OCTOBER 1996 VOLUME 18 NO. 10

LIBERTARIAN LIFELINE

LOCKED OF

OUT DEBATES





Harry Browne

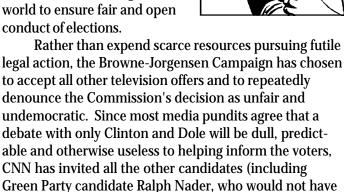
Jo Jorgensen

BROWNE PURSUES ALTERNATIVE AVENUES TO DELIVER LIBERTARIAN MESSAGE

Despite the signatures of more than 28,000 registered voters on petitions demanding that Libertarian Party Presidential Candidate Harry Browne be included in the televised debates scheduled for October 1996, the Commission on Presidential Debates ruled on September 24 that only Bob Dole and Bill Clinton will be allowed to participate.

Reform Party candidate Ross Perot immediately filed a lawsuit protesting his exclusion, as did Natural Law Party candidate John Hagelin. The CPD claimed that despite having achieved 50-state ballot status, one of the prime criteria for inclusion in the debates, Perot's current poll numbers (less than 5%) do not give him a realistic chance at winning the election. Perot's suit claims that his performance in the 1992 presidential race (where he received 19% of the vote) clearly make him a contender. Hagelin's lawsuit, on the other hand, challenges the Commission's nonprofit tax status, which is reserved for nonpartisan groups, claiming that the commission's exclusion of minor party candidates betrays the bi-partisan nature of the Commission (which is made up of five Republican and five Democratic Party officials). Moreover, Hagelin's lawsuit claims that the CPD's decision violates the Helsinki Accords, the generally

accepted principles of democratic rule used throughout the world to ensure fair and open conduct of elections.



Jo Jorgensen will also be heard nationwide on the Pacifica Radio Network (heard locally on KPFA, 94.1 FM) when host Larry Bensky will have the vice-presidential candidates excluded from the televised St. Petersburg debates answer the same questions posed to Al Gore and Jack Kemp on October 9.

qualified under any of the CPD's criteria) to appear on

Larry King Live following each debate.

Browne and Jorgensen have nevertheless managed to garner significant airtime on local and nationally syndicated talk radio programs, as well as having made several television appearances, most recently on Comedy Central's *Politically Incorrect*, NBC's *Meet the Press*, and TCI Cable's *Race to the White House*. TCI, the largest cable provider in the country, has offered all qualified candidates free airtime to present 10-minute unedited campaign videos, which will be broadcast weekly until the November 5 election.

California Libertarians will also be demonstrating outside the October 16 Clinton-Dole debate in San Diego, along with Green Party and Reform Party activists. As was the case in 1992, the demonstration will be less of a confrontational protest than an informational picket line to provide voters with the facts about candidates that the Commission on Presidential Debates would rather keep hidden from the electorate.

Plans are also in the works for "America's '96 Open Debate" to be held on Tuesday, October 8 at 8:00 p.m. at Ruth Eckerd Hall located in Clearwater, Florida. This debate is open to all six national Presidential Candidates i.e., candidates on enough state ballots to have a mathematical chance of winning the election. This includes Browne, Clinton, Dole, Hagelin, Perot and Howard Phillips, of the U.S. Taxpayers Party. America's '96 Open

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Debate will give Americans the opportunity to hear all six qualified candidates in a true debate forum. Each participating candidate will submit an equal number of questions. Additionally, four questions will be drawn from the audience. Regardless of attendance on stage, there will be six podiums each bearing the name of one national Presidential Candidate. The debate advisory committee will comprise one representative from each campaign, the television network, the venue, a college debate professor, and the moderator. C-SPAN, America's link to unbiased politics, will have an opportunity for broadcast. Overwhelmingly, Hugh Downs has been suggested for the role of moderator, but his acceptance has not been confirmed. Both the debate location and date are adjacent to the St. Petersburg Vice-Presidential Debate of October 9 in order to maximize media coverage.

