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Libertarian Party

NEWS

Matching Funds Error

"Make your first major blunder right at the start, and get it out of the way." That's how Michael Emerling, chief of staff of the Andre Marrou for President Campaign, explained misinformation reported in both the November LP NEWS and a fund-raising letter sent out by the Marrou Campaign about rules for accepting federal matching funds.

Emerling took complete responsibility for the incorrect statements that were made about matching funds. The campaign has since cleared up at least some of the questions concerning the Federal Elections Commission (FEC) Code of Federal Regulations.

Although the campaign had already begun fundraising, the FEC code states that only contributions "dated, physically received and deposited" between January 1, 1991, and the nominating convention in August 1991 are eligible for matching funds. There was also a mistake concerning the matching amount, and the code makes it clear that "only a maximum of \$250 of the aggregate amount contributed by an individual may be matched."

The campaign is notifying all contributors, correcting the erroneous information earlier supplied, and resolving the matter in whatever way each contributor prefers.

There still appears to be some question as to when the money can be spent, and the campaign is awaiting a clarification from the FEC.

The regulations concerning federal matching funds are, needless to say, complicated. Policies concerning donations from various family members—husband and wife, as well as children—also include numerous bureaucratic quirks. The best suggestion is to check with either the FEC or the treasurer of a particular campaign if you have questions concerning donations that you hope will qualify for federal matching funds.

Clarifications

The post-election issue of the NEWS contained several inaccurate statements concerning ballot status.

In Kansas, although sufficient signatures were turned in to the state, the LP had not achieved ballot status. The good news is that the signatures have been validated and the LP now has ballot status there.

Maryland, also, has turned in signatures, but anticipates the need to acquire additional ones before ballot status is finalized (see story page 7).

There is good news from Utah, too. The LP has achieved ballot status there for 1992, thanks to election results.

New Rating System Identifies No Libertarians on Capitol Hill

By Don Ernsberger

The discovery that there are no members of the 101st U.S. Congress who can accurately be called "libertarian" comes as no surprise to most libertarians, of course.

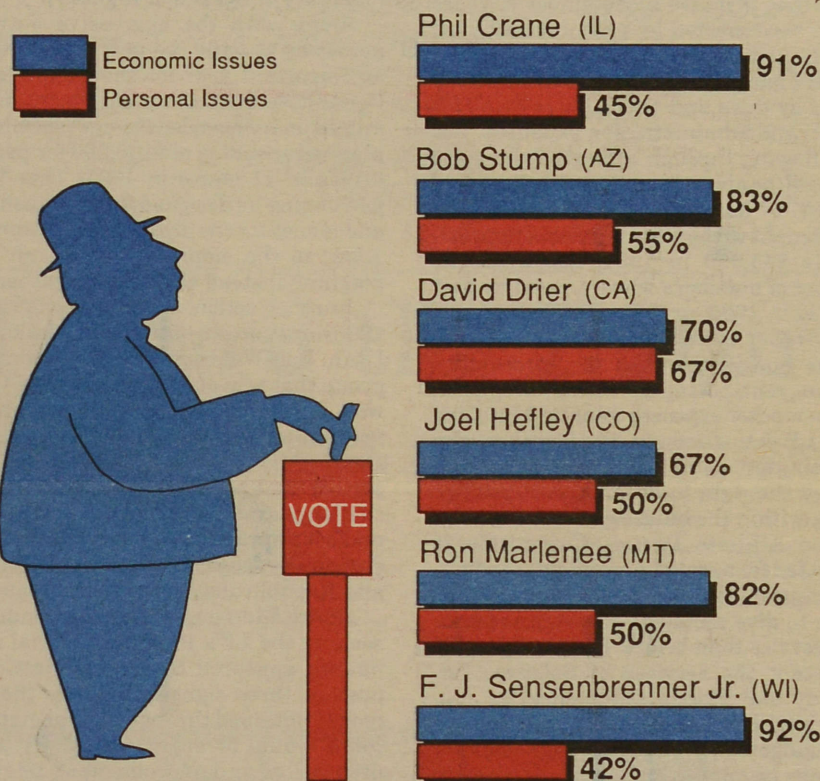
But a voting index that I produced in the past few months makes it painfully clear just how hostile to both economic and personal liberty most members of Congress are in their voting patterns. The sad fact is that the vast majority of members of both parties have a voting record on key bills that is authoritarian. All libertarians who want an accurate understanding of how their own Congressperson or members of their state's delegation voted now have a libertarian index.

For years, published index ratings of U.S. Congress members have remained along traditional conservative/liberal lines. Consequently, educational publications such as Congressional Quarterly, as well as resource journals, have had only conservative/liberal ratings to present to their readers. The most common ratings—The American Conservative Union (ACU) and Americans for Democratic Action (ADA)—provide little help for libertarians in understanding how Congress votes with regard to both economic and personal liberty. Special interest groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the AFL-CIO, or even the National Taxpayers Union (NTU) publish ratings which still do not give an accurate index to libertarian voting in the U.S. Congress.

It is in this light that this Libertarian Rating Index of the U.S. Congress has been prepared. It provides an index of voting patterns on both issues dealing with economic and personal liberty. It cuts across conservative rating systems which reward voting patterns based upon restrained federal spending on domestic programs, expanded military spending, and repressive social legislation, and it also cuts across liberal systems which do the opposite.

This rating index will be updated each year to provide a new analysis of Congressional actions which involve individual liberty in both the economic and personal areas of life.

Congressmen Who Voted Most Libertarian



*Non-votes (absences) not included in percentages

Graphic by Mary Kelley Crawford for The Libertarian Party NEWS

An examination of the voting records of U.S. Congresspersons produces only a handful that come anywhere close to "libertarian."

Guidelines

In preparing this index, 12 of the most important votes in each area of individual liberty were chosen. Clearly, the U.S. Congress considers and passes far more legislation each year that impacts economic freedom and spending, but a balance of 10 economic and 10 personal liberty issues was used to give this index the unique "libertarian" perspective.

In all cases the vote that was chosen was the one demanding the most principled stand. For example, amendments which sought to cut monies or powers out of repressive/regulatory laws were considered more importantly than final passage votes.

