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*Libertarian
Party*

NEWS

Marrou Notches Victory in NH

Andre Marrou and the Libertarian Party shocked the media and public on Feb. 18, primary election day in New Hampshire, by seizing victory in the first ballots counted and grabbing the early headlines out of the state. All that day, Marrou "was the leading presidential candidate of all 63 who were in the New Hampshire primary, and people treated me that way," he said.

It all started just a few minutes past midnight when the 31 voters in the town of Dixville Notch cast their ballots in the presidential primary. Media representatives always attend this event and publicize the returns around the world. To everyone's surprise, Marrou defeated all of the other candidates, including President Bush. Returns showed 11 votes for Marrou, nine for Bush, three each for Bill Clinton and Pat Buchanan, and some other candidates receiving the rest. Nearly 36 percent of the voters had chosen Marrou.

"If we can tell the people who we are in a professional, upbeat way, they are going to respond at the polls," said Bill Winter, LPNH chair.

The "Dixville Notch strategy" was originally designed by Jim McClarin, the New Hampshire coordinator for the Marrou/Lord Campaign, and others. "I felt it was important to gradually introduce the people there [to libertarianism] by setting up subscriptions for them to Reason magazine, and about seven or eight months ago I bought them subscriptions to Libertarian Lines, the NH state party newsletter," McClarin said.

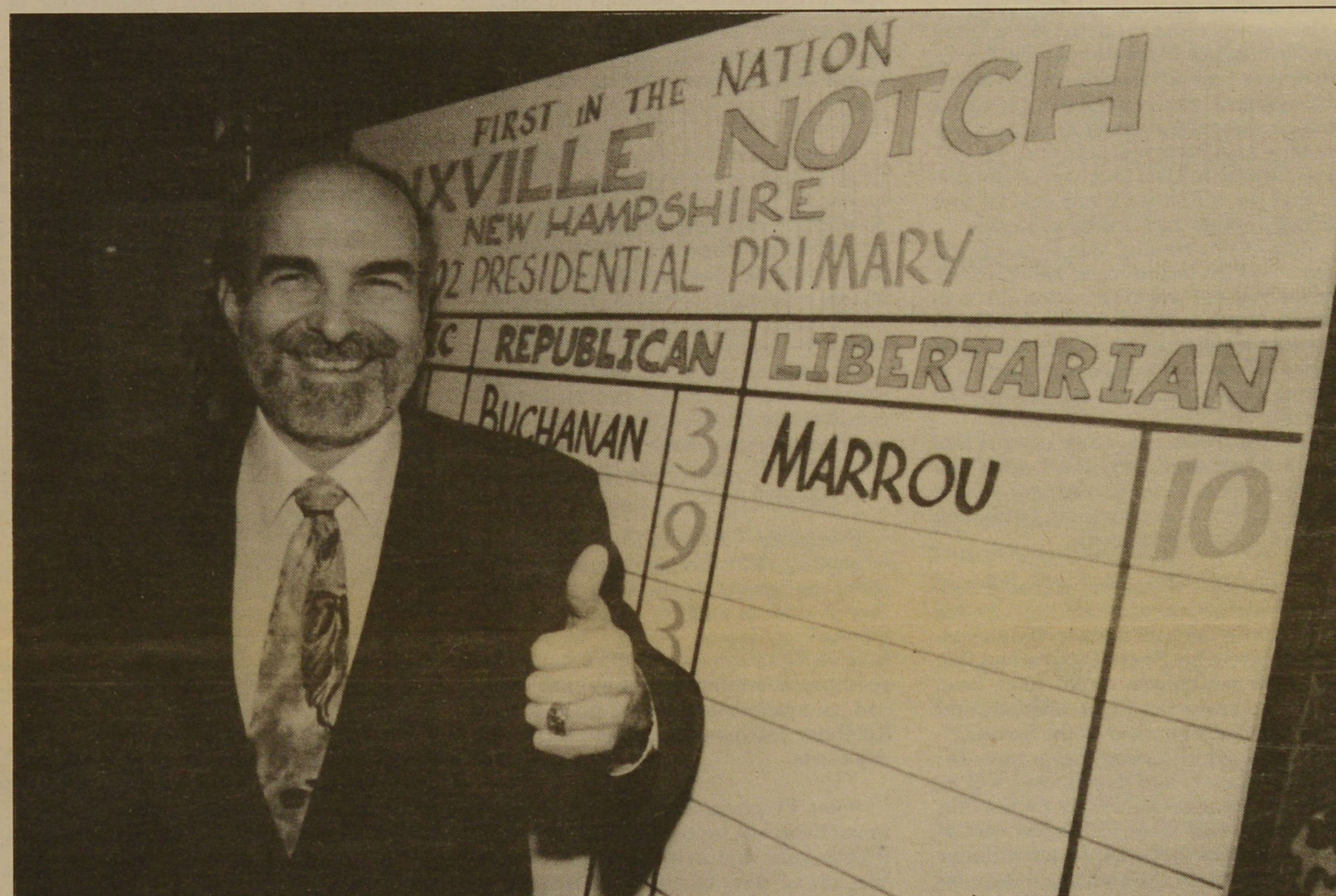
Television and newspaper wire services found themselves at a loss to explain the Dixville Notch results, but soon picked up on the news with a wide range of stories, photos, and interviews.

"I must have done 30 or 40 interviews today, certainly more than I've ever done before," Marrou explained. "They included people like the Associated Press, Time magazine, CBS, CNN, C-SPAN, NBC, and lots more. There is a tremendous response out there."

"We accomplished the objective of this campaign which was to break in to the national media awareness," McClarin said.

"People are starting to recognize me and wave at me. We've got a good image, and we need to build on that. A happy image, a family image, an image of people who do have a sense of humor," Marrou said.

America now knows the Libertarian Party has arrived.



AP Photo/Toby Talbot

Andre Marrou gives the thumbs up after collecting the most votes in the first ballots counted in the New Hampshire primary in Dixville Notch. Voters gave Marrou 11 votes, compared to nine for George Bush, and less for the also-rans.

The Marrou/Lord Campaign spent about \$30,000 in New Hampshire, much less than all of the so-called "major candidates." Still, the results showed that the LP message was not only heard, but was accepted as well.

From the beginning of the Marrou/Lord Campaign, New Hampshire was targeted as a unique opportunity for the LP to break through to the national media and demonstrate the party's national strength and message.

New Hampshire's state LP is one of the strongest and most rapidly growing affiliates in the country. Led by Bill Winter, the LPNH has gained respect from both media and citizens in the past few years. Since the middle of last year, two elected state representatives, Calvin Warburton and Finlay Rothhaus, have joined the LP.

Another important factor in the New Hampshire strategy was the fact that since the LP gained major party status in 1990, New Hampshire voters who had registered as Democrats and Republicans in the past could, for this one primary only, ask to vote in the Libertarian primary. This meant that many NH voters could cast a protest vote against all of the media-labeled "major candidates" by voting for

“We accomplished the objective of this campaign which was to break in to the national media awareness.” — Jim McClarin, Marrou/Lord NH coordinator

Marrou, but those voters would have to ask for the Libertarian ballot upon entering the voting booth.

Although final results were not available at press time, it appeared Marrou would receive 2,500 votes statewide.

"Now there is going to be a large pool of Libertarian voters that we are going to be able to tap in to for the first time ever," Winter said. "We are going to have names and addresses for people who voted for Andre that we'll be able to get from the voter lists. So we are going to be able to launch our biggest-ever mail outreach campaign to all these voters and try to convince them to become paid members of the LP. And that's going to be our number-one priority following the primary."

Marrou said much of the credit for the success in New Hampshire should be given to Jim McClarin, Tonie Nathan, who vol-

unteered her time to help with media relations and publicity, Bob Stevenson, and Norma Segal.

Marrou said he would be building on the New Hampshire success by entering five other primaries that the LP is eligible to enter—Nebraska, North Dakota, Idaho, Montana, and California.

"We are going to try to get some publicity and votes and build the party at the same time. It is an ideal opportunity to do it and obviously things are looking good now," Marrou said.

"In addition to getting votes for the national ticket," Marrou added, "we ought to be trying to elect, and of course re-elect here in New Hampshire the two legislators who converted, but elect at least one Libertarian legislator, hopefully half a dozen or so across the United States in November."

Ballot Access Excitement Begins

There's always lots of fanfare when we complete a ballot drive. We call a press conference when we turn in that big pile of completed petitions, we anxiously await notice that enough of our signatures are valid, we send out a press release when the secretary of state says, yes, we are certified—Andre and Nancy are on the ballot!

That's a great relief. The dull, repetitious drudgery of collaring unsuspecting citizens and convincing them to sign on the dotted line to help us give voters a real choice is done. Now we can get on with the "real" work of campaigning for liberty.

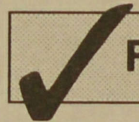
However, I also get excited about ballot drives when I hear about them gearing up, when I see that all the plans we've talked about for making the ballot in a particular state are actually starting to happen. For me, once a ballot drive starts, once our talk becomes action, I feel much more optimistic that we will achieve our goal in that particular state and in all 50.

Most of you reading this do not get to hear about the beginning of ballot drives. Unless you are working on the drive in your state, you probably only hear about a ballot drive when I write and ask you for money to fund it. But ballot drive action is gearing up in many places around the country.

I decided, when I sat down to write this column in mid-February, that I would like to share some of those start-up stories with you. It's very exciting, and I'd like you to share in that excitement.

