

Libertarian Lifeline



Special points of interest:

- Congressman Ron Paul speaks out on Kosovo
- Mayor Jerry Brown at I.I.
- Library Tax Public Hearing

Inside this issue:

Notes From the Chair	2
The Readers Write	3
Library Tax	4
Did you know that...	4
Dear IRS,	4
Congressman Ron Paul	5
What's the buzz,	7



Fun, Function, Fear and Film at 11!

This years' April 15th Tax Protest was a BLAST! Several people who have attended them in the past said it was; "The best we did yet!" We had many firsts.

This was the first year that we actually signed up a new dues paying member right on the sidewalk. Philip Kriegh approached our group told us that he had recently moved here. He has been voting Libertarian for years and was very pleased that we have an active **Party** in the area. While unable to attend our April meeting do to prior employment obligations he indicated that he wants to get involved. What a great way to meet new friends and help the fight for Liberty. Welcome aboard Phil!

This was also the first time that some-

one filled out the "Request for more info" box on the back of the Million Dollar Bill and gave it right back. We talked for several minutes and he was VERY INTERESTED.

This was the first time that one of our

Libertarian signs actually made it on the 11 o'clock news. I must admit that if you blinked you missed it BUT IT'S A START. Channel 7 sent a cameraman to Oakland but the reporter was in San Jose with an-

other cameraman. They got most of the attention. Oh well, better press next year.

This was the first year that we had someone in costume. I dressed up as "Uncle Sam the TAXMAN" and



Terry and Marion with sign shown on TV.

(Continued on page 6)

I.I. enlightens Mayor Jerry Brown

Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith was a huge hit Tuesday night, bringing his unique insights to the Independent Institute into the ways government managers can shed bureaucracy, eliminate regulations, empower local communities, and cut taxes.

Among those in attendance at this latest

Independent Policy Forum was former California governor and new Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown, who has pledged, since taking office this January, to examine new ways to return power and quality of life to the city's residents.

Upon Goldsmith's departure, Brown

(Continued on page 6)

Notes From The Chair

April was productive and too full of things to do, both personal, work and Party related. I spent a week in Florida for work. What a break that turned out to be as all of the rest of you had to suffer through freezing temperatures and a little snow. Such is the life of the Chair. The rest of the month was real work and better weather.

There is so much on our plate that it is hard to know where to start. I am happy to announce that despite all the work many people have stepped up to start all the various jobs and so we are well on our way to a great year.

Contra Costa County will try again to tax its residents for libraries? As I understand the previous proposals and the newly proposed one, there is no clear picture as to how this tax money will be spent. Do officials want new buildings or books? Do they want more staff? Do they want more stuff such as videos? As usual politicians and socialists making these tax proposals cannot articulate a clear idea of what they want to do with other people's money. Nor do they think that it is necessary to do so. (They make our job so easy.) Greg Lyon, our candidate against Congresswoman Tauscher in the 1996 election, is watching the latest library tax proposal and will keep us informed as it moves through the "public" review process. Several other Contra Costa taxpayers are keeping their ears and eyes open regarding this issue.

We have resources that will get us up to the minute cost analyses of any proposal. The LP is ready and waiting for the bureaucrats' next move to tax us. Keep the info coming you rebels out there in Contra Costa and we will make your job as easy as we can.

We are quietly waiting for the petitions to be printed for the Repeal of Prop. 10 initiative. I un-

derstand from Ned Roscoe that they will be ready about May 1st. You may have one in your hand as you read this. I have a to do list of "How to gather signatures" and will have a page of "wheres, whens and whys" of gathering signatures to go out to all activists around the state as soon as I have the petitions.

This is our issue, not the Republicans' and certainly not the Democrats'. Remember, the rhetoric and the principals of the right to choose belong to the Libertarians. We own the bat, the ball, and the empty lot. It's our game from beginning to end. We know the rules and we know how to play. Now it's up to us and we have to want to win. We need to step up to the plate as quickly and as efficiently as possible. Ned Roscoe has promised to spend money, effort, and time on this issue and I think this is our opportunity as a Party to show business-
man like Ned and John Roscoe that Libertarians can deliver volunteers, effort, and real results. I would love to be there when the LP delivers 100,000 signatures to Ned and John. Let's do it. Tammy Austin in Marin County is asking us to participate in a weekend long series of events in support of smokers' rights. The planning has begun and the dates are set for the middle of August. This is timed perfectly to be near the end of the signature gathering for the Repeal of Prop. 10 initiative efforts. We could be celebrating our successful efforts to gather enough signatures. We will be sponsoring a local event either Friday evening or Sunday daytime. More on this later.

