



October 1990
Vol. 5, No. 10

Libertarian Party

NEWS

LP Condemns Iraqi and U.S. Actions in Middle East

Resolution Against Deployment of U.S. Troops to Saudi Arabia

Resolution of the
Libertarian Party
National Committee
12 August 1990

Saddam Hussein's intervention into the internal affairs of Kuwait by rolling tanks across its border has outraged the world as an act of naked aggression. Any such military incursion not required for the defense of a nation's territorial integrity must be soundly condemned by all who believe in justice.

Notwithstanding this act of war, we, the National Committee of the Libertarian Party, support our party platform's strong and consistent opposition to foreign interventionism, including the affairs of the Middle East, and condemn the Bush Administration decision to send American troops to Saudi Arabia and call for their immediate recall.

A military blockade is an act of war. American youth should not be sacrificed to defend monarchies, nor artificial national boundaries drawn by previous generations of foreign politicians. Iraq's marauding despot is no direct threat to America's security. His pernicious cause is only advanced by the insertion of American troops into the present turmoil. The residents of the region are the best defenders of their own interests against Saddam Hussein's aggression. The Baath movement, Hussein's so-called Arab Socialism, will fall the same way that the socialist movements of Europe are falling—from the moral and economic bankruptcy of socialism.

The Republican and Democratic politicians supported Iraq after its unprovoked invasion of Iran, subsidizing Iraqi grain purchases with American taxpayers' money. They continue to fund aid to countries guilty of occupation and annexation comparable to that perpetrated by Iraq. The hypocrisy of their alleged concern over the most recent Iraqi aggression is an embarrassment to the founding principles of the United States.

The Libertarian Party stands ready and eager to lead America back to a commitment to those principles of free trade and friendship with all nations and entangling alliances with none.

Rand Campaign Propels Georgia LP to New Level

By Jim Hudson

In late February 1990, Carole Ann Rand of the Libertarian Party of Georgia decided to enter the race for governor at the urging of the party's leadership. Rand, a former chair of the party's executive committee, agreed that it was important to utilize the party's hard-won ballot status to try to achieve a number of goals:

(1) To use the built-in media attention associated with gubernatorial candidates to familiarize as many people as possible with libertarian principles;

(2) To establish name recognition and credibility for the party, especially among "opinion leaders";

(3) To help maintain ballot status for the party;

(4) To increase party membership; and

(5) To influence the agenda being discussed by the candidates.

The party achieved automatic ballot status as a result of the vote totals received by Libertarian Party candidates for Public Service Commission in 1988.

Due to the difficulties that relatively new parties have in attracting money for political campaigns in Georgia, it was recognized early on that advertising would be very limited and that public forums, invitations to television and radio events, newspaper articles and interviews, and press releases would be especially important. Also, since Rand holds a regular 40-hour-a-week job, it was felt that events would have to be carefully picked to maximize the benefit from the limited time she had available for campaigning.

Before the party's annual convention in April, at which Rand formally became the LP's gubernatorial candidate, she made



Campaign '90

Georgia governor

her first public appearance of the campaign at a League of Women Voters forum in Dalton, Georgia. Since the party's nominating convention, Rand has participated in numerous events, including a gubernatorial forum sponsored by the Governor's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council with a large audience of statewide members of the general law enforcement community; a two-hour televised League of Women Voters gubernatorial forum at Macon College in Macon, Georgia; a gubernatorial forum in Savannah at the annual convention of the State Bar of Georgia; and a dinner meeting of a large ABATE group in Atlanta.

There were also a number of get-acquainted meetings with selected members of the press.

The last week of June saw Rand successfully fulfilling the legal requirements for qualifying to be on the general election ballot in November. This event was an historic one for several reasons:

(1) This was the first time that the Libertarian Party of Georgia had ever secured a candidate for governor on the general election ballot.

(2) This was the first time in over 50 years that Georgia had seen a candidate for governor qualify for the general election ballot who was not a Democrat or



Carole Ann Rand

Republican.

(3) This was the first time in Georgia's history that a woman had qualified for the general election ballot for the position of governor.

After the primary run-off election, new invitations for appearances started coming in, including a gubernatorial forum at the annual convention of the Georgia Association of Broadcasters on Jekyll Island, and a 10-minute address to the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia on St. Simon's Island.

The major televised gubernatorial debates that will probably be scheduled for the last week of the campaign in Atlanta have yet to invite Rand to participate, with the exception of a League of Women Voters debate on October 28. The invitation to this debate was carefully worded to in-

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Marshall Lone Challenger

Dr. Robert Marshall, Libertarian candidate for the U.S. House in Illinois, has obtained more than 13,000 signatures and filed them with the State Board of Elections, assuring him a spot on the November ballot as the lone challenger to arrogant tax-and-spend incumbent Dan Rostenkowski.

"This campaign will be a breakthrough in Illinois Libertarian politics and most likely a shocking jolt to the two-party system nationally," according to Ken Prazak, Marshall's campaign manager.

Marshall plans to run against Rostenkowski's record. Rostenkowski, who is chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, has supported tax increases and the congressional pay raise. He has also supported the Catastrophic Health Bill, which many senior citizens oppose.

Marshall has vowed to do everything possible to cut taxes and spending. He has agreed to work for the repeal of the Mazoli-Simpson immigration bill, and he is a



Campaign '90

Illinois, U.S. House

strong supporter of the right to bear arms.