Oklahoma—We've just signed a contract with petitioner extraordinaire Sevier White to run the paid drive in Oklahoma. Sevier traveled to South Dakota last fall, when few petitioners would have been willing to brave the frigid weather, and singlehandedly knocked off the South Dakota drive, which means that a party besides Democrats and Republicans will be on the ballot in South Dakota for the first time since 1932! We're looking forward to a similar great performance out of Sevier in his home state of Oklahoma, where we need 52,000 raw signatures. The Oklahoma LP has promised to bring in 10,000 signatures; Sevier will collect the remaining 42,000.

Florida—This is a TOUGH drive.



From the Chair

Mary Gingell, LP National Chair

90,000 raw signatures, and we have to pay 10 cents per signature to get the state government to validate them. But we have a new coordinator, Andrew Spark, on board to find, train, and oversee paid petitioners. We have about 15,000 signatures already in hand. Florida LP volunteers, under the direction of Paula Zimmer-Crosby, have promised to collect 18,000, leaving Spark responsible for the remaining 57,000 signatures.

Massachusetts—Volunteers in New England have set up a subcommittee of the National Committee, called Ballot Access New England (BANE), under the leadership of veteran Massachusetts activist Lee Nason. BANE has already raised over \$5,000 to be used specifically for New England ballot drives. And Massachusetts executive director Gary Kendall has organized a massive volunteer effort in Massachusetts that he hopes will be able to complete the 10,000-valid-signature Massachusetts drive entirely with volunteers, leaving BANE funds to be spent on other New England drives.

Kentucky—After much bureaucratic wrangling, U.S. Senate candidate Jim Ridenour has gotten the Kentucky secretary of state to approve a combined U.S. Senate/Presidential petition, which will save us signature costs in that state. The volunteer effort there is getting under way, and paid petitioners Al Anders and Scott Kohlhaas will be working in Kentucky on weekends.

West Virginia—A long-time libertarian activist has tentatively agreed to run for governor. Our new, enthusiastic West Virginia LP chair Brian Horton is organizing the drive to get both the gubernatorial candidate and Marrou on the state ballot. One percent for governor in the general election will give the LP automatic ballot status through 1996. Our gubernatorial candidate will be running against Demo-

“I get the feeling that we are going to make our 50-state goal!”

cratic incumbent Gaston Caperton, who received an “F” grade from the Cato Institute for his tax-and-spend policies.

Missouri—Volunteer petitioning is under way, as LP activists Ken Bush and Eric Harris lobby in favor of recently proposed legislation that would reduce the signature requirement to 10,000, and do away with congressional district requirements.

Virginia—Our bill to reduce the number of signatures required in Virginia due to the redistricting not yet being finalized has passed the Virginia House. If this bill becomes law, National Ballot Chair and Virginia resident Bill Redpath is optimistic that Virginians will be able to complete their drive with an all-volunteer program.

We still have a long way to go, but as more and more volunteer and paid drives gear up, I get the feeling that we are going to make our 50-state goal!

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- Congressman Sam Steiger, July 1976

Why isn't everybody a libertarian?
Why aren't people breaking down the doors to join the Libertarian Party?
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You be the judge.

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Browse through the catalogues of Laissez Faire Books, Freedom's Forum Books and Liberty Tree.

Scan the policy reports of The Cato Institute, The Heartland Institute and The Reason Foundation.

Leaf through *Reason* and *Liberty* and *Freedom Network News* and *The Pragmatist*. Or this issue of *LP News*.

Need more proof? Compare our libertarian ideas to the statist ideas you read in newspapers and magazines. To those you see on television. Liberal and conservative, socialist and fascist, totalitarian and populist.

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That is the road to permanent failure.

Failure is feedback. It's telling us to do something different.

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Ever so often, people would try to agree. But I didn't notice. I couldn't take 'Yes' for an answer.

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I felt embarrassed and stupid. But I was determined to salvage something from my experience. I wanted to learn *The Art of Political Persuasion*.

I began reading the first of over 1,000 books. On psychology, epistemology, semantics, salesmanship, cybernetics, self-help, hypnosis, communication and creativity. I interviewed people who excelled in communication and persuasion. I asked a lot of questions and took notes. I observed and listened.

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In 1977, I published 'How To Get Converts Left & Right' in *Reason Magazine*. I followed this up with 'The Late, Great Libertarian Macho Flash' in 1978. 'The Militant Mentality'. 'The Myth of Mushrooms In the Night'. 'Leveraging Liberty With Language'. 'Intellectual Judo'.

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- And Much More.

But Don't Just Take My Word For it...

Jim Lewis, 1984 Libertarian Vice-Presidential Nominee and Marrou For President Campaign Manager says,

"I've personally listened to Michael Emerling's Political Persuasion tapes several times. This program is great. It's a necessity, not a luxury, for all libertarians."

Marshall Fritz, founder of Advocates for Self-Government, speaking at the 1988 California Libertarian Convention said,

"I have a set of these 'Political Persuasion' tapes. I had to learn it before I could teach it. Thank you very much, Michael Emerling."

Andre Marrou, speaking at the 1990 California Libertarian Convention said,

"*The Essence of Political Persuasion* is bold, imaginative and brilliant. It is the most innovative and effective program of its kind."

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

"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 Michael's techniques."

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Michael Emerling has ghost-written 6 books, 1 Doctoral Dissertation and 300 speeches for business people. He was the Organizer & Fundraiser of the '88 Marrou VP Campaign, PROJECT 51-'92, and Marrou For President Campaign. Between Fall 1987 and Fall 1991, Michael Emerling personally fundraised \$519,344 for these projects. (Source: F.E.C.)

Colorado LP Taking Case to U.S. Supreme Court

Alabama

Advertising executive **Glynn Reeves** of Montgomery announced his candidacy for the 2nd U.S. Congressional seat on the steps of the state capitol. He received excellent media coverage.

State chair **Jimmy Blake** and the state executive committee are currently coordinating district and county LP organizations for a major effort in the 1992 campaign.

California

According to **Mark Hinkle**, LPC Northern vice chair, the Santa Clara LP is spearheading the drive against local tax increases. **Dave Thomas**, local party activist, wrote the three arguments and the rebuttals that will appear in the voters' pamphlet for the special election on April 14. The issues involved are a bond issue of \$20 million for the Orchard School District; a bond issue of \$30 million for the Sunnyvale Elementary School District; and a parcel tax of \$60 per year for the Alum Rock Union Elementary School District. In the last election, the local Santa Clara LP campaigned successfully against three similar tax increases.

Also in Santa Clara County, **Jon Petersen** is running for Morgan Hill City Council (10 miles south of San Jose). Morgan Hill has a population of 24,000. He has the backing of a local "tax watchdog" organization since he was very active in their campaign to successfully recall three of the five current council members (they basically went back on their word about putting a proposed utility tax up for a vote of the townspeople and instead just voted it in themselves).

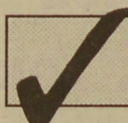
All charges have been dropped against **Dixianne Hawks** for jury tampering in Butte County, CA. She had been charged with jury tampering for handing out "fully informed jury" information outside the courthouse in Oroville, where her son was being tried for violating the drug prohibition laws, and five of the recipients were jurors in the case. In dropping the charges, the local district attorney said he didn't want to give FIJA supporters a soapbox.

An LP member, who is also a member of the U.S. Air Force stationed at Travis AFB, sent in a copy of his pay statement recently. Printed on his statement was the "Air Force Vision Statement" which said in part: "Air Force people building the world's most respected Air and Space Force—*global power* (italics added) and reach for America." The LP member commented: "This should give you an idea of the government mind set."

Colorado

The state party recently asked the U.S. Supreme Court to review a case in which **Robin Heid** was kept off the November 1990 ballot. Heid was the LP's candidate for governor, but the petition to place his name on the ballot was rejected by the Colorado secretary of state, relying on a statute that requires that a candidate being nominated by petition be registered as "unaffiliated" for 12 months.

The CLP's challenge to this rule is based on the principle that a political party has a constitutional right to determine who are its members and who is best qualified to represent its views as a candidate. Heid was a member of the LP and was qualified to be the Libertarian candidate under the CLP's rules.



From the States

Activities noted in newsletters and news releases

"Who is more fit to say who should represent us—our members, voting in our convention, or the Secretary of State?" said **Joe Dehn**, CLP communications director.

The Colorado Supreme Court, in a 6-1 decision, ruled against the CLP and Heid last October. But the CLP decided to appeal this ruling in light of an opinion issued by the U.S. Supreme Court last month. In *Norman v. Reed*, a case from Illinois, the U.S. Supreme Court clarified the criteria to be used in deciding ballot access cases, stating that the Constitution protects the "right of citizens to create and develop new political parties."

The CLP's case is being handled by the ACLU of Colorado.

Florida

The state LP has opened a new headquarters at 613 Executive Dr., Winter Park 32789.

Larry Thornberry, ex-press secretary for U.S. Congressman Andy Ireland, is the campaign manager for the five Libertarian candidates for Hillsborough County Commission.

Georgia

Jim Hudson has announced his plans to seek the LP nomination for the U.S. Senate. Hudson, current vice chairman of the state party, was manager of the 1990 gubernatorial campaign of **Carole Ann Rand**. The Hudson campaign will focus upon gun ownership rights, health care policy, and the economy. The Hudson campaign will be the first Libertarian campaign for federal office in Georgia.

