



Libertarian Party

NEWS

LPNH Delivers 1st State Rep. in Lower 48

"I am now a member of the Libertarian Party."

That's how New Hampshire State Rep. Calvin Warburton started his press conference at the State House in Concord on July 16.

Warburton, who is 81 years old and has spent seven terms in the New Hampshire house, officially announced his resignation from the Republican Party and declared that he had paid his "dues to both the national party and the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire."

Warburton said he had joined the LP because "it is the party of freedom—economic freedom, personal freedom, social freedom, and judicial freedom, and it is the only party that believes in limited spending and limited taxes."

"Today marks the beginning of a new era in New Hampshire politics," declared NHLP State Chair Bill Winter at the same press conference. "Today, New Hampshire truly becomes a 'three-party state.'"

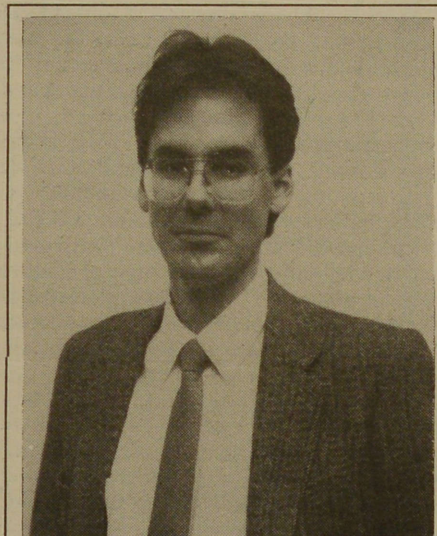
Actually, the LP turned New Hampshire into a three-party state when it gained recognition as an "official, legal political party" in November last year, Winter explained. During the last election, LP gubernatorial candidate Miriam Luce received 5 percent of the vote, enough to get the party officially recognized.

With Warburton changing his party affiliation to Libertarian, however, "another milestone has been reached," Winter said.

"New Hampshire Libertarians now have representation in government. Indeed, all Granite State citizens who believe that there must be a better way than the tried-and-failed policies of the Republicans and Democrats now have representation."

"Representative Warburton is the first. He won't be the last," promised Winter.

Warburton became the first Libertarian state legislator to serve outside of Alaska and the only current Libertarian state legislator. He also is the first member of a third party to serve in the NH state



LPNH Chair Bill Winter

house since the 1930s.

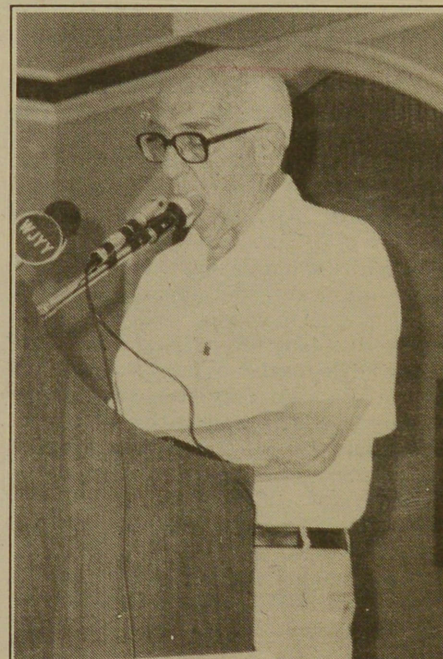
Warburton's longstanding opposition to new taxes in general, and broad based taxes in particular, were at the heart of his resignation from the Republican Party.

Speaking about the political situation in New Hampshire, which currently has no state income tax, Warburton said, "The Republicans have been responsible for raising taxes and are negotiating with the Democrats over some form of broad based tax. I don't want people to 'Read My Lips,' I want them to know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that I will vote against new taxes."

Warburton said that he is "convinced that to prevent an income tax from passing, there needs to be a strong voice in opposition. I see the Libertarian Party supplying that voice."

"I invite other representatives, especially Republicans who support personal freedom and fiscally responsible Democrats, to join me in switching to the Libertarian Party," Warburton said.

Winter echoed the invitation by saying that Warburton's "historic declaration should also serve notice to other disgruntled elected officials—from both the traditional left and right—who feel their parties have strayed from their philosophical roots, that they do have another choice. I invite other dissatisfied Republicans and Democrats in the house and senate—and at all levels of government—to make a bold leap for a better New Hampshire, and join the Libertarian Party."



New Libertarian state legislator Calvin Warburton announced his switch to the Libertarian Party at a press conference in Concord, NH. Warburton said, "I don't want people to 'Read My Lips,' I want them to know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that I will vote against new taxes."

Author L. Neil Smith Rejoins LP, Seeks Strong Gun Rights Stand

If novelist L. Neil Smith is right, history may credit George Bush with altering the course of American politics, creating a three-party system by letting Libertarians walk away with millions of Republican votes. That's why, after a 13-year absence, the award-winning science fiction writer and avid competitive shooter is returning to the LP with a limited but unequivocal agenda: enforcement of gun owners' rights.

"That's what brought me to the LP in 1972," the ex-gunsmith, former police officer, and author of 18 novels said recently. "It's the issue that's brought me back. No libertarian has a problem with the idea that, within principle, every man, woman,

and responsible child has a natural, fundamental, and inalienable human, individual, civil, and constitutional right to obtain, own, and carry, openly or concealed, any weapon—handgun, shotgun, rifle, machinegun, anything—any time, anywhere, without asking anyone's permission.

"All we have to do now is say so in the right places," Smith said.

Smith, whose freedom-oriented books include "The Probability Broach," "The Crystal Empire," and "Henry Martyn," is a former director for the Colorado LP, served twice on the national platform committee, and set a long-standing vote record in 1978 against the seven-term speaker of the Colorado house. Smith declined to discuss why he left the LP, dismissing it as "ancient history" and focusing on the present.

"Whatever the cause—it may be as simple and stupid as an internal struggle with the Bush 'pragmatists' trying to differentiate themselves from the Reagan 'ideologues'—the Republicans have made a tactical error which, properly exploited,

will deliver a strategic victory to the LP," Smith said. "In an attempt to broaden their support typical of an incumbent administration at the end of its first term, the GOP is dumping its 'fringe' elements. Its

continued on page 8

Gould Seeks 2nd NH State Seat

"This certainly is the race to win," said Libertarian candidate for representative to the New Hampshire house, Craig Gould. "The groundwork has been laid. The word Libertarian has been detoxified locally and major party status has been achieved."

Gould plans on being the second Libertarian in the state house. Calvin Warburton, who recently resigned from the Republican Party and joined the LP (see story above), plans on campaigning for both Gould, whose election is Sept. 3, and another Libertarian state house candidate Alan Groupe of Milford, whose election is Oct. 8.

Gould is no stranger to campaigning. Four percent of the district's voters chose him in 1986, 12 percent in 1988, and even with a full ballot he managed to get 22.5 percent of the voters to mark the Libertarian slot in 1990.

continued on page 3

C-SPAN Coverage Of LP Convention

Thursday, Aug. 29:

9:45 a.m.-mid-afternoon

Friday, Aug. 30:

All day until 8 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 31:

9 a.m.-12 noon; 1:45 p.m.-6:45 p.m.

All times quoted are Central Standard Time and are quoted as of Aug. 5, 1991, and are subject to change without notice. For a more complete schedule, consult your local listing or contact C-SPAN at 202-737-3220.

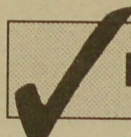
National Chair Says LP Must 'Grow or Die'

As we prepare for another presidential race, after 20 years in existence, we need to reflect on where we are and what it will take to be successful. By successful, we may mean different things but generally let's agree it means to have more than a minimal impact on government and politics.

New Hampshire license plates urge us to "Live Free or Die." As a minor party, our slogan must be "Grow or Die." Only through growth can we supply the voices, votes, and dollars necessary to stop the leviathan state and the two entrenched parties that feed it our lives, our dollars, and our freedoms.

