

NEWS

Libertarian Party of California

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LP slate: Browne, Jorgensen

By an overwhelming majority, the 608 delegates to the 1996 Libertarian Party National Convention enthusiastically nominated Harry Browne as their presidential candidate on the first ballot. Browne is the best selling author of such books as "Why Government Doesn't Work," and "How You Can Profit from a Monetary Crisis." The 63-year-old investment advisor makes his home in Franklin, Tenn.

Jo Jorgensen, 39, a Greenville, S.C., computer software company owner, won the vice-presidential nomination.

Speaking to the delegates and to an estimated C-SPAN audience of two million, Browne said "We are not alone. The American people are fed up with this wasteful, extravagant government. They are on our side now. We are mainstream."

He went on to say that his immediate goal is to show enough support in the polls that he is invited to join President William Clinton and former senator Robert Dole in the presidential debates to be televised later this year.

"If I'm at 10 percent, they won't be able to keep me out," he said. "If I am at 1 percent, I shouldn't be included. It won't be easy, but it is possible, and no other single step would do as much to establish our credibility."

Recent Internet polls show Browne running between 10 and 17 percent.

Browne's campaign has raised and spent nearly \$1 million so far. "If we can

raise \$10 million, we can be a major force in this election," he said.

One thing Browne said he will not do is to
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"I do not believe in welfare for . . . politicians."

— Harry Browne discussing matching federal funds

Convention termed "best yet"

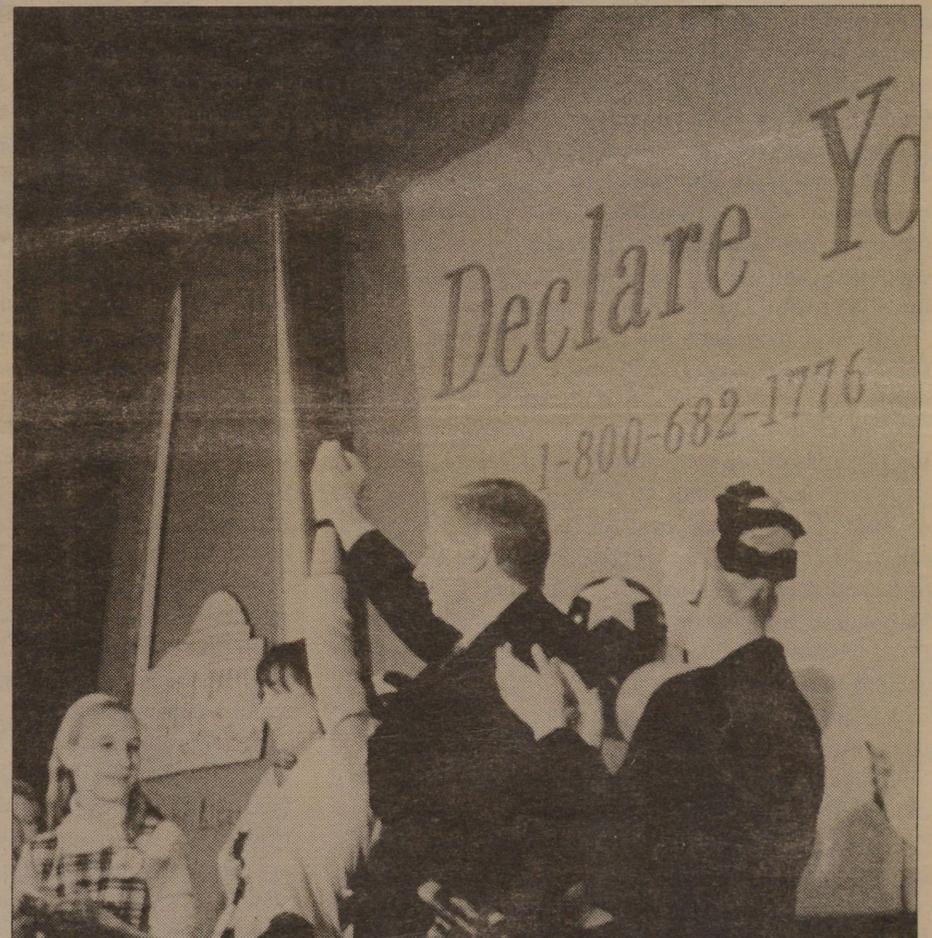
When delegates to the 1996 Libertarian Party National Convention entered the convention floor for the first time on Thursday, July 4, they were greeted by a gold and blue backdrop, accented with red, that dominated one end of the hall.