"This event," according to Brian Collar, President of BBE, Inc., "has been coordinated as a private enterprise for the 62% of the voters who want open debates. The Commission on Presidential Debates was wrong, dead wrong, when they excluded Browne, Hagelin, Perot and Phillips from their debates. That ensemble of party insiders should be ashamed at such a blatant attempt to rig this crucial election. They are depriving Americans of an informed decision."

For debate information contact BBE, Inc. at (813) 545-2707 or visit the Debate web site at http://gate.net/~bdcollar/

LIBERTARIAN LIFELINE

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Whether this event will attract significant media attention is still seriously in doubt, as there has been very little time to organize such an endeavor, and many have expressed skepticism that it can be pulled off under these circumstances or whether the major networks will bother to cover it if Dole and Clinton fail to participate.

Harry Browne doesn't care where or when the debates take place, as long as he can be involved. In a speech at a fund-raising event in Arlington, Virginia on September 27, carried live by C-SPAN, the nationwide public affairs cable network, Browne challenged Perot to "get into the ring" with him. "Because Ross Perot has been so upset about not getting into the debates, I have discussed the matter with my wife and my campaign staff — and I have decided to relent and agree to debate Ross Perot after all," said Browne with a smile. "Okay, Ross, now you can get into the ring with a champion and show what you can do."

Browne followed up the televised challenge with an overnight letter to the Perot campaign headquarters in Dallas, Texas, offering to debate the Reform Party candidate "anytime, anywhere, in any format, before any audience."

Since they are the only third-party candidates on the ballot in all 50 states, Browne said he would be willing to debate Perot one-on-one — but would also be happy to include Bill Clinton and Bob Dole, or invite any other presidential candidate on the ballot in enough states to have a mathematical chance to win the Presidency. "The real winners of such a debate will be the American public, since a vast majority of voters want to see fair, open, and honest presidential debates," said Browne, who added that a Libertarian-Reform debate would benefit Perot in several ways.

"Our debate would show that Perot is *not* a hypocrite—a charge he's open to since he refused to debate Governor Richard Lamm when seeking the Reform Party's nomination," said Browne. "And it would get him press coverage. Undoubtedly, one or more networks would be glad to cover such an historic debate. Most important, it would give Perot an opportunity to contrast his 'Government Can Be Reformed' philosophyagainst my 'Government Doesn't Work' message," said Browne. "This would also be an interesting debate because Perot's campaign is all about pointing out America's problems—and my campaign focuses on proposing solutions."

In summary, said Browne, "This debate would be about problems versus solutions. Or it could be billed as the battle of 'Charts & Graphs vs. the Constitution.'"

Viability?

by Thomas L. Testerman

The Constitution of The United States of America requires that a candidate for President be a natural born citizen, at least 35 years of age, and a resident for 14 years within the United States. No where within these requirements does it say that the Republican and Democratic candidates or their representatives must find another candidate worthy for him or her to be viable.

With their decision to exclude Harry Browne and Ross Perot from the Presidential debates, the Republican and Democratic Parties have effectively told the electorate that these parties, not the voters, will decide who is viable as a candidate and who will be offered to represent the American People. Mr. Perot was found to be viable by as much as 20% of the voting public in the 1992 elections, and Mr. Browne has been declared viable by over 150 talk show hosts as well as respected journalists like Mr. Hugh Downs of ABC News; and yet they are held to be unworthy of debating Mr. Clinton and Mr. Dole. What are these two Viables afraid these two UnViables will bring to light? Could it be a fear that these two *UnViables* could rip the Democratic and Republican Party planks from the windows of the political process and reveal both parties to be flip sides of the same broken record? Could it be a fear that these two *UnViables* might bring realization on the part of the American People that this is **THEIR** government, not a government of the Republican or Democratic Party, and that the electorate determines the viability of ALL candidates for elected office?