In addition, care was taken to use two distinct votes on an issue to determine how a Congressperson stood on principle. For example, there were two votes on attempts to make flag burning illegal. The first was

passage of a federal law, the second of a Constitutional amendment. Only a "vote against" vote is a principled "libertarian" vote, since some conservatives voted against the federal law thinking it too weak. Some liberals voted against the Constitutional amendment, but for the federal law, based on election year considerations.

Further veto override votes were usually not used because of party loyalty considerations, used by many GOP Congresspersons, rather than principle-based voting. Finally, because the issues of the War on Drugs and the immigration restriction laws, several votes from prior years are included in this index. A "Guide to Budget Cutters" was also developed to give some perspective to efforts at cutting federal government spending levels.

continued on page 7

National Committee Plans for 1991

The Libertarian National Committee gathered in White Plains, NY, on Dec. 8-9, to map out plans and budgets for the new year. The marked improvement in the Libertarian Party's vote totals (see Dasbach page 3) buoyed the deliberations and there was obvious enthusiasm for the challenge ahead.

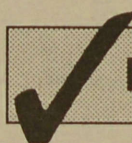
After much debate and discussion, a 1991 budget with net revenues of \$321,000 was budgeted, somewhat larger than the expected revenue for 1990. It is hoped that LP members will be heartened by the election results and, in the absence of major campaigns needing funding in 1991, will contribute more to build the LP in 1991. Expenses of \$302,500 were budgeted, plus capital expenditures of \$9,000, leaving a small surplus to carry to 1992.

Highlights of the budget include an adjustment in the subscribing membership dues from \$15 to \$25, effective Feb. 1. This is the first increase in a number of years and is necessitated by past and expected postage increases and NatCom's desire to close the gap between the amount of money raised by dues and the basic costs of LP NEWS and administration expenses. For dues flowing through affiliates, the state party will be able to keep \$15 of the national dues (\$7.50 last year). This will result in a cash benefit to the state parties of approximately \$45,000 in 1991, based on the number of members who renewed by that method in 1990, or will enable state parties to lower their dues.

The budget provides for three office staffers, rent, postage, printing, telephone, and computer expenses totaling \$149,500. The LP has renewed its lease on the Washington office for three years and gained the right to expand useable office space within the building.

The Affiliate Parties Committee is budgeted for a scaled-down field coordinator position, through contractors, but expects to give affiliates that request it no less service than before. NatCom decided to accept the services of Solstice, Inc. (Randy and Marcia Langhenry) as providers of LP NEWS for another 12 months and budgeted for larger 12-page monthly editions beginning in March.

Media Relations had \$10,000 earmarked for expenses in 1991 with news releases, media contacts, and placement of Liber-



From the Chair

Dave Walter, LP National Chair

tarians on television and radio programs being contracted out. The 800 inquiry telephone line was rebudgeted, as was new outreach literature, continuing service to our 200+ campus contacts and Campaign '91. \$2,000 was budgeted for outreach at conventions and meetings of groups that agree with the LP on one or more issues. At least 12 outreach prospecting mailings were budgeted, at break even, to continue the search for new members. Seed money was also budgeted for the LP's year-long project, the "Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights," commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights.

Along with the aggressive outreach necessary to build the party, 1991 will be an important year for the Ballot Access Committee. BAC Chair Bill Redpath submitted an independent budget showing he planned spending of \$130,000 for petition drives in 11 states in 1991. This "early petitioning" is designed to save much time and money for the presidential nominee in 1992, so the emphasis can be on campaigning instead of signature gathering.

In other action, NatCom awarded the 1993 national convention to Salt Lake City, Utah. Bob Waldrop heads the contractor group that won out over San Diego, CA. It was also decided to hold the presidential nominating convention in June, 1996, instead of the traditional summer of 1995 period. This will give the LP standing to challenge a number of laws which currently make it impractical to hold our convention during the "season" when the Democrats and Republicans choose their nominees.

Andre Marrou, one of the candidates seeking the LP's 1992 presidential nomination, appeared before the NatCom to present three signed promises: that any money obtained through federal matching funds would be spent exclusively on the production and placement of television advertising; that the NatCom could appoint one of its members to regularly audit the Marrou for President books (Clifford Thies

was so named); and that the LP would share ownership of all contributor and inquiry names generated by the Marrou for President campaign.

Campaign '91 Chair Steve Dasbach announced an ambitious plan for recruiting and training candidates for 1992. His target is at least 500 candidates including 20 to 26 candidates for the U.S. Senate (out of 32 races) and 215 candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives (out of 435 races). If you are seriously thinking of running (or even considering it) contact Steve now so he can plug you in to the assistance network (see story page 3).

Pleased with their work, NatCom adjourned until the next meeting, scheduled for Atlanta, GA, April 28-29.

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Notice to Libertarian Lawyers

The LP needs your pro bono advice and assistance as members of the Legal Action Committee. Various areas of expertise are welcome, but we especially need attorneys who can advise on election and campaign laws, constitutional matters, and issues like the advantages of incorporating state affiliates and protection of the Libertarian Party's name. In specific cases, legal fees and expenses may be considered, too. To volunteer for the Legal Action Committee, please write to Dave Walter.

Tax Protest Day

The LP is looking for a volunteer to coordinate the April 15, Tax Protest Day activities this year. If you are interested, contact the national office or outreach chair Toni Black.

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Volunteer Day Celebrations

January 27 marks the 18th anniversary of the end of the draft and the beginning (again) of the all volunteer armed forces. Since 1988, Libertarians have celebrated the anniversary as Volunteer Day.

We express our anti-draft convictions in a positive voice, saluting the volunteers and recruiters with birthday cakes and candles at recruiting stations and college campuses.

Currently, we hear reports of testimony that President Bush "ought to" reinstate the draft if he plans to go to use force to end the standoff in Kuwait. What could be worse for liberty?

Let's not take the volunteer forces for granted. Activists who need advice on setting up Volunteer Day observances may contact the national office or Toni Black, 110 Riggs Drive, Clemson, SC 29631; 803-653-7514; CompuServe 73530,3225.