The theme, "Declare Your Independence," lettered in red, flanked a blue Lady Liberty. Beneath that were displayed the National Party's 800 number and Web Page, also in

red. Along the blue-marbled front panel of the platform there appeared the national 800 number and the legend, "The Libertarian Party" flanking Lady Liberty, all in gold.

That set the tone for what most delegates termed "the best convention yet," and which members of the organizer team, FEE, Inc., said set records for attendance and participation. There were 608 delegates representing most

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Jo Jorgensen and Harry Browne raise their arms in victory to acknowledge their election as Libertarian Party vice presidential and presidential candidates, respectively. Convention delegates elected Browne overwhelmingly for the top slot. Jorgensen was unopposed.



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Getting It Done With Gail: Carpe diem

by Gail Lightfoot

Are you frustrated that the LPC...
...is not larger?
...has grown in reverse?
...does not do things well or at all?

Do you recognise these words? How about these? ...
We need your support urgently.

Low funds prevent payment for important, basic campaign year expenses: 800 number calls, candidate training and an improved inquiry response brochure - one that can be handed out by candidates, outreach booths or activists as well as sent to 800 number inquiries. We expect an avalanche of calls to our 800 number ... because the Libertarian Party will be more visible than ever before. Our national convention aired on C-SPAN. As of Tuesday, July 8, 12,000 calls came into the national 800 number because of that coverage. Our barebones budget just covers the basic operating costs of the party.

We must raise the money for these election year expenses as soon as possible or... we will have to shut down the 800 number, we will not be able to assist our candidates, and we will not improve our inquiry response brochure to build membership in the future.

Mistakes have been made in the past. Some people tell me they have seen the LPC make expensive mistakes in the past, so they hesitate to donate now. True! The LPC has made foolish decisions in the past: but **we work-ing towards doing some things right.** I have asked for your support for various projects.

Filing fees - Our appeal for help to pay filing fees raised \$3,240 which has been used to pay the filing fees of 6 candidates for a total cost so far of \$3,024.82. The National LP also assisted several of our candidates with filing fee costs. Status - largely completed with money used as promised.

LPC radio commercials - The more money we raise, the more air time we can buy.

Media kits - we have pictures and bios of some candidates but we need to make additional copies,

Candidate TV ads - completed and tapes in the hands of participating candidates.

Recruiting info to regions - I have an excellent manual by Gene Cisewski, Chair of the DCLP and our LPC 1996



Gail Lightfoot

convention keynote speaker, which I am sending out to those regions needing one.

Why doesn't the LPC grow faster and do more?

Because we remain almost entirely a volunteer organization. I rely on unpaid party members to do many basic tasks. I rely on volunteers to help with fund raising and many special projects. Often my volunteers complete their projects late because of their work or personal life. We do get a lot of work done; we would get far more done on time with consistent quality with professionals. The LPC is no longer a baby party. We have passed into awkward adolescence: It is time to progress to the polished, timely, quality results that National gets. Yet we stay too small in membership to pay a professional staff. A professional staff is our long-term goal. An income to start a full time staff requires 5,000 members. But the big problem crushing California and all the state LPs remains... **lack of funds.**

All the state parties are starved for funds. We do not have as large a membership for contributions as National. We do not have full-time professional fundraisers to send out carefully crafted regular appeals...so we lose out. Yet the LPC, like each of our state parties, is the foundation for state and local outreach, membership growth and candidate recruit-

ment. If your LPC starves for funds, it will be... unable to respond to inquiries; unable to train and support our candidates; unable to build membership;

Unless we have the money to answer our 800 number, we will miss the people who want to learn about us today;

Unless we have the money to send our information out, we will miss the new member that wants to join us today;

Unless we have the money to do our part, we will miss the opportunity to add new members today and every remaining day of the campaign.

Unless you support the LPC today, we will miss this historic opportunity for growth. Remember, everything takes money!

So, use the form below and send in your contribution to the LPC today.

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The official newspaper of the Libertarian Party of California.

Opinions and articles contained herein do not necessarily represent official Party positions unless so indicated.

