

## Washington man nabbed in LP death threat case

### Suspect faces felony harassment charges

A homeless man has been arrested and is undergoing a mental health evaluation after phoning the Washington state LP and making a series of obscene and gruesome death threats.

On February 22, Richard Mote, 43, was picked up by the Thurston County Sheriff's department and charged with felony harassment for making 14 threatening phone calls to the Washington LP's toll-free number.

In the phone calls, Mote allegedly threatened to "tear some of you people up," and hinted that he might send letter bombs to LP members or plant car bombs.

After an arraignment hearing on March 7, Mote was sent for a 15-day mental health evaluation. He was also placed on \$20,000 bail, and ordered to have no further contact with Libertarian Party members.

#### Very worried

"I was very relieved [when Mote was arrested]," said Washington LP Executive Director Jacqueline Passey Bartels, who had received the threatening calls. "I was very worried for my safety and for the safety of our members."

[LP News went to press before the results of the mental health evaluation were released.]

The calls, which were left on the party's answering machine, had started on February 18, said Bartels — and the violent, obscenity-laced, frequently unintelligible threats immediately concerned her.

"At first I didn't know where the calls were coming from, and I realized how easy it would be for someone to track down my home

See **DEATH THREATS** Page 2



Photo by Bill Winter

### Hello, Libertarians!

■ World Wrestling Federation star Val Venis (center) — real name, Sean Morley — poses with LP National Director Steve Dasbach (left) and Political Director Ron Crickenberger at the party's headquarters on March 6.

Morley, who was in Washington to perform at two sold-out shows at the MCI Center, has said he would like to help promote the Canadian Libertarian Party after he retires from the WWF. "I'd love to be a spokesman and try to get them built to where it can be something of a force," said the 6'3", 240-pound Ontario resident.

"Don't believe the stereotype about wrestlers," said Dasbach. "Sean was a real gentleman. He has a serious interest in politics, and an ability to explain our ideas in a passionate way that ordinary people can embrace."

At the meeting, Dasbach said they discussed ways to work with Morley to publicize the LP to the WWF's core demographics: Young people in the 12-34 age range.

## Medical marijuana charges dropped against Steve Kubby

In an upbeat ending to a two-year legal battle, all medical marijuana charges against former LP gubernatorial candidate Steve Kubby have been dismissed, and two remaining drug charges reduced to misdemeanors.

On March 2, a Placer County, California judge imposed a small fine on Kubby and sentenced him to 120 days of alternative sentencing — probably house arrest — for possession of "minute" quantities of psilocybin [mushroom] and mescaline [peyote].

The judge also ruled that Kubby could continue to use medical marijuana as allowed under the state's Compassionate Use Act of 1996.

#### Hung jury

The sentencing came three months after a hung jury — which was leaning 11-1 for acquittal — refused to convict Kubby and his wife Michele on marijuana charges.

During the trial, the Kubbys had argued they were legitimate medical marijuana patients who took the drug under doctor's orders, and were protected by



■ Steve Kubby: "We've always said we would prove our innocence" on medical marijuana charges.

Proposition 215, the state law that legalized medical marijuana.

"We've always said we would prove our innocence and expose the prosecutors and police," said Kubby, 54, after the sentencing hearing. "Now, [because of this ruling], that's just the way the media and public see it."

"The efforts of prosecutors to destroy us have only driven

See **KUBBY** Page 16

### SPECIAL FEATURE

## The little Browne booklet

By Harry Browne

2000 LP PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

■ **Editor's note:** During his 1996 and 2000 campaigns for president, Harry Browne created a booklet of "soundbites" that he used to prep for interviews, debates, and speeches — easy-to-remember and easy-to-use phrases, one-liners, and arguments about almost every political issue.

Browne's ability to craft a crisp, persuasive argument led the Washington Post's David Broder

to call him "articulate and quick-witted." And Llewellyn Rockwell, Jr. saluted Browne's "extremely practical ideas."

Here are some highlights from that "Little Browne Booklet" — featuring the wit and wisdom of Harry Browne from A to Z.

**ABORTION:** Given the government's record with the War on Poverty and the War on Drugs, we can assume that a War on Abortion would lead within five years to

men having abortions.

■ **ANARCHY:** Some people say that Libertarians want anarchy. But anarchy is what we have now. Our cities aren't safe, our schools are centers of violence, the politicians have turned the rule of law into a chaotic web of millions of regulations. Libertarians want to restore order by removing, wherever possible, the destabilizing influence of government.

■ **ANTITRUST LAWS:** The standard argument for anti-trust

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## NewsBriefs

### LFS sponsors convention in May

The Libertarian Futurist Society will sponsor LFSSCon, its first national conference, at the Hyatt Regency Columbus & Columbus Convention Center (Ohio), May 25-27, 2001.

"This [is a] once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore the future of freedom and the potential of libertarian science fiction to shape a more rational, diverse, tolerant, and optimistic vision of what is possible to humankind in the coming centuries," said Michael Grossberg, LFS president.

LFSSCon will showcase libertarian science fiction writers, including Poul Anderson (author, *Trader to the Stars*), James Hogan (*Voyage From Yesteryear*), Brad Linaweaver (*Moon of Ice*), L. Neil Smith (*The Probability Broach*), Vernor Vinge (*Marooned in Realtime*), and F. Paul Wilson (*Healer*).

The event will also feature the 2001 Prometheus Hall of Fame awards ceremony, an LFS introductory party, autograph sessions, and a dealer's room.

LFSSCon will be held in conjunction with the 36th annual Marcon, Ohio's oldest and largest sf/fantasy convention.

Founded in 1981, the LFS is an all-volunteer, non-profit group of "individualists, iconoclasts, libertarians and freedom-lovers who believe that culture is just as important as politics in promoting progress and positive social change," said Grossberg.

For more information, call: (614) 236-5040. Visit: [www.LFS.org](http://www.LFS.org). E-mail: [mikegrossb@aol.com](mailto:mikegrossb@aol.com). Or write: LFS, 89 Gebhardt Road, Penfield, NY 14526.

### Drew Carey: A Libertarian voter

Well, now we know where one of Harry Browne's 382,892 votes came from last November: From comedian and TV star Drew Carey.

In the January 20 *Washington Post*, Carey said he had voted for Browne for president, and added, "I can't wait for a Libertarian to become president."

Carey, 42, had been in Washington, DC to emcee the Ohio Inaugural Ball, after being invited by George W. Bush's inaugural staff — apparently at the personal request of the president himself.

"Dubya asked for me by name," he recounted. "I told them I didn't vote for him, but they still said OK."

Although not a Libertarian Party member, Carey has long been linked to the libertarian movement: He is a financial supporter of the Reason Foundation, and has engaged in well-publicized civil disobedience against California's anti-smoking laws.

Known for his blue-collar humor, military-style buzz cut, and black wide-rim glasses, Carey has been described by entertainment writers as a "charming everyshlub."

In addition to starring in ABC Television's hit shows, *The Drew Carey Show* and *Who's Line Is It Anyway*, Carey has also performed as a stand-up comedian, on HBO specials, and in a 2001 pay-per-view special. His 1997 debut book, *Dirty Jokes and Beer: Stories of the Unrefined*, spent three months on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

### Website will rate professionals

Connecticut Libertarian has created a website to put the power of the free market to work to help people find good doctors, lawyers, and accountants.

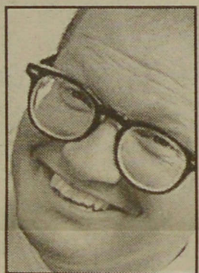
The site — [ProfessionalRating.com](http://ProfessionalRating.com) — was created by LP member Walt Thiessen of Simsbury, Connecticut, and is designed to "collect data from thousands of people" on the Web so others can find out who "the best professionals are."

"The concept is simple: We libertarians believe in private alternatives to public problems," said Thiessen. "Among other issues, this applies to health care issues too. We advocate letting free market pressures control such things as quality of care from doctors. Yet, because of the government-influenced monopoly of the AMA, there is no really good way for people to evaluate who the good doctors are out there."

"Similarly, there's no good way to identify who the good lawyers, or accountants, or plumbers, or anyone else is out there, except by word of mouth. [ProfessionalRating.com](http://ProfessionalRating.com) is a proposed attempt to combat this limitation of the current marketplace."

The website will allow people to share information about the cost, performance, and reliability of professionals, he said.

With the site still under development, Thiessen said he is looking for "recommendations from libertarians" about how to improve it. To contact Thiessen, e-mail: [walter@connweb.com](mailto:walter@connweb.com).



■ Drew Carey: Browne voter.

# WA man arrested for death threats

Continued from Page 1

address if they wanted it," she said. "Later when I found out the calls were coming from Olympia (our state capitol), I was less worried for my personal safety but became very worried for our members in that area and the very visible Libertarians who had been testifying to the legislature recently."

In the calls, Mote allegedly said:

■ "I'm at war with you people. You understand me, stupid?"

■ "I want some of you Libertarian Party people to die in vengeance. You understand that? I want some of you people dead. I'm not playing games. I'm going to kick some Libertarian Party ass."

■ "You people picked the fight of your life! I'm gonna tear some of you people up, b-tch! You understand me, you ignorant b-tch! By the time I'm done with some of you Libertarian Party a--holes, you are gonna regret what you've done."

■ "How would you like to get a letter bomb in the mail? Do you understand me, you Nazi fascist pig?"

■ "You people are the Nazi Party as far as I'm concerned, you got that? You're just a front group

**J.P. BARTELS:**  
"Be careful if you are a Libertarian in the Olympia-Seattle area."

for the KKK and the Nazi Party as far as I'm concerned, make no mistake about that. I hate you people. Got it? I don't get mad, I get even. Maybe somebody should put a bomb in the back of your car."

After getting the phone calls, Bartels sent an e-mail message to Libertarians in Washington state, warning them to "be careful, especially if you are a Libertarian living in the Olympia-Seattle area. This guy may just be a kook, but until we know how dangerous or serious he is, we have to take him seriously."

The police were able to find Mote thanks in part to caller ID, which allowed them to trace the calls to pay phones in Olympia.

Several Libertarians who got

Bartels' warning e-mail also recognized some of the names mentioned in Mote's messages, and were able to furnish additional clues to his location and identity.

"I'd like to thank everyone for the 200-plus e-mails and dozen or more phone calls I got with information, ideas, and support," said Bartels. "Some of [the] leads led to them catching this guy. Way to go, team!"

Mote, who was living in a homeless shelter in Olympia, was arrested without incident.

### Mental illness

Bartels said she is still not sure why the suspect seemed so full of rage at the Libertarian Party, or whether his phone calls were the result of mental illness or political hostility.

"Two women who used to rent him a room told me he was obsessed with Communist Party politics," she said. "He seemed to have some major confusion about what the Libertarian Party stands for."

Depending on the outcome of the mental health evaluation, Mote could face three counts of felony harassment and two counts of gross misdemeanor harassment.

# Pennsylvania to host activists' convention

The Pennsylvania LP has scheduled a "nuts-and-bolts" activists' convention for April 21, designed to teach Libertarians how to get elected to local office.

The day-long event, dubbed "2001: A Local Libertarian Odyssey," will be held at the Inquirer Building near Valley Forge, at the intersection of PA 320 and PA 23 (just off the junction of I-76 and I-476).

"We have a golden quadrennial opportunity in 2001 to elect hundreds of Libertarians to partisan office here in Pennsylvania," said convention organizer Ken Krawchuk. "The key to that victory is to put the knowledge of how to win these offices into the hands of the local activists."

### Uncontested

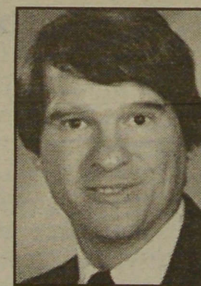
With 20,000 local offices up for grabs in Pennsylvania this year, Libertarians have a realistic chance to elect significant numbers of Inspectors of Elections or Judges of Elections, he said. Many of those local offices are uncontested, and can be won with a single write-in vote.

"We Libertarians here in Pennsylvania have the very real possibility of doubling or even tripling the number of elected Libertarians nationwide this year," said Krawchuk, who was the 1998 Libertarian candidate for governor in Pennsylvania and a contender for the LP's 2000 vice presidential nomination.

"In thousands of precincts, the old parties fail to field any Inspectors or Judges of Elections candidates. That's a guaranteed victory."

Workshops planned for the Convention include:

■ A panel discussion with current Libertarian Inspectors and Judges of Elections on what



■ Krawchuk: Nuts-and-bolts.

the job entails, with questions from the audience.

■ A "train the trainers" presentation about how to locate candidates, identifying the opposition, finding uncontested races, petitioning, and winning.

■ A detailed review of Pennsylvania's campaign finance reporting laws. Who has to file? What must be filed? How do you fill out the reports?

Convention admission is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

For more information, call: (215) 881-9696. Or e-mail: [KenKrawchuk@enter.net](mailto:KenKrawchuk@enter.net).



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# Anti-capitalism 'hate crime' bill filed in Oregon

*Bill demonstrates "everything that is wrong with the concept of hate crimes"*

**T**he Oregon state senator who joined the Libertarian Party in January has filed a bill to make criminal acts motivated by a dislike of capitalism an official hate crime — an action he says is intended to poke fun at the "political correctness" of hate crime laws in general.

On February 9, State Senator Gary George publicly unveiled SB 707, which would extend hate crime protection laws to include offenses motivated by a hatred of people who "support capitalism" or advocate a "balance with nature."

The bill would add an additional five years in prison to crimes such as smashing a Starbucks window to show opposition to corporations, or eco-terrorism like sabotaging a timber company or burning down a new housing development

## News of the Weird

SB 707 generated immediate media attention, including a story by the Associated Press, coverage in Canada, and even a mention in the online version of "News of the Weird."

Such coverage is welcome, said George, since the intent of the bill was to generate discussion about the whole concept of hate crimes.

"Even the Scriptures tell you

not to judge a person's thoughts, but their actions," he said. "That's what's always bothered me about [hate crime laws] — it seems to be the ultimate in political correctness."

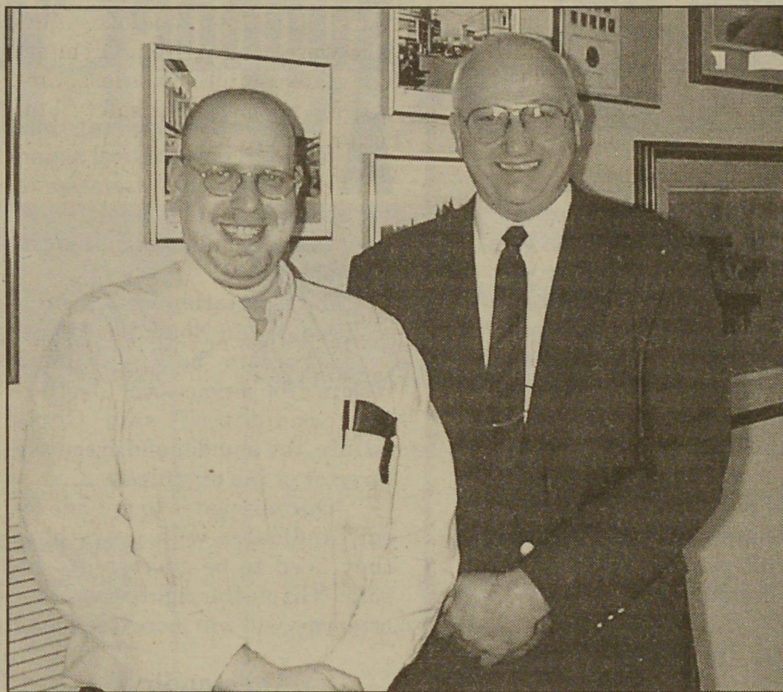
The bill is a good example of how to "illustrate a point to millions of people without a lot of money," said Richard Burke, a past Oregon LP State Chair and currently George's legislative assistant.

"Senator George hopes to use the bill to demonstrate everything that is wrong with the concept of hate crimes," he said. "He also wants to point out that eco-terrorism has become a serious problem in our society."

Senator George, like most Libertarians, believes "you should be punished for the harm you cause, and you shouldn't be punished extra because you don't like someone's racial background," said Burke. "We shouldn't put people in jail for being bigots."

SB 707 should get a hearing in March or early April before the General Government and Transportation Committee, a committee on which Senator George sits, said Burke — but probably will not go to the whole state senate for a vote.

"It is not Senator George's intention to pass the bill out of committee, since he opposes hate



**Oregon State Senator Gary George (right) — shown here shortly after he joined the Libertarian Party, posing with LP State Chair Adam Mayer — said hate crime laws are the "ultimate in political correctness."**

crime laws," he said.

The bill did generate immediate criticism from hate-crime supporters, who said it was appropriate to legislate against crimes based on racism, homophobia, or anti-semitism, but not against political beliefs.

## Stated concerns

"Those who support the concept of hate crimes have stated concerns about SB 707 in the press, fearing that our bill would 'cloud the issue,'" said Burke.

"Translation: It will stop [their] hate crime bills from passing."

At least two other hate crime bills are currently before the Oregon legislature, including one that would increase criminal penalties for terrorism-inspired crimes.

Senator George said he wasn't surprised at the hostile reaction SB 707 generated.

"I'm probably going to get a lot of hate speech about this," he said.

The idea for the bill came

from Oregon LP Vice Chair Eric Winters. He took the idea to Burke, who forwarded it to the state senator.

Senator George joined the Libertarian Party in January, while keeping his Republican Party registration and affiliation in the state senate. He joined the LP after deciding that it is a "viable platform from which to advance liberty," said Burke.

George's decision to become a card-carrying Libertarian made some Republicans "mildly uneasy," acknowledged Burke.

## Mildly uneasy

"Senator George has long been known to have Libertarian tendencies, so those who know of his new association are not really surprised," he said. "Other politicians, including Republicans, are mildly uneasy about it. Some were a little upset about the link to the Libertarian Party on his website."

However, as long as George "focuses on issues and does not overtly attack the GOP caucus as such, they'll look the other way. Because Senator George has retained his GOP registration and maintained a good working relationship with Republicans, he doesn't think there will be a problem."

George, 57, represents Senate District 2 in Oregon. A hazelnut farmer by trade, he was first elected to the state senate in 1996 and was re-elected in 2000. He will be term-limited out of office in 2004.

# MA press wonders: Carla for governor?

**C**arla Howell, fresh off her record-setting campaign for U.S. Senate last year, has generated a flurry of attention from Massachusetts media after hinting that she may run for governor in 2002.

Almost a dozen newspapers, radio stations, and TV outlets covered Howell's announcement at the Massachusetts LP state convention on February 24 that she was "considering" a bid for governor.

"[Getting] 308,860 votes running against Ted Kennedy on a bold Libertarian U.S. Senate platform — this woke up a lot of political pundits," said Howell about the media spotlight now directed



**■ Carla Howell, shown here at the Massachusetts LP state convention in Marlboro on February 24, announced that she might run for governor in 2002. Her campaign for U.S. Senate last year "woke up a lot of political pundits," she said.**

at her. "We've demonstrated that we [are] media-worthy."

In 2000, Howell won about 12% of the vote for U.S. Senate, finishing just a percentage point behind the Republican candidate.

While many journalists and political pundits largely ignored that U.S. Senate campaign, they seem to be making up for lost time now, she said.

Howell's speech to the

Marlboro convention was taped by the New England Cable News and Warner Brothers Channel 56, and also generated news stories in the *Boston Globe*, the *MetroWest Daily News*, the *New Bedford Standard Times*, the *Boston Herald*, and others.

The *Boston Globe*, New England's largest newspaper, wrote that her last campaign

See **CARLA HOWELL** Page 17

# Reams plans a unique race for Lt. Governor

**G**ary Reams doesn't want Virginians to vote for him for Lt. Governor this year — he wants them to vote *against* marijuana prohibition.

That's why the Libertarian candidate is running what he calls a "Reeferendum," a unique single-issue campaign that will allow voters to make a statement against the War on Drugs.

"My strategy is to turn the election for Lt. Governor into a referendum on pot prohibition," said Reams. "A vote for Reams is purely a vote to end pot prohibition."

## Tremendous impact

If his campaign garners a lot of votes in November, "we will be recognized by the public as the leader on this issue," he said.

"I don't have to win the election for this to have a tremendous impact on the drug laws — and on the future of the Libertarian Party of Virginia."

## GARY REAMS:

*"A vote for Reams for Lt. Governor is a vote to end pot prohibition."*

Reams, 45, who was nominated for the Lt. Governor's position at the Virginia LP convention in Richmond on March 10, will be on the ballot with LP gubernatorial candidate Bill Redpath, who will be focusing on election reforms such as proportional representation.

However, in his race, Reams said he will specifically target voters who have an interest in the drug issue.

See **GARY REAMS** Page 11



## NewsBriefs

### Prize offered for student essay

The Independent Institute is offering a \$2,500 top prize to the college student who can write the best essay explaining why the "new economy" requires a free economy.

The deadline for submissions for the 2001 Olive W. Garvey Fellowship Contest is May 1, 2001.

The contest, which has been conducted annually since 1974, has awarded prizes to outstanding college students around the world through a competitive essay contest on "the meaning and significance of economic and personal liberty."

This year's topic: "Does the new economy require a free economy?" The contest offers a first prize of \$2,500; a second prize of \$1,500; and a third prize of \$1,000.

Students are eligible if they are 35 years or younger and enrolled at a recognized college or university anywhere in the world. Essays must be no longer than 3,000 words.

For more information, including complete rules, a recommended reading list, and examples of past winning essays, visit: [www.independent.org/tii/lighthouse/LHLink2-38-1.html](http://www.independent.org/tii/lighthouse/LHLink2-38-1.html).

The Oakland, California-based Independent Institute is a non-partisan, public policy research organization.

### Russell Means speaks in New Mexico

Don't look now, but the campaign for the Libertarian Party's 2004 presidential nomination may have already begun.

Russell Means, who sought the party's presidential nomination in 1988 and says he may do so again in three years, spoke at a county LP meeting in New Mexico in February, and has several LP state conventions on his schedule over the next few months.

Means, an Indian rights activist, author, and actor, drew more than 150 people to the San Juan County Liberty Forum in Farmington, New Mexico on February 10.

The speech "drew a record crowd," said New Mexico LP State Chair Joseph Knight, with as many as 40 people turned away from the restaurant because of overcrowding.