IS ABORTION HOMICIDE?

Libertarian arguments saying why it is, and why it violates libertarian principles: \$3.
(For introductory information only: SASE)

Libertarians for Life
13424 Hathaway Drive, #18
Wheaton, MD 20906, 301/460-4141
Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

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Libertarian Party NEWS

Libertarian Party NEWS is the official newspaper of the Libertarian Party of the United States. Opinions and articles contained herein do not necessarily represent official Party positions unless so indicated.

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Staff Artist **Mary Kelley Crawford**

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Campaign '90 Results

Connecticut

| | | |
|-------------------------|------|------|
| State House District 12 | | |
| Peter McNamara | 2.6% | |
| State House District 22 | | |
| Jason Szostek | 91 | 1.2% |
| State House District 24 | | |
| James Szostek | 56 | 1.3% |
| State House District 59 | | |
| Rich Loomis | 83 | 1.1% |
| State House District 61 | | |
| Mike Stamper | 687 | 9.9% |
| State Senate District 5 | | |
| Al Neves | 422 | 1.1% |
| State Senate District 7 | | |
| Bob Loomis | 2070 | |

Hawaii

| | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|
| U.S. House District 1 | | |
| Roger Lee Taylor | 2107 | 1.3% |
| U.S. House District 2 | | |
| Jeff Mallan | 5508 | 3.2% |
| Governor | | |
| Triacka-Don Smith | 2885 | 0.9% |
| Lt. Governor | | |
| Amelia Oy Lew Fritts | 2885 | 0.9% |

Hawaii

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------|------|
| State Rep. District 30 | | |
| Nyle Roberts | 260 | 4.9% |
| Honolulu City Council District 3 | | |
| Stephen Reid Jeffries | 1189 | 3.8% |
| County of Maui Mayor | | |
| Azby | 2606 | 7.7% |
| County of Hawaii Mayor | | |
| Ernest Aaron Anderson | 918 | 2.2% |

New York

| | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| Governor | | |
| Gary Johnson | 24611 | |

South Carolina

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| U.S. Senate | | |
| William Griffin | 14076 | 1.9% |
| Comptroller General | | |
| Dr. David Morris | 59293 | 10% |
| Superintendent of Public Instruction | | |
| John T. Harlee | | 1.7% |
| U.S. House District 2 | | |
| Geb Sommer | 9719 | 10.9% |
| Solicitor Judicial Circuit 15 | | |
| Doc Quillian | 637 | 2.1% |

South Carolina

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|
| State House District 83 | | |
| Bill Hamilton | 302 | 4.7% |
| State House District 96 | | |
| Andrew Armendola | 76 | 1.1% |
| State House District 98 | | |
| Erin Kersting | 294 | 4.5% |
| State House District 106 | | |
| Anne F. Reeves | 558 | 5.8% |
| Horry County Council Seat 5 | | |
| Denise K. Jackson | 134 | 7.9% |

Vermont

| | | |
|---------------------|------|------|
| Lt. Governor | | |
| David Dana | 2755 | 1.3% |
| Treasurer | | |
| Carl Ellis | 6639 | 3.4% |
| Auditor of Accounts | | |
| Jacquelyn Tidd | 6838 | 3.6% |
| Attorney General | | |
| Fred Lozon | 7058 | 3.6% |
| Secretary of State | | |
| Lowell Nelson | 6184 | 3.2% |

Away from the Past, Toward the Future

By Steve Dasbach
Affiliate Campaign Chair

As the first year of the 1990s comes to an end, Libertarians have turned away from the past and begun looking toward the future. In a year that has seen the triumph of individual liberty over state oppression in country after country around the globe, the Libertarian Party has finally surpassed most of the benchmarks set by the 1980 Clark campaign.

Throughout the 1980s, Ed Clark's presidential campaign was seen as our peak, our high water mark. Fueled by the generosity of our vice-presidential candidate, David Koch, the Libertarian ticket had received nearly a million votes nationwide. Our congressional candidates had averaged over 5,000 votes each, our best results ever. Membership reached a peak which would not be topped for almost a decade.

The momentum of that campaign sustained us for a while, in spite of the substantial debt incurred during the campaign. We ran over 1000 candidates in 1982, but the percentages they received declined from 1980. LP membership and votes declined steadily, hitting bottom in 1986. Our congressional candidates in 1986 averaged just over 2,000 votes each.

The party's resurgence began sometime after the 1986 elections and by 1988 our congressional candidates again averaged over 5,000 votes each. In 1990, over 300 Libertarian candidates received a total of nearly 5 1/2 million votes and our congressional candidates averaged almost 8,000 votes each. Membership surged to new records throughout 1990.

I'm convinced that the 1990 election will not be seen as simply a new benchmark, a new high water mark to look back at with nostalgia. Rather, it marks the beginning of a new decade for the Libertarian Party and the libertarian movement worldwide,

a decade of growth and opportunity.

Voters are becoming increasingly disgusted by the failure of incumbent politicians to deal with the problems facing our country. The policies of the incumbent parties haven't worked and the programs they advocate will only make matters worse. The opportunity for a party offering real hope and real solutions has never been greater.

The people of the (former) communist world have shown that dramatic change away from government control toward freedom can happen. We have to be prepared to make it happen here.

Our challenge for 1991 is to elect many more Libertarians to local, non-partisan offices. Sandy Webb, Eric Ewing, Jerry Douglas, and those who have preceded them have shown us how to successfully run for these offices. Our challenge for 1992 is to mount campaigns for president, Congress, and state legislatures that can't be ignored.

The potential for success in a Libertarian campaign has never been greater than it is today. But realizing that success will require hundreds of good candidates, an early start, lots of hard work, and money. Candidates who have run before need to run again and build on their previous name recognition. New candidates need to bring fresh energy and new ideas to the process. And those of us who choose not to run for office need to lend our full support to those who do.

I hope you'll decide to run for office in 1991 or 1992 (or both). If you decide to run, I hope you'll start early. We've learned a lot about successful campaigning from those who have done it and stand ready to help you achieve your campaign goals.