"We have already made contact with many senior groups in our district. They are with us. The urban professionals are also with us. We intend to curry favor with the heavily-populated Hispanic and Polish vote with our stand on immigration," Prazak said.

Marshall is a physician in Berwyn. He is a graduate of Harvard Medical School and an Army Vietnam veteran.

Committee to Elect Robert Marshall,
8827 Ogden Ave., Brookfield, IL 60513.

CORE Support For Lord in DC

Nancy Lord, the LP's candidate for mayor of the District of Columbia, is expecting the endorsement of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), the nation's second largest civil rights organization. Deborah Dion, director of the DC CORE office, has been extremely impressed with Lord's campaign and has told Lord that CORE is considering a formal endorsement of her candidacy, according to the Lord campaign.

CORE has already issued a news release which praised Lord for rising above racism and addressing the real issues affecting Black Americans. Roy Innis, CORE national chairman, has agreed to appear with Lord during campaign stops in DC neighborhoods.

Nancy Lord for Mayor of DC, 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20003.

National Committee Has Productive Meeting

San Francisco was the setting for the meeting of the Libertarian National Committee on August 11 and 12. The Holiday Inn-Golden Gateway also hosted the World Libertarian Conference of the International Society for Individual Liberty that weekend, affording plenty of socializing and idea-exchanging between NatCom and

clusion is that effective TV advertising campaigns will take far more financial resources than the party can command at its current size.

The Budget Committee recommended that spending authorizations be reduced by some \$26,500 for the remainder of 1990 to adjust to expected lower revenues. Total revenue is up from 1989, and the number of people contributing has increased, but the size of the average donation has declined. Still, compared to similar membership organizations, the Libertarian Party is—member for member—far more loyal and generous with its contributions. The problem—one not easily surmountable—is that the things “we should be doing” will seemingly always outstrip the financial resources our members elect to send us. It is heartening to report that the budget was trimmed without having to cut back the monthly LP NEWS, or terminate the field coordinator or media coordinator and their programs. Finance chief, Steve Alexander, pledged an all-out fund-raising effort while other committee chairs agreed to a more judicious use of funds budgeted for their programs.

Each of the regional representatives reviewed the admirable progress being made by state organizations in their regions. Mary Gingell, chair of the Affiliate Parties Committee, reported a general uptick in the organizational levels achieved by the state parties.

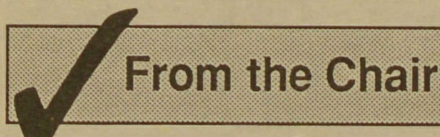
The purpose of any political party is to elect their candidates, not merely run them, and Steve Dasbach reviewed Campaign '90's chances of doing just that. (Hot campaigns are reported elsewhere in the NEWS: please support, in any way you can, the campaigns important to you and future success of the party.) Steve has already begun thinking about the 1992 elections, and recruitment and training of candidates will begin in earnest early next year. Isn't it **your** turn to run?

Bill Redpath was appointed to head the important Ballot Access Committee, with Steve Givot returning to the treasurer's post he held when he joined the BAC. Bill has mapped out a new fund-raising effort and hopes to add states like the Dakotas and Nebraska to the “already qualified for '92” column by year's end. The Kansas drive, thanks to John Foster and his team,

is virtually a lock to be successfully completed by the end of October, and fingers are crossed that outstanding candidates and campaigns in a number of states such as California and Wisconsin will qualify the LP in '92 without further petitioning in those states.

Dean Ahmad was elected to replace Bill Redpath as chair of the Management and Audit Committee, and George O'Brien volunteered to replace the retiring Norma Segal as chair of the Internal Education Committee. All the new committee chairs

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Dave Walter, LP National Chair

the 400-plus libertarians from around the world.

The pluses and minuses of this National Committee's first year in office were reviewed. Membership has increased by more than 30 percent in the last 12 months, reversing previous trends of declines in the years midway between presidential contests. Growth, however, has slowed as the summer months approached. It was also noted that revenues were close to the aggressive budget that was adopted in April, though the NatCom subsequently took the prudent course of cutting some spending over the remainder of the year. Efficiency at the national office continued to improve and the far-larger party is being administered by one fewer office employee than in previous years. Ballot access for the 1992 presidential election was further along at this point than any previous pre-presidential year. The goal of having at least 300 candidates has been surpassed; the electorate has yet to decide if one of the half-dozen or so state legislator candidates with a good chance of winning will be elected in November. The television ads, which were authorized but unfunded for a number of years, were finally produced thanks to David Nolan. They were tested by a number of state parties but the con-

IS ABORTION HOMICIDE?

Libertarian arguments saying why it is, and why it violates libertarian principles: \$3. (For introductory information only: SASE)

Libertarians for Life

13424 Hathaway Drive, #18
Wheaton, MD 20906, 301/460-4141
Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

New Environment Plank

At the August meeting, the Libertarian National Committee approved a new “Environment” plank for the Libertarian Party Program. It replaces “Pollution is Trespassing.” This will be substituted in the printed version when supplies run out.

The Environment

Every one of us is dependent on the environment to support our lives. When a person, a company, or a government dumps waste from its property onto the property of others without their consent, it has trespassed against them. The victims of pollution should be able to sue the polluter, require it to stop, and collect damages.

