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EDITOR: John Ketchum

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NEVADA LIBERTY



ISSUE NO. 2

NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEVADA

NOVEMBER 1982

LIBERTARIANS HOST ELECTION NIGHT PARTIES

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COMPUTER HOOK-UP WITH ALL 50 STATES FREE ADMISSION CASH BAR

DATE: Tuesday, Nov. 2 TIME: 7 - 11 PM

PLACE: In Las Vegas, Union Plaza Hotel, Golden Spike Room. (Information: Pete O'Brien 735-7282, afternoon) In Reno, Hilton Hotel, 3rd Floor Meeting Rooms (Information: Eleanor Latting 853-5898)

WHO'S INVITED: You Are! We want Libertarians, friends, fellow travelers, curiosity seekers, not to mention the witty, the interesting, the media.

As one Judge observed, "No man's life, liberty, or property are safe while the legislature is in session." Too true. Another wit went further: "We don't get to 'Vote the Rascals Out!' We just choose which rascals remain at large, and which new rascals get a piece of the political action."

"Public Minded Citizens" tell us to vote. But, they go further. "It doesn't matter who you vote for," they say, "just be sure to vote." The American public has stayed home in droves. They know that, "The Lesser of Two Evils is Still Evil!" and want no part of it.

There has been a screaming need for a political breath of oxygen. For a party of ideals and principle. The Libertarian Party was born of this need. Based on individual liberty and self-responsibility - the principles of the American Revolution - the Libertarian Party was founded in 1972, and now, a decade later, is America's third largest political party.

Nevada has 29 Libertarians running for political office this year. They're

fit and feisty and spoiling to slash taxes and government.

The Nevada Libertarian Party is hosting the election night bash to honor these Libertarians who have taken the time and effort to build the Libertarian movement and party. These candidates are helping to get the message of "Life and Liberty, Not Death and Taxes" out, while recruiting, educating, and activating new Libertarians.

We are asking all their friends and fellow libertarians to join us in toasting their efforts. Where else can we cheer the good guys, hiss the rascals, and party with the Party?

But that isn't all.

We have a national computer hook-up with all 50 state Libertarian Party election headquarters. The news that misses the wire service will be put on our computer!

How many votes did Dick Randolph get?

Did we successfully take over the Houston school board?

How Many Libertarians were elected tonight?

You'll get it all by computer. Before the media does!

If you haven't planned to come to the election night party, make plans. If you have other plans, change them. If you don't make plans, then spontaneously show up. The fun will be free. So will we. Soon.

HOW TO REGISTER LIBERTARIANS

By Gail Stirler

We need to start registering more Libertarians right after the general election. The use of effective techniques of salesmanship and persuasion will make the task much easier.

(Continued on page 2)

REGISTERING LIBERTARIANS (cont'd-page 1)

Everyone is familiar with argumentation. You wear your listener down with evidence and logic, and you reduce your opponent's positions to absurdity. This is fine for people you have years to convince. But what about your average daily contacts? To increase our members we must know how to approach and register our associates and acquaintances.

As a saleswoman, I have studied the techniques of experts in my field, and I've made an interesting discovery: Most people don't need to be persuaded! What a relief! No more fruitless debates. If you learn the following method for uncovering "closet libertarians", you can quickly register them.

STEP 1: This time of year, politics often comes up in conversation, frequently right after discussing NFL Football. Don't force it into the chit-chat. Be patient. Someone else will soon broach the topic. If he asks what you have been doing lately, just mention, that among other things, you've worked on a political campaign. Then sut up. He will express interest. He may ask questions about the campaign. Say, "Oh, it was fun!" Then go to Step 2.

STEP 2: Before you offer your opinions, ask for his. This is very important. Say something like, "By the way, what are your political views?" Then listen very carefully. Listen to the "music": that's the motivating theme behind his position. If you are in a group, involve everyone. Act like a moderator. Say, "Wilma, what do you think about Shirley's opinion on welfare?" People love to be asked for their opinions. And they love anyone who shows the courtesy to ask for them. Up to now you haven't expressed your beliefs, or even mentioned your party affiliation. But you have found out which libertarian positions they hold. You have heard the "music" that turns them on. You are ready for the next step.

