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## Questioning Bush about the Iraq War

**O**n May 1, 2005, *The Times* of London published a document containing the minutes of a July 23, 2002 meeting between top British officials and Prime Minister Tony Blair. Now infamously known as the Downing Street Memo, the minutes candidly discuss the pre-invasion posturing by George W. Bush's administration in mid-2002 — a full eight months before Operation Iraqi Freedom began.

This document has given new life — and much-needed plausibility — to the anti-Iraq War movement, both in America and overseas.

Reporting on the meeting was Richard Dearlove, then head of the U.K.'s MI6. His statement is self-explanatory: "Bush wanted to remove Saddam, through military action, justified by the conjunction of terrorism and WMD. But the intelligence and facts were being fixed around the policy. The NSC [National Security Council] had no patience with the UN route, and no enthusiasm for publishing material on the Iraqi regime's record."

Without question, this statement by the head of Britain's intelligence agency accuses the Bush administration of "fixing" the facts to support an invasion of Iraq.

This is supported by the fact that we now know the pre-invasion claims made by President George W. Bush and his administration regarding weapons of mass destruction were false.

There were no stockpiles of chemical or biological weapons, no nuclear programs and not even a single Scud missile that could have delivered such weapons. Simply stated, there was no "gathering threat" when Bush sent American troops into harm's way.

Many groups that have opposed the pre-emptive attack on Iraq — including the national Libertarian Party — have consistently pointed out that there was no immediate threat from

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# Eight Oregon Libertarians elected

By **J. Daniel Cloud**  
LP NEWS EDITOR

**I**n elections May 17, eight Portland, Ore.-area Libertarians were elected to public office, swelling the ranks of elected Libertarians. On that single day, Libertarians were elected to six school committees, to a water board, and to a school board.

Adam Mayer, chairman of the Libertarian Party of Oregon, said he believes such local election wins can have a strong impact — both for the party and for the communities in question.

"I feel we need to have people active on the local level, that it's one of the most important things we can do," he said. "It's a great way to let people know that we are concerned with the community, and it's a good opportunity to apply Libertarian principles and practices in the local community."

In this election, Mayer put his money where his mouth is: Now, in addition to having been elected by his fellow Libertarians to the state chair's spot, he is also an elected representative on his local school committee.

Others elected to school committees were Christi Feldewerth, Inessa Hamilton-Lee, Christiana Mayer, Stephen Pearson and Greg Rodhe. Rodhe was elected to the same committee as Adam Mayer; it's a three-member board, so the Libertarians hold a majority.

"This isn't a glamorous position

where I'll be able to end the war on drugs or privatize the schools," Mr. Mayer said. "But it's a great way to get involved."

How did Libertarians in this area manage to attain eight victories in one election?

"The real credit goes to the county parties," Mayer said. "The leaders in Washington and Clackamas counties decided to focus on winnable races, including several that were uncontested. And it worked."

Christiana Mayer, chair of the Washington County LP (and Adam Mayer's wife), explained that the two county affiliates had decided "to make a concerted effort to get more involved in the community."

"Serving in these positions doesn't require a lot of money or investment of time, but it's a great way to get out there and meet other people who are involved in the schools and in the community."

"We can show people in the community that Libertarians believe in education. And as Libertarians on a public school committee, we will work to make sure that they are acting in a fiscally responsible manner."

The duties of a school committee member are to "determine the use of school property for civic purposes consistent with its primary use"; to visit the school regularly and serve as a liaison between the school board and the school's principal, teachers and parents; to recommend improvements in school property; and, when necessary, to



■ Libertarians celebrating May 17 election wins in the Portland, Ore., area included (from left) state LP Chair Adam Mayer, Inessa Hamilton-Lee, Stephen Pearson, Washington County Chair Christiana Mayer, Greg Rodhe, Clackamas County Chair Wes Wagner and Martin Soehrman.

"recommend rejection for the ensuing year for any teacher assigned to the school by the school board," according to the committee members' handbook.

"If Libertarians want change in a community, they have an obligation to get involved," Christiana Mayer said. "In my opinion, education is vital to a community regardless of how it is funded. Therefore, it is essential to be part of the solution rather than to stand on the sidelines and complain."

Other Libertarian victories in the May 17 elections were Charles Radley's election to the Tigard Water District Board of Commissioners

(Libertarians now hold two of the board's five seats) and Martin Soehrman's election to the Colton School District Board of Directors.

Now, "even more people will see how well Libertarians perform in office and how much they care about their communities," said Richard Burke, executive director of the Oregon LP.

Burke himself is midway through his second term on the Tualatin Water District board.

"These new office holders will gain experience, build credibility and make excellent candidates for partisan office in the years ahead," Burke added.

## LP co-sponsors tax fighters conference

**T**he Libertarian Party co-sponsored the National Taxpayers Union's conference, held in Washington, D.C., June 16-18, taking advantage of the conference to meet leaders in the low-tax advocacy movement.

Joe Seehusen, executive director of the national Libertarian Party, met with NTU leadership, as well as with others — in both the public and private sectors — who call for lower taxes.

Among them was former Virginia Gov. Jim Gilmore.

"I had met Gilmore before, and both personally and in his speech at the conference he was very inspiring," Seehusen said. "His speech was extremely hardcore, very much

about understanding the importance of limited government and understanding the burden that a growing government puts on the taxpayer."

In his speech, Gilmore said he thinks the role of those who try to keep government small and efficient is "a high calling," Seehusen added. "And of course, we as Libertarians agree with him."

"At the NTU conference, we were very much amongst friends. At the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) earlier this year, we experienced a mixed bag of conservatives — both those who fall into the extreme religious right conservative camp and those who are in

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■ LP Executive Director Joe Seehusen, at right, chats with National Taxpayers Union president John Berthoud next to the LP's display at the NTU conference. (Photo by LP News Editor J. Daniel Cloud)



## NEWS BRIEFS

### Get involved — at whatever level of politics

**M**ike Ferguson, the Missouri LP's 2004 nominee for lieutenant governor, was recently appointed to the Grandview, Mo., Transportation Committee. Ferguson said his 2003 appointment to a Help America Vote Act committee in Grandview and his run for lieutenant governor were instrumental in his new appointment.

"The alderman who was most supportive of my appointment said part of his reason for supporting me was that he liked what he saw in my 2004 campaign," Ferguson said. "He liked the fact that I promoted small government solutions to the issues that voters care about."

Now that he's in another appointed office, Ferguson added, he will be in a better position to run for the Grandview Board of Alderman in the future, "which is something I am very interested in doing. I think it would be a very winnable campaign."

"I think the bottom line is that if you are involved in politics because you want to make government better by making it smaller and you show a genuine interest in your community, you will be put in a position to influence government at some level."

On the transportation committee, Ferguson will be responsible for reviewing all changes to the city code that relate to transportation issues. He encourages other Libertarians to get involved in local politics "at any level," arguing that it is the best way to show voters and city officials that you can contribute to the community.

"When you take the time to get to know the people in office and let them see that you want to contribute in a positive way, you are far more likely to be taken seriously," he said. "I'd rather get appointed to office and have a vote on issues that affect my community than waste my time at things like protest rallies, which tend to reinforce an inaccurate, negative image of Libertarians."

### Patriot Reauthorization Act endangers liberty

**I**n a closed session in early June, the U.S. Senate's Select Committee on Intelligence voted to reauthorize and expand the USA PATRIOT Act, which was voted into law just weeks after 9/11. Originally, the PATRIOT Act was set to expire after five years but the Bush administration and Attorney General Alberto Gonzalez are seeking to make the law permanent while expanding its reach and scope.

In its current form the PATRIOT Act violates several of the amendments that comprise the Bill of Rights. Under the act, law enforcement may conduct no-notice searches of residences and businesses; conduct roving wiretaps; or seize personal files such as medical, financial, employment and even library lending history.

The new version of the PATRIOT Act would expand the reach of the FBI by giving individual agents "administrative authority" to create and approve their own search warrants. With no checks in place to prevent abuse, violations of the law would go unnoticed under the expansion of the already ineffective law.

### Legislators accused of diverting gas tax funds

**T**he Libertarian Party of Washington state has endorsed a proposed measure — I-912 — that would repeal the state's 9.5-cent gas tax increase. The state attorney general's office has said that the revenue coming in from the gas tax increase is not absolutely committed to any specific project, so the LPWS is concerned that the money will not be used wisely or as promised.

"As Libertarians, we generally favor user fees instead of taxes to fund public projects, and gas taxes are very similar to user fees as long as the proceeds are used to build and maintain roads," said state LP Vice Chair Brett Wilhelm. "But the last gas tax increase should be repealed because it diverts funds to politicians' pet projects instead of improving roads."

Washington state LP executive committee members also pointed out that the money raised by the tax doesn't come close to funding the myriad of projects included in the package when the state legislature approved it.

"Basically, this bill got passed because the legislators were each promised a little piece for their district, but no one is getting enough to actually complete the major projects that need attention," said Penelope Wright, an executive committee representative.

The committee members also expressed concern that in attaching an "emergency clause" to the bill that raised the gas tax, the legislature demonstrated particular disdain for the voters' feelings on the matter; they knew the tax hike would be unpopular, and by attaching an emergency clause, the legislators were able to avoid a referendum on the tax.

Ruth Bennett, chair of the Washington state LP, said the state party has been attracting a great number of people who are interested in getting involved, and that "supporting the No New Gas Tax initiative is a great place to direct that energy."

# Minutes of British intel meeting reinforce War in Iraq questions

*Continued from Page 1*

that nation, that there was no justification for Bush's war on Iraq.

And now there's proof.

As Libertarian Party Executive Director Joe Seehusen said, "Countless Americans have held the assumption that the Bush administration created a reason for war with Iraq. The Downing Street Memo provides us with solid evidence of such. It's time for President Bush to level with the American public and answer questions regarding this memo and his true reasons for the pre-emptive invasion of Iraq."

Joining in the fight to expose the truth behind the Iraq conflict is Congressman John Conyers (D-Mich.). To his credit, Rep. Conyers voted against the initial use of force against Iraq.

Conyers recently posted a letter to President Bush on his Web site, requesting that Bush answer questions related to the Downing Street Memo. In a matter of just a few weeks, more than half a million people signed the letter, and on June 16 approximately 540,000 signatures were delivered to the front gate of the White House.

Signatories included 105 members of Congress.

Just hours before the signed letters were delivered to Bush, Conyers and other Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee organized a forum to investigate the implications of the Downing Street Memo.

While the forum included several members of Congress, the most compelling testimony came from parents of servicemen and women killed in Iraq while searching for the elusive — and apparently nonexistent — weapons of mass destruction Bush used as an excuse to attack Iraq.

Meanwhile, Congressman Ron Paul (R-Texas), the 1988 Libertarian Party candidate for president, joined three other congressmen in introducing a resolution calling for the president to announce a plan for withdrawing troops from Iraq.

The other sponsors of the group were Democratic Congressmen Dennis Kucinich of Ohio and Neil Abercrombie of Hawaii, as well as Rep.



■ On June 16, hundreds of protesters gathered across the street from the White House in Washington, D.C., to ask President Bush to answer questions about the War in Iraq — questions prompted by the Downing Street Memo. The memo indicates the Bush administration "fixed" intelligence to justify attacking Iraq.

(Photo by LP News Editor J. Daniel Cloud)

Walter Jones (R-N.C.), who initially voted for the war but now is one of Capitol Hill's most outspoken advocates for pulling out of Iraq.

As the hundreds of thousands of letters demanding that Bush explain himself were being delivered to the White House, hundreds of those who signed the letter were gathered for a rally in front of the president's residence.

The crowd included not only representatives of the Libertarian, Green, Republican and Democrat parties, but also activists from the Veterans for Peace, Vietnam Veterans Against the War and a host of other organizations.

In impassioned speeches, representatives of these various groups repeatedly called for the announcement of an exit strategy from Iraq, for the cessation of American hostility against a nation that didn't attack the United States, and even for the impeachment of President

Bush.

As one speaker noted, former President Bill Clinton was impeached following allegations of having sex with an intern, while Bush is apparently guilty of a much more serious offense — leading the U.S. into war on false pretenses.

Both the White House and U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair deny the Downing Street Memo's allegations about facts being "fixed" to give an excuse to attack Iraq, but the American people are growing openly weary of the war and of Bush's lame excuses for it.

Recent polls show that public support of the war is declining.

An Associated Press-Ipsos poll in early June revealed that only 41 percent of American adults support Bush's handling of the war, and a recent Gallup poll found that 60 percent of Americans think some or all of the U.S. troops should be withdrawn from Iraq.

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**The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."**



# Supreme Court decision was about federal control, not pot

People who smoke marijuana because their doctors recommend it to ease pain can be prosecuted for violating federal drug laws, the Supreme Court ruled June 6, overriding voters and medical marijuana statutes in 11 states.

This case had very little to do with medical marijuana. It was more about the continued expansion of federal power.

The only real question before the Supreme Court was the meaning of one word, "among," as used in the Constitution's Commerce Clause.

The Supreme Court was asked to uphold an earlier decision by the 9th Circuit Court, which ruled that marijuana grown for the personal use of a patient is not "commerce among the states" and therefore is beyond the jurisdiction of the federal government.

Instead, the Court ruled 6-3 that medical marijuana use does fall under federal jurisdiction.

Writing for the majority, Justice Anthony Stevens offered this twisted logic to defend their decision:

"The case is made difficult by respondents' strong arguments that they will suffer irreparable harm be-

cause, despite a congressional finding to the contrary, marijuana does have valid therapeutic purposes.

"The question before us, however, is not whether it is wise to enforce the statute in these circumstances; rather, it is whether Congress' power to regulate interstate markets for medicinal substances encompasses the portions of those markets that are supplied with drugs produced and consumed locally.

"Well-settled law controls our answer. The CSA is a valid exercise of federal power, even as applied to the troubling facts of this case. We accordingly vacate the judgment of the Court of Appeals..."

Justice Clarence Thomas wrote in his dissent: "If Congress can regulate this under the Commerce Clause, then it can regulate virtually anything, and the federal government is no longer one of limited and enumerated powers."

The Court ruled only on the jurisdiction issues raised by this case. Two other issues — due process and medical necessity — have yet to be ruled on. The plaintiffs must return to the 9th Circuit Court to request a judgment on these two issues.

If that court upholds a medical marijuana patient's right to due process and to a medical necessity defense, then this case will be right

back before the Supreme Court.