The best way to understand why we have the high level of air and water pollution we have today is to recognize that responsibility for protection of the environment has been turned over to a government bureaucracy. Today's failures are a result of the ineffectiveness of the government to deal with such important issues. Corporate officials are often protected from liability. Various levels of government—often the worst polluters—impose ever greater regulations on private parties, while hiding behind legal exemptions which permit them to violate their own standards.

Current laws relating to the environment are not based on the concept of trespass. These laws define acceptable levels of pollution and attempt to prevent anyone from exceeding those levels. They fall short of what is needed for several reasons.

By setting acceptable levels of pollution, the government is actually approving those levels of pollution. Liber-

tarians do not believe that government bureaucrats in Washington should determine how much poison we are forced to eat, drink, and breathe!

Government sanctions environmental destruction; polluters feel safe as they poison our environment up to government accepted levels. It is an uphill battle for an injured private citizen to sue a polluter who has met all government guidelines. Even if the individual has been unquestionably harmed, the polluter's claim that all applicable government standards were met provides a strong defense.

When polluters exceed government standards, the penalties they pay typically go to the government, not to the people who were harmed. Why should the government be paid for poisoning private citizens? Why shouldn't polluters compensate their victims?

Faceless bureaucrats can never be as effective in fighting pollution as individual citizens; provided that we give citizens the tools they need to do so. The following are some initial steps to protect our environment.

1. Clearly establish the legal right of individuals or groups to claim that harmful pollution of their body, property, air, or water is a trespass, allowing them to successfully sue individuals, companies, or governments for damages.

2. End all regulatory attempts to define acceptable levels of pollution. Setting such standards has the effect of legally sanctioning that amount of pollution, even when it might be reduced below that level. It also deprives citizens the right to successfully claim damages from levels of pollution which are lower than government standards.

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NatCom Meeting

continued from page 2

deserve your support and help as they go about building and improving the party.

San Diego made their presentation for hosting the 1993 convention. A bid from Salt Lake City is expected soon. NatCom will decide at its December meeting in White Plains, New York, so there is still time for other cities to get proposals in to the national secretary Joe Dehn.

The long-running meeting found time to pass a resolution in opposition to the deployment of troops in Saudi Arabia, and set in motion a telephone tree message urging members to watch Dr. Ron Paul's

C-SPAN appearance on August 31.

Just as I did at the NatCom meeting last summer, I set some goals for the NatCom to achieve in the next 12 months. Number one is to continue increasing the membership at a 25 percent-plus rate. I'd like to achieve a \$50,000 increase in gross revenues. I'd like to go into the 1991 convention with ballot access problems being minimized in the minds of our presidential nomination contestants. I'd like to see the number of 1992 candidates jump to well over 500 nationwide. If your goals are even more ambitious, remember that these are just minimums and that the national party isn't going to hold you back!

Let me end with an observation on

membership levels. If each state achieved the same density of LP members per million population as our two top states, Alaska and New Hampshire, there would be from 30,000 to 40,000 national members. If two such diverse states can achieve high densities, then other states and counties can too. There is no "ceiling" on the number of Libertarians we can expect to recruit in a given area, or at least no ceiling that the vast majority of our affiliates are in danger of reaching in the next few months. Our fellow activists in Alaska and New Hampshire have shown us the way with intense local activism. **That's** how growth is achieved, and **that's** what the Libertarian Party has to do next.

Question # 4:

*Should there be fair access
to the ballot
for third-party candidates?*

This November you can say

YES!

The Fair Ballot Access Initiative is Question #4 on the Massachusetts' ballot this November. The initiative marks the first time ever that the people of any state will have an opportunity to vote for greater choice on the ballot. The initiative slashes ballot access petitioning requirements by 75%. Moreover, the initiative will give tremendous fuel to Libertarian Party lobbying efforts in every state in the country.

But your help is critically needed now to put our radio campaign, featuring Libertarian talk show host Gene Burns, on the airwaves for the last 3 to 4 weeks of the campaign. A recent Boston Globe poll shows 49% of voters support the initiative while only 33% oppose it. **A major ballot access victory can be ours!** Not just in Massachusetts, but in every state where ballot access restrictions have held the Libertarian Party back. Your financial support today will make all the difference. Say "YES" today to Question #4 and fair ballot access!

☐ **Yes! I want to help the Fair Ballot Access Initiative win in November!!**

I'm enclosing a campaign contribution of: ☐ \$1000 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other

"Please contribute as much as you can to the Committee for Fair Ballot Access. Never before have we had such a golden opportunity to open up the ballot. This effort can have a tremendous impact on ballot access laws in every state."

— Richard Winger
LP Ballot Access Expert

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

☐ Please also keep me updated about the initiative campaign.

Committee for Fair Ballot Access

Post Office Box 2557 ■ Boston, Massachusetts 02208

LET'S MAKE History!

"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"
AT FIJA'S FIRST

Bill of Jury Rights Conference

Spend a fall weekend in conference, working with legal scholars, FIJA activists and other experts. The task is to produce a comprehensive list of jury system reforms which, if implemented would return control of the government to the people.

All attendees will be eligible to participate in ratification votes and the signing ceremony which will mark completion of this "Bill of Jury Rights."

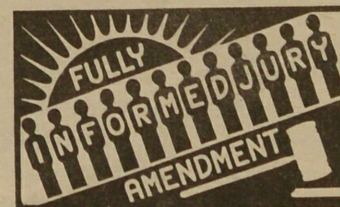
Workshops on lobbying and media relations will be included for those who intend to follow up the conference by pitching the bill at their state's next legislative session.

