



California

Libertarian News

Volume 6, Number 10

January 1992



Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate Richard Boddie announced his candidacy December 15th by throwing tea into Long Beach Harbor. The event commemorated the "Boston Tea Party" of December 16, 1773 and the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights.

CAMPAIGN '92 UPDATE

On December 2 the tentative maps of the reapportioned congressional, state senate and state assembly districts were presented to the state Supreme Court. The court will hold hearings and likely approve these maps January 28. The Libertarian Party is recruiting candidates based on the tentative maps, but can readily change plans if the districts change.

Due to the delay in determining the district boundaries, candidates won't be able to take out their papers until February 10. Two-thirds of our signature collecting time will have elapsed by then, but the Secretary of State's office is talking about reducing our signature collecting requirements by two-thirds as well. All candidates will be kept up to date.

We still need Libertarians to come forward to run. To date 69 people have volunteered for 154 available positions (2 U.S. Senate, 52 U.S. House, 20 State Senate and 80 State Assembly). You must be registered to vote as a Libertarian and not have been registered in any other political party since February 1991. The amount of effort required during the campaign is up to you. The main goal is to have a Libertarian alternative on the ballot in every district. To volunteer your services or for more information, contact Campaign '92 chair **Ted Brown** at (818) 568-8404 or your county chair (see page 7).

**CONVENTION INFORMATION
ENCLOSED.
PLEASE OPEN IMMEDIATELY!**

SAN DIEGO LIBERTARIANS WIN MAJOR VICTORY AS SUPREME COURT REJECTS TAX HIKE

Libertarian plaintiffs won a precedent-setting decision December 19 when the California Supreme Court rejected a San Diego County sales tax measure to build courts and jails. Proposition A had passed with just 50.6% of the vote in June 1988. It was designed to raise \$1.6 billion over ten years with a half-cent increase in sales tax. The Court ruled that the measure violated Proposition 13, which requires a two-thirds vote to impose new special purpose taxes.

Governor Pete Wilson had urged the Supreme Court justices to uphold the tax, saying their decision could affect local government finance "for decades to come." But the court's 5-2 majority, led by chief Justice Malcolm Lucas, said the court had to apply the two-thirds rule strictly because Prop. 13, the popular 1978 tax-cutting measure, was an amendment to the California constitution.

The decision, which is being seen as a bellwether for counties across the state, was won by three San Diego Libertarians: **Dick Rider**, **Pat Wright** and **Steven Currie**. They filed suit in July 1988 to block the tax, since it did not receive two-thirds of the vote. In March 1989 a Riverside County judge agreed and struck down the tax. But in September 1990, the 4th District Court of Appeals in San Bernardino reversed that ruling. The Libertarians then appealed to the Supreme Court.

Local officials around California are up in arms over the ruling. While it has been well established that a county Board of Supervisors can't raise taxes without support of two-thirds of the voters, politicians have been going around this by creating tax agencies known as "special districts." But now, under the Libertarian-won ruling, the Supreme Court says that a taxing agency that is "essentially controlled" by a city or county must comply with the two-thirds requirement.

The courts will rule on a case-by-case basis in the future to determine if other such agencies around the state are "essentially controlled" by the county governments or not. Another pending case involves Proposition C in Los Angeles County, passed in 1990 with only 50.4% of the vote. This is a half-cent sales tax increase designed for transportation projects. Local Libertarians led by former state chairs **John Vernon** and **Ted Brown**, have filed suit against the tax, but their arguments were rejected by a Los Angeles County judge. The case awaits an appeal.

"(The Supreme Court decision) helps our case," said attorney **Mark Rosen**, who represents the Libertarian plaintiffs in Los Angeles and in a similar Orange County case. "If LACTC (Los Angeles Transportation Commission) falls with the definition of the Rider case decided today, Prop C is dead," Rosen said.

San Diego Libertarians are jubilant about their major victory. Said plaintiff **Dick Rider**, "Hot Damn! Even Santa couldn't have brought me a better Christmas present!"