Since I became national chair, the number of contributing (dues paying) members has grown 45 percent. Good work only in comparison to the decade before. The New Hampshire LP, under the able direction of Bill Winter, has achieved a more impressive record. They now have about 177 members per million population. If all the states did as well, the national party would have 45,000 members, or five times as many as today! Even New Hampshire needs to do better—Alaska was over 400 per million when they elected three Libertarian state legislators in the early 1980s. If we take 400 per million as a threshold for electing any meaningful number of Libertarians to higher office, then we need about 100,000 members nationally. Along, long way to go. Fortunately, good things will start happening before we reach that level—as the NHLP witnessed in July when a seven-term Republican legislator switched to the LP. But unless steady progress continues to be made, there will be a continuing stream of dropouts who feel the LP will never become a major vehicle for pro-liberty advancements. With half the effort shown by New Hampshire's Libertarian leaders, the rest of us could surely double the party's size by the end of 1992. If we can't, or won't, a serious soul-searching and re-examination of the LP's goals will be in order.

As I've said in my last few columns, LP growth doesn't just depend on hard work. We could all be out there buttonholing pedestrians 16 hours a day, but it wouldn't do any good without having a product they want to buy. Isn't it funny that two-thirds of the world wants what we are selling—



From the Chair

Dave Walter, LP National Chair

freedom—yet most of those in a position to acquire it aren't interested. We have to pay continual attention to our products, packaging, and perceptions while we try to motivate our salesmen to sell.

I've heard a number of leaders explain New Hampshire's success by observing the fact that it is a small state where the leadership can remain in close touch. OK, New Hampshire is only 80 miles east to west and 180 miles north to south. But if every state party started treating its metropolitan centers as "little New Hampshires" the same geographical compactness could be achieved. A state, such as Pennsylvania, should be able to achieve New Hampshire's 177:1 mm ratio in Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Allentown/Bethlehem, and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton. In many parts of the country, a congressional district is smaller than New Hampshire. Instead of dismissing New Hampshire as a special case, let's build up each metropolitan area and recognize that, in many cases, viable statewide organizations aren't yet possible or even desirable until at least two strong local organizations exist.

Everyone seems to agree that active local organizations attract and keep members. Members leave when there is nothing to do and most members probably won't step forward to fill the leadership gap. That means that those who are willing to be leaders need to tend to the local scene before worrying about being a state leader. I've seen numerous cases where all the activists' time was used up "running the state party" while local groups died or never came into existence. My recommendation is that you be active on the local scene first and worry about the state organization second.

This doesn't mean that the state chair and other officers should be anyone who volunteers. If you are going to have a state organization, then pick people who can stage a decent convention, put out a news-

letter, organize new clubs around the state, put on a membership drive, and answer their mail from the national party. If no one wants to do what a state party does then it is premature to have a state party! Why pretend? Build the local party and it will be better and more effective than any ersatz "state party" would have been.

Speaking of state parties, I've received a few letters from members unhappy with the leadership, or lack thereof, of particular state parties. The state chair is "lazy," "presents a poor image," or "creates factional disputes." And, of course, "national should do something about it." The ultimate responsibility lies with the delegates to state conventions. The National Committee nor the national chair has any authority to remove any state officer or candidate. If you are concerned about the quality of state leaders, then participate in your state party's convention and support someone more to your liking. Someone, perhaps, who has started or grown a successful local party first.

On the subject of authority, I would be remiss in discussing the NatCom's inability to meet the expectations of some members. Some members labor under the misapprehension that NatCom is equal in powers to the board of a corporation and that the chair has the powers of a corporation's C.E.O. Given this, these people want to hold NatCom and the chair to the same performance standards as stockholders would. For example, a C.E.O. is supposed to surround himself with managers who will help the company achieve certain goals. If the regional manager in Des Moines isn't performing, then replace him. If the C.E.O. fails to achieve the goals, be they increased market share or better bottom line, then he is ultimately to blame. But in a volunteer organization like the LP, NatCom doesn't have—and shouldn't have—the powers of the board of a business organization. To have them would create factionalism, purges, and in-fighting like you wouldn't believe. Ask Y.A.F. circa 1969. So cut NatCom some slack and recognize that you've invested them with lots of responsibility but with much less authority.

NatCom can always be improved. One way would be to get the absolute "best" Libertarians on it. That may well mean

paying travel expenses to meetings if that's what is keeping the "best" off it. Face it, not everyone has \$1,000 to \$2,000 per year to give for the privilege of serving the LP. If travel reimbursement is a future reform, then a smaller NatCom would keep expenses down. When NatCom went from 30 down to 18 members the quality and quantity of work went up. Maybe we've hit on something here.

Lastly, I think the time is here when the national chair has to be able to devote full time to the job. I couldn't have begun to do the job without the able assistance of Don Ernsberger. Frankly, it wasn't enough. The things a full-time chair could accomplish! Maybe it's a job for one of our retired members? A wealthy, business-trained, articulate, and well-informed retired member? Maybe it should be a paid position (with a maximum two-year term). I know many professional organizations are chaired by senior executives who take a one-year leave of absence from their regular jobs and are paid their missed salary by the organization. My point is that even at 9,100 contributing members the LP is getting too large to be chaired by volunteers whose time and resources are limited.

As my term as national chair draws to a close, I must acknowledge that the errors were mine and the successes were obtained only through the tremendous support and enthusiasm of the leaders and members of this great party. Please offer the same support to the new chair and to our 1992 presidential candidate.

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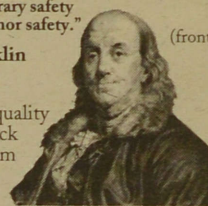
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Libertarian Party NEWS

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Editor Randy Langhenry

Staff Artist Mary Kelley Crawford

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The Libertarian Party

Joseph E. Knight
Field Organizer

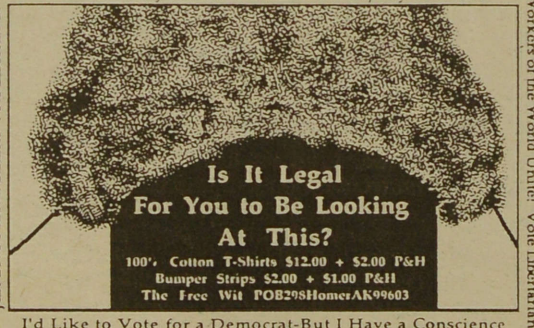
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Libertarianism Gaining Respect in Mass Media

In recent months, the Libertarian Party and the libertarian movement in general have been showing up more and more frequently in the mass media. Newspaper articles, syndicated columns, best-selling books, C-SPAN convention coverage, and even television game shows have featured our movement. Below are just a few examples.

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As of the first of August, the two best selling non-fiction books topping *The Washington Post* list were "Parliament of Whores," by P.J. O'Rourke, and "Why Americans Hate Politics," by E. J. Dionne, Jr. Both of these books portray libertarianism in a positive light. O'Rourke highly recommends two books by Charles Murray, "Losing Ground" and "In Pursuit. . .," and a Cato Institute offering, "An American Vision," edited by Ed Crane and David Boaz, in his acknowledgments. Dionne devotes an entire chapter to "Politics Without Government: The Rebirth of Libertarianism." The chapter goes into some detail of the 1980 Clark LP presidential campaign, as

well as offering observations on the libertarian movement in general. One example: "The resurgence of libertarianism was one of the less noted but most remarkable developments of recent years. During the 1970s and 1980s, antiwar, antiauthoritarian, antigovernment, and antitax feelings came together to revive a long-stagnant tendency. This had an impact on many levels."

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

The Boston Globe ran a lengthy, posi-

tive article about the New Hampshire LP following Calvin Warburton's switch from the Republican Party. The article quoted Warburton, LPNH state chair Bill Winter, national director Nick Dunbar, and 1990 LPNH gubernatorial candidate Miriam Luce.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Syndicated columnist Joseph Sobran wrote a column entitled "Libertarians: On the Verge?" In part it said, "Libertarians

could pick up a hefty protest vote from conservatives who have had it with Mr. Bush and the Republicans."

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Recently on the television game show "Jeopardy," during the "Final Jeopardy" portion of the game, contestants were to come up with the political party that ran Ron Paul for its 1988 presidential candidate. All three contestants correctly named the Libertarian Party.

A Feast of Freedom

"Liberty is a Glorious Feast." —Robert Burns

Every issue of *Liberty* offers a feast of individualist thinking designed to delight the most refined palate.