Help make
liberty history:

Join us in St. Louis
this Nov. 9,10,11.

Call Don or Larry at
(406) 793-5550 for more
INFORMATION.

OR WRITE DON DOIG OR LARRY
DODGE, FIJA, BOX 59, HELMVILLE,
MT, 59843.



Help Needed In Gathering Election Results

Due to the incomplete coverage provided by the News Election Service, the Libertarian Party this year will be setting up its own system for collecting the results of races in which Libertarian candidates are participating.

Volunteers are needed to collect election results from local sources, and to enter data into our computer network. If you have electronic mail access (basically, a computer with a modem), you can help, regardless of your physical location. If you are involved with a campaign or have knowledge of the election reporting procedures in your locality, you can help, regardless of whether you have a computer.

Please call Joe Dehn at 303-972-8094, or contact him by electronic mail: Compuserve: 70305,241; MCI Mail: 106-6052; Fidonet: Joe Dehn at 1:104/418; Internet: Joe Dehn @f418.n104.z1.fidonet.org; or by paper mail at P.O. Box 621015, Littleton, CO 80162.

Felix Morley Prize Winners

The Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University announced the results of the fourth annual Felix Morley Memorial Writing Competition:

- First Prize of \$2,500 to **Bretigne Shaffer**, assistant editor at *Executive* magazine in Hong Kong.

- Second Prize of \$1,500 to **Jacob T. Levy**, a sophomore at Brown University and managing editor of *The Brown Spectator*.

- Third Prize of \$1,000 to **David Bernstein**, a third-year law student at Yale University.

Morley Prizes are awarded to young writers based on writing ability, potential, and appreciation of free enterprise and individual liberty reflected in their published work. The competition is open to full-time students and other young writers up to age 25.

International Libertarians Gather Wordwide Activity Noted; Hess Gets Freedom Torch

By Jim Elwood

Some 400 libertarians from 17 countries gathered in San Francisco from August 10-14 for the World Conference of the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL). The event was the first of its kind for ISIL since last year's merger of Libertarian International and the original Society for Individual Liberty. This year's event, the first international libertarian conference ever held in North America, was co-hosted by Jim Peron and the Future of Freedom Conference. It also incorporated the annual Summit of the Advocates for Self-Government. The Libertarian Party National Committee and the Council of State Chairs scheduled separate meetings at the conference hotel.

The kickoff for the conference was Friday night's 10th birthday party reception which commemorated the founding of the Libertarian International by Vince Miller in 1980. Miller, LI's founder and ISIL's current president, recounted the experience and the important inspirational roles played by Leonard Liggio and Ed Clark.

The opening session featured Ahto Lobjakas, leader of the Estonian Liberal Democratic Party youth organization. Lobjakas gave a summary of the rise of the Popular Front independence movement in Estonia, and told the audience that Estonia is going to attempt to introduce its own currency to stop the looting of their country by Soviets with worthless rubles. He stressed that true independence will come about only with the approval of Moscow—and that is uncertain. Later in private conversations, Lobjakas said the KGB is still picking up dissidents, and that the gulags are still very much in operation.

A number of other international libertarian stars were introduced to the largely American audience for the first time. The Sunday breakfast featured Peruvian congressman (and ISIL Rep) Enrique Gheri. Gheri is a close associate of presidential candidate Mario Vargas Llosa. Gheri broke the exciting news that 10 libertarians had been elected to the Peruvian

Senate, and that they were the largest bloc. He also noted that one of the factors that derailed the Llosa campaign was his formal coalition with the conservative parties (which were perceived as being associated with the hated establishment business interests). Fujimori, the victor, had no visible connections with them, and thus was perceived as being truly independent.

Carl I. Hagen, member of the Norwegian Parliament and leader of the Progress Party (which recently jumped from 2 to 22 seats) recounted the beginning of the party in the early '70s as a populist anti-tax party, and its gradual swing in the libertarian direction. Hagen explained his gradualist approach to handling issues, stating that it was the job of the intellectuals to change the climate of opinion before libertarian parties could bring about effective legislative changes.

ISIL's Argentina Rep Dr. Martin Krause, who is president of the Institute for Freedom and Democracy in Buenos Aires, a professor of economics, and a journalist, described the complete breakdown of the "official" economy through strangling bureaucracy and the collapse of the national currency—and the burgeoning black market (which keeps things going). Between hyper-inflation and rampant tax evasion it is almost powerless to control, the government is so broke that it cannot buy gas for its police cars. Argentines are now hiring private police to patrol their neighborhoods, or in some cases they are raising money for the government police to buy gas! Krause noted that young people in the universities are now very interested in libertarian ideas, as opposed to 15 years ago when the Communist Party was considered to be right-wing.

A surprise development at the conference was the appearance of a young man named Mohamed Yassan Hassan from Somalia. Hassan, a former Somali diplomat to the United Arab Emirates, announced that he was building a Libertarian Party of Somalia. He hopes to educate Somali students in the U.S. who can move



back to Somalia once the current 82-year-old Marxist dictator passes on.

The climax of the conference came at the final banquet, which featured Nobel laureate Milton Friedman. Friedman, who titled his talk "Libertarianism and Humility," urged libertarians to be more tolerant of others and to seek out areas of agreement rather than stressing areas of disagreement as many libertarians do today. He reserved special emphasis for the role of the Libertarian Party, saying that it could only be effective in changing public opinion if it remained a visionary "Party of Principle." He used the example of the Socialist Party early in this century, which had limited electoral success, but whose platform was eventually adopted by the major parties.