FROM THE CHAIR PAT WRIGHT

Welcome to a special edition of *California Libertarian News*. This is the first outreach edition of our newsletter, and it's going to all 10,000 people on our mailing

list.

1991 was a terrific year for the Libertarian Party of California. Membership has gone from 1,858 last February to about 3,150 currently. We might still meet our most ambitious goal of doubling our membership to 4,000 by the time of next month's convention.

Most encouraging is the sense of momentum and activity on the local level. This year we've added new chapters or reactivated dormant chapters in Humboldt, Fresno, Napa, Sonoma and Kern Counties. There are very few areas of California that don't have at least a minimally active Libertarian group.

Several counties have doubled their membership, and few have even tripled. Placer County elected four Libertarians to non-partisan office just this year.

As good as 1991 was to the LPC, 1992 promises to be much better. We are better organized and better financed than ever before. We have a great presidential ticket in the **Marrou/Lord** campaign and a great U. S. Senate candidate in **Richard Boddie**. People are fed up with all the tax increases and paternalistic legislation we've received from both Democrats and Republicans.

Now is the time to join the Libertarian Party. If you aren't a member, just use the enclosed postage-paid membership form. If you are a member, why not give a membership to somebody else. The timing will never be better!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Libertarian Party of California's state executive committee met December 7 in Van Nuys. All fifteen members were present.

Chair **Pat Wright** and Treasurer **Bonnie Flickinger** announced that they would seek re-election at the February state convention. The other three officers, **Ed Moss** (secretary), **Mark Hinkle** (northern vice chair) and **Kim Goldsworthy** (southern vice chair), announced that they would not run again. Region 62 chair **Bob Weber** will run for southern vice chair.

The main item of business was adoption of the 1992 budget. A balanced \$87,800 budget was passed without dissent.

The Tax Limitation Initiative that was being drafted by Libertarian attorney **Manny Klausner** has been pushed back to 1994. There isn't enough time or resources available to get it on the ballot and passed in 1992. Such an effort will require more financial commitments than we have currently assembled.

Ann Garcia, a member of the Mountain View School Board (Santa Clara County) and a longtime Democrat, has announced her intention to join the Libertarian Party.

Current registration figures show the LP with 52,219 voters statewide. Unfortunately, the Peace & Freedom Party has about 2,000 more. The Green Party is attempting to qualify for the ballot and has already signed up more than 63,000 voters. They need about 80,000 to succeed. It is reported that the Democrats are trying to sabotage their efforts.

The committee voted to separate Solano County (Vallejo) from the East Bay Region, which will still consist of Alameda and Contra Costa. **Mike Malin** was appointed chair pro tem of the Solano LP. The Stanislaus County (Modesto) LP has been organized as well, and **Charlie Rose** was appointed chair pro tem.

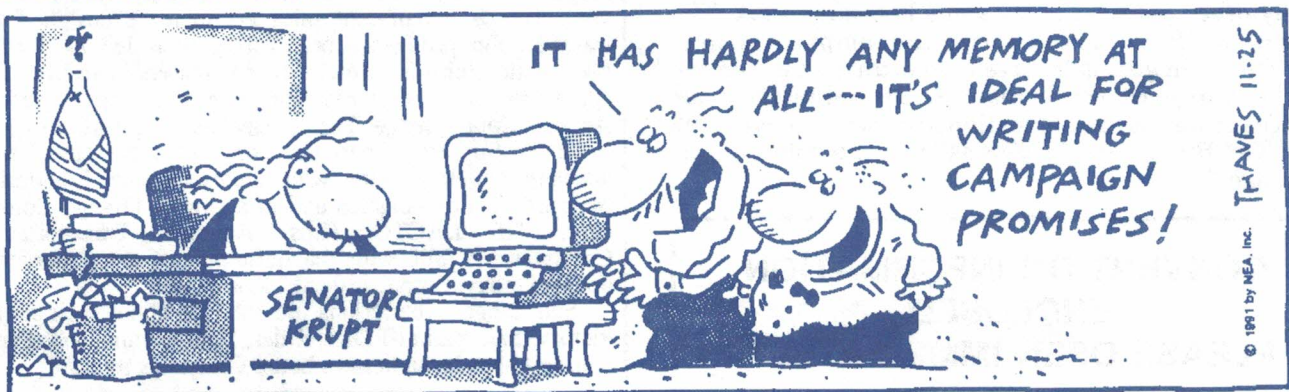
A committee of **Pat Wright**, **Mark Hinkle** and **Kim Goldsworthy** will prepare a recognition for "super volunteers" and present them with plaques at the state convention. Wright also suggested giving Governor Pete Wilson an award for being our top recruiter! Also, party pledgers will be recognized with a special reception at the convention.