Hors d'oeuvres

To whet your appetite, *Reflections* offers the provocative opinions of *Liberty's* editors. A few selections from the menu for September:

Loren Lomasky on the government's paternalistic attitude to beer drinkers;

Brian Doherty on Frank Zappa's itch to run for President (and Zappa knows itching);

Robert Higgs on the U.S. plan to export antitrust law to the Soviets;

Ethan Waters on the straight dope about injudicious smoking by Supreme Court nominees;

Steve Cox on hugging President Bush;

Ann Rogers on the Florida lawyers' no-tell cartel.

Entrées

The main course is a variety of controversial and thoughtful essays. A few entrées from our current offering:

James Taggart puts the debate over Judge Clarence Thomas on track;

Robert Miller leads an expedition

Liberty

September 1991 Vol 5, No 1 \$4.00

Marijuana and AIDS

by Robert O'Boyle

50 Really Stupid Ways to Save the Earth

by Karl Hess

Buckley's Case for Slavery

by William Moulton

Stalking the Giant Testes of Ethiopia

by Robert Miller

Canada Explodes (No One Cares)

by Barry Chamish and Scott J. Reid

Force versus Persuasion

by Mark Skousen

"Where Liberty lives, there is my country." —Algernon Sidney

Clarence
Thomas:
Libertarian
Hero?

Potages

To accompany its main features, *Liberty* presents a variety of penetrating re-views. A few examples from our current issue:

William Moulton, in the course of dismissing Bill Buckley's (very weak) case for "national service," considers the much more interesting case for gratitude and patriotism;

John Hospers wonders if some environmentalists' respect for nature is not a respect for the unspectable;

Sheldon Richman defends Webster's Third International ("Bolshevik") Dictionary;

Richard Kostelanetz explores the economics of art and criticism.

Desserts

To top off your feast and satisfy your intellectual sweet-tooth, *Liberty* offers:

Cartoons by *Baloo* and *Tom Tomorrow*;

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Gould Running

continued from page 1

Gould, who has never spent more than \$500 on any race, said, "Maybe I've gone as far as I can without spending real money, and with the campaign period so short, I'd have to get it today."

The race officially started Aug. 6 when the Derry Town Council voted to appropriate the money for the special election. Gould claims that there is still a good chance to win, because only the politically knowledgeable will vote in a special election.

The issues Gould is stressing in his campaign include cutting state spending and taxes, property tax abatements for private school students, and an end to state mandates that force the towns to raise taxes.

For more information on this campaign, write Gould for State Rep., 39 Redfield Circle, Derry, NH 03038, or call 603-434-4335.

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Resolutions Proposed
to the
Libertarian Party
1991 National Convention
by
Herb Booth

• We of the Libertarian Party in Convention 1991 call upon the United States' government to end its brutal two-generation war on Palestine, to withdraw its colonists and to fully restore if possible or at least retribute all its victims' rights.

• Whereas Leroy Martin has forsworn his oath as police superintendent of Chicago to uphold the constitution of the United States and has blatantly advocated subversion of the constitution.

We of the Libertarian Party in Convention 1991 call for his dismissal and offer to work with the people of Chicago to that end.

• We of the Libertarian Party U.S. in Convention 1991 pledge to work with libertarian political groups, human-rights groups and free-minded folks in the U.S. colonies such as Palestine, Panama, Philippines, etc. and thruout the U.S. Empire to form a Libertarian Party International to fight imperialism thruout the Tri-Lateral Empire, and to work towards a planetary Libertarian Party.

• That the LP totem animal be the coyote.

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Proposed Changes to
the
1990 Libertarian Party National Platform
by
Herb Booth
July 1991

[Proposed wording; original wording in quotation-marks:]

**INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND CIVIL ORDER**

...

3. VICTIMLESS CRIMES

...

[After paragraph g. insert:]

h. Repeal laws against so-called patent- or copyright-infringement and those parts of the Constitution of 1787 on which they are based.

...

10. [Change title to:] FREEDOM OF THOUGHT

...

"We oppose taxation of church property for the same reason that we oppose all taxation. We oppose government actions that either aid or attack any religion" such as tax-exemption subsidies to religion-trippers for their propaganda-halls, propaganda, propagandizing or other religion-tripping from equal application of the tax-laws, and exemption of religion-trippers from mayhem and child-abuse laws against ritual mutilation, cicatrizing or otherwise marking children.

11. THE RIGHT TO PROPERTY

...

(Last Paragraph)

"Where property, including land, has been taken from its rightful owner(s) by government or private action in violation of individual rights, we" call for the fullest restoration of individuals' rights or at least full restitution. Specifically, we call for the restoration of lands taken from Indigenous American folks and from Americans of Japanese ancestry during the forties—as the Germans have done after fascist rule in their lands.

...

15. THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS

[Strike present first sentence and substitute:]

We the people are the militia.

...

16. CONSCRIPTION AND THE MILITARY

...

[Substitute for second paragraph:]

We oppose gender-classist exemption from equal application of all law and legislation, including conscription and registration laws.

...

18. DISCRIMINATION

...

[Add to end of first paragraph:]

Meanwhile, all law and legislation should apply equally to all individuals.

...

21. [Change title to:] INDIGENOUS FOLKS

"The major factors underlying the unconscionable plight of" indigenous American folks "may..." "We favor the following remedies: (1)" all folks "should be free to choose their citizenship, if any, and" folks "should be allowed to choose their level of autonomy up to absolute sovereignty" by right; (2) Indigenous folks "should have their" folklands and "just property rights restored" fully, "including rights of easement, access, hunting and fishing; (3) the Bureau of Indian Affairs should be abolished and" all folks "allowed to" govern themselves; "and (4) negotiations should be undertaken to exchange various otherwise unclaimed" federally held "properties for any and all remaining governmental obligations to" indigenous folks.

...

TRADE AND THE ECONOMY

...[Second paragraph:]

"Efforts to forcibly redistribute wealth or forcibly manage trade are intolerable. Government manipulation of the economy creates parasitic privileged classes—those with access to tax-money," exemptions and monopolies; "and exploited classes—those who are net taxpayers" and those idled by government monopolies or by the higher threshold-costs of governmental bureaucratizing.

...

2. TAXATION

...[After paragraph e. there are four un-titled paragraphs. The third one should be stricken as it begs a weird question.]

...

6. MONOPOLIES

"We condemn all coercive monopolies. We recognize that government

is the source of monopoly through legal privileges to special interests" such as liability-exemptions and tax-exemptions, patent, copyright and bankruptcy monopolies and a cargo-cult of bureaucrats and retired bureaucrats. "In order to abolish monopolies, we advocate a strict separation of business and state," including repeal of un-constitutional economic—and ethnic-class liability—and tax-exemptions.

...

"We defend the right of individuals to form" partnerships, "cooperatives, or other types of companies based on voluntary association" and full assumption of liability by the owners for their property, each to the limit of his respective wealth like the rest of us. Laws of incorporation now grant monopoly and liability-exemption privilege. In particular, we oppose as un-constitutional any limit on liability. Corporate ain't private. A corporation is a privately funded government agency.

7. SUBSIDIES

We favor repeal of the patent, copyright and bankruptcy monopolies and those parts of the Constitution of 1787 on which they are based, and privatization of such functions. "In order to achieve a free economy in which government victimizes no one for the benefit of any other, we oppose all government subsidies to business-persons, workers, educators, farmers, scientists, broadcasters, artists, sports-persons, religion-trippers or any other special-interest-group...

...[There are four un-titled paragraphs under this section 7. The last paragraph—"Relief. . .subsidy."—should be stricken as patent falsehood.]

...

DOMESTIC ILLS

[Insert as first paragraph:]

Corpor(ato)cratic liability-exemption and tax-exemption subsidies shift costs unduly onto the rest of us while patent, copyright and bankruptcy lawyerhoods set up artificial barriers to individual initiative and enterprise, and impede our right to free intercultural exchange of information.

2. POLLUTION

"Pollution...use. We support" our common law, fully informed juries and popularly chosen governmental officials to be an objective legal system for defining property rights to air and water. "We call...radiation." Full owner "liability, not government agencies..." "Toxic...individual property owners, or in the case of corporations, the" owners should be held fully "liable for material damage done by their property" to the limit of their respective wealths just like the rest of us. "Claiming..."