ISIL's Freedom Torch gold medal, which is awarded at the biennial world conventions to those who have contributed greatly to the international movement, was awarded this year to Karl Hess, unfortunately in absentia. The decision was an immensely popular one, with an adoring crowd giving Karl a long standing ovation.

The next international libertarian conference will be hosted by ISIL/Europe in Elsinore, Denmark, during August 19-24, 1991. For more information, contact ISIL, 1800 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102, or call 415-864-0952.

Jim Elwood is the executive vice president of ISIL and a former state chair of the LP of Virginia.

FIJA Interest Continues to Grow

By Don Doig and Larry Dodge

The bad news is that the Fully Informed Jury Amendment (FIJA), which would require that judges inform jurors of their right to judge law as well as fact, has so far failed as an initiative to gain ballot status anywhere. At this time, only Washington and Utah have ongoing ballot drives, both just beginning.

The good news is that this does not seem to have slowed down the growth and enthusiasm of the movement; indeed it is snowballing. The ballot drives enabled FIJA to gain initial public exposure and build active organizations. Now FIJA has had time to begin building the broad-based coalition which can, if properly organized, lobby legislators to enact FIJA legislation or constitutional referendums. More than 30 states now have active organizations.

Legislators have been amazingly receptive to FIJA. Legislation was introduced months ago in Arizona, Wyoming, and Alaska, but it failed in committee. These states will refile.

In the upcoming session, legislators have committed to file FIJA in Tennessee, Georgia, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and probably Utah, and FIJA activists in many states are now gearing up to lobby. In Georgia, 23 legislators have signed on as co-sponsors (so far), including a solid block of legislators from the metropolitan Atlanta area.

In Louisiana, FIJA is being introduced in the Senate. It enjoys the unanimous support of the Black Caucus of both houses. Oklahoma FIJA already has the support of the House Judiciary Committee.

FIJA is currently scheduled for consideration at the next meeting of the National Rifle Association's Legislative Affairs Committee, having captured the endorsement of the delegates to the national NRA convention in June. Approval would be a big boost to FIJA's growth, and could result in the active participation of the NRA in the campaign.

FIJA has been formally endorsed by the Republican Parties of Nevada and Iowa, and a call for enactment has been placed in their state platforms. Former Washington

state Supreme Court Justice William C. Goodloe has signed on as honorary chair of Washington FIJA.

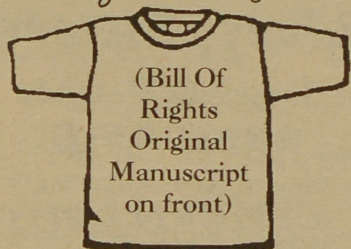
FIJA has a chance of passage by legislative action precisely because of the "unholy coalition" which is forming around it. For the first time in decades, Americans from unfriendly camps are getting together, talking to one another as allies, not enemies.

FIJA, which gives everyone a handle on government power just when one or another of these laws comes to bear on his own case, thus enjoys support as a remedy no matter who needs it, or why.

The proof will be in the pudding at FIJA's first national conference, where attendees from all points along the political spectrum will work together over Veteran's Day weekend to develop, then sign and take home to their state legislatures, a "Bill of Jury Rights." This document will list at least 10 reforms for the jury system which, if enacted as law, would put control of government firmly back in the hands of the people.

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Ron Paul, Bill of Rights, Fair Ballot & More

Ron Paul's appearance on cable television's C-SPAN viewer call-in show in late August has generated over 250 calls to the national headquarters for more information about the LP. The show, which was billed as a look at "alternative political parties," gave Paul the opportunity to offer the Libertarian position on a variety of topics, most notably the U.S. involvement in the Persian Gulf and the economy.

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Action photos of Libertarians in campaigns and community activities are urgently need for "Liberty Today," our outreach tabloid. Please contact outreach chair **Toni Black** to discuss suitable pictures you may have. She can be reached at 110 Riggs Drive, Clemson, SC 29631-1426. Phone 803-653-7514. CompuServe 73530,3225.

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The anniversary of the **Bill of Rights** is coming up in December. It seems an appropriate occasion for Libertarian celebra-

tions and observances.

Outreach chair **Toni Black** seeks input from LP members with ideas for newsworthy Bill of Rights projects. Let's get warmed up this year for the bicentennial of the Bill of Rights in 1991. Contact Toni at 110 Riggs Drive, Clemson, SC 29631-1426. Phone 803-653-7514. CompuServe 73530,3225.

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The **San Francisco Examiner** has come out in favor of drug legalization. An editorial called the war on drugs a "colossal waste of effort, money, and human resources."

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The Illinois Supreme Court has removed the **Tax Accountability Initiative** from the ballot. Although over 450,000 valid signatures were turned in to the state, the court ruled that the state constitution doesn't authorize an initiative on tax accountability.

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In an opinion poll conducted by the *Boston Globe*, the **Fair Ballot Access Initiative** was favored by 49 percent of the respondents, while opposed by only 33 percent. The initiative will slash petition requirements by 75 percent.

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Tonie Nathan, the LP's media relations director, is busy keeping the news crews informed of Libertarian candidates across the country. In a recent release, the campaigns of **Tom Tryon**, **Nancy Lord**, and **Robin Heid** were highlighted.