State party chairman **John Taylor** is now a co-host on the weekly current affairs program, "Hometown U.S.A.," produced by and shown on Channel 34 in Athens.

Maine

LP presidential candidate **Andre Marrou** made a swing through the state in late January and early February. He spoke in Portland, Bangor, Bucksport, and Rockland, as well as Bowdin College and Bates College. State party activists **Nick Youngers** and **Anne Alden** coordinated the Marrou visit.

Michigan

The Taxpayers Association of Michigan, headed by **Dick Jacobs** of Holland, has launched a statewide petition drive to constitutionally lower and limit the state's income and property taxes. Over 250,000 signatures will need to be gathered, but the start of this drive comes less than eight months after the association's kick-off of a drive to limit the terms of politicians which successfully gathered 400,000 signatures.

Missouri

LP activist **Ogden D. Scoville** of Springfield is actively campaigning for governor. Scoville, who was nominated by the state LP committee, has already appeared on a number of television news shows, including a five and one-half minute

segment of the Springfield ABC affiliate.

The party has a record number of candidates, 55, for this fall's ballot. In 1988, the state party fielded 31 candidates.

Robert Lurvey was elected chair of the Greene County LP affiliate, and he is busy directing and coordinating party organizing and petitioning efforts.

The LP of **Southwest Missouri** held a Christmas party in mid-December at their new offices at 2005-IE. Kearney St., Springfield. Reports are that 23 activists attended.

Nevada

The state party is getting lots of publicity for two petitions they have submitted to the secretary of state. **Tamara Clark**, NatCom member and state party activist, submitted a referendum petition to abolish the new business employee tax. **Jim Burns** submitted a petition to limit terms of elected officials in the state.

New Jersey

Membership in the state party grew 25 percent overall from 1990 to 1991, according to state party treasurer **Lou Stefanelli**.

New Mexico

Jim Brown is running an active campaign for councilor, District 3, in Rio Rancho. Brown has issued news releases which address his positions on local issues, state issues, privacy, juries, and much more. Each release begins with "I am a libertarian." His release on "Government" states in part, "Don't expect government to take care of you—take care of yourself. You'll be better off in the long run."

North Carolina

Five members of the state party attended a Democratic Party sponsored town meeting in Raleigh to discuss alternatives for nationalized health care. LP activist **David Knight** drew a round of applause when he asked why we should trust government for health insurance when we are still stinging from the S&L failure of federal deposit insurance. Party members also passed out about 300 flyers offering freedom as an alternative to the proposed health care proposals.

The state party produced three different hand-outs on health care, and you can get copies by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to **Lynn Fogwell**, 1708 Bayleaf Trail, Raleigh, NC 27614.

Oklahoma

The state party is on the move. The main thrust of the activities in the coming months will be rebuilding grass roots support on a county level, working on upcoming ballot access petition drives, a visit from field organizer **Joe Knight**, and a state convention March 27-29.

Acting state chair **Phillip Denny** said: "All the upcoming events will overlap and interconnect to form the basis of the revitalization of the LPOK. By this fall we hope to be a thriving state organization that can not only campaign hard for the **Marrou/Lord** ticket, but one that can encourage more and more Oklahoma Libertarians to get involved in local politics, and maybe even get a few to run for office."

Pennsylvania

Things are really picking up in the state. The number of Libertarian affiliate groups has doubled in the last year. Local activity has really increased, and college groups, including students at the **University of Pittsburgh**, are also gearing up for the fall election.

The party is also developing a good slate of candidates, many for the state house. State chair **Hugh Odhner** said, "Any Libertarians interested in running this year, show up at the convention or call me."

Petitioning for ballot access will begin at the state convention in Carlisle, March 13-15. Odhner hopes that only volunteer help will be needed to collect the approximately 37,000 signatures needed this year.

South Dakota

Gus Hercules of Rapid City is making it "a three-way race for U.S. Senate," according to newspaper headlines. The state party has submitted enough petition signatures to qualify for its own column on the state ballot.

Hercules said he wants "to educate people about the philosophy of the LP. We like to think of ourselves as defenders of liberty."

Texas

LP NatCom member **Gary Johnson** received 20 percent of the vote in a three-way non-partisan race for the Austin Independent School District. The election, held in January, forced a run-off of the two front runners who vied for Johnson's endorsement. Having made property taxes and saving money the key issues in his race, Johnson hopes to influence his former challengers. Johnson carried two out of 17 precincts and tied for first in another.

Over 100 candidates have filed for the 1992 general election, including **Andre Marrou** and **Nancy Lord**. Eleven of the races are contested within the party, and LP candidates will be determined at various county and district conventions.

State LP executive committee member **Diane Pilcher** organized a candidate/campaign workshop in Dallas in late February. The workshop was conducted by **Michael Emerling** and featured an appearance by **Andre Marrou**.

Michael Lee, chair of the Dallas County affiliate party, said working with other groups is helping to improve the local LP organization. "We have actively courted other organizations who do not know our entire platform and may never agree with it 100 percent," he said. "They agree with part of it strongly, agree with most of it at least weakly, and are neutral (and willing to think about) the remainder." These other organizations include an anti-income tax group, a pro-gun rights group, a pro-legal reform organization, and the pro-legalization of drugs organization.

Bill Walker of Balch Springs has been going to gun shops with libertarian literature, and several of the businesses have agreed to distribute this information to their customers.

International

Tom Grey, a former LP activist and congressional candidate from California, is now living in Czechoslovakia, where he is Political and Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister of the Slovakian Republic.

LP National Chair Gingell Responds to Bush

The following excerpts are from a news release issued by the Libertarian Party in response to the State of the Union speech by President Bush.

The Libertarian Party reacted unfavorably to President Bush's State of the Union address in late January.

"As a headline on a Boston Globe editorial once said about Jimmy Carter, 'More Mush from the Wimp,'" quipped LP national chair Mary Gingell.

"This is what we were waiting for? This is why the President said we should 'stay tuned'? No wonder the White House was lowering expectations. If this is the Super Bowl of speeches, George fumbled," Gingell said.

"The Republican White House and the Democratic Congress are to blame for the recession. They have had their chance. Their policies have failed. The American people want to hear another voice," she added.

"The LP candidate for President, Andre Marrou, would have told the American people the truth and specified fundamental changes to solve our problems."

"The President's tax cut proposals are ridiculously inadequate and hypocritical," Gingell said. "For example, the only reason we have the job-destroying tax on the boat industry is because President Bush signed it into law," she observed.

"If the President really wanted to do something about taxes, he should have vetoed all of the new taxes and tax increases he signed into law in 1990 when he

broke his promise 'Read my lips, no new taxes.'

"The overburdened American taxpayers need across-the-board tax relief in the form of greatly reduced tax rates. Instead, the President only offers a few complicated tax gimmicks that create jobs for tax accountants and attorneys. Libertarians would repeal the federal income tax entirely," Gingell said.

Gingell called the military spending cuts insignificant.

"A \$50 billion cut in Pentagon spending over five years averages only \$10 billion a year. That's about 3 percent a year from the current \$300 billion military budget," she said. "The Cold War is over. The Warsaw Pact has folded. There isn't even a Soviet Union any more. The U.S. is not in a war. But, the President just wants to cut

military spending next year between 3 and 4 percent? What happened to the peace dividend?"

"We need to bring home all U.S. troops from overseas and require our rich allies to pay for their own defense. We need to close obsolete and redundant military bases here at home," she added.

Gingell criticized Bush for increasing federal spending for domestic programs at a time of a record-setting deficit.

"The higher appropriation for the War on Drugs will be a complete waste. It is time to admit that this is a repeat of Prohibition and an expensive failure," she said.

Freedom Shirts

Original Poems © Belkin 1991

- a) I'm . . . Addicted to Freedom
- b) Legalize Freedom
- c) There is freedom of choice. . . for every choice but mine. . .

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The Tangled Mess of the Medical System

By George O'Brien
Internal Education Director

One of the biggest issues in the 1992 election campaign promises to be medical costs. Currently, the U.S. spends upwards of 12 percent of Gross National Product (GNP) on medical care, yet many people are uninsured or have minimal medical coverage. Democrats have begun promoting a system of socialized medicine similar to what is in place in Canada which provides service to every citizen and costs only 8 percent of the Canadian GNP.

While it seems odd that the U.S. should be moving in the direction of socialism at a time when most of the world is abandoning it, the real problem is that most people imagine the current system represents the result of free market forces. It does not. Indeed, a case can be made that the current problems are not due to too little government involvement but rather too much.

Costs and Monopolies

Every year dozens of people are prosecuted for "practicing medicine without a license." We are not talking about victims of fraud or malpractice. It is merely that someone has attempted to heal people without a license from the state. For that, they may be sent to prison.

Medical doctors are part of a "cartel." The state limits the number of doctors by regulating what qualifies as a proper medical school and who may practice medicine through the state medical licensing board.

Medical schools can charge an unbelievable amount to medical students. Students respond to the high prices by borrowing money. They are considered good risks because doctors can make very good money. Yet the high income does not attract a greater supply of doctors because state medical licensing boards restrict the number of schools and the people granted licenses to practice.

One of the primary differences between countries with socialized medicine and the U.S. is that for socialist countries medical school training is financed by the state. In many cases, there are more medical graduates and the medical graduates are paid less. One other thing: They are not as well trained as American medical school graduates.