It's important to recognize that three justices strongly opposed the decision of the majority, arguing that the decision was contrary to the Constitution and to the principles upon which the United States was founded.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor disagreed with the majority and said the court's "overreaching stifles an express choice by some states, concerned for the lives and liberties of their people, to regulate medical marijuana differently."

Meanwhile, the buzz among marijuana dispensaries at the moment is that the federal Drug Enforcement Agency is linking up with the IRS to go after cannabis clubs. In the days following the court's decision, many medical marijuana dispensaries voluntarily closed down.

Theresa Schilling, a representative of the California attorney general's office, told reporters that while under state law medical marijuana remains legal, "the sad reality is, there is a risk."

**About the author:** Steve Kubby is the founder of the American Medical Marijuana Association. He has written two books on drug policy reform and was the 1998 Libertarian candidate for governor of California.

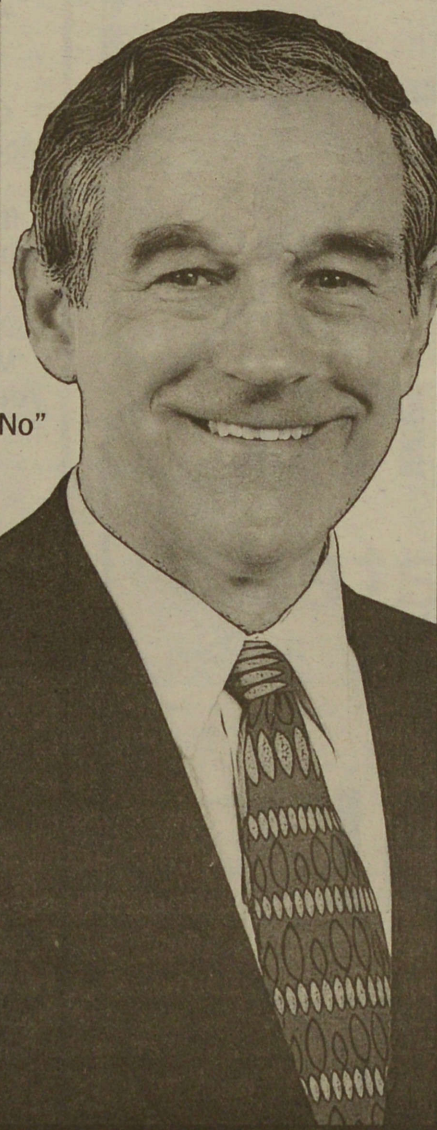
By Steve Kubby

## Say 'Yes' to Dr. No.

**Congressman Ron Paul** is known as "Dr. No" in the U.S. House because he votes "No" on every bill not specifically authorized by the Constitution. Now you have a chance to thank this libertarian hero who always says "Yes" to liberty.

Ron Paul will appear at the Advocates for Self-Government's 20th Anniversary Celebration. See our ad on page 5 for more details or to register.

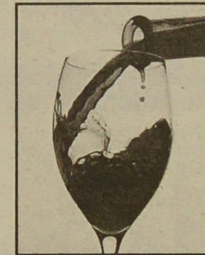
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## POLITICS 2005

### Drinking age, Kerry's odds and EU rule

■ California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has called for a special election to be held in November. He wants to ask California voters to approve a spending cap that would impose automatic budget cuts if revenue drops below projections; to eliminate a measure approved in 2000 that sets minimum funding requirements for public schools; and to extend from two years to five the time teachers would have to work before they are given tenure.



■ The Vermont legislature is considering a bill that would lower the legal drinking age from 21 to 18. The state LP supports the bill. "The 21-year-old drinking age doesn't make sense," a press release from the party reads. "In all other respects, society considers an 18-year-old as an adult." Besides, the higher drinking age is "clearly of dubious value in reducing alcohol abuse," Vermont LP chair Scott Berkey said.

■ 2004 Libertarian presidential candidate Michael Badnarik was quoted in the *Austin (Texas) American-Statesman* as saying he's unlikely to run for governor of that state next year. There is expected to be a crowded field of candidates, and Badnarik reportedly commented that he "would be basically screaming in a windstorm" if he entered that race. He is, however, considering other races, the June 2 report said.

■ Online odds maker [SportsInteraction.com](http://SportsInteraction.com) is giving 9-1 odds against 2004 Democrat presidential candidate John Kerry's chances of becoming the 2008 Democrat presidential candidate, putting him in last place. Hillary Clinton, John Edwards and Tom Daschle are all favored over Kerry for the nomination.

■ BetteRose Ryan, an at-large representative to the Libertarian National Committee, pointed out in a column for a South Dakota newspaper that the EU constitution votes by France and the Netherlands have something in common with the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling on medical marijuana. Many people in France and the Netherlands said they were "afraid a central European government would have too much control. ... Some stated they feared over time the 'loose' EU government would become too strong and oppressive. Could it be Europeans actually pay attention to what happens in the United States?" In the U.S., the federal government has been moving toward rescinding states' rights, and some European countries apparently feel EU rule would do the same to member nations, Ryan opined.

■ On the same topic, syndicated columnist Steve Chapman noted after the Supreme Court decision that Constitution author James Madison consistently said that the "powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined" and that the powers given to the states are "numerous and indefinite." When addressing the question of medical marijuana, the Supreme Court essentially asked, "James who?", ignoring the Constitution framers' intentions, Chapman said.

■ In an unexpected turn of events at the June 3 "Take Back America" conference in Washington, D.C., Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean has said he supports instant runoff voting (IRV) as a way to increase voter turnout.



■ Candice Jackson, author of *Their Lives: The Women Targeted by the Clinton Machine* — about seven women who publicly admit to affairs with former President Bill Clinton — says she is a "libertarian feminist," not a conservative. In a recent interview, she said libertarians differ from conservatives "only to the extent that as a libertarian I probably put more limits on how far government should go to intervene in our lives. ... In my mind, conservatives and libertarians are on the same side of personal freedom when it comes to opposing viewpoints like liberalism."

■ The Supreme Court decided recently not to accept an appeal from a group of American soldiers who had won a lawsuit against the regime of Saddam Hussein. The servicemen said they were tortured while POWs during Gulf War I. The court's decision — which followed the urging of the Bush administration — overturned an award of \$959 million in damages they had been given in a favorable ruling by a federal district judge. The money had later been stripped from them. The money was to come from the \$1.7 billion in Iraqi property the U.S. government was holding as part of sanctions against Iraq.



# 'Daily Poll' encourages interaction on LP.org

## May 17: Does it bother you that war spending has now exceeded \$300 billion? (377 votes)

- Yes, that's troubling. — 229 votes (60%)
- No, we have to fight terrorists on their land. — 27 votes (7%)
- Maybe, but it's probably necessary. — 36 votes (9%)
- Yes, and anyone voting for that second option is completely misinformed. — 85 votes (22%)

## May 25: Are Republicans using judicial nominees as a distraction? (285 votes)

- Yes, they want the nation to focus on that instead of the economy and Iraq. — 136 votes (47%)
- No, that's silly. — 70 votes (24%)
- Maybe, I hadn't thought of it that way. — 63 votes (22%)
- I'm not really sure. — 16 votes (5%)

## May 30: Is there any end in sight to the occupation of Iraq? (365 votes)

- No, the violence is sustained. — 257 votes (70%)
- Yes, conditions are improving. — 31 votes (8%)
- It's not an occupation; it's a liberation! — 43 votes (11%)
- I'm not really sure. — 34 votes (9%)

## June 8: Are you aware of the Downing Street Memo? (411 votes)

- Yes, but the media is ignoring it. — 171 votes (41%)
- No, did I miss something? — 208 votes (50%)
- Yes, but the invasion of Iraq was still just. — 32 votes (7%)

## June 12: Are the states increasingly losing power to the federal government? (195 votes)

- Yes, that's an obvious one. — 183 votes (93%)
- No, that's not the case. — 0 votes (0%)
- Maybe in certain areas. — 10 votes (5%)
- I'm not really sure. — 2 votes (1%)

## June 16: Should the detention camps in Guantanamo Bay be closed? (319 votes)

- Yes, it is un-American to deny justice to anyone. — 167 votes (52%)
- No, keep them open. — 79 votes (24%)
- Only if they have served their purpose. — 51 votes (15%)
- I'm not really sure. — 22 votes (6%)

## June 20: Should the PATRIOT Act be expanded? (190 votes)

- No, that's ridiculous. — 169 votes (88%)
- Yes, we need it. — 7 votes (3%)
- Maybe on certain issues. — 12 votes (6%)
- I'm not really sure. — 2 votes (1%)

When the newly designed Libertarian Party Web site was inaugurated, one feature that was introduced for the first time on LP.org was the Daily Poll, which asks a question relating to American politics — whether it be about foreign affairs, domestic policy or fiscal issues.

Along with the blog, the poll has become one of the more popular features on the site, encouraging visitors to get involved.

"We're trying to get people interested enough in LP.org that they'll come back over and over again, and giving them ways to interact with the site is a very good way to do that," said LP Communications Director Shane Cory, who designed the site.

The poll is set up to allow only one response from each voter, thus preventing people from voting repeatedly and skewing the results.

Of course, the online poll isn't exactly scientific — more than likely, the majority of the people going to the site already have libertarian leanings, even if they aren't mem-

bers of the Libertarian Party.

Even so, the results can be telling. For example, when asked about the Downing Street Memo [See story on Page 1], more than half of the people who responded said they had not heard of it.

"The poll gives us first-hand insight into the priorities of our members and the readership of LP.org," Cory said. "In the case of the Downing Street Memo, we were able to draw more attention to the memo once we knew that people weren't hearing about it elsewhere."

A new feature on the poll also invites readers to suggest questions they would like to see addressed in the future, Cory said.

"Our visitorship is higher than it was with the old version of the Web site, and it's still climbing," he said. "The poll, combined with features like the blog, increase not only the functionality of the Web site, but also the sense of community. People are coming to the site now not just to read about the party, but also to interact with other members and visitors."

## Massachusetts Libertarians:

Sometime in the coming months, our state legislators will vote in the second Constitutional Convention to ban same-sex marriage.

Our Official LP Platform has *always* supported equality before the law for gays and lesbians, yet...

***It's the Massachusetts Democratic Party who first got credit in the press for opposing the ban.***

Outright Libertarians is starting its first chapter in Massachusetts to turn this around, but ***we need your help, whether you're gay or straight.*** This is not a gay or lesbian issue, but rather one of Liberty.

We need ***all*** Massachusetts Libertarians to:

1. Write and call your state legislator to tell them that you, as a Libertarian, oppose the amendment to ban same-sex civil marriage in Massachusetts, and
2. Contact our LPMA State Committee to tell them you agree with the Libertarian Party Platform plank on Sexual Rights and want them to start supporting the equality of civil marriage ***in word and in deed.***

Together, we can not only stop this terrible constitutional amendment, but also generate good publicity for the Libertarian Party within the LGBT community. To join or support Outright Libertarians, please email [chair@outrightusa.org](mailto:chair@outrightusa.org) or send your contact info to Outright Libertarians of MA, 158 Brookline St #2, Cambridge, MA 02139.

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# Successful tax fighter Richard Rider near the front in San Diego mayoral race; special election July 26

"Only in San Diego would we expect a Libertarian to be in the front of the pack," said Michael Marcotte, moderator of a KCBS panel — televised on May 27 — about the candidates in the San Diego, Calif., mayoral race.

The Libertarian in question is Richard Rider, chairman of the successful San Diego Tax Fighters and one of 11 active candidates in the special mayoral election.

And Marcotte wasn't alone in his estimation of Rider's chances of success in this race: Rider, a retired stockbroker and financial planner, has routinely been named as one of the top few candidates. Others include a former San Diego police chief and a city councilwoman.

This isn't Rider's first run for office. Since 1988 he has run for office four times — for county supervisor, county treasurer, state assembly and Congress.

This race, he says, is different.

San Diego is in trouble, and the city needs a mayor who is dedicated to lowering taxes and to solving the city's problems in a fiscally responsible way.

Actually, the city's problems are why there is a special election coming up: Mayor Dick Murphy announced his plans to resign, effective July 15, just months after he was elected to his second term. He had been heavily criticized both in California and across the nation for San Diego's host of ongoing difficulties.

Two city councilmen are standing trial on corruption charges, federal and local authorities are looking into the city's financial practices, many fear the city is approaching bankruptcy, and the city pension fund has a current shortfall of at least \$1.4 billion due to poor management.

Some candidates even advocate filing for bankruptcy. Rider isn't one of them.

In addition to his financial experience and his dedication to cutting taxes, Rider is getting praise for his consistency.

In the KCBS panel discussion on the election, moderator Marcotte said, "You have to admire Rider, you know, for coming off the sidelines where he is free to be a critic, and jumping right into the fray."

San Diego Union-Tribune reporter Greg Moran replied, "He has had a

very consistent message over the years and you kind of wonder if this is sort of his time. It seems that all of the forces have kind of come together."

Rider has promised that if he is elected he will not accept a city pension — thus drawing further attention to the city's broken retirement system.

He says the city's pensions and salaries must be rolled back; he wants to privatize city services like libraries, parks, swimming pools and garbage pickup; he promised he'd take a 30 percent pay cut from the mayor's \$100,464-a-year salary; and he wants to stop subsidizing the city's sports teams.

Some of his promises — includ-

ing cutting city pensions and privatizing some services — have been picked up by other candidates.


"One interesting aspect of this campaign is that people are stealing each others' ideas," he said. "For better or worse, they steal mine more than others'. I just wish they meant what they said. No one knows what these people will do in

office — [but people] do know what I will do if I'm elected!"

Rider said he expects the large number of people in the race to help his chances of being elected: If no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote, there will be a runoff election this fall.

For more information go to [www.RiderForMayor.com](http://www.RiderForMayor.com).