"The event was well covered by local news media, and generated three separate favorable editorials," he said. For example, the headline in the *Farmington Daily Times* was: "Russell Means delivers message of freedom."

Hinting that he may be running for president, Means said, "One of the beautiful things about me being on the campaign trail is I've already committed my felony."

Means had been arrested for participating in a stand-off with federal officials at Pine Ridge Sioux Reservation in South Dakota in 1973. He was later acquitted of the charges.

In his speech, Means also complimented Libertarians, noting that with their focus on representative democracy and ending government intrusion, they "think like American Indians."

Means was a featured speaker at the Libertarian National Convention in 2000. He has appeared in the movies *Last of the Mohicans* and *Natural Born Killers*, and his autobiography, *Where White Men Fear to Tread*, was published in 1995.

### Outdoor smoking ban struck down

An outdoor smoking ban in a small Maryland town — which the Libertarian Party criticized as an exercise in "social engineering" — has been struck down by a judge.

On March 2, Montgomery County Circuit Judge Durke G. Thompson ruled that Friendship Heights did not have the "police power" to pass the law, which banned the use of tobacco products on public property like sidewalks, parks, and roads.

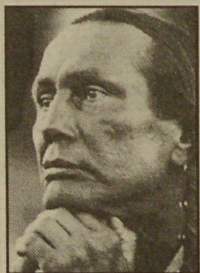
The judge also issued a preliminary injunction against the town, instructing it not to enforce the law.

The ruling came in the case of Rodriguez vs. Friendship Heights, which had been filed by the assistant director of the Cato Institute's Project on Global Economic Liberty, Jacobo Rodriguez, a nonsmoker who lives in the town.

The LP had attacked the ban on a December 21, 2000 press release, calling it "social engineering, plain and simple."

"It represents a small group of tobacco prohibitionists who don't like smoking," said LP National Director Steve Dasbach. "So, they use the coercive power of government to prohibit people from engaging in a habit of which they don't approve."

In a related story, Alfred Muller, the mayor of Friendship Heights who had enthusiastically supported the smoking ban as a way to "change the social norm," was arrested in January for allegedly molesting a 14-year-old boy in Washington, DC's National Cathedral.



■ Russell Means: Campaigning?

## New PAC formed in Nevada to support 'winnable' candidates

A Nevada Libertarian has formed a new political action committee that promises to "target, train, and support" local Libertarian candidates running in winnable races.

The Libertarian Victory Fund (LVF), based in North Las Vegas, is designed to "be the ultimate resource for serious local Libertarian candidates," said Chris Azzaro, the founder and executive director of the organization.

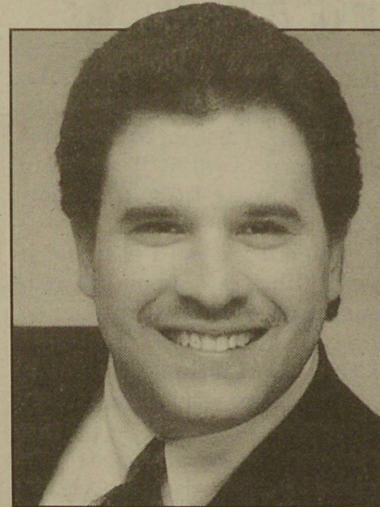
"Our mission is to provide local candidates with everything they need to be successful," he said. "Given the right tools, Libertarians will win more elections."

### Outstanding

Azzaro, who served as state director for the Nevada LP for the past two years, started the Libertarian Victory Fund in February 2001, inspired, he said, by the "outstanding results" of the James Dan campaign for State Assembly in Nevada.

Dan won 45.3% of the vote against a Democratic incumbent in a two-way partisan race in November. Azzaro was campaign manager.

"That race proved that when we run a professional campaign,



■ Chris Azzaro: Libertarian Victory Fund will "be the ultimate resource for serious local Libertarian candidates."

and effectively get our message out to the voters, Libertarians can win," he said. "There is no doubt that if we were to run those types of campaigns all over the country, we would be electing Libertarians all over the place."

The LVF has recruited a lineup of elected Libertarians for its Board of Advisers, said Azzaro, including Bonnie Flickinger (Mayor, Moreno Valley, CA), Bill Masters (Sheriff, San Miguel

County, Colorado), and Fred Collins (City Councilman, Berkley, Michigan).

The board will "share their considerable experience and skills," he said. "They will help me to evaluate candidates for targeting, and provide guidance on the best ways to support those campaigns. These people are winners. They are the real superstars of the party."

### Higher numbers

The eventual goal of the LVF, said Azzaro, is "to elect significantly higher numbers of Libertarians" to offices at the state and local level.

"Just think of the direction that would take the party," he said. "Not only will these Libertarians be able to immediately produce results in their local communities, but they will also be in a position to move up to higher offices in the future."

The LVF will begin training candidates this spring, and "should be kicking into high gear" in time for the summer and fall elections, said Azzaro.

Planned activities include:

■ Buying all-expenses-paid  
See **VICTORY FUND** Page 19

## Mary Ruwart named honorary chair of Discover Liberty outreach project

Dr. Mary Ruwart has been named honorary national chair of "Discover Liberty" — the ambitious project by the Advocates for Self Government to reach more than a half-million Americans with information about the freedom philosophy.

"We're honored that Dr. Ruwart has agreed to serve in a leadership role in this project to help move America in a more libertarian direction," said Sharon Harris, president of the Advocates. "Working together, I know we can make Discover Liberty a success."

### Author, columnist

Ruwart is the author of the books *Healing Our World* and *Short Answers to the Tough Questions*, a member of the Board of Directors of the International Society for Individual Liberty, and a columnist for the Advocates' e-mail newsletter, *The Liberator Online*.

She is also a member of the Libertarian National Committee, has been involved in over two dozen political campaigns, was a contender for the party's vice-presidential nomination in 1992,

### MARY RUWART:

*"It's a chance for every Libertarian to make a real difference."*

and is a popular speaker at LP conventions.

Ruwart said she decided to serve as the Discover Liberty honorary chair because the project is an innovative way to spread the word about libertarianism.

"Discover Liberty will help libertarians take our ideas to hundreds of thousands of Americans in the most effective way possible — one-on-one!" she said. "It's a great chance for every libertarian to make a real difference. I hope Libertarian Party members in every state will join us for the outreach event of the year."

If Discover Liberty achieves its goals, it will be the largest-ever one-on-one libertarian out-

reach, said Harris.

The centerpiece of Discover Liberty is an ambitious plan to coordinate 2,000 Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) outreach booths across America in a twelve-month period starting June 1, 2001.

The plan calls for OPHs in all 50 states, with volunteer regional and national coordinators to help keep track of the effort.

If successful, 500,000 people will encounter an OPH booth; 250,000 people will take the political quiz; 75,000 libertarian-leaning people will be discovered; and 36,000 names and addresses of libertarian prospects will be collected, said Harris.

### Hot prospects

"This is a great activity for Libertarian Party members," she said. "OPH is fun and easy — and no experience is required, making it a wonderful activity for newcomers. Discover Liberty will gather the names and addresses of over 36,000 hot libertarian prospects, and enormously increase the profile of the libertarian movement."

See **RUWART** Page 19



# How to Make Liberty Happen Now

## For the Next Elections: Instant Libertarians

"16% of Americans are libertarians" said the Rasmussen Survey. (*LP News*, October 2000) So why is Washington D.C. growing faster than ever?

Buried in the article is the key: most of those 16% don't know they're libertarian! Even though they have somehow withstood the calls to dependency upon the megastate, they look upon proponents of political and economic freedom with ignorance, suspicion and fear.

It's obvious, if we're going to make liberty happen, we're going to have to look to the free market for a solution.

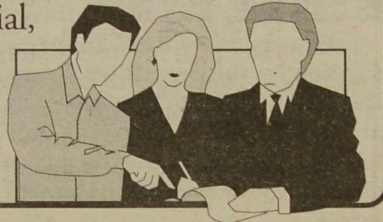
**LIBERTARIANS**  
**16%**  
**RASMUSSEN**  
**SURVEY**

## Pinnacle – End Run Around the State

**Pinnacle Support Systems** is set to mass produce the libertarians we need to wither the state.

Pinnacle helps people achieve personal success, whether in business, relationships, health or avocations. Technically we're a cutting-edge personal empowerment company, distinguished by the fact that our programs actually work for our clientele.

The distinguishing feature for us, however, is that our clientele learn the inextricable relationship between their empowerment to maximize their potential, and their freedom to do so! Pinnacle Support Systems and our clientele are firmly and unabashedly libertarian!



## Pinnacle – The Tools You Need to Succeed

"At last, a self-help course where personal and political responsibility meet!" — Dr. Mary J. Ruwart

**Pinnacle Support Systems' Living Learning System includes:**

- Live access to teleconferences with coaches and authors
- Home study materials and musically enhanced CDs
- E-magazine subscription
- Life-changing multi-media seminars
- Much more



While the student learns life-changing techniques, he's learning that liberty is his right, and that responsibility is its price!

*We'll send you everything you want to know about Pinnacle and liberty! Find out for yourself what the excitement's all about!*

**PINNACLE**  
**Life**

THE LIVING LEARNING SYSTEM

## You Can Make Liberty Happen

**Pinnacle Support Systems offers its customers a perpetual support system that evolves with the industry technology.**

For those who want to participate, you can enjoy any or all of these things . . .

- Promoting freedom
- Enhancing the lives and performance of Pinnacle customers
- Meeting and working with people passionate about liberty
- Being a facilitator/presenter
- Playing a role in the development and direction of the company.

*Don't miss this chance to be part of this revolutionary free market approach to selling freedom!*

*Special bonus to LP News readers: Callers will receive free, with no cost or obligation, our powerful course section on "Liberty and Self-empowerment, or 'Common Sense II' "*

*Find Out More and Get a Special Bonus — Call Today! We can't tell it all in a one-page ad.*

**For more information about Pinnacle Support Systems, call 1-800-432-0018 Ext. 5260.**



# WalkingPoints

## Disneyland for communists, and how to become a Utah porn czar

### ■ Which part is the joke?

A joke told around Washington concerns the discovery of a new pervasive element in the periodic table: Governmentium (Gv).

The heaviest element known to science, governmentium consists of one neutron, 125 deputy neutrons, 75 supervisory neutrons, held together by a force called morons, and surrounded by vast quantities of peons.

— JOHN MCCASLIN

*The Washington Times*  
February 8, 2001

### ■ Sell low, buy high

Based on results of an investigation by the Associated Press, the Defense Department spends at least \$6 million per year buying back the very materials it once gave away at bargain-basement prices.

One surplus parts buyer recently sold the Pentagon a consignment of generator shafts for \$200 apiece which he originally bought from the Pentagon for under \$20 apiece. He later stood to make \$1 million off a load of aircraft turbine disks that he won at a federal auction for just \$25,000.

Sometimes even the buyer gets worked up. After finding out that the Army paid \$100,000 for a box of washers that he picked up for \$10, Bill Teague mailed bags of them to members of Congress to "try to do something about these clowns."

— CAPITAL IDEAS

January/February 2001

### ■ No-sex expert

Salt Lake City [Utah]: Paula Houston, 40, in her first big interview since being named the state's porn-enforcement czar, admitted she's a virgin.

— NEWS OF THE WEIRD

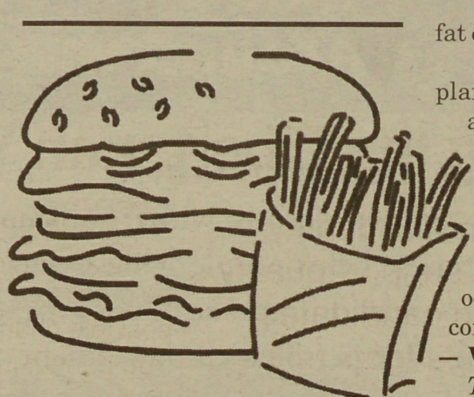
February 19, 2001

### ■ Trade myths

Later [in February], the Commerce Department will announce that the annual U.S. trade deficit has set another new record, fueling worry that it could seriously injure the domestic economy.

But according to a new study by the Cato Institute, trade deficits are a sign of strength, not a cause for worry. The real danger lies in any attempt by the new administration or Congress to "fix" the trade deficit.

In "America's Record Trade Deficit: A Symbol of Economic Strength," Daniel T. Griswold, associate director of the Cato Institute's Center for Trade Policy



**WE SHOULD TAX  
Big Macs so the  
poor can no longer  
afford them — for  
their own good.**

Studies, finds that "the worries of policymakers, economic commentators, and critics of American trade policy rest on a fundamental misunderstanding of the causes and consequences of the U.S. trade deficit."

The report's detailed economic analysis refutes the most common allegations made about the deficit . . .

Trade deficits do not cause poor economic performance; rather, they typically accompany improving economic conditions. A survey of the U.S. economy since 1973 confirms that, by almost any measure, economic growth, employment, industrial production, poverty reduction — the economy has performed better in years in which the trade deficit rose than in years in which it shrank.

Overall and bilateral trade deficits are not the cause of net job losses in the U.S. economy. During years of rising deficits, the unemployment rate has fallen by 0.4 %.

The trade deficit does not lead to "deindustrialization." In fact, the growth of real goods imports and manufacturing output tend to be positively correlated. That is, as manufacturing output rises in the United States so do imports of goods, adjusted for price changes.

— THE CATO INSTITUTE

February 9, 2001

### ■ Big Mac attack

Did you know that Dr. Kelly Brownell of the Yale Center on Eating and Weight Disorders wants food to be graded by their

fat content and taxed accordingly?

On a PBS broadcast, he complained that even poor people can afford Big Macs and french fries. We should tax Big Macs, he said, so the poor can no longer afford them — for their own good, of course.

So, if you enjoy a Big Mac occasionally, be warned: They're coming after you, too.

— WILLIAM RUSHER

*The Washington Times*  
February 17, 2001

### ■ Sprawl brawl

American newspapers print articles on the perils of low-density suburbs — "sprawl" — almost every day, and urge instead "smart growth," meaning higher densities and mixed-use developments. Invariably, these articles are fraught with misconceptions, myths, and sometimes outright fraud.

[For example], according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 1997 Natural Resources Inventory, all cities and towns in the U.S. occupy just 3% of the nation's land. Only 4.6% of California, the nation's most populated state, is urbanized.

— ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE  
NEWS, March 2001

### ■ Don't hate this law

The debate over a proposed hate-crime law in Arkansas is growing as confused and surreal as the concept of hate crime itself.

The state's attorney general, Mark Pryor, explains that the law would punish only conduct — not thought.

Can he have read the law he is proposing? It specifically increases the penalties (by exactly 20%) for crimes motivated by prejudice. What is prejudice but a state of mind — of thought? What we have here is a concept that George Orwell named in 1984: "Thoughtcrime."

Not all prejudices would be equal under this law. The bill singles out nine specific, politically incorrect prejudices that would be punished:

"A person shall be subject to enhanced criminal penalties if the person purposely selected the victim of a criminal offense because of the victim's actual or perceived: (1) Race; (2) Color; (3) Religion; (4) Ethnicity; (5) Ancestry; (6) National origin; (7) Sexual orientation; (8) Gender; or (9) Disability."

Why not a victim's class, income, dress, political affiliation, musical taste, sports team (Damn Yankees) regionalism (Danged

hillbillies) or eye color? Nope, none of those prejudices are punishable under this bill. It would still be legal in Arkansas to hate Republicans.

This law is premised on the assumption that it's not as bad — it's 20% better, actually — to commit crimes against folks for reasons other than those specified in the bill. Like greed, revenge, envy or just general cussedness.

Absurdities soon surface. Like this one: This bill makes it clear that the 20 percent extra for crimes committed because of a prejudice against the disabled will not apply if the disability we hate is (a) compulsive gambling, (b) kleptomania (c) pyromania, (d) alcoholism or (e) illegal drug use or disorders resulting therefrom.

Why the discount for those hatreds? One hesitates to guess. This discussion is already sufficiently absurd. That is the risk one runs when one discusses an absurd law.

— PAUL GREENBERG

*The Washington Times*  
January 31, 2001

### ■ The High-Tax Party

In the face of giant budget reserves in recent years, many Republican governors have proposed net tax increases.

Those governors include George Pataki (New York), who signed a huge 55¢ a pack increase in the cigarette tax; Don Sundquist (Tennessee), who is lobbying for a state income tax; Jane Hull (Arizona), who supported an increase in the sales tax to pay for more school spending; George Ryan (Illinois), who raised taxes by more than \$300 million in 1999; Louisiana's Mike Foster, who won an extension of the 3% sales tax on food and utilities; and Bob Taft of Ohio, who raised several taxes his first year in office and proposed a \$200 million environmental bond initiative.

Mike Leavitt (Utah) is leading the charge in the states for an Internet taxing scheme.

— STEPHEN MOORE &

STEPHEN SLIVINSKI

*The Wall Street Journal*  
February 12, 2001

### ■ Goin' to Stalinland

Europe has an amazing new theme park but it's probably not one that you'll want to bring your kids to.

In the tiny Lithuanian village of Gruta, an unlikely combination of Disney World and Soviet gulag has opened, called "Stalinworld."

Thousands of sightseers have already plunked down their equivalent of \$1.25 to wander among the towering Communist-era sculptures, under the gaze of mannequins manning machine guns in watchtowers, and eat at a cafe serving labor camp standards like gruel and fishhead soup.

Eventually, visitors will also be able to watch reenactments of 'camp victims' being abused, and see re-creations of the huts where the slaves slept after being worked nearly to death. Concealed speakers will also broadcast screams of torture victims.

— ABCNEWS.COM

February 15, 2001

### ■ LP Convention: 0%

City, state, and federal taxpayers fronted 71% of the costs associated with the Republican Convention in Philadelphia (\$47 million).

The \$53 million taxpayer tab for the Democratic Convention in Los Angeles represents an incredible 93% of the total cost. L.A.-area taxpayers were originally told they would pay nothing for the event, but eventually shelled out \$36 million for everything from security to cab fares.

— CAPITAL IDEAS

January/February 2001

### ■ 30,000 prisoners

A 1993 Justice Department study suggested that some 21% of all federal prisoners, and one-third of all federal drug prisoners, are nonviolent, low-level offenders who pose little or no danger to society.

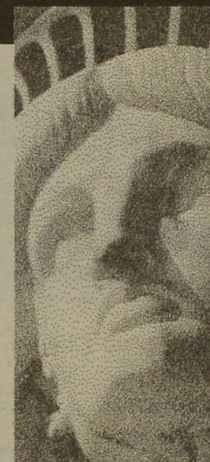
That would come to more than 30,000 of the 147,000 people in federal prison today.

— STUART TAYLOR, JR.

*National Journal*

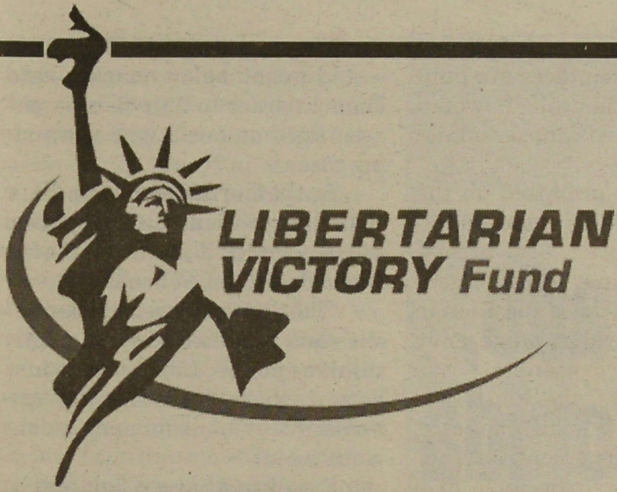
February 17, 2001

**"Man is free the  
moment he wishes  
to be." — VOLTAIRE**

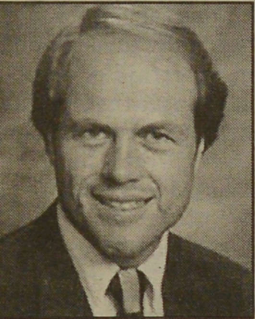


With all due respect to Voltaire, you can "wish" to be free — but the IRS, the BATF, the DEA, and a host of other alphabetical agencies may have other ideas. Which is why we need the Libertarian Party: To turn our wish for freedom into political reality. But it's a long-term battle. So why not name the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy? To learn more, call LP Treasurer Mark Tuniewicz at (508) 472-5321. Or e-mail him: Treasurer@LP.org.

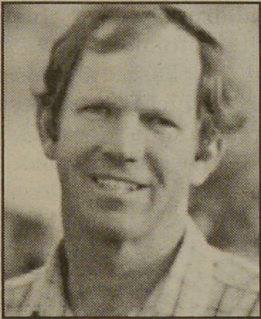




## HONORARY BOARD OF ADVISORS



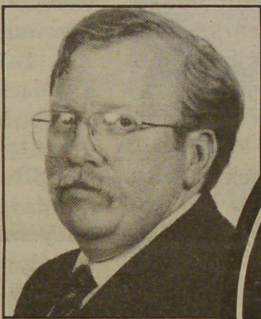
**Art Olivier**  
Former Mayor, Bellflower, CA



**Tom Tryon**  
County Commissioner,  
Calaveras County, CA



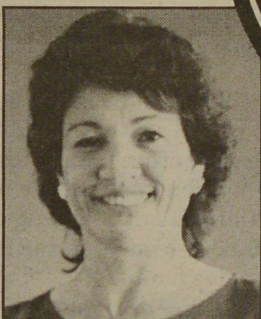
**Bonnie Flickinger**  
Mayor, Moreno Valley, CA



**Phil Miller**  
City Councilman  
Greenfield, IN



**Bill Masters**  
Sheriff, San Miguel County, CO



**Sandi Webb**  
Former Councilwoman,  
Simi Valley, CA



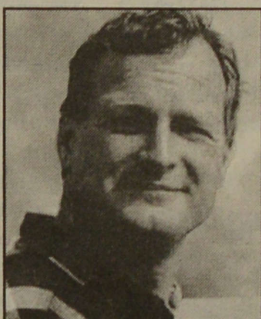
**Barbara Goushaw**  
Libertarian Campaign  
Manager



**Fred Collins**  
City Councilman, Berkley, MI



**Trudy Austin**  
County Commissioner,  
Morgan County, TN



**Richard Linville**  
Prosecuting Attorney,  
Gem County, ID

# Help Elect Libertarians to Local Office!

## Introducing the Libertarian Victory Fund!

**O**ur mission: To identify, train, and support quality Libertarian candidates running for winnable local offices.

Elected Libertarians are the foundation of the Libertarian Party. They give us credibility and prestige. They serve as living proof that Libertarians can win elections, dispelling the "wasted vote" myth. And they prove that Libertarians have effective, pro-freedom solutions to everyday problems that really do work.