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Use this form to renew your membership, to increase your donation or to give to a friend

LPC Membership Form

Libertarian Party of California,
655 Lewelling Blvd.,
San Leandro, CA 94579

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

E-mail _____

Please limit access to my:

- phone and/or address
 to party officers and/or candidates

I choose to set my yearly dues at:

- \$25 - Basic membership
(incl. state newspaper)
- \$50
- \$_____ More (Must be above basic membership)
- \$35 Household Membership
List all names plainly. Each must sign pledge to vote.
- \$20 Add National Membership (save \$5)
- \$500 Life Membership
- \$_____ Pledge
 Monthly Bimonthly Quarterly
(Note: Renewal dues are waived for members who meet pledge of \$10 or more a month for one year)
- \$_____ Donation (thank you!)

Total \$ _____

Payment by: Check VISA
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Signature _____

Please print name as it appears on your credit card

The Libertarian Party is the party of principle.

To affirm publicly what we believe - and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles - we ask our members to sign this statement with pride.

I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature _____

Please note: Non-signers are associate members and cannot vote on Party business.

Appellate Court hears San Diego stadium finance case

The success of a drive by three San Diego tax activists to thwart the city's plan to expand Jack Murphy Stadium using \$66 million in lease-revenue bonds is in the hands of three appellate court justices. Their ruling was expected in late July.

The three are Richard Rider, Bruce Henderson and Steve Green, chair of the LPC San Diego region.

Arguments in *City of San Diego versus Rider* drew a capacity crowd to the 4th District Court of Appeal on Wednesday, July 10, with some would-be observers forced to wait in the hall outside the courtroom for lack of space.

The big turn-out for the court date reflected the nature of a case in which both sides have much at stake.

A ruling against the city's financing plan could undermine what public officials describe as a cost-effective and frequently used way to finance myriad public works projects.

It could also possibly threaten the city's lease with the Chargers and jeopardize San Diego's plans to host the 1998 Super Bowl, supporters of the plan say.

In turn, the defendants say a decision in their favor would allow the public to gain greater control over public spending.

Opponents of the city's plan to issue lease-revenue bonds through a joint-powers agency made up of the City Council and Redevelopment Agency filed an appeal earlier this spring after a Superior Court judge ruled that the city's plan was within the bounds of "a long line of authority upholding the validity of such entities."

Issuance of lease-revenue bonds is not subject to voter approval - a factor that forms the basis of the defendants' opposition to the plan.

Although both attorneys began their presentations with reference to broad legal issues, the justices' questioning quickly turned the discussion to highly technical elements of the city's financing plan and related questions of legal precedent.

Both attorneys quickly laid out the substance of their clients' views.

"This case is not about the San Diego Chargers, this is not a case about the 1998 Super Bowl ... it's a case about the California Constitution," the defendants' attorney said.

Much of his presentation centered on an article of the California Constitution, which he said gives the public a right to vote when government entities incur long-term debt.

Earlier courts, and specifically the state Supreme Court, have never considered a specific provision of the financing mechanism that he said creates such debt, he stated.

The plaintiff's attorney maintained the city's plan clearly falls within a long line of legal precedent establishing the substantive legality of the financing mechanism.

"There is nothing substantive that has changed in these leases (since earlier courts upheld their legality)," he said.

Some \$50 billion in public works projects in the state - including the appellate court facility itself - has been built over the past decade using lease-revenue bonds, he continued.

He also said the city would not be prevented from litigating more limited questions of the lease - including whether the city could be liable for future renovations to the facility - at a later date, even if the court upholds the legality of the plan.

In winding up his presentation, the city's attorney made reference to one of the larger issues surrounding the case: what invalidation of the city's financing plan could mean to public entities' ability to finance future public projects.

"The risk ... is a substantial increase in the cost of doing this kind of financing ... because of increased legal risks," he said. "That is one of the primary reasons I ask the court to exercise great caution" in considering the technical provisions of the lease.

After the hearing, Rider said he felt vindicated by critics who had dismissed the questions he and his co-defendants had raised.

"Clearly the issues are quite weighty," he said.

Rider has also vowed to take the case to the state Supreme Court if the appellate court rules against him.

Meanwhile, the three received a minor setback when a similar lawsuit against the city over financing plans to expand the San Diego Convention Center was dismissed Friday, July 12, by a Superior Court judge. Rider said he will wait until after the appellate court ruling to decide whether to pursue further the suit against the Convention Center financing plan.