Another issue is the attacks on midwives by the medical establishment. While midwives are not generally qualified to handle extremely complicated births, they do a good job with ordinary births. With the declining number of obstetricians, one would imagine they would be welcomed as a useful and economical alternative to expensive hospital births. No such luck! They have been forced from business in state after state.

One of the results of this is that many American doctors are in effect overqualified for what they do. However, it is not even legally possible to delegate the more routine activities to other health care providers in most states. For example, nurse practitioners were strongly opposed by the medical establishment until the level of education required was increased dramatically.

The result of limited entry and restricted competition is much higher personnel costs than would be found in countries with socialized medicine.

What they propose is something like medicine from the same people that gave you DMV.

Service and Competition

One of the most common complaints that Canadians give about their system is how long they have to wait for non-emergency treatment. For example, elective surgery is often delayed for months. Frequently, Canadians carry separate insurance policies to cover such things and end up going to the U.S. for their treatment.

The Canadian system involves significant waits. In the case of elective services, the wait can be in terms of years. In the case of necessary surgery, the wait is often months—even for emergencies.

It is worth noting that American HMOs (health maintenance organizations) provide a higher level of service than is found in most foreign socialized medical systems. Yet most Americans prefer to choose their own doctors and insist on a higher level of service than the typical HMO offers. In fact, if the insurance coverage is available, patients insist on a much higher level of service.

Third Party Providers

In a sense, medical care is like any other product or service. If price is not an object, when given a choice between a BMW or a VW, people will choose the BMW every time. The same is true for clothing, housing, and food. So why should we expect different with medical care?

Currently, most medical care is paid for by "third party providers." This means insurance companies, state workers compensation, Medicare, and Medi-Cal (or whatever the individual state calls it). Most insurance is provided as a "benefit" by the employer. This is important, because the cost of medical insurance is to the business, not to the individual. As might be expected, a key element to this irrationality is embedded in the tax code.

In most cases, the system does not provide much incentive for the patient to "economize." Extra tests and longer stays in the hospital are basically paid for by the third party provider. If the patient does economize, it is someone else who ends up paying for it. Shopping for a better deal or delaying treatment in order to save money is almost unheard of. One of the results of this system is a battle between the medical system and the third party providers which is the source of all the bureaucracy and paperwork.

One of the most obvious reforms would be to grant direct deductibility of medical insurance and medical costs to the individual. What they would quickly find is that by shopping around, they could start controlling their medical costs far more efficiently than a corporate group system could. For example, plans could be offered that cover large deductibles and do not include alcoholism treatments, etc., at much lower prices than group plans which would be very economical if the cost deductible. (One searches in vain for any explanation for why this change has not been made.)

Malpractice Insurance

One of the fastest growing costs for the American medical profession is malpractice insurance. By contrast, socialized

medicine does not have this problem because it is impossible to sue the state.

The explosion of malpractice suits over the last 20 years has been a result of several things. One is that the courts substantially reduced the burden of proof on claimants. At the same time, juries seem to be willing to grant unbelievably large judgements when something goes wrong, even when there is not much evidence that the doctors could have reasonably prevented the results.

Part of the problem is due to unreasonably high expectations as to what can be expected from any doctor. Part of the problem is due to the fact that lawyers can often intimidate insurance companies into settling because the risk of a loss is so high and the cost of litigation is so high even if the insurance company wins.

Naturally, the direct cost of malpractice insurance is added to the amount that is charged. What is often missed is that the risk of malpractice suits is so high, that many doctors feel compelled to do far more tests and extra procedures than necessary out of self defense. The result again is much higher costs.

In addition, there is no real evidence that the increase in malpractice suits has actually reduced the number of bad doctors. The AMA and the State Licensing Board rarely discipline bad doctors, in spite of the fact that this is their justification for existence. Instead, they merely act like cartels.

Prolonging Death

One problem facing the medical profession is that 80 to 90 percent of medical costs incurred for most people will be spent in the last six months of their lives. In countries with socialized medicine, dying people are sent home to die. In the U.S., people are not sent home until they are dead or bankrupt.

The cost implications of "heroic efforts" to keep people alive but non-functional are obvious. It is not simply the desire of the doctors to use more and more sophisticated techniques that keeps this situation alive. The current malpractice environment makes it virtually mandatory.

Few people want to put a price on human life. What they fail to realize is that socialized medicine does not give a choice. It lets them die. If the same practices were common in the U.S., costs would be much lower.

Subsidized Hospitals

Back in the late '70s and early '80s there was a major program by the federal government to promote the building and expansion of hospitals. What was not provided was the funds to operate those hospitals, and there emerged a substantial level of excess capacity.

It has been alleged that doctors are pressured to handle more cases on an "in patient" rather than "out patient" basis and are encouraged to extend hospital stays. In most cases, patients are not even allowed to leave without permission from their doctors. Under this condition, hospitals are permitted to charge higher rates to the patients (who are covered by third

party payers, both government and private) because of the higher costs.

As a side note, many hospitals found it necessary to become "addiction treatment centers" and the like to expand demand for their empty beds. Generally, these treatments are covered by insurance and are naturally added to the cost of the U.S. medical system.

Drugs and the FDA

The subject of how the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) works to delay providing necessary and useful medicine is beyond the scope of this article. What is significant is the fact that it drastically increases the cost of providing medicine (estimates are as high as \$10 billion a year) and has a material impact on overall medical costs.

The problem is simple. The FDA is "responsible" for ensuring that all drugs provided to the public are **proven** to be safe and effective. Unfortunately, that is not easy and is far from cheap. Not every drug will work with every patient. It is hard to predict every possible allergy or unusual side effect.

The U.S. has the most rigid testing requirements in the world and they add considerably to the cost of medicine. The cost of testing is imposed upon the drug companies and thus is added to the cost of the drugs. For some reason, it is rare to find advocates of socialized medicine that are interested in copying the more reasonable drug testing standards of Europe.

Along similar lines, the U.S. system restricts prescription of medication to MDs. In many countries, pharmacists are permitted to prescribe standard medications without a doctor's prescription. As it is, trained pharmacists are often better qualified to know which medications should be prescribed and what their side effects are than the doctors. Of course, this reduces the number of \$50 doctor visits merely to get a prescription.

Conclusion

It is extremely unlikely that a Canadian-style system of socialized medicine could be implemented in the U.S. even if there were more support for it. Politically, we are looking at a system which would bankrupt most insurance companies, thousands of trial lawyers, and private health care providers, while drastically limiting the earning power of doctors (who will cover their debts?). It would give a level of service that would be far lower than most employed Americans would accept—extremely long waits and no control.

What they propose is something like medicine from the same people that gave you DMV.

What is more likely is a system of mandatory health insurance coverage by all businesses (which will drive many of them out of business), plus a massive expansion of the Medi-Cal type system to cover more of the poor. This would require upwards of \$80 to \$100 billion a year on top of already obscenely high federal budget deficits.

The free market approach of breaking the medical monopoly—giving patients more control over spending and incentives to shop, changing who gets the deduction for medical insurance, getting rid of the FDA, etc.—is not as politically "sexy" as promises of "free" medical care, but it is much more likely to work.

NEWS

INTERVIEWS

T.J. Johnston, 42, has gained a reputation as one of the nation's most outspoken supporters of the Second Amendment. As founder of the California-based Gun Owners Action Committee, Johnston has emerged as a "radical," advocating the defiance of recently enacted gun control laws.

Born and raised in Orange County, CA, Johnston has lived in Anaheim all his life. Although he is the holder of a 5th Degree black belt in the martial arts, Johnston realizes the need for additional protection. "Indeed, the only way to defend yourself against a firearm at a distance, is with a firearm," Johnston explained.

Johnston bought his first handgun at age 18, and soon began reading magazines on handguns, as well as other para-military type magazines.

"I found out that the world of handguns is extremely exciting and intriguing," he said. In 1984 he became an NRA-certified instructor in firearms.

Johnston was interviewed by Randy Langhenry, NEWS editor, in early February.

NEWS: The Gun Owners Action Committee, can you tell me about it? Is it a non-profit organization?

Johnston: In 1988, we got together a bunch of shooters because we were concerned that indeed a lot of media and legislation was turning against the private ownership of all firearms. And then the [CA] attorney general at the time started making noises about so-called assault weapons. Then there was the shooting in Stockton which started the ball rolling against so-called assault weapons. All of my shooting friends, all of the people who are acquainted with my interest in shooting, came to me and said, "What can we do?" So we motivated shooters in the area to get out and protest, to get out and become politically active. We came to find out the American system of government no longer is answerable to the people. It was a horrible shock to all of us. Because we thought if we wrote letters, if we made phone calls, then our legislators would follow along. In fact, our local state senator received calls eight to one against the assault weapons legislation, and she voted for it. No matter what we said or did, we could not impact them. I was horrified, shocked, I felt helpless. I said this is not the way our government is supposed to work. This is not representing the people. This is an aristocracy, a bureaucracy that is indeed independent of the people. And I became politically active at that point.

[Gun Owners Action Committee] is a 501(c)(4). Because we are politically active, we are tax-exempt, but we cannot accept tax-deductible donations. We started out as just a group to stop gun legislation, and found out that we needed to have some funds to buy signs, to send

out letters, stuff like that. So then we formed a California corporation called the Gun Owners Action Committee.

NEWS: Is that what you do for a living?

