-477-6491
800-637-1776
(Phone inquiries only)
- Colorado Chair**
David Aitken
1240 Ogden St., #4
Denver, CO 80218-1930
303-831-4334
Internet: david.aitken@kr-bbs.com
Colorado HQ
720 East 18th Ave., #309
Denver, CO 80203
303-837-9393
- Connecticut Chair**
Carl Vassar
143 Fernwood Road
Trumbull, CT 06611
203-261-8721
Connecticut HQ
P.O. Box 551
East Granby, CT 06026
800-364-0023
203-257-4844
Delaware Chair
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1502 Bonwood Road
Wilmington, DE 19804
302-654-5244
Delaware HQ
P.O. Box 1472
Dover, DE 19903-1472
- District of Columbia Chair**
Gene Cisewski
1311 Rhode Island Ave., NW
Suite #1
Washington DC 20005-3701
202-462-4390
Internet: MontiGroup@AOL.COM
District of Columbia HQ
P.O. Box 12075
Washington, DC 20005
Florida Chair
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2383 Tamiami Trail South
Venice, FL 34283
813-492-9892 (h)
Florida HQ
P.O. Box 557
Venice, FL 34284
Georgia Chair
Montague "Cosmo" Boyd
40 Montclair Drive NE
Atlanta, GA 30309
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Georgia HQ
1874 Piedmont Road, Suite 590E
Atlanta, GA 30324
800-257-2493
404-888-9468
404-874-8339 (fax)
- Hawaii Chair**
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808-595-8361
Hawaii HQ
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Idaho HQ
P.O. Box 15582
Boise, ID 83715
Illinois Chair
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185 Brandon Court, Unit E
Palatine, IL 60067-3494
708-934-9706 (h)
Illinois HQ
1602 Colonial Parkway
Inverness, IL 60067
708-776-8090
800-735-1776
Indiana Chair
Barbara Bourland
606 Wilshire Ave.
West Lafayette, IN 47906
317-463-6601 (h)
Iowa Contact
Tim Hird
7502 SW 17th St.
Des Moines, IA 50315-6045
515-285-7942 (h)
Kansas Chair
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2407 Blair Drive
Topeka, KS 66605
913-232-9863 (h)
Kansas HQ
P.O. Box 3735
Wichita, KS 67201
800-335-1776 (In-state only)
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Kentucky Chair
John Kilpatrick
641 Rawlings St.
Louisville, KY 40217-1149
502-635-1153 (h & o)
Louisiana Chair
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12653 Roundsville Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70818
504-261-6043
Louisiana HQ
P.O. Box 66301
Baton Rouge, LA 70896
Maine Chair
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P.O. Box 1040
Westbrook, ME 04098
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P.O. Box 6677
Portland, ME 04101
207-780-1776
Maryland Chair
Jesse Markowitz
5 Capps Hill Court
Gaithersburg, MD 20879-2431
301-990-7512 (h)
Internet: MarylandLP@aol.com
Maryland HQ
4323 Rosedale Ave.
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-951-0539 (Bethesda area)
410-628-1141 (Baltimore area)
800-MLP-1776 (inquiries only)
Massachusetts Chair
Dean Cook
14 Summit Ave.
Beverly, MA 01915
508-593-2547
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Massachusetts HQ
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Boston, MA 02208
617-625-1100
Michigan Chair
Emily Salvette
1026 Greenhill
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Michigan HQ
11700 Merriman Road
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800-343-1364 (inquiries)
Minnesota Chair
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2710 2nd Ave. South
Minneapolis, MN 55408-1710
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800-788-2660 (inquiries)
612-874-6803 (fax)
Mississippi Chair
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1530 E. Berkeley
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Missouri HQ
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Or: P.O. Box 32731
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Missoula, MT 59806-4803