Natalie Lloyd of Ohio attracted plenty of attention as she roamed the convention floor.

Commentary: Attracting public support

by Greg Maczek

The Libertarian Party faces the unfortunate reality of representing principles and ideals that the majority of the population would readily agree with and embrace - if they were only aware of them.

The very word "Libertarian" has come to connote free-wheeling, radical behavior, and most people dismiss the Party as a group of fringe extremists. If they knew what the Party really stood for, most would support it but, sadly, not only do they not know, they don't want to learn (too much effort).

Any approach that the Party takes to attract popular support must be glossy and oversimplified to have any

chance of being heard and absorbed. I would suggest the following:

There is a very large segment of the public that accepts the somewhat libertarian economic policies of the Republican Party but deplores their almost fascist social stance. They are Republicans because they see it as the lesser of two evils. Conversely, many Democrats chose their affiliation primarily because of the relative personal freedom that the party supports, but are distinctly uncomfortable with Democratic economics.

Libertarians should promote their party as the perfect blend of Republican economics and Democratic social freedom. This is a message that anyone can understand and relate to.

(Maczek is a member of Reg. 37, San Diego.)

Our Founding Fathers'
fight for freedom:

The price they paid

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons in the revolutionary army, another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the revolutionary war.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they? Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners, men of means, well educated. But they signed the declaration of independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers or both, looted the properties of Ellery, Clymer, Hall, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. The owner quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his grist mill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American revolution.

These were not wild eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "for the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave you and me a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot of what happened in the revolutionary War. We didn't just fight the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government! Perhaps you can now see why our Founding Fathers had a hatred for standing armies, and allowed through the Second Amendment for everyone to be armed.

on the national scene

Teach your child about politics

by Joseph Sobran

Because I write about politics, people are forever asking me the best way to teach children how our system of government works. I tell them that they can give their own children a basic civics course right in their own homes.

In my own experience as a father, I have discovered several simple devices that can illustrate to a child's mind the principles on which the modern state deals with its citizens. You may find them helpful, too.

For example, I used to play the simple card game WAR with my son. After a while, when he thoroughly understood that the higher ranking cards beat the lower ranking ones, I created a new game I called GOVERNMENT.

In this game, I was Government, and I won every trick, regardless of who had the better card. My boy soon lost interest in my new game, but I like to think it taught him a valuable lesson for later in life.

When your child is a little older, you can teach him about our tax system in a way that is easy to grasp. Offer him, say, \$10 to mow the lawn. When he has mowed it and asks to be paid, withhold \$5 and explain that this is income tax. Give \$1 to his younger brother, and tell him that this is "fair". Also, explain that you need the other \$4 yourself to cover the administrative costs of dividing the money. When he cries, tell him he is being "selfish" and "greedy". Later in life he will thank you.

Make as many rules as possible. Leave the reasons for them obscure. Enforce them arbitrarily. Accuse your child of breaking rules you have never told him about. Keep him anx-

ious that he may be violating commands you haven't yet issued. Instill in him the feeling that rules are utterly irrational. This will prepare him for living under a democratic government.

When your child has matured sufficiently to understand how the judicial system works, set a bedtime for him and then send him to bed an hour early. When he tearfully accuses you of breaking the rules, explain that you made the rules and you can interpret them in any way that seems appropriate to you, according to changing conditions. This will prepare him for the Supreme Court's concept of the U.S. Constitution as a "living document."

Promise often to take him to the movies or the zoo, and then, at the appointed hour, recline in an easy chair with a newspaper and tell him you have changed your plans. When he screams, "But you promised!", explain to him that it was a campaign promise.

Every now and then, without warning, slap your child. Then explain that this is defense. Tell him that you must be vigilant at all times to stop any potential enemy before he gets big enough to hurt you. This, too, your child will appreciate, not right at that moment, maybe, but later in life.

At times your child will naturally express discontent with your methods. He may even give voice to a petulant wish that he lived with another family. To forestall and minimize this reaction, tell him how lucky he is to be with you the most loving and indulgent parent in the world, and recount lurid stories of the cruelties of other parents. This will make him

loyal to you and, later, receptive to schoolroom claims that the America of the postmodern welfare state is still the best and freest country on Earth.

This brings me to the most important child-rearing technique of all: lying. Lie to your child constantly. Teach him that words mean nothing – or rather that the meanings of words are continually "evolving", and may be tomorrow the opposite of what they are today.