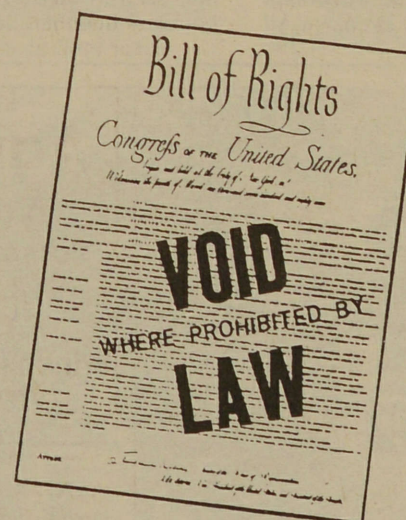
Libertarian candidates made our successes in the 1990 election possible. If we continue to build on their efforts, the '90s can be remembered as the decade when

power was finally taken away from entrenched politicians and given back to "We the people."

(Editor's note: Libertarians considering running for office in 1991 or 1992 should contact Affiliate Campaign Chair Steve

Dasbach, 4523 Morning Wind Place, Fort Wayne, IN 46804, 219-432-7430 to receive information on running for office and be placed on the Campaign 91-92 mailing list. He welcomes your questions, comments, and/or requests for information. Articles on campaigning will be a regular feature in future issues of LP NEWS).

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NEWS photo by Karen Allard

Libertarian Party members in Seattle, WA, were very visible during the Taxpayer's Action Day protests in that city.

Libertarians Take Lead On Taxpayer's Action Day

In late October, Libertarians across the country took leading and active roles in demonstrations during Taxpayer's Action Day.

In Utah, Libertarian Party members were featured on local television and in the newspapers. Salt Lake County Chair Gene Bauman and local LP activist Jim Billingsly held a bit of street theater that was played on all the TV news reports. At one point, Billingsly ripped off his shirt and threw it at the Federal Building, saying that all he had left to give the government was the shirt off his back.

In Seattle, Washington, the LP state executive committee scheduled its monthly meeting to follow the protest and invited area libertarians to join the crowd of 150-200 who showed up to hear speakers denounce taxes, the S&L bailout, and incum-

bents generally.

The Libertarian Party's national office in Washington, DC, was the site of one of the coordinating meetings for their area event. Portions of the meeting were broadcast on the Christian Broadcasting Network's (CBN) news program.

Taxpayer's Action Day was sponsored by the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, whose "job is to lobby on behalf of taxpayers to enact legislation that will eliminate the hundreds of billions of dollars of well-documented waste, fraud, and abuse in the federal budget."

The group is hoping to develop a Taxpayer's Action Network, composed of action-oriented local groups and spokespersons in every congressional district. Additional information is available by calling 1-800-USA-DEBT.

Letters: Contributions, Challenges, Requests

Contributions

As you and I know, the philosophy of Libertarianism is "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." I, as an individual American woman, take great pleasure in knowing that my contributions to the Libertarian cause/Party are used as such . . . to promote this ideal and expose it to those people unaware.

I will continue to contribute of my own free will to the Libertarian cause. I ask only one thing. Please realize that my contribution is just that. The American Heritage Dictionary defines contribute as, "to give or supply in common with others; give to a common fund or for a common purpose; to share responsibility." Ironically, to gain our rights as individuals we must band together "for a common purpose." "WE" are forced to unite before "I" can truly be realized. No "Thank you for your contribution" note is necessary. I would rather my dollar be spent on enlightening those unaware of Libertarianism. The knowledge that more people are learning that they have more than two choices at the polls is more than thank you enough.

Barbara A. Vozenilek
Brooklyn, MI

Symbol

The LP National Committee should consider adopting the seagull as the party's official "mascot." The Republicans have the elephant, the Democrats a donkey, and we should have a seagull which symbolizes the freedom to soar to the highest heights.

The potential for political cartoons with a seagull is great. I can envision some good ones right now.

Jeff Jared
Kirkland, WA

Banking

It is often difficult for Libertarians to present their beliefs and policies in a positive manner. I think there is an avenue that would do this very well. I've been reading quite a few articles lately revolving around the "Grameen Bank" concept.

This is a bank that makes very small loans, in the neighborhood of \$500 to \$1,000, to impoverished people to start their own businesses. It is run similar to a credit union, where the members all save a certain portion, then each person in turn is given a loan. If the borrower does not pay the loan back, the

members of the group are given the task of either collecting it or paying it back themselves. The members have regular meetings to discuss their businesses and banking operations. This is it in a nutshell, of course it is a little more complicated in reality. Apparently, there is a handbook available to describe how this banking concept works.

This could be an excellent idea for Libertarians to investigate. This would be a win-win situation for everyone. We could be seen in a positive light for once, by helping those who are economically less well-off. We could also use it to show the members how a free market really works, and how the government interferes in commerce with zoning, licensing, restrictions, etc.

Although I'm not in a position to operate it alone, I would be interested in working with others who may be interested.

Steven Currie
San Diego, CA

New Hampshire Opportunity

Among all the good news of the recent elections, the huge significance of our gaining ballot status in New Hampshire until 1992 may have gone unrecognized.

New Hampshire is a compact state with only a million voters, but its political clout belies its size. Why is that?

New Hampshire has the first in the nation presidential primary. Every four years, our little state is the focus of outrageous amounts of media attention. We joke about having TV cameras on every street corner and a pollster on the other end of every phone call, but the fact of the matter is, this media circus is something which Libertarians have to learn to use to our advantage. Now that we are a recognized major party in New Hampshire, we can finally do so.

Or can we? Will we let our internal rules and organizational inertia kill this excellent opportunity? We've had our presidential nominees in New Hampshire during presidential primaries before and they were ignored. If we engineer our internal operations to enable having our own primary ballot, we will have tremendous leverage to get a piece of that media coverage. On the other hand, if we continue to act like a small party, we'll be treated that way—and will always remain one.

The problem, of course, is the ballot access requirements in other states. We need the

time to get the petitioning done and that means nominating early and working hard up until deadlines.

I don't have a solution but I hereby issue a challenge to all Libertarians who consider themselves political strategists—including those seeking the party's nomination—to find a way to use the advantage in New Hampshire without losing ballot access in other states.