9. RESOURCE USE

[Add this clause to the front of the fourth paragraph:]

After full restoration of all indigenous folks' rights, "we call for..."

10. AGRICULTURE

[Add this clause to the end of the first paragraph:]

"America's...world," and have created special-privilege parasite classes...

15. ELECTION LAWS

[Second paragraph: strike "the Republican and Democratic parties" and put in:]

...the Bi-partisan Party...

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

[Second paragraph, last sentence:] "...The United States government should return to the historic libertarian tradition of avoiding entangling alliances, abstaining from foreign quarrels and imperialist adventures, and recognizing" our rights to unrestricted trade, travel, migration and work under local sovereignty...

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**1. COLONIALISM**

"United States...dependencies, such as" Palestine/Israel, Panama, Philippines, "Samoa..."

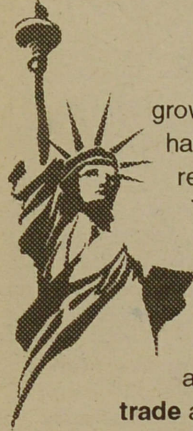
3. THE MIDDLE EAST

[Add new first paragraph:]

We call for the U.S. to end its forty-some year war on and colonization of Palestine, to withdraw its colonists, and restore if possible or at least retribute all property and other rights to the indigenous folks on the German model of restoration of rights after their fascistic regimes...

**PAID ADVERTISEMENT**

The Libertarian Party: 20 Years of History



The Libertarian Party is the third largest and fastest-growing political party in the United States. More than 200,000 voters have registered as Libertarians (most states do not allow voters to register as Libertarians).

The Libertarian Party believes that the answer to America's political problems is the same commitment to freedom that earned America its greatness: **economic freedom** and the abundance and prosperity it brings; a dedication to the **preservation of civil liberties** and personal freedom that marks this country above all others; and a foreign policy marked by **non-intervention, peace, and free trade** as prescribed by our Founding Fathers.

The Libertarian Party is proud of the progress it has made during its short history, against what many saw as insurmountable odds.

Libertarian Party History

1971: Libertarian Party is founded by disillusioned Republicans and Democrats, as well as political newcomers who hoped to create an alternative to the old parties.

1972: First national convention nominates John Hospers, a California university professor, as presidential candidate. Ticket wins one electoral vote—making vice presidential candidate Tonie Nathan the first woman in U.S. history to receive an electoral vote.

1976: Roger MacBride runs as party's presidential candidate, getting on the ballot in 32 states.

1978: Ed Clark receives 5% of the vote for governor of California. Dick Randolph, of Alaska, becomes the first elected Libertarian legislator.

1980: Presidential candidate Ed Clark receives almost one million votes and appears on the ballot in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Guam. His campaign, with its extensive national television ads, offers many Americans their first look at what the LP has to offer and forces many in the media to recognize the LP for the first time as a serious political force. Dick Randolph re-elected to Alaska state legislature. Ken Fanning is elected to the Alaska state legislature.

1982:

- Louisiana congressional candidate receives 23% of the vote.
- Alaska gubernatorial candidate receives 15% of the vote.
- Arizona gubernatorial candidate receives 5% of the vote.
- Seven statewide candidates receive 15% to 33% of the vote.

1984: Andre Marrou becomes the third Libertarian to be elected to the Alaska state legislature. Libertarians are elected to 11 more local offices. David Bergland runs for president.

1986: More than 200 statewide candidates across the U.S. receive 2.9 million votes. Candidate for California state treasurer receives 570,000 votes, largest ever for non-Democratic or Republican candidate in that state.

1987: Doug Anderson is elected Supervisor of Elections in Denver, Colorado. Libertarians are elected to every seat on the city council and mayor's office in Big Water, Utah. Former U.S. Congressman Ron Paul resigns from the Republican Party and joins the LP.

1988: Ron Paul runs for president, gaining ballot status in 46 states and the District of Columbia, receiving more than 430,000 votes nationwide—almost twice the total of any other "third" party.

1990: More than 2 million people vote for Libertarian candidates—while fewer than 30 million people were able to vote for a Libertarian.

- More Libertarian candidates win in local races—city council, school boards, etc.
- California congressional candidate receives 27% of the vote.
- New Hampshire gubernatorial candidate receives 5% of the vote.
- New Mexico state legislature candidate receives 31% of the vote.
- Texas Court of Criminal Appeals candidate receives more than 440,000 votes.
- Election Day 1990 called "Double Digit Day," as numerous candidates for U.S. Congress and state house positions draw percentage numbers in teens, twenties, and thirties.

1991: New Hampshire state legislator Calvin Warburton resigns from the Republican Party and joins the LP. Libertarian Party membership hits all-time high.

Libertarian Party 1990 Annual Activity Report

INTRODUCTION

This annual report is being distributed to the membership of the Libertarian Party in accordance with a resolution passed by the Libertarian National Committee at its December 1990 meeting.

DUES PAYING MEMBERSHIP

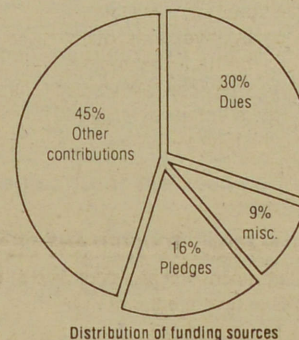
December 31, 1988	6,253
December 31, 1989	8,211
December 31, 1990	9,130

SERVICES TO MEMBERS

The *LP News* has been a regular newsletter provided to the dues paying members of the Libertarian Party and newsletter subscribers. Prior to 1990 the *LP News* was published bi-monthly. In January 1990 the *LP News* became monthly again. Karl Hess became editor emeritus and Randy Langhenry became full time editor in July 1990. Membership packets including discount coupons, a bumper sticker, and a membership card were distributed to members.

FINANCES

Revenue	
Dues	\$138,656
monthly pledges	\$72,189
Other contributions (phone, direct mail)	\$208,706
Miscellaneous, including material sales	\$42,121
Total	\$461,672
Cost of raising revenue	\$188,452
Net revenue	\$273,220



Expenses

LP News	\$61,100
Field Coordinator	\$31,918
Other services to members, affiliate parties, candidates	\$15,476
Media relations	\$21,173
Other outreach including campus, 800 number, and television	\$23,477
Office	\$154,812
Other management including Libertarian National Committee and Executive Committee	\$5,623
Total expenses	\$313,579
Deficit	\$40,359

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Campus organizing: Campus organizing kits were distributed. Eighty-six campus organizations were active in 1990.

Television advertisements: An LP slogan, "Defenders of Liberty" was developed by David Nolan. This slogan was used in producing TV and print ads.

Census Project: The LP participated in a census resistance project in 1990. Census project literature was distributed.

Media: A media coordinator position was established and regular media contacts were made. The media coordinator arranged several press conferences and radio appearances for Libertarian leaders including Ron Paul in Washington DC for the Committee to End Drug Violence and Dave Walter and Karl Hess on the Larry King radio show.

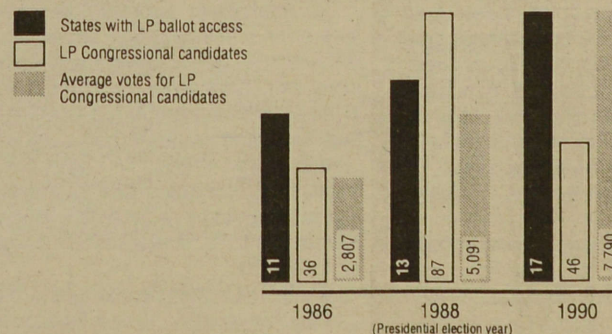
National Rifle Association policy change: The NRA passed a resolution at its 1990 annual convention to allow official endorsement of political candidates from *any* political party which supports its second amendment position. Individual LP members who are NRA supporters helped pass this resolution.