Party members are asked to submit wording and designs for a new "You asked about the Libertarian Party" brochure to be given to people who don't know anything about the party. The Operations Committee will select the most effective entry. Send your ideas to Pat Wright, P. O. Box 3395, San Diego, CA 92163.

David Nolan has resigned as a California alternate to the Libertarian National Committee. **Richard Boddie** was elected to fill the vacancy. (Continued next page)

FRANK AND ERNEST

by Bob Thaves





Libertarian businessman Randall Young has contributed two offices to the party in this building at 11500 W. Olympic Blvd. in West Los Angeles.

DAVID DUKE IS NOT A LIBERTARIAN!

Libertarian Party National Chair **Mary Gingell** has denounced David Duke for claiming that he is "basically a libertarian." Duke made the claim during his December 4 news conference announcing his bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

"Duke is not a libertarian," Gingell said. "He is nothing but a populist who is for, not against, big government. He was the Populist Party candidate for president in 1988. He appeals to those who voted for former Alabama Governor George Wallace, the David Duke of the 1960s."

"Duke is a charlatan who twists words to appeal to whatever audience he happens to be addressing," she added. "But there is a lot more to being libertarian than just saying you believe in freedom."

"He is for immigration controls based on race; we are for open borders. He is a Japan-basher, a protectionist, and is for building tariff walls; we are for free trade. He says big government is the answer to environmental problems; we say property rights are the answer."

"He wants his supposedly Christian religious views imposed on all public school children; we are for privatizing schools so that all families, regardless of their religious beliefs, can have the education they want for their children. He is for compulsory drug testing; we are for repealing all drug laws. He wants less welfare subsidies for blacks and he wants more for whites; we want to replace the welfare state with private enterprise and private charity."

ANOTHER LIBERTARIAN LEGISLATOR!

A second Republican member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives, **Finley Rothhaus**, has quit the G. O. P. and joined the Libertarian Party. No further details were available at press time. Mr. Rothhaus joins **Calvin Warburton**, a seven-term House veteran who switched parties last summer in disgust over Republican promotion of tax increases. Other legislators are considering joining our Party of Principle as well. Stay tuned for further updates.

Beginner's Introduction to Libertarianism

"I heartily endorse *A Liberty Primer*."

Ed Clark

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VERNON TO RUN IN SPECIAL ELECTION

On November 19th, state senator Alan Robbins (D-Van Nuys) resigned from office and pleaded guilty to a variety of corruption charges. He will likely serve five years in federal prison. A special election has been called for April 7 to fill this 20th State Senate District (San Fernando Valley) seat. Former LPC state chair **John Vernon** has announced his candidacy, and expects to run a hard-hitting campaign. This first race of 1992 should show us how the public responds to the Libertarian message in a time of economic and political turmoil. For more information, contact John Vernon at 6469 Gloria Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91406, phone (818) 780-9943.