Johnston: No. I'm full-time employed at the American Broadcasting Company, ABC television. I'm the production manager on a show called "General Hospital," and I'll be the stage production coordinator for the Academy Awards. That's what keeps me off the street. And then my martial arts, firearms training, and political activism is what I do in my spare time.

NEWS: I understand you are currently advocating that gun owners defy recently enacted gun control laws in California.

Johnston: Absolutely. I'm going to be speaking at the Libertarian Convention in Anaheim. And the point that I'm going to bring up is where we as citizens are obligated to defy unjust laws passed by our government. It is a problem here in California that they have passed legislation that bans 54 arbitrarily defined firearms, and that's against the law. By the establishment of the 2nd Amendment we have every right to own so-called para-military styled firearms, by the fact that we are obligated to form a militia to defend our government. And we need the weapons in the militia. By the 1934 Firearms Act we can't own machine guns, which I think is still a travesty. I think the average citizen should own any firearm they choose as long as they are responsible for it and with it. The point is that we find the government has passed these laws and it is our obligation to stand up for the higher law of the Constitution of the United States and defy them.

NEWS: What has been the reaction by other gun organizations and publications to your defiance?

Johnston: We find that the California Rifle and Pistol Association thinks of us as an embarrassment, because they would say that 'we really don't need those kind of rifles. We are bench-rest shooters, we aren't really interested in those rifles.' We find that some members of the old guard in the NRA are thinking we are a bunch of radicals who are bringing a bad name to the National Rifle Association. I'm a life member, and I'm running for the board of directors to see if we can change that attitude within the NRA. Because we are going to have to become radicals, that's the only way to stop the tremendous erosion of all our rights, including the right to keep and bear arms.

NEWS: What do you see in the future for gun control legislation in the U.S.?

Johnston: We are going to see a marked change in the elections of 1992, I think. I

don't know, I hope that conservatism is on its way back, that people are tired of the extreme taxation, the over-regulation of business, the intervention of government in every facet of our lives, including firearms regulation. And that we are going to see, I hope, a tremendous upsurge of more conservative ideas in terms of who's elected to office in the 1992 elections. If not, if that does not hold true, then we are going to see for the next decade a continuing slide into liberalism, socialism, collectivism that is now so paramount in all of our local, state, and federal governments.

NEWS: What do you think we can do, other than vote, to fight this legislation?

Johnston: The most important thing people can do is to band together with like-minded people to form local activist groups who will meet every city council person and let them know they are interested in protecting individual rights, whether it be the gun issue or the right to own a business without having it licensed with every agency in the state. That every freedom be individually protected by that councilperson, by that county board member, by that school district member, and by that state legislator and federal legislator. That each

citizen will organize with like-minded people to stand up for their individual rights until we get control of the government once again.

NEWS: You are obviously aware of the Libertarian Party's stand on the 2nd Amendment. Why do you think Libertarian Party candidates have such difficulty enlisting the support of gun owners?

Johnston: I would suggest to you that gun owners are the most fervent supporters of the Libertarian Party, at least in my neck of the woods. The Gun Owners Action Committee is mostly libertarian. The problem within mainstream America is the central mass doesn't think that their life is being encroached, infringed upon by government. So that when the Libertarian Party talks about, 'we don't need laws making drugs illegal, we don't need laws for this and that,' we find people in the center saying 'I feel vulnerable, I do think we need some laws, and I find the Libertarians are extreme and therefore I won't support their party.'

For more information, call Gun Owners Action Committee at 714-772-4867.

Time and Time Again

Last month the NEWS noted the error Time magazine (Jan. 13, 1992) made in referring to Lyndon LaRouche as a "wild-eyed libertarian." Time later printed two letters, including one by Andre Marrou, which called attention to this error. If they would have been smart, they would have let it go at that.

Instead, Time editorial offices sent letters to at least some of those who had first written the magazine about the original mistake. In this follow-up letter, Time officials said "we have taken serious note of the correction..." But the letter also said in part, "though the generic meaning was on our minds, and not the specific principles associated with the Libertarian Party, in hindsight we can appreciate just how misleading the descriptor could be in the political context of the report, the lower-case l notwithstanding." Come again. They still seem to think that LaRouche can somehow be described as a libertarian.

In response to this new outrage, Karl Hess, NEWS editor emeritus, replied to Time with a letter that said in part, "It would be of great value to all who consider themselves libertarians of any sort, if you could tell us what 'generic meaning' of libertarian was on anyone's mind when they identified LaRouche as libertarian."

"I have been active in lower-case libertarianism and upper-case Liber-

tarian Party efforts for about 40 years, including the five years I was Press Editor of Newsweek magazine. Not once during that time did I come across any meaning of libertarian that could encompass the positions or actions of Lyndon LaRouche," Hess wrote.

Dave Walter, past LP national chair, also felt the explanation from Time deserved further action.

Walter said that Time's letter writer "asks us to believe that Time considers Mr. LaRouche a libertarian in the 'generic' sense."

"If that is true, then Time magazine is wholly ignorant of Mr. LaRouche and libertarian values. I can't think of one political view he holds that libertarians hold. Even if there is one or two, that also holds true for about 250 million other Americans. Is everyone in the U.S. a libertarian, according to Time?" Walter said.

"It seems far more likely that Time knows exactly what LaRouche stands for and what we stand for, and has found it in their interest to tar libertarianism with the brush of LaRouchianism."

"Whether ignorance or malice led to this smear, the response to Time should be clear: Cancel subscriptions and never buy a Time-Life product until they hire more knowledgeable and intellectually honest people, and apologize for this insult," Walter urged.

Your Help Needed for Ballot Access Success

By Bill Redpath
LPBAC Chair

We'll soon be getting to the heart of the ballot access season, and the question no doubt foremost on the minds of LPers is, "Will we be on in all 50 states and DC?" The answer at this point is a definite maybe—but the goal is definitely in reach. We'll make it if the LP has enough money to pay petitioners where a volunteer effort alone won't get us there, and if we have a good volunteer effort everywhere we don't now have ballot access.

Before I get to the nitty-gritty details, an organizational note. At the December 1991 NatCom meeting, a reorganization of the LP was approved that did away with the self-funding status of the Ballot Access Committee. There are now no self-funding action committees in the Libertarian Party. As chair of the Ballot Access Committee, I supported this change; I thought there had been too many organizational "Chinese walls" built within the LP and thought this was a step in righting this situation.

Here are the specifics:

We are now certified for the ballot in 23 states. They are: Maine, New Hampshire, Delaware, Michigan, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Kansas, Texas, New Mexico, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, California, Oregon, Hawaii, Maryland, Montana, Wyoming, Alabama, South Dakota, and Vermont.

There are two states in which we won't have to petition, but are not yet certified: Arkansas and Louisiana.

We are finished petitioning and waiting for certification in two states: Arizona and Nebraska.

Petitioning is nearly complete in three states: North Carolina, Indiana, and Alaska (volunteer).

There are seven other states that should be done strictly through a volunteer effort: Washington, Minnesota, Ohio, New Jersey, Colorado, Tennessee, and Iowa. Of these, Ohio, New Jersey, Colorado, and Iowa are already under way.

That leaves 14 other states that will be completed with a combination of volunteer and paid signatures. These states are: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Ken-

tucky, Missouri, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. A few of these states may ultimately be done on a volunteer basis. The Florida ballot drive is approximately 20 percent done and gaining steam. The Oklahoma ballot drive will be under way by the time you read this. Other drives that can start now include Connecticut, Massachusetts, Kentucky, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.

At the December NatCom meeting, \$155,000 was budgeted to be spent by the LP for ballot access in 1992, and the Marrou/Lord campaign has announced they intend to contribute \$75,000 to ballot access. Combined, that's \$230,000. Believe me, we're trying to work all of this so that amount will get us on in 50 states and the District of Columbia. This compares to over \$550,000 spent on ballot access in 1988. But to make it on that amount, the best LP volunteer petitioning effort ever is essential. Please help in your state by contacting your state ballot drive coordinator. If you don't know who your coordinator is, contact your state chair.

After that, it's a matter of money and personnel. If you're interested in petitioning on a full-time basis for compensation in one of the 14 states listed above, please drop me a line at the national office in Washington, DC. If you're interested in financing this effort, please send a check, payable to the LP, to the national office.

Only three non-Republican and non-Democratic presidential candidates in the last 75 years have made it onto the ballot in all states. Of course, the LP's Ed Clark was one of them; the other two were John Anderson and Lenora Fulani. With the right combination of resources, Andre Marrou will become the fourth.

Whatever you can give to this effort will help get us there.