SERVICES FOR AFFILIATE PARTIES

The Field Coordinator made visits to affiliate parties in 33 states to assist with organizing. The *APC News* became a monthly publication in newsletter format. The Libertarian Party Directory which includes names, addresses, and positions of local, state, and national leaders was produced and expanded to booklet form in 1990 with 3 updates issued. The telephone tree was used to notify local and state activists of important news.

CAMPAIGNS

Over 300 Libertarian candidates ran for public office in November 1990.



1.8 Million Americans voted for Libertarian candidates in November 1990.

Understanding The Crime Issue

By George L. O'Brien
Internal Education Chair

George Bush will be pushing the "crime issue" again in the upcoming presidential election. His proposals are the usual conservative clichés: tougher judges, longer prison terms, fewer restrictions on the police, capital punishment, etc. which have not really made much of a difference in the past.

The "left-liberal" response is equally ineffectual: a bigger welfare state (to eliminate the "cause of crime" which allegedly is poverty and unemployment) and gun control. However, there is little evidence that this works either.

It is not like any of this is new. Robert Hughes' fascinating book, *The Fatal Shore*, about the origins of Australia as a prison colony beginning in the 1790s until roughly 1850, offers a fresh perspective on the issue. "Transportation," the term used to describe sending a prisoner to a prison colony, was considered to be just short of capital punishment. It effectively removed the criminals from British society forever and was widely feared.

When one considers the severity of punishment in early 19th century Britain where an extraordinary number of crimes were punishable by death or transportation, it is worth noting that there was no apparent reduction in the crime rate. Crime did go down with the improved enforcement and patrols which followed the creation of the Metropolitan Police force (the legendary "Bobbies") which coincided with the start of a gradual reduction in the severity of punishments.

In many ways, the conservatives of early 19th century Britain faced the same problem modern conservatives have: imprisoning large numbers of people is expensive. For them, execution seemed to be an "economy" move, which is hardly the case today. Transportation seemed to be a low-cost alternative to the "penitentiary system" which was being developed in America at that time.

Curiously enough, the penitentiary was considered a "reformist" approach since its objective was not strictly punishment, but rather rehabilitation. Early penitentiaries used a kind of monastic model, with the objective being to create servility. One popular model forbid any speaking at all.

By contrast, transportation was designed specifically to punish using the "Devil's Island" model of the French. Hughes makes the case that when the prisoners were treated fairly on the prison farms, there was actually real rehabilitation of the prisoners. Former prisoners became the basis for early Australian society. (This should be remembered when conservatives suggest that there is a genetic basis for the underclass.)

The "hard-line" approach has been tried repeatedly throughout history without apparent success. If anything, it can be counterproductive. If simple robbery is a capital offense, then it makes little difference if someone is killed in the course of committing a crime. (Apparently this never occurred to William Bennett who wanted to execute drug dealers.)

The fact that the hard-line approach has never been successful in reducing crime does not mean that the left-liberal approach has been any more successful. High welfare levels and gun control in New York City have not slowed the increase in crime.

If the left-liberal approach worked, it should

“Neither the hard-line conservative nor the left-liberal approach to dealing with crime is likely to reduce the crime rate. Yet there are alternatives.”

be possible to point to "before" and "after" examples to separate policy factors from cultural factors. If crime were caused by poverty and easy access to guns, then West Virginia should have the highest crime rate in the country, which it does not.

Culture is crucial. Switzerland has a remarkably low crime rate in spite of a relatively small welfare state and nearly every household being required to possess automatic weapons.

Actually the welfare state may be doing positive harm. Welfare creates a psychology of being a "victim" (therefore justified in attacking their oppressors), low self esteem, and institutionalizing envy. Defenders of the welfare state who justify crime as being caused by "society" reinforce the culture and values of the underclass which perpetuates the problems.

Neither the hard-line conservative nor the left-liberal approach to dealing with crime is likely to reduce the crime rate. Yet there are alternatives.

1. END DRUG PROHIBITION

Drug prohibition draws resources away from enforcement of other laws, it overwhelms the courts and the prison system, it is the basis for much of the violence in our cities, and it finances much of organized crime. A high percentage of thefts, robberies, and holdups are for the purpose of obtaining money to pay for drugs. Increasing the enforcement of the drug laws typically leads to an increase in other crimes.

The crime issue is the primary reason people such as William F. Buckley, Jr., George Schultz, Mayor Kurt Schmoke of Baltimore, and others have become anti-prohibition. They recognize that there will never be any progress on the drug issue until drug prohibition ends.

2. RESTITUTION

Currently, the focus of the criminal justice system is punishment (retribution), rehabilitation, and removal of the criminal from society. As a rule, the victim is ignored.

An alternative approach is "restitution," where the criminal becomes responsible for repaying the victim rather than his/her "debt to society." One of the more positive aspects of the Australian experience was that it proved that prisoners could be good workers if the objective was productivity and not punishment. In a restitution oriented system, the prisoner would be responsible for paying for his/her controls, livelihood, and repayment of the victim.

While it is necessary to institute controls and double checks, such a system could be operated by private firms. They would have an incentive to teach prisoners skills which would be useful in the outside world.



LEARNING THE LESSONS OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR

From the Libertarian Party Platform . . .

Crime

The continuing high level of violent crime—and the government's demonstrated inability to deal with it—threatens the lives, happiness, and belongings of Americans. At the same time, governmental violations of rights undermine the people's sense of justice with regard to crime. The appropriate way to suppress crime is through consistent and impartial enforcement of laws that protect individual rights. Laws pertaining to "victimless crimes" should be repealed since such laws themselves violate individual rights and also breed other types of crime. We applaud the trend toward private protection services and voluntary community crime control groups. We support institutional changes, consistent with full respect for the rights of the accused, that would permit victims to direct the prosecution in criminal cases.

3. NON-PROFIT ALTERNATIVES TO PRISONS/PROBATION

One of the biggest problems is recidivism (repeat offenders). The prisons end up serving as training schools for criminals to become more effective as criminals. Yet putting them back on the street only means they can perform more crimes.

One alternative is a non-profit organization called "Delancy Street" which works entirely with ex-cons. Unlike most halfway houses, this organization accepts no government money and pays for its work by setting up businesses which the ex-cons work at. The ex-cons learn skills and are given a supportive environment to actually change their lives.

The tired clichés of the hard-line conservatives and the left-liberals have failed. It is time to try another approach.

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to all who attended the
1991 Libertarian Presidential
Nominating Convention
and to all who helped produce
and promote the event!

It was a great success!

Let's do it again!

Ballot Access Rules Hinder Free Elections

By Bill Redpath
LP Ballot Access Committee Chair

The Libertarian Party will run its sixth consecutive presidential ticket in 1992, and again, the party will try to place the ticket on the ballot in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Guam.

Once before, in 1980, the party was on in all 50 states. That year the LP's ticket of Ed Clark and David Koch went on to earn nearly one million popular votes. While the LP slipped to 39-state ballot status in 1984, we rebounded to 46-state plus DC status in 1988, and we hope to gain ballot status everywhere in the U.S. by fall 1992.

Historically in the U.S., it has been left to the individual states to determine ballot access requirements. There is a wide disparity in ballot access requirements among the states. In 11 states, 1,000 or fewer signatures are required, while North Carolina requires 44,000 valid signatures, Florida mandates 60,000 signatures, and California would require us to gather 135,000 signatures had the LP not earned ballot access for 1992 in the 1990 election. Person for person, the toughest state in which to petition is Wyoming, which requires 8,000 valid signatures to get a party on the ballot in a state with fewer than 500,000 people. The persons-per-valid-signature ratio in Wyoming is 60, the lowest among all states.

elections. In the 101st Congress, House Bill 1582 had over 30 co-sponsors, but Rep. Al Swift (D-WA), chairman of the House Elections Subcommittee, refused to hold hearings on the bill.

This legislation (HB 1582) would have allowed the Libertarian Party to place its presidential ticket on the ballot in all 50 states and in DC for less than \$40,000 in expense. In contrast, I have heard that it cost nearly \$1 million to get our 1980 presidential ticket on in all states. Ballot access expenses in 1988 ran over \$550,000, although we hope to hold total expenses to \$400,000 for the 1992 presidential ticket.