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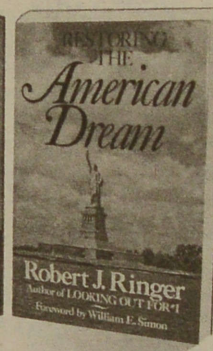
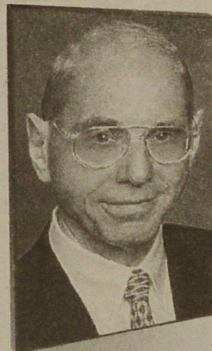
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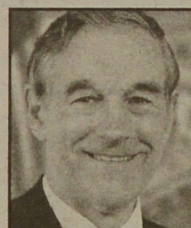
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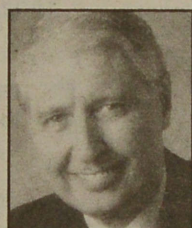
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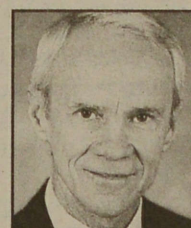
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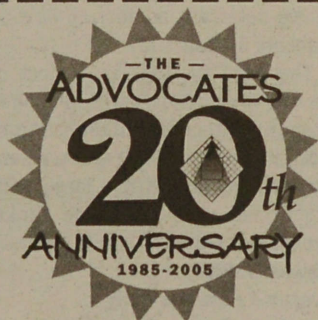
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## TALKING POINTS

# Milton Friedman, freedom fries and protesting a different Bush

### ■ Quota system

University of Oregon senior Stephanie Ramey wanted to sign up for a calculus class, but she says she was told by university officials she couldn't because she is white. That class is one of several where the first 10 of 18 seats are reserved for African-American, Asian-American/Pacific Islander, Chicano/Latino, Native American or multiracial students. White students must arrive early in the morning of the first day of classes and meet with an adviser before being allowed to take any remaining slots. University officials deny there's a quota system at work. They say the classes are designed to make minority students more comfortable.

—CHARLES OLIVER  
Reason Online  
June 10, 2005

### ■ Christian judges

People calling themselves Christians are gathering once again for a crusade against what they consider to be the secular humanist subversion of Christian values. This time the object of their wrath is the judiciary.

In the wake of the fanatical and fruitless assaults against the judicial system for letting Terri Schiavo die, the Family Research Council will convene tomorrow what it calls "Justice Sunday," a live simulcast to pit Christian values against "our out-of-control courts."

What these self-avowed Christians do not acknowledge — and what the American public seems little aware of — is that the war they are waging is actually against other people calling themselves Christians.

The assault on the judiciary is especially revealing. The vicious attacks on Judge George Greer, the Florida jurist who presided over the Schiavo case, reveal the bizarre nature of right-wing Christian fantasies. A regular recipient of hate mail and threats against his life that required him to walk to court with an armed marshal, Judge Greer is a lifelong Southern Baptist, a regular in church and a conservative Republican.

Nearly all of the demonized judges are, in fact, practicing Christians, not secular humanists.

—PAUL GASTON  
The Washington Post  
April 23, 2005

### ■ Friedman speaks out

Milton Friedman leads a list of more than 500 economists from around the U.S. who today will publicly endorse a Harvard University economist's report on the costs of marijuana prohibition.

Ending prohibition enforcement would save \$7.7 billion in combined state and federal spending, the report says, while taxation would yield up to \$6.2 billion a year.

The report, "The Budgetary Implications of Marijuana Prohibition,"

was written by Jeffrey A. Miron, a professor at Harvard, and largely paid for by the Marijuana Policy Project (MPP), a Washington, D.C., group advocating the review and liberalization of marijuana laws.

At 92, Friedman is revered as one of the great champions of free-market capitalism during the years of U.S. rivalry with Communism. He is also passionate about the need to legalize marijuana, among other drugs, for both financial and moral reasons.

"There is no logical basis for the prohibition of marijuana," the economist says. "It's absolutely disgraceful to think of picking up a 22-year-old for smoking pot. More disgraceful is the denial of marijuana for medical purposes."

—QUENTIN HARDY  
Forbes.com  
June 2, 2005

### ■ Freedom fries

The U.S. politician who led the campaign to change the name of french fries to "freedom fries" has turned against the war.

Walter Jones, the Republican congressman for North Carolina who was also the brains behind french toast becoming freedom toast in Capitol Hill restaurants, told a local newspaper the U.S. went to war "with no justification."

Mr. Jones, who in March 2003 circulated a letter demanding that the three cafeterias in the House of Representatives' office buildings ban the word french from menus, said it was meant as a "light-hearted gesture."

Although he voted for the war, he has since become one of its most vociferous opponents on Capitol Hill.

—JAMIE WILSON  
The Guardian  
May 25, 2005

### ■ Arabic interpreters

Tarik, a newly minted U.S. Army private first class, recalls his first challenge in Iraq: convincing fellow GIs he wasn't a terrorist.

The 24-year-old Morocco native was among the first graduates of a U.S. military program to provide Arabic-speaking "combat linguists" for American ground troops.

During basic training at Ft. Jackson, S.C., scores of foreign-born recruits are warned that their backgrounds make them targets for Iraqi

extremists who view them as traitors. But nobody warns them about the soldiers they're sent to assist.

In Iraq, some interpreters said, soldiers mocked their Arabic surnames and accused them of being "on the wrong side" of the conflict.

—JOHN M. GLIONNA AND ASHRAF KHALIL  
Los Angeles Times  
June 5, 2005

### ■ WMDs

The FBI said that the grenade that was thrown near President Bush when he was in Russia was real and could have exploded. This is the closest that the Bush administration has come to finding weapons of mass destruction.

—JAY LENO  
The Tonight Show  
May 23, 2005

### ■ Military base closings

The Defense Department recently announced its recommendations for Base Realignment and Closure, or BRAC. Thirty-three major military bases are slated for closure and more than 100 other smaller installations (some staffed with as few as three people) would be downsized or shut down. [T]he reality is that this round of BRAC could have — and should have — gone further.

[T]he United States does not need an active duty military of 1.4 million soldiers to defend the country against traditional nation-state military threats. With the demise of the Soviet Union, there is no threat to U.S. security in Europe, and North Korea hardly qualifies as a threat when military capabilities are compared.



The United States outspends North Korea 80-to-1, and the U.S. military is the most modern and well-equipped in the world compared to North Korean forces that have older Chinese and former Soviet equipment. The same is true of other so-called rogue state threats.

It's worth remembering that the large U.S. military was not an effective deterrent against 19 suicide hijackers on Sept. 11.

The hard truth is that most of the war on terrorism will be waged through unprecedented international intelligence and law enforcement cooperation, not with a large military armed with expensive tanks, planes, and ships.

—CHARLES V. PEÑA  
Investor's Business Daily  
June 9, 2005

### ■ 'Low-lying fruit'

A congressman says comedian Bill Maher's comment that the U.S. military has already recruited all the "low-lying fruit" is possibly treasonous and at least grounds to cancel the show.

Rep. Spencer Bachus, R-Ala., takes issue with remarks on HBO's "Real Time with Bill Maher," first aired May 13, in which Maher points out the Army missed its recruiting goal by 42 percent in April.

"More people joined the Michael Jackson fan club," Maher said. "We've done picked all the low-lying Lyndie England fruit, and now we need warm bodies."

Army Reserve Pfc. England was accused of abusing prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.

"I think it borders on treason," Bachus said. "In treason, one definition is to undermine the effort or national security of our country."

"Anyone who ... has watched my show knows that I have nothing but the highest regard for the men and women serving this country around the world," Maher said in a statement.

"I don't want (Maher) prosecuted," Bachus said. "I want him off the air."

—RENE MACURA  
USA Today  
May 23, 2005

### ■ Protest on both sides

Protesters jostled and harangued U.S. first lady Laura Bush on Sunday when she visited a flashpoint Jerusalem shrine holy to both Muslims and Jews and at the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Israeli police and U.S. Secret Service agents formed a tight cordon around her to push back crowds in what for Bush, on a Middle East goodwill tour, was a rare close encounter with hostile demonstrators.

A small crowd of about two dozen people pressed in on Bush as she entered the Dome of the Rock mosque in Jerusalem's walled Old City. A Palestinian worshipper cried out at her: "You are not welcome here. Why are you hassling our Muslims? How dare you come in here?"

Bush, who made an appeal for peace later, did not respond to him or an old woman inside the mosque who shouted "Koran, Koran" at her in Arabic.

She began a Middle East trip on Friday acknowledging that the U.S. image in the Muslim world had been badly damaged by a prisoner abuse scandal and a magazine report, since retracted, that U.S. interrogators desecrated the Koran.

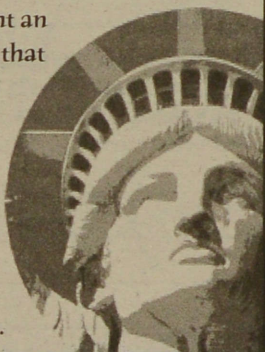
Shortly before visiting the mosque, Bush appeared at the adjacent ancient Western Wall and was confronted by dozens of nationalist Jews demanding Washington free convicted Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard. They shouted and waved placards.

—ADAM ENTIOUS  
Reuters.com  
May 22, 2005

**"Tyranny is always better organized than freedom."**

—CHARLES PEGUY, FRENCH PHILOSOPHER (1873-1914)

That's not all: It has more people working for it, too. And it's better funded. That's where you come in. If you want America to someday live up to its noble libertarian ideals, the Libertarian Party needs to be able to mount an effective challenge to the political parties that are more interested in pushing us towards tyranny than towards liberty. How can you help? By naming the LP in your will or insurance policy. For a private discussion of this option, call National LP Treasurer Mark Nelson at (563) 340-6151. Or e-mail him at: [treasurer@LP.org](mailto:treasurer@LP.org), and include "Planned Giving" in the subject line.





# Carla Howell invites You to visit her new Center for Small Government Action Website

Today's Big Government is way too big, too powerful, too costly, too nosy and too bossy.

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The Center for Small Government seeks to dismantle, reduce, and remove Big Government policies and programs. Our mission is to make government small.

Here are just a few things you'll discover at our Center for Small Government Action Website:

- ✓ Why do the 5 Iron Laws of Big Government slash through the Gordian Knot of No-Win political arguments?
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- ✓ Do you know why "small government is beautiful?"
- ✓ Why Does Small Government Plus One Exception Always Result in Big Government?
- ✓ "The Bonsai Remedy": the small government compass that guides our libertarian efforts.

- ✓ Are you engaging in these "Random Acts of Liberty?" Are you involved in libertarian efforts that waste time and money — and don't advance the cause of liberty one iota?
- ✓ Why the theory and practice of "Limited Government" is fatally flawed. Why advancing "small government" is the only way to advance libertarianism.
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- ✓ Orwell's Secret. Why libertarians are shut out of political conversations. How and why we can and must re-define the political landscape, reframe the political debate, introduce the language of liberty — and change politics from liberal vs. conservative to Big Government vs. small government.
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- ✓ "Reading diet books won't make you thin. Reading exercise books won't make you fit. Reading libertarian books won't make you free. If you want small government and freedom, you must act."  
— Michael Cloud

*The Center for Small Government offers you all this and more. We show you the key differences between small government and Big Government. You'll discover how to leverage liberty with language. You'll learn what to do to make government small — and how to do it. Step by step. Simple as A-B-C. And we'll share libertarian success stories with you. Not just the results or highlights. Exactly what they did. How they did it. What worked and what didn't. News you can use.*

Carla Howell is the President and Founder of the Center for Small Government. She spearheaded the 2002 ballot initiative to End the State Income Tax in Massachusetts, which won an unprecedented 45% of the vote.

Michael Cloud works with Ms. Howell. He is a legendary Libertarian Party activist and the author of *Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion*.

**You're invited! Please go online now and click on the Center for Small Government Action Website:**

**[www.CenterForSmallGovernment.com](http://www.CenterForSmallGovernment.com)**



# Your contribution to the Spanish-American War

A hundred and seven years ago, in 1898, the federal government began levying a "temporary" 3 percent excise tax on telephones, ostensibly to fund the Spanish-American War.

Flash forward to 2005 — and every American with a telephone is still paying this tax. The war was over after just a few months, but the tax has been in effect for over

a century.

On top of that, the tax does not go for any specific purpose. Rather, the funds are simply added to the general fund.

Congress attempted to repeal the tax in 2000.

Both the House of Representatives and the Senate passed legislation to eliminate the tax — it was a 420-2 vote in the House — but

then-President Bill Clinton vetoed the bill when it reached his desk.

Once again, the House has been presented with a bill — H.R. 1898 — that would repeal this 107-year-old "temporary" tax on telephones and other communications services.

The bill was introduced in late April by Rep. Gary G. Miller of California, and has been cosponsored by 39 other congressmen. It currently

sits in the House Committee on Ways and Means.

This tax should have been repealed more than a century ago, but some members of Congress still support the tax — and some even want to expand it.

Congress' Joint Committee on Taxation issued an opinion in January, saying that the tax could be expanded to apply to wireless Internet

and data connections.

Their argument? Because some newer cell phones operate using Internet technology, and it's difficult or impossible to tell whether the message being transmitted is voice or text, the only way to make sure the government is collecting all taxes it's "supposed to" would be to extend the tax to the newer technology, as well.

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— Charles A. Stuppy  
Vice President, Los Alamos  
National Bank, Los Alamos, NM

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## Libertarian arrested during protest of airport security

Russell Kanning, a Libertarian from Keene, New Hampshire, was arrested June 11 at the airport in Manchester, N.H.

As a means of protesting the heightened security-driven restrictions at airports, Kanning tried to board a plane without presenting identification.

His only luggage was a Bible and a copy of the Declaration of Independence.

According to the Associated Press, he was arrested "after refusing to comply with security screening procedures and refusing to leave the screening area." He was charged with criminal trespassing.

Kanning reportedly declined to have bail posted, choosing to remain in the county jail until his arraignment a few days later.

This was the second in an apparent series of peaceful demonstrations in New Hampshire, as Libertarians attempt to bring to light the unnecessarily stringent regulations that govern much of American life.

About a month earlier, another New Hampshire Libertarian was charged with illegally performing a manicure on a fellow Libertarian.

He charged her a dollar for the service, thus making it a financial transaction and putting himself in violation of the state's laws governing licensing of manicurists.

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## AFFILIATE NEWS

# Service award, Gay Pride festival and standing up for businesses

### ■ CONNECTICUT

## Community service, activism awarded

In late May, Libertarian Arline Dunlop was notified that she had been awarded \$500 from statewide newspaper *The Day*, as the winner of the paper's annual Deane C. Avery Award for her community activism.

Dunlop's activities include "speaking during the public comment portions of city council meetings and routinely running for political office on the Libertarian ticket," wrote a reporter for the *Record-Journal*, her local newspaper.

The award was named for the former editor and publisher of *The Day*, who was also a member of the state Freedom of Information Commission. It is given annually to a person who advocates for the people's right to information the government wants to keep secret, or who protects the freedom of speech.

Dunlop was nominated for the award by James H. Smith of the *Record-Journal*, who wrote in his nomination letter that she "loves democracy and honest, open, responsive government."

Dunlop was to be honored during the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information annual meeting on June 23.