I have great faith in the brain power of Libertarians and this is something worth spending some time on.

Miriam Luce
Secretary, LPNH
Windham, NH

Interest from Europe

Given my isolation here in Europe and my vivid interest in libertarianism in any field, would you be so kind as to publish my (West German and U.S. forwarding) addresses among your readers' letters so that I could solicit quality correspondence? Since I arrived at libertarianism via economic theory and already have read some theoretical books, I sure would not mind, but actually enjoy, theoretical discussions. Please do contact me at either address: Michael T. Engels, Werderstrasse 15, 4600 Dortmund 1, West Germany; or c/o 1869 Genevieve St., San Bernardino, CA 92405.

Michael T. Engels

Farewell

We are sorry to note that Aileen Grimes, the world's oldest Libertarian, died Nov. 26, 1990, in Houston, TX. She was three weeks short of her 103rd birthday.

Grimes ran for the Texas Legislature at age 93, and really made a splash. She was covered by the media extensively, and always said the right things. She will be missed.

MI Campaign Update

Steve Silver, candidate for Michigan State Senate District 15, received 1,620 votes, for 1.9 percent. Silver ran an active campaign, including a great deal of door-to-door work, and he received television coverage on the local network affiliate news program.



NEWS photo by Neal Donner

West Los Angeles Libertarians recently held several protests against the U.S. deployment of forces in the Middle East. The demonstrations have received a great deal of coverage from the local television news programs, and the Libertarian signs have been prominently displayed.

LIBERTY TRIUMPHANT

1991 PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING CONVENTION

NATIONAL LIBERTARIAN PARTY

Thursday Aug. 29 — Sunday Sept. 1, 1991

On Chicago's Magnificent Mile

Downtown Chicago Marriott
540 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL

\$89 per night for single/double occupancy with safes and irons in every room, as well as health club and swimming pool privileges. Parking is available in nearby lots (separate charge).

Located at the center of Chicago, with world-class shopping and museums, the beautiful Lakefront, and public transportation all nearby. (You can even take public transportation to and from O'Hare Airport, Union Station, and the Greyhound Bus terminal.)

Chicago remains the hub of America's transportation systems. United Airlines calls Chicago home; we're at Amtrak's crossroads; U.S. Interstates 80 & 90 run through the city—but watch for rush hour gridlock . . . or take a tramp steamer down the St. Lawrence Seaway and across Lake Michigan!

Traveling with an apolitical mate or children? They won't be bored. We mentioned the shopping and the museums (there's hundreds: The Museum of Science and Industry; The Art Institute; Ukrainian and Polish and Judaic Museums; The Museum of Broadcasting, etc.), but Chicago also has walking tours for architectural buffs (Louis Sullivan, Helmut Jahn, Frank Lloyd Wright, anyone?), dozens of theatres (see where David Mamet rose to fame), the Cubs and the White Sox, some of the best Blues clubs in the country. Plus, the world-famous Chicago International JazzFest, and, for sci-fi fans, 1991 WorldCon also happen over Labor Day.

Convention Doings

If we can keep you near the hotel, we've got plenty to do on the convention floor, too.

- Nomination of 1992 Presidential Candidate
- Election of National Party Officers
- Platform Debates
- Nationally-known speakers
- New, expanded Exhibit Hall

Special Events

As though the above isn't special enough!

- Wednesday: Celebration of the Bill of Rights/Platinum Anniversary of the Libertarian Party Party
 Heartland Institute Reception and Dinner*
- Thursday: A Taste of Chicago with the Second City Touring Company
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Johnson Reflects on His ID House Campaign

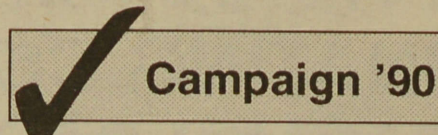
By Greg Johnson

At one point in my race for the Idaho House of Representatives, a member of National, after informing me that I was to receive the majority if not all of the National's financial support, said, "You'd better win." Besides the fact that the extra pressure was much appreciated, I figured that the \$14,000, no matter how belated, would be enough to push us over the edge. We had worked virtually non-stop for two years, had a superior organization, and had exceeded our fund-raising goals. The only problem was that we were attempting to do the impossible.

A preliminary analysis of the 18.87 percent Johnson for House Libertarian vote total shows that roughly 10 percent of my votes came from Democrats and 87 percent were probably Republicans (I assume that 3 percent were actual hard core Libertarians). In no precinct did I receive a raw vote total higher than in my two-way race of 1988, but I did out poll the Democrat in two precincts in 1990. With the exception of the obviously Democratic precincts, the 1990 Libertarian totals roughly correlated with the 1988 results.

We lost because we did not cross the magic threshold where voters perceive they are supporting a winner. Comments after the election indicate that many were worried that the Democrat would win if I pulled enough from the so-called Republican. Too many did not see that the statist incumbent was a statist regardless of her supposed party affiliation.

My staff and the local political pros were convinced that it would be a tight race. We mistook the quality of the cam-



paign and the intensity of our support for corresponding breadth. A campaign run in a similar manner by a major party candidate would win—period.

No increase in dollar support would have changed the outcome; the margin was too substantial. But there are some lessons for Libertarians to learn here.

First of all, we must have a win somewhere. A race involving a vulnerable incumbent and a small district is viable. Personal contact by the Libertarian candidate is the best possible method for gaining support.

Said candidate must start now for a race two years down the road. A district of a few thousand voters would enable the Libertarian to meet each voter one-on-one several times. Money, so difficult and expensive to raise, could be directed at a limited number of voters in a very specific manner rather than the broad sweep of television or radio.

Time spent at public forums will reach a much larger percentage of the voters with the corresponding increase in impact. More time could be spent on the door-to-door portion of the campaign with repeat visits to those not home or otherwise unavailable on the first or second pass through.

If National or a state party were to decide to fund "X" number of candidates, the money must be in the bank by mid-summer. That means raising the dollars

for 1992 in 1991 and early 1992. Much more can be accomplished campaigning than by exhausting limited campaign human resources on fund raising. At the risk of sounding like J. Keynes, the party must jump start a campaign or two to give them even a shot against the big boys.