If you would like to help the LP secure a spot on the ballot in all 50 states and D.C. by volunteering your time or with a donation, write:

Bill Redpath
LPBAC
1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-543-1988

Ballot Status Update

States where petitioning is going on or could be going on:

	Required (valid)	Collected (raw)	Est. to go (raw)	Deadline
Florida	60312	15000	71000	Jul 15
Oklahoma	35132	500	52000	Jul 15
Pennsylvania	37000	0	45000	Aug 1
Missouri	20860	500	30000	Aug 3
Connecticut	14620	0	21000	Aug 14
Massachusetts	10000	0	15000	Jul 28
West Virginia	6534	0	9500	Aug 1
Kentucky	5000	0	7200	Aug 27
Ohio	5000	200	7000	Aug 20
Indiana	29909	43000	7000	Jul 15
Colorado	5000	1500	5700	Aug 4
Alaska	2035	3400	1600	Aug 24
North Carolina	43601	68000	1500	Jul 9
Iowa	1000	0	1400	Aug 14
New Jersey	800	0	1200	Jul 27
Tennessee	25	0	40	Aug 20
			274340	

Other states where petitioning will be needed:

		Must wait until		
Virginia	14500	redistrict	21000	Aug 21
Illinois	25000	May 5	35000	Aug 3
North Dakota	4000	Jun 6	5700	Sep 4
Rhode Island	1000	Jun 8	1400	Sep 4
Minnesota	2000	Jul 7	2800	Sep 15
D.C.	2600	Jul 12	3700	Aug 18
New York	20000	Jul 21	28000	Aug 18
Washington	200	Jul 25	250	Jul 25
			97850	

Grand total raw signatures needed: 372550

Figures as of Feb. 14, 1992

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Signature _____
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Breaking the News Blackout — A Surprising Call to Action

By Perry Willis
Marrou/Lord Chief of Staff

To acquire something someone has, you must offer something they seek. This idea is central to the Libertarian view of trade.

I assert, on the basis of this, that the media blackout is our fault!

Don't be shocked. Think about it. Do journalists mistreat us because they're malevolent? Sometimes, yes, but mostly no. If malevolence were really their true nature then we couldn't hope to change it. At best, we could limit the damage. Nothing more.

I have higher aims.

Journalists are people. I know that's hard to believe, but it's true. Many, maybe most, have ideas opposed to ours, but then so do many non-journalists. I could easily, in the next 20 seconds, list 10 libertarian reporters. I could list another 10 who aren't but who have covered us as well or better than those who are. Journalists are just like people—a mixed bag.

Our job is to provide all journalists, both good and bad, with something they want. If we aren't willing to do so then we won't achieve our goals. Whining and name calling won't cut it. No one wants to hear how bad they are, including journalists.

We don't control what they do. We do control what we do. The key is in ourselves, or no where.

I assert that we have something journalists want. All journalists. By changing our behavior and considering their needs and wants, we can/will get what we want. We, by our own actions, and only our own actions, can end the media blackout.

Let's look at this problem step by step:

1) We must remove the chip from our collective shoulders.

It's obvious we feel sorry for ourselves. "Why don't you cover us?" we whine. "It's so unfair," we whimper.

This looks ugly. We appear to lack the courage of our convictions. Better to appear convinced (and to convince ourselves) that we can do the job without their coverage.

Maybe we've spent too much time wondering when-whether-and-how the media will do our job for us, and too little time doing outreach.

By doing our job we take the first step toward gaining their help. To be worthy of coverage we must look worthy. Communicate confidence, not complaint. Build a party and become news worthy.

2) We must understand the journalist's business.

It isn't politics. It isn't building a new party, or fomenting an ideological revolution. Yes, reporters are biased (like everyone), and yes they do cozy up to the powerful (human nature strikes again!), but WE SHOULD GRANT THAT THEY DO TRY TO DO THEIR JOBS. If we aren't willing to respect them, why should they respect us?

Exchanging respect is the first step toward the more meaningful transaction we hope to conduct. Offer respect, receive respect. Make news, receive coverage.

Again, we must understand the journalist's role; it is to report the news.

Our job, by contrast, is to make the news. If we do what we should, then we can supply journalists with product. If we don't do it, but claim that we are, then we look foolish. We annoy.

COROLLARY—we do not own the media companies. We have no right to coverage, no right to promote our message at their expense. Again, we must give them something they want in order to get what we want.

Journalists desire what all human beings desire. Understanding and respect. They're just like us. They do the best they can. We must help them improve, not demand that they do so.

3) We must excel as news providers.

Talk's cheap. Every two-bit group in America claims it deserves coverage. How do reporters decide?

Look at it from their point of view. There were 63 candidates in New Hampshire. Did all deserve equal time? Is it to each according to his need, from each according to his ability. Do we have a Marxist view of media coverage, or should candidates and parties make the front page the old fashioned way. You know, e-e-a-a-r-r-n-n-it.

We know that we're the hottest thing since thermonuclear fusion, but they don't know it. How could they? Why should they? Ignorance is an excuse. Saying you're such and such doesn't mean you are. They're right to ask, "Where's the proof? Let's see you walk your talk. You claim you're America's fastest growing party, how about some numbers?"

There's more to a political party than a platform. There's competence. Efficacy. Which brings me to my next point.

4) We must understand what news is.

We don't decide what news is, the reporters do. We don't tell them, they tell us. We have to get with their program, and/or provide damned good reasons why they should adjust to ours.

Ideas are not news. They may adorn the news, like frosting on a cake, but they are not the cake. Actions are news. Opinions are for the op-ed page, achievements for the front page.

Look at the coverage we get. It's mostly op-ed material. The word libertarian appears 10 times in that section for every single mention it gets in the news pages. This reflects the philosophical nature of our party.

Please understand me—this isn't bad, it's merely insufficient.

Now look at the coverage we got in New Hampshire, and notice the change. We converted a legislator and we got coverage. Andre spoke to the House of Representatives and we got coverage. Nancy conferred with a former Laconia City Council member, seeking his political advice, and she was covered. We win over voters in Dixville Notch and more coverage results. Actions and tactics, not opinions.

Let's review and elaborate:

- Journalists want respect and understanding. If we provide it we're more likely to receive it.

- Reporters, being people, like to help their friends. Make friends with journalists and your news may make the news.

- Personal relationships, not cold press releases.

- Promote your tactics and your issues will go along for the ride.

A Call to Action

On January 31 we informed the media of a new tactic we planned to employ. Sociologists call the first people to accept a new idea "early adopters." Early adopters are our best constituency, but how to target them? Simple. Ask LP members which TV programs they always watch and you'll have a good lead on where to advertise.

Anyone who knows anything about the LP can answer that question. Libertarians watch Star Trek: The Next Generation.

We booked 30 ads on Star Trek in New Hampshire. We then sent a release explaining the tactic. It was picked-up by The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, The Manchester Union-Leader, The Concord Monitor, and several other papers. Tactics and actions are news!

Our media plan rests on three pillars:

1) TV and radio talk shows, so we can tell our story our way and give our a phone number.

2) Giving journalists the things they want—respect, friendship, and interesting items that they consider news—tactics and actions.

3) Your involvement.

We'd like your help in thanking the two networks that have given us the best coverage—CNN and C-SPAN. Write your thanks to Chris Gurrarino, Political Producer, CNN Headline News, CNN Political, One CNN Center, Atlanta, GA 30348. And to Hope Landy, C-SPAN, 400 N. Capital St., NW, Suite 650, Washington, DC 20001. Let them know that you think they've done a great job (because they have) and that you appreciate it.

Then stay tuned for our next progress report. We'll tell you how you can use our New Hampshire results to help increase our media exposure.

Campaign '92 Wants You Now

By Ron Crickenberger

A political party exists for the purpose of affecting public policy through the fielding and election of candidates to public office. While the Demopublican parties consistently legislate, regulate, and tax away your freedoms, the Libertarian Party promotes individual liberty by offering candidates who believe in and advocate the libertarian principle of strictly limiting government and the protection of individual rights. As a political party, running and electing pro-freedom candidates must be our first priority.

The mission of Campaign '92, the Libertarian Party Campaign Committee, is to recruit well qualified candidates, to provide training in methods of effective campaigning, and to provide technical and financial support. We also provide election return news and help to retain ballot access.

The LP will field over 500 candidates in the 1992 election cycle. Have you considered being one of them? There is no better way to get our ideas implemented than to place candidates in front of the voters. People listen more openly to ideas that are presented to them by a human being, rather than by advertising or literature. If you,

like most Libertarian Party members, are sick of the status quo of politics, and are burning with the desire to do something to reverse the dwindling of our freedoms, I urge you to become a candidate in the cause of liberty.

There are many degrees of involvement for our candidates, ranging from simply being a line holder to running a full-time campaign to win. Just how much you should do will be determined by how much time and energy you can contribute and by the dual strategy of concentrating our resources of the LP's candidates who have the best chance of winning, while offering the voters a Libertarian choice at every ballot position possible. Your candidacy can make an important contribution by both educating the public on the value of the freedom philosophy and by offering voters who agree with us the chance to voice their opinion at the ballot box.

The Campaign '92 committee is ready to provide LP candidates with support in a number of areas. A team of advisory experts is available for consulting on various aspects of campaigning. We have inexpensive literature, generic TV, radio, and print ads, and talking point papers for you to use. Also available are samples of campaign plans, commercials, polls, and fund-

raising letters. All candidates who contact Campaign '92 will receive a candidates' newsletter with tips on tactics and strategy, and with success stories from the field. In short, we can help you to not have to waste time reinventing the wheel.

If you have any interest in becoming a candidate, or would like to know more of what it might entail, contact me at 1351 New Hope Road, Locust Grove, GA 30248; or call my home and office at 404-957-6825.

There is one valuable piece of campaign advice I will pass along at this time. By all means purchase a subscription to Campaigns and Elections magazine. The subscription price will be returned to you many times over by the increased effectiveness of your resources, generated by knowledge of the real world campaign methods they cover. Campaigns and Elections also puts on excellent, intensive, training seminars. Upcoming seminars include Boston, March 28-29; Detroit, April 25-26; and D.C., June 18-20. Attending one of these seminars should be a high priority for all candidates running a serious campaign, and for at least one activist from each state party. Contact Campaigns and Elections, 183 K St., NW, #403, Washington, DC 20006; or call 800-237-7842.