April was busy. The election/initiative season is beginning. We have lots we can do and we can have lots of fun doing it. The more the merrier. See you in the arena.

Marion

LIBERTARIAN LIFELINE

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News and Events Deadline: 15th of the month!

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The Readers Write and The Writer's Right

My thanks to those who sent me letters that have been published in local newspapers. These two came to me within a day of each other and illustrate how Clinton changes enemies as fast as he changes girlfriends. He bombs Iraq in January and Kosovo in April. Who will he bomb in August? Keep writing those letters. He hasn't gotten the message yet!

28 January 1999
West County Times

When will we ever learn?

The more I read the Times editorial of January 26, the angrier I get. You spent many column inches to advise that the U.S. (isn't that us?) remove Saddam Hussein by force by supplementing supposed rebels within Iraq with financial and military support. Specifically, you recommend air strikes.

Didn't "we" just do those? Didn't "we" perform these acts of war without our Congress declaring one? Did it work? Wasn't this just a repeat of earlier military failures to remove Hussein? Why would you want to keep repeating demonstrably failed methods? Why do you want to place the lives of young service men and women in jeopardy doing something which has proved its inability to succeed? I guess it's easy for you and others of your ilk to be belligerent since your lives would not be so jeopardized.

Don't you know that Iraq's neighbors have condemned the latest U.S. action? Don't you realize that more contention just breeds more contention? Don't you realize that what you propose is precisely what those who manufacture armaments would like to see happen? Don't you realize that money spent like that cannot be used to address the many problems we have right here at home?

What's the motive here? Are we truly threatened by Hussein? If the people of his own country do not rise up against him, who are we to tell them what to do? Do we understand why they go on accepting him?

Is it possible that the sanctions we and our allies have put in place have so impoverished them that they will listen to any nut who promises to make them better off? Didn't such actions after World

War I help bring Hitler into power in an impoverished Germany? Didn't the lack of such sanctions after World War II bring decades of peaceful relations with former foes?

When will we ever learn?

Yours for a peaceful solution,
George Amberg

April 9, 1999
Contra Costa and West County Times

No-win situation:

The situation in Kosovo has a historic parallel with what happened in Vietnam. In both wars we needed to face the fact that an either/or strategy was the best solution to the problem.

To stop the genocidal ethnic cleansing of the Serbs, ground forces have to be put into Kosovo in order to stop the atrocities committed by both the regular and paramilitary forces. Air power alone cannot do the job. Therein lies the problem. There is no public support in this country for such a drastic step to be taken. I believe it would be a monumental mistake to get involved in that part of the world.

The people in that region have been slaughtering each other for centuries, and there is no strategic rationale for putting American men and women in a no-win situation.

It would have been better not to have gotten militarily involved in the first place. The Europeans should be taking care of the situation in Kosovo.

Therefore the Libertarian Party principles of using force to defend only the most important American interests would have been the best choice in an admittedly dire situation for the people of the Balkans.

John Alan Victor

SAN DIEGO LP DEFEAT TAX MEASURE

San Diego Libertarians have once again struck a blow for taxpayers by defeating a measure that would have increased the sales tax in that county. Measure L, on the ballot in a special election held 2 March, would have cost the average family of four \$112 per year.

Proponents of the tax called the special election -- which itself cost taxpayers \$1.7 million! -- hoping that low turnout would give them an advantage because average citizens wouldn't bother voting. But thanks to publicity generated by Libertarian activists, enough concerned citizens came out to defeat the tax. The measure would have required 2/3 approval to pass, but got just barely 50%.

This tax was promoted as a way to fund libraries, but San Diego Libertarians helped voters see that this was really just another tax -- and that there are alternative ways to pay for libraries that the politicians were not considering.

Defeat of this tax will save San Diego County residents at least \$423 million.

THEY WANT TO DO IT HERE NOW

Contra Costa Supervisors will be putting a 1/4 percent Sales Tax bill on the next ballot. We are forming coalitions with other tax fighters including Lafayette Taxpayers Association to fight this money grab. The LTA has successfully beaten down this proposal twice in the past. The supporters of the bill are already raising money. We better get started too. The first public hearing will be held at The Elks Lodge 1475 Creekside Dr. Walnut Creek on Thursday May 20 at 7:00 PM. I'll see you there unless you don't mind paying an extra \$112 per year. Q:->

Did you know that ...