It is unlikely that either of the major parties will take a Libertarian campaign too seriously. All the better. If support is built one-on-one at the grass roots level, by the time the statistics know what is happening, it will be too late. In other words, keep it low key until election eve draws near.

We walked a tightrope between relying on "conservative" Republicans and retaining our identity as Libertarians. I strongly suggest that if an error is made, make it toward retaining Libertarian identity. We may not have drawn enough of a line between the Libertarian platform and what remains of the Goldwater portion of the Republican platform.

Most of all, the Libertarian candidate must commit to win. Given a set of circumstances as outlined above and the effort we put forth, we may have won. As it was, we tried to tackle too large a district, even with five times the resources of the other candidates. In any case, a libertarian must out-work and out-hustle both opponents.

Notice that I said both opponents. If either of the major parties feels that the incumbent is strong enough to not run against, it is fantasy to think that a Libertarian can get the job done. Besides, in a three-way race, there are that many fewer individuals that must be convinced to vote Libertarian.

We did not achieve our goal of a win. Yet the press now refers to the Libertarian Party in the same breath as the other two, however disgusting that may be at times. We received the endorsement of a newspaper and a columnist. Given the choice, almost one-fifth of the district chose to vote for a Libertarian.

Just as in 1988, we found the other candidates adopting certain portions of our issues (user fees for roads, restitution). Perhaps most importantly for the Libertarians as a political party, I sincerely believe that most people in my district now see us as an alternative rather than as a bunch of wild-eyed crazies.

Personally, for the most part, I enjoyed myself. Besides losing 12 pounds off my skinny 170-pound frame and getting legs back to basketball shape, I became a much more effective public speaker. The worlds of television and radio are complex worlds of deliberate distortion. I now have an understanding for why candidates make mistakes in the midst of the exhaustion of a campaign. And I am firmly convinced that most politicians will say anything to get elected.

The national 1990 election returns punched liberty right in the nose. The pessimist will say that it is too late for Libertarians, the optimist too early. I do know that liberty will lose if several committed Libertarians around the country do not pick up the ball and run with it in 1992. To expect either of the two parties that got us into the current mess to pull us out borders on the bizarre.

Best of luck to those who choose to battle the odds. But being right makes it bearable.

Lord's DC Campaign Analyzed

By Kathleen J. Richman

I would like to share some of what we learned on the Nancy Lord for DC Mayor campaign.

The Lord campaign was an exciting race from the inside. We had a tremendous candidate. A woman with a medical and law degree, something of an expert on drugs in a city being devastated by the drug war, willing to put her career plans on hold to run full-time—without complaint. She spoke well and convincingly on radio talk show after talk show. Almost without exception, she left potential voters, members of the media, and others a lot more impressed than they expected to be. She was clearly a campaign manager's dream.

And we ran a real campaign: We put out professional literature that we are very proud of, raised an impressive budget, issued regular news releases, issued a detailed budget proposal and "Economic Plan" for DC, won endorsements from the Congress on Racial Equality and the organization of street vendors and "Mom and Pop" stores, and produced two 30-second television commercials which ran 24 times at good time periods on all three network affiliates.

That's what we did right, so let's get to the flip side. What we did wrong was assuming that everything we did right would be enough to earn us free media coverage, because, for the most part, that didn't happen. And consequently when the votes were in, 1 percent had been cast for Nancy Lord.

Still, the coverage we did get was quite positive. A number of community and business newspapers covered the campaign. Even the Washington Post said: "Libertarian Nancy Lord has emerged as the Daniel Patrick Moynihan of the D.C. mayoral campaign this year, continuing to produce some of the most interesting ideas of any candidate. Last week, Lord wrote a lengthy treatise in the City Paper [a community newspaper] on the District's budget problems . . . While not without its flaws, the paper was far more detailed and comprehensive than any statement on the budget from" the other candidates.

In a Washington Times editorial endorsing Democrat Sharon Pratt Dixon, one paragraph read, "In short, this race has produced few bold ideas for getting the District out of its present straits. The only really interesting suggestions have come from Libertarian Candidate Nancy Lord, whose ideas on housing, welfare, health care, taxes, and a host of other issues have the virtues of specificity and tremendous common sense. She deserves a closer look than she has received from many voters, and people tempted to select 'none of the above' would do well to help the Libertarian Party establish a permanent presence in the city."

Clearly, we had some bad breaks in the campaign that kept our totals especially low. Mayor Marion Barry dropping out of the race was a major blow, but an even harder blow came when the unexciting and establishment front-runner John Ray lost the primary to Dixon, a woman who had two weeks before pulled 10 percent in

the polls. Dixon was seen as anti-establishment, an underdog, and was running on the theme of "cleaning house." In fact, the Lord campaign planned a serious effort to win over Dixon supporters after the primary, based on the assumption that she would lose.

Dixon's victory took from us those who simply wanted to vote for a woman, those who opposed the established politicians, and it gave voters an unusual opportunity to register an anti-establishment, protest vote at the same time as voting for a winner. As the Democratic candidate in a Democratic city, she had virtually all the advantages (and none of the disadvantages) of an incumbent and an underdog. She ended up carrying 86 percent of the vote.

I don't regret the race, because I believe it gave us a much higher profile than we had, gave us an unprecedented "foot-in-the-door" in the black community, and built a foundation for future gains. In the post-election week, Nancy was invited to be a regular panelist on a weekly political commentary show and has been invited by a sitting councilman—who resides in one of the poorest sections of the city—to meet to discuss some of her proposals and her political future. In light of these results and the high praise offered in what media we did receive, calling the campaign a failure, based solely on the vote totals, would be extremely naive and shortsighted.

Kathleen J. Richman was campaign manager for the Nancy Lord for DC Mayor campaign.

Roberts Celebrates CA Results

Eric Roberts, LP candidate for the California State Assembly's 8th District seat, celebrated victories following election day, in spite of his unsuccessful challenge of the incumbent.

Roberts exceeded his target of 20 percent of the vote by pulling in 23.8 percent (27,445 votes). Before the election, the incumbent had brushed off Roberts' prediction of a 20 percent share as improbable and unrealistic.

