

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 2 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1981 EDITOR: PATRICIA A. ARTZ, STAFF: JEAN HOCKMAN

LP/10: Alicia Clark Elected, Campaign Controls Rejected

The 1981 National Libertarian Party Convention was held in Denver from Aug. 25 - 30. It was a gala affair complete with delegations from all 50 states, breakfasts with Ed Clark, David Nolan, David Friedman and Dick Randolph, evenings with Murray Rothbard, Joseph Sugarman, Karl Hess and Robert Anton Wilson, hospitality suites for the Center for Libertarian Studies, Students for a Libertarian Society, the Radical Caucu, a new very subtle coalition: the Libertine Caucus/Drug Caucus, along with suites for the National Chair candidates.

In addition there was the 10th Anniversary Banquet to celebrate the LPs ten years in existence, a celebration to honor the "Heroes of the Revolution" (those who helped on the Clark Campaign), and the "Committee of 500" (supporters who gave \$100 each to help retire the Clark Campaign debt. And, of oourse, the Convention wouldn't have been complete without Rick Hafer's singing.

NEW OFFICERS

Alicia Clark, wife of the 1980 Presidential candidate, Ed Clark, was elected National Chair after three ballots in a close three-way race with Kent Guida and John Mason. Guida was dropped from the race after the second ballot and the race was between Clark and Mason. Alicia's

announced program entails gathering support from both the Guida and Mason camps in targeting grass roots organizing and internal education as primary objectives.

Sheldon Richman, a solid libertarian ideologue, was elected Vice Chairman in a four way race among him, Craig Franklin, Dallas Cooley and Scott Olmsted.

Vivian Baures of Oregon was elected Treasurer and Frances Eddy as Secretary, both running unopposed. The seven At-Large National Committee members are Dick Randolph, Andrea Rich, Mary Louise Hansen, Chris Hocker, Michael Emerling Kent Guida and Murray Rothbard.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS CHANGES

The National Constitution and By-Laws were changed in the following manner: The LP can no longer borrow over \$10,000.00 without a 2/3 vote of the National Committee. Regional Representatives on the National Committee may now have alternates. Cumulative voting for elections of officers will no longer be allowed. The Presidential Nominating Convention was left in 1983 rather than moving it to 1984. A motion to eliminate National Committee at-large members failed. All proposals to change the campaign accountability segment of

the Constitution were voted down. Proposed changes to increase the number of delegates at National Convention were also voted down.

PLATFORM CHANGES

The Convention revised and expanded numerous platform plands: Applauded the growth of private adjudication of disputes by mutually acceptable judges, condemned FCC regulation of political coverage, called for return of lands taken from Japanese/Americans during World WarII, opposed adding women to the draft pool, called for a constitutional amendment to balance national and state budgets, passed a new plank on agriculture, called for a global triumph of liberty by supporting both political and revolutionary actions against governments that violate rights, called for repeal of all laws regulating pornography, opposed forced fury duty, advocated allowing juries the common law power to judge law as well as fact, opposed any US government protection of US citizens and businesses located outside the US, called for an end to the issuance of passports, called for open international borders, opposed the incorporation of the Persian Gulf in the US defense perimeter, opposed government restrictions on the use of outer space, applauded the trend toward private protections services and voluntary crime control, supported the right of women to terminate pregnancy. A plank to oppose the use of the subpoena power to force individuals to testify in court was defeated. An attempt from the floor to weaken the children's rights plank was defeated.

WASHINGTON'S DELEGATION

Although Washington did not have a full delegation at the convention (few states did), we were well represented by those who did attend, filling 11 of our 14 seats. The delegates attending who were elected at our State Convention were Rick Hafer, David Brazier, Bill McCord and Skip Barron. These delegates then voted to seat our other state members who also attended: Rod Colver, Tom Foley, Ernie Tanner, Emma Leyba, Mike Dunn, Karen Engels, and Chip Barron. Rod Colver was elected Delegation Chair.

In voting for National Chair our delegation was solidly behind John Mason with votes of 7 for Mason and 1 for Guida on each of the first two ballots and 8 for Mason on the final ballot after Guida was defeated.

WASHINGTON/OREGON REGIONAL

Craig Armstrong of Portland was elected our Regional Representative on the National Committee with <u>Dave Brazier</u> of Seattle as alternate. Craig promised to attend (or have Dave attend) all National Committee meetings, attend a Washington and Oregon State Central Committee meeting once each quarter and report to us on the National agenda and votes.

