



Libertarian Party

NEWS

African American Outreach

The Libertarian Party of Los Angeles County, in conjunction with LP Region 64 and the Richard Boddie for Senate Committee, is sponsoring the largest ever outreach event directed toward the African American community.

A dinner, dance, and speaker's program has been set for May 17 at the Pacifica Hotel.

The featured speaker will be Dennis Kimbro, co-author (with Napoleon Hill) of the best-selling book, "Think and Grow Rich, a Black Choice." Kimbro is quite libertarian in his outlook, and he is a guaranteed draw in the African American community.

Introducing Kimbro will be Richard Boddie, LP candidate for John Seymour's U.S. Senate seat. Also featured will be the finalists of the first annual LP of Los Angeles High School Speech Contest. This year's topic: "What Liberty Means to Me."

In addition to the speakers and the sit-down dinner, live music (for dancing and enjoyment) will be provided by the soulful jazz-funk sounds of "Domino Effect," featuring drummer, composer, and singer Kenny McDougald, composer of the hit song "Champagne" from Kenny G's triple platinum album "Duotones," and Craig Thomas, saxophonist and vocalist who has been featured on records by Jermaine Jackson, Aretha Franklin, Clarence Clemons, and in movies "Maid to Order" and "Death Warrant." Libertarian literature and displays will be prominently featured.

It promises to be an extraordinary evening.

The importance of this event cannot be understated. Neil Donner, who has been spearheading the outreach efforts at Venice Beach for the last three years, has observed that a very large percentage of the African Americans who take the "Political Quiz" score in the Libertarian quadrant. This is not surprising, since African Americans comprise the fastest growing middle class in America.

And yet, there has never been any strong LP outreach in the increasingly affluent African American community. Many African Americans find themselves politically homeless—many believe in civil liberties, but feel (justifiably so!) that the Democratic Party just does not represent their economic interests. They might prefer Republican economics, but do not trust (justifiably so!) the Republican Party's posi-

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NatCom Unanimously Backs Marrou in Face of Allegations Campaign HQ Moved to DC

By Mary Gingell and Joe Dehn

Amid allegations of misconduct and improprieties levelled against LP presidential candidate Andre Marrou, the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) met April 11-12 in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and unanimously voted to support Marrou and backed continuation of the presidential campaign.

The previous Thursday, April 9, almost all LNC members had received an Express Mail package containing a 14-page document authored by former Marrou for President (pre-nomination) Chief of Staff Michael Emerling. In this document, Emerling presented numerous charges of financial and other misconduct by Marrou, as well as anecdotal and documentary evidence and analysis that he hoped would convince the National Committee to remove Marrou from the 1992 Presidential ticket.

In regard to such a request, sections 4 and 5 of article 13 of the Libertarian Party

By Laws state:

4. The National Committee shall respect the vote of the delegates at Nominating Conventions and provide full support for all nominees for President and Vice-President as long as their campaigns are conducted in accordance with the Platform of the Party.

5. A candidate's nomination may be suspended by a 3/4 vote of the entire membership of the National Committee at a meeting. That candidate's nomination shall then be declared null and void unless the suspended candidate appeals the suspension to the Judicial Committee within seven days of receipt of notification of suspension. The resolution of suspension must state the specific reasons for suspension and must be signed by each member of the National Committee agreeing thereto. The Judicial Committee shall meet and act on this appeal within 30 days and before the election.

On April 5, Andre Marrou and Nancy Lord had met together to discuss how to minimize frictions that had been occurring among the two candidates and their staff in recent weeks. Nancy and Andre, with the advice of their host for the weekend, Steve Givot, decided at that meeting to form a three-person Operating Committee (OC) for the campaign that would act as a management buffer between the candidates and their campaign staffers, and would work to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of campaign efforts.

Between April 5 and April 9 the candidates had begun to flesh out the plan for how this committee would work and had asked Steve Givot and Steve Dasbach, both of whom are National Committee members, to serve on the committee. The two Steves accepted, and began to discuss how to improve campaign operations. Charles Barr was also asked to serve on the committee, providing a local Las Vegas contact.

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Karl Hess Set to Run as LP Candidate for WV Governor

Libertarian Party NEWS Editor Emeritus Karl Hess, formerly an associate editor of Newsweek magazine and chief speechwriter for Sen. Barry Goldwater, has announced that he will run for governor of West Virginia.

"I don't really expect to get the job," Hess said at his home in Berkeley County.

"I do hope that I can get enough votes to assure permanent ballot status for the Libertarian Party. It would take one percent of the total vote expected to be cast for governor," Hess said. Hess estimates that would be about 7,000 votes.

"And I don't think that anyone who does vote for the Libertarian Party candidate would be throwing their vote away. They would be investing in a future in which West Virginians could have more choice than they have today. Great Britain and other European countries have been doing fine for years with multi-party systems. The two-party system is not in the Consti-

tution. It has just become a habit in which the two old parties represent less and less of a difference," Hess said.

"I'm not running against anyone," the 69-year-old writer and one-time commercial welder said. "I am running for the right of people to be represented on the ballot, which is fundamental to our form of government."

As it stands, a third party such as the Libertarian Party must spend hundreds of thousands of dollars just to get on the ballot in many states that try to restrict political entry for any but the two older parties.

"It's a political monopoly that it is time to break up," Hess said. "Nowadays it is clear that citizen dissatisfaction with the two older parties is at an all-time high. There has to be room for new views, new candidates, and new parties."

Although Hess will be unable to campaign actively because he is on a waiting list for a heart transplant, he will be available for phone and other interviews at his home near Martinsburg.

Hess, who is often described as "the

most beloved person in the Libertarian Party," is married to the former Therese Machotka and is the father of two sons, both of whom are physical scientists. Hess is the author of a dozen books on subjects including comparative religion, politics, water conservation, and neighborhoods as a major force in society.

For more information, write Hess for Governor, Rt. 4, Box 455A, Martinsburg, WV 25401.

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LP Member
Dave Barry
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Getting On with the Business at Hand

The Libertarian Party ByLaws are very clear. They provide for the Libertarian National Committee to manage the affairs of the party between conventions, but they leave crucial decisions primarily in the hands of the delegates.

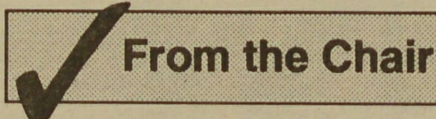
A good example of this is the selection of our presidential candidate. The LNC chooses a presidential candidate only in the rare circumstances of "death, resignation, disqualification, or suspension of the nomination." Suspension can only occur when at least 14 of 18 LNC members can agree that the candidate has not conducted his or her campaign in accordance with our platform.

Otherwise, the LNC is specifically instructed by the ByLaws to "respect the vote of the delegates at Nominating Conventions and provide full support for all nominees for President and Vice-President."

I became very familiar with this part of our ByLaws on April 9, after I received a package of documents and a missive urging the LNC to remove Andre Marrou from the top of our ticket (see article, page 1).

After reading the package, and staring for a few moments in disbelief, I switched into my management mode. There was no question but that I and my fellow LNC members had to deal with this document in some way at our next meeting, which was just two days away. But I had several concerns:

- What was the LNC's authority in dealing with this request at all? What actions could we take, and under what circumstances?
- How could we best sort out fact from fiction and get to truth?
- Once we had established some understanding of the true facts underlying the allegations against Marrou, how would we want to proceed?
- How would our actions affect our fundraising efforts, our ballot access momentum, our membership growth, our media presence?
- In reporting this controversy to our members and to the media, how would we balance the need for full disclosure with a respect for Andre's privacy regarding his personal matters?
- What impact would this controversy, however we dealt with it, have on the long-



Mary Gingell, LP National Chair

term prospects of the LP?

While thinking about all these things, one thing did not come to mind, and that was, "Could the LNC deal with this document in a reasoned, cooperative manner, or would all hell inevitably break loose at the meeting?"

It is a tribute to my fellow LNC members that this last thought did not cross my mind. Our current National Committee is a group of reasonable, rational, hard-working, thoughtful individuals who take their fiduciary responsibilities seriously and are equipped mentally and emotionally to deal with such a crisis when it does arise. For that, I thank them and I thank the delegates to our last national convention who elected this group of people to be on the National Committee. Our National Committee members have the ability to get a job done, even a tough, controversial job, and that makes my job as Chair, even during a crisis, much more enjoyable and rewarding than it might otherwise be.

The result of seven hours of consideration of this topic was a resolution, passed unanimously, reaffirming our support of Andre Marrou and Nancy Lord, the people chosen by our National Convention delegates to be our presidential and vice presidential candidates.

I do not want to imply that all members of the LNC somehow "think with one mind," nor that every LNC member drew exactly the same conclusions about the veracity or

relevance of each charge made in the accusing document. I am convinced from speaking with various members after the meeting and just from knowing that we are all individuals that each LNC member has his or her own unique set of conclusions.

But I would like to share my own perspective on this controversy with you. Andre said, at the outset of LNC discussion with him, that the document was approximately 20 percent true and 20 percent false, and that the remaining 60 percent, while it may have had some basis in truth, was filled with exaggeration, distortions, and descriptions that threw the worst possible light on a particular fact.