STEP 3: At this point they may ask for your opinions. Ask them if they have heard of the Libertarian Party. If they say "Yes", ask what they've heard. If they say "No", ask if they have read Milton Friedman, Robert Ringer, Ayn Rand, or Thomas Jefferson. If they are familiar

with, and believe in, the free market, individual liberty, and responsibility, then you are ready to close the conversation and ask for a commitment. If they're not familiar with libertarianism, suggest that they read Restoring The American Dream by Ringer, or give them copies of Ed Clark's A New Beginning. Then go back to discussing NFL Football. Don't waste the great rapport you just built up by getting into an argument. Say, "It's been great." Then suggest another time to get together and "talk politics".

STEP 4: It's time to close those who have given favorable responses. Flatter them by paying them your highest compliment. Say, "Gee, a lot of your ideas sound libertarian." Recap those ideas and explain why they are libertarian. Briefly contrast Libertarians with the Republicrats. If you are a voter registrar, you should have your kit with you. Say, "By the way, have you registered to vote?" Ask those who have registered if they've moved since the last general election. If so, they will have to re-register. If not, ask if they would consider switching to a party that backs their views. Tell them that you are a voter registrar and that you have your materials handy. Say, "I can register you now - or may I stop by your home or office later this week?"

Now you have a commitment, and possibly a newly registered LP voter. It took little time, effort, resistance or risk.

By eliminating the FEAR of getting into a long political argument, you will find it easier to talk to near-strangers about the things closest to your heart. By increasing the number of people you listen to (after encouraging them to talk) you will spend more time with favorable prospects, and not waste time with hardcore moralists or socialists.

Bear in mind at all times that the person you are talking to may be a gut libertarian and not know it.

THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEVADA DOES NOT ENDORSE THE CANDIDACY OF ROBERT J. (BOB) EDWARDS FOR CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF.

PATAKI (Continued from page 6)

Pataki's two opponents in the general election are Jean Dutton (D), the incumbent, and George Leavitt (R). Dutton is the clear favorite.

Of the over 170,300 registered voters in Clark County, the breakdown is about 59.3% Democrats, 33.6% Republicans, and 7.1% other (including Libertarians). In the two primary races for Clark County Assessor, there were 55,245 Democratic and 23,371 Republican votes. Dutton, with 42,121 votes, got over 76% of the vote in his primary, beating his two opponents handily. Leavitt got 11,890 votes (51%) against three opponents.

The figures indicate an easy win for the Democrat, barring some fluke. Dutton apparently confident of victory, seems to have virtually ceased campaigning.

To get an idea of what Pataki is up against, consider that Leavitt got nearly as many votes in his primary race as there are registered Libertarians and non-partisans combined in the County.

Nevertheless, for Libertarians, Pataki's race is one of the most important in the state. The Libertarian Party will retain ballot status in Nevada if at least one Libertarian in a partisan race gets a vote total equal to 5% of the total votes cast throughout the State in the U.S. Congressional races. Clark County should have a little over half this state-wide vote. Though many people will not bother to vote for County Assessor, George Pataki appears to have a fair chance of receiving a sufficient number

of votes to save LP ballot status.

County assessors cannot reduce or raise property taxes directly. However, they adjust property valuations from which taxes are computed. Pataki believes that favoritism is shown to major property owners in their assessments, and that, if the proper people are not elected this year, small property owners will face much higher taxes.

Pataki says that the proper job of a county assessor is to set all property valuations uniformly in accordance with their market value. His major campaign issue is to adhere to the duties of county assessors. The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution states that no person shall be deprived "of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor (be denied)...the equal protection of the laws." The Nevada Constitution provides for "a uniform and equal rate of assessment...and...a just valuation..." If elected, Pataki says, "I would just do what the Constitution and the laws instruct me to do."

Because of his experience and dedication to the Constitution, George Pataki is clearly the best qualified candidate for Clark County Assessor.

Contributors of articles to this issue:

MICHAEL EMERLING, GAIL STIRLER and JOHN KETCHUM.

HOW MUCH IS YOUR FREEDOM WORTH?

The Libertarian Party is working for a free society; to continue, we need your support.

I'm ready to take a stand in defense of liberty! I'd like a 1-yr. membership in:
 The Libertarian Party of Nevada (\$10, includes a 1-yr. subscription to NEVADA LIBERTY)
 The National Libertarian Party (\$10, includes a year's subscription to LP NEWS)
 Both the LPN and the National LP (\$18, includes both subscriptions)

Please contact me. I'd like to help. I'd like more information.

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____

County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: () _____ or _____

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals." (Necessary for membership.)

Signature: _____

Make check payable to: Libertarian Party of Nevada, Box 876, Las Vegas, NV 89125-0876.