LIBERTARIAN SQUEAKS BY WITH ONE VOTE



Last month we reported that three Libertarians were elected to office in Placer County on November 5, and a fourth had tied for victory. A recount was held in late November, and **Erik Henriksen** won a seat on the Tahoe City Public Utility District Board by one vote. This victory follows that of **Dennis Schlumpf** on the same board. Schlumpf reports that a third member is sympathetic to the free market, and thus this water and recreation board with a \$5,000,000 budget could be firmly in Libertarian hands soon. Stay tuned for further developments.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

California Libertarian News is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions and articles contained within do not necessarily represent official party positions unless so indicated. Please send articles, local news, photos, letters, and advertising copy to the editor: **Ted Brown**, 125 N. Allen Ave. #107, Pasadena, CA 91106 (818) 568-8404

Don't Harass Humpback Whales!

Editor:

In November's "News Briefs," under "the bad," was included the Coast Guard's arrest of a boater who used his boat to "harass" a herd of humpback whales. How could anyone, especially a Libertarian, call this arrest "the bad"?

Those whales are intelligent, sensitive creatures. A boat's propellor can easily kill or cripple a whale, and the sound of a boat's motor, when used in such a manner as to chase and scatter them, can cause severe damage to a whale's sensitive hearing/sonar system, as well as causing intense pain to the whales.

Does the Libertarian Party have no concern for the environment, or for other creatures? Treating whales in such a manner is no different than if the boater's victims had been humans. If you as editor truly feel that this boater's arrest was an example of "the bad," then you are no libertarian. There is a big difference between exercising our legitimate rights and torturing innocent whales. I have consistently voted Libertarian for 16 years, and have been a member for three, but if this article is consistent with LP policy, I will have to stop supporting the LP.

Dean Wahls
Venice, CA

(The editor responds: I apologize for implying that I favor harming humpback whales in any way. I was not aware that "harassing" a whale was an act that could cause injury or death. The news blurb I quoted sounded silly on its surface, so I used it as an example of what I thought to be an idiotic law. While the issue of animal rights doesn't appear in the LP platform, I don't believe in harming animals for no good reason. Thus, I retract the item.)

A Conflict of Visions

Editor:

As a relatively new member of the Libertarian Party, I am concerned about what appears to the schizophrenic nature of the party. One group of people is interested in broadening our base, spreading our message, and maybe even electing a Libertarian or two. Another group is concerned with the purity of the philosophy and advocates a rigid form of political correctness which doesn't welcome a person into the party unless that person can pass a series of litmus tests. The two groups do not seem to be compatible.

The World's Smallest Political Quiz is a good way to interest people in libertarianism, but what is the point if they find rejection unless they subscribe to every plank in the platform? Many independent thinkers who might otherwise be drawn to the party will be repelled by this type of authoritarianism. Libertarians do not like to be told what to do and certainly not what to think.

During the Persian Gulf War, many Libertarians argued against the official Libertarian Party position in these pages. Members of our party hold many divergent views, so why should prospective members be any different? I want the Libertarian philosophy to spread, and I believe the best way to achieve this is by expanding our membership and making our message more accessible and pragmatic. I hope enough members agree with me to make it happen.

Alice W. Ward
Mountain View, CA

Has not the experience of two centuries shown that gradualism in theory is perpetuity in practice? Is there an instance, in the history of the world, where slaves have been educated for freedom by their taskmasters?

—William Lloyd Garrison

If the individual ceases to count, what is left of society? Individual freedom alone can make a man voluntarily surrender himself completely to the service of society. If it is wrested from him, he becomes an automaton and society is ruined. No society can possibly be built on a denial of individual freedom.

—Mohandas K. Gandhi

WRITER GIVES ACCOLADES TO TAXES

"The best money I have spent in my life was not that used to make me either happier or more comfortable, but the taxes I have paid to the various governments under which I have lived. In general, governments have spent their share of my money more wisely and with better results than I have spent my own funds, and one aspect of my life about which I am most ashamed is that I spent most of a decade living in three states that had no state income tax—Texas, Florida and Alaska—and the deficiencies that the first two suffered because of that lack were evident daily. I like states like New York, Massachusetts and California, which do tax and spend their income wisely."

—author James Michener, age 84

SONNY BONO DISAGREES

Sonny Bono, a native of Detroit, said his parents were Democrats, but he began to question a system wherein "anybody that makes a dollar should give it to somebody else that's not doing anything. That's not the basis of this country. I liked the idea that I was from the streets, but I had the opportunity to get rich if I wanted to. It was up to me. I like that and that's what we offer everybody."