"She marches, she protests, she sits in the offices of the high and mighty for hours, waiting to see them and ask them questions they do not want to answer," Smith said.

Mayor Mark D. Benigni of Meriden — where Dunlop lives — has presided over many meetings Dunlop has been involved in. He called her a "tireless advocate for the citizens of Meriden," saying she "works hard to make sure all the citizens of Meriden have a voice."

Dunlop explained that she has been a mayoral candidate in Meriden three times herself — and plans to run again for that position in November.

### ■ INDIANA

## Small business owners welcome Libertarians

Indiana LP Executive Director Brad Klopfenstein and Steuben County LP Chairman Ken Bisson visited 16 restaurants and taverns in Steuben County on June 2. The owners of these small businesses said almost unanimously that they do not favor a proposed smoking ban that would affect their establishments.

"These are kind, thoughtful people who sincerely wish to sat-

isfy their customers," Bisson said. "I have no doubt they are more capable of such decisions than any legislator."

The Indiana legislature is considering a smoking ban for this type of businesses — and the LP is reaching out to these small business owners, letting them know that there is a political party that is interested in preserving their right to conduct business as they see fit.

Klopfenstein and Bisson began their restaurant tour by visiting with proprietors of three eateries who have voluntarily made the decision to go smoke free in their establishments. All three said they believe all business owners should decide for themselves whether to permit smoking, and they oppose a legislated ban, Bisson said.

Out of the 16 establishments visited, only one owner preferred a legislated ban on smoking, and only one owner took no position on the proposal.

Bisson said he was overwhelmed by the support he found for the Libertarian efforts. Evidence of this support: Several business owners offered free meeting space, promised to enlist patron support and said they would speak at public hearings on the proposed ban.

Klopfenstein and Bisson said they expect to address the business owners at future events — and promised to stay on top of the issue by letting their new contacts know when a show of support is needed to defend small businesses from meddling legislation.

### ■ SOUTH CAROLINA

## Citadel Libertarians visited by Rep. Ron Paul

On May 6, Congressman Ron Paul (R-Texas) visited Charleston, S.C., to celebrate the graduation of Mark Hocamp, the founder of the Citadel Young Libertarian Society, from the Citadel, to appear on a radio show and to speak at a banquet hosted by South Carolina's Liberty Network.

"Long a Republican enclave, the Citadel welcomed Dr. Paul with open arms," said Bea Jones, a Libertarian member of the Hardeeville, S.C., City Council.

Bill Woolsey, a Citadel economics

professor and twice-elected Libertarian James Island city councilman, took the opportunity to introduce Paul to his associates at the military college, and later that night Paul shared the head table at the banquet with several elected Libertarians and other elected officials.

During his speech, Paul told the assembled group of liberty-minded individuals — including Libertarians as well as members of the Patriot Network, of the League of the South and of ABATE — about his struggles in office as a libertarian Republican.

He also said "more and more congressmen and senators are at last paying attention to the Liberty Network, and even starting to vote for the principles that he has so long maintained," Jones said.

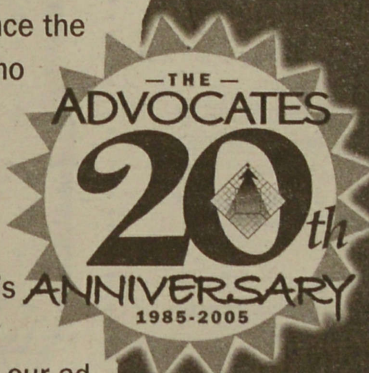
"It's a slow process," Paul admitted, but said that as more of an elected official's constituents pay attention and voice their opinions on issues of liberty, the more those elected officials understand how important liberty is.



■ George Phillis, of Liberty for Massachusetts, and Amanda Phillips, of the Free State Project, were among the Libertarians hosting an "Operation Politically Homeless" booth at the Boston Pride festival on June 11. The booth, sponsored by gay rights group Outright Libertarians, led to more than 200 people taking the World's Smallest Political Quiz, said Rob Power of Outright Libertarians. "About half of those who took the quiz scored Libertarian, and about a quarter of them gave us their contact information," Power said. "More than a few card-carrying Libertarians walked up to thank us for having the first Libertarian presence at Boston Pride in many years." The Outright Libertarians expected to take part in similar celebrations in about a half-dozen other cities around the country before the end of June. (Photo provided by Rob Power)

# Experience Harry, A-Z.

**Harry Browne.** Has anyone done more for the libertarian movement? He's run for president twice, wrote *Why Government Doesn't Work* and *Liberty A-Z*, works with the Downsize DC Foundation, and hosts a weekly radio show. Now you can experience the libertarian dynamo that is Harry Browne when he appears at the Advocates for Self-Government's 20th Anniversary Celebration. See our ad on page 5 for details.



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## THE PROFILE

# Comic Dave Barry

By Bill Winter

THE ADVOCATES FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT

No, we are not making this up! Humorist Dave Barry is a libertarian, and has been for years. In a 1994 interview with *Reason* magazine, Barry credited writer Sheldon Richman with convincing him to embrace libertarianism, back in the 1970s.

"Sheldon and I would argue," Barry told *Reason*. "I mean, really argue. ... Then in the late '70s, I began to see. I think the gas crisis had something to do with it. I began to realize, this is all happening because of the government. And I began to think about all the government people I knew ... who were theoretically for the common good. Then I realized not one of them was [for the common good]."



That led Barry to his ultimate insight about government: "It's stupid."

That realization stayed with Barry over the decades that followed, as he worked his way to being called "the funniest man in America"

by the *New York Times*, as well as becoming one of the country's best-known humorists. By 2004, Barry's weekly column — which offered a laugh-out-loud Everyman's look at topics ranging from raising children to exploding Pop-Tarts — was syndicated in more than 500 newspapers. His life was also made into a popular television comedy ("Dave's World," which ran on CBS from 1993 to 1997).

In 1988, he won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary, making him the only humor writer ever to win journalism's premier award.

Over the years, Barry also found time to write more than 30 books.

Barry's success did not change his libertarian beliefs. Cynicism about government permeated his work. Barbed shots at politicians, government-mandated low-flush toilets, the IRS tax code, and federal pork projects became a regular feature in his writing. In a January 2004 interview with *Scholastic* magazine, Barry said it was never difficult for him to find humor in political news. In fact, he said, "I don't understand how anybody finds anything serious in politics."

Some examples of Barry's libertarian commentary:

■ On tax cuts: "Most of the presidential candidates' economic packages involve 'tax breaks,' which is when the government, amid great fanfare, generously decides not to take quite so much of your income. In other words, these candidates are trying to buy your votes with your own money." — Column, Feb. 9, 1992

■ On the growth of government: "Whatever the needs of the public are, the government responds to those needs by getting larger." — *Dave Barry Hits Below the Beltway*, 2001

■ On government's one useful function: "If we ever do wise up and dump the federal government, I'll lose my biggest source of comic material." — Review of David Boaz's book *Libertarianism: A Primer*, 1997

■ On the tax code: "Why can't Americans do their own taxes? Because the federal tax code is out of control, that's why. It's gigantic and insanely complex, and it gets worse all the time. Nobody has ever read the whole thing. IRS workers are afraid to go into the same ROOM with it." — Column, April 6, 2003

■ On the War on Drugs: "The way this country deals with drugs is just not funny. What a waste of everyone's time and effort. What a waste of a lot of people's lives." — *Reason*, December, 1994

■ On government "job-creation" programs: "See, when the government spends money, it creates jobs; whereas when the money is left in the hands of taxpayers, God only knows what they do with it. Bake it into pies, probably. Anything to avoid creating jobs." — Column, Feb. 23, 1992

Despite the steady drumbeat of pro-liberty themes, Barry said most readers probably haven't figured out that he's a libertarian.

"Because I don't write an overly political column, people just assume I'm not," he told *Reason*. "I guess nobody assumes anybody is a libertarian. It's a more complex political discussion than most people are used to, to explain why you think the way you do about public education or drug laws, and why it's not as simple as being for or against something."

In late 2004, Barry announced that he was taking an indefinite leave of absence from writing his weekly column, effective January, 2005, to spend more time with his family.

■ Each month, LP News features a column about celebrities who call themselves libertarian. This article reprinted with permission from the *Advocates for Self-Government*. To read profiles of dozens of libertarian celebrities, visit: [www.TheAdvocates.org/celebrities.html](http://www.TheAdvocates.org/celebrities.html).

## LP sets goal for membership: 5,000 new members by July 31

Between June 15 and July 31, the Libertarian Party is hoping to get 5,000 Americans to either join the party or renew their memberships.

"Every 30 days we have to add or renew about 1,200 members just to 'break even,'" says Jessica Neno Wilson, the party's outreach coordinator. "If we really want to jump start growth, we're going to have to do better than that. Hence this campaign. We want to jump ahead."

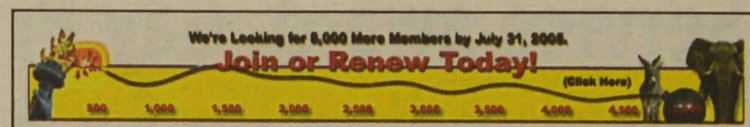
It won't be easy, Wilson said: "5,000 new memberships or renewals in 47 days is a stretch goal. It's not a false goal that we would meet no matter what. We're all going to have to work hard if we're going to see that kind of results."

As part of the campaign, the national LP will be mailing out between 175,000 and 250,000 letters over the next month or so, in addition to the 75,000 that have gone out in recent weeks.

Some will go to former members of the party, some to members of like-minded organizations, and possibly some to people who are registered to vote Libertarian but haven't joined the party.

"We also have college students at LP HQ on the phone every day, encouraging people to renew their memberships," Wilson said. "We're going to do everything we can to make this happen."

The campaign has already kicked off on LP.org, the party's Web site. A "Daily Poll" question in mid-June



provided four possible slogans for the campaign, asking people to vote for their favorite or to propose a different option.

Out of 170 votes, the most popular of the four options provided was "Help us break the two-party system," with 62 votes. However, a response that all of the available options are "lame" got 60 votes, almost eclipsing the favorite.

The slogan contest also made its way onto the LP.org blog, where literally hundreds of possible slogans were proposed. One of the possibilities will be selected and added to the "thermometer" prominently displayed on the Web site, showing the progress toward 5,000 more members.

In addition to the mass mailings and the Web site attention, there are some things that LP members can do, Wilson said.

"If LP News readers' memberships are about to expire, I'd certainly encourage them to either send in a renewal form or go to the Web site and click on the yellow Member Center tab at the right side of the screen to renew," she said. "And if they have family members or friends whose memberships have expired, give them a friendly nudge to renew."

"And on top of that, everybody

should be sending links to LP.org to their personal e-mail lists, encouraging people to visit the site. With our newly designed Web site, there's plenty there for people to see, and that alone could drive a lot of new memberships. We're all going to have to do everything we can, if we want to meet this goal."

## Online Resources for LP Members

■ Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party or your State Chair  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Organization  
Click on: State Parties  
Click on: [Your state]

■ Find contact info for the National Committee  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Organization  
Click on: LNC Directory

■ Renew your membership  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Membership  
Click on: Renew your membership or subscription

## LIBERTY IN OUR LIFETIME

The 2005 Porcupine Freedom Festival

will be held July 25 - 31 at Roger's Campground in Lancaster, NH.

Admission is free with events including town tours, hiking, camping, a mock town hall meeting, seminars, and speakers. Guest speakers include 2004 Presidential candidate Michael Badnarick, author Jim Bovard, and others, with music by Poker Face!

Join liberty lovers from all walks of life to meet the early movers and see the Free State first-hand!

For more info:

[freestateproject.org/festival](http://freestateproject.org/festival)

Roger's Campground: 603-636-1062





# Shane Cory named LP communications director

**By J. Daniel Cloud**  
LP NEWS EDITOR

Shane Cory, a contractor who has worked with the Libertarian Party for about two years, has been hired as communications director for the LP.

He began working with the LP as a general consultant and Internet strategist, and his service as a vendor led to a complete overhaul of LP.org, work on which began last December.

Cory also recently completed a new Web site for the California Libertarian Party, which became available online on May 17.

It was his earlier work with the party that led LP Executive Director Joe Seehusen to consider him for the communications director position.

"Shane has provided excellent service to us over recent years as a contractor, and we saw during that time that he has the skills to help us move the Libertarian Party in a more outward direction," Seehusen said. "We are in the midst of a transition to a more outreach-based model and I feel certain he is going to help us in that process."

As an example, Seehusen pointed to many comments that have been either e-mailed to his desk or posted on LP.org's blog — a feature not included on the earlier Web site — noting that the party is becoming more outwardly oriented, and commenting on the new legislative activities that are being facilitated by Cory's work on the site.

"I think this is a great opportunity for me," Cory said. "Right now we have the opportunity to make something big happen, and I want to be a part of that. The two-party system is clearly corrupt — and for the benefit of the American people, a third party needs to rise up."

Cory's job history before coming to the LP makes him ideally suited for the communications director slot, Seehusen said.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1992 to 1996 as a legal specialist. He worked out of Marine Corps headquarters, across the street from the Pentagon, in the Judge Advocate Division — the USMC's equivalent to the Navy's JAG, which has been made familiar to Americans through the television show by the same name.

While working with the Marine Corps' JAD, Cory dealt with officer misconduct: Any officer who was faced with allegations of misconduct was reported to him, and he reported to the head of the Marine Corps.

He was honorably discharged in December of 1996, then served four years on reserve duty.

During this time of reserve duty, he worked in various law firms in the Washington, D.C. area, in the areas of systems administration, human resources and general law firm administration.

He was later recruited by a large

energy company to work in their D.C. lobbying office.

"There I got a first-hand look at the real inner workings of Washington, and quickly resigned to go work for a nonprofit government watchdog group as their director of operations," Cory said.

While with this organization, he produced a video documentary, set up radio shows, oversaw media operations and sent out press releases via fax and e-mail lists — preparing him for the work he'll do at LP

headquarters.

He remained with this group until 2000, when he formed his own "new media" consulting firm — Cory Consulting, which focused on Internet strategy, Web development and e-commerce for small businesses and nonprofit organizations.

When Cory was hired on a full-time basis by the LP, he resigned from Cory Consulting, though he maintains a share of the company. The operation of the company has been handed over to his employees.

As communications director for the party, Cory said he hopes to increase the LP's media presence and help change the LP's image from that of a fringe group to being recognized as the Party of Principle.