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Jeff Daiell, the Texas LP gubernatorial candidate, has purchased 61 10-second spots which will air on Houston-area cable TV in the weeks before the election. Daiell hopes to add even more commercials to the 61 already scheduled.

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Ron Kovic, Vietnam veteran and author of "Born on the Fourth of July," recently said he was considering running for president. Kovic said he would run a campaign that would "show that everyday people have the right to challenge their government." Kovic has also been very vocal in his opposition to the U.S. deployment of troops to the Mideast. "It's Vietnam all over again," Kovic said. "In the days and weeks to come, there will be more teach-ins, demonstrations, and more people standing up and speaking out forcefully against this policy."

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

The first election returns are in and Keitt Miller, candidate for Lakeland (FL) City Commission, wound up with 12 percent of the vote in a three-way race. Miller said that since he "ran a low-budget, fairly low-key campaign" he was pleased with the outcome. Miller reported one more item: "Guess what the city commission did the day after the election? They voted to raise taxes. 'Nuff said?"

Rand Campaign Boosts Party Image in GA

continued from page 1

clude all kinds of "candidate qualifications" required above and beyond the legal requirements for qualification so that only "major" party candidates could possibly participate. This is in keeping with the general attitude of the Atlanta media community, which is that unless a candidate is from a party with a winning tradition or has millions of dollars in the campaign coffers, the candidate is to be ig-

nored. Outside of Atlanta the media community has been very decent, and Rand has received fair coverage in the newspapers in Savannah and Macon, for example. The AP and the UPI have also occasionally sent out stories based upon our campaign press releases. But the major Atlanta newspapers have largely imposed a blackout on coverage of our campaign, and we will be pleasantly surprised if any major televised debates include Rand. We are

getting clear signals from second-hand sources that the Democratic candidate has a major problem with sharing the stage on prime-time television with a Libertarian Party candidate, as he does not want to lend "legitimacy" to a "fringe" candidate, even though Rand's name and our party name on the ballot are just as legitimate as his as far as the Secretary of State's office is concerned. Luckily, we have a few friends in the media community, and we may be able to make an issue out of the exclusionary and undemocratic attitudes that are apparent in Atlanta. But this will have to be handled very carefully, as a primary goal of this campaign is to project an image of being reasonable and businesslike as well as being devoted to democratic and libertarian principles. So far this approach has helped us gain respect and a degree of acceptance in many circles. We believe that if we can persist with our campaign in a dignified manner even in the face of discrimination and an inability to compete financially, we will be in a much stronger position during the next election cycle and will continue to attract new party members as we have been doing all through the campaign.

There have been some satisfying moments during this campaign. For example, the Republican gubernatorial candidate and one of the major Democratic candidates went out of their way to privately tell us that they shared many of our values and agreed with most of Rand's positions on issues. Also, everywhere that we have gone, we have been told over and over by a broad cross-section of people that they are so glad to see a real alternative to Democrats and Republicans that still reflects important American values. We have also been told by a number of knowledgeable political observers that they have never seen conditions more favorable for a legitimate third party than right now. We have also observed the Democratic and Republican survivors of the primaries start to utilize some of our ideas on issues in forums where Rand was not invited to attend.

Our campaign themes have reflected almost universal concern about three major issues:

(1) Education: We have emphasized a need to restructure the public financing of primary and secondary schools by going to a voucher or scholarship system.

(2) Crime: We would like to sever the link between drugs and crime through a carefully-managed program of drug legalization. We also emphasize opposition to all forms of gun control and state our desire to eliminate the parole system, which undermines the deterrent effect of prison sentences by eliminating the important element of certainty in our punishments.

(3) The Economy: Our campaign emphasizes reduction of taxes as a result of lowering the cost of education with a voucher system, lowering the cost of law enforcement through managed drug legalization, and lowering the cost of government services through privatization. We also talk about removing the barrier to economic growth known as state licensing.

Most party members consider Rand's campaign a success already, even before the votes are cast. This campaign has attracted more total media attention around the state than all past Libertarian Party campaigns in Georgia combined, and we still have a few surprises left to spring on the media. There has been a steady flow of inquiries about the party generated by the campaign, and a number of new members have signed on after they received responses to their inquiries. We have established ourselves as the credible alternative to the two older parties in Georgia and have been welcomed in some influential circles around the state as having made a constructive and responsible contribution to political dialogue in Georgia. And we have watched some of our campaign themes get picked up and included in the rhetoric of some of the other parties' candidates—not a bad result for the party's initial foray into Georgia's gubernatorial politics.

Rand for Governor Committee, P.O. Box 98036, Atlanta, GA 30359.



Libertarian Candidates

The following are additions or corrections to the list of candidates which appeared in last month's LP NEWS.

Hawaii

Ken Schoolland	U.S. Senate
Triaka-Don Smith	Governor
Aaron Anderson	Mayor, Island of Hawaii
Azby	Mayor, Maui
Nyle Roberts	State Representative
Steve Jefferies	Oahu City Council
Blase Harris	Oahu Board of Education
Larry Bartley	Oahu Board of Education

Indiana

Steve Dillon	U.S. Senate
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Maryland

Carol Thies	Governor
Don Monroe	Lt. Governor

Readers Question Lessons and More

Distressed

I was particularly distressed to see the faulty reasoning that led to Sarah Foster's "Lesson for Libertarians" on page one of the August 1990 NEWS. The lesson she purported is that we should firmly stand up for the most radical proposals in our arsenal and the voters will accept our position. From the facts put forward by the article, I would contend that the lesson is really that when a social problem is severe, the voters will prefer a radical solution to no solution at all.