Some readers may object that this is a poor way to raise a child. A few may even call it child abuse. But that's the whole point: Child abuse is the best preparation for adult life under our form of GOVERNMENT.

The above article was found at http://www.scimitar.com/revolution/by_topic/politics/humor/teach.html and passed on by Skyler Rentner and Elizabeth Michael. The author, nationally-syndicated columnist Joseph Sobran, has given LPC News permission to reprint any of his columns so long as we give him proper credit.

Sobran was a featured speaker during the LP National Convention in Washington, D.C. last month.



Include Harry Browne in presidential debates, encourages influential political columnist

WASHINGTON, DC — America's most influential political reporter has voiced support for including Libertarian Party presidential candidate Harry Browne in the presidential debates.

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David Broder wrote in his nationally syndicated newspaper column this week, "Browne is articulate and quick-witted, and he'd undoubtedly draw votes if he could raise enough money to get on TV — or muster enough support to be included in the presidential debates.

"That is a long shot, but there'd be some value in having 100 million Americans hear [Browne] ask what he says is the key question: 'Would you be willing to give up your favorite government program if you didn't have to pay any income tax for the rest of your life?'"

Browne, 63, a best-selling author and investment writer, was nominated as the Libertarian Party's presidential candi-

date at its nominating convention last month in Washington, DC.

If invited to participate in the presidential debates, Browne predicted he could "change the face of politics in America forever."

In his acceptance speech, Browne said: "What if, every time Bill Clinton or Bob Dole proposed one of his wondrous government elixirs as the solution to some social problem, there was someone there to say, 'But government doesn't work. Government reforms don't work. Why should the next government program work any better than all the failed, expensive, destructive government programs of the past?'"

Broder, who attended the convention as a correspondent for the *Washington Post*, was apparently impressed by what he heard. He wrote: "...the party to watch in the 21st century

may well turn out to be the Libertarians."

Although expressing some doubt about the willingness of voters to totally embrace the Libertarian Party's "radical surgery" on the size and cost of government, Broder concluded that the party, "...may be the advance guard of a more significant movement in the decades to come."

Broder's column appears in more than 300 newspapers across the globe. A winner of the 1973 Pulitzer Prize for Distinguished Commentary, Broder is said to be the most respected and influential political columnist in the nation.

The *Wall Street Journal* wrote about him: "Journalists and politicians... read him closely and they assume that if he says it, it's so." *Esquire* magazine wrote that Broder "has few challengers as the most influential political journalist in the country."

Media coverage of the convention

C-SPAN covered the convention during the hours of 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. from Thursday, July 4, through Saturday, July 6. Coverage was live for much of the time, with repeat airings of some of the major speakers. C-SPAN repeated its convention coverage beginning Monday, July 8, through Thursday, July 12.

In addition to C-SPAN, representatives from more than 45 newspapers, magazines, radio and TV stations were present at the 1996 LP National Convention. CNN (Cable Network News) also covered the convention.

National candidates, national party leaders, officers and staff, as well as state leaders were interviewed during the sessions. Californians included Ed Clark, David Bergland, Richard Boddie,

David F. Nolan, and LPC chair Gail Lightfoot. As a result, such leading newspapers as the *New York Times*, *The Washington Times* and *The Washington Post* carried articles on the convention and the presidential nomination of Harry Browne. Articles also appeared in the *Orange County Register* and in the East Coast edition of the *Los Angeles Times*.

On Friday, July 5, Zohara (Zoh) Hieronimus, from near-by Baltimore, Maryland, joined with an ever-increasing list of talk show hosts by signing a membership application during an on-the-air interview of then-presidential candidate Harry Browne. Earlier, she had interviewed LP founder David F. Nolan of California and LP national chair Steve Dasbach of Indiana.

Are you a regular pledger?

As a regular pledger, you have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to further the cause of Libertarianism. Or you can earmark your pledge for a particular project.

By pledging more than \$100 a year, your LPC membership will be renewed automatically. As a pledger, you will also receive a periodic letter from the state chair bringing you up-to-date information on what is going on in the Party.



Part of the California delegation stayed together long enough to get a group photograph in front of the impressive backdrop at the LP National Convention in Washington, D.C last month. 83 of the state's authorized 112 delegates were present to help make the convention a sound success.