Best of all, by expanding the amount of elected officials in the Libertarian Party, we are effectively creating a "farm team" of candidates who can move up to higher office in the future, and win more and more victories for freedom.

Any way you look at it, electing more Libertarians to local offices will help us to create the growing, thriving, and effective Libertarian Party that we all want.

Here's some of the things we are doing to help elect more Libertarians . . .

■ **Targeting Winnable Races** — We will extensively interview candidates who are being considered for targeting to make sure that they have what it takes to win.

■ **Campaign Support** — The Libertarian Victory Fund will do everything it can to help our targeted candidates have the best possible chances for victory. We will provide free consulting services, make direct contributions, and make independent expenditures on behalf of our candidates.

■ **Professional Training** — We are sending Libertarian candidates and campaign managers on all-expenses-paid scholarships to some of the best political training schools in the business.

### Let's start Winning!

We need to raise funds immediately to help municipal candidates running in winnable races this year.

Please support the Libertarian Victory Fund today. Your investment will bear dividends for years to come!

## WANTED!

■ **WANTED: Serious Libertarian candidates and campaign managers.**

If you are a Libertarian Candidate or campaign manager who is interested in any of our services, please contact us immediately. We want to help you win! Call: 702-657-6573. Email: [Director@LibertarianVictoryFund.com](mailto:Director@LibertarianVictoryFund.com)



## YES! I want to support local Libertarian Party candidates in winnable races!

### One Time Donation

- ☐ \$1,000  
☐ \$500  
☐ \$250  
☐ \$100  
☐ \$50  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check Enclosed

### Monthly Pledge

- ☐ \$100 per month  
☐ \$50 per month  
☐ \$30 per month  
☐ \$20 per month  
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Make checks payable to: **Libertarian Victory Fund**,  
1306 West Craig Rd #158, North Las Vegas, NV 89032

Note: The Libertarian Victory Fund is a 527 non-profit political organization. Contributions are not tax deductible.

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## Affiliate News

# Libertarians tackle a fishy bill in Colorado, pork in Georgia, and 'filthy' books in Florida

### ■ ALABAMA

#### LP city councilman gets repair permit abolished

A Libertarian city councilman has scored a small victory against the "Nanny State" — and made it legal to hang a new screen door without government approval.

On February 26, the Adamsville City Council voted to abolish a law requiring city residents to get a government permit for any home improvements costing less than \$1,000.

Previously, homeowners had to get a free permit before working on such jobs as building a deck, hanging screen doors, or installing skylights.

"We've set up a nanny state where city officials watch over everything we do," said Libertarian council member **John Rodgers** (Ward 5), who introduced the motion. "Is it our job to hold everybody's hand and make sure they don't hurt themselves?"

Under the old ordinance, he said, residents were subjected to city inspections and fines for minor do-it-yourself projects — and ignored the law as often as they obeyed it.

### ■ CALIFORNIA

#### Governor's failing fiscal grade merits 'expulsion'

Governor Gray Davis got a grade of "F" in a new fiscal report card — which is why he should be "expelled" from office, say state Libertarians.

"This kind of report card merits expulsion," said then-State Chair **Mark Hinkle**. "Gray Davis has failed at being governor. [He] is a spendaholic, contrary to his carefully polished image as a fiscal moderate. His policies are harmful to taxpayers and to the California economy, and he should be embarrassed to have such a poor fiscal record."

Davis was one of only three governors to receive an "F" rating in the Fiscal Policy Report Card on America's Governors: 2000, released in mid-February by the Washington, D.C.-based Cato Institute.

In spending, Davis ranked dead last of all governors, presiding over a skyrocketing 7% average annual per capita increase in the state budget.

"Gray Davis clearly believes that tax money is his to spend as he sees fit," said Hinkle. "It's time to expel him from office."



Photo by D. Nick Dunbar

#### Robert McBride gets "appreciation" award in Virginia

■ Robert McBride (center) holds a framed award he received from the Fairfax County Libertarians (Virginia) for being a "stellar volunteer and candidate." With McBride are Mat Thexton (left) and 2001 gubernatorial candidate Bill Redpath. McBride ran for U.S. House (District 11) in 2000. The award, given at a meeting in Fairfax on January 15, represents appreciation for "all his hard work and dedication to liberty," said Virginia Libertarian Party Executive Director Marc Montoni.

### ■ CALIFORNIA

#### UCSB Libertarians host 'Funkin' Freedom' show

Libertarians at the University of California at Santa Barbara will put liberty to music.

In April, the UCSB Campus Libertarians plan to sponsor an "I Want My Funkin' Freedom" music fest for local students to "help introduce and spread alternative political and social ideas, instead of the same old Democratic and Republican rhetoric that is heard so often" said chapter president **Christina Dauenhauer**.

Headlining the show will be the Long Beach band Funk Rage and Soul, a "reggae, rock, and rap" ensemble with "a libertarian bent to their lyrics," she said.

The free concert will be an opportunity to "excite students about how freedom — real libertarian freedom — can work for them," said Dauenhauer.

### ■ CALIFORNIA

#### State LP OKs resolution against 'political' arrests

The California LP has endorsed a resolution that blasts the government for arresting "politi-

cal prisoners" — including medical marijuana patients.

At its annual convention, February 16-19 in San Jose, Libertarians passed a resolution, introduced by **Joseph Miranda**, that condemned the government for prosecuting medical marijuana patients such as **Steve Kubby** and **Peter McWilliams**, and for "unconstitutional law enforcement actions" such as "censorship, gun control, profile searches, asset forfeiture, and the denial of life and liberty by paramilitary police assaults."

"The use of the term 'political prisoners' is meant to be serious in every way," said Miranda. "By pushing cases such as Steve Kubby's as examples of human rights abuses in the U.S., the Libertarian Party can throw the government on the defensive."

To put pressure on the government, said Miranda, "I plan to bring cases like Steve Kubby's to the attention of Amnesty International as political prisoner cases."

### ■ CALIFORNIA

#### Lake County LP speaks against new alcohol rule

The Lake County LP is opposing a proposed ordinance to ban

the possession of alcoholic beverages in county parks — arguing that it would make criminals out of people sipping a glass of wine at a picnic.

"The bill would have the effect of making criminals out of ordinary people, while doing little to curb the actual criminal conduct of the few persons the law is purported to stop," said county Chair **Dante DeAmicus** in late January. "Once again, government is punishing the many for the errors of the few."

The bill, being considered by the county Board of Supervisors, could also cause tourist development efforts to suffer, he said.

"The law would tend to have a dampening effect on the county's efforts to build its reputation as a prestigious wine growing area," said DeAmicus. "We should encourage visitors to buy a fine bottle of Lake County wine to enjoy with their picnic in the park."

### ■ COLORADO

#### There's something 'fishy' about fish hatchery bill

A bill that would give low-interest government loans to fish hatcheries is, ahem, "a pain in the bass," charge state Libertarians.

The legislation, HB 1024, would grant below-market-rate loans in order to help fish hatcheries fight an onslaught of whirling disease in trout.

But Libertarians suspect a "whirling attack" on the public purse, said LP State Chair **Bette Rose Smith** on February 21.

"This is a very fishy scheme," she said. "And while some might think us pikers, Libertarians just have to ask: Wouldn't private banks grant loans for such an obvious need?"

If politicians help fish hatcheries fight disease, said Smith, what's next: "Should we help auto rental companies fight rust? Help bakeries fight mold?"

Instead, Libertarians "would like to see the state government abstain from all forms of corporate welfare, though they might feel like fish out of water," she said.

### ■ FLORIDA

#### Palm Beach County party targets 2002 term limits

Libertarians in Palm Beach County have launched an effort to pass term limits for county commissioners.

"The Palm Beach County LP has decided to make term limits for county commissioners a top priority for the 2002 elections," said **Philip Blumel**, who is coordinating the effort.

In order to be successful, the campaign will require the support of non-Libertarians, he said, which is why Blumel and Florida LP Regional Rep. **Rick Shepherd** addressed about 100 people at a meeting of the Palm Beach County Issues Coalition in February. Together, they signed up about 30 volunteers, he said.

Palm Beach Libertarians have also set up a political committee to supervise a petition-collecting drive to get the proposal on the 2002 ballot.

"This is an opportunity not just to elect a candidate, but to directly change the way we are governed," said Blumel. "A referendum — and particularly a term limits referendum — is a natural project for LP affiliates."

Last year, Libertarians in Polk County spearheaded a drive to limit the terms of county commissioners, and the initiative passed with 70% of the vote.

### ■ FLORIDA

#### Banning library books? What about the Bible?

Libertarian **Charles Schrader** got angry when the Marion County Commission almost banned a book from a local public library, so he's asking them to censor another "filthy" book — the Bible.

"It has pornography [and] cannibalism like you wouldn't believe," said Schrader. In fact, the Bible is filled with graphic descriptions of rape, murder, torture, and incest, he noted, so shouldn't the Commission ban it like any other "pornographic" book?



Schrader made his tongue-in-cheek suggestion in late January, after the Commission considered a request to ban a sex education book.

"I admit there's some facetiousness," he said. "I do not have any illusions that they're going to remove [the Bible]. And as a staunch defender of freedom of religion, I don't want them to."

Instead, said Schrader, he wants to make the point that censorship is wrong — and that the County Commission should not be in the business of deciding which books are acceptable.

## ■ GEORGIA

### State Libertarians mock political 'pork' spending

Georgia Libertarians know pork when they see it, and this year, they've seen plenty.

That's why the party issued a "Ten Most Outrageous Spending Measures" list on February 26, blasting the state's \$15.2 billion budget — which was "filled with enough pork barrel spending to make a swine blush," said LP Executive Director **Mark Mosley**.

"Once again, the politicians are pigging out over taxpayer dollars in a spending free-for-all," he charged.

The top ten list included \$500,000 to expand a golf course; \$40,000 to promote the movie making industry in Macon; \$150,000 for a NASCAR Hall of Fame; \$25,000 for planting flowers; and \$250,000 to construct a public fishing area.

"There is no end to the extremes the greedy bureaucrats will go to spend taxpayers' hard-earned money," said Mosley. "We should be grateful that the state legislature meets for only 40 days per year. Georgia taxpayers could not afford anything longer."

## ■ GEORGIA

### Libertarians testify for ballot access reform

Libertarians testified before the state legislature in late January, urging lawmakers to pass a ballot access reform bill.

About two dozen Libertarians — along with allies from the Green Party — attended a meeting of the Governmental Affairs Committee to voice support for the Voters Choice Act, which would dramatically reduce the number of petition signatures required to run a full slate of candidates.

"We've been lobbying the lawmakers," said **S. Philip Gordon**, treasurer of the Bibb County LP. "We'll be back [and] we'll stay with it throughout the session."



Photo by Ting Leong

### Libertarians host "rewarding" outreach event in Hillsdale, California

■ **San Mateo County (California) Libertarians** hold an outreach event and voter registration drive at the Hillsdale Shopping Center on January 20 and 21. Shown above, posing with their "Political Opinion Survey," are Christopher Schmidt (left) and Rod Woodman. Staffing the table above right are Kathy Boyle (left) and Linden Hsu. The two-day



Photo by Ting Leong

event was "rewarding," said Hsu. "More people took literature, and it seemed that we reached a younger crowd. More high school and college-aged people stopped by to chat, inquire, and take pamphlets [and] quizzes. In terms of outreach, we spent less time helping people fill out registration forms, and more time discussing libertarianism."

During the past few months, the state LP has run more than \$6,000 worth of radio and television ads in support of the Voters Choice Act, and is working with the Voter Choice Coalition to pass the bill, said Georgia LP Vice Chair **Dr. Helmut Forren**.

The bill "would give the LP full ballot access in Georgia," he said. Currently, "Georgia's petition requirements are 10 times higher than the average of all other states in the nation."

## ■ MAINE

### State LP faces \$162 fine for late campaign report

The State Chair of the Maine LP is refusing to pay a \$162.20 fine levied against him by the state Ethics Commission.

**Marc Cenci** said the penalty, imposed because he filed a campaign expense form two days late, is part of a "vendetta" against the Libertarian Party.

"I think I was treated shabbily by the commission," said Cenci in February. "You give some people a hammer and everything looks like a nail."

The late filing — which was one of four by LP candidates during the last election cycle — indicated "no lack of respect for the commission or its regulations," he said. Instead, it was the result of confusion with the Commission's complex requirements.

"It would be more cost-effective for the commission to instruct candidates on proper procedures than to issue a fine just to make an example of me," he said.

## ■ MICHIGAN

### 'State of the State' talk: Just more GOP socialism

The governor's "State of the State" address showed that Michi-

gan "is in a pretty sorry state" — and that Republicans are always eager to sell out liberty, said LP State Chair **Stacy Van Oast**.

"I hope people will finally stop being fooled by the Republicans' posturing as advocates of limited government, and recognize just how socialist they really are," she said in response to Governor John Engler's speech on January 31.

Specifically, Van Oast criticized the Republican for once having led the charge to tax online sales, while now proposing tax subsidies for corporations engaged in e-commerce.

"What kind of duplicity does [that] take?" she asked. "This is just one more example of the Republican view of taxes — increase them on consumers, while reducing them on big business."

Engler also proposed creating a new state-level Department of History, Arts and Culture — but "since when are these social institutions something to be determined by government?" asked Van Oast.

## ■ TEXAS

### Lubbock Libertarians are fighting total smoking ban

Libertarians in Lubbock have come out against a total ban on smoking in "public" places like restaurants and bowling alleys.

"This is just more government intrusion into people's lives — and, in this case, business owners and their customers' lives," said **David DeLamar**, Chairman of the Lubbock County LP.

In early February, the Lubbock City Council set up an 11-member panel to investigate the proposed ban, and, in four months, recommend a course of action for the west Texas city.

Supporters say the ban is needed to protect the health of

residents, while the Lubbock Restaurant Association said it could cause a 40% drop in business.

But Libertarians say politicians should butt out.

"The question should be: Who decides the rules in your business?" said DeLamar. "The business owner and customer or the government?"

## ■ WASHINGTON STATE

### Let the parties hold own primaries, says state LP

As the state government struggles to find a replacement to its "blanket" primary, Libertarians say they have the solution: Let political parties decide.

"The state should essentially get out of the primary business," said Washington LP lawyer **John Mills**, who testified before the State Senate Local Government Committee on January 22.

Instead, he said, the state's three major political parties should each choose their own nominating process — which "should not be funded by taxpayers," thus saving the state \$4 million in primary costs.

Washington is under the gun to find a replacement to its blanket primary, which allows residents to vote in any party's primary. In 2000, the Supreme Court ruled that a similar primary in California was unconstitutional.

The ideal solution? For "the parties [to] nominate candidates in a private way," said Mills.

## ■ WASHINGTON STATE

### State LP lobbies to pass asset forfeiture reform

Washington Libertarians are rallying behind an effort to reform the state's asset forfeiture laws.

The legislation — the Property Forfeiture Act of 2001 (SB

5935 & HB 1995) — would require a conviction for a crime before any property can be seized, and would direct forfeiture proceeds to drug treatment programs rather than to law enforcement.

"The LPWS should endorse and support any legislation that increases individual liberty, and the proposed legislation does that," said **Erne Lewis**, Chair of the LPWS Initiatives Committee.

In recent years, police have confiscated \$43 million in property under the state's drug forfeiture law, according to the ACLU.

The state LP will lobby for the law, said Lewis, even though it doesn't go as far as a statewide initiative — the Innocent Owners Defense Initiative (I-762) — which the party is spearheading.

## ■ WASHINGTON STATE

### Whatcom Co. LP fails in bid to get committee seat

Libertarians in Whatcom County have failed in their effort to get representation on a redistricting committee.

In late January, the Whatcom County Council voted to appoint only Republicans and Democrats to a once-a-decade committee that will make recommendations on county redistricting.

In doing so, they rejected the argument of Whatcom County LP Chair **Tom Spanos**, who contended that since the LP earned "major party" status under state law, it deserved to be included.

"Our position is we have the same legal footing as a major party, as Republicans or Democrats," said Spanos.

According to county law, two representatives from each "major party" should be appointed to the committee, but the County Council said they would use a different definition of major party.

## JESUS IS LIBERTARIAN

What would Jesus do if elected president?

Read **MINUTEMEN NEWS** (328 pages) by Joseph P. Berry, which reveals the surprising truth. Send \$21.95 to: Legend Books, P.O. Box 1216, Auburn, NY 13021 <http://www.amazon.com>



## The Issues

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Each month, "The Issues" will highlight several Libertarian Party press releases. To get the complete text of all press releases issued by the LP, send a message to "announce-request@lp.org" with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

### Car cell phone laws are not needed

**T**wenty-nine states are considering new laws to ban or restrict the use of cell phones in automobiles — an over-reaction to a non-existent crisis, say Libertarians.

"We don't need new laws banning automotive cell phones any more than we need laws against eating in your car, changing the radio station, or yelling at kids in the backseat," said Steve Dasbach, LP national director. "Anyone who drives recklessly while engaging in any of those activities is already committing a crime, and can be punished."

This year, bills have been introduced in 29 states to regulate the use of cell phones. Supporters claim the 100 million cell phones in use are a dangerous distraction to drivers and the proposed new laws are "common sense safety legislation."

But common sense actually indicates otherwise, said Dasbach. Why? Because it's already against the law in every state to endanger other motorists.

"Reckless driving is reckless driving, whether the cause is a cell phone, a Big Mac to go, or a dropped CD," said Dasbach. "Why target cell phone use over other forms of distraction?"

Plus, the dangers of cell phone use are greatly exaggerated. "A federal analysis estimated that cell phones were a factor in only 57 deaths," said Dasbach. "If true, it means the odds of being killed because of a car cell phone is less than the risk of being killed by lightning — which claims 89 victims a year."

### High school shooting shows media bias

**T**he media's anti-gun bias showed loud and clear in March as a high school shooting was plastered all over every front page in America — while the previous week's murderous car rampage was virtually ignored, charge Libertarians.

"A disturbed 15-year-old California high school student killed two classmates with a gun, and it's front-page news," said LP Press Secretary George Getz. "The previous week, a disturbed 19-year-old California college student killed four classmates with a car, and it's a minor blurb."

"Why do journalists always exploit gun-related tragedies, while ignoring other, equally horrific, crimes?"

On March 5, a 15-year-old boy opened fire at the Santana High School in California, killing two and injuring 13. The story made the front page of every major American newspaper, and was the lead item on the nightly network news.

Meanwhile, on February 26, a 19-year-old student at the University of California (Santa Barbara) plowed his car into a crowd of college students, killing four and critically injuring one. He shouted, "I'm the angel of death!" as he was taken away. That story was relegated to the inside of most newspapers, and generated scant attention on network or cable news shows.

Why was only *one* a major story? Media bias, said Getz.

"Journalists are taught to revere the First Amendment — but most appear to scorn the Second Amendment," he said. "So, sadly, they use their First Amendment rights to slant and distort the news to attack the Second Amendment."

### Some common sense on zero tolerance

**T**hree cheers for the American Bar Association's decision to oppose zero-tolerance policies, the Libertarian Party said.

"Finally, some sanity about America's zero-tolerance nonsense," said Steve Dasbach. "In a country where students are expelled for sniffing Kool-Aid and sharing candy, the American Bar Association has interjected a note of common sense."

On February 19, the leadership of the ABA voted to recommend an end to zero-tolerance policies in the nation's schools.

Zero-tolerance policies require government-run schools to expel or suspend students for any violation of weapons or drugs regulations. Such policies have led to bizarre results, including:

■ A 6-year-old in Colorado was suspended for violating the school's anti-drug policy by sharing a lemon drop with a friend.

■ In New Jersey, a 9-year-old was forced into psychiatric counseling for threatening to shoot a rubber band at a classmate.

■ In Maryland, a school suspended a 9-year-old after he drew a picture of a gun on a piece of paper.

■ In Virginia, eight students were suspended for one week after they were caught sniffing Kool-Aid.

Given such results, zero-tolerance policies are clearly ineffective, said Dasbach. "To the degree these policies force schools to pay attention to such trivial transgressions while ignoring real dangers, students may be *less* safe. That's bad news for parents whose children are trapped in government schools."

# Santa Barbara Libertarians use the courts to keep government in check

**W**hen Libertarians in Santa Barbara, California reached an out-of-court settlement with a local sheriff in January, they experienced something they've grown very accustomed to: Victory through lawsuits.

"Litigation is just the way of getting the government's attention when they are ignoring the law," said Robert Bakhaus, the secretary of the county party, who has helped spearhead five lawsuits against local government since 1990.

"We want to stop the corruption," he said — and Libertarians have learned how to do so with a ballot in one hand and a civil action in the other.

The Santa Barbara LP's most recent legal victory was announced on January 22, when local Sheriff Jim Thomas agreed to settle out of court — and pay the LP \$15,000 in attorney's fees — to end a lawsuit that had charged him with misusing tax money to lobby for a sales tax increase.

### Measure U

In 2000, the sheriff spent more than \$10,000 to create an 11-minute video encouraging voters to support Measure U, which would have raised the county sales tax by one-half cent to fund a new jail. Thomas starred in the video, appearing in uniform.

Although state law specifically prohibits government officials from spending taxpayers' money to influence the outcome of any ballot measure, Thomas claimed he acted properly because the video was "strictly educational."

"It's clear what Thomas did was wrong," said Bakhaus — which is why the party filed the suit after Measure U passed in November. "I've always believed government officials should be held accountable."

The party agreed to the out-of-court settlement, he said, to save taxpayers the cost of a trial, and because Thomas promised to "strictly follow the law" for any future ballot measures.

The lawsuit was the party's fourth legal victory in five attempts. In previous years, the party filed suits against:

■ Confusing language in a measure that would have changed how the City Council was elected (1990). Outcome: A court ruled the

### ROBERT BAKHAUS:

*"Litigation is just the way of getting the government's attention."*

issue moot.