Letters: Voting, Guns, Abortion, and More

Direct Vote

Tom Jones (Jan. 1991 NEWS) objects to the delegate method of selecting candidates and for making changes to the platform. He suggests direct vote by mail. I agree, that would be better, but then we wouldn't have an excuse for having a convention, and conventions are fun, plus they attract media attention.

Instead of each state getting so many delegates and so many alternates, have everyone come to the convention in person and vote. Simple—one person, one vote.

OK, not everyone is going to be able to make it. Those wags can sign a proxy to a person who is (1) willing and able to make the trip, and who (2) closely represents the wag's views. All proxies would be instantly revocable (in my vision) should the SOB vote the wrong way on any issue.

Every person making the trip could solicit proxies by whatever means he deems appropriate. The proxy holders could charge for their services and thus help finance the trip, or they could pay people for the privilege of representing them (buy their votes) and thus get support for a minority position. You could track proxies by name and phone number so conflicts could be easily resolved.

If it works, and I don't know why it wouldn't, we could propose this type of representation for local, state, and national government also.

Direct vote on all laws by proxy. No more messy general elections. Everyone would have a representative, not just the people who voted for a winning candidate. Pay would depend on how many persons a proxy holder represents and how much they pay him. The next logical step (as I see it) is being subject to only the laws and taxes that your proxy holder promotes. This could get some real competition going.

Frank J. Germann
West St. Paul, MN

Platt on Guns

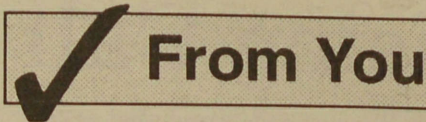
In all the letters disputing my outlook on guns, none has fairly addressed points that I raised. If you will allow me to reiterate:

Every member of the LP signs a non-aggression pledge renouncing the initiation of force. One of your correspondents recoils in horror from the word "pacifism," but it seems to me that within our group, our pledge signifies that we have pacifist intentions.

The question arises: What if someone violates the pledge, or a non-libertarian threatens us? Then we reserve the right to respond with force. Thus, we need guns because we live in a non-libertarian world, or because human nature falls short of our ideals. We accept the responsibility for defending ourselves, but if we honor the spirit of our pledge, we regret the necessity

My comparison of drugs to guns was even more "far fetched" to some of your readers, who seem to feel that guns (which kill other people) are good while drugs (which kill only the user) are bad. This is absurd, but either way, it misses the point. I support private ownership of drugs, guns, or just about anything else. I do not support the characterization of guns, or hard drugs, as desirable objects. I hope for a world in which neither guns nor drugs seem as necessary as they do today. Is this such a heresy?

I had always imagined that libertarians



From You

Letters from members and readers

were more open minded, less doctrinaire than other people. It is disappointing to find, among your readers, such unthinking knee-jerk reactions to a point of view which differs only in minor respects from their own.

Lastly, I would appreciate it if you could manage to spell my name right.

Charles Platt
New York, NY

Interviews

Thank you very much for the interview with Carl Oglesby. This could be a superb section of the NEWS. Please identify the interviewer in the future. All interviewers are not the same.

Paul E. O'Neil
Fullerton, CA

Editor's Note: Randy Langhenry interviewed Carl Oglesby.

Education

Thank you for "Crisis in State Education" (Jan. 1992 NEWS). I find the information true, succinct, and the statistics useful. Thank you too for the names and addresses of organizations who offer information concerning the educational choice issue. Many thanks to George L. O'Brien for this article.

Every senior center in the nation would serve a priceless purpose if they taught preschoolers and kindergarten children handwriting, spelling, sounds of the alphabet and numbers, the way they learned.

Katharyn Y. Rees
Anacortes, WA

Abortion

As a new member of the LP I have attempted to read the NEWS extremely thoroughly to acquaint myself as much as possible with the party's ideals and positions.

I became interested in the party through the television coverage on C-SPAN of this summer's national convention. One issue that I did not hear mention of or see addressed to my satisfaction was the abortion issue. I would like to offer my plan for (hopefully) resolving the issue which I think would be consistent with the party ideals.

Let's have the federal government mandate a one-time voter referendum in each and every state. Each state would be required to put the abortion issue on the ballot and give every citizen of that particular state a chance to vote for the plan of his or her choice.

This plan would give each state the opportunity to select which position reflects the will of the voters in that state. It stands to reason that someone desiring an abortion in a state whose voters have rejected it could travel to a nearby state where it is legal, much in the same way people who live in a "dry" county can travel to a neighboring county to obtain alcoholic beverages if they so desire. This plan would give the rights to the states thus lessening the federal government role in our personal decisions (a party ideal).

Michael J. Palma
Columbia, SC

Comments

I have a mild criticism with regard to Dr. Lyon's and Mr. Figge's personnel accounts of socialized medicine and government secrecy (Jan. 1992 NEWS). Printing such accounts in the NEWS is tantamount to preaching to the choir. It would be more effective if these types of editorials were submitted to local newspapers or the national media.

With regard to the editorial on public education, please release it to the media.

With regard to the letter from David Miller referring to the campaign tactics of Dave McCann, lying to voters is the typical strategy of Republicans and Democrats. We are supposed to be the Party of Principle.

One of the things that has attracted me to the LP is that its members have principles that they don't compromise. . .

I hope to hell that somehow Mr. Miller got his facts wrong.

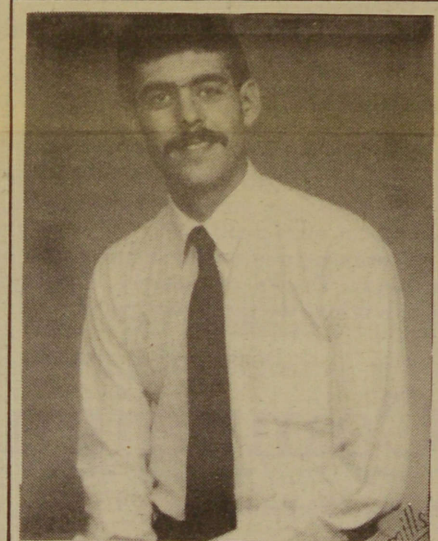
James J. Odle
Glendale, AZ

National Director

Isn't it about time you ran a photo of Nick Dunbar, our national director? After all these years I still don't know what he looks like.

Calvin Wallis
Duarte, CA

Editor's Note: You asked for it!



LP National Director Nick Dunbar

More on McCann

I was sorry to read the letter by David Miller (Jan. 1992 NEWS). I find it hard to believe that Mr. Miller can criticize the campaign of David McCann for state senate that turned out to be one of the most successful in LP history.

Miller laments the handling of the drug issue by the McCann campaign. However, it is not necessary for Libertarian candidates to campaign on a platform for drug legalization in every election in which they run. Had Mr. McCann been elected . . . I am certain that had any bills proposing stricter drug laws been proposed Mr. McCann would have voted against them. . .

His campaign is to be praised and emulated, not taken to task to "weakening principle."

John LaBeaume
University City, MO

Write More Letters

Recently on C-SPAN they showed Debra Potter, CNN correspondent, speaking on

"News Media and Politics." She said journalists should not be biased and if they fail to be fair, they lose credibility and public trust. She also mentioned that CNN was starting a daily, or Monday through Friday, half-hour program, "Inside Politics."

I've already written to them requesting them to be fair and unbiased and cover the Libertarian Party, Marrou, and Lord.

We all should take every opportunity to further our message. So grab paper and pen and write to the shows and networks you watch!

Betty McAllister
Merced, CA

Natural Constituency

The recent exchange of letters on the subject of recruiting gun owners into the party has driven me to air a major gripe I have with the Libertarian Party: I haven't seen any Marrou in '92 ads in porno magazines!

This is a serious complaint. Drug users, pornographers and their customers, prostitutes, johns, and yes, gun owners—they are all pariah groups in this country. None of them are by their nature guilty of any wrong-doing in our eyes. Of all the political parties, only we defend their rights. They are our natural constituency, and if there is anything which proves that we are not serious about trying to get elected, it's our refusal to actively court our natural supporters, despite the distaste some of us may have for some of them. . . We are never going to get many votes from authoritarian prudes.

The Demo-publicans have put together a coalition of people who are willing to be oppressed in return for the opportunity to do some oppressing. We can put together a coalition of people who are willing to leave each other alone in return for being left alone. But we can't do it if we aren't willing to associate with the people who have the most reason to vote for us!

Brett P. Bellmore
Capac, MI

Social Security Numbers

You can't believe what's happening in California.

Effective January 1992, we must give our social security numbers on applications for a driver's license or vehicle registration.

The sponsor of this police-state legislation, Rebecca Morgan (R-Los Altos Hills) claims the reason is to help district attorneys catch parents who are behind on their child support payments.

Apparently, some \$2 billion in welfare costs is attributable to delinquent child support payments, and this bill, by entrapping all 20 million California motorists, will enable them to catch those delinquent parents.

I have subsequently learned . . . that this bill will return a forecast \$30 million to the abandoned mothers.

I guess that seems about right. Confiscating the privacy and invading the civil liberties of 20 million people in order to catch one and one-half percent of the lost monies (\$30 million/\$2 billion) is a logical trade-off for a statist Republican mentality.

I've sent letters to various newspapers and my own local representatives urging immediate repeal of this law. . . I hope we have enough Libertarians in this state who will help in this campaign to overturn this totalitarian legislation.