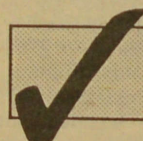
The initiative is a political institution in Michigan, as well as California, and the experience here is that when the citizens finally do overcome the substantial qualifying requirements to place an initiative on the ballot, the legislature usually accompanies it with a less radical, watered down version that frequently passes in a flood of special interest advertising money. While it is hard to separate preference for moderation from advertising expenditures in these cases, it could be argued that the public prefers solutions more in line with the status quo, except when they are too blatantly self-serving as the California insurance substitutes were.

The attitude of the Libertarian Party in its official publications has tended to highlight the extreme position whenever possible. It has been my experience, however, that there are a substantial number of moderates (pragmatists, gradualists, etc.) in the movement, and possibly even more among former members of the movement (who must by now greatly exceed present members). Despite the presence of this minority, their strategic opinions seem to receive less coverage than the personality clashes of the high and mighty. For the last five years there has been support for accepting presidential matching funds in the movement, yet substantive debate on this issue was notably absent from our last two National Conventions.

There is within the Party the seeds of growing frustration that many of the rank and file wish to be political practitioners while the leadership seek to be political theorists.

I think the editor emeritus will agree that a policy of open debate is preferable to an inquisition for heresy.

Gary Bradley
St. Johns, MI



From You

Letters from readers

Narrow-Mindedness

I would like to comment on both editorials in the August 1990 NEWS. Sarah Foster congratulates the backers of San Francisco's "Clean Needle Initiative" for running a pure libertarian campaign and scolds those who would work for step-in-the-right-direction measures and coalition building. This is the sort of narrow-mindedness that Karl Hess has cautioned against repeatedly. I believe there is room for Libertarian candidates who will acknowledge our principles and ultimate goals, but emphasize politically achievable solutions, such as a program to decriminalize and regulate sales of certain drugs. There are reasons also to network with groups who share a lesser commitment or only certain issues with us. Not every potential libertarian will listen to a purist argument at first; some require an easier path, and dumping on sincere moderate libertarians willing to provide it is not the way to build a party.

Party-building is also where I would take issue with Dave Walter's recommendation of a Ron Paul candidacy in 1992. I supported the Paul campaign with time and money and still feel he was a great candidate and served the party well. We need to ask ourselves whether we can afford to once again offer the American public an ex-Republican, pro-life candidate who speaks most loudly on economic issues and still seriously hope to attract the waning attention of women, gays, and civil libertarians. Yes, let's clean up on Bush's abandonment of economic conservatives, but let's make it quite clear to these "converts" that we're not about to softpedal our positions on drugs, militarism, judicial safeguards and social pluralism. And in 1992, let's make that clear to the American public, too.

Scott Semans
Public Relations Chair
LP of Washington State

Don't Ask Me

I expect this letter will create considerable ire among many of you. In the last couple of weeks, my mailbox has been inundated with literature from numerous state and local Libertarian organizations, asking me for financial support for various Libertarian candidates. Without exception, these mailings are from areas far distant from my hometown.

Although I applaud those Libertarians who are able to run, when it comes to my money—thanks, I'll keep my wallet shut.

Periodically, a hue and cry is raised in the media when it is discovered that a candidate for public office is the benefactor of funds raised from outside their district. Charges of outside interests attempting to influence an election, or the outcome of legislation, get tossed about. And this is as it should be.

No matter how noble our intentions, the fact that remains is this: it's not the business of any local or state organization to solicit funds outside its boundaries—that's the job of the national party. And I have no right to try to influence an election outside my home city or county—except for national office. If I were to contribute to candidates outside my local area, ethically I'd be no better than the fat cats who've spent their way into positions of influence far beyond where they belong—no matter how admirable my goals might be.

I'm proud to be a Libertarian. And I'll continue to contribute to the national party when I can. I'll help out my local and state candidates, too. But you folks from Utah, California, Washington, DC, and elsewhere—save the postage, I'm not buying.

Victor A. Doucette
Detroit, MI

Precious Life

I was born in 1925. Some of us who have survived the boundless hazards to human existence have matured to really comprehend just how precious every human life is.

We also know that life is an inalienable gift to each and every individual.

It saddens me to see the image of our nation, whose greatness stems from the liberty of individuals, destroyed by leaders who act as if American lives were more precious than Moslem or Panamanian or Colombian lives.

Our provocations for war speak so loudly that thinking people can't hear a word our leaders say.

Lou Klein
Brookfield, CT

The "L" Word

The NRA (Never Re-elect Anybody) attitude in this country is rampant and the Democrats and Republicans are really in trouble, I think.

It is a fabulous opportunity for a party with ideas such as are found in the Libertarian Party.

But—this party is going absolutely nowhere until we get that word "Liberal" out of our name. Ninety-nine percent of the people who already think like we do never get any further than the name and are turned off right there—never knowing that they have a home politically.

Please do something!

Jess and Mildred McFall
Concordia, KS

Libertarian Outreach Leaflets

Available in bulk, 8 different topics
Jargon free and professionally typeset
For samples and price list, send \$2 to:
Libertarian Party of Skagit County
PO Box 512, Anacortes, WA 98221

Director's Mailbox

The following letters are representative of a number of similar ones received at the national headquarters and responded to by Nick Dunbar, national director.