■ A Santa Barbara mayor who violated the city's term limits law (1993). Outcome: A state Appeals Court agreed, and removed the mayor from office. He also reimbursed the LP \$11,300 in attorney's fees.

■ The Santa Barbara School District, which used taxpayer money to hire a political consult-

ant to try to pass a revenue bond (1998). Outcome: Settled out of court, with the School District paying \$16,500 in attorney's fees.

■ The Santa Barbara School District, which refused to allow public comments about topics discussed in closed session, in violation of the state's Browne Act (2000). Outcome: Settled out of court, with the School District paying \$52,500 in attorney's fees.

Although most of the LP's cases ended in settlements, they served to make the government aware that Libertarians were watching, said Bakhaus.

"A political party is the vehicle to reform," he said.

And in addition to the LP's usual political arsenal of running candidates and lobbying, "We've discovered that the Libertarian Party can be effective through litigation."

## It's Your Turn!

**D**r. Krieg has written two books on politics. Neither he nor his publisher are in this for the money. It is a Libertarian effort to educate. His third book is entitled *Our Political Systems* and deals with the corruptness inherent in any two-party system. It provides all the arguments for a third party, and why we need one. It concerns itself with the systems in America, Canada, and England.

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# Reams race to focus on an end to pot prohibition

Continued from Page 3

"The Reams Reeferendum campaign will direct its messages to younger adults, minorities who were punished disproportionately during the war, and Boomers who grew up a lot of the anti-marijuana rhetoric is BS," he said. "But this campaign will also appeal to teens, libertarian-leaning Republicans, and progressive Democrats who want to send their own message. The primary emphasis is to appeal to those who are already with us on this issue." His campaign will be the only one for voters to express an anti-war sentiment, he said, because Virginia has no initiative or referendum process.

Reams picked the marijuana issue because "Virginia has an anti-prohibitionist constituency in which there is now no political leadership," he said. "The question is whether Libertarians will lead on this issue and earn the political credibility that comes with winning."

## Libertarian ideas

There is also no "greater issue to advance libertarian ideas," said Reams.

For example, he said, marijuana prohibition will allow him to talk about property rights (asset forfeiture), medical rights (medical marijuana), minority rights (racial profiling), crime (prohibition-caused violence), and foreign policy (intervention in Colombia and other countries).

Reams chose the Lt. Governor's race for his effort "because relative to the other only two statewide offices it is without authority," he said. "There is little risk if the 'greater of two evils' wins. Unlike votes for offices with political power, they risk nothing even if I am elected!"

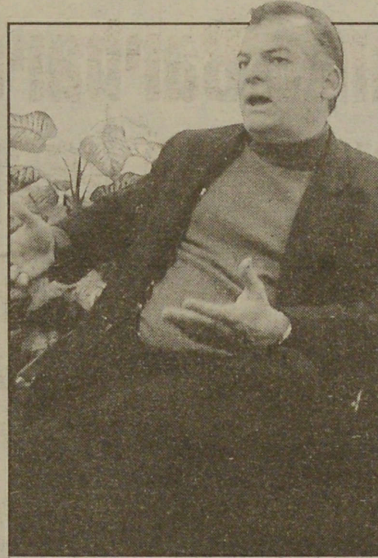
So voters should be more willing to cast a vote just to make an anti-drug war statement, he said.

The Reeferendum campaign will also be "innovative in its use of technology and in its approach," promised Reams. "For us to get media attention, we have to be proactive and create visual and interesting events. Also, we will create ads that are humorous. Some will be for broadcast, others for the Internet."

Reams' campaign team is currently collecting the 10,000 signatures required to place his name on the ballot. The turn-in deadline is in June.

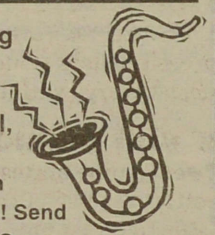
For more information about Reams for Lt. Governor, or to make a contribution, visit: [www.ReamsReeferendum.com](http://www.ReamsReeferendum.com). Or e-mail the campaign at: [Info@ReamsReeferendum.com](mailto:Info@ReamsReeferendum.com).

■ **Gary Reams:** "The primary emphasis is to appeal to those already with us on this issue."



## Best Libertarian Song?

Calling all music fans: What modern song (1950-2001) best exemplifies the spirit of liberty? Or expresses a strong Libertarian sentiment — about freedom in general, or about a specific libertarian issue?

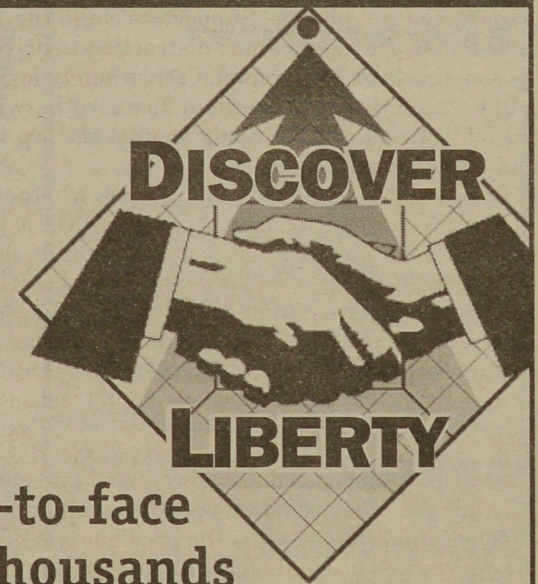


For a future issue of LP News, we're planning an article on "Liberty's Best Songs." We need your help! Send us information about your favorite Libertarian song: Song title, performer, and the name of the album where it can be found. Plus, tell us in about 100 words what makes it one of "Liberty's Best Songs."

■ E-mail to: [Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org](mailto:Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org). Or mail: LP News, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037. Fax: (202) 333-0072.

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**How: 2,000 Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) outreach booths — in 12 months! In all 50 states!**

**Make history! Spread freedom! Be a part of Discover Liberty!**

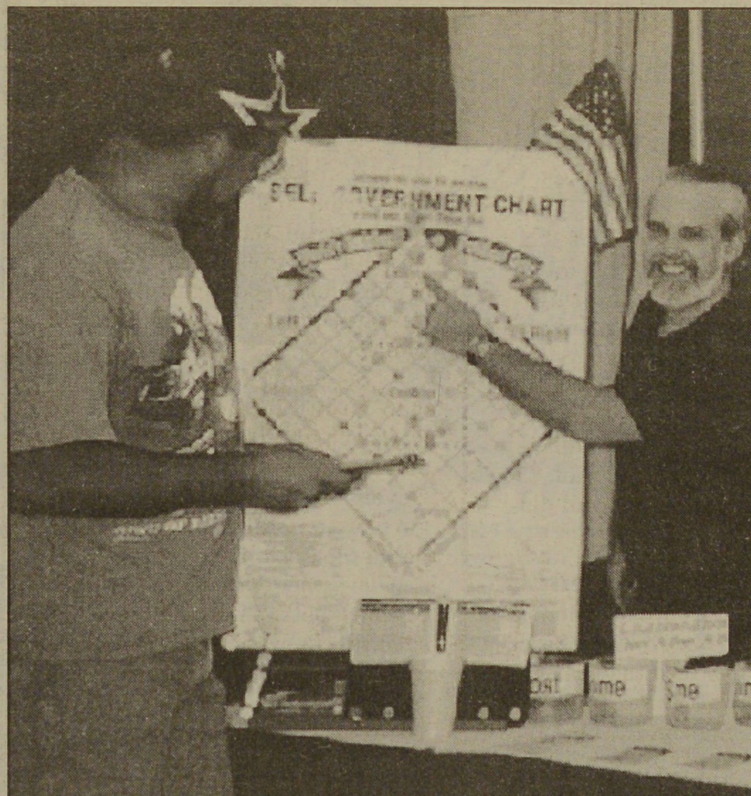
## You are needed right now:

■ **Discover Liberty State Coordinators:** If you're experienced with OPH, know many of your local and state libertarian activists, and want to see a lot more libertarians in your state, you can be a state or regional coordinator. Contact us right away!

■ **Experienced OPHers:** If you've done an OPH before, you know it's a fun, rewarding activity. Contact us now, so we can let you know when OPHs will be planned near you.

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■ **OPH Newcomers:** Never done an OPH before? Don't worry — NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED! It's fun, and anyone can do it. And you won't be alone — a booth works best with two, three or more people. Contact us today to volunteer to take the ideas of freedom to your community.



Libertarians will reach hundreds of thousands of Americans — and have fun doing it — with OPH booths like this one. (Shown: Pat Bratton of the Georgia LP opening minds at a county fair.)

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By email: [DiscoverLiberty@TheAdvocates.org](mailto:DiscoverLiberty@TheAdvocates.org)

By mail: 269 Market Place Blvd., #106 • Cartersville, GA 30121

**Any questions about Operation Politically Homeless, Discover Liberty, or volunteering?**

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## Discover Liberty Highlights

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- 75,000 libertarian-leaning people discovered
- 36,000 names & addresses of prime libertarian prospects
- Hundreds of outreach booths on college campuses
- Tens of thousands of students encounter libertarian ideas
- Over 100,000 persuasive libertarian handouts distributed
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\*\*\*\*\*

## Tax Day Materials

Q'NTY COST

\_\_\_\_\_ "Million Dollar Bill" Literature  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$1 Million Tax Day Kit (\$10)

## Books for Sale

\_\_\_\_\_ *Why Government Doesn't Work* • Browne  
\_\_\_\_\_ *Libertarianism In One Lesson* • Bergland

## Ready-to-use Literature

\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Is This the New Political Party...?"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"  
\_\_\_\_\_ *America's Libertarian Heritage* booklet  
\_\_\_\_\_ Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1995 LP Program  
\_\_\_\_\_ World's Smallest Political Quiz

## Yard Signs

\_\_\_\_\_ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

## Bumper Stickers

\_\_\_\_\_ Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian  
\_\_\_\_\_ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN  
\_\_\_\_\_ Vote Libertarian/1-800-ELECT-US

## Buttons

\_\_\_\_\_ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian  
\_\_\_\_\_ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-ELECT-US  
\_\_\_\_\_ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

## Miscellaneous Items

\_\_\_\_\_ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL

## Tools for Campaigning

\_\_\_\_\_ *Libertarian Political Action* Booklet  
\_\_\_\_\_ Statue of Liberty logo master  
\_\_\_\_\_ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk  
\_\_\_\_\_ Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

## Large & Small Banners

\_\_\_\_\_ Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" h x 5' w)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Please check preferred second line:  
\_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Defenders of Liberty ☐ 1-800-ELECT-US  
\_\_\_\_\_ Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" h x 5' w).

## Total Due

\_\_\_\_\_ Merchandise Total  
\_\_\_\_\_ RUSH handling: Add \$5 for same-day handling  
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☐ Cash, check, or money order enclosed (No corporate checks!)

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Expires

Signature

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Membership ID# [On label]

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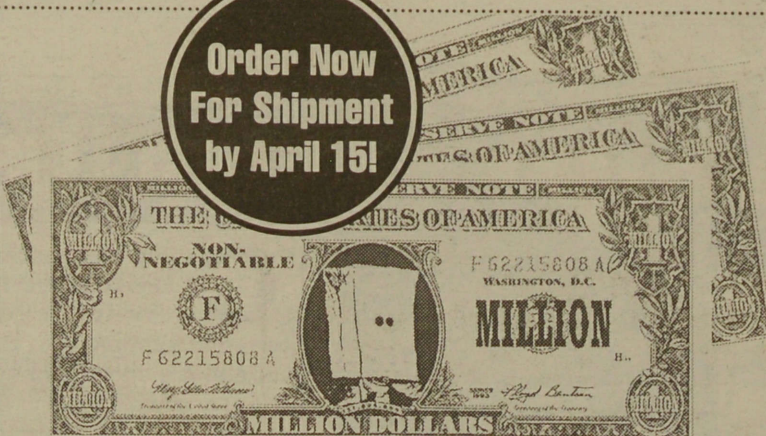
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the front side looks like a Federal Reserve \$1,000,000 note. The other side explains that the federal government spends \$1 million of our money every five seconds — and the only political party trying to change that is the Libertarian Party. There is a reply coupon and our phone number.

The "\$1,000,000 bill" is one of the most popular LP outreach devices ever, according to activists who have used it. Using the line, "How would you like a million bucks to help pay your taxes?" LP volunteers report that people smile, laugh, and joke when they get it, and even return

to get extra copies.

## HOW TO ORDER:

■ The "\$1,000,000 Bills" are available for immediate shipment.  
**Cost: \$5 per 100.** (Call for rush shipping details.)

■ Or, order the complete "\$1 Million Tax Day" Kit. It includes:

**1** A 16-page booklet explaining how to use the "\$1,000,000 bill" to maximize the membership-building potential of your local Tax Day rally. (Also: How to organize a successful rally; how to get publicity; and more.)  
**2** 50 samples of the "\$1 Million Bill" literature.  
**3** Two versions of camera-ready mechanicals to print the "\$1 Million Bills": One with the National LP's return address and phone number, and one with a blank area to personalize them with your local LP's contact information.

**4** A sample press release for your Tax Day Rally.

■ Price for the complete package: **\$10.** (The **\$1 Million Tax Day Kit** will be sent via Priority Mail.)

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). Introductory brochure; gives a general, friendly overview of Libertarian Party beliefs.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Ending the Welfare State.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains and defends the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for a general audience.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

## Yard Sign

**ENOUGH IS ENOUGH / VOTE LIBERTARIAN.** Red, white, and blue ink on sturdy foamboard. Measures a big 24" x 18". Perfect for LP campaigns or rallies.

**Cost:** \$8.00 each.

■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how the government impoverishes Americans by taking more in taxes than most families spend on food, clothing, and shelter (combined).

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's five-point crime-control program that protects civil liberties — while providing more resources to fight real criminals.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Working to Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). How the LP would drastically reduce the size and cost of government by privatizing government services, abolishing corporate welfare, and ending income taxes.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

## HOW TO PLACE YOUR ORDER

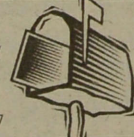


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# LITERATURE BUTTONS & MUCH MORE

## LP Literature & Books

■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto: why government doesn't work, and why it will work as well as voluntary solutions. Outlines a Libertarian plan for victory. Hardbound, 245 pages. **Cost:**

■ **Libertarianism In One Lesson** by David Bergland. Expanded 8th edition. The classic introductory text. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political and economic issues and contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. Read. Softbound, 158 pages. **Cost:** \$10 each; or \$5

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 2000: 2-page booklet (with political highlights, accomplishments, and statistics from 1971-1999) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty as a set). **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **LP Program.** 4 pages, blue ink. LP positions on education, jobs, political corruption, health care, and more — plus solutions. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100

■ **World's Smallest Political Quiz cards.** Perfect for "politically homeless" booths. **Cost:** \$1 for 100

## Bumperstickers

**Cost:** \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100. Size: 10" x 3"

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** (Red, white, & blue).

■ **Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian** (white; 800-ELECT-US phone number below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white)

■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue)

## Buttons (Cost: \$1 each or 75¢ each for 50 or more)

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-ELECT-US

## Miscellaneous Items

■ **Windbreaker.** Blue, with LP logo & party name. Available in M, L, XL. (Please specify.) **Cost:** \$25 each

## Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning:** 32 pages. Comprehensive explanation of winning campaign techniques for Libertarian candidates. A must read! **Cost:** \$3.00 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2", DOS-compatible computer disk. **Cost:** \$3 each

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and more. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. **Cost:** \$3 for set

## Large & Small Banners

■ **Small Banner.** (12" x 5'). White on blue. Or "Libertarian Party." **Cost:** \$25 each

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. Features "Libertarian Party." You can pick the second line of these two choices: "800-ELECT-US" or "Defenders of Liberty." (Specify which on order form.) **Cost:** \$40



# The wit & wisdom of Harry Browne, A-Z

Continued from Page 1

law is that a large company can eliminate all its competition through low prices and giveaways — and then raise its prices to the sky after the competition is gone. And yet no one has ever cited a real-life example of a company that was able to do this. The day a company tries to abuse its customers, new competition suddenly springs out of the bushes — except when anti-trust laws prevent companies from entering a market to compete.

■ **BIG BUSINESS:** “If government were reduced, what would prevent big business from becoming too powerful?” Competition. So long as there is a General Motors, there will be a Ford, a Chrysler, a Toyota — offering to treat customers, stockholders, and employees better than General Motors.

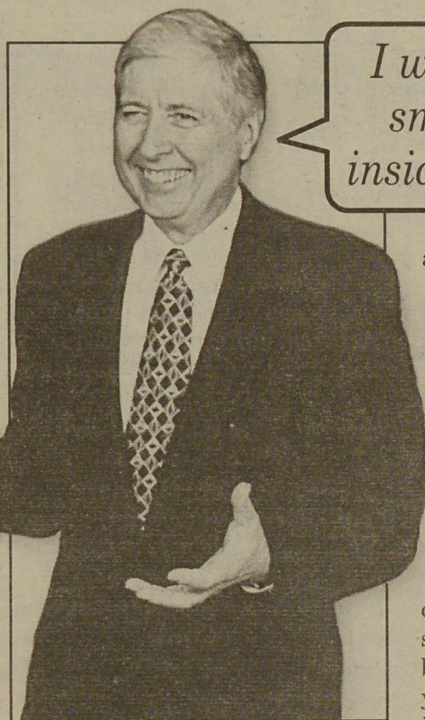
■ **BILL OF RIGHTS:** The Bill of Rights is a literal and absolute document. The 1st Amendment says you have a right to speak out even if the government thinks it has a “compelling interest” in shutting you up. The 2nd Amendment says you have the right to keep and bear arms even if some madman in Texas shoots up a restaurant. The 4th Amendment says you have a right to be safe from search and seizure even if some DEA agent thinks you fit the profile of a drug dealer. The government has no right to interfere with your freedoms under any circumstances.

■ **CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS:** The problem with politics isn’t the money, it’s the power. So long as politicians have the power to grant favors, exemptions, and business protection, people will find some way to subvert them — if not with money now, then with promises to take care of them later. The only way we will clean up campaign financing is by taking power away from the politicians — reducing the federal government to just the functions specified in the Constitution.

■ **CHRISTIANS:** Christians should vote Libertarian because we’re the only party that will take away the power of government to inflict one person’s values on another. This not only will make Christians safe from others with alien values, it also will make the others feel safe from Christians — so they no longer will feel the need to fight them.

■ **COMPASSION:** It’s wrong for someone to confiscate your money, give it to someone else, and call that “compassion.”

■ **COMPROMISE:** They say that politics is the art of compromise. And that’s true. The politicians compromise away our



*I want a government small enough to fit inside the Constitution.*

and other victimless crimes. Making a non-violent activity a crime creates a black market, which attracts criminals and gangs, which turns what was once a relatively harmless activity affecting a small group of people into a widespread epidemic of drug use and gang warfare.

■ **EDUCATION:** If we repeal the income tax, you’ll be able to afford to put your children in any private or religious school you want — where they’ll be taught the subjects and values you want them to learn, not those imposed by the educational bureaucracy. Every attempt to fix education through national standards, testing, vouchers, charter schools, or some other Band-Aid amounts to just another government program that requires you to continue fighting to make the program work as you want.

■ **ENVIRONMENT:** Most pollution takes place on government property — on government lands and roads, in government lakes, rivers, and streams. If someone dumped garbage on your property every day, you’d call the police and get them to stop the trespasser from polluting your property. But government allowed companies to dump toxic wastes in its lakes and streams, and to clear-cut or strip-mine its lands. Then, when public outrage became overwhelming, the government responded by passing new laws and setting up new agencies that harass companies and property owners who have always kept far better care of their property than the government has.

■ **EXTREMISM:** Is it extreme to want the government to abide by the Constitution? To believe that when taxes amount to 48% of the national income, government is too big? To think that people should be free to invest their own retirement money? To believe that the Bill of Rights should be honored literally?

■ **FDA:** If you had a package that absolutely had to be somewhere in the U.S. tomorrow morning, would you send it by the Post Office — which is a government agency — or by Federal Express, a private company that can make a profit only if it keeps its promise to you? If your life depended on the accurate testing of a medicine, would you want it done by a government agency or by a company whose success depended on absolute accuracy?

■ **FREE MARKET:** The free market punishes irresponsibility. Government rewards it.

■ **FREE TRADE:** The so-called “trade war” is actually a battle in which special interests and poli-

ticians are pitted against consumers. The only jobs saved by protectionism are those of the politicians who get to decide what we will be allowed to buy.

■ **FREEDOM:** Whatever the issue, let freedom offer us a hundred choices, instead of having government force one answer on everyone.

■ **GOVERNMENT:** I want a government small enough to fit inside the Constitution.

■ **GUN CONTROL:** The politicians routinely pass laws that prevent you from defending yourself. But they don’t disarm themselves. Members of the Secret Service, the FBI, and other federal agencies charged with protecting politicians are always well armed.

■ **HEALTH CARE:** Today 51% of all health-care dollars in America are spent by governments — not insurance companies, employers, or individuals, but by governments. If there is a crisis in health care — and there

certainly is — the government, not the free market, is responsible for it.

■ **IMMIGRATION:** Immigrants used to come to America seeking freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and freedom from government. Now they come looking for free health care, free education, and a free lunch.

■ **INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE:** The IRS can impose penalties on you for any of 150 different reasons. In 1992 it imposed 33 million such penalties on taxpayers. Did you get one? If not, maybe your turn will come next year. You may think a penalty is unlikely because you fill out your tax return so carefully, but *Money* magazine estimated that almost half of all penalty notices the IRS mails are incorrect, and that the IRS collects up to \$7 billion in mistaken penalties each year.

■ **LAWS:** Every time you help pass a law you think is needed, See **BROWNE A-Z** Page 14

money, our civil liberties, and our property.

■ **CONSERVATIVES & LIBERALS:** Conservatives say the government can’t end poverty by force, but they believe it can use force to make people moral. Liberals say government can’t make people be moral, but they believe it can end poverty. Neither group explains why government is so clumsy and destructive in one area but a paragon of efficiency and benevolence in the other.

■ **DEFENSE & THE MILITARY:** Politicians justify U.S. military power by saying, “It’s still a dangerous world out there.” But if it is dangerous to us, it’s because our government has repeatedly stuck its nose in matters that are none of our business — and thereby created enemies all over the world.