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Montana HQ
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321 Paradise Drive
Gretna, NE 68028-7890
402-332-4734
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RR 32, Box 285-C
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North Las Vegas, NV 89030
702-642-4165
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702-251-7123 (messages)
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Jeff Emery
Box 83
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New York Inquiries
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fax: 503-640-8717
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401-539-2779
Internet: kwaldman@ids.net
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P.O. Box 11185
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South Carolina HQ
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Columbia, SC 29250
803-254-3204 (messages)
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HC 89 Box 184A
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South Dakota HQ
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Old Hickory, TN 37138-1250
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Texas HQ
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Jim Elwell
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Salt Lake City, UT 84115-4457
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Utah HQ
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Salt Lake City, UT
84152-6025
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Arlington, VA 22202
703-920-4023
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206-941-4547
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206-747-6881 (fax)
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304-757-3821 (h)
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- Wisconsin Chair**
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1523 13th Ave.
Grafton, WI 53024
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James Dan
P.O. Box 10833
Reno, NV 89510-0833
702-626-1776 (h)
702-626-2501 (fax)
- REGION 2**
California, Hawaii
Williamson M. Evers
1146 Waverley St.
Palo Alto, CA 94301
415-323-4322
Bill.Evers@dehnbased.fidonet.org
- Thea McLean
3 Santa Anita St.
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510-352-9469
CompuServe: 70363,317
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516-585-2700 (o)
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708-934-3868
708 991-0733
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Phoenix, AZ 85007-3926
602-257-1608 (h)
- Not in a Region:**
South Carolina
- Members-at-Large**
Tamara Clark
RR 2, Box 703H
Laveen AZ 85339
602-237-3087 (h)
602-264-1515 (o)
Internet: tclark@indirect.com
- Don Ernsberger
865 Meadowood Lane
Warminster, PA 18974-2553
215-675-6830 (h)
215-968-7126 (o)
CompuServe: 71214,2476
- Sharon Ayres
1773 Bahama Place
Costa Mesa, CA 92626-2338
714-966-1211 (h)
714-432-1468 (fax)
CompuServe: 71553,2150
- Ron Crickenberger
1351 New Hope Road
Locust Grove, GA 30248-9437
404-717-9287
CompuServe: 74203,2314
- Gary Johnson
2001 Parker Lane, #134
Austin, TX 78741-3849
512-441-6378
CompuServe: 73641,1106
- National Officers**
- Chair**
Stephen L. Dasbach
4523 Morning Wind Place
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
219-432-7145
CompuServe: 76060,3222
- Vice Chair**
Karen Allard
6901 Narrows Lane North
Tacoma, WA 98407
206-759-1838
Karen.Allard@dehnbased.fidonet.org
- Secretary**
John Famularo
1420 Locust St., #36-D
Philadelphia, PA 19102-4223
215-735-6426 (h)
215-545-6993 (fax)
CompuServe: 70726,1575
- Treasurer**
Hugh Butler
1232 Chandler Circle
Salt Lake City, UT
84103-4240
801-575-5121 (o)
801-328-4325 (h)
801-575-5139 (fax)
CompuServe: 73172,1522