Mary Jane Rathbun, the grandmotherly social activist known to many as Brownie Mary, died April 11 at a San Francisco hospital after a long illness at the age of 77. Brownie Mary was the 'Rosa Parks' of the Medical Marijuana Movement. RIP Q:->
(Co. Co. Times)

The mayor of San Francisco is considering a plan to give portable credit card machines to panhandlers so they can accept handouts via the "swipe" of an ATM or credit card -- an idea that's so preposterous it sounds like an April Fool's joke. But it's NOT!
(National LP)

The Libertarian Party is presenting their acclaimed "Success '99" libertarian leadership training workshops in San Jose, May 15-16. Join libertarian communication experts including Advocates President Sharon Harris, Dr. Mary Ruwart, David Bergland, Michael Cloud, Bill Winter, Ron Crickenberger, Steve Dasbach, Jim Lark, Barbara Goushaw, and others. For more details and registration information
<http://www.self-gov.org/success99.html>

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

(Advocates for Self-Government)

The Pentagon, in Arlington, Virginia, has twice as many bathrooms as are necessary. When it was built in the 1940s, the state of Virginia still had segregation laws requiring separate toilet facilities for blacks and whites.

(Advocates for Self-Government)

Dear IRS,

April 15, 1999

Enclosed are my 1998 Tax Return & payment. Please take note of the attached article from the USA Today newspaper. In the article, you will see that the Pentagon is paying \$171.50 for hammers and NASA has paid \$600.00 for a toilet seat. Please find enclosed four toilet seats (value \$2,400) and six hammers (value \$1,029). This brings my total payment to \$3,429.00. Please note the overpayment of \$22.00 and apply it to the "Presidential Election Fund." Might I suggest that you send the above mentioned fund a "1.5 inch screw." (See attached: HUD paid \$22.00 for a 1.5 inch Phillips Head Screw.) It has been a pleasure to pay my tax bill this year, and I look forward to paying it again next year. I just saw an article about the Pentagon and "screwdrivers."

Sincerely,
A. Taxpayer

Congressman Ron Paul on War in Kosovo

On March 29, Congressman Paul (R Texas), former Libertarian Presidential Candidate, issued the following statement:

Burning Bridges: Attacks on Kosovo Unjustified, Shameful

This is not a proud moment for America, as the United States military has been used to invade a sovereign nation that threatened neither our security, nor even the borders of our allies or friends.

Yet, for an Administration enthralled with the notion of a paternalistic government that cares for everyone, everywhere, all the time, President Clinton's actions in Serbia should not be surprising.

Just as this president believes he and his government can best order the lives of each American citizen (he recently said

that Americans shouldn't be given a tax cut because they would not spend the money as wisely as he and his administration would), he is confident that he can solve the problems of the world. His track record suggests

otherwise; despite the fanfare and speeches, there is still violence raging from the Middle East to Ireland - - all great "successes" for this president.

For as bad as the violence is toward the ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, our ability to police and stop all ethnic fighting around the world is quite limited, and the efforts are quite simply not permitted under constitutional law. We do not even pretend to solve the problems of sub-Saharan Africa, Tibet, East Timor, Kurdistan, and many other places around the world where the violence is endless and just as tragic.

Most importantly, though, is the simple fact that meddling in the internal affairs of a nation involved in civil war is quite dangerous. Both sides believe themselves to be correct, and neither side will appreciate the other side receiving assistance.

If anything, our involvement threatens to escalate the situation. No successful military action has ever -- or likely will ever -- involve only air power; ground troops must be involved. While a stealth jet will likely always escape the "primitive" weapons of the Serbs, a bullet aimed at a soldier can be very primitive, yet just as effective as the most modern of firearms.

Some argue the US is needed to stop the spread of war. Our presence will do the opposite. Peaceful and cooperative relations with Russia, a long-desired goal, are now greatly threatened. Our bombings are likely to provoke the Russians into now becoming a much more active ally of Serbia.

Our determination to be involved in the dangerous civil war may well prompt a stronger Greek alliance with their friends in Serbia, further splitting NATO

and offending the Turks, who are naturally inclined to be sympathetic to the Albanian Muslims.