Convention termed "best yet" — from p. 1

of the 50 states, and nearly 1,000 total participants. Vendors and displays filled the large exhibit area. And more than 560 people attended the Saturday evening Awards Banquet on July 6.

Of the 608 delegates, 83 were Californians. The LPC had been entitled to 112 seats.

Delegates and participants began streaming into Washington, D.C. as early as the previous Sunday to get sightseeing out of the way before the sessions. Beginning on Tuesday, LPers were attending the Platform Committee meeting, a two-day, four-topic session sponsored by the State Council of Chairs on Communications and the Media, IRS reporting requirements, FEC regulations and regional re-organization of the affiliate states, and a two-day candidates' training session by veteran campaigner Sal Guzzetta.

Registration began on Wednesday afternoon, July 3. The first official function was a musical event that evening on the steps of the Jefferson Memorial. Nearly 300 delegates shuttled between the hotel and the Memorial on rubber-tired trolleys to hear recorded songs of freedom and an appearance by Dean Amad, LP of Maryland, sing a song about Thomas Jefferson he wrote and performed in the late 1960s and produced in collaboration with Californian Craig Franklin.

An award-winning Junior Pipe and Drum Corps unit from Gloucester County, NJ, attired in colonial dress, escorted Thomas Jefferson to the microphone to read the Declaration of Independence. Delegates soundly applauded the reading. Jefferson, wearing a rich blue and white brocade dress coat, was portrayed by Bruce Evoy, founder of the Libertarian Party of Canada, English teacher and actor. Evoy has appeared as Jefferson at many international and domestic Libertarian functions. Afterwards, Evoy enchanted school-age youngsters and their parents alike as he stood at the base of the Jefferson statue.

The Pipe and Drum unit later performed a number of martial and social Revolutionary tunes. Warmly received, the young performers got an even louder reception when the audience was told they were organized by 27 families who had formed a Christian home-schooler group.

On the air

National Chair Steve Dasbach gavelled the convention to order at 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, July 4, under the blazing lights of the C-SPAN television cameras. The 1996 LP convention was "on the air."

Keynote speaker was Jacob C. Hornberger, founder of the Foundation for Economic Education and publisher of *Freedom Daily*. His talk, "Why the Libertarian Party Must Be Heard," was interrupted numerous times by enthusiastic applause by the delegates.

He received even greater response when he

Hornberger was followed by syndicated columnist James Bovard talking on "Economic Liberty in 1996," and by Richard Boddie, who spoke on the subject of "Personal Liberty in 1996."

The Platform Committee then came onto the floor. Chairman David F. Nolan said that aside from proposals to delete the term "cult of the omnipotent state," and to modify the planks on Children's Rights and Gay Rights, most of the matters brought up were style and housekeeping matters.

Nonetheless, those proposals generated lively debate. After voting to keep the phrase of "the cult of the omnipotent state," delete the plank on Children's Rights and modify the

plank on Gay Rights, the delegates needed only one ballot to accept unanimously the National Platform using the newly-adopted Scantron electronic voting system.

Discussion of the Platform was interrupted from time to time to present a debate among the six finalists for the presidential nomination, followed by the nominations and election of the candidates for president and vice-president. On Sunday, the last order of business was the election of National Chair, officers, committee members and judicial committee

Want tapes of convention?

Want to remember what a particular speaker said at the convention? Or perhaps you missed some featured event. Appearances of featured speakers, the presidential debate, acceptance speeches and deliberations on the convention floor are available on video cassette and audio cassette tapes.

Video tapes are available through C-SPAN. For more information, call C-SPAN at 800-277-2698.

Audio cassette tapes are available through Wells Walker & Co., Inc., Springfield, VA 22150. Call 800-645-6907.

Slate — from p. 1

accept federal matching funds for his campaign. "I do not believe in welfare for individuals, corporations or politicians," he emphasized.

Jo Jorgensen, in her acceptance speech, said that the rebellion against big government and the other parties by both young people and their parents could make this a break-through year for Libertarians. She went on to say that politicians who promise smaller government and lower taxes "give us the equivalent of 1-900 sex. They tell us how much they want us and how good it's going to be. But when we hang up, we realize they've cost us a lot of money. . .and they're never going to come over."

