Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Illinois

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May 1991

Seize the day!

"Carpe Diem" exclaims Dick Boddie, candidate for the nomination of president for the Libertarian Party, at the Sunday brunch at the LPI state Convention on April 7. Boddie is a professional motivational speaker and demonstrated his ability to use emotion to convey an idea in his speech to the convention.

Mr. Boddie contends that Libertarians have chosen a rationalist for president every time since 1972 with mediocre results. He offers himself as an alternative with emotion—appealing to voters hearts in order to get the attention of their heads.

The main issue separating Boddie and the other candidate for the nomination of president, Andre Marrou, is the issue of matching funds. Boddie feels that based on both moral and practical considerations, accepting matching funds is a bad idea, and he steadfastly refuses to do so. Instead of spending a lot of money on a few television commercials, Boddie suggests that with his ability to convey the message and the fact that he is a black man denouncing welfare, he will be able to attract a great deal of free publicity-especially on talk radio.

Boddie was chief fund raiser and road manager for Libertarian presidential candidate, David Bergland, in 1984.

Steve Reed Elected Chair at Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the LPI at the state convention, held on April 7, went smoothly with little controversy. New officers were elected, all running unopposed (except for none of the above [NOTA]). Officers are Steve Reed—Chair, Ted Beckman—Vice Chair, Paul Salander—South Central Vice Chair, Maggie Kohls—interim Corresponding Secretary until a new one could be found, Scott Dixon has subsequently been appointed to the position, Corresponding Secretary-Jeanette Clinkunbroomer, and Treasurer-Scott Walton.

The one bylaw change that was approved replaced the name of the State Central Committee to the State Organizing Committee. Ken Prazak, the author of the amendment felt that the previous name sounded to commie-like.

Retiring Chair, Sue Walton, expressed her thanks to outgoing officers Maggie Kohls, and Eric Banfield.

The following were elected as delegates to the national convention: Helen Heyden, Mary Alice Strzalka, Paul Salander, Bill Judson, Mike Wiloshin, Ted Beckman, Steve Nelson, Glenn Olofson, Mark Smith, Lyn Tinsley, Ted Semon, Robert Coolidge, Tim Steil, Bob Franke, Ken Prazak, Sue Walton, Scott Walton, Maggie Kohls, Gary Shultz, Steve Reed, and Tim Griffin. Alternates

are Chris Maxwell, Don Nash-Wright, Mike Ray, Neal Reynolds, Larry Cepek, Eric Banfield, and Tom Engels.

Cliff Sutherland was appointed to the credentials committee. Steve Reed has been appointed to the bylaws committee upon the state convention's recommendation. Ken Prazak was elected to the Platform Committee. Steve Givot is temporary head of platform and is also exofficio delegate to the convention due to the fact that he is on Natcom.

Seize the Stolen Funds!

Libertarian candidate for president, Andre Marrou, was the featured speaker for the Saturday night banquet at the LPI state convention. Andre is a former state legislator in Alaska (elected as a Libertarian). He is the director of the ballot access organization for Libertarians, "51 in '92." Mr. Marrou now resides in las Vegas, Nevada.

In his speech, Andre emphasized his proven record as an electable commodity, his experience as an effective state legislator, and his plan to receive more than a million votes by accepting federal matching funds to finance a national television advertising campaign.

The nomination is being centered on this controversial issue of whether a Libertarian candidate should accept federal matching funds. Marrou believes that they would be receiving only what has already been stolen by the government through taxation anyway. Marrou's opponent, Dick Boddie, is opposed to matching funds. When asked about the possibility that Libertarians would be open to the charge of hypocrisy by the news media, Marrou considered the idea ludicrous that either the news media or the average citizen cares a bit about matching funds. In fact, he suggests, many people would consider Libertarians fools if they don't take the money. The taking of the funds shows the seriousness of the campaign, suggests Marrou.

Health Care Solutions (continued from last month)

Libertarians appear to defend a key characteristic of the current American system namely, fee-for-service medicine, or the idea that a physician should be an independent contractor rather than an employee. Libertarians should be defending a market-based system rather than a sacred cow. The fee-for-service concept would play only a limited role in a free market system, so libertarians should never appear to defend it.

When a nonlibertarian starts to criticize the American health care system, many libertarians impulsively begin to defend it, either through actual defense or by omission. If a libertarian even begins to defend the current system, the argument is over. The libertarian has lost. This is because the current system, in a word, stinks. The AMA has distorted the system so much that it does not even remotely resemble a free market system. The American people are growing increasingly impatient with the system's shortcomings, and they will have just as much impatience with the system's apologists. Libertarians must point out their dissatisfaction with the current system and their support for a major overhaul without mincing words.