Contrary to his campaign slogan, President Clinton's actions are burning bridges to the 21st Century. The

"...ethnic peace is not achieved by outside forces committing acts of war..."

tragedy is that it will be our soldiers -- our brothers, sisters, sons and daughters -- who are trapped by these senseless actions, and it will be the innocent women and children of Serbia who will bear the brunt of the bombings.

Sympathy and compassion for the suffering and voluntary support for the oppressed is commendable, even honorable. But as history shows, ethnic peace is not achieved by outside forces committing acts of war to pick and choose sides in fighting that dates back hundreds of years.

The use of force and acts of war can only spread the misery and suffering, weaken our defenses, and undermine our national sovereignty.

This is not a proud time for the United States.

-- Congressman Ron Paul

Reprint from Liberator OnLine
Advocates for Self-Government

Mayor Jerry Brown

(Continued from page 1)

was heard asking him **"Do you mind if steal some of your ideas?"**

For more information on the IPF series, go to: <http://www.independent.org/tii/content/events/ipf99.html>

Mayor Brown has also expressed interest in the subject of the next Independent Policy Forum -- educational reform. Titled "What Should Be Done With America's Schools?" (I hope he went. Q:-)>)

The IPF coincides with the kick-off of the Independent School Scholarship Fund, a new program sponsored by the Independent Institute that will offer tuition assistance to low-income students (K-12) in the East Bay counties of Alameda and Contra Costa, California, to attend the non-public school of their choice.

For more information on the ISSF program, contact Independent Institute Development Director Michelle Fernandez at (510) 632-1366, extension 111, or e-mail her at mfernandez@independent.org.

111,111,111 x 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321

(Continued from page 1 Tax Protest)

brought my little terrier mutt, Sam, wearing his American Flag coat. A sign over him said: "I'm Liberty. I used to be a St. Bernard." The next day Katherine McKay E-Mailed me "Scott, everybody liked your costume yesterday. But your dog upstaged you." He always does. He got lots of attention, petting, and smiles.

We gave away Dum-dum suckers with the Million-Dollar bills. Terry Floyd came up with the best and most productive line of the night.

He put a sucker on top of the Million-Dollar Bill and asked people as they handed their return to the Postal Workers, "Do you

"Do you feel like a sucker tonight?"

feel like a sucker tonight?" **Almost everyone said; "YES!"** We passed out 600 suckers and close to 800 Million dollars. (Who said libertarians were stingy? Q;-D>) We ran out right about the time the Press showed up. Damn!

We had a couple of "Honk if you hate taxes" signs and boy did it get noisy. We even had several Police cars hitting the siren and Bart trains over head hitting the air horn! WOW!

We had a good turn out of volunteers for the after work rush but most had to leave early. Our most productive time was from 8 'till midnight. Next year we may start later to let our volunteers eat first.

The "fear" part of this occurred when Terry Floyd was carrying a sign and passing out info near the door to the Post Office. He was accosted by 6 Police

Officers who told him he was trespassing. They made him show his ID and checked for "wants and warrants." They told him it was OK to protest on the sidewalk but not on Postal Property. **They are wrong!** Apparently it was the sign that bothered them most. Terry went back to his car and returned with an article in a recent edition of "LP News" telling how last month the New Jersey LP won a \$12,500.00 judgement from the police for arresting activists at their Tax Protest in 1996. The activists

were also awarded \$25,000 in legal fees. The cops didn't hassle Terry without the sign so he continued to pass out literature in front of the door. It is still scary when the cops

don't know the law!

We weren't alone. A Palestinian group was also passing out literature protesting foreign aid to Israel. 5.5 billion dollars a year. I talked to one who is a Libertarian. He told me that a recent Supreme Court decision allows the Immigration Dept. to deport any foreign national it wants with out any just cause at all. So much for innocent until proven guilty.

In reviewing the News coverage it is apparent that they will film lots of people and like costumes. Behind the San Jose reporter was a guy dressed like a piece of pizza doing cartwheels. The San Jose LP did get a sound bite with a guy wearing an LP tee shirt and flying the American Flag up side down.

He said: "Upside down. It's a symbol of distress!"

Ain't that the truth!

Come to the Party!