Earlier this year, Rep. Major Owens (D-NY) said he would introduce a comparable bill into the 102nd Congress, but has subsequently not done so. A new sponsor must be found for this legislation soon or it will continue to languish. While Rep. Swift has said he will hold hearings on such a bill the next time one is introduced, there has been no real progress on national ballot access reform in the Congress.

Petitioning is not fun or glamorous work. It can be the toughest, most frustrating job imaginable. It is the coal mining of politics. It's dirty work, but it has got to be done. Getting access to places with good pedestrian traffic can be very difficult. Generally, petitioning is allowed on public property, but many private property owners (e.g., shopping malls and supermarkets)

would have to gather 0.84 percent of the total votes cast in the 1988 presidential election to get its ticket on the ballot in all states, and that ratio exceeds 1 percent in many states. Apparently, elections are now freer in the Soviet Union than in the United States.

Fortunately, the ballot access route is easier this year than ever before for the Libertarian Party for two reasons: vote totals for many of our candidates that exceed minimums for retention of ballot

status; and lower ballot access restrictions in several states, including Massachusetts, where a voter referendum last fall slashed petitioning requirements for political parties by 75 percent.

But this slight progress is clearly not enough. In a democracy, the ballot is where the rubber hits the road. . . If we are ever again to be a truly free nation, we must start with free elections. That we won't have until ballot access requirements are greatly reduced across the United States.

How Many Votes Must a Party Poll to Remain on the Ballot?

State	Must Poll for Which Office?	How Many Votes Needed?	History*
AL	Any Statewide	20%	1998
AK	Governor	3%	1990
AZ	President or Governor	5%	1982
AR	President or Governor	3%	1970
CA	Any Statewide, Gub. years	2% of voter turnout	1990
CO	Governor	10%	1914
CT	Any (each office separate)	1%	1990
DE	Party's vote irrelevant	Must have registration of .05%	1990
FL	Party's vote irrelevant	Must have reg. of 5%	Never
GA	Any statewide	1% of no. of reg. voters	1990
HI	Party's vote irrelevant	Must have been on 3 elections	1990
ID	Party's vote irrelevant	Must have run 3 candidates	1990
IL	Governor	5%	1986
IN	Secretary of State	2%	1916
IA	President or Governor	2%	1968
KS	All statewide except pres.	1%	1982
KY	President	2%	1968
LA	President	5%	1968
ME	President or Governor	5%	1990
MD	Average of all statewide	3%	1968
MA	Any statewide	3%	1990
MI	Cand. closest to top/ballot	1% of Sec. of St. winner's vote	1990
MN	Any statewide	5%	1978
MS	Party's vote irrelevant	Must be organized	1990
MO	Any statewide, last 2 elections	2%	1968
MT	Any statewide, last 2 elections	5% of Gub. winner's vote	1988
NE	President or Governor	5%	1968
NV	Any	3% of Congress vote	1990
NH	Any statewide	3% of Gubernatorial vote	1990
NJ	Average of assembly cand.	10%	1913
NM	Any statewide, last 2 elections	.5% of Gub. or Pres. vote	1988
NY	Governor	Must poll 50,000 votes	1990
NC	President or Governor	10%	1968
ND	Governor	5%	1914
OH	President or Governor	5%	1968
OK	President or Governor	10%	1968
OR	Any statewide	1% of Congress vote	1990
PA	Any statewide	2% of highest winner's vote	1982
RI	Governor	5%	1914
SC	Party's vote irrelevant	Must run at least 1 candidate	1990
SD	Governor	10%	1924
TN	Any statewide	5%	1968
TX	Any statewide	5%	1990
UT	Any	2% of Congress vote	1990
VT	Party's vote irrelevant	Must be organized in 15 towns	1990
VA	Any statewide	10%	1968
WA	Any statewide	5%	1968
WV	Governor	1%	1924
WI	Any statewide	1%	1990
WY	Congress	3%	1989
DC	Any districtwide	Must poll 7,500 votes	1990

*History column tells the last year in which any third party met the requirement. In Montana and Wyoming, the requirements to remain on the ballot were eased by the 1991 legislatures, and there is a bill pending in Massachusetts—sponsored by the Secretary of State—to ease them also. Chart prepared June 20, 1991, by Richard Winger, Ballot Access News, 3201 Baker St., San Francisco, CA 94123. Subscriptions to Ballot Access News are \$6 per year/13 issues.

FREE ELECTIONS?

Additionally, there is unequal treatment of candidates within a given state. Frequently, it is significantly easier to get on a ballot as an independent than with a party label. For instance, in Ohio, to get our presidential ticket on the ballot without a party label requires 5,000 signatures of registered voters. To place our ticket on the Ohio ballot with the label "Libertarian Party" will require 35,000 valid signatures. Given limited resources, we will probably forego pursuit of our party label in Ohio, and voters in that state will not have a crucial piece of information on the ballot about our candidates.

(Please note that the figures in this article denote valid signatures of registered voters. Usually half again as many signatures must be collected to assure a sufficient number of valid signatures.)

Moreover, once it is earned, there is the problem of ballot status retention. Alabama requires that a political party receive at least 20 percent of the vote in a statewide election in order to keep ballot status and several other states require at least 10 percent of the vote in a statewide race (see chart at right).

Legislation has been introduced in previous congressional sessions to greatly reduce ballot access requirements for federal offices. Such action by the Congress would clearly be constitutional, as Article 1, Section 4 of the United States Constitution states that Congress has the power to set requirements for congressional elections, and U.S. Supreme Court rulings have expanded this power to all federal

do not allow petitioning on their property. Libertarian Party members will probably have to invest 20,000 man-hours to put our 1992 ticket on the various states' ballots. To add insult to injury, once the petitioning is done in some states with very high signature requirements, e.g., Florida, the state charges 10 cents per signature to verify them. Yes, access to the ballot is far from free in most states.

One argument that is forwarded from politicians currently in power is that if ballot access hurdles are lower, suddenly the American political system will be flooded with many candidates, many of whom might be unserious, and that a "disorderly ballot" will result. But recent history shows this is not so. Louisiana and Arkansas have very low ballot access requirements for presidential tickets. Louisiana requires only a \$500 filing fee and Arkansas requires only that a meeting be held. Nevertheless, these states both had only six presidential candidates on their ballots in 1988, no more than many other states with much more stringent ballot requirements.

It is ironic that it can be much more difficult to get on the ballot in many states in this nation, which holds itself out to the world as the beacon of freedom, than it is now in the Soviet Union. In the recent presidential election in the Republic of Russia, the ratio of petition signatures needed for ballot status to total number of votes cast for president was 0.14 percent. Across the entire U.S., starting with no ballot status in any state, a political party

Smith Sees Opportunity for LP with Gun Issue

continued from page 1

import ban on semiautomatic weapons and sanction of the Brady Bill have betrayed 65 million gun owners who put Bush in office, three million of whom are organized, five million of whom read all the same publications, and about 50 million of whom are now furious."

Smith stated that "during this time, despite mass-media propaganda to the contrary, the National Rifle Association has been weak and defensive, advising compromise and appeasement, throwing semiautomatic owners to the wolves in order to buy time for duck hunters and

paper target punchers.

"This is very good news for the Libertarian Party. From its inception in 1971, it has defended individual gun ownership in its platform for the same reasons the Founding Fathers did in the Bill of Rights," Smith said. "During my tenure on the platform committee, I did what I could to strengthen that defense and spread the word to non-Libertarians. During the same time, 'wiser heads' among gun magazine editors and NRA leadership insisted that, since a third party can't win elections, gun owners shouldn't 'waste their vote' on it.

"That view has changed, thanks to

George Bush. Set aside the fact that third-party candidates can change the course of history without winning elections," Smith said. "Now it's clear, even to 'wiser heads,' that they've been wasting their vote anyway and that the traditional affection they feel for the Republican Party has all but destroyed them."

Smith explained that it is now "time to stop generating excuses and make the best of the one hope" gun owners have left. "It's time to reward friends and punish enemies, to send a message to those who've abandoned and betrayed them.

"All we have to do is come on stronger than anyone else—offer, for example, not only to oppose new gun laws and repeal old ones, but to jail elected advocates of gun control whose oath of office supersedes any First Amendment rights they may claim—compelling the Republicans to discredit themselves further by disavowing our position or trail weakly along behind us," Smith suggested.