The purpose of political party planks is to build a party platform upon which a candidate may be seen and heard by the electorate, not to bar access of less wealthy, less well connected candidates for office from the political process. It is this misuse of party power that decides viability today, not the ideas or ideals as presented by ALL of the candidates. If we, the electorate, concede this action to be unethical, if we acknowledge it to be unconstitutional, if we fail, through our silence and inaction, to force this decision to be reversed, then we forfeit our rights, under the first amendment of the constitution, to political redress; and with this forfeiture inevitably comes deevolution from Democracy to Tyranny.

Ballot Propositions

The November 5th ballot will have numerous proposals we oppose because they increase the size and power of government. Luckily there are three propositions that limit government and deserve your YES vote. The LP of California recommends you just say "Yes" to:

PROP. 209 YES! - The California Civil Rights Initiative (CCRI), to eliminate consideration of race and gender in college admissions, state employment and state contracting. All individuals should be judged on their own merit, not as members of any group. The law should not mention race or gender. PROP. 215 YES! - Medical Use of Marijuana, to let doctors prescribe marijuana for the terminally ill. Marijuana helps many people in their final days. This was passed by the Legislature, but vetoed by the Governor. Libertarians strongly support the right of people to use marijuana responsibly when they wish, especially those who are truly ill.

PROP. 218 YES! - Voter Approval for Local Government Taxes and Limitations on Fees, Assessments and Charges. This proposal would make it harder for local governments to raise taxes. Libertarians support any bill that would protect taxpayers from politicians.

The Libertarian Party of California opposes propositions that give government more power. Please say NO to: PROP. 204 a \$995 million bond for local Sacramento-area water programs. If Sacramento voters want these projects, they should fund them themselves. NO ON PROP. 205 - a \$700 million bond for county jails and juvenile halls. We don't need more jails, we need fewer non-violent prisoners. If we concentrated on holding only violent felons we'd have a jail surplus. NO ON PROP. 206 - a \$400 million bond for Cal-Vet real estate loans. Why should we duplicate the federal VA loan program? NO ON PROP. 208 and PROP. 212 - Limitations of Campaign Contributions. Limiting what challengers can raise, and from whom, only makes it hard to defeat incumbents. To limit special-interest influence, limit the size and scope of government. NO ON PROP. 210 - Minimum Wage Increase (from \$4.25 to \$5.75 per hour). Raising the minimum wage costs jobs: businesses running on the edge can't pay more and will just fold. The wages you pay or accept should not be determined by lawmakers. NO ON PROP. 211 -So-called Retirement Savings and Consumer Protection Act (pensions are already protected under current law). Written by attorneys to make it easier to sue a company whose stock price falls (in a free market, prices fluctuate). This law would encourage frivolous lawsuits. NO ON PROP. 213 - Denies noneconomic damages to drunk drivers and uninsured motorists injured in accidents. A jury should decide what damages to award. NO ON PROP. 214 and PROP. 216 - New regulations for health maintenance organizations (HMOs). The government should not be in the health care business. NO ON PROP. 217 Continuation of Top Income Tax Brackets at 11%. The state income tax should be completely repealed, not extended. Successful people should not be punished: we should let them create new jobs and help the economy by buying goods and services. We take NO POSITION on PROP. 207 (frivolous lawsuits and excessive attorney fees). Frivolous lawsuits are wrong, but only the client should care if an attorney's fees are excessive.

More information is available at the Libertarian Party of California's World Wide Web site, including the party platform: http://www.lp.org/lp/ca/lpc.html

Local Campaign Opportunities

by Marion McEwen

We are in the thick of the campaign season, as many of you have certainly noticed. Your Congress critter and local representatives who are running for office will be bending your ear very shortly. You probably have already seen signs and heard a few ads.

Now is the time to volunteer for our two candidates, Greg Lyon in the 10th Congressional District and Forrest Smith in the Pleasanton City Council race (see article elsewhere for specific information on Greg's campaign). Please call Wayne Nygren at 889-9216 to volunteer for Forrest's race.