After reviewing the packet in great detail and discussing it at length with Andre and other LNC members, I agree with Andre's overall characterization of the document itself.

Andre has admitted that he has made mistakes; that perhaps he has not handled his personal finances as well as he could have, that he is not perfect. Of course he's not, but neither am I. Neither is any human being. We do the best we can. We try to adhere to our principles, we make some mistakes, we move on with our lives and try to learn from our mistakes and do better.

I found nothing in the report or in the discussion to indicate that Andre has conducted his campaign in violation of our platform. That is essentially why I voted to reaffirm our support of his campaign, as called for in the ByLaws.

In addition, I see evidence that Andre is making an effort to come to grips with several problem areas in his campaign and

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Healthcare Seminar Set

The Libertarian Education Institute, Ltd. (LEI, Ltd.), in conjunction with the Heartland Institute, a Chicago-based free market public policy organization, announced that they will be co-hosting Healthcare Prospectives '92, a seminar dedicated to exploring free market alternatives to health care issues. The seminar is scheduled tentatively to be held May 28-31, 1992, at the Sheraton Northshore Hotel in suburban Chicago.

Healthcare Prospectives '92 will open with an evening reception on Thursday, May 28. Presentations will begin on Friday with various speakers and panels from various free market think tanks debating with politicians and doctors who favor nationalized health care. It will continue for a full day on Saturday and have a half-day closing wrap-up session on Sunday. (C-SPAN has expressed an interest in covering the event.)

Among the speakers already committed to the conference are Dr. Nancy Lord, Joe Bast of the Heartland Institute and co-author of the book "Why We Spend Too Much on Health Care," and others.

For more information, call LEI at 708-475-0391.

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Libertarian Party NEWS

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Editor Emeritus Karl Hess

Editor Randy Langhenry

Staff Artist Mary Kelley Crawford

News, Letters, Art, Photos, or Advertising

Libertarian Party NEWS

P.O. Box 780, Winchester, VA 22601

703-662-3691

CompuServe: 71610,3614

Fax: Call to arrange

Subscriptions or Address Changes

Libertarian Party HQ

1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE

Washington, DC 20003

202-543-1988

Publisher: Solstice, Inc.
P.O. Box 780
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Rep. Warburton's Bills Killed in NH House

Republicans and Democrats in the New Hampshire state house teamed up to defeat all four bills filed by Libertarian state Rep. Cal Warburton this session, leading Warburton to suggest that they may be trying to "teach him a lesson."

"When a freshman legislator puts in a bill, the first few are almost always voted down," noted Warburton. "There seems to be the attitude, 'Let's teach 'em a lesson.' Maybe it's true with [new] Libertarian legislators, too."

In February and March:

- The Executive Departments and Administrative Committee voted 16-0 to kill an amendment to require the state to divest itself of private businesses, including ski areas and liquor stores. It then lost before the full House on a voice vote.

- The Municipal and County Government Committee voted 15-1 to kill a House Resolution urging towns and counties to

privatize. The bill was also voted down by the full House.

- The Judiciary Committee voted unanimously to kill the "Fully Informed Jury Amendment," to require judges to inform juries that they can judge the law in addition to the defendant. The full House has not voted on it, but the committee's "inexpedient to legislate" vote will almost certainly doom it.

Previously, the Municipal and County Government Committee and the House had voted down a "choice in education" bill

which would change state law to allow educational tax abatements like the one in Epsom, NH, which has previously been described in the NEWS.

Ironically, Warburton noted, Republican Governor Judd Gregg has publicly endorsed the Epsom plan, and yet GOP legislators closed ranks against a Libertarian-sponsored bill to allow it to be implemented.

Warburton also filed a motion in the House to formally recognize himself and Finlay Rothhaus (L-Merrimack) as Liber-

tarians, and have their votes registered as such in the House record. The House voted down this bill 182-135. Until Warburton and Rothhaus are recognized as Libertarians, they cannot win formal "minority" party status, Warburton said.

What will it take to get Libertarian legislation through the state House? A lot more Libertarian state representatives, suggested Warburton. "We've got to get a substantial number of Libertarians elected. At least 100 have to be elected to be sure [of getting bills passed]."

A Feast of Freedom

"Liberty is a Glorious Feast." —Robert Burns

Every issue of *Liberty* offers a feast of individualist thinking designed to delight the most refined palate.

Hors d'oeuvres

To whet your appetite, *Reflections* offers the provocative opinions of *Liberty's* editors. A few selections from the menu for May:

Jane Shaw wonders why yuppie environmentalists have their snouts in the federal trough;

Karl Hess enucleates big lips, raw fish-eaters, and the attempt to force gays into ghettos;

Brian Doherty raps on rap music: he thinks it is *reactionary* but no corrupting;

Sheldon Richman defends the "odious authoritarian," Pat Buchanan.

Entrées

The main course is a variety of controversial and thoughtful essays. A few entrées from our current offering:

Chester A. Arthur argues Bill Clinton's established credentials as a liar, cheat and exploiter uniquely qualify him to fill the shoes of George Bush;

Gary Alexander celebrates the 200th Anniversary of America's most successful price-fixing cartel, the New York

Liberty

May 1992 Vol. 5, No. 5 \$4.00

Fearing and
Loathing
Bill Clinton

H.L. Mencken:
Libertarian or Conservative?

by R.W. Bradford

Clarence Thomas:
Cruel and Unusual Justice?

by James Taggart

There's No Such Thing
as the Environment

by William Dennis

The Cost of Kids

by Karl Hess

Inside Ted Koppel's "Town Meetings"

by Eric Banfield

The Dustbin of Prehistory

by Vernon L. Smith

"A greater equality than is compatible with Liberty is undesirable." —Benjamin R. Tucker

Stock Exchange;

Vernon L. Smith tells why our species has prevailed, and others have ended up in the dustbin of prehistory;

William Dennis explains that although there ain't no such thing as *the* environment, there are *human* environments, and they ought to include both wilderness and liberty;

Mark Tier tells what it's like to live in a society where there are no unions and no minimum wage laws.

Vojtech Cepl and Ron Lipp anticipate

the coming divorce between the Czechs and Slovaks.

Potages

To accompany its main features, *Liberty* presents a variety of penetrating reviews. A few examples from our current issue:

R.W. Bradford sets the record straight on H.L. Mencken's politics;

David Horowitz, Robert Higgs, John Hospers, Karl Hess and Steve Cox evaluate F.A. Hayek's contributions to the cause of freedom;

Eric Banfield explains how the spontaneity of Ted Koppel's "Town Meetings" is faked;

Kyle Rothweiler draws the ominous parallels between animal sex and human mating rituals.

Desserts

To top off your feast and satisfy your intellectual sweet-tooth, *Liberty* offers:

Cartoons by Baloo, Paul Pope, Ace Backwards and Shay Marlowe;

The bizzareries of *Terra Incognita*, snippets from the real world of statism and the credulous *booboisie*.

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Inside Ayn Rand's Inner Circle

In an exclusive interview, Barbara Branden speaks frankly about life with Ayn Rand and Nathaniel Branden (Rand's lover and Barbara's husband). She reveals for the first time intimate details of life inside Rand's circle. The fascinating topics include the weird psychological manipulations within the cult, the expulsion of members in kangaroo courts, the glaring errors in Nathaniel Branden's memoir about his affair, and Rand's fight in a posh Manhattan restaurant with Alan Greenspan, now chairman of the Federal Reserve System.

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Prominent Ohio Republican Joins LP

Don Birgel, a 54-year-old insurance broker from Hamilton, OH, and former chair of the Butler County Republican Party, recently held a news conference and announced that he was leaving the GOP to join the Libertarian Party.

More than that, Birgel also announced that he had accepted the position as chair of the Ohio Marrou/Lord Campaign. Andre Marrou, the 1992 LP presidential candidate, was on hand for the news conference.

"I resigned as a member of the Republican Party executive and central committees, and resigned as a precinct committeeman by letter," Birgel said. "My wife resigned, my son resigned, and most of my friends are resigning. I have yet to convert them to libertarianism, but I am trying. But they support me and respect my position on all of this, and we have a lot of closet support."

"I find it difficult to understand why, if the public knew exactly what libertarianism is, why everybody isn't a libertarian. That's how I feel today," Birgel said.

Birgel has been involved in the Republican Party since his high school days when he worked in the Eisenhower campaign. "I became very active in the early '60s in the Goldwater campaign," he said. He was president of the young Republican club in his area, and has worked as a volunteer campaign manager for many candidates.

Birgel became chairman of the Butler County Republican Party in 1988. He has

never held public office, although he has run for county commissioner.

"Along the way I matured philosophically," Birgel said. "Once you are in the system you begin to learn more and more how things operate. It's repugnant. The whole system is revolting. I know exactly why it works the way it works, and my general approach is just to hold my nose and go along with it. That doesn't mean I'm not bothered by it, I am."

"I don't see a hairbreadth difference today between the two parties. No one seems to be electing candidates on commitments to philosophical positions. I believe it to be because Barry Goldwater was clobbered so badly in 1964 because he was committed to a position," he observed.