■ **DISASTER RELIEF:** It makes no sense for the people of Missouri to pay to rebuild Florida after a hurricane — only to have the people of Florida pay to rebuild Missouri after a flood. In both cases, Washington, D.C. takes an enormous cut. Each state would be much better off taking care of its own problems.

■ **DRUG WAR:** There are no violent gangs fighting over aspirin territories. There are no violent gangs fighting over whisky territories or computer territories or anything else that’s legal. There are only criminal gangs fighting over territories covering drugs, gambling, prostitution,

*The problem with politics isn’t the money, it’s the power.*

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# The wit & wisdom of Harry Browne, A-Z

Continued from Page 13

you make it easier for others to pass a law you won't like. Give the government the weapons to fight your enemy and it will use them against you.

■ **LIBERTARIANS:** I don't agree with the idea that a libertarian is someone who is fiscally conservative and socially liberal. It is a mistake to define libertarians in terms of conservatives or liberals. Conservative politicians are as fiscally imprudent as liberals, and liberal politicians are as contemptuous of individual rights as conservatives. Libertarians stand for individual liberty and personal responsibility on all issues at all times. Conservatives and liberals each sometimes take positions similar to libertarians, but — unlike libertarians — there is no consistent principle running through their political positions.

■ **MATCHING FUNDS:** I don't believe in government welfare for individuals or corporations — and I certainly don't believe in it for politicians.

■ **MORALITY:** If you ask the government to impose morality, then moral questions will be decided by whoever has the most political power.

■ **POLITICS:** The great delusion of political activity is the belief that you can have the government do exactly what you want — that, somehow, you can get it to

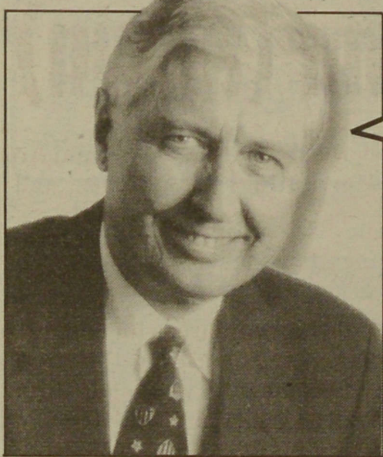
perform some function for some good purpose, with nothing bad thrown into the bargain — and that the program you envision will be carried out dutifully by thousands of bureaucrats in just the way you think it should be handled.

■ **QUOTAS:** Imagine what it will be like when the federal dictators perfect their quota regulations. A company of 100 employees will have to include, among others, one Jewish, Puerto-Rican, female sales manager; one Buddhist, Abyssinian office manager; and one black, gay, Catholic Indian as bookkeeper.

■ **REGULATIONS:** Whenever the government fails to prevent a plane crash, the event is cited as justification for having the government prevent plane crashes.

■ **REPUBLICANS:** Republicans campaign like Libertarians and govern like Democrats.

■ **REPUBLICANS & DEMOCRATS:** The Democrats say a particular crisis is so severe that they must take another \$300 from you. The Republicans say, "No, it's not that bad; we need to take only \$200." Or the Republicans say a threat is so great they must take away three more of your civil rights. The Democrats counter by saying, "No, that's too extreme; destroying two civil rights will be enough." Whatever the issue, both sides agree it's a reason for more



*Give government the weapons to fight your enemy and it will use them against you.*

government, and that you should pay for it. And no matter what price or intrusion they eventually agree upon, within a few years the cost will always be far greater than either side had asked for originally.

■ **RESPONSIBILITY:** Government seems to operate on the principle that if even one individual is incapable of using his freedom competently, no one can be allowed to be free.

■ **SAFETY NET:** The most secure safety net in the world is the generosity of family, friends, churches, foundations, the United Way, and other charitable agencies. These people are determined to help. Government bureaucrats are determined to enlarge their power by keeping as many people as possible on welfare.

■ **SOCIAL SECURITY:** So long

as Social Security remains in government's hands, it will be in trouble. We can't leave our retirement money lying around on the table, because the politicians will grab it and spend it on their favorite pork barrel projects.

■ **TAXES:** Federal, state, and local taxes take 48% of the national income. That means if you and your spouse both work, one of you is working for the government and the other is working for your family.

■ **UTOPIAN THINKING:** Robert Bork has said that Libertarians have an unrealistic "sweet view of human nature," and that is why they oppose government attempts to impose morality. He has this matter precisely backward. It is because there are evil, incompetent people in the world that we must never give government the power to enforce morality, economic equality, or any other social goal. The coercive power of government is always a

beacon to those who want to dominate others — summoning the worst dregs of society to Washington to use that power to impose their will upon others.

■ **WASTE:** There is no waste in government. Politicians create programs for the specific purpose of helping their political supporters — to make it easier to re-elect the politicians. The re-election rate of incumbents proves the programs are very efficient; they do exactly what they're designed to do.

■ **WELFARE:** Who is helped by being made a ward of the state, forced to live in slums, cornered in a housing development to be preyed upon by criminals and drug dealers, and unable to take a job without losing money on the deal? Only politicians and bureaucrats benefit from welfare — and that's why every welfare reform leads to bigger budgets and more people on welfare.

■ **ZERO:** I'm for a flat tax — as long as the flat rate is zero. The object is to get rid of big government, not find a new way of financing it.

■ **About the author:** Harry Browne was the LP's only two-time presidential nominee, in 1996 and 2000. Currently the head of the American Liberty Foundation, Inc., he is the author of *Why Government Doesn't Work* and *The Great Libertarian Offer*.

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libertarians we don't accept government funds. With a strong campaign we have an outside chance of winning the Presidency in 2002. But we certainly will by 2006 if we can elect many Congressmen next year.

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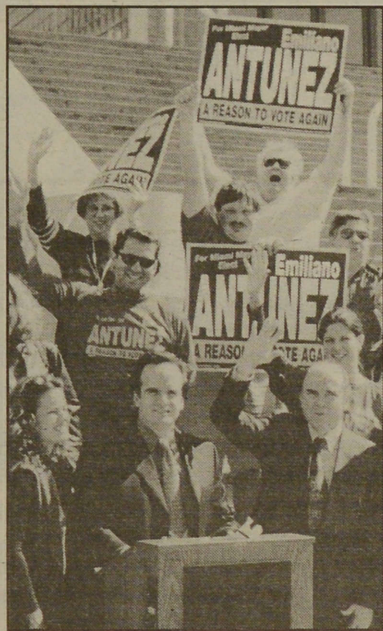
# Emiliano Antunez gears up to run for mayor of Miami (again)

*Election in 2000 was stopped by court order*

A year after his first campaign for mayor of Miami was halted by a court order, Libertarian Emiliano Antunez has jumped back into the race.

On February 22, Antunez officially launched his second bid for Miami's top job with a press conference at the Carretta Restaurant.

Surrounded by family and supporters, the 38-year-old businessman said, "My life and business experience make me the most qualified candidate to understand what the homeowners and small business people of Miami really need."



■ **Emiliano Antunez, shown here at a campaign rally from his 2000 bid for mayor, said, "My life and business experience make me the most qualified candidate."**

taxes and scandal-filled government make City Hall winnable for a Libertarian, he said.

"[The city government has] doubled the waste pickup fee [and] instituted a new fire fee on all property owners," he said.

Antunez said he will offer voters nothing less than "a new way of running the city," with a campaign strategy designed to tap into voter anger over issues like

the tax-subsidized Miami Arena, irritating city agencies, and expensive trash pick-up.

For example, he supports "competitive privatization of solid waste collection, saving homeowners hundreds [of dollars] and freeing them from the city's expensive solid waste fee," he said.

He also supports "eliminating the permits for simple home improvements, such as painting or laying tile. [And] further shrinking the intrusiveness of the building department and minimizing the fees charged for necessary permits."

Finally, Antunez said, "Sports arenas should be bought and paid for by pro sports franchise owners. I do not believe that one cent of taxpayer money should be used to acquire, build, or maintain a pro sports facility."

Professionally, Antunez is the president of a consumer finance company and a dentist. He serves as Miami-Dade County LP Chair, and is a past member of the Miami/Dade Housing and Finance Authority. Antunez and his wife, Aida, have one daughter and are expecting twins in April.

■ For information about the Emiliano Antunez for Mayor campaign, or to make a contribution, write: Emiliano Antunez Campaign, 888 N.W. 27th Avenue, Suite 4, Miami, Florida 33125. Or visit: [www.antunez.org](http://www.antunez.org). Phone: (305) 642-1223.

## NewsBriefs

### LP won 15 million votes in 2000

Libertarian Party candidates won more than 15 million votes last year — more than ever before in party history.

After collecting the results from hundreds of local races around the USA, LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger announced that LP candidates — at the local, state, and federal level — won a total of 15,523,382 votes in November 2000.

"There's no question: This is a record for the party," he said. "We've never before come close to winning this many votes."

The party won 382,892 votes for president; 1,036,965 votes for U.S. Senate; 1,727,157 votes for U.S. House of Representatives; 160,100 votes for governor; 8,207,022 votes for other statewide races; 640,354 votes for state senate; 999,060 votes for state house; and 2,369,832 votes for local and county races.

The 15 million figure is different than the 3.3 million "unique" vote figure the party had previously publicized, said Crickenberger.

"We knew that at least 3.3 million individuals voted for at least one LP candidate," he said. "That gave us a sense of our base of support. Now, we have a sense of what our potential is."

The challenge for the party now will be to garner even more votes in the next national election, said Crickenberger.

"Fifteen million is good," he said. "Now we need to do better. And that means even more candidates in 2002 and 2004."

■ **Interested in running for office in an upcoming election?** Contact LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger for a free package on campaigning as a Libertarian. Call: (202) 333-0008, Ext. 227. Or e-mail: [RonCrickenberger@hq.lp.org](mailto:RonCrickenberger@hq.lp.org).

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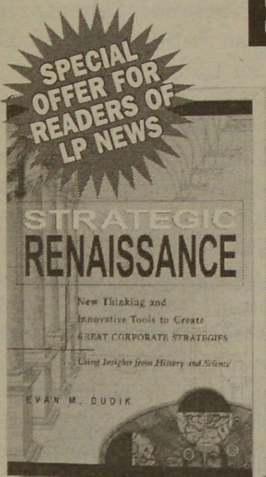
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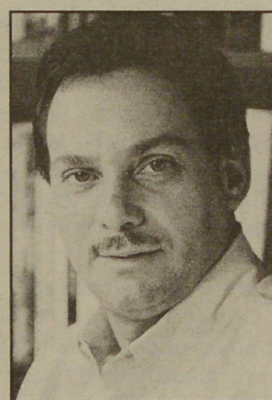
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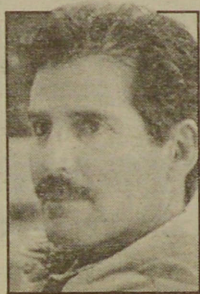
# Politics2001

## What's going on around the USA

■ In Texas, **Paul Hansen** announced he will run for U.S. House (District 29) in 2002. Also in Texas, *Ballot Access News* publisher **Richard Winger** was named honorary co-chair of the **Jeff Daniel** for Governor campaign. In Michigan, **Ray Kirkus** announced his candidacy for the New Buffalo City Council. In New Hampshire, **Howard Wilson** is running for Andover Selectman, and **Bill Discipio** is a candidate for Sandown Budget Committee. In California, **Carl M. "Marty" Swinney** was endorsed as the LP candidate for the May 1 special election for State Senate (24th District). In Illinois, **Austin Hough** announced his candidacy for Bolingbrook Library Trustee.

■ In Massachusetts, **Kay Pirrello** has been hired by the state LP as its fulltime volunteer coordinator. In Indiana, **Steve Dillon** was elected Chair of the Board of Directors of NORML. In Texas, the LPTexas Watchdog group is monitoring the 1,300-plus bills that have been filed in the state legislature. In California, four Libertarians — **Peter Ford**, **Carl Olson**, **Mark Seidenberg**, and **Robin C. Westmiller** — are running for the state American Automobile Association (AAA) Board of Directors. The Libertarian slate wants the AAA to work to end the state's vehicle tax and double taxation of gasoline and diesel.

■ **Video news:** A video of the *John Stossel Goes to Washington* program is now available from Laissez Faire Books at its website: <http://laissezfairebooks.com>. Also, a 49-minute video about the Philadelphia and Los Angeles Shadow Convention's anti-War on Drugs presentations is now available from the Drug Policy Foundation. The video, *Shadow Conventions 2000: America's Failed War on Drugs*, features Republican Governor Gary Johnson (NM), actors Susan Sarandon and Tim Robbins, family members of non-violent drug prisoners, and others. Cost: \$15. To order, call (212) 547-6916 or visit: [aponickly@drugpolicy.org](mailto:aponickly@drugpolicy.org).



■ **John Stossel:** Video on sale

■ **Media news:** In 2000, the LP national headquarters did more electronic media interviews than the National Taxpayers Union and the National Taxpayers Union Foundation — combined. According to its January/February *Dollars & Sense* newsletter, NTU and NTUF (combined budgets: \$5.4 million) did 580 radio, television, and online interviews last year. By comparison, the national LP (budget: \$3.6 million) participated in over 600 such interviews. NTU and NTUF also had 30 op-eds published last year; the national LP had 40 op-eds printed.

■ In Michigan, **James L. Hudler** was re-elected as Chair of the Washtenaw County LP. In Virginia, **Robert Dean** was elected Chair of the Virginia Beach LP. In Massachusetts, the state LP raised \$53,354 at its annual convention in February. In Illinois, **Samantha Polizzi**, 11, has joined the party — making her the youngest Illinois LP member. In Colorado, **Steven J. D'Ippolito** was re-elected as Chair of the El Paso County LP.

■ **Calling all Bedouins:** The website AmericanBedouin.com has directed all its traffic to the Libertarian Party's website. In other online news, the Zogby polling company did an online survey in February asking people about their political affiliation. The only options: Democrat, Republican, Independent, **Libertarian**, and Not Sure/Refuse. In Colorado, the El Paso LP hosted a public forum for candidates for the Colorado Springs City Council. "All of the candidates will have the opportunity to introduce themselves, explain their positions on the issues, and answer questions," said **Steve F. Gresh**, LPEP Media Director.

■ In Virginia, **Glenn Loucks** was appointed to the Old Town Rezoning Advisory Board in Harrisonburg. In New Hampshire, **Steve Varone** is serving as Cemetery Trustee in Walpole. In Massachusetts, **Matthew Dailey** has achieved a "hat trick" — he was appointed to Tewksbury's Sidewalk Committee, the Industrial Commission, and the Recycling Committee. In Georgia, **Mike Hanson** is serving on the Brooks City Council.

■ In Iowa, **Michael Ryan** was elected as a member of the Scott County Agricultural Extension Council in January. In Massachusetts, national LP Treasurer **Mark Tuniewicz** was elected to the Easton Finance Committee. In New Mexico, **Bonnie Richardson** was appointed to the Ruidoso Downs Village Council, while **Allen Cogbill** was appointed to the Los Alamos Planning & Zoning Commission.

# Charges dropped against Kubby

Continued from Page 1

people and donations to our side. Thanks to our prosecutors, the media and citizens finally get it."

However, the legal battle is not over yet: Kubby said he now expects to file a civil lawsuit against the county District Attorney for false arrest, will charge police and prosecutors with "deliberately violating [his] civil and medical rights," and will launch a recall election against the DA who prosecuted him.

"From the ashes of despair, we are rising up, empowered to recall corrupt elected officials and hold them accountable," he said. "The recent effort by [county] prosecutors to prohibit me from using medical marijuana while on probation, after days of testimony by doctors documenting how cannabis has saved my life, shows their criminal intent to violate the Compassionate Use Act."

"After all, if a patient as well documented as myself is considered ineligible to use medical marijuana in Placer County, then who is? Clearly a recall election and federal civil rights prosecutions are the only remaining solutions."

## Hired a lawyer

The American Medical Marijuana Association, an organization that Kubby heads, has already hired a lawyer to begin working on the lawsuits, he said.

Kubby was the LP's gubernatorial candidate in California in 1998, and sought the party's vice presidential nomination in 2000. He also played a key role in Proposition 215, which was passed by voters in 1996.

His high-profile role in the medical marijuana movement may be the reason, supporters speculate, why the Kubbys were arrested in January 1999 after a raid on their Olympic Valley home, and charged with violating 19 different drug laws.

Both pleaded not guilty to all charges, arguing that they used marijuana in accordance with the law — Steve Kubby to treat a rare form of adrenal cancer under doctor's orders, and Michele Kubby to alleviate irritable bowel syndrome.

## Deadlocked

After a four-month trial and 21 hours of deliberation, a "hopelessly deadlocked" jury said it could not reach a verdict on the most significant charges against the Kubbys — conspiracy, cultivation, and possession of marijuana with intent to sell — and voted 11-1 in favor of acquittal.

However, Steve Kubby was convicted of what were called "comparably minor" drug charges of possession of a controlled substance, psilocybin and peyote. Michele Kubby was acquitted of those charges.

Kubby had faced the possibil-

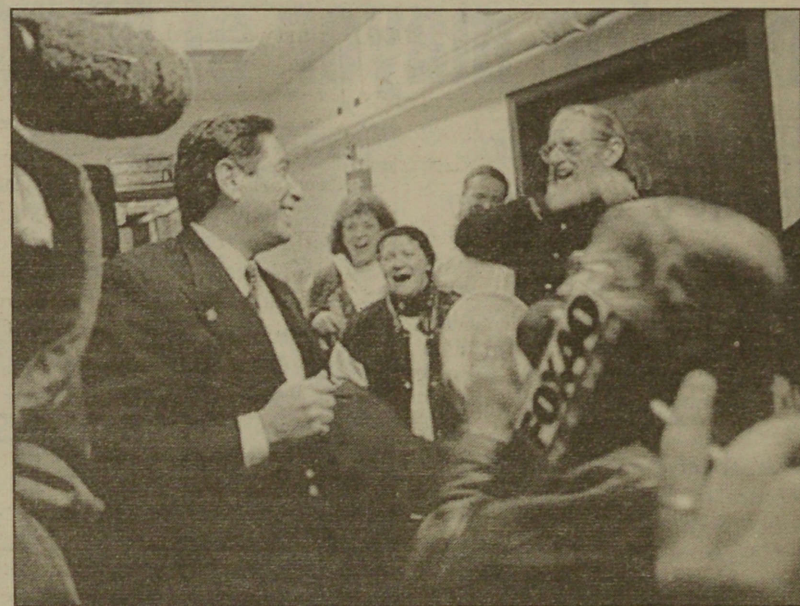


Photo by Carl Costas, Auburn Journal

■ **Steve Kubby celebrates with supporters after the March 2 sentencing hearing. Now, he may file a civil lawsuit against the county District Attorney for false arrest, and may launch a recall election against the DA who prosecuted him.**

ity of almost four years in prison — but at the sentencing hearing on March 2, Judge John L. Cosgrove said, "Jail would not be an appropriate place for Mr. Kubby."

Instead, he reduced the felony charges to misdemeanors, fined Kubby \$2,700, imposed three years' probation, and ordered him to serve 120 days of alternative sentencing, probably electronic home monitoring.

The judge said he accepted Kubby's explanation that the psilocybin (a single mushroom stem) had been used for research for a book Kubby wrote on the re-

cal marijuana patients, and Libertarians are proud of Steve and Michele Kubby, who fought for their beliefs and prevailed.

"Steve and Michele were victims of a politically motivated attempt to make examples of them, and this trial should never have happened in the first place. Fortunately, we have won this battle, but the war wages on and Libertarians will continue to fight."

At the same sentencing hearing, the District Attorney announced that all marijuana charges against the Kubbys would be dropped, thereby avoiding a costly retrial. The DA also said he would drop similar medical marijuana charges against another Placer County couple.

"The District Attorney saw the writing on the wall and wisely decided to save the taxpayers the expense of a retrial," said Ros. "All in all, this has been a great day for the cause of health freedom."

The national Libertarian Party also congratulated the Kubbys for their victory.

## Costly, painful

"It is unfortunate that Steve and Michele had to undergo a costly, painful, and traumatic two-year legal battle just to affirm their right to take life-saving medication," said LP National Director Steve Dasbach. "However, their sacrifice may mean that hundreds or thousands of other medical marijuana patients will not have to live under the constant threat of arrest."

"Steve and Michele are real heroes, not just to the medical marijuana movement, but to Libertarians everywhere."

Now, said Kubby, with his trial and sentencing over, the counteroffensive will begin — with lawsuits against prosecutors who "are deliberately violating the civil and medical rights of seriously ill people."

"The fight has just begun!" he said.

## JUAN ROS:

*"All in all, this has been a great day for the cause of health freedom."*

ligious significance of psychedelic mushrooms, and that the peyote button had been left by a visitor.

Cosgrove also noted Kubby's "impeccably clean" prior criminal record.

In addition, in an unprecedented victory for medical marijuana patients, the judge ruled that Kubby could continue using medical marijuana during his probation.

At the announcement, several dozen Proposition 215 supporters and California Libertarians erupted in applause in the Placer County courtroom.

The California LP described the ruling as "a decisive victory for medical marijuana patients."

"We are thrilled with the outcome," said California LP Executive Director Juan Ros. "This is a major step forward for all medi-



# Election Results

Here are final November 2000 election results. Each listing includes the candidate's state, office sought, name, vote total, and percentage of the vote won.