Regrettably, Terry Savage, whose name will appear on the ballot in the 13th Congressional District against "Pete" Stark and James Fay, will not be able to serve if elected. Terry has moved out of the state. Go ahead, be an obstructionist. Vote for Terry anyway. Voting should be *fun*.

You can also help the Party by volunteering to work at the polls. As a party, we have not had the best representation as poll workers. It became abundantly clear this past March, in the California primary election, that the alternative parties would have been better served if their members had been present at polling places. Poll workers from the Democrat and Republican Parties are not necessarily aware of all the other parties. This created serious problems for some voters in several polling places.

Voting materials for the alternative parties were not readily available. In some cases, the poll workers did not realize that each party had different ballot booklets and so did not display any third party booklets, which were absolutely essential because while Democrat and Republican voting booths had the names of their candidates printed on their ballots, the other parties had only numbers. It was necessary for these voters to match the numbers to the names of the candidates printed in the ballot booklet.

Other workers -- in particular, the poll inspectors who are the highest ranking election officers in each precinct -- just did not bother to attend the orientation at the Registrar's office and did not know what all the different materials were for.

If Libertarians, Greens and the Peace and Freedom Party members had volunteered to work at

polling places, we would have had no problems in the Primary election. This is our opportunity to show the most loyal Democrat and Republican volunteers that we care about the election process and that we are just regular people who want to help our community. Please call your county registrar and ask about working at a polling place. In Alameda, call Bradley Clark's office at 272-6933. In Contra Costa, call 646-4166.

GREG LYON CAMPAIGN NEWS

It is big news that Harry Browne and Ross Perot will not be in the Presidential debates. Taking advantage of this, the Greg Lyon Campaign is calling a press conference.

Greg Lyon has invited all candidates for the 10th Congressional seat to a press conference to denounce the exclusion of third Party candidates in the Presidential and Vice Presidential debates. The Natural Law and Reform Party candidates have accepted. Greg is waiting to hear from the Democrat and Republican Parties. I have also heard that the Libertarian Party affiliates of Florida and San Diego County will be protesting at the Vice-Presidential debate and the Presidential debate respectively.

Greg's press conference will be on Saturday, October 5th at 11 am at the Marriott in Walnut Creek. We will have Harry Browne press kits for the media and a literature table set up. Greg's message will be that the public should hear each Party's candidate. It is time new ideas moved to Washington rather than just circulated out in the public arena.

We are walking precincts for Greg. The campaign has printed T-shirts for volunteers to wear and we have lots of flyers that need to be distributed. If you would like to walk in your neighborhood please give the campaign a call. You can reach Greg one of several ways:

Phone: (510) 284-7910 E-mail: GKLyon@qnn.com

Web page: http://members.gnn.com/gklyon/congress.htm

AOL chatroom: "LYON4CONGRESS" Sunday nights 8:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

I hope we see you soon.

Jeffrey Hummel on the Civil War

Our September meeting in Alameda County was a rare treat. Author and History Professor Jeffrey Rogers Hummel joined us for dinner. spoke about his latest book, Emancipating Slaves, Enslaving Free Men: A History of the American Civil War, now in its second printing. The topic of his discussion was "Foundations of Big Government: The Economic Impact of America's Civil War." was eerie to learn that many of the big government agencies that sap our economy now do not date from Roosevelt's New Deal, but actually had their roots in Abraham Lincoln's Presidency and the reconstruction programs instituted after his assassination. Big Government thrives on war and other crises, thus fostering more recent "wars" like the War on Poverty and the War on Drugs. Randolph Bourne remarked more than 100 years "War is the health of the State."