"The Libertarian Party has been relegated to fringe status for too long," he said. "It's time we reach out to the mainstream of American voters. We care about honesty and openness in government; we care about keeping taxes down; we care about minimizing government's

power over individual Americans' lives; and we're the only political party that can honestly say this.

"It's time Americans knew that the Libertarian Party is the only party that is willing to stand up for their rights. I hope that by expanding our media presence — both in the traditional media and the electronic media — I'll be able to help make that happen.

"I believe the people of this nation are ready to make a change and embrace true freedom."

## Would you donate to guarantee a Libertarian gubernatorial candidate appears in televised debates?

In New Jersey, a candidate for governor who qualifies for matching funds is guaranteed by law to participate in a series of televised debates with his opponents.



This is exactly what happened in 1997. The Libertarian Party's candidate debated his Republican and Democrat counterparts in three venues across the Garden State. The state and national media treated him as a serious candidate and he received coverage on a daily basis in the press and on radio and television. And it was reflected at the polls: in one of the most liberal states in the nation a Libertarian received 114,172 votes—nearly 5% of the vote.

This year we're poised to surpass that performance. We have a strong candidate for governor in Jeffrey Pawlowski, a former municipal councilman who knows how to campaign and how to win. If we can get Jeff and his message before the voters there's no telling how far he can go. And all it will take is a donation of as little as \$30 from you.

Most importantly, Jeff's race is one of only two Governor's races in the entire country and that other race does not have a Libertarian candidate. This makes Jeff's campaign the most prominent race in the nation for the Libertarian party.

To qualify for matching funds, Jeff needs to raise \$300,000 before Sept. 1. With 10,000 donations of at least \$30 from each of us we can create another national sensation for the LP.

Let's face it: hard work has to be backed up by hard cash if it's to produce hard numbers. And we know how hard it can be to write that check. But we're not offering you promises or a fantasy scenario. We are telling you what the law says. We are telling you exactly what happened once before.

Write that check now for as much as you honestly can. Would you consider giving the maximum donation of \$3000? Let's not lose such a golden opportunity: a strong candidate, a strong ticket and the law on our side.

For more information

Visit

<http://pawlowski2005.org>

**Make Checks to: Pawlowski  
for Governor**

**Mail To: Pawlowski For Governor  
PO Box 177  
South Amboy, NJ 08879**

Full Name of Contributor

Address of Contributor - include City, State, and Zip

Phone Number

Email Address (optional)

Donation Amount

Contributor Employer's Name  
(If contributions more than \$300, aggregate)

Contributor Employer's Address - include city, state, and zip  
(If contributions more than \$300, aggregate)

Occupation of Contributor

Signature of Contributor and Date



## THE FORUM

# Open or closed immigration: Clarifying the LP Platform

The question of whether or not someone should be allowed to enter the United States can be equated to whether or not someone may enter another person's private property.

Libertarians believe that all real property should be privately owned, that the government should not own land. To be consistent, then, our position on a foreign national entering our country should be exactly what it would be if all land were already in private hands.

The 17<sup>th</sup> century philosopher John Locke stated that ownership of a piece of property amounts to the sole right to control and use that property, and his definition is the basis of Western property rights.

A property owner has the right to dictate the terms upon which someone may enter his property, and to enter on any other terms is to trespass.

The principle does not change when a foreign national desires to enter the United States: The only way he can do so without entering illegally, i.e. trespassing, is to comply with the terms and conditions set down by the property's owners.

In this case, the property's owners are the citizens. No one has a right to enter this country without permission any more than I have the right to enter your property without your permission, under your terms and conditions. And it is the traveler's obligation to demonstrate compliance with those conditions, not the property owner's obligation to show that the conditions have not been met.

### ■ A right to travel?

There is no "inalienable human right" to travel, as some claim. Your right to travel stops at my property line. And if all property is privately owned, then there is no right to travel, only a privilege.

However, if someone wishes to enter and is willing to comply with the established terms and conditions for entry, then they should not be arbitrarily prevented from entering.

That said, the Libertarian Party has not set down the conditions for entry to the country we seek to build — a country which would not include "public land."

We are clear on the issues that are relevant to immigration in terms of personal freedom and economic freedom: An unrestricted labor

pool is necessary for the operation of markets that are truly free, and therefore if an immigrant wants to come into the country to work, he should not be restrained.

In addition, the desire to make a better life and to enjoy the benefits of political freedom should also not be curtailed.

But rights entail responsibility, so we are forced to address some questions: What obligations go with these rights? What are the obligations of someone wishing to enter the country?

Current and recent administrations have failed in addressing immigration problems, but we should not condemn the administration's failure without explaining how we could do the job better.

We cannot have a political party dedicated to the rights and responsibilities of the individual, and then say that people have the right to cross our border unrestrained. We must explain what responsibilities they have in crossing that border — an issue the LP platform does not currently address.

### ■ Rights and obligations

Assume that we create a libertarian utopia where all the roads are privately owned and funded by user fees of some kind. Use of the road requires payment of the user fee, so entry into the country must include paying the owner of the road the appropriate fee. If someone enters and does not pay for the use of the road, they are at best a freeloader and at worst a trespasser. Even if the road is publicly owned, the principle remains the same: No one should demand a benefit without paying for it.

So at a minimum we would say that if someone has the right to cross our border and enter the country, they have an obligation to pay for their use of the road.

Say, for instance, that the road across the border from Tijuana to San Diego is funded by gasoline and tire user fees, and someone comes over from Tijuana to San Diego to shop for the day. If they fill their tank south of the border, shop for the day and return without paying for any gas north of the border,

they have freeloader. You and I have paid for their passage.

I don't expect libertarians are going to say that the guy has the right to freeloader. And no one has the right to dictate that I must share the cost of what they wish to give away.

So if someone wishes to enter the country, at a minimum they are obliged to pay their fair share for using the road. And if there is one obligation that goes with the privilege of entry, then there easily may be others.

The goal of the Immigration plank of the Libertarian Party's



platform must be to specify the obligations that go along with the privilege of peaceful people to cross borders freely.

Just as a guest in my house must demonstrate to me that he has met my terms for entry onto my property, the immigrant who enters the country must bear the burden of proof that he has met the terms and conditions set down for entry into the country.

### ■ Open vs. uncontrolled

Saying that a border is "open" does not mean that it is uncontrolled, and saying that a border is "controlled" does not mean that it is closed.

If the terms and conditions of entry are public and reasonable, then entry is a matter of formality rather than statist tyranny. What, then, are the reasonable controls that Libertarians would advocate?

Obviously we would require anyone who wishes to enter to comply with the laws of the country. They must agree to be as subject to the authority of the law as the rest of us are — even if it's only the limited authority we would grant under a Libertarian form of government.

Since Libertarians are advocates

of the rule of law, it is our obligation to set down those rules plainly and make them available to all who would enter. As a basic testament to an immigrant's willingness to comply with our laws, he must be willing to be recognized as an immigrant, and to do so at a recognized point of entry. Anyone entering illegally has already demonstrated a prima facie lack of willingness to comply with our laws.

There is merit to the arguments that we have no obligation to allow entry to someone with a virulent and contagious illness, a criminal record, or other undesirable characteristics.

Because I have no obligation to allow someone with a communicable disease to enter my house, and because if I suspect that he does have such a disease it is his obligation to prove that he doesn't — not my obligation to prove that he does — it follows that presenting a clean health record as a requirement of entry to the United States is not unreasonable.

Because I would not allow a known vicious criminal into my home, or a deranged homicidal maniac or people with any number of other objectionable attributes, I have no obligation to allow these into my country. And again, it is the prospective guest who bears the burden of proof, not the citizens of the country.

Of course, for anyone to be able to comply with these requirements, they must

provide some form of identification. Without it, no possibility exists of determining compliance.

We live in a world where collectivism is a dominant cultural value and terrorists wage private and state-supported war against the United States. In a post-9/11 world, if peaceful people are to be allowed to cross borders freely, we must have some mechanism for determining that they are peaceful, because free markets function only under peaceful conditions.

I have attempted to set out some basic conditions, which would allow free access to our country if met, and I hope others will help in refining the set of conditions a Libertarian country would adopt. We cannot and will not progress if we hold to an idealistic and unrealistic position simply because it was once thought plausible. History has shown us it is not plausible; it is our task to show what is.

### ■ Proposed immigration platform ISSUE:

The closed but porous border restricts the labor pool, forcing employers to hire illegal workers, while leaving those workers unaccountable to the law. A completely

open border allows foreign criminals, carriers of communicable diseases, terrorists and other threats to the peaceful operation of free markets to enter the country unchecked. The current guaranteed access to the welfare system by illegal aliens acts as a magnet for freeloaders to enter the country at the expense of working Americans, and to the detriment of those who would enter to work productively.

### PRINCIPLE:

Economic freedom demands the unrestricted movement of human as well as financial capital across national borders. Political freedom as well as escape from tyranny demands that individuals not be unreasonably constrained by government in the crossing of political boundaries. Yet it is the legitimate function and obligation of government to protect the lives, rights and property of its citizens, demanding awareness of and control over the entry into our country of foreign nationals who may pose a threat to security, health or property. If public property is illegitimate and to be abolished then immigration must be accomplished without trespass.

### SOLUTION:

The terms and conditions of entry into the United States must be clearly spelled out, and it must be the obligation of the prospective immigrant to demonstrate compliance with these. Documenting the entry of individuals must include screening for health, criminal background and threats to national security. While this may be administered by government, it must be implemented by private sector security companies. Borders must be controlled and immigration must be regulated, with free entry to those who have demonstrated compliance with the requirements.

### TRANSITION:

Programs such as the now-regular amnesties must be abolished as they contravene the rule of law. Border security must be upgraded to guarantee entry occurs only at recognized points and stop the often murderous activities of "coyotes." Citizenship must be made and enforced as a requirement for obtaining welfare. Immigration must include documentation, screening for health, criminal background, international security concerns and documentation. Private organizations must educate resident aliens and potential citizens in the Constitution of the United States and the culture of freedom; candidates for naturalization must be held to high standards of knowledge and ethics. Voter rolls must be examined and purged of non-citizens. National Guard must be returned to the domestic service of guarding our borders.

■ About the author: George Squyres is the Libertarian National Committee representative from Region 6, is chairman of his county LP, and was the Platform Committee vice chair in 2002 and 2004.



# Taxpayer conference features Libertarians, other tax fighters

Continued from Page 1

sync with us on the issue of taxes and individual rights. But at the National Taxpayers Union conference, we didn't have that experience. It seemed that everyone there was on the same page, when it comes to limiting government's impact on the American taxpayer's wallet."

"We did meet with a very favorable response," said Sam New, special projects coordinator for the LP. "I ran into several people who said, 'We're tired of the way the federal government is growing,' and a number of people said they're sick and tired of Bush's massive deficit spending."

"Another man, not a member of the LP, said he believes the party is the last hope for conservative voters in America. I think it's really exciting to hear someone who isn't a member say something like that."

Seehusen also met with John Berthoud, NTU president, describing him as "a committed leader in the freedom movement, working to protect the taxpayers' interests."

"The people we met at NTU are actively engaged in the noble cause of defending Americans as they try to pay their bills and pay their taxes," Seehusen said. "We're not alone in trying to cut taxes and the inva-

sive power of government. These are people and organizations who share our commitment to protecting our civil liberties."

Walking through the conference's display area — where LP headquarters staff manned a booth — and attending the various seminars throughout the event, Seehusen said, he repeatedly saw people flipping through their copies of the Constitution.

"It was refreshing to see people referring to the document that our nation's laws are supposed to be based on," he said. "You know you're amongst friends when other people at an event show the same dedication to our founding documents that we in the Libertarian Party do."

Other speakers at the conference included Congressmen Mike Pence,

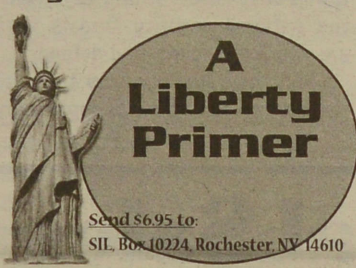
Jeb Jensarling, Tom Feeney and John Linder, as well as Steve Moore of the *Wall Street Journal* editorial board and many others.

But the event wasn't just about hanging out with like-minded people, Seehusen pointed out.

"We were also able to meet with some major donors, people who are willing and able to give generously to libertarian causes," he said. "We had the chance to share with them the progress the LP is making, particularly in legislative action."

Seehusen recently inaugurated a group — the Executive Director's Legislative Action Advisory Committee — that is formed of people who fit this exact group, those individuals who are able and willing to donate specifically to helping the Libertarian Party affect legislation, either by working to defeat bad bills or by helping to get good legislation approved.

## Beginner's Introduction



## Is Abortion Aggression?

See why it is: [www.L4L.org](http://www.L4L.org)

Libertarians for Life  
13424 Hathaway Dr.  
Wheaton, MD 20906  
(301) 460-4141  
[libertarian@erols.com](mailto:libertarian@erols.com)

# See the #1 libertarian.

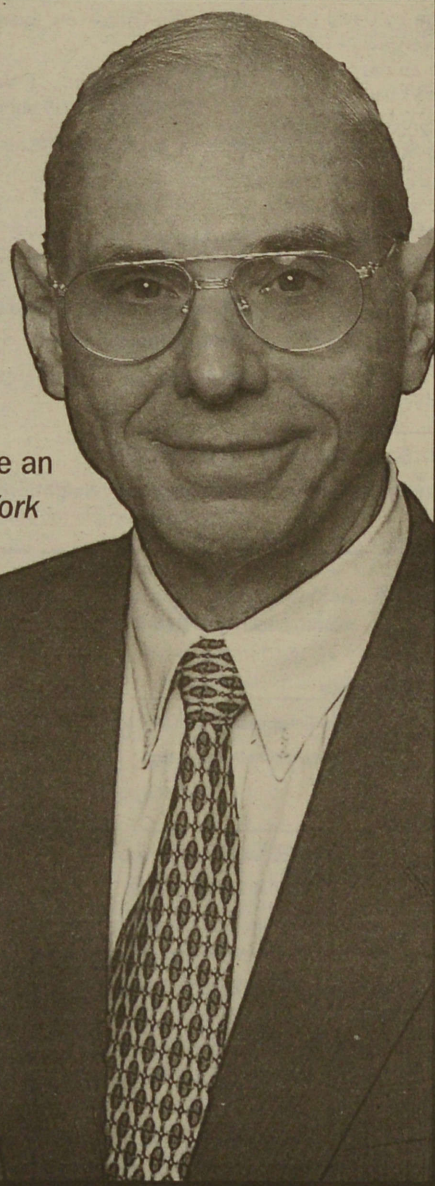
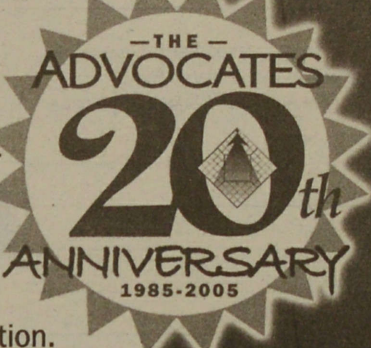
**Robert Ringer** is the only author ever to have an explicitly libertarian book reach #1 on the *New York Times* bestseller list. And with *Restoring the American Dream*, he reached millions.