After the news conference, Marrou said to the press that Birgel should run for public office. "Andre, I hate politicians," Birgel responded.

"I don't like politicians, but I like statesmen," Birgel said. "And I don't see Andre Marrou as a politician, I see him as a statesman. A statesman has a commitment to public policy that's defined, thought out, and he expresses it as such—and he won't compromise it. Politicians will compromise. We don't need that today. We need people that are straight as an arrow about how they feel, and let the public decide on whatever issue it may be."

"Now is the time. It is time to take the message to the public and offer the alter-

native to Clinton and Bush," he said.

"We've got to step up our efforts for Andre Marrou," Birgel said. "I haven't restricted my message to Republicans, I have been trying to attract Democrats as well. I'm particularly interested in getting people involved who have never been involved in either political party. I'm excited about it. It's a lot of fun to me. If it isn't fun, we shouldn't be doing it."

"I told Andre we would double what Ron Paul got last time [in Ohio]. I believe that is the minimum we can do. We are going to get this done. We are going to make a showing. We are going to get their attention," he said.

"My intent is to run a grassroots campaign the way you have to do it when you don't have a checkbook. I have some specific projects. For example, I want to air Andre Marrou tapes in as many of the markets as we can in Ohio."

"I would love to have the money already available to air those tapes, but we don't. But it's going to be a lot more fun to do it from the bottom up, and raise the money to put them on TV. That's the goal," Birgel said.

"We are going to duplicate the tapes locally, and use them in small neighborhood meetings. I have friends and contacts throughout the state, and I have a format for how to conduct a political meeting, and we are going to use the tape as the centerpiece. Then, we motivate or stimulate the discussion, request their involvement, and ask them to host a meeting of their friends. We don't care if there are five, two, or 20 in attendance. To make it like a chain letter, that's the strategy," Birgel described.

"I'd like to have a million or two for the campaign, but we don't. But we will replace it with sweat of the brow, time, and emotional commitment. I'll stay on the phone, I'll do a lot of traveling. I'm going to spend as much time as I can without going bankrupt. I enjoy being involved. It fills a need," Birgel said.

"I'm out right now to do everything I can to stop the growth of the federal government, first. Then, we go after the state government."

'92 campaign

Campaign Notes

Jim Hudson, 45, of Atlanta, GA, has announced he is a candidate for the U.S. Senate. Hudson has already released position papers on education and gun ownership rights, and others will be issued in the coming months. Hudson is an information systems project manager with Norfolk Southern Corporation and this is his first attempt to seek public office. He served as campaign director for gubernatorial candidate Carole Ann Rand in 1990.

For more information, write Jim Hudson for Senate Committee, 2779 Clairmont Rd., NE, Suite F12, Atlanta, GA 30329.

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Blaise Grenke, candidate for U.S. Congress in District 5 in Illinois, has issued a position paper addressing the economy, crime, education, foreign policy, and health care. "Freedom does work, despite the attitudes expressed by our incumbents," Grenke said.

For more information, write Grenke for Congress, 3627 W. Oakdale, Chicago, IL 60618.

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Keitt Miller has announced his intention to run for mayor of Lakeland, FL. Miller will focus his campaign around three core issues: privatization of city services, grassroots democracy, and tax reform. Miller, 37, is a native of South Carolina and a resident of Lakeland since 1982. This will be his second try for public office.

For more information, write Keitt Miller, 927 N. Iowa Ave., Lakeland, FL 33801.

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Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

Ogden Scoville

Ogden D. Scoville, of Springfield, MO, and an LP leader in the state, died March 23, 1992. He was 68 years old. Scoville was working to gain signatures statewide to make the November ballot as the LP candidate for governor.

The Springfield News-Leader, in a special editorial, noted that Scoville "stuck to his principles," and that he "remained a kind, generous adversary, whether one agreed with his ideas or not."

He is survived by his wife, Alexandra; and many loving friends.

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In 1976, I was the Arizona Libertarian Party's candidate for the congressional seat held by Morris Udall.

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I began to write up my results. *How To Get Converts Left & Right* and *The Late, Great Libertarian*

Macho Flash were published by Reason.

I followed these with more articles: *The Militant Mentality*, *The Myth Of Mushrooms In The Night*, *Leveraging Liberty With Language* and *Intellectual Judo*.

The libertarian audience wanted more, so I launched a seminar. *The Art Of Political Persuasion Marathon Weekend Workshop* has been offered all over the United States and Canada.

Then, I tested my teachings in the field. I was the organizer and fund-raiser for the 1988 Marrou VP Campaign, Project 51-'92 ballot effort and the 1992 Marrou For President Campaign. Between Fall 1987 and Fall 1991 I raised more than \$500,000 for these projects. \$519,344 to be exact (source: FEC).

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Andre Marrou, 1992 Libertarian Party presidential nominee.

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Jim Lewis, 1984 Libertarian Party VP nominee and 1992 Marrou For President Campaign Manager.

"Michael Emerling's political persuasion tapes are superb. I have listened to them many times. I continue to be impressed by the power and sophistication of his techniques."

Vince Miller, President of International Society For Individual Liberty (I.S.I.L.).

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Perot Watch

Bye-Bye, Bill of Rights

Brian Lamb [asking about Perot's proposed election reforms]: "Can you do that without breaking the First Amendment?" Perot: "What's that?" Lamb: "Can you stop a network, say, from doing exit polling under the First Amendment. In other words, can you pass a law that says you can't exit poll?" Perot: "Well, we'd probably have to get about 30 lawyers on that one . . . Now, we can amend this dang Constitution if we have to." H. Ross Perot, interview with Brian Lamb, C-SPAN, Mar. 18, 1992.

Buggy-Whip Thinking

"Perot emerges . . . as a protectionist . . . He opposes the free trade pact with Mexico, on the grounds that we need to protect our 'basic industries' from foreign competition—never mind the anti-consumer consequences of such buggy-whip thinking. And he favors emulating Japan's mercantilist economics and targeting politically preferred industries—never mind that in the long run such policies have been a powerful drag on the Japanese economy . . ." K. E. Grubbs, "Perot: A Man on a White Horse," Orange County Register, Mar. 25, 1992.

A Drug-Free America—It Won't Be Pretty

"Nor does Perot reassure us about civil liberties. We can make no progress he intimates, without first ridding society of cocaine. 'It will not be pretty,' he warns, as he declines to specify how he will clean the streets of drugs. Serious analysts understand that such an undertaking cannot be accomplished without suspending the Bill of Rights." K. E. Grubbs, "Perot: A Man on a White Horse," Orange County Register.

Boyz N The Hood

"[In 1986], Dallas was the most crime-ridden city in the nation . . . The Dallas Police Association asked Perot for help . . . Perot scheduled a series of off-the-record meetings between the press and the police. It was in these meetings that Perot espoused cordoning off minority neighborhoods and searching door-to-door for weapons and narcotics." Todd Mason, "Perot: An Unauthorized Biography" (Homewood, Ill.: Dow Jones-Irwin, 1990), pp. 248-49.

Martial Law

Perot: "You can declare civil war and the drug dealer is the enemy. There ain't no bail . . . [Drug dealers] go to POW camp. You can start dealing with the problem in straight military terms. We can apply the rules of war." H. Ross Perot, NBC, "Today Show," Oct. 25, 1989.

The Germans Called It Labor Service

Perot: "Our government should have the . . . requirement: Every young American should go on a mission of service to his or her country. At some time in your life, you should give a year or two to your country. I wouldn't call it 'conscription.' I would call it 'Service to Country.' Every 18-year-old could work on jobs like conservation projects, hospital service, or helping older people." Nick Timmesch, "Ross Perot: Computer Commando," Saturday Evening Post, April 1983, p. 96.

By George L. O'Brien
Internal Education Director

In the midst of an already bizarre political year where Jerry Brown and Pat Buchanan are considered credible candidates and Sen. Bob Kerry throws in the towel with the deathless words, "I wish my name was 'Other,'" the independent campaign of H. Ross Perot should not be considered terribly strange.

Considering that Perot is a billionaire and claims to be willing to spend upwards of \$100 million of his own money on the campaign, he might be a major factor this year.

But who is Ross Perot and what does he stand for? The answer to the first question is that he is a prominent entrepreneur who built Electronic Data Services into a major computer services firm which he later sold to General Motors. Perot received considerable publicity for organizing a rescue of some of his workers who were trapped in Iran after the revolution—a story which was later turned into a movie. In addition, Perot has been very active in working with the families of Vietnam POW-MIAs in trying to get information about what happened to the remaining men.

More recently, Perot made headlines by criticizing the management at General Motors while serving on its board of directors. This led GM to buy him out for \$700 million with an insistence that Perot remain quiet. Curiously enough, GM ended up doing what Perot was calling for anyway.

But what does Perot believe in? That is not so easy to pin down. Like most businessmen, he has not really thought deeply about a wide range of political issues. He shares with libertarians a significant disgust with the way the political system is operating and the redistributionist policies of left wing Democrats. However, he shows no real signs of understanding the root of the problems. When pressed about issues on the network interview shows, he comes across as evasive and ill-informed even to reporters who are used to evasive politicians.