Don Hull
Costa Mesa, CA

Federal Budget Deficit: Who Cares?

By Dave Barry

It is a proven fact that the average American doesn't care about the federal budget deficit. Sometimes on the "NBC Nightly News," for fun, Tom Brokaw will say, "Next: the federal budget deficit." Then they'll show a 15-minute videotape, without sound, of a dog eating peanut butter. They never get a single phone call, because the instant Tom says "budget deficit," the viewers grab their remote controls and switch to sleazy tabloid shows full of "news" about Roseanne Barr Arnold's husband's tattoos and the William Kennedy Smith sex-change operation.

Of course YOU'RE different. YOU'RE not an "average American." YOU care about the issues, right?

You liar. You're not even reading this paragraph. You're saying to your spouse: "Hey, it says in the paper that William Kennedy Smith had a sex-change operation!"

Well, he didn't. I just said that to stimulate the sagging libel-suit industry, and to make the point that nobody cares about the deficit. This is good. The deficit doesn't matter.

To understand why, let's compare the U.S. government to a typical American family, headed by "John and Mary Smith," who have a combined annual income of \$22,000. Let's say that the "Smiths" have drawn up a budget, listing what they want to spend in the coming year for various items such as food, housing, and court

costs to have the quotation marks legally removed from their names. Let's say that this budget totals \$27,000.

This means the "Smiths" have an impending budget deficit of \$5,000. So what is the only logical thing for them to do? You guessed it: They should spend \$30 million to build a moving sidewalk in Altoona, PA.

That's how Congress is handling it. With the federal deficit running at several hundred billion dollars per year, Congress passed a transportation bill that, according to a news report by Reed Karaim of Knight-Ridder Newspapers, includes \$30 million for a "high-tech" moving sidewalk in Altoona, which happens to be in the district of Rep. "Bud" Shuster, the ranking Republican on the surface transportation subcommittee.

I don't know about you, but as a taxpayer, I am outraged to discover that, in this day and age, Altoona residents are still being forced to walk around on regular low-tech stationary sidewalks. I'm thinking of maybe organizing a group of us to go there and carry Altoonans around on our backs until they get their new sidewalk. I'm also thinking of maybe a high-tech computerized Spit Launcher that will fire laser-guided gobs onto the moving sidewalk, so the Altoonans won't have to do this manually. "What have I done today to help keep 'Bud' Shuster in Congress?" is a question we all need to ask ourselves more often.

We also need to think about Rep. John Paul Hammerschmidt, who inserted a pro-

"Can't we do MORE to recognize Rep. Hammerschmidt?"

vision into the transportation bill to have taxpayers pay for—get ready for a crying national need—erecting signs that will identify part of U.S. 71 in Arkansas as the "John Paul Hammerschmidt Highway."

You're saying to yourself: "What? All he gets named after himself is part of one lousy highway? Can't we do MORE to recognize Rep. Hammerschmidt?" Yes, we can. We can start a nationwide movement to name things after him. Pets, for example. "Oh NO!" we could say. "Look what Rep. John Paul Hammerschmidt did on the rug! BAD Rep. John Paul Hammerschmidt!" Or: "Marge, I think it's high time that we had Rep. John Paul Hammerschmidt spayed."

I don't mean to single out Bud and John Paul. The transportation bill had over \$5 billion worth of special local projects and favors attached to it, lamprey-like, by various congresspersons. But this is good, because these projects will CREATE JOBS. See, when the GOVERNMENT spends money, it creates jobs; whereas when the money is left in the hands of TAXPAYERS, God only knows what they do with it. Bake it into pies, probably. Anything to avoid creating jobs.

That's why President George "Samurai" Bush flew all the way to Eufless, Texas, a round trip of 2,600 miles, at taxpayers' expense, so he could be seen on TV signing the transportation bill at a highway construction site. "Jobs, jobs, jobs," he said, in a quotation that will probably win the award for Best Articulated Reason For Signing A Big Fat Lardbucket Of A Transportation Bill, narrowly edging out "Wooga, wooga, wooga."

Of course eventually, down the federally financed road, all this money will have to be repaid, with interest, by somebody. Our kids, in fact. Should we worry about this? Are we placing an unfair burden on them? Nah. Maybe they'll be poor, but any time they want, they'll be able to hitchhike to Altoona and ride the sidewalk. The lucky little Hammerschmidts.

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Court Hears CA Tax Case

Los Angeles County LP members argued in a state appeals court to overturn Proposition C, a half-cent county-wide sales tax to fund transportation projects.

The tax is illegal because it was passed by only a simple majority of voters rather than the two-thirds mandate required by Proposition 13, according to John Vernon, who is the lead plaintiff in the lawsuit against the state Board of Equalization.

Vernon organized a group of 10 plaintiffs, all Libertarians, including 1980 presidential candidate Ed Clark and Ted Brown, chair of the LA County LP.

Proposition C was approved in November 1990 by 50.4 percent of the voters. Proposition 13 requires a two-thirds vote to impose a special tax, but Vernon claims the state legislature illegally authorized the transit tax using a section of the state Public Utilities Code that permits adoption of a tax by majority vote.

Notice

Last month's issue of LP NEWS contained an article reporting on some of the rather humorous responses the Libertarian Party has received to its requests for the name of the employer and occupation of contributors.

As a political organization required to file financial and contributor information with the Federal Elections Commission, the Libertarian Party is required by law to make a good faith effort to obtain the occupation and employer of certain of its contributors. The LP makes that good faith effort by requesting that information on its contribution solicitation response cards and membership application forms.

It is not LP policy to encourage our contributors to provide incomplete, inaccurate, or humorous responses to those questions. Any implication to the contrary in last month's article was inadvertent and should be disregarded.

Libertarian Party Products Catalog

Ready-to-Use Literature

- Instant Membership Cards, \$2/100
- Liberty Today, \$10/100
- World's Smallest Political Quiz, \$1/100
- Flyer: LP Represents You, \$5/100
- Flyer: Responsible Gun Ownership, \$5/100
- Flyer: Relegalize Drugs, \$5/100
- Flyer: Taxes — Break Free, \$5/100
- LP Program, \$10/100
- LP Fact Sheet/Bibliography, \$5/100
- Sample Literature Packet (one of each above), \$5

Stickers, etc.

- Vinyl Bumpersticker "Bring U.S. Troops Home", \$1.50
- Statement of Principles on parchment, \$2
- "Defenders of Liberty" Bumpersticker, \$1

Tools for Campaigns

- LP Statue of Liberty Logo Master, \$1
- LP Statue of Liberty Color Slide for TV news broadcasts, \$5
- Cassette with four 60-sec. radio ads, \$5
- TV ad on 1-inch tape, \$35
- TV ad on 3/4-inch tape, \$35
- Newsprint Ad (Set of 7), \$3

Books

- Libertarianism in One Lesson (Bergland), \$8 each or 5 for \$25
- America's Libertarian Heritage (Bergland), \$1

Misc.

- National LP Bylaws and Standing Rules, \$3

LP Banners - White on blue.

Small (one line of text), \$15.

Large (two lines of text with logo), Just \$25.

Good for fair booths, etc.

Call LPHQ for more info.
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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.

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**Thanks,
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Notch!!!**

Upcoming Events

February 29, 1992:

Alabama LP Convention, State House Inn, 924 Madison Ave., Montgomery; 205-264-6818 for information; 800-552-7099 for reservations. Speakers include Nancy Lord.

March 7-8, 1992:

New Jersey LP Convention; 201-444-2846. Speakers include Nancy Lord.

March 13-15, 1992:

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Carlisle; 215-453-8930. Speakers include Nancy Lord, Bill Winter, and Carole Ann Rand. Also, a special debate on the party name.

March 21, 1992:

LP of Kentucky Convention, Lexington; 606-299-5547.

March 21, 1992:

LP of Georgia Convention, Atlanta; 404-320-1991. Speakers include Nancy Lord, Tibor Machan, and Matthew Glavin.

March 28, 1992:

Delaware LP Convention, Dover; 302-678-8950. Nancy Lord to speak.

March 28, 1992:

Oklahoma LP Convention, Harrison House Hotel, Guthrie; 918-749-4809. Speakers include Nancy Lord.

April 3-5, 1992:

Illinois LP Convention, O'Hare Plaza Hotel, Chicago; 708-475-0391. Andre Marrou, Nancy Lord, Aaron Zelman, and Eric Banfield to speak.

April 4, 1992:

Indiana LP Convention, Adam's Mark Hotel, Indianapolis; 317-583-2658. Speakers include Nancy Lord and Carole Ann Rand.

April 10-12, 1992:

Michigan LP Convention, Briarwood Inn, Ann Arbor; 313-475-9792.

April 11, 1992 (tentative):

New Mexico LP Convention; 505-984-0949.

April 11-12, 1992:

LP NatCom meeting, Ann Arbor, MI; 202-543-1988.

April 24-26, 1992:

Colorado LP Convention, Ft. Collins; 303-484-8184.

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 call 1-800-845-0635; 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 23, 1992:

Hawaii LP Convention, Honolulu; 808-536-0790. Speakers include Nancy Lord.

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, Toledo; 419-353-1813.

June 13, 1992:

Texas LP Convention; 817-536-4131.

June, 1992 (tentative):

Washington State LP Convention; 206-329-5669.

Libertarian National Committee

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