Hummel began by pointing out that Andrew Jackson was the last American president to retire the national debt, an accomplishment that was all the more remarkable because he did so when the government had only two sources of revenue: constitutional tariffs and the sale of public lands. Twenty-three years after Jackson left office, during the four years of civil war, government spending rose from a mere 5% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to more than 20% . The separation of banking and government, a pillar of Jacksonian Democracy, was abolished as permanently as slavery by the time the Lincoln administration ended so abruptly. Private mints were outlawed, establishing a monopoly for the U.S. Mint, and state banks were legislated out of business. the war, the largest single government expenditure was the interest payment on the national debt.

According to Hummel, the Civil War represents the repudiation of the principles upon which the American Revolution was based, i.e., the right of independent states to self-determination. Besides the fundamental overhaul of the banking system, the war changed almost every aspect of American life and American government, in both subtle and profound ways. Prior to the Civil War, the only standing army in the U.S. was the voluntary militia, which under the Polk Administration, had

defeated a Mexican Army with two-thirds more soldiers. By 1865, the Union Army was more than one million strong, by far the largest standing military force ever assembled in history. This was largely due, of course, to the introduction of conscription and all its attendant evils, e.g., bounty hunting and street riots sparked by draft officers going from house-to-house to seize conscripted soldiers. In fact, more soldiers were executed for desertion during the Civil War than during any American conflict, before or since.

Hummel presents a vivid delivery of these details and events -- scholarly, but by no means stuffy. If you have even a passing interest in this period of history and its effect on the present, you owe it to yourself to investigate this book.

If you missed this exciting presentation in September, don't fret too much because Jeff is returning this month to talk about "Why the North Should Have Seceded From the South: The Political Economy of Slavery and Secession." Join Professor Hummel and other Contra Costa Libertarians at Fuddruckers, 1975 Diamond Blvd., Concord (Willows Shopping Center) on Tuesday, October 22, at 7:30 p.m. Come earlier and join us for dinner. Copies of Jeff's book, in both hardcover and paperback, will be available at the meeting.

Upcoming Gun Shows Need LP Volunteers

You can attend a gun show free just by volunteering to help staff the Libertarian Party booth at the T & S Gun Show at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. Our candidates, Greg Lyon and Forrest Smith will be there. If you've never attended one of these events in the past, you should give it a try; they are great fun and terrific outreach opportunities.

WHERE: Alameda county Fairgrounds in Pleasanton just off of Hwy. 680 at Bernal Ave.

WHEN: The first weekend in November, that is November 2nd and 3rd.

TIME: Any two hour shift between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Sat. or Sun.

RSVP: Marion McEwen 889-1544. To get in free you must call me.

SPREADING THE WORD

CONVINCINGOTHERSTOVOTELIBERTARIAN

byDeniseP.Kalm

Most of us are quite successful at convincing non-Libertarians of the validity of one or more of our political planks, but for the most part, this does not result in a vote for a Libertarian candidate. Though the number of elected Libertarians increases yearly, there are still several difficult hurdles preventing us from achieving the credibility the Party deserves in the national arena. To succeed more often, we need to convince the electorate that their vote does matter and that it can make a difference to vote for a third party candidate. This means employing a two-prong approach: define their stake in seeing the Party win (we are generally very good at this); and counter their arguments that they are wasting their vote.

The following arguments and counter-proposals might help convince our friends that voting anything but Libertarian this year is a wasted vote.

- 1. **Libertarians have no chance to win:** We currently hold 164 elected positions, an increase of 26% over last year. The popularity and influence of our message is on the rise; we can win and we do.
- 2. A vote for Harry Browne is a vote for Clinton: This is only true if you believe our message has limited appeal for Democrats. Our clear stance on personal liberty is a strong counter to Clinton's backsliding, particularly to gay voters. Votes can be "stolen" from both parties, given the broad appeal of our platform.
- 3. I like a lot of what the Demopublicans stand for: But what exactly do they stand for? And how long does any single position last? In contrast to the two major parties, the Libertarians have maintained a consistent and unwavering message since the party was founded, a message that is uniformly applied by all elected Libertarians. What you hear is what you get. Can you say that about the "Contract With America?" History demonstrates that neither party feels any obligation to fulfill campaign promises. Get past the sizzle and look for the steak.
- 4. **The Demopublicans have done** *some* **things right:** But ask yourself, are you better off now? Each year, the size of government grows, mounting futile "wars" on poverty, drugs and crime. Is there less poverty? Less crime? What are we getting for our money? Reinventing government turned out to be a repacking of the megalith, not