PATAKI (Continued from page 5)

fled Yugoslavia. They arrived in the U.S. two years later.

Hard-working by nature, George soon found employment - first as a laborer, and later as a motel manager, a draftsman, a civil engineer, and, for ten years, a real estate salesman and broker. He has also owned a coffee shop and a motel.

George, his wife, and two daughters have lived in Clark County for 7½ years.

For over five years George has held the position of Property Locator and Searcher for a local company which serves the title insurance and escrow companies in Clark County. Pataki is the only man in the county who does this work, which is of the same nature as that of the Clark County Assessor, who has several assistants.

For two years Pataki has fought increases of up to 1233% in 1980 assessed values of seven Mt. Charleston - Kyle Canyon subdivisions. Property taxes increased by up to 1006%. (In Nevada, assessed value is 35% of market value; and property taxes are computed from the tax rate, which is so many dollars per \$100 of assessed valuation.)

Reappraisal notices were received a few days after voters rejected Question 6, which would have limited reassessments to 2% yearly increases. "The people did not think when they voted it down," said Pataki.

Mt. Charleston property owners pay the highest tax rate in Clark County, and the second highest rate in the State. The major reason for the high tax rate is that the State has determined that there is too little business in the community to generate enough sales tax revenue to make the residents eligible for rebates. As Pataki says, all the residents pay the sales tax, just like anybody else in the state. Why can't they get their money back?

Pataki holds that the assessments and rates violate due process and equal protection components of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. And they are also in violation of the Nevada Constitution, which, in Article 10, Section 1, provides for "a uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation, and...a just valuation for taxation of all property.."

In the name of "Concerned Taxpayers," a group of Mt. Charleston property owners he heads up, Pataki protested to various state and Clark County government officials. But no action was taken.

With signed petitions asking for assessments on the parcels to be equalized (which would mean lowered) with those of other properties, Pataki appeared before the Clark County Board of Equalization, and appealed to the State Board of Equalization, three times each. But the bureaucrats denied the petitions each time.

At first the County Board denied Pataki's petitions because they believed there was sufficient equalization between properties in the subdivision.

But Pataki is no quitter. He says that by law, to present proof of overassessment, he can compare Mt. Charleston land with any other in the county. Pataki says that his charted value comparisons show that the Mt. Charleston parcels are overvalued for assessment purposes relative to 95% of the parcels in the county.

Pataki submitted these documents in advance of his latest meeting with the County Board of Equalization. But at the meeting George learned that his documents had been misplaced. And without benefit of examining the lost evidence, board members brought their decision to deny Pataki's petition, which contained the signatures of over 100 Mt. Charleston property owners.

Because of his tax fight, Pataki has received much local publicity. He has appeared on TV and radio, and he has been quoted in the newspapers.

Last year Don Darling, Libertarian recruiter, phoned George and arranged to meet him in his office. George quickly agreed to join the Libertarian Party, because, "I liked the ideas." But he was not so easily persuaded to be a candidate. Seeing that Pataki was doing essentially the same work as the county assessor, Don suggested that George run for that office. "Forget it," said George, who insists that he has hated politics since the time of Hitler.

Though George later agreed to run, he says: "I'm just looking for justice. I'm not a politician. I am a man who fights for principles."

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CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE VUCETA TARGETS I.R.S.

Teresa (Terri) Vuceta, a desk clerk at the Mapes Hotel and Casino in Reno, is making her first bid for elected office as the Libertarian candidate for U.S. Congress District 2. Vuceta, a new Libertarian, is best known as the woman who shot up an I.R.S. office - a sufficient qualification to endear this gutsy lady to tax protestors, and to strike fear into the hearts of tax collectors and other thieves.

Born in 1921 near London, England, Terri was a driver for the American HQ in London in the early years of WWII - daily chauffeuring such men as Generals Bradley and Eisenhower, and driving an ambulance at night. Later, she served with the OSS in London until the end of the war.

The war over, Terri went to the Continent as a UN Convoy Leader, returning displaced persons to their homelands - service for which she received, in 1947, the Humanitarian Award from the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Association. After her UN work, Terri was Chief of Operations of the Army Exchange Service in Europe.

In 1948, Terri came to the U.S. and married an American career Air Force officer.

She began selling real estate in 1954, but her new career was interrupted six years later for a three-year stint in Germany. Back in Florida in 1963, her husband newly retired from the Air Force, Terri resumed her real estate career as a broker and entrepreneur. By 1967, she and her husband were millionaire owners of a yacht and tennis club.