## ■ Arizona

Pima Co. Attorney David T. Hardy 33,408 11.55%

## ■ California

Descanso Community Planning Dist. Ray English 100%

Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation Dist. Gilbert Carroll 100%

Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation Dist. Gary Molle 100%

Hollister City Council Brian Conroy 530 30.6%

La Honda-Pescadero Unified School Dist. Kelly McKnight 100%

## ■ Florida

Hillsborough Co. Commissioner Dist. 3 Joe Redner 9,960 19.65%

Lee Co. Commissioner Bob Lehman 29,465 18.39%

Orange Co. Soil & Water Conservation Board Dist. 1 Lisa Bullion 126,779 63.63%

Orange Co. Soil & Water Conservation Board Dist. 3 Jim Warmke 67,633 34.93%

Pasco Co. Soil & Water Conservation Board Dist. 4 Jon Kueny 100%

Sheriff Flagler Co. Oscar Celico 762 2.88%

## ■ Hawaii

Hawaii Co. Council Dist. 2 Jim O'Keefe 1,367 23.4%

Honolulu Co. Council Dick Rowland 1,594 6.5%

## ■ Iowa

Scott Co. Agricultural Extension Council Michael Ryan 35 100%

Scott Co. Soil & Water Conservation Comm. Mark Nelson 52 100%

## ■ Indiana

Delaware Co. Council At Large Jeremy McShurley 3,033 2.6%

## ■ Michigan

Berrien Co. Drain Commissioner Tom Baker 7,944 16%

Berrien Co. Sheriff Glenn Whitt 3,937 8% Mayor of Ann Arbor Charles Goodman 1,849 3.7%

City Council, Ann Arbor J.P. Denoyer 380 4.1%

City Council, Ann Arbor Stephen Saletta 198 1.97%

Clinton Township Trustee Scott W. Allen 2595 1.9%

Co. Commissioner Kalamazoo, Dist. 1 Carole Miley 387 3.08%

Grand Rapids Board of Education Jeff Steinport 2,471 36%

Kent Co. Comm. Bill Hall 14,163 6.3%

Livingston Co. Clerk Livingston George Sise 1,126 20.61%

Midland Co. Commissioner Dist. 5 Stephen Townsend 760 26.35%

Oronoko Charter Township Clerk Jay Suave 601 23%

Portsmouth Township Trustee Dick Jozwiak 372 7.15%

Three Oaks Township Trustee Ronald Freehling 463 28%

## ■ Nevada

Clark Co. Commissioner A Tim Hagan 2,862 3.08%

Clark Co. Commissioner C Ken Lucas 3,016 3.72%

Washoe Co. Commissioner Dist. 4 Brendan Trainor 3,857 25.22%

## ■ Oregon

East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation Dist. Adam Mayer 61,076 47.27%

Grants Pass City Council Shane Savoie 642 9.05%

Wallowa Co. Commissioner Mike Wood 802 20.45%

## ■ Tennessee

School Board, Sullivan Co. Gary Melvin 147 14.3%

## ■ Texas

Brazos Co. Constable Dist. 4 Bruce Pugh 1,492 12.1%

Cameron Co. Commissioner Dist. 3 Drye Wendell 682 3.73%

Hutchinson Co. Public Weigher Charlie Lambert 3,888 100%

# Carla Howell: Spotlight is on possible 2002 run

Continued from Page 3

"made Carla Howell the state party's standard-bearer — and something of a hero to Bay State Libertarians." A gubernatorial bid could help the LP fill the void created by a "Massachusetts Republican Party facing rough times."

The *MetroWest Daily News* offered readers a pop quiz about Howell: "Who won more votes in Massachusetts last year, Ralph Nader for President or Carla Howell running for U.S. Senate?"

Believe it or not, the Libertarian Howell won 308,860 votes for Senate, compared to Nader's 173,564 total as the Green Party candidate for president. And with almost 2 million independent voters in the state, "Libertarians still have a rich vein to mine for votes."

If she does run in 2002, Howell said her goal will be to run a \$2-\$4 million campaign.

"We will be competitive," she said. "If I decide to run, we will run the biggest, best-funded, most

successful Libertarian governor campaign in party history."

Howell raised \$821,000 for her U.S. Senate race, a Libertarian Party record.

## As many votes

The goal of the potential campaign would be to "reach as many voters as we can, win as many votes as we can, and build support for future campaigns," she said. "We hope our successful Libertarian campaigns in Massachusetts

will inspire other Libertarian campaigns to go farther than they ever dreamed possible."

Howell said 561 Libertarians have already e-mailed her, encouraging her to run, while supporters have pledged \$31,711.

"I'm honored and flattered that so many friends and supporters want me to be Governor of Massachusetts," she said.

Howell said she would make a final decision about running for governor "later this year."

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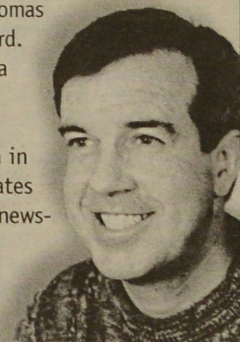
The seminar kicks off with Advocates Founder Marshall Fritz speaking on "Success vs. Excellence" in libertarian outreach — a point too often neglected. Then Michael on: How to quickly open minds to new ideas. How to immediately and dramatically improve your outreach results. What's in your political communication toolbox? What should be there? Tools, tips, techniques and strategies and when and where to use them. The importance of communication failure. And more!

■ TAPE NO. 2: "Is Asking the Answer? Are Questions the Solution? The Secrets of Persuasive Libertarian Communication" Dealing with the "conspiracy against the individual." How to turn the "Utopian fallacy" to your advantage. Mind-altering questions that will lead others to make your libertarian arguments for you. Questions as "mental appetizers." And more!

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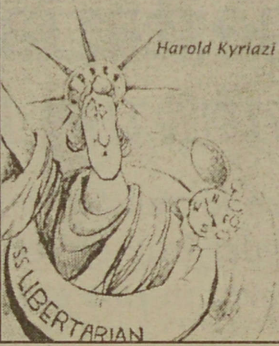
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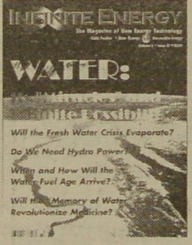
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# Victory Fund PAC will support LP candidates

Continued from Page 4

scholarships for serious candidates and campaign managers to non-partisan political training schools, such as Campaigns & Elections and The Leadership Institute.

■ Publishing a "how to" guide on running winning campaigns for local office.

■ Offering a free online newsletter (available on the LVF website), which features free campaign tips and reports on local campaigns.

■ Direct funding in the form of "independent expenditure support" to targeted campaigns.

"For example, we can purchase signs, create websites, and even produce professionally-designed walk pieces for the campaigns," said Azzaro. "We have the

ability to make unlimited independent expenditures on behalf of our candidates. If a campaign looks good enough, we will start cranking out high-quality direct mail in support of our candidates. We'll do whatever it takes to help them win."

The LVF will support campaigns based on several criteria, said Azzaro: Candidates must support "solid Libertarian" positions; must demonstrate that they

**CHRIS AZZARO:**  
*We'll do "whatever it takes" to help Libertarian Party candidates win.*

are running a serious, professional campaign; must raise the first 20% of their budget on their own; and must be running in a winnable race.

## Full disclosure

The Libertarian Victory Fund has been set up as a non-profit 527 political action committee, subject to full public disclosure of financial activity.

"We wanted our books to be

wide open," said Azzaro. "We want our contributors to feel confident knowing that their funds are being used with maximum efficiency and effectiveness."

In addition to his other work, Azzaro served on former Mayor Art Olivier's winning primary campaign for Vice President, and is a freelance political consultant and fundraiser for Libertarian candidates all over the country.

For more information about the Libertarian Victory Fund, to make a donation, or to apply for campaign funding support, visit: [www.LibertarianVictoryFund.com](http://www.LibertarianVictoryFund.com). Or call (702) 657-6573.

## Ruwart named Discover Liberty honorary chair

Continued from Page 4

"Millions of Americans are already libertarian — but they don't know it. Let's go meet them person-to-person!"

The Advocates is still looking for people who are experienced with OPHs to volunteer as state and campus coordinators, said Harris.

In March, Discover Liberty was also endorsed by LP National Chair James W. Lark.

"The Discover Liberty program has great promise as a vehicle to introduce and explain Libertarian ideas to hundreds of thousands of Americans through tried and true methods," he said. "I shall take part in Discover Liberty, and I urge my colleagues to consider participating in the program."

For more information about Discover Liberty — or to volunteer as a coordinator or an OPH booth participant — call the Advocates: (770) 386-8372. E-mail: [DiscoverLiberty@TheAdvocates.org](mailto:DiscoverLiberty@TheAdvocates.org). Visit: [www.TheAdvocates.org](http://www.TheAdvocates.org). Or write: 269 Market Place Blvd., #106, Cartersville, GA 30121.



■ **Mary Ruwart:**  
Honorary chair.

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Fri/Sat.	Apr. 17/28	<b>ASHEVILLE, NC</b>	Patriot Conference, Heavenly Ranch 777 River Run Rd, Canton, NC (828) 235-1133 [Call for price: 864-225-3061]
Sun.	Apr. 29	<b>GEORGIA LP CONVENTION</b>	Four Points Sheraton, 1850 Cotillion Dr. Atlanta, GA 30338 (770) 394-5000 [Call for price: (404) 888-9468]
Sat.	May 5	<b>LOS ANGELES, CA</b>	Holiday Inn Burbank Media Center, 150 E. Angeleno Ave., Burbank, CA (818) 841-4770
Sun.	May 6	<b>ORANGE COUNTY, CA</b>	The Atrium Hotel, 18700 MacArthur Blvd, Irvine, CA (949) 833-2770
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# The Forum

## The secrets to winning every argument

■ **Editor's note:** *Libertarians are always trying to hone their debating skills, so they can be more persuasive salespeople for liberty. Vis-a-vis that fact, here are some useful all-purpose debating tactics. Oh, and Q.E.D., too.*

Argue very well. Ask any of my remaining friends. I can win an argument on any topic, against any opponent. People know this, and steer clear of me at parties. Often, as a sign of their great respect, they don't even invite me. You too can win arguments. Simply follow these rules:

### ■ Drink Liquor.

Suppose you're at a party and some hotshot intellectual is expounding on the economy of Peru, a subject you know nothing about. If you're drinking some health-fanatic drink like grapefruit juice, you'll hang back, afraid to display your ignorance, while the hotshot enthalls your date.

But if you drink several large martinis, you'll discover you have *strong views* about the Peruvian economy. You'll be a *wealth* of information. You'll argue forcefully, offering searing insights and possibly upsetting furniture.

People will be impressed.

Some may even leave the room.

### From the Internet

#### ■ Whenever necessary, make things up.

Suppose, in the Peruvian economy argument, you are trying to prove Peruvians are underpaid, a position you base solely on the fact that *you* are underpaid, and you're damned if you're going to let a bunch of Peruvians be better off.

DON'T say: "I think Peruvians are underpaid." Say, "The average Peruvian's salary in 1981 dollars adjusted for the revised tax base is \$1,452.81 per annum, which is \$836.07 below the mean gross poverty level."

NOTE: Always make up exact figures.

If an opponent asks you where you got your information, make *that* up, too.

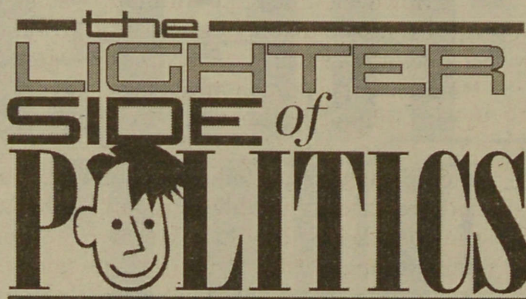
Say: "This information comes from Dr. Hovel T. Moon's study for the Buford Commission published May 9, 1982. Don't tell me you didn't read it?" Say this in the same tone of voice you would use to say, "You left your soiled underwear in my bath house."

#### ■ Use meaningless but weighty-sounding words and phrases.

Memorize this list: "Let me put it this way . . ." "In terms of . . ." "Vis-a-vis . . ." "As it were . . ." "Qua . . ." "So to speak . . ."

You should also memorize some Latin abbreviations such as "Q.E.D.," "e.g.," and "i.e." These are all short for "I speak Latin, and you do not."

Here's how to use these words



and phrases. Suppose you want to say: "Peruvians would like to order appetizers more often, but they don't have enough money."

You never win arguments talking like that.

But you WILL win if you say: "Let me put it this way. In terms of appetizers vis-a-vis Peruvians qua Peruvians, they would like to order them more often, so to speak, but they do not have

enough money per se, as it were. Q.E.D."

Only a fool would challenge that statement.

#### ■ Use snappy and irrelevant comebacks.

You need an arsenal of all-purpose irrelevant phrases to fire back at your opponents when they make valid points. The best are:

- You're begging the question.
- You're being defensive.
- Don't compare apples and oranges.
- What are your parameters?

This last one is especially valuable. Nobody, other than mathematicians, has the vaguest idea what "parameters" means.

Here's how to use your comebacks: You say: "As Abraham Lincoln said in 1873 . . ." Your opponents says: "Lincoln died in 1865." You say: "You're begging the question."

OR: You say: "Liberians, like most Asians . . ." Your opponent says: "Liberia is in Africa." You say: "You're being defensive."

So that's it: You now know how to out-argue anybody. Do not try to pull any of this on people who carry weapons.

## Political Words of Wisdom

■ "Ninety eight percent of the adults in this country are decent, hardworking, honest Americans. It's the other lousy two percent that get all the publicity. But then, we elected them." — Lily Tomlin

■ "I get no respect. The way my luck is running, if I was a politician I would be honest." — Rodney Dangerfield

■ "The hardest thing to understand in the world is the income tax." — Albert Einstein

■ "What this country needs is more unemployed politicians." — Angela Davis

■ "Government is too big and important to be left to the politicians." — Chester Bowles

■ "An honest politician is one who when he is bought, *stays* bought." — Simon Cameron

■ "Instead of giving a politician the keys to the city, it might be better to change the locks." — Doug Larson

■ "Apparently, a democracy is a place where numerous elections are held at great cost without issues and with interchangeable candidates." — Gore Vidal

■ "Taxation *with* representation ain't so hot either." — Gerald Barzan

■ "One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors." — Plato

■ "The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace in a continual state of alarm (and hence clamorous to be led to safety) by menacing them with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary." — H. L. Mencken

■ "It's hard to say why politicians are called servants, unless it's because a good one is hard to find." — Gerald F. Lieberman

## What you must believe to believe in gun control

It's amazing what one has to believe to believe in gun control. Here's a short list of the basic "factual" premises of gun control advocates:

■ That the more helpless you are, the safer you are from criminals.

■ That one should consult an automotive engineer for safer seatbelts, a civil engineer for a better bridge, a surgeon for spinal paralysis, a programmer for computer problems, and Sarah Brady for firearms expertise.

■ That the Second Amendment, ratified in 1791, allows the states to have a National Guard, created by act of Congress in 1916.

■ That free speech entitles one to own newspapers, transmitters, computers, and typewriters, but self-defense only justifies bare hands.

■ That the ready availability of guns today — with only a few government forms, waiting periods, checks, infringements, ID, and fingerprinting — is responsible for all the school shootings, compared to the lack of school shootings in the 1950s and 1960s, which was caused by the awkward availability of guns at any hardware store, gas station, and by mail order.

ward availability of guns at any hardware store, gas station, and by mail order.

■ That guns cause crime, which is why there has never been a mass slaying at a gun show.

■ That guns cause crime, just like matches cause arson.

■ That guns cause crime, just like women cause prostitution.

■ That guns aren't necessary to national defense, which is why the army only has 3 million of them.

■ That banning guns works, which is why New York, DC, and Chicago cops need guns against armed criminals.

■ That most people can't be trusted, so we should have laws against guns, which most people will abide by, because they can be trusted.

■ That guns are the gravest threat to society, because 83,000,000 gun owners didn't commit a crime yesterday.

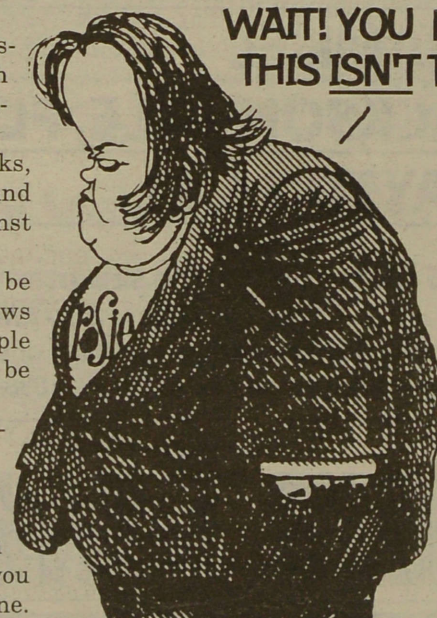
■ That a bank guard can protect money with a gun, but you can't protect your children with one.

By Michael Williamson

■ That people are too stupid to handle guns, but are intelligent enough to vote.

■ That any cheap gun is a "Saturday night special," and any expensive gun is an "assault weapon."

■ That the *New England Journal of Medicine* is filled with expert advice about guns, just like *Guns and Ammo* has some excellent treatises on heart surgery.



■ That it is reasonable for California to have a minimum 2 year sentence for possessing but not using an assault rifle, and reasonable for California to have a 6 month minimum sentence for raping a female police officer.

■ That a 90-pound woman attacked by a 300-pound rapist and his buddy, has the "right" to kill them in self defense, provided she uses her bare hands.

■ That with nationwide gun control, the entire nation can be as safe as New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago.

■ That Massachusetts is safer with bans on guns, which is why Teddy Kennedy has gun-toting guards.

■ That the crime rate in America is decreasing because of gun control, and the increase in crime requires more gun control.

■ That the country is safer with less guns, which is why lunatics shoot up schools instead of gun shows or police stations.

■ That stupidity can be cured by legislation.

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# Gilligan's Island: A metaphor for government and life

## A Scholarly Critique of the Style, Symbolism, & Sociopolitical Relevance of Gilligan's Island

Great works of literature often attempt to confront us with the obvious in such a way as to call the inevitable into question. They strive to explain through metaphor that which is too complex or too abstract to state literally.

These qualities are ambitiously gathered in Sherwood Schwartz's masterwork, *Gilligan's Island*. Through a thin veil of canned laughter, unpretentious slap-stick, and inexpensive production, the complete modern sociopolitical predicament is brought to the light of day.

The island symbolizes society. The island is a simple vehicle with clear boundaries designed to remove all irrelevant, external stimuli from the story and its message. Simplify to clarify.

### Authority

The Skipper represents official government. His authority stems not so much from democratic election as from the traditional role and powers of a ship's captain. This historical precedent seems to convey his right to leadership more than any personal characteristics or qualifications. The castaways rely on this symbolic "right" to leadership to unofficially consent to his capacity as governor.

Without exception, everyone on the island clamors to the Skipper for help at every crisis. "Skipper will know what to do." The Skipper is "brave and sure." The Skipper calms the islanders at each emergency not by alleviating the problem, but by standing tall, pounding his chest, and loudly making magnificent promises that neither he nor any other person could possibly keep.

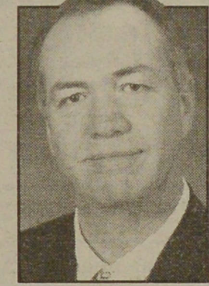
Gilligan, the Skipper's "little buddy," embodies every extraneous governmental agency, policy and program ever foisted on innocent people anywhere. It is "Gilligan's island." Gilligan is well-intentioned. He sincerely wants to help. Gilligan saves no exertion, refuses no absurdity, respects no boundary in his unceasing efforts to solve any and all of the everyday problems of the castaways. More often than not Gilligan is the problem. At best he makes a bad situation worse.

In every episode, Gilligan somehow manages to ruin another chance for the castaways to be rescued. Still, in the next episode, everyone will rely on Gilligan for some critical act.

Schwartz forces us to ask, "Why do they continue to trust Gilligan when they know he will fail?"

Some speculate it is the Skipper's guardianship that leaves the islanders powerless to remove Gilligan's influence. While it is true that the Skipper is usually supportive of Gilligan, he is also often very critical — especially following some significant mishap. The Skipper's protection is not the real reason Gilligan is left to perform crucial duties.

The answer, of course, is that the islanders have become complacent. Gilligan performs almost all of the menial chores on the island. Because he is so often relied upon for the unpleasant or mundane, it seems strangely natural to everyone that this dependence extend to the vital. No one wants nuisance Gilligan or blundering Gilligan, but no one is willing to do away with utility Gilligan.



By Lewis Napper

Skipper and Gilligan as government vow to keep everyone fed, comfortable, and safe. They are hilariously inept except in those cases where they pose a real hazard to the safety and well-being of those around them — which is all too often the case.

The Howells symbolize big business. Thurston and Lovey are indeed rich, but neither seem to possess any appreciable skill. They are delusional, conniving, greedy, and corrupt. They would be ultimately doomed to failure if ever presented with the challenges of the real world.

Royalty

Even though their monetary wealth is completely without value on the island, all of the castaways continue to treat the Howells as if they were royalty. Most perplexing is the fact that, for no apparent reason, Gilligan attends to their every need and whim. With no evident remuneration, Gilligan bathes these "haves" with surpluses purchased at the expense of the "have nots."

Again tradition seems to be the reason. As if their "ancestral wealth" gives them some right to their exalted stations in life. The

only other plausible explanation is extortion. Strictly by chance, the Howells wholly own what is thought to be the most valuable and irreplaceable asset on the island — the radio.

The radio is a permanent fixation for the islanders. It is almost exclusively entrusted to "the Professor" who exemplifies science and academia. The Professor is highly educated and capable of amazing feats, especially given the sparse raw materials available. To everyone's amazement, he routinely produces sophisticated forms of medicine, weaponry and labor-saving devices.

However, much like Gilligan, the Professor displays grand incompetence in some crucial areas. He preoccupies much of his time with endeavors that can be of little or no value to anyone. The most glaring area of failure is that the Professor is unable to repair the boat. With all of his extraordinary capabilities, it is a great misfortune that he does not even seem to be interested in the boat.

Mysteriously more complex than the Professor is the Ginger character. Blatantly her representation is that of sex-symbol. At once she seems to be a sign of hedonism and moral decay, but on closer inspection, Ginger's ethical code is much more elaborate. She recounts numerous tales of not resorting to the "casting couch" to further her career.

She may be an inspiration to resist temptation. Considering the time of composition — an era of sexual revolution — one could deduce that Ginger is a reminder that everyone should carefully consider the motivation and frequency of their actions.

The most fascinating and delicious twist of Schwartz's tale is the relative obscurity of its central character — Mary Ann. Her name is not in the title and as compared to the other characters, she is not often seen or heard. Some may think this kind, level-headed, lovable symbol of the heartland is insignificant to the story, but nothing could be further from the truth. In many ways Mary Ann is the story.

### Essential

Mary Ann is easily the most well-adjusted of the characters. She is unquestionably moral and at the same time not judgmentally pious. She is the only truly competent individual on the island. She provides all that is necessary and essential for life. Full of blue-collar know-how, her rugged instincts move her to farm, cook and provide health care and other critical services.