Browne had 15 opponents for the presidential nomination when the convention opened on Wednesday, July 3. That competition had thinned to five by Saturday when the candidates appeared before the delegates in debate. Finalists included Doug Ohmen of California, Rick Tompkins of Arizona, Irwin Schiff of Nevada, George Collins of South Carolina and the perennial NOTA (None Of The Above).

Jorgensen was unopposed for the vice-presidential slot. An attempt by unknown supporters to draft Richard Boddie was quickly put down by the two-time California candidate for U.S. Senate.

Dasbach re-elected to 2nd term

Despite a strong bid by relative newcomer Gene A. Cisewski, Steve Dasbach was elected on the first ballot to his second term as National Chair of the Libertarian Party.

Cisewski is chair of the LP of Washington, D.C. and president of The Monticello Group, a fund-raising and campaign management firm based in the Nation's capital. Dasbach, an activist with the LP of Indiana and a school teacher, was elected to the top LP post at the 1993 convention in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Speaking at the candidates' forum during the Sunday breakfast, Dasbach cited the advances in growth of membership and fund-raising, in the professionalism of staff and in the materials and programs that have been developed. "Membership has gone from about 11,000 in 1993 to nearly 16,000 today. Fund-raising has increased from less than \$750,000 to slightly over \$1 million in the same period," he said.

He went on to say that "we need to concentrate on what we are doing, to focus on becoming larger. With a larger base, more members, we will continue to grow."

Cisewski acknowledged the advances the Party has made in the past three years, but pointed out the need to "step up the pace of building affiliate organizations, to build up the grassroots organization. This will not only build the party, it will have an additional effect of creating a pool of talent to help in campaigns."

He also proposed establishing a calendar of events to pace fund raising efforts of the national party and the state affiliates. In addition, he called for setting a higher level of integrity at the national level.

After the results of the election were announced, Cisewski asked that the record show Dasbach to be re-elected by unanimous acclamation.



Steve Dasbach (left) shown with David Bergland

Few changes on National Committee

All but one of the four National officers were re-elected or elected without opposition. Steve Dasbach faced stiff competition before being re-elected as Chair. Karen Allard of Washington, and Hugh Butler of Utah, were unopposed in keeping their seats as vice chair and treasurer, respectively. Secretary John Famularo of Pennsylvania chose not to run for re-election. He was succeeded by Gary Johnson of Texas, the sole nominee for that position. Johnson had been serving on the National Committee as a Member-at-Large.

Six candidates, in addition to NOTA, were nominated for the five positions as Members-At-Large. Listed in the order of votes received were Ron Crickenberger of Georgia, Bill Hall of Michigan, Steve Winter of New Hampshire, Steven Givot of Illinois, and Sharon Ayres of California. Gary Fincher of Wisconsin was the sixth candidate. Write-in votes were cast for Gene A. Cisewski of Washington, D.C., who had run earlier against Dasbach for National Chair, Caleb Brown of California and Natalie Lloyd of Ohio.

All but Ayres and Crickenberger are new to the NatCom.

In photo at right,

LPC chair Gail Lightfoot takes the microphone to announce a vote of the delegation during the 1996 LP National Convention. She is framed against the California Bear Flag and the newly adopted Lady Liberty flag designed by Shasta Region chair Allan Swain.

Earlier in the convention, Lightfoot presented in behalf of California a Lady Liberty flag to the National Party, which was accepted by national chair Steve Dasbach.

State affiliates reorganized regionally

Traditionally, the state affiliates have been represented on the National Committee (NatCom) by nine regional representatives in eight regions. The regions were organized primarily on the basis of the number of national members. In the past, some of these regions have been quite spread out, which sometimes resulted in a communications breakdown with their representatives.

Because of its large proportion of membership (generally 17 percent), California has always had its own representative and alternate on the NatCom. By reason of geography, this state was combined with Hawaii, which resulted in the two-state region having two representatives and alternates. For practical reasons, all of these representatives generally were Californians.

In an effort to achieve population and geographical equity among the various regions, the Council of State Chairs ap-

pointed Daniel Karlin of New Jersey to come to the convention session of the Council with proposed changes.

Karlin presented three different plans to the state officers at the meeting of the Council during the national convention. After considerable discussion, it was decided that California would be part of the Pacific Rim region. In addition to California and Hawaii, the region now consists of Oregon, Washington and Alaska.