In spite of this, we can piece together a rough outline of Perot's views. In several cases, Perot takes positions that are consistent with libertarian views (at least in broad outline). However, in many areas, Perot seems to be even more inclined to expand the role of government more than even orthodox establishment Republicans.

First the good stuff: Perot opposed the intervention in the Persian Gulf, is critical of the CIA, is pro-choice on abortion, and has actually called to rescind the right of Congress to raise taxes. (There seems to be less to this than it appears. Perot shows real signs of believing in the "imperial Presidency".)

Perot calls for reducing the Federal Budget deficit, reducing Social Security and Medicare benefits for the affluent and calls for "more government accountability." He has called for an end to all free transportation on government planes. He would require that all congressional pay raises be voted on directly by their constituents. Perot would require that all laws on civil rights, disabilities, occupational safety and fair labor apply to congressional employees the same as all other employees. He would slash the staffs of both Congress and the White House.

Some of this stuff is pretty trivial, but does have certain symbolic value.

In short, Perot is NOT a libertarian. He does not support free markets and free trade as well as even most conservatives (which is hardly a high standard).

Now for the bad news: Perot is an advocate of gun control. His call for education reform involves even more centralized control of public education and he is a proponent of the national testing. Perot is a very hard line drug prohibitionist and Texas libertarians report that he has publicly called for the execution of drug dealers.

Perot has called for spending upwards of \$100 million on a new computer system for the IRS to catch more tax evaders.

Perot has called for prohibiting the news networks from reporting the results of "exit polls" in spite of the fact that this would violate the First Amendment! He calls for "shortening the time of election" without explaining how he can do that without interfering with free speech. Perot has called for allocations of "free television time" to candidates, without really explaining who qualifies or on what basis he can force private firms to give "free time" away. (Apparently, Perot is not familiar with the "takings clause".)

In running his own business, Perot had a rigid dress code and refused to hire a man because the man was living with a woman to whom he was not married. (While libertarians will defend Perot's right to act that way, it should be clear that such intolerance toward differing life styles is a very bad sign. History shows a high correlation between intolerance and statism.)

All of this would be enough for libertarians to reject Perot. However, his views on economics and his desire to "re-establish America's international competitiveness" should trigger major warning bells.

The following quote comes from an interview on C-SPAN on March 18th:

"Here are our priorities. Number one—you've got to keep the job base intact—you don't want to let it crumble while you're fixing everything else, because your tax base is a function of how many people are working. And one of the things that are of greatest concern to the American people is that we're losing jobs in this country."

"You're going to have to work on that problem on an industry by industry basis. You're going to then have to have a plan company by company, on the big companies in trouble. You're going to have to bring in people who are the most knowledgeable people in each of these industries—bring these people in overnight, put 'em to work immediately, and come up with rough crude plans first—keep everybody informed as you do it, come down with good plans. That is what our successful international competitors are doing."

Libertarians should not kid themselves. Perot is advocating pure "industrial policy" mercantilism and it has nothing to do with free market economics. Perot also calls for "fair trade," a code word for protectionism, which goes beyond the already relatively protectionist policies of George Bush.

In short, Perot is NOT a libertarian. He does not support free markets and free trade as well as even most conservatives (which is hardly a high standard). Perot's opposition to the War in the Gulf should not be taken as reason to believe he is consistently non-interventionist (this waits to be seen). His pro-choice position on abortion should not cloud the fact that he is bad on most other civil liberties issues including gun ownership.

In some ways all of this is probably irrelevant to why people are really supporting Perot. Perot himself probably put it best, "My own view of this is that it has nothing to do with me. People don't like what's happening in our country." This was confirmed by a supporter who said, "I always felt I had to decide between two bad choices."

Perot seems to be tapping into a strongly anti-political vein. It is sad that the reality does not match the illusion. It would be nice to have someone spend \$100 million to promote real political change—toward freedom.

Gingell: From the Chair

continued from page 2

in regard to his personal finances. He has put his Las Vegas home on the market, and plans to use the proceeds of that sale to reduce his personal debts. In addition, several friends of Andre's are helping him set up a business, the profits from which will also be used to retire personal debts.

Over the last two months, I noticed Andre trying more and more to "micro-manage" the campaign operations. I, and others, have spoken with him at length and advised him that he needs to insure that good campaign management is in place, and then that he should leave the campaign management to the managers and get on with the job delegates selected him to accomplish: Being our top spokesperson for the Libertarian alternative in this crucial election year. I see the creation of the Operating Committee as a serious step in an effort to focus the campaign in this direction.

In recent weeks, Andre and Nancy have been talking more and more with each

other, attempting to address problems in the campaign and negotiate solutions with which they can both be comfortable. I think that is crucial, and must continue if the joint campaign is to be effective.

In summary, Marrou, Lord, their advisors and staff, the Libertarian National Committee, and ultimately the members of the Libertarian Party, have been through a grueling experience these last few weeks. I hope we have resolved this crisis.

Let's set this diversion aside and get on with the important work of the LP: Supporting the efforts of Andre and Nancy; completing the difficult but achievable job of obtaining 50-state ballot status; gearing up for summer and fall campaigning at all levels; reaching out to interested people; getting our message out to the media; convincing people to vote Libertarian; electing and re-electing Libertarians to state and local offices. This is what we must do to get closer to making freedom a reality for ourselves and our children.

NEWS

INTERVIEWS

Pulitzer Prize-winning humorist Dave Barry is probably the only announced presidential candidate who refuses to vote.

Barry, 44, uses a candidacy each quadrennium in much the way Pat Paulsen did on television in the '60s—to lampoon the Republican and Democratic candidates.

Mock politics aside though, Barry is a member of the Libertarian Party. His column for the Miami Herald is syndicated around the nation, and recently began appearing in the NEWS.

Arranging an interview with Barry is a little like arranging surgery. His secretary, Judy Smith (a name shared by President Bush's spokeswoman—hmmm), set up an appointment for almost a month later, after getting a call from the NEWS.

Promptly at the appointed hour, Barry called and the wait turned out to be well worth it. He was friendly, cheerful, open, and, of course, funny. He began by explaining his recent seclusion: he's finishing a book about Japan.

"... being as how Random House paid for me to go there," he said, "they now feel that I should write a book. You know it just ticks me off."

Barry was interviewed for the NEWS in mid-March by Jim Hankey, an LP member and a reporter for the Harrisonburg (VA) Daily News-Record.

NEWS: What kind of things did you observe when you were in Japan?

Barry: Well, they have a lot of really, truly weird food in Japan. That's my main reaction to it. Also, um, they don't speak English.

NEWS: Definitely a handicap.

Barry: For them, yeah. You hear all this about how they're such an advanced society, and they have not even had time, apparently, to learn our language fluently. It's a wonder that they're thinking over there.

NEWS: Those lazy guys.

Barry: They are! You know, they're such hard workers. Well, why don't they learn our language, huh?

NEWS: So I take it that this book is going to take Japan-bashing to a new height—or low.

Barry: Actually, I don't plan to bash too much just because, um, well, 'cause I find it nauseating. I mean, I hope, ideally it will be a funny book about Japan, but it'll be funny about both cultures. Most Japan-bashing is, let's face it, it's not. We call it Japan-bashing. It's racism. Much of it, anyway.

NEWS: Well, it's interesting that you're doing that at the same time that an election is going on. Do you think that is shaping up as a genuine campaign issue?

Barry: Well, the reason I did it, the reason I picked Japan, is that it's the scariest nation on Earth for us, for some reason. And people have so much emotional baggage invested in it. And I'm not looking to solve that problem. I'm not Mother Teresa, I just happen to know where there's fear, there's humor. I think the two are closely related.

NEWS: Well, it's really interesting to hear that. I'd always heard that there's a lot of humor in pain, I never heard about fear.

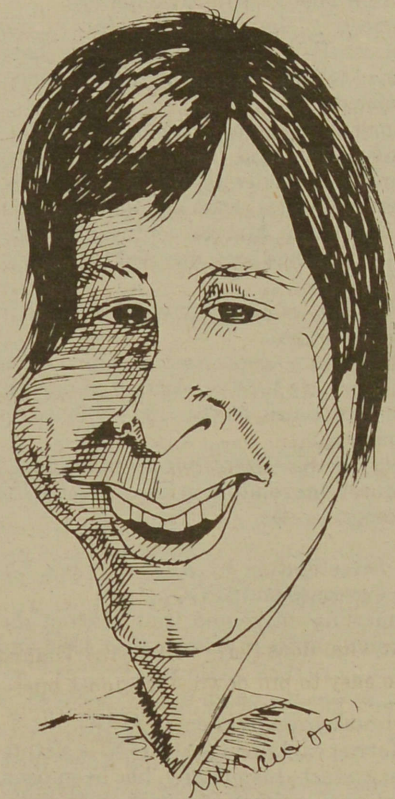
Barry: Well, it's all true. I think there's almost no distinction between what you're upset about and what you laugh at. It's only a matter of how you talk about it. People who are in the humor business, generally, have just figured out a way to describe things that really scare or upset people in a way that allows them to relieve some of the tension to a stand-up comic talk, they're always talking about things about which people feel enormous anxiety—sex being probably number one—but anything else you could think about—death—that troubles people. Or the fact that the world is completely out of control and insane... we cling grimly to the idea that there's order and structure, and people are taking care of things for us. And every now and then, humorists come along and point out, "No, no, it's not really like that at all. The world is just as crazy and sick as you think it is, and I think so too," and people go, "Whew, I'm glad I'm not the only one who thinks that, and I'm glad."