"If we handle the opportunity right, capturing even a fraction of the numbers involved, LP membership and vote totals will increase 100-fold over the next five years. More than a decade ago, Califor-

nians limited property taxes because even state workers think of themselves as homeowners first. Here's our chance to capitalize on the treachery of a party which once offered sanctuary to those who think of themselves as gun owners first," Smith said.

"Don't worry about the anti-gunners," he said. "We haven't been getting their support anyway and never will. No matter what they tell opinion polls, they don't vote this issue—while their opponents vote nothing else."

Smith plans to create a "Second Amendment caucus," a conduit through which gun owners can transfer their affiliation from the GOP, and which will prepare them for LP positions on issues like drugs.

"That's easier than many libertarians apparently imagine," Smith said. "Most gun people are conservatives and there's plenty in our overall agenda to offend them, but it would be a mistake to apologize for that—especially since we arrived at both positions, guns and drugs, by the same reasoning process, guided by the same principle of self-ownership. Instead, we'll treat them like grownups, make it clear that they can have whatever they want as long as they understand that absolute political respect for the rights of others is the key."

Working with Smith are Rex F. May, a metallic silhouette competitor known to newspaper and magazine readers as cartoonist "Balloo," and Lenda R. "Len" Jackson, editor of the Libertarian Futurist Society's Prometheus and an NRA-certified pistol instructor. Individuals who want more information may write to The Lever Action Committee, 4550 Wadsworth Blvd., Suite 145, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033.

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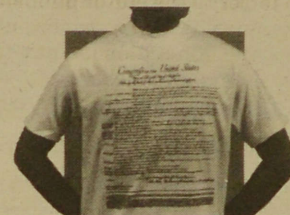
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(required for membership only)

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Campaigns, Outreach Keeping States Busy

Arizona

Tucsonan Jenny Morales has announced her plan to run for the Ward 1 city council seat. Other candidates may soon announce for other city council seats. Gay Lynn Goetzke is already busy campaigning for the Tucson mayor's position.

California

Los Angeles County Libertarians celebrated July 4 by building a 40-foot-long sculpture of the Statue of Liberty in the sand at Venice Beach. The event was organized by Lawrence Goldberg and Michelle Obregon and was covered by the LA NBC television affiliate.

The LP of Santa Clara County has reached an all-time high in membership.

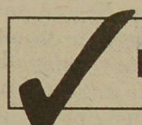
Colorado

Members Richard Combs, Jim Glennie, David Bryant, and David Aitken placed a classified ad in 90 newspapers for two weeks in August. The ad, designed to inform the public of the LP convention coverage on C-SPAN, encouraged television viewers to "watch democracy in action as ordinary Americans work to protect their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." The ad also listed the national LP 800 number.

More than 50 people from 15 states attended the "Women in Libertarianism" conference in Ft. Collins in late June. According to reports, the conference was a great success.

Connecticut

State party members have been very busy arguing against a state income tax. Mike Stamper and other members have



From the States

Activities noted in newsletters and news releases

run radio ads, participated in major demonstrations, been interviewed by radio, television, and newspapers, and distributed 15,000 bumper stickers with the message "No state income tax ever!" Stamper reports that state membership is at an all-time high, and new "prospects are coming in at a rate of about 30 per month."

Georgia

The state newsletter has taken on an exciting new look and will include many new features. Jack Aiken has taken over as the new editor.

Illinois

State party members recently participated in two parades—in Roselle and Downers Grove. Members built their own float featuring a weeping Statue of Liberty standing in a graveyard with markers displaying the First, Second, Fourth, and Ninth Amendments. The sign on the float stated, "The Bill of Rights, Void Where Prohibited By Law." The float was designed by Jeanette Clinkunbroomer.

Indiana

Brad Stephenson of Kokomo recently had a letter to the editor published in Gun Week, a national newspaper published by the Second Amendment Foundation. The letter encouraged readers to vote Libertarian, the "one party that recognizes

gunowners' property rights." The letter also listed the LP 800 number.

Iowa

According to a report from the Fully Informed Jury Association, Gov. Terry Branstad will declare Sept. 5 "Jury Rights Day" in the state.

Missouri

HB 184, the omnibus election bill that included the Fair Ballot Access Act (see July NEWS, page 1), was vetoed by Gov. John Ashcroft. The veto apparently had nothing to do with the ballot access portions of the bill, as Ashcroft said he was vetoing it because of changes in the methods of electing the St. Louis School Board. An attempt may be made to override the veto this month.

New Hampshire

Former Gov. Meldrim Thomson spoke at a July state party meeting. In part, he said that now is a "great opportunity for the Libertarian Party. Do something new, novel, that will help this great country of ours."

New Jersey

Members Howard Schoen, Randy Enterline, and John Paff have been lobbying for a proposed law that would allow individuals 21 years of age or older, without a license or permit, to produce up to 100 gallons of wine and beer for personal and household use. At the present time, home brewing of beer in NJ is illegal. By the way, home brewing is legal in every other state except Oklahoma and Utah.

Ohio

Sally Moore and other Cincinnati Libertarians are conducting a radio roundtable talk program for WAIF-FM. The show features discussions of current events from a libertarian viewpoint.

Pennsylvania

Former state chair John Famularo has announced he will be running for the Philadelphia City Council this fall.

Virginia

Paul E. Gagnon is busy campaigning for the position of Lee District Supervisor. Gagnon reports that he and his wife have been distributing fliers door-to-door, "five days a week, 1-1/2 to 3 hours each day." Gagnon hopes to have distributed 15,000 fliers by the first of this month.

Speak Out

SPEAK OUT Software Co. is offering computer software that is "the first-ever letter-writing package that has built-in more than 3,000 names of top public officials, along with title, address and phone number for each."

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Name Change, Campaign Strategy, Comments

Name Change

In the July NEWS, Robert Kellogg voiced a concern I have had almost from the time I became aware of the libertarian movement, and more so when I learned that there was actually a Libertarian Party. It may be a relatively small matter, and it could be too late to do anything about it, but here are my feelings on the subject.

The words "Republican" and "Democratic" both suffer from having four syllables, and neither "rolls off the tongue" easily. "Libertarian" is worse, having five syllables and being even more of a tongue-twister. As Mr. Kellogg points out, it "is a bit cumbersome."

His suggestion of the name "Liberty Party" surely is an improvement; but wouldn't "Freedom Party" be even better?

At any rate, thanks to Mr. Kellogg for bringing the matter up. Whatever action the party takes or doesn't take will have my support.

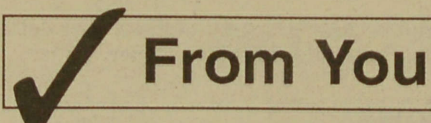
Bill Williford
Houston, TX

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

I am but a humble member of the Georgia LP but read with interest Dave Walter's column in the August NEWS wherein he said that he supported the idea of changing the name of the party to the Liberty Party.

I am very much in favor of having this change be brought before the convention this year and the name changed to either that or the conservative party or some other vote-getter.

I ran for lieutenant governor here and am convinced that the ignorance, stubbornness, and functional political illiteracy of the typical voter makes the name Libertarian an almost insurmountable barrier to political progress. Obviously, the typical voter thinks that



Letters from members and readers

Libertarians are socialists of some kind, are libertines or are liberals. Please help us all by getting the people in Chicago to change the party's name. Obviously, we would garner the most votes by calling ourselves Conservative.

Walker Chandler
Zebulon, GA

Campaign Strategy

There is a strategy which could generate massive amounts of free and mainly favorable publicity for the LP's 1992 national candidates. It does involve a legal risk.

The Federal Elections Commission limits our candidates to receiving individual contributions of no more than \$1,000. Our opponents receive millions in tax funds, and millions more indirectly in "soft money" contributions. The LP presidential candidate should call a news conference in Washington, and state the campaign will accept contributions exceeding \$1,000. He will have some checks in hand. The candidate will campaign and possibly litigate. Turn the campaign into a fairness forum for alternative political parties, the inequities of the current system and the outrage over the restrictions which hamper all third parties.