Terri was widowed in 1972, and the following year she married Mitch Vuceta.

In 1975, Terri sold the yacht club - a corporation of which she was then sole stockholder - by the installment method, and the sale was so reported on her corporate tax return. (Users of the installment method of reporting taxable gain on property sold must receive payments in each of at least two years, and principal payments in the sale year must not exceed 30% of the sale price. Principle payments are apportioned between cost recovery and profit; profit is taxed

as received. This method reduces tax in the first year, and may reduce total taxes by spreading income over several years, thus avoiding higher tax brackets. But complications may arise regarding what counts, for tax purposes, as the sale price and the first year's principal payment - which are frequently not the actual amounts the seller received. Sometimes a seller inadvertently runs afoul of the 30% limit requirement; the I.R.S. disallows the installment method, and the hapless seller has to scramble for cash to pay tax on a largely illusory, inflation-induced "gain".) Terri's life was about to take a sharp turn for the worse.

In 1976, after losing money in a brief restaurant venture, the Vucetas' troubles with the I.R.S. began with an audit of Terri's 1973-75 corporate tax returns. The I.R.S. investigation started with a claim that yacht club employees had under-declared their tips. Terri was assessed the employer portion of Social Security tax on the extra tips. In addition, many business expenses were disallowed, as was the installment method of reporting the sale of the club, due to legal problems with the sale documents. Terri's attorney began fighting the over \$600,000 tax claim; but he later disappeared, presumably in a private plane crash. The Vucetas moved to Las Vegas, where a deal to buy another restaurant fell through.

In 1977, with her own money, Terri bought Cal's, a North Las Vegas casino and lounge. Because of community property laws, Mitch had to cosign.

The next year, the Vucetas faced audits of their 1973-75 personal tax returns. The I.R.S. now demanded \$1.3 million in corporate and personal taxes, and placed a lien in that amount on the Vucetas.

When nervous creditors learned of the lien, the Vucetas were forced into bankruptcy. Cal's was closed, and, in 1979, it was auctioned off for less than half the purchase price. "They crucified me. They broke me. I was a millionaire," says Terri, understandably perturbed with the I.R.S., which claims that the taxes are still owed, and, with penal-

(Continued on page 4)

VUCETA (Continued from page 3)

ties and interest, now total about \$2 million - a figure Terri cannot possibly pay. (Since 1979 she has worked as a cab driver, snack bar supervisor, motel operator, and desk clerk.) Terri's marriage fell apart under the strain, and she and Mitch were divorced.

Since the money involved belonged to Terri before her marriage to Mitch, she felt that any tax liability was hers. So when the I.R.S. tried to hold Mitch partly responsible for the debt, that was the last straw. On October 29, 1979, armed with a .38, Terri marched into the I.R.S. office in Reno, held several employees at bay, and demanded a document officially releasing Mitching from liability. When an I.R.S. officer, who thought that she was bluffing, expressed doubt that the gun was loaded, and advanced toward her, Vuceta fired a shot into the ceiling - thus providing the officer with irrefutable evidence that the gun was loaded. His uncertainty relieved, the officer, and the others present, gave Terri a wide berth until she got what she came after - at which point she surrendered.

Vuceta's heroic act did not go unrewarded. For misdemeanor assault on the aforementioned skeptical I.R.S. officer, Terri received free room and board for 90 days.

But Vuceta has still not forgiven the I.R.S. for ruining her life. She would like to occupy a seat in Congress, where she could help to decide the I.R.S.'s fate.

DUSTERWALD WALKS FOR AD-3

In the State Assembly District 3 race, Steven Dusterwald (L) faces five-term incumbent, Roger Bremner (D), and George Kabolis (R).

Dusterwald, a professional structural engineer, has a B.S. in Civil Engineering. An active Libertarian since 1978, he was Chairman of the Nevada Ed Clark for President Committee in 1980. Steve and his wife, Joan, have been Las Vegas residents since 1975. They have a four year old son.

Dusterwald's typically libertarian resistance to candidate recruiting at-

tempts was finally overcome by the nightly TV news. Announced tax increases, roundups of Strip prostitutes, and various government boondoggles left him cursing at the TV, which "relieves my frustrations to a minor degree, but does nothing about the problems reported," Steve said, so he realized it was "time to put up or shut up." He decided to put up - and to put serious effort into his campaign. "I knew that this would involve money out of my pocket," he said, "in addition to hours of walking."

