

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle®

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September 2002

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## It's Carole Ann Rand vs U.S. Rep. Bob Barr

*Former Advocates president targets Barr with medical marijuana TV ads*

By Jonathan Trager  
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

**A** Georgia businesswoman and longtime Libertarian activist has agreed to challenge U.S. Rep. Bob Barr for his seat in Congress, creating a "two-pronged attack" intended to help unseat the four-term incumbent.

On July 23, Carole Ann Rand, the chair of the board of directors of the Advocates for Self-Government, announced that she will campaign against Barr to represent Georgia's seventh district in the U.S. House.

Rand will try to cause Barr — widely considered the most fanatical Drug Warrior in Congress — to lose in the Republican primary election on August 20 [after *LP News* went to press] by focusing on the issue of medical marijuana, said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger.

In an unprecedented move for a Libertarian candidate, Rand has already started broadcasting a flurry of pre-primary television advertisements attacking Barr for his stance on medical marijuana. The ads started run-

ning on August 7, about two weeks prior to the election.

Crickenberger, who is also serving as Rand's campaign consultant, said he was "extremely pleased" that Rand agreed to take on Barr.

"We had about a dozen Libertarians volunteer to run against Barr, but Carole Ann was my top choice," he said. "Not only does she have a

long history of libertarian activism, but she is a wonderful communicator of libertarian ideas as well."

Within a week of her announcement, Rand's campaign was covered in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and at CNSNews.com.



■ Carole Ann Rand:  
The party's top choice.

targets the worst Drug Warriors in Congress for defeat. The strategy is one component of the party's plan to end federal Drug Prohibition by 2010.

That's why Rand's signature issue will be medical marijuana, said Crickenberger. A staunch social conservative, Barr opposes decriminalizing marijuana even for patients who

See **RAND** Page 2



■ Florida Libertarians help the LP set a new candidate record. Shown here, handing envelopes containing 3,800 ballot access petitions to Lee County Elections officer Bernie Feliciano, are (l-r): Aaron O'Brien (State Rep. candidate, District 75), Jack Tanner (Chair, Lee County LP), Kim Hawk (State Rep. candidate, District 73), and Tom Clark (State Rep. candidate, District 74).

## Libertarian Party sets new candidate record

**W**hen Americans step into the voting booth this November, they will find a record number of Libertarian candidates on the ballot.

As of mid-August, more than 1,600 Libertarians had announced they will run for office this fall, said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger — setting a new record.

"We're making history," he said. "This is the largest slate of Libertar-



ian candidates ever — even more than we've ever run during a presidential election year."

The previous record was set in 2000, when the party ran about 1,430

candidates at the local, state, and federal level.

The continuing growth in the number of candidates is a sign of the party's maturity, said Crickenberger.

"In many states, Libertarians have made the decision to change from a debating society to a political force," he said. "This [new record] is a sign of that progress."

In addition, more state parties have become convinced of the benefits of running more candidates, said Crickenberger.

### Definite synergy

"We've demonstrated that more candidates mean more media, more activity, more money, electing more libertarians, and more overall votes," he said. "There's a definite synergy from running a lot of candidates."

In other positive news, over 220 Libertarians have announced they will run for the U.S. House, making it "highly likely" that the party will challenge a majority of seats in the 435-member U.S. House for the second time in a row, said Crickenberger.

Despite setting a new record, the party is aiming higher — and still working to reach its overall goal of

See **CANDIDATE** Page 19



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 ★ SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

## A libertarian reflection on 9/11

BY DAVID BOAZ

■ **Editor's note:** September 11, 2002 marks the one-year anniversary of the most deadly terrorist attack in American history. To commemorate this tragic and historic event, we're printing this essay from the Cato Institute's David Boaz. Written in late 2001, it presents a libertarian reminder about the "massive failure" of the federal government to prevent the attacks — and still-relevant suggestions about

the proper role of government in the post-September 11 world.