NEW REGIONAL LP'S FORM

Two new County Regional LP's have been fo formed. The Whatcom County LP based in Bellingham was charted at the August State Central Committee meeting. Contact Bill McCord at Box 4144 Fairhaven Station, Bellingham, 98227, 734-1904; or Tom Spanos at 4611 College Stl, Bellingham, 98225, 676-9999 for further information. Also chartered was the Chelan/Douglas County LP based in Wenatchee. Contact Jim Hills at 2333 Grant Rd., East Wenatchee, 98801, 884-3804 for meetings and activities.

From the Chair, cont.
middle-of-the-road party and will be outvoted by the likes of Berry Commoner.

I can only reiterate what others have stated: Should the party's direction not remain principled, the hard core activists will quit in droves (some already have). I am convinced that the party can build a solid libertarian cadre, educate its members and at the same time elect candidates through radical, principled campaigns. It is these principles that attracted the hard core activists and it is these principles that will continue to attract new activists. There is no need to hid our fine principles from the public.

We wish Alicia Clark well and hope she can accomplish the grass roots organizing and education she promised in her campaign.

Notes From the Chair

At the 1979 National LP Convention in Los Angeles, I noticed a large number of delegates who were new to libertarianism and who did not really understand our basic principles and how they applied to specific issues. At the 1981 Convention in Denver this August, the segment of new people came to a near majority, sometimes creating a circus atmosphere and defeating numerous need Constitution and Platform changes.

The delegates defeated all changes needed to legally separate the LP from the other parties. If our party does not set out ideological membership and campaign controls, the courts will open up our membership and campaigns to anyone regardless of whether they really are libertarians or whether they have party backing. These legal requirements were defeated even though they had almost unanimous backing of the Constitution Committee including Bill Evers and Ed Clark.

We were confronted by Guida supporters who stated that since the Republicans and Democrats don't control their candidates we shouldn't control ours.(!) I can see it now, "Libertarian calls for increased taxes to balance the budget."

In addition, simple libertarian concepts, such as not forcing people to be subpoenaed by the courts, were defeated by these new people who did not understand that initiating force against innocent people is wrong - the ends never justify the means! Luckily an attempt to gut the Children's Rights plank was not allowed to come to the floor.

These problems were compounded by extreme delaying parliamentary tactics. Even when something obviously was passed or defeated overwhelmingly, there were continual calls for division, recounts, standing counts, standing countoffs, roll call votes, appeals to the chair and appeals of the chair's rulings, all of which meant that the convention never got to the important platform changes, such as repudiation of government debt and nuclear

disarmament, (two platform changes I'm not at all certain our Democrats/Republican turned Libertarians would have voted for). Many delegates had to leave before the elections of Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, At-large Nat Com members and Regional Reps.

OBVIOUSLY WHAT IS NEEDED IS MAJOR INTERNAL EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS. These must come from both the National and local levels.

Future Conventions

1) Instead of simply trying to fill it's alloted delegate seats, each state LP should screen its members and only fill its seats

Future Conventions need the following:

with people who have a very solid understanding of libertarianism. Others should be able to attend, especially to view all the lectures and seminars, but not to vote.

- 2) The Constitution and Platform Committees should meet several months before the Convention, should keep their proposed changes limited to what can be accomplished at Convention and should send their reports to the delegates at least a month before the Convention, with explanations of the changes. Hopefully, these committees will again bring up the needed legal and other changes to make the LP a separate ideological party.
- 3) The Convention should allow more time for consideration of fewer major issues and the elections of officers.

Grass Roots Organizing

It is apparent that a near majority of LP state parties are only paper organizations. Party membership in 20 states is less than 50 and in 13 states is less than 30. We are not a national party. We in Washington with about 200 members thought we were small and in trouble! National should provide roving, paid organizers who stay in a state for two to four months getting true parties set up. Without grass roots organizing and massive internal education the LP will soon - very soon - be turned into another mushy,

REASON & LIBERTY MAILING TO OVER 1800 A COOPERATIVE EFFORT

Out thanks to Rick Hafer, Aussie Hatch, Tom Foley, Kenneth Priestley, George Wigginton and Myrna Solberg for their very effecient assembly line work. Handling over 3700 pieces of paper through ten separate steps in just under four hours is no small accomplishment.

A special thanks to Jean Hockman from Pierce County who typed the entire issue except for the typeset headings and then the typesetter misspelled her name.

THIS ISSUE OF REASON & LIBERTY IS BEING MAILED TO MEMBERS, SUBSCRIBERS, V.I.P. 'S AND LAST YEARS MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT YET RENEWED.