—Los Angeles Times

(Editor's note: After Sonny Bono loses the Republican U. S. Senate primary, let's hope he will endorse Libertarian candidate June Genis.)



GUEST OPINION

THE FUTURE OF PROPOSITION 13

by Edward A. Whitney

The U. S. Supreme Court case of Nordlinger v. Hahn (90-1912) has stirred up a lot of controversy. Stephanie Nordlinger, an attorney, complains that she pays \$1,700 a year in property taxes on her Los Angeles home, while her neighbor pays \$350. Ms. Nordlinger contends that Proposition 13 is unconstitutional because it violates the equal protection clause in the 14th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution. She has a good point. Of course the income tax, Social Security tax, estate taxes and a host of others could be challenged on the same basis as well.

In preparation for a book I am writing about government reform, I have been accumulating clippings about Proposition 13, including 15 newspaper articles, 40 letters to the editor, six editorials and four op-ed articles. Of the 40 letters to the editor, 30 favored retention of Prop 13 as is, with five favoring repeal (three of the five were from the same person!). This unscientific poll indicates that the overwhelming majority of voters favor Prop 13. Having recently purchased an expensive new home myself, my selfish interest would be to favor repeal. However, I strongly favor retention, since this is essential to avoid yet another round of wasteful government tax-and-spend orgies.

Now, the facts: Prop 13 was adopted by the voters in June 1978 by a 70% to 30% margin. It provides that all real estate be initially assessed at its 1975 market value. Assessed value can't increase more than 2% annually unless the property is improved or sold. The maximum tax rate is 1%, plus any special purpose taxes approved by two-thirds of the voters in the tax district involved. The statewide property tax revenues now amount to \$16.4 billion per year. If Prop 13 were repealed, property taxes could jump to \$25 billion, which explains why politicians are anxious for the measure to fall.

The Supreme Court will soon make its decision, yet the U. S. Constitution doesn't contain any provision which gives that body, or any other court, the power to interpret, modify, create or repeal legislation. This power rests with the people. One of the many "big lies" of government is that courts have this power, when in fact they do not and should not.

Some of the people who wrote letters to the editor agreed with me, stating that "Judges and the federal government have no right to interfere with an issue that was settled legitimately by the voters," and "What is the purpose of voting if people not answerable to the voters are able to overturn or change this important measure?"

The vast majority of voters and the preponderance of arguments favor retention of Prop 13. The debate reflects part of a much larger problem that is national in scope. There is an enormous amount of voter anger and distrust about government at all levels. We have gone beyond the point where government is simply regarded as stupid, wasteful and inefficient.

My research reveals many horrifying examples of deceit, dishonesty, fraud and corruption. The higher the level of government, the worse it gets. The people are simply sick and tired of paying 43% of their income in a bewildering array of taxes to support a system of government which they profoundly dislike and distrust.

LIBERTARIAN NOTES

• **Kim Goldsworthy**, chair of the LPC platform committee for the February state convention, is asking that changes to the state party platform be proposed in writing to him before the convention. He plans to create and publish an agenda for other members of the committee before they meet (typically one four hour session the day before the convention opens). Members of the committee will be selected by the local party organizations in January (contact your county chair for details). Send your proposals to Kim Goldsworthy, 3436 Chariette Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770.

• "RabbleRouser" is a new magazine attempting to capitalize on national anger at Washington and government at all levels by presenting libertarian ideas in a bright, upbeat format. It's not intended to preach to the converted in the movement, but to reach people who may call themselves conservatives or some other label, but whose anger at government has made them ready to hear our message. Subscriptions cost \$29 for 10 issues. Contact RabbleRouser at P. O. Box 20202, Birmingham, AL 35216, phone (205) 822-9886.