Junk Mail

Ever since I joined the Libertarian Party a couple of years ago, I have been inundated with mail from all sorts of publications and organizations from seemingly an endless number of people who want money for their causes. I suspect that the LP has sold or continues to sell or make available my name and address to these people.

If there is any way you can remove my name from the list which you make available to these solicitors, please do so.

I am proud to be an individualist, and I am glad to do whatever I can for the goals of achieving libertarian ideals. But I do NOT feel that this means a packed mailbox full of junk mail.

LGS—Taos, NM

My apologies for inconveniencing you with junk mail. I have flagged your record for no rentals. We have a few rentals already out so the mail won't stop immediately.

Two of the rentals still outstanding are more correctly termed "exchanges." In fact most of our rentals are actually exchanges and have helped to fuel our recent membership growth. Additionally, securing list exchanges helps us develop relationships with other organizations. Our list rental/exchange policy is targeted toward party building and strengthening our relationship with libertarian leaning organizations, goals which we believe our members support.

Of course we understand your concerns about your privacy and happily cooperate with all requests for non-rentals. Thank you for the opportunity to explain our list rental policy. Please continue to bring your concerns to my attention.

National Director

Get Us on TV

The reason you are seeing a slowdown in money coming in is because that which you are spending it on isn't being seen by those who donate... or even a segment of those who donate.

Once again—get us on TV! Pick an area(s) that the national LP can afford to reach and do so! Why are those who have been elected to head the party with the highest average IQ, so lacking in common sense?

CG—Las Vegas, NV

A recent letter sent by Steve Alexander detailed our efforts at getting the Libertarian Party on television. Perhaps you missed it.

In any case, we recently spent \$9,000 testing television ads and found that direct mail was 10 times more effective at getting new members.

I know that seeing the Libertarian Party on television would be very gratifying to many of our members. However, it does not appear to be the best use of party funds at this time.

National Director

STOP THE ROT IN THE LP

The national LP is in a state of rot due to defective bylaws having a lack of separation of legislative and executive powers in Natcom, a minority rule gerrymander in electing regional Natcom representatives and elitist attended conventions. Send a SASE to T. Jones, 15336 Cruse, Detroit, MI 48227-3227 to get a copy of proposed LP Bylaws to get proportional representation in a LP Congress, separation of powers and direct nomination and election by mail ballot of all LP elective officers and LP President and Vice-President candidates.

Paid Advertisement

Great Gift Idea

A one-year subscription to the monthly LP NEWS is a great gift for a friend who is interested in the Libertarian Party but wants to know more before signing up. Send \$15 and a friend's address to:
LPHQ

1528 Penn. Ave., SE
Washington, DC
20003

Buy one for your local newspaper editor, too.

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REGION 6

Connecticut, Maine,
Massachusetts,
New Hampshire, New York,
Rhode Island, Vermont

NatCom Rep.

LPHQ Monthly Special — Issue Flyers Covering LP Positions on Guns, Drugs, and Taxes Only \$4 / 100

with this coupon while supplies last.

Number Ordered _____ Send to: Libertarian Party HQ
Responsible Gun Ownership _____ 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Relegalize Drugs _____ Washington, DC 20003
Taxes—Break Free _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____ Complete catalog of LP
products available on request.

LP Headquarters

1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-543-1988

1-800-682-1776 (New Member
Information Only)
MCI Mail: 345-5647

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Marc Montoni Steve Feldman

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Libertarian Party NEWS

Randy Langhenry

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703-662-3691
CompuServe: 71610,3614

Upcoming Events

Fall 1990:

North Dakota LP Convention.

Hawaii LP Convention; contact Blase
Harris at 808-595-8261 (h) or 808-531-
4581 (o).

October 20, 1990:

Maryland LP Convention, St. John's
College, Annapolis; 301-523-0928.

October 1990:

New Hampshire LP Convention,
Nashua; contact Doug Harrigan
at 603-898-7851.

November 6, 1990:

Election Day.

VOTE LIBERTARIAN !!

November 9-11, 1990:

National FJA Conference, St. Louis,
MO; 406-793-5550.

December 8-9, 1990:

National Committee Meeting, White
Plains, NY; 914-472-0506. To receive

agenda packet call 202-543-1988.

February 15-18, 1991:

California LP Convention, Monterey;
714-949-3442.

April 6-7, 1991:

Illinois LP Convention, Best Western
Midway Motor Lodge, Elk Grove Village;
708-299-7564.

April 1991:

National Committee Meeting, Atlanta,
GA; 404-957-6825.

June 21-23, 1991:

Women in Libertarianism Conference,
University Park Holiday Inn, Ft. Collins,
CO; for more information send SASE to
Mary Margaret Glennie, 1317 Lakewood
Drive, Ft. Collins, CO 80521; 303-484-
8184. Potential speakers are welcome
to submit text of talk.

August 28-September 1, 1991:

"Liberty Triumphant," LP Presidential
Nominating Convention, Chicago
Marriott, Chicago; 708-475-0391.

To add your LP state convention or other LP event
of national interest to this calendar,
provide information to Gary Johnson, 2001 Parker Lane, #134,
Austin, TX 78741-3849; 512-441-6378.

Libertarian National Committee

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