What advice does this self-help titan now have for libertarians?

Find out at the Advocates for Self-Government's

20th Anniversary Celebration, where Robert Ringer will appear.

See our ad on page 5 for more information.



## THE REVIEW

# Reclaim the Revolution

■ *Reclaiming the American Revolution: The Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions and their Legacy*, by William J. Watkins, Jr., of the Independent Institute. Published 2004 by Palgrave Macmillan. 236 pages. \$39.95. Available at [www.independent.org](http://www.independent.org).

Reviewed by J. Daniel Cloud

LP NEWS EDITOR

In this book, William J. Watkins, Jr. — a research fellow at the Independent Institute and an attorney specializing in constitutional law — has given us a new look at the little-known Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions, which were written, respectively, by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison.

The resolutions were written in response to the Alien and Sedition Acts, that generation's PATRIOT Act, which grossly expanded the federal government's power to quash anti-government sentiment and stripped both citizens and non-citizens of constitutional rights. The Acts were passed by Federalists in Congress under President John Adams' leadership. They used the threat of war with France as an excuse, but expanding power was clearly their goal.

And as the federal government took liberties with Americans' liberty in preparation for war, they caused more damage to freedom than a war with France or England could have, Watkins says.

In addition to quoting from America's founding fathers regarding the proper relationship between the federal government and the states, Watkins gives us a look at the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions themselves — thus introducing them to a generation that didn't study these documents of dissent in school.

Both resolutions were altered before they reached the state legislatures. For example, Jefferson's call for the states to actively obstruct the enforcement of the Alien and Sedition Acts was expunged.

Despite palliative alterations to the documents, both — in final form — declared that the federal government had overstepped its bounds and urged the American people to do something about it.

Jefferson and Madison disagreed on exactly how the states should react when the federal government attempted to take unconstitutional action. Madison took a route that was, while condemnatory of the federal government, still conciliatory in nature. He expressed Virginia's desire to uphold the Constitution, while also dancing in vague circles around the federal government's infringement of the states' rights.

Jefferson, on the other hand, pulled no punches. If the other states were unwilling to join Kentucky in repudiating the federal government's recent enactments, "Jefferson believed that Kentucky and Virginia should secede from the Union, ... 'rather than give up the rights of self government ... in which alone we see liberty, safety, and happiness,'" Watkins explains.

In sufficient but not overwhelming detail, the author narrates the co-optation of state power by the American presidency, Congress and Supreme Court, and the resultant impotence of the states to rule themselves as the Founders intended, as written in the Constitution.

"So broad is Congress's interpretation of the commerce power," Watkins says, for example, "that the remainder of the enumerated powers are rendered superfluous. The regulation of interstate commerce has become the equivalent of a general police power."

The Supreme Court has similarly been granted too much power, he points out, arguing that the states, instead of the Court, should have the final say on matters of constitutionality.

So what is to be done?

"It is perhaps time for Americans to consider a major structural change in the federal system: the creation of an institution, accountable to the state legislative sovereigns and the people, to serve as a final arbiter of the Constitution," Watkins notes, going so far as to propose a constitutional amendment himself to address the issue.

Will the American people be willing to stand up to the federal government and demand that states' rights be returned to the states?

That's a question that neither Watkins nor anyone else can answer.

For the answer to that one, we'll have to wait and see what happens as ever more Americans — and the American states — grow weary of the federal government's co-opting of state powers.

One thing is for sure: If the states ever decide to stand up to the Feds, they'll have a champion in Watkins. And as he makes clear in this book, they were long ago given the support of James Madison and Thomas Jefferson, as well.



# 'Libertarian military officer' is not an oxymoron

I recently moved back to Washington state as a recently retired United States Air Force lieutenant colonel — after 12 moves to eight states in 22 years of Air Force service.

I immediately went to my county Libertarian Party meeting, then alerted state LP officers to credit Washington with another dues-paying member.

When most people think of the political stereotype for a career military officer, "libertarian" does not usually come to mind. But I am, and have been since reading Robert Ringer's 1979 book, *Restoring the American Dream*.

I voted for Ed Clark in 1980. And I served my country with the mindset that I was protecting life, liberty and property. Further, I have been a card-carrying national LP member for most of the time since 1983, when I first entered the Air Force.

I am happy to report that I am not the absolute exception you may think I am, and if you haven't given this topic much thought, a paradigm

shift may be in order. "Libertarian military officer" is not an oxymoron.

Now that I am out of the military and "free" to express my First Amendment political views without coercive repercussions, I want to let you in on a well-kept secret: Many military members are libertarians, whether they realize it or not. At the very least, many of them are aware of, and quietly question, the empire-building tendencies of our present commander-in-chief. And many are questioning their own personal levels of commitment.

For me, the conflict between the role I played as a military leader and my own personal beliefs became irreconcilable, so on the verge of promotion to "full bird colonel," I quit. Actually, I retired — but I still quit.

And I predict that many more will do the same soon, although you may not read about a mass exodus in the newspapers or online.

Many military members think and feel as I did, that they are "preserving and protecting" the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. But many of them wonder why we don't have a non-interventionist foreign policy, without

"entangling alliances."

Aware of the 911 Report and the Downing Street Memo, many disagree with the disingenuously instigated war with Iraq.

Many think that the idea of creating democracies in the Middle East or the Central Asian republics (in many cases ruled by tyrants as despicable as, or worse than, Saddam) is merely a ruse for supporting oil pipelines in those areas for future gargantuan profits for Halliburton.

Many military acquaintances of mine wonder why containers shipped into our ports — like Seattle and Tacoma, or Charleston and Baltimore — are hardly inspected, leaving our homeland vulnerable, while they worry about punching their deployment timecards, wondering when they will next leave family behind.

So rest assured, many military members are questioning their earlier beliefs as to why they may be called upon to begin sleeping somewhere in the desert, and for what purpose.

Many in the military, like all libertarians, favor individual liberty.

They are increasingly questioning why, when our recognized weakness is intelligence, some of our highly

trained linguists — who listen in on electronically captured conversations or provide interpreter skills to enable military leadership to converse with tribal leaders — are being discharged before their enlistments

secure some degree of individual liberty for Iraqis or Afghans; they suspect that the 1,000-year-old Islamist dogma, with no separation of church and state, will prevent a flourishing self determination from coming into being.

Libertarians should interpret this as a good news story.

Should we get ready to install an Operation Politically Homeless booth on a military installation near us, so we can distribute the World's Smallest Political Quiz?

Probably not, but I know that if military folks took the quiz, many would score in the libertarian quadrant. Increasing numbers of intelligent, motivated and patriotic American military members and their families are beginning to see that there are indeed contradictions between the rhetoric of patriotism and the reality of daily life while they are "protecting and defending" you.

And any time the concept of liberty is considered and our military begins to question blind obedience of coercive power, there is still hope for us all.

■ **About the author:** Mark B. San Souci lives in Pierce County, Washington.

**WHEN MOST PEOPLE think of the political stereotype for a career military officer, "Libertarian" does not usually come to mind.**

are over, simply because they happen to be gay.

Many military members are reading about how the PATRIOT Act, created in heat after September 11, is being used to arrest citizens for things that have nothing to do with the national security threats they are sworn to protect and defend.

And they question why they are risking own their lives to supposedly

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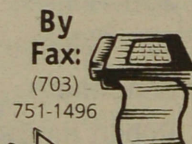
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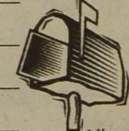
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# Stop federal funding for stem cell research

By J. Daniel Cloud  
LP NEWS EDITOR

Chances are you've heard of stem cells. They're widely lauded as the possible building blocks for a cure for all that ails you.

And the evidence supports the claims — or at least some of them. Thousands of people have benefited from the use of stem cell treatment for a host of different diseases.

But it's the diseases that stem cell research has not yet found treatments for that are most interesting to many people.

Former President Ronald Reagan's son, Ron, advocates stem cell research to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease; before his death, actor Christopher Reeve called for stem cell research to find cures for spinal cord injuries and related problems; others say stem cell research could result in cures for heart disease, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy and diabetes.

Type "stem cell research" into Google, and "about 15 million" results pop up.

Scrolling through the results, the alert searcher will note a few major subcategories. There are Web sites sponsored by religious groups opposing stem cell research using embryos. There are sites expounding on the benefits of such research. There are published studies regarding stem cell research done by privately funded scientists. And there are a host of sites that complain about President George W. Bush's ban on embryonic stem cell research.

## Banned research

Picking a site almost at random — [bioethics.org.nz](http://bioethics.org.nz), a publication from New Zealand — I scrolled down the page to see what they said about American stem cell research.

There it was: "Privately funded stem cell research is permissible, but the federal ban has stifled stem cell research in the U.S."

Correction: There is no ban on research on either embryonic stem cells or adult stem cells. No matter how disgustingly people talk about such a ban, it still doesn't exist.

What Bush did, in 2001, was prohibit the use of federal funds for embryonic stem cell research.

Former President Bill Clinton had earlier said such research was allowable as long as the cells weren't actually harvested at federally funded laboratories. So they could be harvested elsewhere and simply delivered to the lab in question. And everybody had a good chuckle about circumventing that particular prohibition.

Bush said federal funds could only be used for research on stem cells from embryos that were destroyed before his Aug. 9, 2001 pronouncement.

As Michael Tanner of the Cato Institute wrote in a 2004 column for *Investor's Business Daily*, "This is not a debate about whether stem

cell research should be legal. It is, and no one in Congress or the Bush administration has proposed banning it."

## Embryonic stem cells

Those who do want to ban certain types of stem cell research oppose research on stem cells derived from embryos.

Stem cells are, to put it quite simply, a type of cell that can divide and become many different kinds of cells. Rather than having a dedicated purpose — like skin, blood or brain cells — stem cells can divide off and become almost any kind of cells that are needed in the body at the moment.

There are two major kinds of stem cell research: adults and embryonic. Adult stem cells usually come from the bone marrow of the patient or a donor, and embryonic stem cells are harvested from human embryos that are usually less than a week old.

The debate regarding embryonic stem cells comes from people who oppose abortion — who argue that growing a fetus and killing it just so scientists can harvest the stem cells is murder, just like abortion is. That's why Bush decided to disallow using federal tax money to fund research on such stem cells: His conservative voter base demanded it.

His decision is even now being called into question: A bill that has already passed through the U.S. House and is in consideration by the Senate would ease the restrictions Bush put on embryonic stem cell research using federal funds in 2001.

The bill, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, would allow federal money to be used for embryonic stem cell research under restricted circumstances: The cells must have been "derived from human embryos that have been donated from in vitro fertilization clinics, were created for the purposes of fertility treatment, and were in excess of the clinical need of the individuals seeking such treatment."

Further, the bill requires that the people who had the embryos created for fertility treatment must donate the embryos with written consent, and without receiving compensation for the embryos.

In 2003, [Slate.com](http://Slate.com) editor Michael Kinsley noted that he found it strange and indefensible that anti-abortionists can celebrate the creation of embryos at in vitro fertilization clinics, which throw away thousands of embryos each year, while simultaneously opposing the creation of an embryo for research.

Apparently anti-abortion activists — and the members of Congress who support funding for research using only embryos that are produced in fertility clinics — haven't considered the issue in that light.

## Adult vs. embryonic

Proponents of embryonic stem cell research claim there is much more potential in embryonic stem

## Libertarian SOLUTIONS

cells than in adult stem cells; opponents say this is science fiction, unproven theory. They claim the use of embryonic stem cells is dangerous and a bad gamble.

"No currently approved treatments have been obtained using embryonic stem cells," said Dr. Kelly Hollowell, a molecular and cellular pharmacologist, during a May 10, 2005, event at the Heritage Foundation. "After 20 years of research, embryonic stem cells haven't been used to treat people because the cells are unproven and unsafe. [In animal tests] they tend to produce

## BUSH'S WILLINGNESS

to spend ...

taxpayers' money

for stem cell

research reflects

a statist, collectivist

view of government.

—LARRY ELDER

tumors, cause transplant rejection, and form the wrong kind of cells."

Other scientists concur, saying that embryonic stem cell research has produced malignant carcinomas and other serious problems in test animals.

But the research continues, and that's the point of research: To see if there's a way to overcome the difficulties and develop a product that is valuable both in terms of lives saved and in monetary benefit. Too many people expect immediate results, and too many stem cell research advocates pretend a cure for Alzheimer's is right around the corner.

William Haseltine, CEO of Human Genome Sciences Inc., has said that the routine use of embryonic stem cells for medical treatment is 20 or 30 years away — that "the timeline to commercialization is so long that I simply would not invest" in it.

But other people are investing in it, and they're doing so without taxpayer money.

## Constitutionality

As noted, stem cell research — whether adult or embryonic — is not against the law. It's not even discouraged.

President Bush didn't bar scientists from performing such research; he simply said embryonic stem cell research wasn't to be done with federal funds.

In doing so, he got it partially right, but for the wrong reasons. He wanted to ensure his voters that

their tax money wouldn't be used to pay for what they consider to be abortion. They oppose the harvesting of embryonic stem cells as immoral, and don't want their money spent on it.

And there's nothing wrong with that.

But there are many more reasons not to pay for any form of stem cell research with federal taxpayer money.

In a 2001 column, radio talk show host Larry Elder pointed out that while Bush strove to keep from "crossing a fundamental moral line" by using tax money to destroy human embryos, the president apparently had no problem crossing "a fundamental constitutional line," since the federal government doesn't have a constitutional right to pay for such research.

Why is the president willing to overstep his bounds?

"Bush's willingness to spend ... taxpayers' money for stem cell research reflects a statist, collectivist view of government" — the assumption that the federal government can use tax money for whatever it chooses.

He's right, of course, but Bush's love of Big Government shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone, nor should his tendency to make the most of any opportunity to court voters.