At the LPC state convention in February, Joseph W. Dehn III of Reg. 43 had been elected NatCom Regional Representative, and Terry Savage, also of Reg. 43, as Alternate Regional Rep. During a caucus of the newly-formed Pacific Rim Region in the closing days of the national convention, Paul Smith of Oregon was elected as the second Regional Representative, and Scott Lieberman of Reg. 43, Alternate.



Local Libertarians win recall

On June 11, 1996, voters overwhelmingly recalled four board members of the Ortega Trail Recreation and Park District (OTRPD), located in southwest Riverside County.

Local Libertarians Gene and Shannon Trosper have been intimately involved in the recall movement since July of last year when OTRPD board members raised assessments as much as 104%.

"We started out by distributing letters of protest to prop-

erty owners, hoping that a sizeable showing would dissuade the board from following through with their assessment increase," Shannon Trosper said. "When four of the five board members chose to ignore over 3,000 legitimate protest letters, we knew that recall was our best and only hope."

Gene Trosper added: "I attended meetings of a local anti-tax group and kept pushing the idea of a recall election. The
See Recall - p. 7

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Topics will cover a variety of subjects.

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Contact: Dave Fortin

Phone: 619/247-8884

Current as of July 1996

Recall — from p. 6

organization's hierarchy nixed the idea, saying that it was too 'radical' and would bring bad press upon the group! Immediately, Shannon and I began to meet with other 'radicals' who also favored recall and managed to help get the ball rolling."

After months of organizing, signature gathering and campaigning, the result was four board members being ousted by OVER 75.5% of those voting!

Even more exciting to Gene is the gradual "libertarianization" that has taken place with many of the recall supporters. "We have had a clear and positive

influence over those who were involved in the recall campaign. Some candidates on the pro-recall slate went from mere economic conservatism to outright economic libertarianism! Having a candidate state publicly that the OTRPD is engaged in 'the theft of our money, property and rights' is a sweet victory that cannot be measured."

He also points out happily that two of the candidates who replaced recalled board members are "very good" prospects for becoming Libertarian converts in the near future.



Libertarian Party of California
655 Lewelling Blvd. #362
San Leandro CA 94579

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#1 Taxes Are Too High - Every time you turn around there is another tax; income, state, sales, property, vehicle, inheritance, etc. - and what do you get for all the taxes you pay?

#2 There Are Too Many Laws. Everything is being regulated, right down to the truly ridiculous. Do we really need regulations on movie theater popcorn or breast feeding in public?

#3 Government Is Getting Too Powerful. You want to stand up for the

Bill Of Rights. People are losing their homes, cars and bank accounts without ever being charged with a crime.

#4 You Can't Find A Job. Businesses are leaving California because of all the taxes and regulations. And it's just too hot to move to Arizona.

#5 You Want To Keep The American Tradition Of Liberty Alive - and you don't give up easily. You realize that working with like-minded freedom lovers is the best way of restoring our liberties.



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- *Renewal dues are waived for members who meet pledge of \$10 or more per month for one year
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I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

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Attention: Regional Officers

Illustrated above is a double post card mailer that can be used by Regions in prospecting for new members. You can easily send this form to specific groups or neighborhoods in your area.

Since it can be sent at the post card price, it is a low-cost prospecting piece. Send your order now to LPC Chair, P. O. Box 598, Pismo Beach, CA 93448. Cost: \$0.06 each.

Radio host joins LP on the air at convention

On Friday, July 5, during the 1996 LP National Convention in Washington, D.C., Zohara (Zoh) Hieronimus, a Baltimore, Maryland, radio talk show host, joined the Libertarian Party during her broadcast. She is sometimes called "The Thorn" for her views on abuses of power. At the time, she was interviewing LP presidential candidate Harry Browne.

In announcing her membership, the dark-haired, slight, energetic Hieronimus said she was "elated to have found a political

home." She then went on to say:

"Now, before the broadcast ends, I want to take this moment to officially declare myself, a citizen of Maryland, who because of my concern for our nation's solidarity, our national security, our fiscal and physical health, because of my love for our nationally God-assigned destiny as a people obligated to one another under God, to the individual with liberty and justice for all — today, July 5, 1996, I, Zoh Meyerhof Hieronimus,

do officially declare myself a voting member of the Libertarian Party of America. I hope that many of you will realize as I have that this is the third party, that this is an important and tangible way for us to reclaim our republic and the divine laws both inherent in our souls as individuals and in our local communities as citizens of a constitutional republic, so help us God."