If the AMA had not prevented a free market medical care system from coming about, what would the system have looked like today? We can only speculate, but based on considerations of security, efficiency, quality and price, here is what most likely would have occurred:

Groups of people would have formed health cooperatives, charging a monthly subscription fee for members. Most employees would have been salaried, except that for specialized services and outsiders would have come in and performed a procedure at a pre-negotiated price. Each cooperative would have set its own standards for what qualifications an employee needed to have in order to perform a certain task. Most employees would have learned their skills through an apprenticeship system. Members would have paid only a monthly fee—

there would have been no additional bill after services were rendered. Fees and the number of services offered would have been advertised, so there would have been competition between cooperatives regarding these things. Members would have been indemnified for medical bills incurred if, during an emergency, they were rushed to a competing cooperative. Several cooperatives would have funded a common research hospital for both research and extremely special treatments. Outside the cooperative, many medical services would have been offered on a cash 'n' carry basis at advertised prices.

What can libertarianism do in the near future? We should condemn the current system of indemnity insurance and promote HMOs. We should work to legalize the administration of vaccines by regular pharmacists at advertised prices. We should work to create a new category of medical professional who would be authorized to practice general practice medicine after getting a special four-year college degree. We should work to allow labor unions and senior citizens groups to buy medical supplies and prescription drugs at group rates. We should work for the legalization and extensive use of midwifery.

Don't be surprised if, in the future, certain market-oriented reforms gain support, the doctors drop their opposition to a Canadian-style system and become its biggest supporters. They would be making a last-ditch effort to salvage at least some of the advantages of their cartel, for while the Canadian system destroys some privileges, it institutionalizes others. The doctors have already flip-flopped on this issues once—back during the 1920s the AMA supported a National Health Insurance system. At any rate, libertarians should make proposals for change with the idea of the aforementioned health cooperatives as their goal.

Sue Walton New LIFBAC Chair

Steve Givot past LIFBAC Chair, has relinquished the job of chair to Sue Walton. Steve remains as a member of the committee along with Scott Walton, Steve Nelson, and Glenn Olofson. LIFBAC is the fundraising organization to assure ballot status for Libertarian candidates in Illinois.

In the future, LIFBAC will turn in what ever amount of signatures it collects whether or not the number meets the ballot access state requirement—based on Glenn Olofson's ballot status in the past election without obtaining the required number of signatures.

Steve Givot is working with Richard Winger, ballot access expert concerning modifying the Illinois ballot access laws.

From the Thousand-and-One-Uses Corner

Available for the never before seen bargain price of \$2.50. The Salander for State Treasurer car polishing rag. Designed to look remarkably like a T-shirt and comes in sizes to polish anything from the smallest Honda to the largest Cadillac. Contact Paul: 815-539-7839.

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Events

Hemp Rally Outreach

by Ken Prazak

Earth Week observances on college campuses at the end of April presented an excellent means for libertarian and FIJA outreach. A variety of hemp legalization rallies were held throughout the state.

On April 17, I traveled to Urbana, IL where a hemp legalization rally was held at the University of Illinois. The local libertarian student group, Students for Individual Liberty, had a table at the rally. 1500 students participated in the rally. Bill Klein, a member of SIL, spoke on how the issue of hemp legalization is a freedom issue, and spoke on how the issue relates to the philosophy of libertarianism. I spoke on the Fully Informed Jury Amendment—on how special interest freedom groups need to help each other out while on juries nullifying victimless crime laws. The concept was well-received. The students also reacted enthusiastically to Red Beckman, the granddaddy of FIJA, who spoke briefly on the fact that government is the biggest enemy of the people. Other SIL members participating were Mike Linksvayer, Dirk Van Cleave, and John Moser.

On April 20, a hemp rally was held at Northern Illinois University in De Kalb. Again, I presented the FIJA message. The response was very good. I recruited some students to help out on FIJA here in Illinois.

On April 27, the Illinois Marijuana Initiative held a rally in Grant Park, Chicago. Rain kept some people away but 500 people still turned out. Again I talked about FIJA and made a lot of contacts. LPI member Dorothy Tsarsos helped hand out Libertarian literature. WMAQ TV covered the event. When the rally was supposed to end, the Chicago Police overseeing the event, requested that the event continue because they believed in the cause. So the 'Grateful Dead clone band,' "Y-Not" played for two additional hours.

Help Wanted:

To help plan and build a float for the Rose Parade and Independence Day. The theme of the float will be "Bill of Rights—Void Where Prohibited by Law." Thomas Jefferson will be turning over in his grave. Please contact Ken Prazak to help with the float, 708-810-1974.