May 1999

"The Democrats worst fear is that somebody's making money and the Republicans worst fear is that somebody's having fun. Maybe that is why they don't like us because we like to do both!" Q:-> Bumper Hornberger 1996

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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30	31					

Schedule of Events



Cal Berkeley Liberty Coalition changed its name to the Libertarian Alliance and meets every Thursday at 7:00 P.M. in Cafe Strada (on Bancroft at College). These meetings are our "Roundtable Discussions." Info: www.OCF.Berkeley.EDU/~callib or liberty@ocf.berkeley.edu



May 20 at 7:30 EBLP Regional Meeting at Ricky's Sports Lounge and Restaurant, 15028 Hesperian Blvd, San Leandro info (510) 889-9216



Oak/ Berk LP May 24 at 7:30 the Oakland/Berkeley LP meet at The Albatross Pub 1822 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley info: (510) 655-9019



May 23 at 2:00 Folding Party & Regional Exec Com Meeting, McEwen/Nygren home is at 24828 Canyon View Court, Hayward Info (510) 889-9216



May 15-16. Success '99' libertarian leadership training workshops in San Jose, info: <http://www.self-gov.org/success99.html>



May 20 at 7:00 PM Co.Co. County Library Tax public hearing will be held at The Elks Lodge 1475 Creekside Dr. Walnut Creek on Thursday. info: (510) 889-9216

Bon-Voyage Doug and Audrey Ohmen!

Former Danville Councilman and EBLP Chair Doug, and his wife Audrey, have sold the homestead, bought the RV and are off to see the world. We will miss you. Live Free!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(For those joining the LP as a voting member)

I hereby certify that I do not believe in nor advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving social or political goals.

Signature) _____ Date _____
(Required)

Name) _____

Address _____

City, State & ZIP+4 _____

(Optional)

Phone: _____ FAX: _____

E-Mail: _____

Libertarian Party Of California

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Hayward, CA 94541

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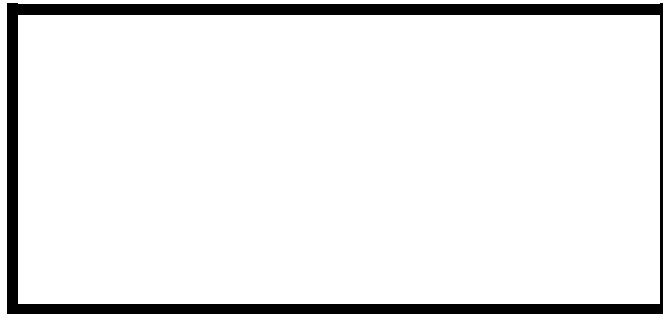
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MAD

I went to a “government school” during the Cold War while the International Nuclear Policy was **MAD!** (Mutually Assured Destruction or “If you shoot yours at me, I’ll shoot mine at you and EVERYBODY DIES!”) I learned to remove sharp objects from my pockets and that when I saw “The Flash” to place my head firmly between my knees and kiss my ass good-bye! I learned to be a passive victim.

In spite of teaching “the baby-boomers” to die, and as crazy (or mad) as it sounds, MAD had one incredibly and undeniable attribute. **IT WORKED!** Nobody shot first.

The Second Amendment was not included to protect “Hunters Rights” but to insure Honest Citizens could defend themselves from tyrants, criminals, and nuts. (i.e. King George, Hitler, Milosevic, Hussein, Manson, Charles Ng, or the Trench Coat Mafia)

Like it or not tyrants, criminals, and nuts will always get weapons be it guns, pipe bombs or Molotov cocktails. The Police, NATO, and The UN can NEVER protect defenseless citizens but can only pick up the pieces and try to punish the perps after the fact. **We** must protect our families, friends, and ourselves. The Kosovo Albanians could defend themselves, if they had a Second Amendment.

The massacre at Columbine High School will unleash a wave of “Gun Control” (which should mean ‘being able to hit your target’ but today means ‘victim disarmament’) legislation. Would the carnage have been so severe, or even taken place, if the teachers had worked in private schools and had the ability to shoot back? It would be stupid to put your money in a bank that advertised that their guardians were unarmed. It’s crazy to put our children in institutions that brag about being defenseless. It is time to rearm honest upstanding adult citizens, including teachers, and teach our children to defend themselves rather than hide under desks to be shot like dogs.

It is time to get **MAD!** Mutually Assured Defense.

Q:-)>