NEWS: Well, you started out in straight journalism... Did you gradually start writing funnier and funnier columns, or did you just make a clean break, or what?

Barry: Well, it's more that I made a break with journalism, than I made a break with the kind of writing I was doing. I always wrote humor columns when I could. But as a reporter and an editor, first for a newspaper in Pennsylvania, and then for the Associated Press, I couldn't do that except on the side. I had to be a real journalist. But what really broke me free from the path I was in, which would have led me inevitably, I think, to being an editor—he said gagging—was I went to the AP and I hated it. It was just so stultifying for me. And so I quit altogether and became a consultant. I worked for a little company called Burger Associates. We traveled around the country and presented effective writing seminars to businesses. I did that for seven years. But while I did it, on the side, just for fun, I wrote a humor column, which my wife, who was the editor of the daily Local News in West Chester, PA, put on the living section page once a week. And that's when I really started writing the column I write now. It was about 1977... And I didn't seek this job out... by the time the Miami Herald hired me in 1983, it was established that they were hiring me to do what I was already doing, and I didn't have

Dave Barry

Author, Libertarian



NEWS graphic by Mary Kelley Crawford

“But I can't say that I'm an intensely philosophical, intellectual libertarian, but certainly that's where my emotions lie, and to the extent that I have reason, that's where my reason lies.”

to change. I think if I'd stayed in journalism, is what I'm saying, I probably would have written either a much more conventional column or not written a column at all.

NEWS: I'm intrigued by that intermediary step. Is it possible to teach good writing to corporate types?

Barry: Well, that's a good question. It's possible to get them to agree that they're doing everything wrong (laughs). And that was a big part of the course. People will tell you they want to communicate, and then they will write the most absurdly convoluted, pompous, overwritten, wordy documents. And so I would go in and say to these 32 accountants or engineers or chemists—really smart people, usually—“Look,

start with your main point.” And they go, “Yeah, you should do that.” “And say what you have to say quickly, just imagine you had to read your report.” “Yeah, you're right, you're right,” and they were really apologetic and guilt-ridden and everything. And then we'd sit down and a guy would show me his report, which was 83 pages long, and after an hour discussion, we would realize what he was trying to say is that he'd discovered a way to turn water into gasoline for two cents a gallon. But nowhere would that be stated, or it would be in some footnote on page 83. And I'd say, “Listen, your first sentence has to say, I've discovered a way to, you know.” And then he would say, “Well, Dave, I agree with all that, but I can't. In my department, because of the...” And they'd come up with all these complicated reasons why they couldn't do it that way. And what it really came down to is nobody wants to be the only person in the entire business world writing clearly. Everyone else is not, so...

NEWS: More risky, I suppose.

Barry: Or often, people have absolutely nothing to say. So they don't want to write that clearly either. But it was a great experience for me... I'd been in college, and then I'd gone right straight to journalism, and I was deeply suspicious of business. I thought of it as highly efficient, and kind of inhumane and cutthroat, ruthless. And I discovered that it was highly inefficient, often, (laughs) in its own way, but very human. There were a lot of people I really liked. And it was just good for me to get a different perspective on that.

NEWS: In your own writing do you follow any sort of a schedule?

Barry: Yeah, I do. I'm a uh, I'm uh, um. What's the word I'm looking for? I'm an inarticulate writer. I'm obsessive. I write all the time. I have to write every day. I always have a portable computer with me. And I don't feel very good about myself if I haven't written at least something, or had an idea that was worth writing down that day. I write usually in the morning. I get up early and write. I think most anything I write that's going to be any good will be done by 2 o'clock. But then I'll hang around and answer the phone, and return mail and stuff like that. I generally write seven days a week.

NEWS: There's been a rumor floating around in libertarian circles for a long time now that you're...

Barry: A party member!

NEWS: Well, yeah.

Barry: Yeah. I am a libertarian.

NEWS: Are you?

continued on page 10

NatCom Unanimously Supports Marrou

continued from page 1

On April 9, the Operating Committee reviewed the state of the campaign and decided to close the Las Vegas campaign office and move Marrou/Lord campaign operations and assets to Washington, DC. Marrou and Lord both concurred with this plan. In a response to a request from the MLC Operating Committee, LP National Chair Mary Gingell agreed to provide a room at LP National Headquarters for use by MLC and authorized LP National Director Nick Dunbar to travel to Las Vegas, at MLC expense, to supervise the relocation.

At its regularly scheduled meeting April 11-12 in Ann Arbor, the LNC spent approximately seven hours on this topic. The Committee discussed the items in Emerling's report and interviewed Marrou to seek his response to the allegations. Each member of the LNC was permitted to ask any questions he or she desired. This discussion was handled as a part of the normal business of the Committee. As always, the meeting was open to all LP members.

After this discussion, a motion was made to reaffirm the LNC's support for Andre Marrou and Nancy Lord as the Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates of the Libertarian Party. This motion was passed unanimously by the fourteen members present at the time of the vote. At no time was a motion made to remove Marrou from the ticket.

After the conclusion of the LNC meeting, Andre and Nancy decided to appoint Steve Alexander as the new Treasurer of the Marrou/Lord Campaign, as well naming Steve to the MLC Operating Committee, replacing Charles Barr. As a member of the OC, Alexander will focus on campaign funding, record-keeping and reporting. Givot will focus on candidate scheduling, media relations, and advertising. Dasbach will focus on special projects and other aspects of the campaign. Me-Me King has been retained on contract as candidate scheduler.

It is very difficult to reduce seven hours of discussion into a short article; however, below we have tried to outline each major accusation contained in Emerling's report, as well as Mr. Marrou's response to or explanation of the charges.

• Failure to pay child support.

Emerling charged that Marrou failed to make court-ordered child support payments for two children Marrou fathered with his second wife, Krystyna, and a child of Krystyna's that he adopted during their marriage. Emerling alleged that Marrou owes "11 years worth" of child support payments, and that "Marrou is in contempt of court in the state of Massachusetts" and "can be arrested".

Marrou said that he made the payments regularly for three years while he still lived in Massachusetts; the amount ordered by the court (\$450 per month) constituted approximately half his take-home pay at that time. While he lived in Alaska, he was unemployed for a time, and at other times had income from various sorts of employment. Marrou says he made payments when it was possible for him to do so, that the amounts he sent were typically between \$100 and \$600, and that some of the payments were given directly to the children rather than to his ex-wife because he was afraid they would otherwise not receive the benefit of the funds. He acknowledged that on occasion he was unable to make any payment during a

given month.

Marrou says that the payments were not court-supervised, so there are no court records of the amounts or dates of payments. He said that during the time he lived in Alaska he visited his children in Massachusetts every two or three years with Krystyna's knowledge and approval. He said he has no knowledge of any action taken against him in court regarding child support payments.

• Lies about his marital history.

Emerling charged that "Marrou has consistently claimed that he has been married twice", while he actually has been married four times.

Emerling presented no documentation for his claim, and indeed stated in his report that Andre's friends in Homer, Alaska "all knew" that he had been married four times. Marrou confirmed to the LNC that he has been married four times.

• Sellout of Libertarian principles in 1986 campaign.

Emerling presented a campaign mailer from Marrou's 1986 re-election campaign, listing six issues, as the only evidence for this charge.

No National Committee members asked any questions relating to the content of the campaign mailer.

• Investigation by Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC).

Emerling suggested that Marrou did not run for office in Alaska after 1986 and did not move back to Alaska after his Vice-Presidential campaign in 1988 because he was under investigation by APOC.

Marrou explained that APOC is a state agency which, historically, has been used by political insiders to attack their opponents. During his term in the legislature, Andre requested that a study of APOC's investigations of state legislators be done. The results of that study indicated that about 20 percent of Democratic legislators had been investigated, 50 percent of Republican legislators had been investigated, and 100 percent of Libertarian legislators (that is, each of the three) had been investigated.

Marrou said that the specific charges against him were initiated by the chair of his opponent's election campaign. Marrou was accused of failing to identify, on a form he was required to file when he ran for office, a business relationship with the City of Homer in order to hide an alleged conflict of interest involving that relationship.

Marrou explained that the requirement was that he disclose cases where he was doing business with the state; in this case he was doing work for a city, not the state.

Marrou was also accused of failing to supply on the form a list of real estate clients in answer to a question about sources of income. For the period when he was working as a real estate salesman, because he was not at that time himself acting as a "broker" with clients of his own, he listed the broker for whom he worked as his source of income.

The alleged conflict of interest related to a situation where Marrou was doing work for the city on purchasing a 15-foot right-of-way for a sidewalk. Marrou himself owned property involved in the project. Marrou explained that the prices paid to the various property owners were established by an independent appraisal done prior to his taking on the job, and that the

payment for his property was simply the amount recommended in that appraisal.