Top Ten Myths about Libertarians and/or the Libertarian Party

by Ken Prazak

I recently had the pleasure of speaking to three senior high school government classes at Benet Academy in Lisle, on the libertarian philosophy. I decided to approach it a bit differently than I have in speaking there previously by talking about libertarianism through the vehicle of dispelling myths. It worked out well. Fifteen minutes were left to answer questions. A lively discussion ensued (especially on the drug issue). Benet students tend to be very conservative; they have no problem with the concept that taxation is theft, but most students have swallowed the propagandistic line on the war on drugs. One student stated that everyone knows that most of the people now on heroin started with marijuana. I replied that 95% of those on heroin started with milk. The top ten myths follow:

- 10) Libertarians are all commies.
- 9) Libertarians are against all law.
- 8) Libertarians are for big business.
- 7) Libertarians want to destroy the environment.
- 6) Libertarians don't believe in paying for government services.
- 5) Libertarians are a bunch of wild-eyed idealists.
- 4) Libertarians don't care for the poor.
- 3) Libertarians don't believe in regulation.
- 2) Libertarians are a bunch of crazed druggies.

And the number one myth about libertarians and/or the Libertarian Party is:

Libertarians are a bunch of LaRouchies.

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Kenneth Prazak

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From the Chair

My thanks are due to all of you, the members and activists of the LPI, for allowing me to serve as your State Chair in 1991-92. It's a pleasure for me to be able to serve our cause and our ideas from this position, after being involved in the libertarian movement for over 12 years.

I already know the members of your State Central Committee very well, having served on the SCC with many talented people for 10 of the last 12 years. I also appreciate and am grateful for the many efforts of other volunteer staffers who are not on the SCC. These include Helen Heyden and her membership files, Ken Prazak's spirit-rousing and editing of this newsletter, and Sue Walton's churning of the mailing lists. A chair can't do his job without such dedicated people.

But there are many more of you that I would like to know better . . . including many LPI members who don't or can't come to the annual conventions. That's why one of my priorities this year is to enlist our talents in bringing the LPI on the road to you! We need small events, set in restaurant rooms, with lively and brief speakers, that are specifically designed to uncover new libertarians and new Party activists. I need your help in finding such informal speakers and in locating places around the Chicago area and downstate for us to meet. I hope we can put on the first of these "roadshow" events sometime in late July, midway between the Independence Day festivities and the National Convention in Chicago over Labor Day.

After a bit of practice we should be able to have some such event, somewhere, every month. It could be a purely outreach meeting, or be held with a "Party party" in someone's home, or be held in conjunction with a meeting of one of our local clubs. But whatever it is, we need it to be frequent — to find new blood and to keep our spirits up.

My other priority for this year is to recruit a U.S. Senate candidate, and at least two U.S. House candidates, who can run active campaigns. We need the Senate candidate as our standard bearer on the petitions and in the media eye. We are already qualified for the ballot in one Congressional district due to the heroic efforts of the Robert Marshall campaign. We should be able to find another district with a weak or overripe incumbent — let's start researching now! Your insights would be appreciated.

YOU are the heart of the libertarian cause. Fire off a letter to the editor. Invite a few friends in to talk about FIJA over drinks. Find an absurd tax proposal (is there any other kind?) and add libertarian voices to the opposition, as was just done successfully by our friends in Peoria. Help us find cozy restaurants in Chicago and the outer suburbs for the "roadshow." Send in your registration for the National Convention and prepare for a hot charge to your spirit.

We're only as organized (or disorganized) as all of you are wanting us to be. That's one reason why the State Central Committee is now called the State OR-GANIZING Committee — we still have much unfinished business in building up our political voice. I'm here to help guide and coordinate your efforts, and I want to hear from you if you have ANY ideas, complaints, or brainstorms. Your idea may be one that sounds impractical — but someone else may have been

anxious to give it a try. We can only find out if we communicate.

It's a privilege to be here serving you. I wouldn't be here if I didn't think that the Libertarian Party was, potentially, a superb instrument for shaking people up—and getting them thinking about the mass-State under which we live. I hope you'll join me!

Steve Reed

State Chair

Upcoming Events

Rose Parade Sunday, June 2

The LPI again combines fun with outreach as it participates in the Roselle Rose Parade on Sunday June 2. Helen Heyden does a great job in spreading the libertarian word to Roselle residents; libertarian is a household word there. She again is organizing LPI's participation.

Please meet at Helen's house between noon and one PM: 357 Countryside Drive, Roselle. Wear (or buy) your Libertarian T-shirt. There will be a barbecue afterwards—bring a dish to share. Meat and drinks will be provided. Bring your friends—this is a fun social event! For more info, call Helen: 708-529-1551. If you would like to help with a float for the parade, call Ken Prazak, 708-810-1974.

Weedstock Festival

"Weedstock" will be held on Memorial Day weekend again this year as in past years. Weedstock is sponsored by the Wisconsin chapter of Norml as a fundraising means to help support the legalization of Marijuana. It is four days of fun, music, gettin' back to nature, and outreach in one of the more beautiful parts of Wisconsin—Black River Falls.