## Funding

Cato's Michael Tanner points out that the stem cell research issue "is really a fight about money, about whether the federal government should fund the research. And as such, it is a perfect example of how science becomes politicized when government money is involved."

As noted earlier, many people are under the impression that embryonic stem cell research is banned in the United States, simply because the government doesn't currently pay for such research. They seem to think that no research gets done unless the government sponsors it.

They're wrong.

There are several privately funded stem cell research centers across the country, mostly at universities.

"The largest, at Harvard University, employs more than 100 researchers and recently unveiled 17 new stem cell lines," Tanner said in his 2004 column for *Investor's Business Daily*. "The vast majority of medical and scientific breakthroughs in this country's history have been accomplished by the private sector. There's no reason for stem cell research to be any different."

While some business owners think practical medical benefits from embryonic stem cell research are too far in the future to bother investing in currently, many others disagree and are funding the research.

And that research will continue, with or without government funding.

"There are some practical reasons

for the government to keep its red-tape encrusted mitts off embryonic stem cell research," Drs. Michael A. Glueck and Robert J. Cihak wrote in a 2001 article in *Health Care News*, published by the Heartland Institute.

"Government-funded research is subject to the winds of political change and establishment thinking; cutting-edge ideas have a more difficult time getting money than do older and safer ideas," they said. "At the same time, trillions of taxpayers' dollars have simply disappeared, without a trace, down bureaucratic and research rat holes."

On Election Day, 2004, California voters approved a \$3 billion bond issue for stem cell research — "the largest bond issue ever authorized by a voter initiative," according to Patrick Basham of the Cato Institute.

And many other states worry that they will experience "brain drain" as scientists move to California to work in research labs there, if tax-funded stem cell research doesn't begin in their own states. What about the privately funded research being done at labs in Wisconsin and Illinois, at Harvard and Stanford, and many other places? Obviously, not all of the brains are being drained into California's tax-funded research.

## Conclusion

Bush was on the right track when he decided not to allow federal tax money to fund embryonic stem cell research. He told his favored group of Americans, in essence, that they didn't have to fund a type of research that they find repugnant.

But what about those Americans who find the congressional and presidential departure from their constitutional delegated powers to be equally repugnant?

Rather than expanding the research that can be done using federal funds, Congress should eliminate federal funding for such research altogether. Those who clamor for expanded stem cell research would be welcome to fund it privately.

You think that won't happen? Tell your concerns to the thriving, active research laboratories that have sprung up in recent years to address the perceived need.

No matter which camp you fit into — the "embryonic stem cell research is abortion, and therefore, murder" side or the "stem cell research will revolutionize medicine, providing cures for maladies up to and including death" faction — or even if you don't particularly care about stem cell research, under a free-market system you have the right to support any project you believe will forward your personal goals.

Currently, however, we're all paying federal taxes to support stem cell research, whether we like it or not.

And it's time to put an end to it.



## THE DIRECTOR

# Believe in the future of the Libertarian Party

Over three decades ago our party was founded based upon the need for principled government and true freedom for America. Through the years we have had many successes and have continually worked to bring libertarian principles and libertarian leaders to the forefront of society.

We have also made our share of mistakes and missteps in the past. We have learned from our actions and can now take a level-headed, mature approach to compete in the world of politics.

For the sake of visualization, imagine our party as a child born in 1971. We have moved through infancy and survived the bumps and bruises of being a toddler. Eventually we grew past our awkward teenage years and have moved into adulthood.

Today we stand at age 34 — a mature and enthusiastic adult, ready to change our nation for the better.

As we step onto the streets of Washington, we do so knowing who we are up against. Our competitors are ancient and massive fixtures of the city, petrified by their own power and their willingness to do anything to keep it. Our party, despite its youth and enthusiasm, could never simply push these monoliths off into the Potomac.

We learned this in our teen years, when we believed that we could simply keep pushing and eventually they would slide off into history.

Today, armed with the knowledge of our past, we know what we have to do when we approach these great structures that are weighing down our city and our nation — we look for the cracks and exploit each of them in the best ways possible.

Over the last several months we've been quietly scoping out and examining the cracks and flaws within the two party system and are ready to unsheathe a variety of tools that will eventually bring our competition down to a manageable size.

There is one catch; these "tools" that I speak of are only as strong and as timely as your actions. Understand that you are not just the hands of a political party that wield tools of action; you are the very blood that makes the entire entity possible. Your leadership, intelligence and support of the party are absolutely essential if we are to move steadily toward our goals.

I want you to ponder the above paragraphs, as they represent a turning point within our party. This is a realization that the "all or nothing" approach will never lead us to victory. We will not wake up one morning to an overnight transformation to liberty. However, we can take an incremental approach that will, in time, lead us into a truly free society.

Now and in the future we will be moving forward legislation that will take us closer to our goals. Additionally, we will begin common sense campaigns to spread libertarian principles throughout Washington and the nation while fervently working to increase our ranks. Likewise, our state parties will be searching for and promoting strong leaders to run for and win public offices.

I'm asking you to be ready for anything. Ensure that you are on our e-mail list and that your contact information is up to date within our databases.

When you get a call to action in the coming weeks, take action — and lead others to do the same. Be prepared to step outside of your homes and even your communities to reach out and lead the citizens of this nation who deserve better.

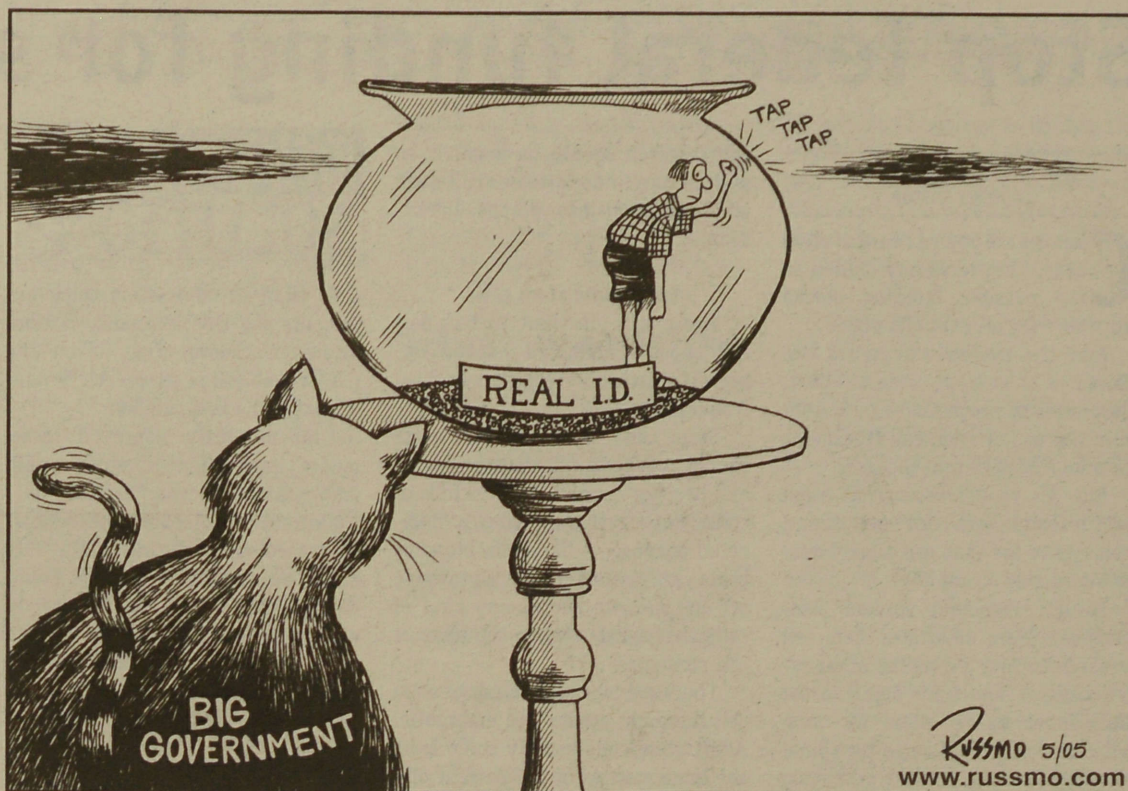
This is an exciting time for the Libertarian Party, for you, and for our nation. The ongoing erosion of our freedom — an erosion furthered habitually by Republican and Democratic leaders — will be addressed and met with your action. We will no longer stand for corrupt or complacent leadership within our government and will exploit their flaws at every opportunity until they crumble.

I appreciate your membership and participation in the Libertarian Party but we should all pay consideration to those who came before us, from our Forefathers to the very founders of the Libertarian Party.

Our action now will not only honor those men and women, but one day will also be remembered and respected by our own children — who will be able to look back into history and find that we made a difference for the better.



**By Joe Seehusen**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## THE MAILBOX

### ■ Cart before the horse

[RE: Supreme Court rules against LP in Oklahoma lawsuit]

Why all the fuss over a case that the OK LP should never had filed in the first place?

Worrying about who can vote in your primary when you don't even have ballot access for a primary is getting the cart before the horse.

Suing on the ballot access issue is the lawsuit that should have been filed. Even Justice O'Connor admitted that.

One thing at a time, folks.

—MICHAEL SEEBECK  
Riverside, California

### ■ Supporting regulation

I am somewhat saddened to see banner headlines in *LP News* informing us that Libertarians around the nation are working to support government regulation.

Seems odd that we would do so.

Increasingly Libertarians are supporting bills that would allow state governments to regulate who could use marijuana for medical purposes. Are we applauding government regulation as a step towards freedom and liberty?

Libertarians should oppose such bills and point out that regulation is never a step towards liberty, but towards intrusion and tyranny.

—BRIAN J. PHILLIPS  
Toms River, New Jersey

### ■ Don't call it marriage

Marriage is not necessary for government granting applicable privileges to same-sex couples. Each state should have a standardized list of government privileges and responsibilities for same-sex couples.

There may be different applicable privileges and responsibilities for male-male, female-female, and heterosexual couples.

Many still consider divorce to be a tragedy for heterosexual couples. Would we consider the dissolution of a same-sex marriage a similar tragedy? Some would consider ending a same-sex marriage to be a moral victory, particularly if one leaves that relationship for religious reasons.

Some of us are quite disappointed by Libertarian leadership's lack of concern about same-sex marriage. Certain interests are using Massachusetts's government to change well-established tradition and morality.

We can associate with and work with homosexuals, but that does not require supporting same-sex marriage. Let same-sex couples contract for a government-recognized union or partnership, but please do not call it marriage.

—ROLAND O. PETERSON  
Waltham, Massachusetts

### ■ Russmo 'toon

I was shocked when I read the Russmo comic in the June 2005 issue of *LP News*.

To refresh everyone's memory: It is a picture of an older man with a little girl, presumably his daughter, and they are looking at an American flag flying at half mast. The girl says, "If we believe all men are created equal, why do we fly the flag at half-mast for popes and presidents?" The dad responds, "I guess some men are created more equal than others."

Excuse me, but did the Libertarian Party turn into the Democratic Party since the last issue of *LP*

*News*? Because this comic holds the exact same premise as the Democratic Party. In essence it states, "All men have the exact same abilities and value, and if our country expresses anything to the contrary then it is hypocritical and should be made fun of."

The statement, "All men are created equal" in the context of the Constitution means that all men have individual rights as living, rational beings. It means that every man and woman has the right to pursue his or her goals according to his or her own ability, so long as that pursuit does not impair anyone else's right to do the same. It says nothing about giving recognition to the unearned, or refraining from recognizing those who deserve it.

Now, whether or not a particular pope or president deserves recognition is another issue, but since the comic did not define one specific person, and simply lumped them all in together (on the premise that they are equal, have equal ability, and equal value) it is not necessary to go into that with this letter.

The comic in question espouses collectivist ideals in a publication that espouses individual freedom and liberty. This is a contradiction, as a view of society as a collective will necessarily lead to the suppression of individuals and their rights.

I hope that in the future the editors of the *LP News* will be more careful about the content they choose for their publication.

—BEN EVERHART  
Scottsburg, Indiana

[Editor's note: While I understand Mr. Everhart's concern, how is it proper for the U.S. flag to be dipped for any one man, whether in honor,



## THE MAILBOX

in submission, or as a memorial? Whether the honoree is president or pope (or U.S. senator or victim of terrorism), it seems presumptuous for our government to tell us we should mourn any particular dead person.

Apparently, someone must be charged with making distinctions between those worthy of dipping our flag for, and those who (frankly) aren't worth the effort. Who is qualified to determine whose death merits lowering the flag?

Most recently, for example, the flags in the nation's Capitol were lowered when Pope John Paul II died. Who decided that the flag should be dropped for the most recently deceased leader of a religion? If you want to commemorate a Christian leader's death, lower the flag on Good Friday each year — then get ready for the inevitable firestorm.

What I view as "collectivist" is the assumption that we must all, in concert, honor some dead guy or gal — no matter who it was.

— LP News Editor J. Daniel Cloud

### Not Internet-friendly

I enjoy reading *LP News*. I just read it while lying on my back in bed. Try that with a computer screen.

I have plenty of access to the Internet, but I use it only for essential tasks. I obtain no pleasure from it. You can't make me go to the [LP.org](http://LP.org) blog; I still obtain pleasure from reading books, newspapers and magazines.

Now, if the Libertarian Party had a radio program, I would listen regularly. The Internet is over-rated, but I love talk radio.

—ALAN RICHTER  
Spokane, Washington

### The color purple

By taking for themselves the colors red and blue, the Republicans and Democrats have created a terrific opportunity for us to claim the color purple!

Like the color purple, the Liber-

tarian Party blends the highest ideals the reds and blues espouse.

I suggest that we start using purple now on yard signs, bumper stickers and t-shirts.

—MARY ANN GASSMANN  
Dittmer, Missouri

### IRV v. AV

As yet another former supporter of Instant Runoff Voting (IRV), I can sympathize with those who have spent time and energy promoting it.

Sadly, IRV does not allow true multi-party competition. It avoids the spoiler effect while emerging parties are too small to threaten the top two, but as soon as a challenger begins to encroach on one of the established front-runners, the "wasted vote syndrome" returns in a stronger form.

In partisan elections with more than two parties, the predictable result is strategic voting to prevent a spoiled outcome, augmenting results for the top two candidates while holding down vote totals for any close challengers. This causes political systems to settle into a state resembling a toggle switch, where the winner alternates between two dominant parties.

IRV's spoiler effect and two-party equilibria have been demonstrated repeatedly through mathematical analysis, computer simulation, and actual experience.