Her lack of self-confidence and doubt of self-worth coupled with an overly-inflated opinion of the others is all that keeps Mary Ann from asserting her rightful place as leader. This revolution-

ary theme of Mary Ann as most vital yet least compensated, most important yet least revered, most adept yet least trusted, is crucial to understanding the series. It is an attempt to show the common person the folly of their institutionalized reverence of leadership.

Without benefit of any huge bureaucracy, the castaways live in peace. More important than any codification of laws is simply their collective treatment of one another. The series suggests that the key to successful life lies mainly in their own ingenuity to exist at ease with themselves, the elements, and those around them.

Even this lofty theme is not the primary thesis. The story is actually about something more fundamental. The most remarkable message of the tale lies in the paradox of the concentrated lust of the castaways — their burning desire to go back to a time and a place that is romantically remembered as "better."

The tragedy of the tale is not that they can never go back. The real affliction is the wish itself. They are all so preoccupied with the notion of going back that they never realize they are already in paradise.

■ **About the author:** Lewis Napper was the LP candidate for U.S. Senate in Mississippi in 2000, and the author of the "Bill of No Rights."

Who says "ending the drug war" is a single issue campaign?

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- ★ **Human Rights** — every person deserves control over what they put in their body
- ★ **Crime** — prohibition promotes and rewards violent criminal behavior
- ★ **Gun Rights** — drug related gun violence is fueling gun control efforts
- ★ **Corruption** — law enforcement and justice systems have been compromised
- ★ **Right to Work** — end denial of licenses to users and stop mandatory urine testing
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# FROM the Editor

## A 'scientific' study of the Republican Party

**Warning:** I'm feeling particularly sinister today. Here's why. In January, a columnist in Massachusetts wrote a piece blasting the Libertarian Party. We are, he wrote, "morally bankrupt" — and have a "dangerous philosophy of selfishness and insanity."

And, he continued, Libertarians have a "sinister platform" and a "gobbledygook philosophy."

Hmmm, you say, in your morally bankrupt Libertarian way. That's a cogent and well-argued critique of our gobbledygook philosophy. But what evidence, you ask, did this gentleman present to support his thesis?

**Evidence?** Well, the columnist explained, Michael McDermott, a nutcase in Massachusetts who shot up his office last December (killing seven) is a "card-carrying Libertarian."

And, he wrote, former state legislator Tom Alciere, a nutcase in New Hampshire who advocated murdering cops and women, is "obviously" a Libertarian.

There's just one problem with all this: McDermott is not and never has been an LP member, or even a registered Libertarian. And Alciere was expelled from the New Hampshire LP eight years ago for espousing such violent beliefs — and was then elected to office as a Republican.

**Oops. How embarrassing.** Every "fact" is incorrect. But that didn't stop our energetic columnist. Through the alchemy of shoddy journalism, he smears the entire LP by linking us to two people who are not even Libertarians.

Well, fair play is fair play. If a factually challenged columnist can smear us, what can we discover about, say, the true nature of the Republican Party? What conclusions can we draw about a political party, based on the actions of a few (real) Republicans?

**Oh my!** In a 15-minute Web search, we uncover the following information:

- In Washington, DC, College Republican chairman Scott Stewart was accused in February of making unwanted advances "in sexually graphic terms" to female employees.

- In Connecticut, Republican state legislator William J. Varese was arrested in 1998 for driving drunk after leaving a local strip club.

- In Pennsylvania, Republican state legislative candidate Mark Althouse, 34, publicly promised in 1996 that if he was elected, he would marry his girlfriend and lose his virginity.

- In Missouri, GOP Elections Director Kevin Coan was arrested in March as part of an Internet sex sting, after he arranged a sexual rendezvous with a 14-year-old girl.

- In 2000 in Pennsylvania, GOP State Rep. Frank Serafini was convicted of lying to a grand jury, and former GOP state legislator Tracy Seyfert pleaded guilty to theft of federal property.

- In Tennessee, Bryon "Low Tax" Looper, a Republican candidate for state senate, was charged with murdering his Democratic opponent in 2000.

- In Winchester, Virginia, Republican Sheriff Chuck Sturdivant was accused in 1994 of kissing his male deputies in public. Sturdivant said he was showing "professional fondness."

- In Utica, New York, GOP Mayor Edward A. Hanna was charged last year with sexually harassing male employees.

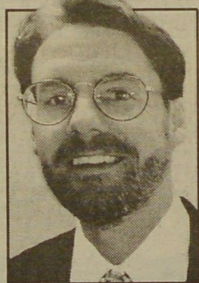
- In Arkansas, GOP Congressional candidate Jay Dickey said in 1992 he did not support an "incest exception" for abortion laws because "incest can be handled as a family matter."

Well! Based on this extremely scientific study, I think we can reasonably conclude that all Republicans sexually harass both men and women; are drunk drivers, thieves, murderers, and pedophiles; and have odd views about virginity and incest.

**What a bad bunch!** GOP must stand for Group Of Perverts. Boy, those Republicans must be morally bankrupt!

Or maybe, just maybe, this "sinister" Libertarian is showing how easily — and unfairly — you can smear an entire political party, based on a few isolated examples.

Maybe. But I tell you this: I'll never again accept a ride from an inebriated Republican state legislator leaving a strip club. Or let a Republican sheriff kiss me in public. Or run for office against Bryon "Low Tax" Looper. Some things are too dangerous even for a selfish and insane Libertarian.



By Bill Winter, Editor

## The Microsoft antitrust case: The end of the Sherman Act?

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, *LP News* will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.

By David P. Lopel  
THE HEARTLAND INSTITUTE

■ *Editor's note: As the federal government's antitrust case against Microsoft moves into the appeal stage, it's a good time to review the facts of the case, its outcome, and what it revealed about antitrust law in the Digital Age.*

The following essay summarizes the conclusions of a new book, *Antitrust After Microsoft: The Obsolescence of Antitrust in the Digital Era*, by David B. Kopel (published by The Heartland Institute, February 2001), that looks at those issues.

**U**.S. v. Microsoft Corporation, the antitrust lawsuit brought by the U.S. Department of Justice and 19 state attorneys general in May 1998 against Microsoft Corporation, marked the end of an era of antitrust law theory, legislation, and action.

Antitrust policy in the twenty-first century will be far different from what it was in the nineteenth, when the laws were first written, or in the twentieth, when it was put to use in a series of landmark cases that define the terms of the debate today.

The Microsoft case raises a number of important questions about the viability of antitrust in an era of rapid technological change. Government regulators must often proceed slowly to allow political oversight of their actions, allowing technology to sweep away products and competitors long before judgments are reached.

The vagueness of antitrust law makes it particularly hazardous for the information technology industry, where partnerships and price-cutting are standard business practices. The Microsoft case and the history of antitrust enforcement reveal the ability of markets to discipline companies that attempt to extract monopoly profits.

Ultimately, the best path to take may be to repeal the Sherman Act, the country's principal antitrust law.

Here are some major lessons learned from the Microsoft case — and from a review of American antitrust history:

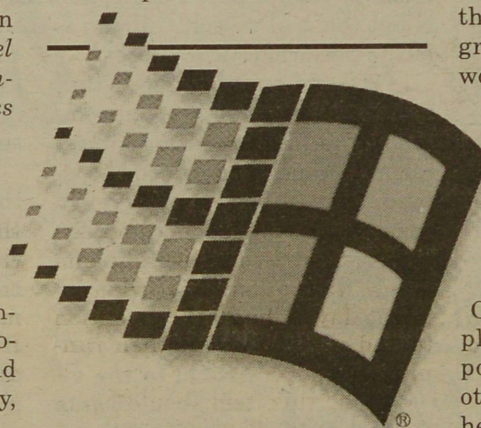
**1. Technology is changing faster than federal regulators can move.**

The information technology



(IT) industry is changing so rapidly that observers have coined the phrase "Internet Time" to track its progress. A rule of thumb is that three months of Internet Time equals one year of Standard Time.

Since 1998, when *U.S. v. Microsoft* was filed, phenomenal increases have occurred in the power of computers, their ability to store information, and the speed of data transmis-



**QUESTION:**

*Can (and should) federal antitrust law survive in the Digital Era?*

sion. Products at the core of the Microsoft case have disappeared, changed dramatically, been superseded by others, or been sold or merged with others. The result is a product landscape that would be almost unrecognizable to a juror or jurist studying Microsoft in 1998.

Technological change per se does not mean the Microsoft case ought to be dropped. It certainly

does not mean Microsoft is innocent of the illegal business practices it is charged with. What is clear, though, is that Microsoft's actions have not stopped or even slowed the rate of technological innovation. Indeed, Microsoft products continue to play a major role in making much of that innovation possible.

The proliferation of new products and falling prices makes it difficult to defend the assertion that consumers were harmed during the 1990s by Microsoft's alleged monopolistic conduct. A much more likely explanation of what happened during the 1990s is that capital gravitated to the IT industry because it was lightly regulated by government and therefore able to innovate and grow rapidly. More regulation would kill the golden goose.

**2. New competitors have emerged to challenge Microsoft's dominance.**

Changing technology has transformed the market in which Microsoft competes. Competitors who once complained of Microsoft's market power have now merged with other competitors and become behemoths themselves.

Microsoft faces serious competition from companies offering software and hardware products that weren't even invented 10 Internet Years ago.

Microsoft's core business — writing the operating systems of personal computers — is under serious challenge from Linux and (to a lesser extent) Apple. The center of gravity for computing is shifting away from the PC and onto such devices as Internet appliances, personal digital assistants, Web-enabled telephones, and other tools.

Competitors include names familiar to those who followed the antitrust trial — AOL, Netscape, Sun, and Oracle — but many new names have been added to the list: Sega, Sony, Red Hat, Symbian, Phone.com, Netpliance, AT&T/TCI, 3Com, Yahoo!, Excite, and even Microsoft's former ally, Intel.

Some, like Red Hat, are using Linux to compete with Microsoft head-to-head for control of the PC operating system market. Others work to shrink that market by using non-PC devices to do what PCs used to do, and by writing programs in languages that can be read by computers using any operating system.

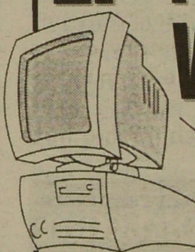
It was debatable a decade ago (Internet Time) whether Microsoft was a monopoly, but it is indisputable today that Microsoft faces intense competition from more directions than ever before.

The rationale for treating Mi-

See **ANTITRUST** Page 25

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## The Mailbox

### Take the money

In the March *LP News*, Steve Dasbach is quoted as saying (regarding the next LP convention in Indianapolis), "I stepped forward and pointed out, Libertarians wouldn't have taken the money, even if it was offered. We don't take government money to run OUR conventions."

To summarize: Libertarians are forced, through the federal/state income tax, to pay for Republican and Democrat conventions, yet Dasbach gleefully announces that through our (his) purity, we will refuse to use our stolen money to fund our own conventions. Incidentally, it's not "government" money, it's taxpayers' money.

Someone inform Dasbach that "money is the mother's milk of politics" and — this may come as a surprise — we are a political party, not a purist association.

Let's not repeat the low vote totals of the past election, do something different — when available, *take the money*.

— WILLIAM NEMETH  
Columbus, Ohio

### VP selection

I just saw that the 2002 National Convention was going to be held in Indiana. Sounds great; it's just a short drive and I can't wait to attend.

[At the convention] I would like to see a change from picking a presidential and vice-presidential candidate separately. Should we elect a Libertarian president, they would be working closely with their vice president, and I feel the presidential candidate should be able to pick the running mate they prefer.

This would also give the presidential candidate an advan-

tage, as they could plan campaign material, and their overall campaign, without having to wait until the day of the 2004 convention to find out who will be their running mate.

I feel this item should be up for vote at the 2002 convention.

— TIM NORTON  
Carbondale, Illinois

**MONEY IS THE  
mother's milk of  
politics, and —  
surprise — we are  
a political party.**

### Redneck racists?

If the Libertarian Party is going to avoid the cliché that it is a haven for right-wing redneck racists and religious theocrats it would be advised to give credit where credit is due and criticism where it is due, as well.

A good example of this would be the recent *LP News* front-page article [February 2001] giving praise to Gale Norton and her [nomination as Secretary of the Interior] as a possible "step in the right direction."

If you read much further into

the article, you did get some aside comments from Colorado Libertarians that she is no longer a member of the Libertarian Party. However, there is little in-depth discussion on specifics of where Norton's views differ from the views of libertarians and members of the Libertarian Party.

A great many libertarians, myself included, opposed Norton's nomination because her defense of states' rights leaves people to question if she supports the right of a state to discriminate against and enslave its citizens. Her defense of the Colorado anti-gay Amendment 2 does not help alleviate such fears.

The fact that the article neglected to offer any real, specific criticism of Norton's views is as bad as when the Colorado Libertarian Party failed to offer official opposition to Amendment 2.

— EDWARD T.J. BROWN  
Moorhead, Minnesota

**Editor's note:** *The article noted in the headline and first paragraph that Norton is a "former" member of the Libertarian Party. The article also featured explicit concerns (from the national LP and the Colorado LP) about Norton's positions on some issues relating to her position as Secretary of the Interior, and from her tenure as Colorado Secretary of State.*

### The business

Had this idea for a sign for the front yard: "Politics is the business of tinkering with other people's lives."

Feel free to use it or spread it around!

— NOLAN NEATHERCUTT  
New York, New York

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 24

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## ThePulse

### Seeing the LP as others do

**Q**uick: Think about the Libertarian Party. What comes to mind? The philosophy of liberty? A third party that set records for political success in the latter half of the 20th Century? A principled belief in limited government?

All good answers. But when "ordinary" Americans think about the LP, they mistakenly think about anarchy. Or radicalism. Or they don't think about us at all.

At least, that's what *LP News* readers think other Americans think about us, based on the results of our unscientific Pulse survey.

In response to this month's question — "What is the biggest misconception the general public has about the Libertarian Party?" — a plurality of respondents (26%) said the public links Libertarians to "anarchy." Most Americans, they said, mistakenly think that Libertarians support "do whatever you want" policies.

The second most common misperception (with 16% of the vote) was "radicalism" — the notion that the party is too extreme, or not practical, or that its political views are out of touch with the "real world."

And coming in third place (12%) was the mistaken belief that we don't exist at all.

Here is a representative cross-section of responses:

■ The biggest misconception folks have about the Libertarian Party is that many people equate us to anarchists. People need to know a party favoring the government only as large as outlined in the Constitution is not anarchistic by any stretch of the meaning of the word.

— CHRISTOPHER RAISSI, Powder Springs, Georgia

■ The biggest misconception about the Libertarian Party is that it is against laws — *all laws*. The other parties are perceived in terms of what they favor; Libertarians are perceived in terms of what they are against.

— WALT NICHOLS, Orem, Utah

■ We are heartless, caring only for ourselves and not our fellow citizens. This has come about for two reasons. Firstly, we have spent years advocating the elimination of government programs that are intended to help needy individuals, families, and communities. Secondly, many members were strongly influenced by Ayn Rand's books advocating self-reliance (good) and intolerance (bad). To overcome our image of heartlessness, we each need to find ways to give to our communities that are compatible with our libertarian beliefs and show our love for the world around us.

— MARTHA DE FOREST, Boulder Creek, California

■ Biggest misconception? We don't exist.

— ANDREW LOHR, Chattanooga, Tennessee

■ The most harmful misconception about the LP is that no Libertarians are "pro-life" on the abortion issue. This scares away about half of our potential members. We should let them know they are welcome in the LP, and change our platform to show this.

— BRADLEY BOBBS, Van Nuys, California

■ Many otherwise libertarian-leaning Democrats of my acquaintance have had the misconception that the Libertarian Party supports pollution of the environment by corporations. They're always quite surprised when I point out that for a company to pollute their property is a violation of their (Libertarian) property rights!

— KARL A. KRUEGER, Woods Hole (Massachusetts)

■ The biggest misconception is that most of the public says, "Who the hell are they?" Aside from that, it is that many people, including some political science students, couldn't find a label to pin on us. We get called "Right," then "Left," then "so far Right that we're Left." People do not understand political philosophies beyond the stuff they see politicians calling each other on TV.

— DAVID GARRITY, Orlando, Florida

See **THE PULSE** Page 24



# ThePulse

Continued from Page 23

■ The greatest misconception is that a vote for us is wasted. This is why even paper state legislative candidates typically get several percent while [presidential candidate] Harry Browne got less than 0.4%.

— PAUL L. STUDIER, Lake Forest, California

■ That our philosophy is too "radical" for the modern world. I don't know if we can fix this. Remember: Most Americans went to public schools.

— JEFFREY KRADIN, Delray Beach, Florida

■ That we're anti-government, maybe even to the extent of inviting anarchy. We should emphasize that we are anti-government only to the extent that it is negative. Limited government is not "No Government"! We should make it clear that Libertarians advocate not only economic freedoms, as pushed by the Republicans, but also civil liberties, which the Democrats champion.

— H.R. BOWLES, JR., Huntington Beach, California

■ Misconception: Libertarians want to destroy governments to create a world where unethical scoundrels flourish, and everyone else lives as serfs in a degraded natural environment. Why: The drone of government-bashing drowns out Libertarian respect for the Constitution and rule of law. The fix involves building a desirable Libertarian future that benefits everyone. For example, promote the benefits of medical savings accounts instead of ranting incessantly about the evils of socialized medicine. Most importantly, start living life as if the great Libertarian era has already begun, and build private charities and land trusts to replace government programs.

— MARIE HEINS, Olympia, Washington

## June Question: Disliked politician?

You can't pick up the newspaper or turn on the television without hearing President George W. Bush talking about "changing the tone of Washington" by ending partisan bickering and encouraging civility. Well, Libertarians don't think there is enough *real* partisan bickering in Washington, and while we're all in favor of civility, we don't necessarily extend it to the politicians who are trying to run our lives. So, in an effort to throw a little cold water on Dubya's lovefest, we'll ask you to share with us the name of one politician who, in your opinion, is the biggest liar, or blowhard, or anti-freedom zealot, or big spender, or shameless panderer, or double-talker. You get the idea: The politician who you like the *least*.

■ Question: What *one* politician — local, state, or national — do you most dislike, disdain, or scorn? And why? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: May 8, 2001

## May Question: Benefit of voting LP?

Voting, it has been said, is like economics. People vote because they want something — so they "invest" a vote to get a particular benefit from one party, or to keep another party from taking a benefit away. If true, is that why the LP doesn't get more votes? Because we don't promise realistic and *immediate* benefits for people? Working on that assumption, what "benefits" could principled Libertarian candidates promise voters — benefits that would immediately help individuals or families, but, at the same time, don't seem wildly improbable? For example, voters might not believe that an LP candidate could abolish the federal income tax. But would they believe that we could repeal (at the state level) the annual fee to renew your auto registration?

■ Question: What is the *single* best, immediate, believable benefit that state or national Libertarian candidates could promise voters, if elected? And why?

■ DEADLINE: April 8, 2001

**ENTRY GUIDELINES:** Include name and city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.

■ E-mail: Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org. ("Pulse" in subject line.)

■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ Mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

# TheMailBox

Continued from Page 23

## ■ Maher nonsense

In your "Politics 2001" column [February 2001], you note correctly that *Politically Incorrect* host Bill Maher often describes himself as a Libertarian.

In reality, however, he vacillates from libertine to authoritarian, exhibiting the intelligence and personality of one whose development was arrested in early adolescence. He supports gun control, campaign finance regulation, and many other fascist positions; and he proudly boasts that he voted for Ralph Nader. Indeed, other than his opposition to the War on Drugs, I have never heard him endorse any Libertarian principles or positions.

With friends like Maher, Libertarians don't need enemies. His self-identification as a Libertarian misleads and confuses his audiences, thereby discrediting Libertarianism and the Libertarian Party.

Though I think most politicians debase themselves by appearing on *Politically Incorrect*, nevertheless I hope that Harry Browne or some other prominent Libertarian might soon appear as a guest thereon to set the record straight.

Otherwise, perhaps the Libertarian Party could send Maher some literature explaining its positions on major issues, in the hope that he might read it and recognize how wrong he has been in identifying himself as a Libertarian. Meanwhile, Libertarians everywhere should distance themselves from Maher.

— MICHAEL J. GONSIOR

Cody, Wyoming

## ■ Libertarian movies?

Well, I just watched another political movie that "proves" that the only good Republican is the one that sees the errors of his ways and either converts to Democrat or starts pushing Democratic policies (*The Contender*).

There are a lot of these out there. Rarely do you find a movie that makes Democrats look bad. Even *Primary Colors*, while they did expose President Clinton's indiscretions, found no fault with his policies and seemed to feel that his heart was in the "right place" (even though the rest of him wasn't).

Where are all the good Libertarian writers? Now, I know there are good Libertarian writers, but most are a little too intellectual for the general public. (i.e. Ayn Rand) The few good Libertarian movies never use the word "Libertarian."

How about a good political action movie that has a real Libertarian hero? One that shows the worst-case scenario of continuing to run the country on its present course, and having a Libertarian save the day . . . with a glimpse

into what a Libertarian society could be.

One of my favorite books was *The Devil's Advocate* by Taylor Caldwell. Although she also didn't use the word Libertarian, I liked the plot. The country was going to hell in a handbasket because of liberal policies, so the rebels put up their own candidate who ran under an "accepted" political party.

Once elected, he exaggerated that party's policies to such an extreme that the people rebelled and finally revolted against the government. The candidate, unfortunately, had to follow the charade to the end, and was executed. So he was only a martyr to those in the know; to the general public he was a monster and must remain so.

Anyway, it was intriguing and exciting, but you get my drift. We need a good, exciting story that brings the name Libertarian to the general public. How about it? Any takers?

— NANCY UPFOLD

Green Valley Lake, California

## BILL MAHER'S self-identification as a libertarian discredits the Libertarian Party

### ■ Pro-prayer?

Kurt Snyder (The MailBox, February 2001) omits a key point when he notes that the First Amendment's phrase, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion . . ." means ". . . no outlawing prayer in schools."

That description is woefully incomplete. Instead, it means that Congress shall neither outlaw *nor* mandate prayer in schools. That's a vitally important difference that pro-prayer advocates want us to overlook.