Illinois Libertarians will again be apart of this event. Last year, Ken Prazak spoke to the Weedstock crowd on libertarianism and jury nullification. Hopefully, LPI will again be represented. Last year was a great time, reports Prazak. If interested call Ken, 708-810-1974.

IVLA Meeting

At the next IVLA meeeting scheduled for the last Sunday in May, the club will be reviewing the NEFL "At Issue" segment on the "Power to the Jury".

Independence Day Celebration

Parade, float, and barbecue. Call Ken Prazak for more info: 708-810-1974.

Directory National Libertarian Party Headquarters 202-543-1988 National New-Member Information State P.O. Box 313, Chicago, B. 60690 LPI Officers Chair: Steve Reed 312-765-5828 Northern Vice Chair: Ted Backman 312-262-3525 South Central Vice Chair: Paul Salander 815-539-7839 Treasurer: Scott Walton 708-475-0391 Loca Cubs DuPage: Steve Nelson 708-969-1088 North Cook, Mike Wiloshin 312-525-0846 Springfield: Jerry Naughton 217-744-0104 IL Valley: Scott Tillman 309-353-1500 Belleville area: David Hoscheidt 618-235-7743 Champagn area: Mike Linksvayer 217-344-1326 Decatur great Jim Lacher 217-728-4001 Kenosha WI area: Ken Zollner 414-545-0842 La Salle Hardee Libertarians: Paul Salander 815-539-7839

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Illinois Libertarian Calendar

May 12

LaSalle County Libertarians, meeting Sunday, 8 P.M. at the Waltham Curling Club, Triumph, IL. Meets every 2cd Sunday of month here. More info: Call Paul Salander: 815-539-7839.

May 26

LaSalle County Libertarians, meeting Sunday 8 P.M., at Hardees, I-39, Oglesby, IL, meets here every last Sunday of month. More info; call Paul Salander, 815-539-7839.

May 27

Illinois Valley Libertarian Association, meeting Monday, 7:00 P.M., at Scott Tillman's, 1218 Henrietta, Pekin, meets every last Monday of the month, call Scott Tillman for confirmation, 309-353-1500.

June 3

DuPage Libertarian Club, Monday, 6:30 P.M. at the Fox Restaurant, formerly called the Minuette, Ogden and Main St., Lisle, IL. Meets first Monday of every month same place and time. For more info: Steve Nelson, 708!969!1088.

June 9

LaSalle County Libertarians, meeting Sunday, 8 P.M. at the Waltham Curling Club, Triumph, IL. Meets every 2cd Sunday of month here. More info: Call Paul Salander: 815-539-7839.

June 13

North Cook County Libertarian Club, and North Shore Individualist meeting, Thursday, 7:00 P.M. at Angelos Restaurant, 1418 West Morse, Chicago, one-half block west of the Morse El. More info: cal Mike Wiloshin, 312-525-0846

July 4

Downers Grove Independence Day Parade, and and B-B-Que at Ken Prazak's house, call for more info: 708-810-1974.

August 28 through September 3

National Libertarian Party Convention, at the Mariott Hotel, Chicago, IL. Contact LEI, Sue Walton: 708-475-0391

The Northwest Libertarian club meets on variable times and places. Call Lyn Tinsley for more info:, 708-297-8219

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Honor Roll

The Illinois Libertarian Party salutes those leaders who have shown the courage to speak out for decriminalization of drugs. Milton Friedman Nobel Laureate William Buckley Jr .. pub. Nat. Review Mike Royko Chicago Tribune columnist Robert Ringer writer Kurt Schmoke Mayor of Baltimore, MD former prosecutor Alan Dershowitz law professor Randy Barnett law professor Frank Zappa musician George Carlin comedian Steve Dahl radio pers. WLUP Stephan Chapman ... Chicago Tribune columnist Louie Nizer defense attorney Joseph Sobran conservative col. George Shultz former Sec. of State Ethan Nadelmann professor of poli. science, Princeton Jefferson Morely journalist for the Nation Stacy Taylor radio pers., WLS Bob Lassiter radio pers., WLS Don Wade radio pers., WLS Tom Braden liberal journalist Judge Robert Sweet . . U.S. District Judge, New Cong. George Crockett Detroit, MI. Richard Cohen syndicated columnist George Silver, M.D. . emer, prof., pub. Forn Snyder talk show host

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On the Fence

Patrick Buchanan conserv. journalist Elanor Cliffpolitical editor,

the Illinois Libertarian

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Contributors: Articles, letters, book reviews, photos, and activities reports (local or national) are welcomed. Please send contributions, to the editor's address. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and space.

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