All political thoughts and activities are concentrated upon the scramble for jobs—for which the normal politician, whether he be a president or a village road supervisor, is willing to renounce any principle, however precious to him, and to adopt any lunacy, however offensive to him, in order to keep his place at the trough.

—H. L. Mencken.

"I operated my office as state senator as a racketeering enterprise."

—Alan Robbins 12/16/91

Having fixed in our minds that the State is a number of persons who are up to no good, we should proceed to treat them accordingly.

—Frank Chodorov

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STUDY SAYS CONGRESS LIKES TO SPEND MONEY

According to a study by the National Taxpayers Union Foundation (NTUF), members of the U. S. House and Senate propose \$43 in spending for every dollar in spending reduction they offer. Democrats are far more likely than Republicans to create new ways to mine the Treasury (read: taxpayers).

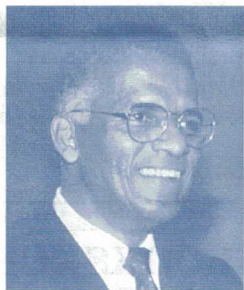
If every bill introduced in the House between January and August 1991 were passed, federal spending would increase nearly half a trillion dollars. The Senate's total would be nearly \$430 billion.

In the 435 member House, only one lawmaker—Herb Bateman (R-Va.)—sponsored bills that would result in a net decrease in government spending. No senator did that. The top spender on the NTUF list is Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N. Y.). If every bill Rangel sponsored or co-sponsored became law, federal spending would go up by \$331 billion. In the Senate, presidential contender Bob Kerrey (D-Neb.) tops the list with \$301 billion in proposals. His support for universal health care was his largest spending item. The senator least prone to spend is Warren Rudman (R-N. H.), whose proposals would cost only about \$500 million.

"The passion for spending is bipartisan and universal," said Paul Hewitt, the NTUF's vice-president for research. Senate Democrats sponsored 65 spending increase bills for every spending cut measure. For Republicans, the ratio was 23 to 1. In the House, Democrats rated 12 increases to one cut, and Republicans 6 increases to one cut.

(paid advertisement)

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LP HELPS DEFEAT SCHOOL BONDS

Three of the main school financing measures appearing on Santa Clara County's November 5 ballot went down to defeat thanks in no small part to the well-reasoned ballot arguments written by local Libertarians. Measures A, B & C all failed to receive the necessary two-thirds majority to pass. Written by **Jon Petersen** and **Dave Thomas**, the arguments appearing in voters' sample ballots generated lots of last-minute publicity for the Libertarian Party. Several officers were sought out by the media in an attempt to get further explanations of the LP position against the measures.

NEWS BRIEFS

The good ...

★ **Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan**, battered and bloodied by an angry mob shouting "kill, kill, kill," fled back to Thailand November 27 just hours after returning to the Cambodian capital that his followers ruled by terror from 1975-78. Samphan was president during the time 1,000,000 Cambodians were killed or died of hunger and disease. Hundreds of men, women and children, some armed with hatchets, were now seeking retribution. The bad news is that the demonic Khmer Rouge is scheduled to become part of the government again under a U. N. negotiated peace agreement.

and the bad ...

★ Spurred by the rare fatal plunge of a California bungee jumper, state safety engineers who normally inspect elevators and carnival rides have gone into the business of regulating the swiftly-expanding bungee-jumping industry. Operators will be charged \$96 a hour for inspections before they are awarded an operating permit for one year. "We are concerned about some of the fly-by-night operations that might be developing," said a spokesman for Cal-OSHA. Unfortunately, the intervention of government into a virtually unregulated sports activity was welcomed by Tom Woodward, president of the North American Bungee Association. "We don't want inexperienced, untrained or unqualified people getting into the business. The states can help us by regulating a sport we cannot regulate ourselves." Another example of how government licensing and regulation gets started, usually at the behest of people already in a business who are trying to keep competitors out!