**Send additions
or corrections
to LPHQ**

Libertarian Party Information

LP National HQ

National Director: Perry Willis
Director of Communications: Bill Winter
Project Manager: Cynthia Fellows
LPHQ Staff: Tonya Hamilton, Dollie Parker,
Tiffany Rodney, Scott Kohlhaas
Address: 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20003
Telephone: 202-543-1988
New member info. only: 800-682-1776
Fax: 202-546-6094
Office Hours: Monday-Friday,
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

LP National Chair Steve Dasbach

4523 Morning Wind Place
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
219-432-7145
CompuServe: 76060,3222

LP NEWS

Address: P.O. Box 3391
Gainesville, GA 30503
404-536-5243
Fax: 404-287-0800
CompuServe: 71610,3614
Editor: Randy Langhenry

Upcoming Events

June 10, 1995:

Missouri LP Convention, Ramada Inn, Columbia; for information call 314-443-4883 or e-mail: hemerson@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us

June 10-11, 1995:

Washington State LP Convention, Mountaineers Club, Tacoma; for information call Pat Michl at 206-862-6653.

June 11, 1995:

Oregon LP Convention, Monarch Hotel and Conference Center, Portland; for information call Gene Nanni at 503-235-9810.

June 16-18, 1995:

Florida LP Convention, Sheraton North Hotel, Orlando; for information call 407-578-3797. Speakers include Harry Browne, Irwin Schiff, and Jo Jorgensen.

July 29, 1995:

Alabama LP Convention, Montgomery; for information call 800-207-1770. Speakers include Harry Browne, Jacob Hornberger, and Jo Jorgensen.

June 30-July 2, 1995:

Texas LP Convention, Doubletree Guest Suites on Westheimer, Houston; for information contact Joe Lusardi at 713-784-1776 or 800-422-1776. Speakers include Steve Dasbach, Harry Browne, Jo Jorgensen, and Michael Emerling.

July 1, 1995:

Second Annual 2nd Amendment Rally, State Capitol Building, Sacramento, CA; for information call 707-429-2871

July 29, 1995:

Alabama LP Convention, Montgomery; for information call 334-265-1770. Speakers include Harry Browne, Jo Jorgensen, and Jacob Hornberger.

Aug. 26, 1995:

South Dakota LP Convention, Radisson Hotel, Sioux Falls; for information call 800-639-2623 or 605-255-4032. Speakers include Tim Slagle.

Aug. 26-27, 1995:

Libertarian Party National Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL; for information call 202-543-1988.

Sept. 23, 1995:

Connecticut LP Convention, Stamford; for information call Mark Tuniewicz at 203-777-7498. Speakers include Harry Browne, Jo Jorgensen, and Gene Burns.

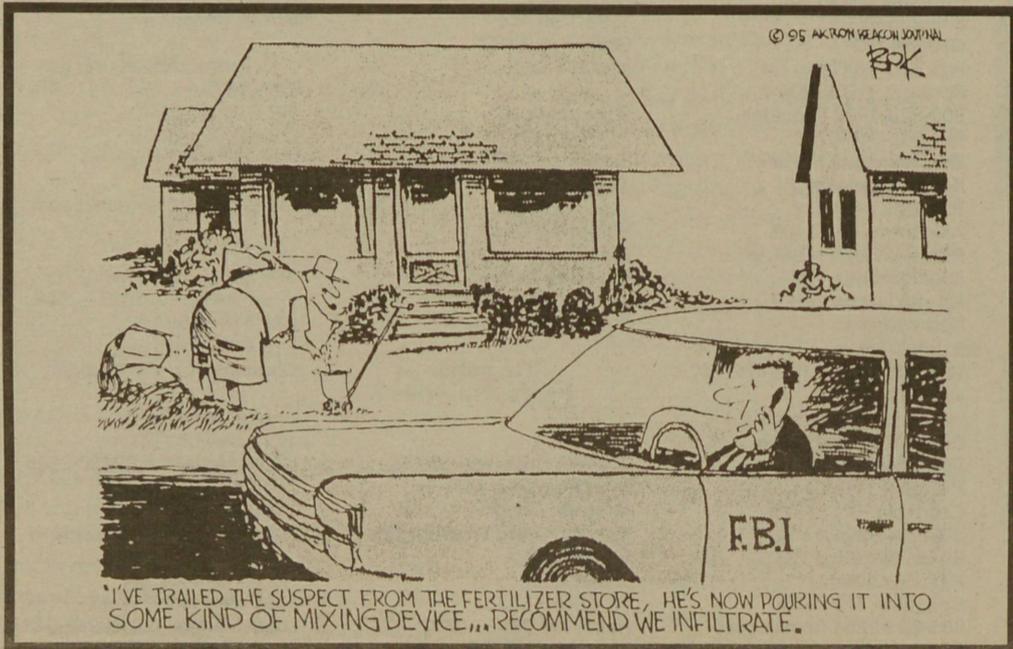
Sept. 30, 1995:

West Virginia LP Convention.

Oct. 6-8, 1995:

FIJAcon III - Fully Informed Jury Association Third national conference, Crystal Inn, Salt Lake City, UT; for information call 406-793-5550. Talks, panels, debates on jury veto power.

Send upcoming event notices early to: Libertarian Party NEWS, P.O. Box 3391, Gainesville, GA 30503.



Libertarian National Committee
1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
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