the wholesale downsizing the electorate asked for. The hunger for power and your money is unceasing. For every "gift" the Demopublicans offer, ask yourself what price you pay, in privacy, personal freedom and wealth. Kick the tires and check the stick -- you will see that the cost is too high.

- 5. **Voting Libertarian means wasting my vote:** How do you measure waste? Isn't voting *against* a candidate a waste? The polls tell you Clinton will win -- is even voting itself moot? The press is exercising a great deal of power in selecting our candidates by convincing us we have no choice in the matter. Our franchise is a precious thing, and until "none of the above" is an option, it should be exercised only FOR the candidate you want to see in office.
- 6. The U.S. cannot support another party: Why not? Most European countries find the increased choice a plus. If there was no such thing as a viable third party, a quiet candidate running from a Whig splinter group would never have had a chance to end slavery. Consider how much effort the government expends to maintain the status quo: punitive ballot access requirements, exclusion from the debates, exclusion from any "equal time" measure. The press has a role in the suppression of information too.
- 7. **But I never hear about the Libertarian Party:** Until recently, it was difficult and expensive to get the message out, but between talk radio and the Internet, the dynamics are changing. In all Presidential polls on the Net, Harry Browne holds a commanding lead over Clinton and Dole. The reduced cost and increasing friendliness of the Net means it is no longer a nerd's paradise. It is also one arena that the press cannot control.
- 8. Libertarians can never change the way things are, even if they get elected: Even without getting elected, the reality is that our influence expands constantly. Libertarians coined the word "privatization," now an international trend. Local governments have a way to spend limited money more wisely. The focus on the economy and the crises of Medicare, Social Security and rising taxes comes from our platform and the shouts of our members over the Madison Avenue din sponsored by the major parties. Clinton recently said he was a Libertarian in some respects and both parties show increasing interest in popular Libertarian planks. Though under-reported by the media, this co-opting of our platform represents a major revolution in American thought, though Libertarians champion it as a return to our country's roots.

As much pleasure as we take in conversing with each other, we should all commit to changing at least 10 people's votes this election season. The time has come for our candidates to win the right to implement our platform. \Box

THE WASTED VOTE FALLACY

byRichardRider

The biggest objection by allies to voting Libertarian is not the usual controversial issues we imagine. By far our biggest problem is the "wasted vote" argument — the idea that if you vote for someone who will not win, then the vote does not count. What follows is a suggested method of dealing with this objection.

On big races (larger than city council races) there is one point to remember — you as an individual will NEVER cast the deciding ballot! Hence there is no reason to vote for the lesser evil. I find it ironic that we hear the "wasted vote" argument most in precisely the races where it applies least.

A Presidential race will never be decided by one vote. And if, by some mathematical chance it got that close, it would be decided politically in the courts, in the legislature or in Cook County, Illinois (where I plan to be buried so I can continue to vote after I'm dead and gone).

If you go to the polls to cast the deciding ballot in major races and you value your life, you are making an irrational decision. The chances of dying en route in a car, plane or meteor accident are far greater than the chance of casting the deciding ballot. We as INDIVIDUALS don't vote to select the winner. As a practical matter we vote to tell everyone else which choice best represents the direction which we want the country to go. Hence voting for the lesser evil sends the wrong message.