Emerling also alluded to other charges of "failing to properly identify" communications and "failing to report" contributions, but provided no documentation.

• Unauthorized application for a credit card.

Emerling claims that Marrou obtained a "corporate" Mastercard for Project 51-'92 without the knowledge or approval of the appropriate officers of that organization.

Marrou explained that the card in question, although the name of an organization appeared on it, was a personal one that did not constitute an obligation of 51-'92, and therefore required no authorization by anyone other than himself.

• Irresponsibility about financial planning.

Emerling says that Marrou should have planned his finances and saved up money starting in 1988 so as to be ready to do without any income during the 1992 campaign; that by not having done this, Marrou was incurring debts he knew he could not repay.

Marrou says that he did not make the final decision to run for President until the fall of 1990, and that, in any case, planning his personal finances is his personal responsibility, not the business of campaign staff.

• Unpaid personal bills.

Emerling lists a number of personal obligations, including house payments, credit card payments, and utility bills which had not been paid by Marrou. Emerling claimed that MLC staff discovered the existence of these debts, and de-

scribed how some of them may have been paid out of campaign funds.

Marrou told the LNC that he accepts personal responsibility for his personal financial obligations, and that he never authorized campaign staff to pay his personal bills with campaign money. He said that staff members failed to forward his mail, and that they should never have taken it upon themselves to deal with his personal bills.

MLC Chief of Staff Perry Willis has said that no personal bills were paid with campaign funds except where doing so would provide some direct benefit to the campaign and that benefit could not be obtained in a less expensive manner.

Marrou told the LNC that in the event that analysis of the payments made by those in charge of campaign funds showed that his personal obligations had been improperly covered, he would accept responsibility for making appropriate adjustments.

• Other allegations.

There were a number of other claims of irresponsibility or improper financial behavior alleged or implied by other portions of Emerling's report. Marrou indicated to the LNC that many of these were also cases of inaccurate or slanted reporting by Emerling. For example, Emerling complained about a \$400 hotel bill, but did not say that it was for a five night stay.

Marrou characterized the overall report as containing perhaps 20 percent truth, 20 percent pure lies, and 60 percent half-truths and distorted truths.

Mary Gingell is LP National Chair, and Joe Dehn is LP National Secretary.

Low-Cost Campaign Material Available

Candidates who want to spend a minimum amount on their campaigns will be able to purchase an inexpensive package to promote their campaigns, Tonie Nathan, former LP national media director, announced this month.

Nathan said her public relations firm, Nathan & Associates, has expanded on her initial offering of video and audio tapes on the "Enough is Enough" theme by producing buttons, bumper stickers, and lawn signs. All the materials say, "Enough is Enough—Vote Libertarian."

Nathan said most candidates for local or state offices do not have the budget to develop signs and bumper stickers. "By offering them the benefit of our quantity discount price, they can purchase whatever amount or item they want and know they are promoting the party," she said.

For more information, call Tonie Nathan at 1-800-755-9975.

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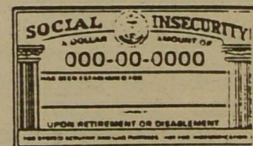
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African Americans

continued from page 1

tion on civil liberties, or its catering to special interests.

These and other factors create a golden opportunity for dramatic Libertarian gains among African Americans.

The publicity plan includes advertisements in African American publications, massive distribution of fliers, and radio spots, as well as personal visits promoting the event to African American organizations.

It is absolutely essential that the LP make a strong showing to interface with the expected 200-250 forward looking, self-reliant African Americans who are expected to attend.

The cost for dinner, speaker, and dance is only \$40 per person, \$75 per couple, if money is received or postmarked by May 5, 1992. Costs will increase after that date.

Because of the size and importance of this event, it is imperative that people sign up early. This will greatly facilitate the event's organization and effectiveness.

Checks should be made to the Libertarian Party, Region 64, and sent to P.O. Box 480773, Los Angeles, CA 90048.

Dave Answers Your Tax Questions

By Dave Barry

As a public service we have once again assembled a distinguished panel of leading consumer financial advisers from around the nation to answer your common tax questions. Unfortunately they once again got into the gin at the hotel hospital suite and were arrested in the lobby fountain wearing only a thin film of avocado dip. So once again we are going to answer your common tax questions ourselves.

But first we have word of an important new initiative by the Internal Revenue Service (official motto: "See Schedule 936850345-D For Official Motto"). We found out about this from a newsletter sent out by Donald Mitgang, director of the Buffalo, NY, IRS district. A copy was mailed to us by alert reader and Certified Public Accountant Suzanne Pfister, to whom we say: Thanks, and be prepared to spend the rest of your life undergoing tax audits so thorough that you will be required to produce your individual toenail clippings from as far back as 1967.

According to Director Mitgang's newsletter, the IRS initiative is called "Compliance 2000."

"To put it in a nutshell," he states, "it is a new philosophical approach toward compliance. We hope it will result in a more compliant taxpayer."

We love the sound of that: "... result in a more compliant taxpayer." It sounds as though they're developing a new strain of goat.

Director Mitgang explains that the goal of the Compliance 2000 initiative is "to determine why taxpayers are not complying and what we need to do to make them compliant."

Whoa! THERE'S a real mystery! Why aren't taxpayers complying with the tax code? Hmmmmm. We have been wracking our brain, trying to think of a possible cause, and we are wondering if—this is going to sound farfetched—maybe it has something to do with the fact that the tax code is larger than the average taxpayer's home and nobody in the entire world really understands it because it was apparently written by hostile mutant non-English-speaking lawyers from space, plus it is revised about every 25 minutes, plus it is used to take taxpayers' money away and turn it over to a federal government that routinely spends it on activities like declaring National Deviled Ham Awareness Month.

Nah, that couldn't be it. It's probably some kind of chemical disorder in the taxpayers' brains.

Anyway, until the IRS is able to develop an improved taxpayer, possibly through a combination of genetic engineering and electric fences, you should try to be as compliant as possible. You can start by studying the answers to these:

Common Taxpayer Questions

Q: If I use the standard 1040 tax form, how do I indicate my preference regarding the Elvis stamp?

A: You simply write "THIN ELVIS" or "FAT ELVIS" in the box labeled "spouse's Social Security Number."

Q: What is a good amount to pretend that I gave to charity?

A: Many taxpayers have obtained excellent results with "\$2,379.52."

Q: I am a joint taxpayer filing singly with three dependents living separately but calling all the time. In 1991 my gross exclusionary non-reimbursed net taxable income was \$26,365.47, with an adjusted excess itemized disqualifying redemption of \$3,109.23, but I don't have any questions because I mailed in my tax return on Jan. 3 and I already got my refund nyah

nyah nyah.

A: We hope you develop a kidney stone the size of Richard Simmons.

Q: In reviewing my tax records for 1991, I find that they consist of a cardboard box filled with cash-register receipts that are impossible to read because apparently nobody in the U.S. has ever replaced a cash-register ribbon. So now I'm trying to do my taxes and it's 1:30 a.m. and I have IRS forms all over the kitchen table snarling at me and demanding to know things like do I have any capital gain distributions not reported on line 13, and all I have to refresh my memory is 500 little pieces of curled-up paper, each of which has maybe four ink molecules on it, and the only financial information I can obtain from them, using a powerful magnifying glass, is "HAVE A NICE DAY." My question is: Is the commissioner of Internal Revenue still named "Fred"?

A: Yes, and Fred has a nice letter in the Form 1040 instruction booklet in which he states that the IRS is "testing exciting new approaches by letting certain taxpayers file by telephone and by doing the math for taxpayers who ask for our help."

Q: I'm going to call him right now.

A: Good idea! Don't mention our name.

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HELP US HELP A FRIEND!

Running for political office is an expensive proposition. Sometimes we forget that the person paying the highest price is the full-time candidate who foregoes his or her income to do so. Andre Marrou is one such person.

During his campaign, Andre has run up debts totalling several thousand dollars. The debts are not the result of extravagant living. They arise from the same expenses each of us faces—mortgage, telephone, water, and the like.

We, the undersigned, want to help Andre. So we've arranged for another friend of Andre to produce "Marrou for President" T-shirts for a very low cost.

Help us help Andre. All profits will be used to help Andre retire several thousand dollars of personal debts. This is your chance to prove that Libertarians are right—that people will freely give to help those in need.

Steve Alexander
David Bergland
Tamara Clark
Clay Conrad
Steve Dasbach
Joe Dehn
Dan Endsley

Mary Gingell
Steve Givot
Mary Margaret Glennie
Bill Hall
Karl Hess
Dan Karlan
Nancy Lord

Thea McLean
Ken Prazak
William Redpath
Dave Schumacher
Michael Tanner
Scott Walton
Sue Walton

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Quote of the Month

During a noisy committee hearing on a bill to prohibit gas and electric utilities from offering repair services to homeowners, bill sponsor and committee chairman Assm. John E. Rooney offered:

"If free speech is going to interfere with the workings of government, then maybe it's time to limit free speech."