Approval Voting is a simpler, cheaper, more effective alternative.

Under this method a voter is free to vote for — "approve of" — any number of candidates; the candidate approved by the most voters wins.

Libertarians would no longer need to choose between the Libertarian candidate and a "lesser-evil"; they could vote for both if desired.

Results would be similar to IRV's final tally, but with an important difference: Under Approval Voting a voter never has reason to abandon or down-rank his or her favorite, even in close elections. Thus, emerging parties have an opportunity to grow to become the new front-runners.

Libertarian totals would fully reflect Libertarian support, both now and after the party grows large enough to challenge the status quo. Advance knowledge of this fact will be crucial to achieving this growth in the first place.

—BART INGLES  
San Jose, California

### Picking our battles

We spent a lot of money promoting Badnarik for president. I am sure he was a good man but did the results justify the expense? I know that many Libertarians say that we did not intend to win the Presidential election — but we did gain a lot of visibility. Did that visibility get more candidates elected to local and state legislatures?

I think that those elected to lesser offices got elected because of

their own visibility in their communities. People who did not know the Libertarian candidates would not be encouraged to vote Libertarian because Badnarik ran for president.

The candidates of the two major parties can attach themselves to the coat-tails of their presidential candidates because they look like they have a good chance of winning. You don't get an advantage from riding the coat-tails of a candidate who garners 1 percent — or 0.1 percent — of the vote.

I think the money spent on putting up a Presidential candidate could be used to support the campaigns of lesser candidates at the local and state level. If the few who are elected can show some results, then that would encourage people to vote for more Libertarians the next time around.

It has been rightly said: "Nothing succeeds like success." We need to show success at the lower levels to promote the locals to the state level, then go on building from the bottom up.

—J. R. UDVADIA  
Lansing, Michigan

### Defining marriage

The controversy over marriage and other forms of domestic contracts has not been cleared appreciably by Mr. Vock's article on "civil

marriage." [The Forum, June 2005 *LP News*.]

Mr. Vock is correct in identifying that marriage is a form of contract. But it would be as foolish to use the term "marriage" in describing just any sort of "civil union" as it would be to use the term "fire engine" for just any truck, regardless of whether it had a hose and pump.

Marriage is a contract which is perhaps more unique than any

other form of human organization. A marriage contract is the foundation for the social unit known as the family. This is the social unit in which the parties contract to provide complementary gametes for the beginning of new humans; and the

contract includes terms not required in other contracts, terms which are necessary to assure the best possible structure and environment for bringing the new generation of humans into self-reliance and societal participation.

Some may wish to offer a thousand exceptions to this rule, such as marriages which are childless, or same-sex partnerships which raise adopted (or otherwise outsourced) children. But these are bell-curve extremes which do not identify statistically representative functional realities.

The reason that society in general, and religions in particular, have established complex institutions

and incentive programs for marriage is because society and religions have recognized the efficacy of marriage as a foundation unit.

Marriage is a particular word, it has a particular definition, and it serves a particular role in the thought processes of our culture. To use it promiscuously is to destroy its usefulness in identifying that particular concept.

We must support liberty, but that does not mean supporting conceptual sloppiness.

—HAL ROUNDS  
Somerville, Tennessee

### Dues increase

I always believed that the Libertarian Party was different — "the Party of Principle" and integrity. I bragged about this when recruiting. When people told me, "I don't vote for the party, I vote for the person," I replied that if the person was a Libertarian, I knew where we stood.

I could accept the fact that dues were required, and I have paid my dues for many years.

I do not like the 100 percent increase in dues, but all else being equal, I probably would have paid them. All else, however, is not at all equal.

I am a strong believer in open meetings, which involve individuals who are not ashamed of how they vote, and therefore vote openly.

The fact that the vote to increase dues was done by secret ballot indicates to me that the participating parties were ashamed of how they planned to vote.

If I don't know where my representatives stand on an issue, I am unable to trust my representatives. If I cannot trust them, I do not want them to represent me.

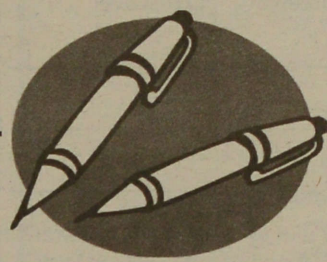
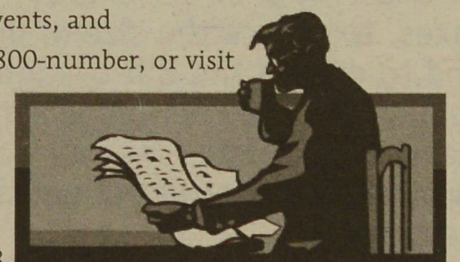
The party has lost my trust, and therefore has lost my membership.

—MARGARET E. MATHERS  
Farmington, New Mexico

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# A Libertarian president in 2016? Here's how...

Libertarian ideas — such as expanding individual liberty, re-limiting government and protecting private property rights — have become much more respectable during the past two decades. Less progress, however, appears to be taking place in politics. Nevertheless, I predict the President of the United States elected in 2016 will be the candidate of the Libertarian Party.

**By Joseph L. Bast**

## ■ The victory of ideas

Evidence of the triumph of libertarian ideas is all around us. We see it in the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union, the global spread of capitalism and democracy.

Domestically, we see the triumph in the decline of federal taxes as a percentage of gross domestic product; the fall in welfare rolls since welfare reform was adopted in 1996; and the privatization of thousands of federal, state and local services.

Debate has even begun on dismantling Social Security and privatizing government schools.

In his second inaugural address, President George W. Bush said there are only two questions that future

generations will use to judge us: "Did our generation advance the cause of freedom? And did our character bring credit to that cause?"

Only a libertarian would choose those two questions. Is Bush a libertarian? Probably not. But this speech by a president of the United States indicates that libertarian ideas are triumphant in American politics today.

## ■ The LP's contribution

The Libertarian Party was founded in 1971 and has run thousands of candidates for public office, giving millions an opportunity to participate in the political system without compromising their principles.

A multitude of factors conspire to make third-party victories extremely difficult. In a three-way race, libertarians are handicapped in a way no other political party is: H.L. Mencken said elections are the advance auction of stolen goods. Libertarians don't believe in stealing, so they have no favors to promise, no roads or parks or schools to be built at someone else's expense.

The failure of the LP to elect its candidates has been due largely to factors outside its control. But those factors are about to change.

## ■ Collapse of the two major parties

Between now and 2008, the

Democratic Party will split into radical and moderate wings. The radical wing is tired of losing and being taken for granted by the moderate wing of their party. They tried to play by the rules in 2004, shunning their preferred candidate, Ralph Nader, and going all out for John Kerry, a political insider who could sound moderate and even conservative when necessary. Still they lost.

There has been talk in the past of the left wing of the Democratic Party splitting off, but it hasn't happened. This time is different, thanks to campaign finance reform. The leftists will have at least \$200 million in "527" money from leftist billionaires, enough to build a political organization and attract good candidates.

The radicals' new party, probably called the Progressive Party, will lose the 2008 presidential election, but millions of people will vote for their third-party candidate. This new party will be a battering ram for other third parties, leading the way by lowering ballot access requirements, opening debates to third-party candidates, and laying to rest the "wasted vote" argument.

The LP will benefit from those changes, but its candidates — less well-funded and less well-known than the Progressives — will still get only a few percent of the vote.

## ■ 2016: A Libertarian president

By 2012, the Republican Party will split because once their Democrat foes have divided, there is no reason for cultural conservatives and libertarians to stay in the same party. The new Libertarian Party also will attract former Democrats and even some Progressives (the smart ones).

Hundreds of thousands, and then millions, of people will want to join a new Libertarian Party. Hundreds of elected officials and professional campaign managers and thousands of donors will switch to the new Libertarian Party.

And in 2016, the new Libertarian Party candidate will win the presidential election.

Why? Because in a four-way race, only the new Libertarian Party will express values that unite, rather than divide, the American people: individual liberty, equality under the law, free enterprise, and lower taxes.

It is precisely because libertarians don't steal from one group to give to another that it will emerge as the consensus party in an increasingly polarized and heterogeneous society. While the other parties divide to conquer, only libertarians win by uniting voters. In a four-way race, its strategy will be the superior one.

## ■ The Task Ahead

Notice I said the "new Libertarian Party." All these libertarian Republicans, Democrats, and Progressives will have to decide whether to join the current LP or to create a new party that features some or all of the LP's platform but none of its current leaders, volunteers, and members.

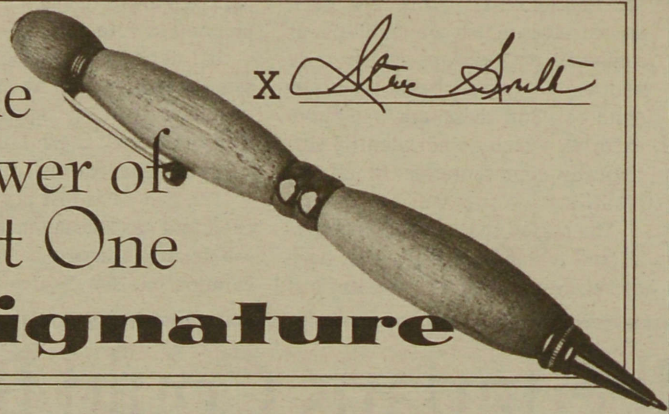
People will join the current LP if, by 2012, the party has permanent ballot status in most states and a large and growing membership base, attracts large crowds and positive attention at its state and national conventions, has a professional staff that is experienced and honest, and has a good reputation for running credible candidates and positive campaigns — even if the vote totals are modest.

The LP is entering a key moment in its history and the history of the libertarian movement. Will it be prepared to win when circumstances and the efforts of unexpected allies make victory possible? Or will it get shoved out of the way and even further marginalized in a new, four-party political world?

Either way, the president elected in 2016 will be a libertarian.

**■ About the author:** Joseph L. Bast is president of The Heartland Institute in Chicago.

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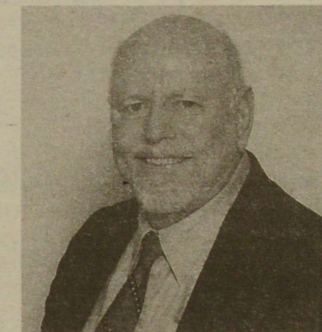


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## UPCOMING

### ■ June 29, 2005

**Cato Institute Policy Forum**, at the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C. "Locking Down Loose Nukes," about how the threat of nuclear terrorism might be prevented. Featuring Laura Holgate, Nuclear Threat Initiative; Rensselaer Lee, Foreign Policy Research Institute; and Charles Pena, Cato Institute. This event is free. To register, call (202) 789-5229; e-mail [events@cato.org](mailto:events@cato.org); or visit [www.cato.org](http://www.cato.org).

### ■ July 15-20, 2005

**ISIL's World Freedom Summit**, near Cologne, Germany, at the Friedrich Naumann Foundation. The International Society for Individual Liberty is celebrating "The Year of Ayn Rand," marking the 100th anniversary of her birth and concentrating on the enormous influence the author had on the world of individualist and free-market philosophy. For details, go to [www.ISIL.org](http://www.ISIL.org); e-mail [isil@isil.org](mailto:isil@isil.org); or call (707) 746-8796.

### ■ July 23-31, 2005

**Free State Project Freedom Festival**, at Roger's Campground, Lancaster, NH. Admission is free. For reservations, call the campground at (603) 636-1062. Go to [freestateproject.org/festival](http://freestateproject.org/festival) for information.

### ■ July 31-August 6, 2005

**Young America's Foundation's 27th Annual National Conservative Student Conference**, at the George Washington University Cafritz Conference Center, in Washington, D.C. Speakers to include columnist and economist Walter Williams, former U.S. Sen. Newt Gingrich, and Ron Robinson, president of Young America's Foundation. Call (800) USA-1776; or go to [www.yaf.org](http://www.yaf.org) for information.



■ Williams

### ■ August 2-7, 2005

**American Legislative Exchange Council's 32nd Annual Meeting**, at the Gaylord Texan, in Grapevine, Texas. State legislators, business leaders and public policy experts will gather for this "exchange of ideas" about how to further the goal of limited government that promotes free markets and individual liberties, according to ALEC's Web site. Go to [www.ALEC.org](http://www.ALEC.org) or call (202) 466-3800 for information.

### ■ September 16-18, 2005

**Regional Campaign Training Weekend**, sponsored by the Texas LP, at the Radison Town Lake, in Austin. Campaign school conducted by the Leadership Institute. Other speakers to include Peggy Venable, Texas director of Americans for Prosperity; Penny Langford-Freeman, district political director for Rep. Ron Paul; and 2004 LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik. For information, contact Nancy Neale at [torchess@austin.rr.com](mailto:torchess@austin.rr.com) or go to [www.LPTexas.org](http://www.LPTexas.org).

### ■ September 29-October 1, 2005

**State Policy Network 13th Annual Meeting**, at the Mills House Hotel, Charleston, S.C. Focusing on current policy issues including health care policy reform, education reform and a fiscal policy forum, as well as on "the nuts and bolts of running a think tank," such as fundraising, marketing and leadership development. For information, go to [www.spn.org](http://www.spn.org); e-mail [info@spn.org](mailto:info@spn.org); or call (510) 965-9700.

### ■ October 14-16, 2005

**The Advocates for Self-Government's 20th Anniversary Celebration**, at the Renaissance Atlanta Airport Hotel, Atlanta, Ga. Speakers to include Robert Ringer, Harry Browne, David Bergland, Dr. Mary Ruwart, Michael Cloud, Sharon Harris and Bill Winter. For more information, call (800) 932-1776 or e-mail [anniversary@TheAdvocates.org](mailto:anniversary@TheAdvocates.org); or write to 213 South Erwin St., Cartersville GA 30120.



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## FIRST WORD



"The Libertarian Party believes that government, at all levels, should be as small and innocuous as possible. The only way you should feel a governmental presence in your life is if you ask to have it there.

"The government regulates us almost to the point of submission..."

"[Libertarians] want less regulation and day-to-day interference and more freedom. They advocate personal responsibility and self-reliance. Their message is that you should not expect or want the government to be an official babysitter.

"Government is not measured by how many employees it has but by how far it reaches into your daily lives. With the advent of the Patriot Act and now the Real ID Bill (signed May 11 by President Bush), you are literally watching your rights and liberties erode in front of you."

—BILL DAMPIER, Concord [N.H.] Monitor, May 31, 2005