Remember, if we keep voting the way we have been voting, we will keep getting what we have been getting. Even if once in your life you missed the chance to cast that mythical deciding ballot, the harm from selecting the wrong person in one election is more than offset by a lifetime of giving voter support to the lesser of two evils rather than standing up for what you believe.

The history of third parties in America is that they serve as the vanguard for new ideas. If they start to draw votes, one or both of the two big parties steal their ideas (that is the one item we welcome politicians to steal from us). The most successful third party in the 20th century was the Socialist Party. While never winning any significant elections, their small but growing vote totals were a threat to the Democrats. Thus the Democrats, and then later the Republicans, adopted piecemeal every major tenet of the 1916 Socialist Party platform. We Libertarians are the opposite of the Socialists, but we find their success instructive. The radical ideas about liberty that we started with in 1971 are now being seriously debated or, in some cases, implemented by the other parties. An increasing number of Libertarian votes is indeed noted by the politicians as well as the media.

So rather than waste your vote on Demopublicans, cast a meaningful ballot that clearly says what you believe. Cast a vote for some serious government downsizing. Cast a vote for freedom.

It's time to vote Libertarian.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Libertarian Party (For those joining the LP as a voting member) of California 20993 Foothill Blvd., #318 *I hereby certify that I do not believe in nor advocate the initiation of* force as a means of achieving social or political goals. Hayward, CA 94541 Signature______Date _____ ☐ Basic LP Membership (includes California *Liberty+Lifeline*) \$25 ☐ Household Membership (for joint households) \$35 Address ☐ National LP Membership City, State & ZIP (add \$20 per person) ☐ Subscription only to Libertarian Lifeline \$10 (Optional) ☐ Donation (Thank you!) Phone: FAX: Please make checks payable to: **Libertarian Party of California** email:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 9, 1996: Vice-Presidential Debate 7:30 p.m. Listen to Jo Jorgensen on Berkeley's Pacifica Radio Network affiliate KPFA-FM with host Larry Bensky as she answers the same questions posed to Al Gore and Jackl Kemp on the televised Vice-Presidential Debate. KPFA-FM can be heard at 94.1 on your FM radio.

October 15, 1996: Alameda County LP General Meeting. Ricky's Sports Lounge and Steakhouse at 15028 Hesperian Boulevard in San Leandro (near BayFair Mall). Help us plan our activities for the General Election and volunteer to work at the polls. Formal business will begin between 7:30 and 8:00 p.m. For more information, please call the LP Party Line at (510) 531-0760.

October 22, 1996: Contra Costa County LP Meeting. Hear Jeffrey Rogers Hummel speak on "Why the North Should Have Seceded from the South: The Political Economy of Slavery and Secession" at Fuddruckers, 1975 Diamond Blvd. in Concord (in the Willows Shopping Center) on Tuesday, October 22, at 7:30 pm. Come earlier and join us for dinner. Hummel's book, *Emancipating Slaves*, *Enslaving Free Men*, will be available at the meeting.

Wednesday Evenings, October 9 - November 13, 8:00 p.m. Objectivism and Epistemology: A six-week seminar on Ayn Rand's Theory of Knowledge, presented by George H. Smith and Resources for Independent Thinking. \$100 tuition (discounts available to students, seniors and those of limited means), presented at RIT headquarters, 5236 Claremont Avenue in Oakland. For more information, please call (510) 601-9450.

Sunday Evenings, 8:30 p.m to 9:00 p.m. On-Line Chat with Greg Lyon, Libertarian Candidate for Congress. America On-Line subscribers are welcome to join a weekly chat room with Libertarian Party Congressional candidate Greg Lyon every Sunday evening at 8:30. Just log on and go to LYON4CONGRESS.

Sunday Afternoons, 5:30 p.m.: The Libertarian News Hour on Free Radio Berkeley, 104.1 FM, hosted by East Bay LP Chair Jeff "Zippy the Yippie" Sommer, the voice of freedom on the airwaves originating from one of the last bastions of socialism in America, Berkeley, California.

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