Submitted by Richard L. Duprey,
Director of Government Relations,
Commerce and Industry Assn. of NJ

Got a Quote of the Month?
LP NEWS, P.O. Box 780,
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You can now hear LP presidential candidate Andre Marrou give you the latest updates on his campaign, as well as an introduction to Libertarianism. Of course, you still get the legislative hotline, LP membership information, news of LP projects and activities, and much more.

Stay in touch by calling Liberty Line today!

Dave Barry: Libertarian, Author

continued from page 7

Barry: Yeah. I mean I've . . . It's not a secret. I've mentioned it in a number of interviews, but usually, people who aren't familiar with libertarianism—which is most people—either don't know what you mean, or figure that's just a joke (laughs). So they dismiss it. But yeah. I think I even belong to the Libertarian Party of Florida. I always feel kind of funny joining anything that calls itself a party (laughs). I'm not what you call an "activist Libertarian," but I'm philosophically much in accord with libertarianism. I became, sort of "converted," if that's the word you use, in the mid-, late '70s. I had a friend named Sheldon Richman, who actually worked with me at that company where we taught effective writing seminars, Burger Associates. And Sheldon had always been active in the libertarian movement, and I think he worked for the American Enterprise Institute for a while, and worked on, um—is it Ed Clark?—worked on his campaign, and often speaks at libertarian functions, and has just been active in the movement for a long time. And he and I used to have these *bitter* arguments. *Bitter!* And I would say, "Oh yeah, what if somebody's born with no eyes, or no arms, no legs and both his parents die? Huh?! What are you gonna do, let him rot? Huh?!" All that stuff that you always hear when you're a libertarian and have the insanity, cruelty, to suggest that government is not really the solution to every problem. Sheldon loved to argue, and he would just be cool and answer me, and we'd argue. And then suddenly, I think it was having to do with paying taxes one year, or having just read the paper, I just suddenly realized he was right. I can't say there was, say, one defining thing, but I just, "You know what? Sheldon's right!" (laughs) And so I started reading. I read what I still think is the best book, it's the one by Murray Rothbard, is it *Liberty Primer*? Something like that, but it's a book that just takes every single issue and in really clear, simple prose, talks about the libertarian position. And I became interested in how the libertarian position would work for, like, the courts, and what you would do about . . . And I'm not a great . . . I know people get really heavily into the philosophy, and I sometimes look at *Reason* magazine, and others, and see very obscure arguments about economics. But I can't say that I'm an intensely philosophical, intellectual libertarian, but certainly

“It was the ultimate example of . . . just how incredibly wrong the state can be, or how a state can abuse its power.”

that's where my emotions lie, and to the extent that I have reason, that's where my reason lies.

NEWS: Have you seen the LP NEWS has picked up your column?

Barry: Yeah. They did. I was a little surprised to see that, because I don't really touch on political issues that often, although I do from time to time. But, yeah, I was happy to see that.

NEWS: Personally, when you take on Congress especially, I think, those are invariably your best columns.

Barry: Well, you say that because you're a libertarian (laughs). And housewives love it when I talk about how men are scum; people who have dogs love it when I talk about my dogs. One of the things you learn as a columnist, there are always certain people who just know what you should write about. I don't mean to put you down for what you said.

NEWS: No, no. I agree with you.

Barry: Probably, if I lived in Washington and had no concern whatsoever about what the various readers want, I would probably write a lot more about Congress and politics.

NEWS: You said in *Playboy* that you don't vote, and I'm sure Andre Marrou is going to be real disappointed to read this interview.

Barry: Well, yeah. Maybe someday I will vote, and if I did it would be for Andre Marrou. Maybe I'll register and vote for Andre. But I guess, I know there is some debate in the Libertarian Party itself about whether it makes sense to register and vote, or not.

NEWS: Yeah, that's true. There are a lot of libertarians who don't do it. However, you know, you are, I suppose, the only announced presidential candidate who . . .

Barry: . . . who refused to participate in the process.

NEWS: Yeah. Right.

Barry: I always make it clear that I'm willing to run for president, but I'm not willing to lower myself to actually becoming involved in the disgusting process by which we choose them.

NEWS: Well, how's the campaign going?

Barry: It's going very well. If people keep on dropping out, I think I'll be the only one, so I'm hanging in there. I'm saving my fire for later on.

NEWS: I noticed in the *Playboy* interview that you admitted to being a conscientious objector, and I was wondering if that hurt your candidacy at all?

Barry: Well, you know, more and more, that's beginning to look like one of the more honorable things you could have done.

NEWS: Was that a hassle, to get C.O. status in that time?

Barry: It was very difficult when I did it, and it was sort of a searing lesson in, uh, well, you know . . . it was just such a profoundly unfair time to be a young man. It was the ultimate example of . . . just how incredibly wrong the state can be, or how a state can abuse its power. And it was very difficult for me to become a C.O., and I became one purely because of two fortunate circumstances. My father had been one in World War II, he was a Presbyterian minister, divinity student, and he was granted conscientious objector status. And I happened to go to a Quaker college, Haverford College in Pennsylvania. I'm not a Quaker and never was, but the draft board decided that that made me legitimate. The same night that I got granted my status, I watched 10 guys, we all were in the same room together, waiting to go in. And afterward we all talked about it. I was the only one of the 10 to get it. The other guys were at least as sincerely op-

posed to that war as I was. But I got really pissed at the media during the Bill Clinton draft letter scandal, so called. I just felt that we didn't do a very good job of presenting the context in which he did what he did. But my feeling was, and still is, that when the state is waging a clearly wrong war, and no one . . . I mean, the president of the United States at the time, Richard Nixon, had run as a peace candidate (laughs). You know, people forget that. The man got elected because he said everybody was saying he would end the war. That's why Lyndon Johnson wasn't re-elected. That's why he dropped out. Hubert Humphrey, everybody was saying he would end the war. The public was clearly turned against it, as was most of Congress. And yet the state was telling people like Bill Clinton that they had to go, even though we knew the war was wrong, not just because it was killing innocent people over there, but because it was killing guys over here. Friends of mine went over and died. To tell anybody under what circumstances he is allowed to go or not go, to me, is just so morally offensive. We had big arguments among the press in New Hampshire, but I said anything he had done to get out of that war was, to me, more moral than what the state could do to get him into it.

NEWS: Well, it seems like this taking circumstances out of context happens to every candidate for every office in every situation. It's like we want all our leaders to be Jesus or something.

Barry: Yeah, we do have a truly ridiculous political process. And if you look at the issues that come up every four years: crime in the streets, abortion, pornography, issues that the president of the United States has *nothing* to do with, that I can tell . . . Tammy Wynette. Every four years. And we always say, "We're not going to let that happen again," this is us in the media. But every time.

NEWS: Well, in one sense, as a presidential candidate, you've got perfect deniability, at least as far as anything you say in your column goes, because you can always say, "Well, I was just kidding about that."

Barry: (Laughs) I know, but I often think that I'm making more sense (laughs).

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Employer _____ Occupation _____



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The United States Postal Service requires us to notify you that LP NEWS subscription cost of \$25 per year is included in your membership dues. The Internal Revenue Service requires us to print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fund-raising appeals. Federal Election Commission requires us to ask for your employer and occupation.

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Letters: Something for Everybody This Time

Party On!

I would like to respond to the individuals who are having a difficult time accepting Dave Barry. Simply put, kick them out of the LP and banish them to a sub-basement at the IRS! Maybe all members should be required to sign a humor pledge before being allowed to join? I can only imagine the damage a boring Libertarian zealot can do to the LP. Lighten up, it's our party!

Don Pfeiffer
Amherst, VA

Comments

You just keep getting better. The March issue was just loaded with interesting material. I really love your concentration on the news, especially on the front page. The Chair is now striking a more positive chord. The interviews are fairly interesting. And the new column by Dave Barry is hilarious. Great idea! Just one thing. How about some numbers on national membership, preferably in graphic form?

Chris Barker
Springfield, IL

Health Care

I saw this comment in the Bloomington, IN, Herald-Times. Thought I would pass it on:

"Is it reasonable to assume that a government-run health care system will have: All the compassion of the Internal Revenue Service, the efficiency of the post office, and will control costs as effectively as the Pentagon?"

Henry C. Marshall
Nashville, IN

Gun Owners

In response to Brett P. Bellmore's letter (March, 1992, NEWS): We gun owners are not a pariah group!

From your letter and those of other Libertarians on the gun issue, there exists a conflict of philosophy vs. personal preferences.

I don't ask of you or others to like guns or use guns. I do ask that you appreciate the fact that many law-abiding gun owners agree with the Libertarian philosophy and should be welcomed as desirable members of the community and to this party.

If you took the time to find out about the shooting fraternity and those who participate in it, you may be pleasantly surprised to find they are some of your best friends.

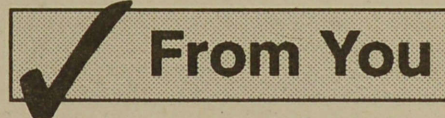
Patrick Glenn
San Francisco, CA

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

As a member of the NRA, LP, and other patriot groups, I see no reason on God's earth why the NRA has not bannered official support of the LP equally as much as we have for the Second Amendment. Careful reading has shown me that the NRA shares the vast majority, if not all, the LP views, from closely to exactly.