— WALT THIESSEN

Simsbury, Connecticut

### ■ The best thing

In his January letter to the editor, Mr. Bradley Bobbs is correct! Instant Run-off Voting (IRV) is the "greatest thing that could possibly happen to the LP."

Please have Mr. Bobbs contact the Center for Voting and Democracy to get on the IRV listservers.

IRV is gaining strength. There is a ballot initiative in Alaska for the 2002 elections having to do with IRV, and IRV initiatives have been passed in Santa Clara, Oakland, San Leandro, and Berkeley.

Meanwhile, I've started a listserver just for San Diego IRV

activists. We have members of the Reform Party, Peace and Freedom, and Greens, in addition to the LP members.

This is one area where all the third parties can work together and the Libertarian National Committee needs to get behind it!

— EDWARD TEYSSIER

San Diego, California

## ■ Liberty Party

I agree with Pemberton H. Shober, Jr. (The MailBox, January 2001) that we should change our name to the Liberty Party.

Recently, in reaction to my statement to a woman I know that, "I vote Libertarian," she stepped back, frowned and said, "Please, there have to be some rules around here."

A lot of people just think of the Libertarians as a bunch of pot-heads. The name, "Libertarian," troubles a lot of people because they subconsciously fear it implies licentiousness.

Liberty implies The Constitution, to which Americans are deeply connected, however unconscious now, due to crafty politicization over many decades by the RepublicRats.

— MAX WHEELER

Falmouth, Massachusetts

## ■ Not constructive

The article "Public School Pandemonium" by Rachel Baxter [February 2001] focuses more on her personal feelings than ways to improve public education in the United States.

Ms. Baxter lasted six months as a teacher. From her comments I would gather that this was a second career for Ms. Baxter and apparently not very successful.

Her article was more of a tirade than a critique. Certainly there are many areas in which public schools need to improve. Ms. Baxter focused mainly on personality issues in her article.

There are good and bad people in every profession, and teaching is no exception. The examples she gave to prove public education is bad are filled with her own personal bias. It is a little ridiculous to say everyone involved in public education is mercilessly trying to crush children.

LP News would do better to print articles that offer some constructive ideas for our members to bring about changes in our schools.

— JOHN FARR

Corona, California

## ■ Loved article

I loved Rachel Baxter's "Public School Pandemonium." Not because it offered a pleasant view of public schooling, but because it clearly portrayed the litany of sins visited upon schoolchildren by a misguided and abusive system.

Years ago, when I was in high school, some of us students were trying to loosen the death grip of the administration in a symbolic way. We advocated a less strict dress code as a means to achieving greater freedom of expression.

See THE MAILBOX Page 25



# The MailBox

Continued from Page 24

The powers-that-were put up every roadblock they could think of to thwart our honest attempts at dialogue and a reasonable approach to the rules.

My uncle, who was and still is a teacher in a public school system, told me at the time that I should not expect reason or concern or flexibility from the administration. His exact words were, "Their thought patterns are channeled in cement." Of course, he was right.

As an aside, let me mention that the dress code was relaxed tremendously in the couple of years after we left high school, despite the fact that they had warned of impending chaos if the rules were changed; the fact that they enacted the changes we were recommending soon after our leaving shows that it was all about power and control, in their eyes.

I knew then that I would probably never become a teacher — because it was clear that well-meaning teachers who are genuinely concerned about the welfare and emotional health of their students are not tolerated by public school administrations any more than imaginative, free-thinking children are.

Such teachers are weeded out or demoralized until they — like the children — are regimented, ego-less victims.

— MARK BUNNER

Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania

## ■ Homeschooling

Attention parents! Did you know that homeschooling is legal in all states? As Libertarians, many of us are very interested in taking control away from the government and putting it back in our own hands. Homeschooling is a way for you to do this.

To find out more, go to a national homeschooling group such as the National Home Education Network ([www.nhen.org](http://www.nhen.org)). This site can link you to the support groups available in your state. Check it out — you might be glad you did!

— DAWN BARRY

New Hartford, Connecticut

## ■ Tax cut facts

Three things bother me about discussions on the tax cuts proposed by President George W. Bush.

First, everyone uses the phrase "giving back" money to taxpayers. Taxpayers will not get back one red cent! Tax cuts involve "taking less" from taxpayers in the future. The difference in connotation between the two phrases is significant.

Secondly, citing random polls that claim the majority of Americans do not want taxes cut is very misleading. Since about 40% of Americans pay no income taxes, they are naturally against cuts. If a poll shows 57 out of 100 Ameri-

cans do not want cuts, factoring out the 40 non-taxpayers leaves 43 taxpayers wanting cuts and 17 not wanting them — a significant reversal in conclusion.

Finally, can some Liberal out there please explain to me why it is "unfair" that people who do not pay taxes will not benefit from cuts?

— ANTHONY V. PERELLA

Haddonfield, New Jersey

## ■ West Wing

Ok, I am willing to concede that this may be a goofy idea, but we can use all the publicity we can get, right?

NBC has a feedback form on the Web for their *West Wing* show. I was thinking that if we could get thousands of Libertarians to write them asking for a libertarian character, or at least a plot line in a show, that they might actually do it — thus allowing more people to be exposed to this crazy thing called Libertarianism. They have millions of viewers.

Their link: <http://nbcinbctv.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/nbcinbctv/people?2-82>

My comment went like this: "Love the show. (OK, I had to ingratiate myself) How about adding some Libertarian characters or at least a story line that shows Libertarians involved in an issue? The Libertarian Party is a long-

standing third party that has hundreds of thousands of members and received millions of votes in the last election. I believe that there would be a huge amount of viewers that would find this interesting."

— TERRY BAKER

Noblesville, Indiana

## ■ New priority

There has been a lot of talk about how we, as a party, should position ourselves to best take advantage of the situation since the last election. I think we should rethink our entire strategy. We continue to pour resources into a campaign for president when there is a vanishingly small chance of success.

I think that what we should do is look at Congressional seats to find a few vulnerable to candidates from our party. We need to find a way to reach more people, and a seat in the House or Senate would put national attention on the party in a way that has never happened before.

Let's face it, the presidency, which only becomes vacant once every four years, is one position and there are stunningly large obstacles to reaching it. We would have more success securing a seat in Congress if we prioritized it as our main goal in the upcoming election cycle. We can worry about a presidential candidacy after that has happened.

— STEVEN L. MOYER

Nevada, Missouri

# Antitrust and Microsoft

Continued from Page 22

crosoft as a monopolist is evaporating with each passing month as the old battleground of the desktop PC becomes less and less relevant to consumers and to the IT industry.

## 3. Microsoft has not acted in the manner expected of a monopolist.

The story of the rise of Microsoft Windows, Microsoft Office, and Internet Explorer to their current positions of market dominance does not reveal the effects of an "applications barrier to entry," "path dependence," or any other non-market forces. Instead, it shows the steady application of Microsoft's high-volume/low-price strategy combined with continuous improvements to product quality and, in some cases, superior customer service.

Large market shares may be an inherent characteristic of the new Digital Economy, perhaps due to high fixed costs and low marginal costs or the fact that e-commerce allows consumers to identify and choose superior products much more quickly and accurately than they could in the Old Economy.

Either way, there is little evidence that Microsoft has inordinate market power today or that consumers would be better off if

Microsoft's competitors were somehow favored in the future.

The Sherman Act's language is so vague that any business operating in America today could be targeted for prosecution no matter what business practices it engages in.

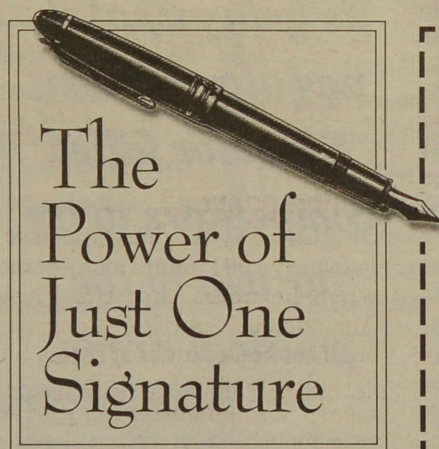
By casting so wide a net, it gives politicians and government officials discretionary power over which companies to target, a power that thoughtful observers from Adam Smith and the Founding Fathers to many economists today would say is just the opposite of what is needed for an economy to operate efficiently.

## 4. Microsoft's business practices are pro-consumer.

The same business practices defined as anti-competitive by the Department of Justice are routinely and legally used by other companies in the IT industry and in other industries.

Microsoft priced Windows and its applications in the fashion of a company knowing it has powerful competitors ready to enter the market unless prices are kept low and quality high.

Its practice of giving discounts to computer manufacturers who help develop new versions of Windows, include hardware to take full advantage of Windows, See **ANTITRUST** Page 26



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### ■ April 28, 2001

**New York LP Convention**, Holiday Inn Midtown (Manhattan), New York City. Speakers include Reginald Jones (motivational speaker), Joan Kennedy Taylor (Association of Libertarian Feminists), Dr. Donna Gaines (author, *Teenage Wasteland: Youth In Suburbia*), Ray Mincome (OSCAR lawsuit), and Mark Edgerton (LP candidate for governor, New Jersey). For information, call: (516) 746-5769. E-mail: nylibertarian@hotmail.com.

### ■ April 28, 2001

**Wisconsin LP Convention**. Location and speakers TBA. For information, contact Ron Emery: (414) 377-0325. E-mail: ronemery@aol.com.

### ■ April 28, 2001

**Alabama LP Convention**, Capital City Club (RSA Tower), Montgomery. Speakers include Sharon Harris (president, Advocates for Self-Government). For information, call Mike Rster at: (205) 328-8683. Or e-mail: gallatin76@aol.com.

### ■ April 28, 2001

**Kansas LP Convention**, Crestview Park Shelter House, Topeka. Speakers TBA. For information, call Steven A. Rosile: (316) 618-1339. Or e-mail: sarosile@att.net.

### ■ May 4-6, 2001

**Michigan LP Convention**, Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth. Speakers include Lawrence Reed (president, Mackinac Center for Public Policy), R.W. Bradford (editor, *Liberty* magazine), and Cameron Knowles (libertarian radio talk show host). For information, call: (248) 591-FREE. Or visit: [www.mi.LP.org](http://www.mi.LP.org).

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### ■ May 25-27, 2001

**Libertarian Futurist Society National Conference**, Hyatt Regency Hotel & Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio. Speakers include F. Paul Wilson (author, *Healer*), Victor Koman (author, *Kings of the High Frontier*), L. Neil Smith (author, *The Probability Broach*), and Poul Anderson (author, *The Star Fox*). For information, visit: [www.LFS.org](http://www.LFS.org).

### ■ May 26, 2001

**Arkansas LP Convention**, DoubleTree Hotel, Little Rock. Speakers TBA. For information, contact Gerhard Langguth at: (501) 967-0873. Or e-mail: glanggut@cswnet.com.

### ■ July 1-5, 2001

**Libertarian World Conference**, Caliceo Hotel, Dax, France. Sponsored by the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) and Le Cercle Frederic Bastiat. Speakers include Henri Lepage (author, *Tomorrow Capitalism*), Madsen Pirie (president, Adam Smith Institute), and Dr. Rigoberto Stewart (Costa Rica). Cost before March 31: \$689 for one person, \$1,098 for two. For information: [www.libertarian.to](http://www.libertarian.to) or [www.bastiat.net](http://www.bastiat.net).

### ■ October, 27, 2001

**New Hampshire LP Convention**, Holiday Inn, Concord. Speakers include State Representative Steve Vaillancourt (L-Manchester) and Richard Winger (*Ballot Access News*). For information, call: (603) 523-8315. Or e-mail: rosalie@endor.com.

# Antitrust law in the new Digital Era

*Continued from Page 25*

and promote the Windows name is a standard practice in other industries that works to the benefit of consumers.

That the antitrust trial court found discounts, aggressive language in internal e-mails, and a contract disagreement with Sun Microsystems to be evidence of antitrust violations shows how easily antitrust laws can be manipulated against almost any company — even a company whose success depends on continuously improving its products and lowering its prices. Whatever the ultimate result of the Sun/Microsoft contract dispute, a conflict over contract interpretation is not an antitrust violation and ought not to be at the center of an antitrust suit.

## 5. Microsoft won the "browser wars" by producing a better product.

For three years, Netscape's Navigator had a monopoly in the Web browser market. It lost that monopoly when Microsoft introduced Internet Explorer (IE), gradually improved its quality, and in 1997 started giving IE to retail customers for free and encouraging other companies to integrate it into their programs. Due to America Online's acquisition of Netscape, Navigator is likely to once again be the market leader sometime in 2001.

It is puzzling that the Department of Justice would choose to overlook Netscape's monopolist past and anti-consumer practices (past and present) and target instead the company that broke up a monopolized market and gives away a superior product. As was true of the case against Windows, the business practices used by Microsoft to promote IE were not exclusionary, and invariably worked to the benefit of consumers.

So why the legal jihad against Microsoft? The company was a victim of industrial policy gone awry. Government officials tried to "pick a winner": A Web browser they thought, wrongly, had the potential to become an applications platform that could eventually help another company compete successfully with Microsoft Windows in the operating system market. Microsoft's decision to aggressively market its own Web browser — a browser that most computer magazine reviewers now say is superior to the regulators' Chosen One — ruined the plan and embarrassed its authors.

## 6. The punishment proposed by Judge Jackson bears no relation to the charges against Microsoft.

The remedies imposed against Microsoft have little to do with the company's supposed illegal conduct. In particular, the proposed breakup of the company

into Operating and Applications Companies goes far beyond whatever would be necessary to stop anti-competitive behavior.

The order is radical (without precedent) and seems to reflect the resentment of a humiliated judge and Department of Justice, rather than a sincere attempt to attain justice.

Unsurprisingly, the punishments that would bear little relation to the alleged crimes would also fail to produce the desired outcomes. Consumers would not be helped. Breaking up Microsoft, according to one study, would force American consumers to spend \$50 billion to \$125 billion

greatest hits" — the Standard Oil case of 1906, the Alcoa case in 1937, and the breakup of AT&T in 1981 — reveals the same patterns of arbitrary rulings, disregard for consumers, and political interference with the administration of justice as were on display in the Microsoft case of 1998.

Misinterpretations of these cases constitute many of the "facts" and nearly all of the vocabulary used to defend antitrust law from its critics.

High-tech companies can look at the history of the transportation industry for insight into the choices they face. The railroad industry took the path of heavy-handed regulation, which created a legacy of inefficiency and bankruptcy that continues to the current day. Passenger trains today, for example, account for less than 1% of all trips. In sharp contrast is the automobile industry, which was subjected to relatively light regulation. Today that industry is characterized by innovation, growth, and responsiveness to consumers.

## 8. Antitrust laws ought to be revised or repealed.

The Microsoft persecution is not an isolated case of prosecutorial excess. It is the flagship case of antitrust at the beginning of the twenty-first century.

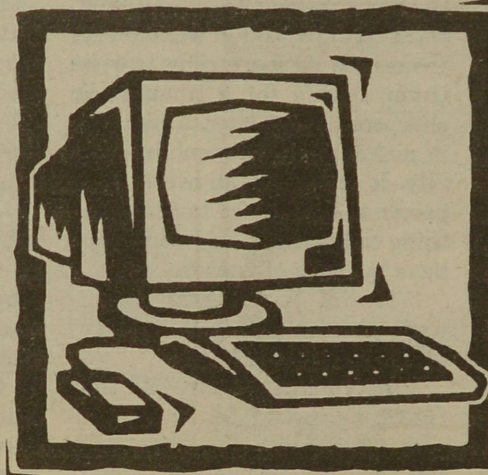
The Department of Justice's Antitrust Division loudly promises that the Microsoft case is the vanguard of many more Digital Economy cases to follow. The consequences for information technology companies and all the companies that rely on them would be dire indeed.

If the Microsoft case is the best the Antitrust Division has to offer America, then there is no reason to keep the Sherman Act.

The Sherman Act today is what it always has been: A tool for failed competitors to win in the political arena what they cannot achieve by satisfying customers in the free market. The fast pace of the digital era makes relying on government bureaucracies even less defensible today than it was in the past.

It is long past time to repeal the pernicious Sherman Act.

■ This essay reprinted from the January/February 2001 issue of *Intellectual Ammunition*, published by the Heartland Institute. For subscription information, call (312) 377-4000. Or visit [www.heartland.org](http://www.heartland.org).



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Competition would not emerge. Innovation, far from being encouraged, would be squashed under the thumb of Department of Justice bureaucrats. All companies and all industries that rely on the new digital technologies — and it is increasingly difficult to find any that do not — would be hurt directly or indirectly by the proposed remedies.

## 7. The problems with anti-trust predate the Digital Era and the Microsoft case.

A review of the history of antitrust laws and prosecutions reveals that the original intent of lawmakers was to protect producers from low prices, rather than consumers from monopoly power.

Antitrust cases are most likely to be invoked when prices are falling and consumers are benefiting, rather than in instances where monopolists are abusing their market power.

A close look at "antitrust's

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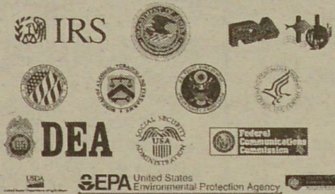
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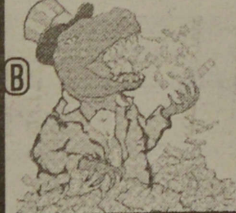
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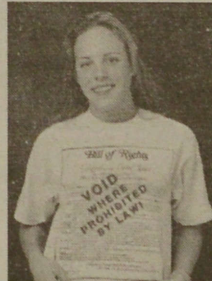
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## UpComing

### ■ March 30-April 1, 2001

**Pennsylvania LP Convention**, Radisson Hotel, Bethlehem. Speakers include Bradley A. Smith (FEC Commissioner), Tim Slagle (libertarian comedian), and Jacob Hornberger (president, Future of Freedom Foundation). For information, e-mail: [lpchair@enter.net](mailto:lpchair@enter.net). Or visit: [www.LPPA.org](http://www.LPPA.org).

### ■ March 31, 2001

**Kentucky LP Convention**, Executive Inn, Louisville. Speakers include Louie Nunn (former Republican governor). For information, call: (502) 254-3975. E-mail: [disco4freedom@cs.com](mailto:disco4freedom@cs.com).

### ■ March 31, 2001

**Nebraska LP Convention**, Sheraton Four Point Hotel, Omaha. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (402) 426-5667. Page: (402) 899-7877. E-mail: [chair@lpne.org](mailto:chair@lpne.org). Or visit: [www.lpne.org](http://www.lpne.org).

### ■ March 31-April 1, 2001

**Cato University Weekend Seminar**: "The American Enlightenment," Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Speakers include Tom G. Palmer, Deroy Murdock, William B. Allen, John Samples, and Ingrid Merikoski. For information, visit: [www.cato-university.org](http://www.cato-university.org). Or call: (202) 218-4633.

### ■ April 5-9, 2001

**Libertarian International Spring Convention**, Lund, Sweden. Speakers include John-Henri Holmberg. For information, e-mail: [Info@libertarian.to](mailto:Info@libertarian.to). Visit: [www.libertarian.to](http://www.libertarian.to). Write: Libertarian International, P.O.Box 21, B-2910, Essen, Belgium.

### ■ April 7, 2001

**Liberty Banquet**, The Highlander, Standale, Michigan. Sponsored by the West Michigan LP. Speakers include Robert Metz, (Freedom Party of Ontario, Canada). For information, contact Jeff Steinport at: [jeffs@pathwaynet.com](mailto:jeffs@pathwaynet.com). Or call: (616) 447-0721.

### ■ April 20-22, 2001

**Washington state LP Convention**, Doubletree Seattle Airport Hotel, SeaTac. Speakers include Ed Crane (founder, Cato Institute), Justice Richard Sanders (Washington state Supreme Court), Carla Howell (2000 Massachusetts candidate, U.S. Senate), and Tim Slagle (libertarian comedian). For information, call: (206) 329-5669. Or visit: [www.lpws.org/convention.htm](http://www.lpws.org/convention.htm).

### ■ April 21-22, 2001

**Minnesota LP Convention**, Mystic Lake Casino/Hotel, Prior Lake (just outside Minneapolis). Speakers include Russell Means (Indian rights activist and actor), Marshall Fritz (Separation of School & State Alliance) and Dick Cheatham (performing as John Tyler, 10th president of the U.S.). For information, contact: [ChasDTest@aol.com](mailto:ChasDTest@aol.com). Or visit [www.LPMN.org](http://www.LPMN.org).

### ■ April 21-22, 2001

**Libertarian National Committee, Inc. Meeting & Strategic Planning Meeting**, Washington, DC. Exact location TBA. For information, call: (202) 333-0008 Ext. 228.

### ■ April 21-22, 2001

**Ohio LP Convention**, Holiday Inn West, Columbus. Speakers TBA. For information call: (614) 221-4876.

### ■ April 27-29, 2001

**Indiana LP Convention**, French Lick Springs Resort, French Lick. Speakers include Mark Tuniewicz (LP National Treasurer), William Styring, III (Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute), Carla Howell, (2000 Massachusetts U.S. Senate candidate), and Steve Dasbach (LP National Director). For information, call Indiana LP Executive Director Brad Klopfenstein: (317) 920-1994. E-mail: [lpinhq@lpin.org](mailto:lpinhq@lpin.org). Or visit: [www.lpin.org](http://www.lpin.org).

For more Upcoming Events, see page 26.

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## InSide

■ **PAGE 1** Arrest is made in Washington state LP death-threat case

■ **PAGE 3** Carla Howell considers run for Bay State governor

■ **PAGE 3** Gary Reams runs "Reeferendum"

■ **PAGE 4** New PAC is formed to support local Libertarian candidates



## First Word

"Libertarians . . . are closer to the ideals of Thomas Jefferson than are any Democrats, who claim Jefferson as their spiritual forefather. The Libertarian Party is unwavering in the belief first espoused by Jefferson that the government that governs least, governs best. It may take 10 or 20 years for Libertarians to become a true force — and it may never happen — but there is something heartening about a political movement that puts people first and seems to actually believe what it says it stands for."

— *The Enterprise* (Boston, MA), February 27, 2001

"Libertarians still have a rich vein to mine for votes. Libertarians may also be able to claim the moral high ground on one of their signature issues: Criticism of the nation's costly, long-running war on drugs."

— John Gregg, *MetroWest Daily News* (Massachusetts), February 22, 2001