Dusterwald dislikes politics and politicians, and he sees the Libertarian Party as "an anti-political party, an organization dedicated to removing political power from our lives." So he decided that his campaign would emphasize that Democrats and Republicans believe in using political power to force their views on people, and that this force has worsened our problems instead of solving them. And he picked four issues to focus on: taxes, crime, housing, and mass transit.

Dusterwald was interviewed once on radio, and he plans another appearance. He is also making the usual candidate appearances where special interest groups endorse politicians who promise legislation intended to benefit group members at other people's expense. Needless to say, Libertarians don't get many endorsements.

But Steve's major campaign strategy is to reach individual voters in his district. AD-3 has 19 precincts and about 7,600 registered voters. By checking Libertarian voters in the last election, Steve picked, in order of priority, the seven most promising precincts, totaling about 3,500 voters. He had printed 3,000 campaign brochures to distribute door-to-door in these precincts. With an average of about 1 2/3 voters per household, Steve estimates that 2,200 brochures will cover all 3,500 voters. Dusterwald is taking three-day weekends for precinct walks. The weekend of October 16-18, he and Joan knocked on about 500 doors and reached nearly 1,000 voters. Steve figures that he will reach 5,000 people if he is able to distribute all 3,000

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DUSTERWALD (Continued from page 4)

brochures - which he intends to do, even if he has to leave many with non-voters. "I paid 16¢ each for those bastards," he said, "and I want to get them all out."

On the cover of the attention-grabbing brochure, below the photo of an angry-looking Dusterwald, is the printed phrase "MAD AS HELL". Inside, one finds that Steve is mad about "the way the politicians have just about wrecked this country...problems caused by politics...the way the politicians have turned America into a political fist-fight," etc. Lest this message be thought too subtle, he goes on to say, "I'm so fed up with politics and politicians I could scream!" To further insure that he not be mistaken for an ordinary major party candidate, he says such things as, "Political power is the exercise of legalized force. The Democrats and Republicans embrace this power for the advantages it gives them...The Libertarian Party is the party for people who hate politics and believe in individual liberty and individual responsibility. I would like to help de-legislate and de-taxify America, and to remove the coercion of political influences from our lives...Problems like double-digit interest rates and unemployment rates with ever-increasing taxes and inflation are not acts of God. They are the result of the exercise of political power...Just how bad do things have to get under the Democrats and Republicans before you will vote for a change?"

The brochure identifies Steve's four major campaign issues as problems: taxes and violent crime are out of control; politicians have created a housing crisis; and mass transit is scarce and expensive.

Solutions are offered: abolish the sales tax; cut property taxes; and limit total taxes. On crime, Steve calls for de-legislation of all victimless crimes, which would free up the police, courts, and prisons to prevent violent crime. He says that criminals should make restitution to their victims. On the housing issue, he pushes for repeal of zoning laws and non-safety-related building

codes, which abrogate private property rights, encourage market distortions, and increase housing costs. As in Houston, Texas, zoning laws would be replaced by private land use controls, which are not subject to political manipulation. On the issue of mass transit, to reduce costs and increase availability, Dusterwald would end legislated monopolies, politically-protected from competition, by de-legislating all transit services and abolishing the Taxi Authority and the Regional Transportation Commission.

"I'm getting good responses from people who shake my hand and tell me they're glad they have somebody to vote for besides Democrats and Republicans," says Steve. "I'm encouraged, overall. After this is all over, I can watch the evening news with a clear conscience, knowing I've paid my dues."

PATAKI TAKES ON THE SYSTEM

George Pataki is the Libertarian candidate for Clark County Assessor.

Born in 1917, during WWI, in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which collapsed in 1918, George grew up in the new constitutional monarchy of Yugoslavia. After earning his B.S. in Civil and Structural Engineering, and serving as a lieutenant in the army reserve, Pataki became a surveyor and an engineer.

With the onset of WWII, Nazis occupied Yugoslavia. Yugoslavs suffered terribly in the War; about 10% died. George spent three years in a Nazi labor camp. His sister died in a German concentration camp in May, 1945, a week before the end of WWII.

With liberation from the Nazis, Yugoslavia became a federal people's republic under Tito and his forces, who began imprisoning and killing dissidents. But elections were to be held, so there was some hope that the country would not remain dominated by Communists. For a year, Pataki distributed literature calling for restoration of the constitutional monarchy. But Tito won the election, so George had to give up the fight, remain silent, and continue working as an engineer. He married in 1952.

In 1959, because they "couldn't stand any more of that communism," the Patakis

(Continued on page 6)