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(figure in parentheses is dues-paid membership)

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San Joaquin (12)	Debra DeZarn	(209) 957-0118
San Luis Obispo (22)	Howard Dilbeck	(805) 466-1998
San Mateo (72)	Christopher Inama	(415) 593-7639
Santa Barbara (53)	Michael Lamboley	(805) 964-9569
Santa Clara (314)	Jon Petersen	(408) 778-1802
Santa Cruz (73)	Bill Anderson	(408) 476-9753
Shasta (28)	Jim De Lang	(916) 241-1763
Siskiyou (5)	Gary Mortenson	(916) 468-5355
Sonoma (42)	Jim Oglesby	(707) 894-2658
Stanislaus (7)	Charlie Rose	(209) 575-3238
Tehama (4)	Ross Crain	(916) 527-2676
Tulare (14)	John Graham	(209) 757-3124
Ventura (61)	Aaron Starr	(805) 583-3308
Other Counties (23)		(800) 637-1776
Total (2915) as of 11/30/91		



Libertarian Party of California

655 Lewelling Blvd. #362
San Leandro, CA 94579

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Signature _____ Date _____

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GOLDSWORTHY TO RUN FOR STATE CHAIR

Kim Goldsworthy, LPC Southern Vice Chair, has announced that he is a candidate for State Chair. The position will be filled at the state convention to be held February 14-17 in Costa Mesa. Incumbent **Pat Wright** is running for re-election.

Goldsworthy is running on a six point program: 1) a public relations program for the LPC; 2) giving greater recognition to grass roots activists; 3) getting the state executive committee to work through committees; 4) creating an outreach program for the non-reading public; 5) a professionally crafted LP exhibit booth; and 6) county fair participation throughout the state.

Besides the six point program, Goldsworthy has set goals of visiting every active county in California in 1992, doubling the amount of monthly pledges of the LPC, and using more fully the electronic bulletin board (EBBS) "Liberty Bell." Structurally, he plans to implement an "internal education" program for newly elected chairs and new activists, and see that every county has a set of bylaws, a media list, and an updated list of registered Libertarians in the county.

CONVENTION UPDATE

In this issue is a flyer promoting the LPC State Convention, to be held February 14-17 in Costa Mesa (Orange County). Besides the convention business and exciting guest speakers, there will also be candidate workshops and a focus on how to run effective campaigns.

Greeters are needed to welcome new people who have never been to a Libertarian event. Call **Gail Lightfoot** at (714) 623-1117 if you are interested in helping. Timekeepers, notetakers, and people willing to help the secretary with credentialing delegates are also needed. Call **Ed Moss** at (714) 986-6677 if you can help.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Bikers and their supporters (including Libertarians) will surround the State Capitol building in Sacramento on Monday, January 6 at 11 a.m. to protest the mandatory motorcycle helmet law that goes into effect January 1. Opponents of the law have gone to court to get a restraining order to stop the law. This effort will likely fail, so the demonstration will make legislators aware of the deep disagreement of those affected by the law. For more information, call **Mike Hodges** at (805) 397-6453.

- American Institute for the Republic, an organization that promotes Constitutional principles and educates the public on how to protect their assets from the lies of the federal government, will host a seminar "The IRS Myth Exposed," Tuesday January 7, at 7:15 p.m., at the Ramada Inn of Cypress, 5865 Katella Ave., in Cypress (Orange County). There is no charge. Seating is limited, so RSVP to (310) 795-5151.

- Imperial County has been the only Southern California county without a Libertarian Party organization. That will change on Saturday January 11, at 1:00 p.m. The county's registered Libertarians are invited to the Pizza Hut in Brawley to get the ball rolling, according to **Kim Goldsworthy**, LPC southern vice-chair. **Martin Castro** of Brawley, who responded to C-SPAN coverage of the national convention, has volunteered to act as coordinator of the event.

- Libertarian hike: Saturday January 11, 10 a.m., at Butano State Park, near Pescadero, about 20 miles south of Half Moon Bay, in San Mateo County. For directions, call **Dave Wolen** at (408) 378-3041. For hikes in the North Bay, call **Lloyd Licher** at (415) 472-3294. For hikes in the East Bay, call **Bob Russell** at (510) 937-8380.

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