Wayne LaPierre of the NRA, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036, is the executive VP and helm of the NRA. He is a dedicated patriot of integrity that listens and responds.

I put this important, positive challenge to each and every LP member: To open up the bomb bay doors, showing leadership by example, (again), and motivate Mr. LaPierre with respectful but firm letters requesting and giving reason for the NRA to bond with,



Letters from members and readers

and officially support, the LP. Be sure to say if you are an NRA member or if you cherish the Second Amendment.

Let's remind the NRA that whether supporting a Republican or Democrat, government intervention always, always wins.

Jeff Thomsen
Langley, WA

Pave Paradise

For 17 years I have paid exorbitant taxes to the state of New York to own a small piece of paradise located in St. Lawrence County, next to the Adirondack State Park. Five years ago I was informed by the state that my property was registered as a "Wetland" and that all use of it was now controlled. That irritated me, but since I love the wilderness I accepted the controls on my property.

Recently the county has selected my property as the site for a possible solid waste landfill. I have been told that the county will get a court order and force me to permit state officials to evacuate my land. I would like to request the help of all libertarians to help me fight this expropriation. Your letters to the following will be deeply appreciated: Mr. Thomas Plastino, St. Lawrence County Solid Waste Disposal Authority, 127 N. Water St., Ogdenburg, NY 13669; or Governor Mario Cuomo, State Capital Building, Albany, NY 12203.

I cannot tell you the personal suffering I experience to see my property targeted for a "kill zone" by the government. Please help with a few short letters.

Michael Borland, M.D.
Columbia, MD

Economic Fix?

Am I missing something? All across the land I'm hearing a great clamor to do something to the economy. Stimulate it, adjust it, prop it up, fix it! Perhaps I am puzzled because I'm an old-fashioned thinker who believes the main ideological difference between communist and democratic societies is that the former have managed economies while the latter is usually characterized by unfettered free market persuasions. At least that is the basic idea at the start of a democracy. Can it be that we have drifted so far from the basic idea that we no longer recognize it, or worse, remember it?

I have continued hope that some of the economy's traffic signals will be slowed down or removed. Beyond that, however, I pray that our leaders will somehow refrain from fixing it anymore.

Andrian Kremm
San Diego, CA

Activists

If you're like me, you have progressively poured more and more of yourself into the LP over the years. And while I realize danger lies in the possibility of "burning out" our best and brightest activists prematurely, I would hope that we are prepared to seize every opportunity.

The so-called "Rubber Gate" scandal is going to generate the largest wave of anti-

incumbency since before cable TV! We are now obliged to try sponsoring a congressional slate of candidates.

David B. Langlois
Baton Rouge, LA

Do It!

Anyone who wants to help the LP ought to cut out the excellent article ("The Amateur Activist," April, 1992, NEWS) by Tomas Estrada-Palma and post it in some prominent or accessible place!

No matter what the level of involvement, every reader of the NEWS can do one of the things suggested. And let's face it, unless millions of Americans are exposed to libertarian ideas, the political scene won't change much.

Ayn Rand wrote that it generally takes about 20 years for ideas to percolate through society. Well, it's 20 years since the first LP convention and we're still struggling to achieve recognition by the general public.

But it can be done, folks. It just takes a little more activism. Estrada-Palma has shown us some of the things we can do. Let's do it!

Tonie Nathan
Eugene, OR

Jefferson Speaks

From observing LP members on television and reading about Libertarians in the press, I have come to the opinion that Libertarians suffer from a failure to be able to express the beliefs and principles of the LP concisely. . . . To overcome this deficiency, I think we need a simple, powerful statement that explains our principles in words the average American can understand and readily accept.

I feel that nothing we could say would more simply and eloquently express our views than Thomas Jefferson's words in the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

. . . I believe that if we adopted this quote as our creed our basic philosophy would be defined in a way that could be easily explained and easily understood by every American.

John Thorne
Redmond, WA

McCann on McCann

I do not usually respond to personal attacks (Jan. 1992, NEWS). However, it was so nice of John LaBeaume to take David Miller to task and defend me that I thought it appropriate to reply. . .

At no time have I ever stated that I was for the status quo on drugs. This is a complete figment of Mr. Miller's imagination, and reflects his personal animosity towards me.

My consistent position has been to point out to non-Libertarians the lesson of prohibition, and the great number of parallels between the problems of making alcohol illegal and our present problems with making drugs illegal.

I truly believe that there is a very sizable percentage of people who are not registered Libertarians who will become Libertarians if only we present our positions in a reasonable light. It is important that we build coalitions and bring people in, not shut them out with

dogmatic comments such as Mr. Miller likes to make.

Our ideal Libertarian society is a goal we would like to reach as soon as possible, but all goals are achieved by a series of steps.

We need the support of persons who have not been Libertarians to progress toward our goals, and it is only by speaking to them in a reasonable fashion that we will gain that support.

David M. McCann, M.D.
Orangevale, CA

Platform

I recently saw the updated LP platform that includes changes from the 1991 LP convention. The platform's very first page contains the new section on RICO laws. It reads: ". . . In particular, we advocate: . . . (section) g. the repeal of anti-racketeering statutes such as the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO), which punish peaceful behavior—including insider trading in securities, sale of sexually explicit material, and nonviolent anti-abortion protests—by freezing assets of the accused or convicted. . . ."

I think it is unfortunate that delegates to the convention voted to specify "anti-abortion" protests, since non-violent religious and labor groups have also been targeted by RICO laws. More importantly, using this as an example cannot help but confuse potential libertarians inquiring about the party's positions on both abortion and property rights.

Like other Libertarians, I am opposed to applying RICO laws to non-violent protests. However, singling out anti-abortion groups on the LP platform's first page will not gain us any support. And it could definitely lose us some. I hope delegates will delete the word "anti-abortion" from the RICO plank at the 1993 LP convention.

Carol Moore
Washington, DC

Wrap Up

I see by the newspaper that a federal agency has ordered the Old Glory Condom Company to desist using the American flag as part of the logo imprinted on their stationery and their product. It was thought to be "in bad taste" (an odd choice of words).

I think that because George Bush wrapped himself in the flag for election purposes in 1988, then it would be equally fair today to use Old Glory to wrap up all those other "bleeps."

Douglas N. Merritt
Atchison, KS

Letters

The NEWS appreciates and encourages letters to the editor. However, we are not able to respond to all writers or publish all the letters we receive. Please keep your letters short, if possible to no more than 250 words. Typewritten copy is also greatly appreciated. Some letters are edited for length, but we do our best to keep your basic point clear.

Thanks to all of the many writers, and please keep the letters coming. Even if your first letter did not find its way into print, try us again. Let other LP members hear "From You."

Write to the NEWS, P.O. Box 780, Winchester, VA 22601.

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New Address

Marrou/Lord Campaign

1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
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Upcoming Events

May 1-3, 1992:
New York LP Convention; 212-477-2515.

May 2-3, 1992:
South Carolina LP Convention, Ocean Dunes-Sand Dunes Resort Hotel, Myrtle Beach; for reservations at nearby hotels call 803-449-3331, 449-7431, or 449-5281; for information write David Morris, P.O. Box 2297, West Columbia, SC 29171. Speakers include Nancy Lord.

May 2, 1992:
Wisconsin LP Convention, Brookfield; 414-963-6477.

May 15-16, 1992:
Arizona LP Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Phoenix; 602-930-1268. Speakers include Nancy Lord, Joseph Sobran, and Robert Poole.

May 17, 1992:
Maine LP Convention, Augusta; 207-353-9711.

May 23, 1992:
Hawaii LP Convention, Honolulu; 808-536-0790. Speakers include Nancy Lord.

May 28-31, 1992:
Healthcare Prospectives '92, Sheraton Northshore Hotel, Chicago; 708-475-0391.

May 29-31, 1992:
Florida LP Convention; 407-290-2467.

June 5-7, 1992:
South Dakota LP Convention, Rapid City; 605-342-4242. Speakers include Nancy Lord.

June 5-7, 1992:
Ohio LP Convention, Marriott Portside Hotel, Toledo; 419-353-1813 or 419-425-2702. Speakers include Andre Marrou, Larry Dodge, Jacob Hornberger, and Jim Lark.

June 12-16, 1992:
Idaho LP Convention, Statehouse Inn, Boise; 208-585-2253. Speakers include Andre Marrou.

June 13, 1992:
Texas LP Convention; 817-536-4131.

June 20-21, 1992:
Tennessee LP Convention, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Nashville; 615-758-5906. Speakers include Nancy Lord and Jacob Hornberger.

June 27-28, 1992:
Washington State LP Convention, Seattle; 206-759-1838.

November 11-14, 1992:
Drug Policy Foundation's Sixth International Conference on Drug Policy Reform, Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington, DC; 202-895-1634.

To have your event listed in the Upcoming Events calendar, send a notice to LP NEWS, P.O. Box 780, Winchester, VA 22601.

Libertarian National Committee

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Marrou 100%
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**Hess Running
For Governor
Page 1**

I can't say that I'm an
intensely philosophical,
intellectual libertarian, but certainly
that's where my emotions lie ...
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