This strategy would require legal assistance and funding but would generate massive amounts of free publicity. It would put the FEC in the position of prosecuting us, or allowing us to raise the funds. The former will generate free publicity while the latter

would unshackle us from tyrannical restrictions. We can't lose, unless our desire for liberty can be destroyed by federal statute.

I would like to hear Marrou and Boddie respond to this campaign strategy, and their willingness to campaign from the federal courts.

Karl Peterjohn
Wichita, KS

New Members Comment

As a new LP convert, formerly, and perhaps still, of the Republican persuasion, I am concerned about "cutting off my nose to spite my face." I consider Mr. Bush's continuing betrayals of conservative principles to be an outrage, yet I am forced to bitterly recall my decision to work and vote against Sen. Percy in 1984 for similar crimes. The unfortunate real world result is Sen. Simon, who, having campaigned to the right of Percy, has behaved as a virtual Marxist.

I suspect that the above topic has been covered exhaustively in previous issues of the NEWS, however, perhaps it could be reviewed for new members such as myself.

Kevin Baxter
Algonquin, IL

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

I just received my first issue of Libertarian Party NEWS. I read it from cover to cover without putting it down. I am a new subscribing member of the LP. However, after reading *Libertarianism in One Lesson* by David Bergland, I realized that I had been a Libertarian all of my life...

I write lots of letters to the editors of various papers and periodicals. I state my views in them and suggest that every one should find out for themselves if they are not in reality a Libertarian.

I have a suspicion that the majority of Americans are. A whole lot of them cast their vote more to be on the winning side than for what they personally stand for. We must gain more notice from the media. Until then we have a tight fight, with a short stick. Win or lose, though, I will vote Libertarian. Unless the LP, as the other parties have done, turns toward communism.

Bill Halbert
Wills Point, TX

Perceptions

Dave Walter's call (July NEWS) for concern about perceptions is a welcome sign that the party is taking a turn toward responsibility. Although a dues-paying, card-

carrying party member from the early days, I am rarely willing to be so identified in business, civic, and social contacts. Explaining away absurd proposals floated as libertarianism deflects attention from my immediate objectives.

Abolish the IRS, abolish the Fed, abolish all traffic laws. And replace them with what? Is there a transition plan, or do we simply jump into anarchy? The "pragmatists" among us suggest traffic laws be replaced with "after-the-fact reimbursement." How do I catch the driver who forces me into the guardrail, or suppose I do catch him, then what? How will I collar witnesses? Most people I know will stick with the status quo and State Farm.

Deregulate everything, without a plan? Voters can easily see what happened to U.S. banks and airlines. Even the dereg guru from Cornell now pleads for foreign investment to "save" our air transport industry.

Almost all of the party's efforts have been directed toward getting new members; virtually none toward keeping current members who are not willing to drift aimlessly between extremes.

Voters live in the real world. They are concerned about their families, their homes, and their jobs. Platitudes about the Bill of Rights will attract few voters without tangible plans to implement citizen rights. Far-out ideas that will imperil rather than improve their present situation will not sell. I hope the forthcoming convention will focus on near-term action that will produce recognizable results.

Suggestions? How about electing shadow cabinet secretaries to take positions on public issues? Or even a shadow president to deliver a Libertarian State of the Union report at intervals, with a follow-up on "successes" in Panama and Kuwait? A monthly Golden Gander Award for the most ridiculous congressional expenditure? A campaign for a sunset law to phase out pointless bureaucracies, such as draft registration? A relentless letter-writing program opposing federal boondoggles such as the space station and the super collider?

Let's hear it for constructive programs that will support both national and local candidates.

Dave Pendleton
Mount Vernon, VA

Zionism

As you well know, Zionism (sic) is diametrically antithetical to Libertarianism (sic). Zionism, like all fascistic philosophies, is based on alleged "special group rights" as against libertarianism's equal rights for all individuals.

It sounds odd to hear [some libertarians] talk about libertarianism and individual rights and freedom out of one side of the mouth and apologize for the ethnist, fascist State of Israel with its atrocious human rights record from the other. I'm sure we all have our favorite ethnic-groups, but, as libertarians... it ill behooves us to gloat over seeing our co-ethnics lord it over some econo-diplo-militaro-technologically less advanced victims as our born again, dyed in the wool fellow American flag-worshipers (sic) are after the recent Sado-masochistic bombing-massacre on Iraq.

That the State of Israel is "democratic" is beside the point... Anything less than a defense of individual rights (to freedom, property, etc.) tilts the killing-field down the slippery slope toward collectivist, ethnist imperialism (sic).

Herb Booth
Portland, OR

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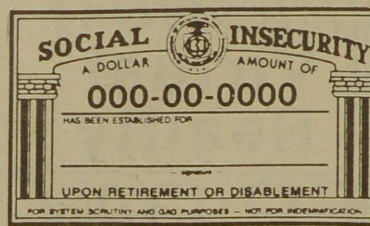
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REGION 6

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

NatCom Rep.

Vicki Kirkland
P.O. Box 2110, Times Sq. Sta.
New York, NY 10036
212-219-2702 (h)
212-966-5772 (o)

REGION 7

Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin

NatCom Rep.

Steven I. Givot
Rt. 7, One Middlebury Rd.
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-9648
708-382-2098 (h&o)
Fax: 708-382-2088

REGION 8

Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas

NatCom Rep.

Gary Johnson
2001 Parker Lane, #134
Austin, TX 78741-3849
512-441-6378

National Committee Members At Large

I. Dean Ahmad

4323 Rosedale Ave.
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-951-0539 (h)
301-656-4714 (o)
CompuServe: 73647,117
Steve Alexander
824 Bing Drive
Santa Clara, CA 95051
408-554-1119 (h&o)
CompuServe: 73647,1177

Toni Black

110 Riggs Drive
Clemson, SC 29631
803-653-7514 (h)
Norma D. Segal
332 Central Park Ave.
Scarsdale, NY 10583
914-472-0506 (h)

Don Ernsberger

865 Meadowood Lane
Warminster, PA 18974
215-675-6830 (h)

National Officers

Chair

Dave Walter

1505 Cotswald Court
West Chester, PA 19382
215-363-8900, ext. 13 (o)

Vice Chair

Mary Gingell

441 Mundell Way
Los Altos, CA 94022
415-949-1465

Secretary

Joseph W. Dehn, III

P.O. Box 621015
Littleton, CO 80162
303-972-8094
CompuServe: 70305,241
MCI Mail: 106-6052
FidoNet: Joe Dehn on 1:104/418

Treasurer

William Redpath

1337 Cassia St.
Herndon, VA 22070-2555
703-406-0732 (h)
703-478-5880 (o)

Libertarian Party Headquarters

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

1-800-682-1776
(New Member Info Only)
MCI Mail: 345-5647
Internet:
345-5647@mcimail.com
CompuServe: 76177, 2310

Staff
Marc Montoni
Steve Feldman
Intern
Tiffany King

HQ Office Hours
Monday-Friday, 9:30 am-6:00 pm

National Chair
Dave Walter
1505 Cotswald Court
West Chester, PA 19382
215-363-8900, ext. 13 (o)

Libertarian Party NEWS
Randy Langhenry
P.O. Box 780
Winchester, VA 22601
703-662-3691
CompuServe: 71610,3614

August 28-September 1, 1991:

"LIBERTY TRIUMPHANT"
LP Presidential Nominating Convention, Chicago Marriott,
Chicago; 708-475-0391.

September 5, 1991:

Jury Rights Day, Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C.;
National News Conference and Rally at Noon;
406-793-5550.

September 21-23, 1991:

National Taxpayers Union Conference and Taxpayers'
Lobby Day, Washington, DC; 202-543-1300.

October 6, 1991:

Maryland LP Convention, Ramada Hotel and Convention
Center, Baltimore; 301-874-5403.

February, 1992:

California LP Convention; 800-637-1776.

April 10-12, 1992:

Michigan LP Convention, Ann Arbor; 313-475-9792.

April 24-26, 1992:

Colorado LP Convention, Ft. Collins; 303-484-8184.

Upcoming Events

The Libertarian Party Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely, (1) the right to life—accordingly we support the prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right of liberty of speech and action—accordingly, we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property—accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

Libertarian National Committee

1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20003

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