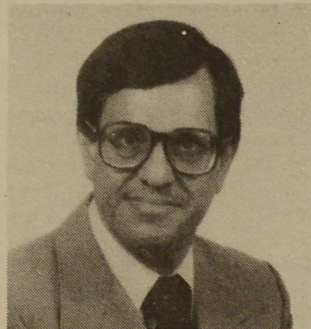
"The voters of the 8th District, myself included, have sent a message loud and clear to [the incumbent] and the legislature: We don't want any more tax or budget increases. In fact, we want lower taxes and less government in our lives," Roberts said.

Roberts, along with the rest of the California Libertarian Party, also celebrated the statewide results. "We are positively charged about the future of the fastest growing party in California. This is a great time to be a Libertarian; we offer an attractive home for the politically homeless who are dissatisfied with the major parties," he said.

Roberts ran an active campaign on a shoestring budget of less than \$1,000. He campaigned for lower taxes, smaller state government, and reduced government interference in business and personal affairs. Roberts is an independent computer consultant living in Woodland with his wife Christine and their 9-month-old daughter, Caitlin.

Schneider Completes 200 Columns

Gerald Schneider has been writing a "Libertarian Outlook" column opposite similar columns by Democrats and Republicans since 1981 for the Wheaton News, Kensington News, and more recently the Northwest Current newspapers (combined circulation of 70,000) in Washington, D.C., and adjoining Montgomery County, MD. At the end of 1990, he had published over 200 columns. The LP NEWS asked Schneider to reflect on his career as a libertarian columnist. Patrons can receive monthly tear sheets of Schneider's column and those of his cohorts for \$15 per year. Write Gerald Schneider, 3101 Blueford Road, Kensington, MD 20895.



Gerald Schneider

By Gerald Schneider

Luck played a role in getting the "Libertarian Outlook" column into print. James Laughlin, a typesetter for the Wheaton News at the time, started the column in 1980. His enthusiasm and inside employee influence captured the support of the newspaper's conservative Democrat publisher. Laughlin soon dropped out of the LP, left the newspaper, and allowed four of us Libertarians to continue the column. We alternated doing the weekly column until I inherited it completely in November 1982 following an effective but losing campaign as a Libertarian Party candidate for the Maryland State Legislature.

The newspaper has since changed ownership, now includes three newspapers, and all publish biweekly on the same date. My column appears in each, sometimes by itself, as I have never missed a deadline and follow publisher space restrictions, unlike the two older party columnists.

I view myself as an educator, not a propagandist, and present what I think is a truthful analysis in my column, not political bias. That that truth can be labeled "libertarian" just follows! Readers respect this even when they do not agree with me.

Some say I am a better writer and more informed than my fellow columnists. No matter what the merits are of this argu-

ment, unprincipled political thoughts by the other writers tend to trap them into stating poorly worked out conclusions.

My major task is to stay uncompromised in my truths while finding a way to practically apply principles. I push readers into thinking about a voluntary society that could be phased in quickly but humanely. I consider most statisticians to be victims of modern American political history who deserve consideration while moving them away from dependence on statism. But I am never wishy-washy about the matter.

I follow a format formula in my columns. Despite a limitation of about 500 words or so, I try to tackle one topic at a time comprehensively. Usually I demonstrate how unfair, inefficient, and counterproductive government oversight and operations are while suggesting practical alternatives.

Also, I aim at the ordinary reader, someone with high-school reading and thinking levels. I do not patronize, but I keep average sentences at 18 words in length. My words are mostly one or two syllables (a thesaurus is at my side to help me). And my paragraphs are short and varied in length (a maximum of seven sentences each, and usually less).

My libertarian writing dream now is to obtain a grant that will allow me a year to work on a book that would be a practical how-to-do-it and what-it-would-be-like guide to a voluntary society. The columns would provide much of the material for the book, and writing levels would be the same (aimed at ordinary readers). I would try to make the book as commercially successful as I could.

Libertarian Outlook

The following is a recent sample of the over 200 columns Gerald Schneider has written for his local newspaper.

By Gerald Schneider©

Is there anyone left who still believes that government is worth what it costs? Half or less of every dollar taken in taxes from workers goes for programs that aid all Americans. The rest is siphoned off in salaries and perquisites for government officials, and political payoffs to special interests.

According to U.S. House of Representatives financial records, taxpayers pay an average of \$941,569 for each member of Congress. For Senator Sarbanes, Senator Mikulski, and other U.S. Senators, the cost averages \$3,571,735 for each!

These costs include office staff salaries, office rent and equipment, travel, printing, mailing costs, and other perquisites that can legally be used in re-election campaigns. This is in addition to the costs for running Congress as a whole!

Publicly funded "freebies" for Congress include free medical and dental care; free prescription medicines; free travel; free meals, liquor, and hotel lodging while traveling; private auto mileage reimbursement. Free taxi service, use of military aircraft for domes-

tic and overseas travel, use of all facilities at military bases throughout the world. Free use of recreational facilities for themselves and their families, use of the U.S. Capitol and congressional office buildings for social occasions, including private ones, \$3,000 a year in tax deductions for living expenses in Washington. Free banking, telephones, mailing, mailing list services, postage stamps for unofficial mail. Free parking, printing, greeting cards, computer services, messenger services. Subsidized general store, barber, beauty shop, and restaurants for themselves, their staff, and family members; free gymnasium and pool privileges. Free stationery, camera, and video equipment (including film and video tapes) for official and personal use, free photography service, satellite service for sending TV and radio programs to stations in their home states, government publications to use as gifts, and more. Wow!

This listing does not include a generous pension after reaching either age 50 with 20 years of service, or age 60 with 10 years of service. Taxpayers match the first 5 percent of such pensions.

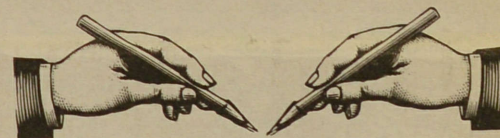
We may not have royalty in our government, but members of Congress sure live better than most queens and kings do or ever did!