If "EXP" is on your mailing label, your membership in the LPWS has expired. If you wish to renew your membership and receive this newsletter and the National newsletter please fill out the enclosed membership form.

Editor's Note

We are still experimenting with style and format. Your comments are welcome.

Because this newsletter has turned out to be pretty much a one person operation, we ask that you submit all material in typed copy and in a two column format such as this issue.

We need a typist who lives or works around the Kent area.

Because your Editor will be out of the area most of the time between Nov. 18 and the first of the year, we would welcome someone to edit and publish the next issue of R & L which is scheduled to be mailed in early December.

Advertising Rates

YOUR BUSINESS CARD PUBLISHED IN REASON & LIBERTY, \$5 PER ISSUE OR \$25 FOR SIX ISSUES. INSERT RATES ON REQUEST.

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CALL RICK HAFER FOR MORE INFO: 623-2448 Evenings and Weekends

ALL AGES WELCOME!

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356-5133 (w) (SNOHOMISH COUNTY)

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Pat Artz, 1258 Weiland St., #12-B; Kent, WA 98031, 206-852-0585 (NEWSLETTER EDITOR)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

1		
	(NAME)	
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county	(TELEPHONE)	telephone

want to join the Libertarian Party. I enclose \$20.00 for membership. Includes subscriptions to "Libertarian News" (The National Newsletter) and "Reason & Liberty" (The State Newsletter).

"I believe all individuals have the right to live their lives in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others. I do not advocate nor will I practice the initiation of force or fraud."

"SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP" (date)

Your \$20 membership fee is broken down as follows:

- \$8 National Libertarian Party dues with 1 year subscription to Libertarian News
- \$4 Washington State L.P.
- \$4 Appropriate regional organization (i.e. King, Pierce)
- \$4 Reason & Liberty

I pledge a monthly (quarterly) contribution to the L.P.W.S. in the amount of \$_______ Please bill me.

Signed_____

MAIL TO: BOX 1 - 507 Third Avenue SEATTLE, WA 98104

What's Happening

LIBERTARIAN STUDY GROUP - 7-9 p.m. <u>TUESDAYS</u> beginning October 20, 27, Thur. Nov. 5, Tue Nov. 17,24 & Dec. 1 & 15. Meets Greenwood Branch Library. Rick Hafer, Leader.

FRIDAYS - Beginning October, 13 sessions of NATHANIEL BRANDEN ON ROMANTIC LOVE TAPES. FREE courtesy of WINSTON MARTIN, 632 4782, Apt. 106, 4417 Evanston Ave. No.-Seattle

4th SUNDAYS SNOHOMISH COUNTY LP BUSINESS & SOCIAL MEETINGS. Next Meeting OCTOBER 25 - Bus. Meeting 4pm, Break for refreshments at 5pm, Program at 6pm. The CARAVAN Restaurant - Silverlake Shopping Center, Bothell Highway Southeast, Everett. Call Kermit Jones for more info.

2nd TUESDAY - KING COUNTY DINNER MEETING AND PROGRAM - Next Meeting NOVEMBER 10, ABIGAILS, 6 pm Dinner, 7 pm business, 7:30(?) MOVIE "THE OPERATION OF THE FREE MARKET IN HONGKONG". You are welcome for Coffee & Dessert only. Call Rick Hafer - 623-2448.

3rd SATURDAYS: STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS, 1 pm to ?? followed by social hr. NOVEMBER 21, meeting in Mount Vernon at Dean Brittains', 1504 Sunset Lane. Call Dean at (206)336-5090. All party members and interested persons are welcome.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY PARTY BOOTH AT MONROE FAIR A GREAT SUCCESS REPORTS ATTENDEES

Early returns show a dollar loss due to the high cost of the booth but the great reception by fair-goers and the gratifying number of interested persons who signed up made it all worthwhile for Kermit Jones and Brenda Haworth who spearheaded the effort.

The Snohomish County Party would like to pay special thanks to the following persons: Theresa Howard, Don Otis, Mrs Ed Chalfant, Carol Menges, Charlee Hodson, Doug Bright, Megan Jones, Freda Zimmerman, Jean Moyer, Helen Wilson, Helen Schoenfeld, Chris Hanson, Rod Colver and Skip Barron.

Report on the results of the tests will follow in the next issue of R&L.

EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM THE COERCIVE ACTS OF OTHERS.

Geo. A. Chapman

REASON AND LIBERTY

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