Maryland Turns In Signatures

State Chairman Dean Ahmad and State Vice Chairman Clifford Thies recently filed 13,461 signatures with Maryland's State Administrative Board of Election Law in order for the Libertarian Party to be recognized as a "new" party under that state's election law.

Under Maryland law, 10,000 valid signatures are required for a "new" party to be recognized. The state will inform the party how many signatures were validated. If less than 10,000, the party will have until March to make up the difference.

Once recognized as a "new" political



party, the names of the Libertarian Party presidential ticket to be nominated at this year's national convention will be placed on the general election ballot.

Most of the signatures were collected during the summer of 1989 in a petition drive directed by Dean Ahmad and financed by the Ballot Access Committee.

New Index Shows No Libertarians on Capitol Hill

continued from page 1

Voting Records

An examination of the voting records of U.S. Congresspersons produces only a handful of voting records that come anywhere close to "libertarian." For example, the man with the highest combined total is Rep. Phil Crane (R-IL), whose 91 percent on economic freedom issues combines with only 45 percent on personal liberty issues. Crane's combined average of 68 percent shows 15 good votes out of 22 votes cast, with two absences. Among votes that were cast against individual rights were a vote against ending foreign aid, votes for the drug war, and votes for suspending civil liberties in that war. Among the votes that Crane and a number of other "semi-libertarians" made in favor of liberty were against trade restrictions; S&L bailouts; the minimum wage; anti-trust laws; and subsidies. Other "semi-libertarians" include Bob Stump (R-AZ), David Drier (R-CA); Joel Hefley (R-CO); Ron Marlenee (R-MT); and F. James Sensenbrenner (R-WI).

In the entire Congress, only two

Congresspersons, Joe Skeen (R-NM) and John Tanner (D-TN), had 100 percent ratings in either category, but these were caused by both not being in Congress on some key personal liberty votes. These two freshmen are not expected to maintain libertarian voting records. The very best voting records come from western Republicans.

The use of the Nolan Chart on individual members of Congress shows that only a few House members are even close to the libertarian sector of the graph.

Conclusions

The usual assumption by many who observe the voting patterns of American politics is that within the Republican Party there is a group of House members who generally support economic freedom, but at the same time have a voting pattern that is authoritarian toward personal and civil liberties. On the other hand, the general observation also sees a segment of the Democratic Party that is strong on personal freedom, but supportive of "planned economy" policies whenever Congress con-

siders issues of business, taxation, or trade.

A close examination of the voting patterns of both parties shows that these two generalizations are fundamentally wrong. The typical Republican rates 40 percent on economic freedom and about 30 percent on personal liberty, while the average Democrat ranks 15 percent on economic and only 20 percent on personal liberty. Within the entire Republican delegation only 11 members rate above 70 percent on economic liberty and none of those ranks higher than 50 percent on personal rights support. Within the Democratic Party not one member rates higher than 70 percent on personal rights and only a handful rated 50 percent or higher.

Seven members of Congress (all Democrats) ranked 0 percent in both economic and personal liberty.

The votes picked for this libertarian rating system were, of course, the most vital and important pieces of legislation that dealt with human liberty.

Those interested in a copy of the complete 22-page vote index, which includes a

description of the 24 bills used in the study, the votes of all members of the House, and a percentage rating, can obtain a copy for \$5. Write to Don Ernsberger, 865 Meadowood Lane, Warminster, PA 18974.

Editor's Note: Ernsberger is currently at work on an updated version of this index, and he reports that Congressional Quarterly has expressed an interest in publishing his new findings this year.

The Seven Zeros

John Lewis (D-GA)
George Hochbrueckner (D-NY)
Jose Serrano (D-NY)
Elliot Engel (D-NY)
Craig Washington (D-TX)
Cardiss Collins (D-IL)
Gary Condit (D-CA)

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Upcoming Events

January 19, 1991:

Mississippi LP Convention, Biloxi;
contact Ron Crickenberger at 404-957-
6825.

January 26, 1991:

Pima Co. (AZ) LP Convention, El
Parador Restaurant, Tucson; speakers
include Andre Marrou, Eric Ewing; 602-
323-1656.

February 15-18, 1991:

California LP Convention, Monterey;
619-578-7168.

March 22-24, 1991:

Colorado LP Convention, Evergreen
Conference Center, Evergreen; contact
Mary Margaret Glennie, 303-484-8184.

April 6-7, 1991:

Illinois LP Convention, Best Western
Midway Motor Lodge, Elk Grove
Village; 708-299-7564.

April 6-7, 1991:

Oregon LP Convention, Sweetbrier
Inn, 7125 SW Nyberg Rd., Tualatin.

Spring, 1991:

Rhode Island LP Convention; 401-333-
6303.

Arizona LP Convention; 602-248-8425.

April 12-14, 1991:

Michigan LP Convention; 1-800-343-
1364.

April 13, 1991:

Virginia LP Convention; contact LPVA,
P.O. Box 28263, Richmond, VA 23228.

April 20, 1991:

Indiana LP Convention; 317-463-6601.

April 28-29, 1991:

National Committee Meeting, Atlanta,
GA; 404-957-6825.

May 3-4, 1991:

Wisconsin LP Convention, Quality Inn
South, Madison; 414-375-0068.

May, 1991:

Connecticut LP Convention; 203-257-
4844.

Maine LP Convention; 207-353-9711.

Alaska LP Convention; 907-479-4250.

June 1-2, 1991:

Florida LP Convention; contact Jim
Culberson at 407-727-0801.

June 21-23, 1991:

Women in Libertarianism Conference,
University Park Holiday Inn, Ft. Collins,
CO; for more information send SASE to
Mary Margaret Glennie, 1317 Lakewood
Drive, Ft. Collins, CO 80521; 303-484-
8184. Potential speakers are welcome
to submit text of talk.

August 28-September 1, 1991:

"Liberty Triumphant," LP Presidential
Nominating Convention, Chicago
Marriott, Chicago; 708-475-0391.

To add your LP state convention or other LP event of national interest to this calendar,
provide information to Gary Johnson, 2001 Parker Lane, #134,
Austin, TX 78741-3849; 512-441-6378.

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