**P**atriotism is back in America. Sales of American flags are sky high, "God Bless America" leads the hit parade, and politicians are avoiding negative campaigning. For many people this renaissance of patriotism

See **REFLECTION** Page 16



## NEWS BRIEFS

### Tennessee gets first elected Libertarian

**A** Libertarian Party member has been elected to a county commission seat in Wilson County, Tennessee — making her the first elected Libertarian in the state.

Heather Scott, 34, won a spot as the District 22 Wilson County Commission on August 1. She received 99% of the vote, or 424 votes, to win a four-year term on the board.

The current vice chair of the Tennessee LP, Scott defeated five write-in candidates to win the election. Her original opponent in the race died in June, leaving Scott officially unopposed in the non-partisan race.

"I'm really happy about this," she said. "I think Libertarians need to focus on winning local offices, and getting some name recognition so they can win higher offices."

Scott said her primary goal as a new commissioner will be to resist any attempt to raise sales or property taxes to pad the county budget.

Furthermore, she said she will look into ways to fund some government activities with user fees instead of tax revenue.

LP State Chair Ray Ledford said he was excited about Scott's election to the commission, which is composed of 25 commissioners and one executive.

"We decided to start concentrating on getting people elected to local office, so they can get used to us," he said. "It shouldn't be long before you start seeing some Libertarians in the state assembly also."



■ **Heather Scott:**  
"Really happy."

### Winter resigns from LP national office post

**B**ill Winter has stepped down as the Libertarian Party's director of communications to pursue new career challenges.

Winter, who announced his resignation at the March meeting of the Libertarian National Committee, Inc., served his last day in the LP's Washington, DC office on July 31.

His nine-year tenure (1993-2002) made him the longest-serving employee in party history.

"My years with the LP have been exciting, rewarding, frustrating, inspiring, educational, and exhausting," said Winter. "I feel I made a real contribution to the party, but it's time to move on. It's time for me to look for a new professional challenge."

As the head of the LP's internal and external communications, Winter engineered a dramatic increase in the amount of media coverage of the party, redesigned all the party's promotional and outreach material, and upgraded the appearance and size of *LP News*.

LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach said the party owes a debt of gratitude to Winter.

"It is hard for someone who wasn't an LP member back in 1992 to truly appreciate the impact Bill has had on the image and effectiveness of the national LP," he said. "He was a star player on our team. I will especially miss his insight, humor, and wisdom."

Winter will continue to serve as *LP News* editor for at least three months, while the party finds a replacement. He can be reached at: (508) 820-7340 or Editor@hq.LP.org.



■ **Bill Winter:**  
New challenge.

### Big Water's LP mayor cuts property taxes

**I**n January, Libertarian Mayor Willy Marshall of Big Water, Utah kept his first campaign promise when he repealed his \$13,000 annual salary. In June, he kept his second promise: A "significant" property tax cut for local residents.

At a city council meeting on June 18, Marshall presented a budget with a 50% property tax cut, which passed by a vote of 4-0. The rate was reduced from .32% of assessed property value to just .16%.

At the end of the meeting, Marshall quoted Will Rogers, saying, "I'm proud to be a taxpaying American, but I could be just as proud for half the money!"

Marshall said the new budget includes \$150,000 for normal operations and a grant/loan from the state to blacktop the streets. The previous year's budget was about \$206,000.

Prior to the cut, the tax rate for Big Water was nearly the highest in the county. Now it will be the lowest, said Marshall.

"I hope that lower taxes will help attract new businesses and residents to the town," he said. "This proves that Libertarians do what they say when they get elected to office."

And Marshall doesn't plan to stop there. He said he aims to cut taxes again — and possibly try to repeal the property tax entirely before he leaves office.

"I'm not sure whether it will happen, but it's possible," he said.

# Carole Ann Rand's goal: To knock Bob Barr out of the U.S. House

*Continued from Page 1*

have a doctor's prescription.

Furthermore, Barr pushed three amendments through Congress to prevent voters in Washington, DC from approving medical marijuana initiatives. He also has been a vocal cheerleader of federal raids on medical marijuana clinics in states where medical use of the drug has been legalized.

Meanwhile, Rand's professional credentials — including her current position as the chief financial officer for Food Partners, a wholesale food brokerage company — make her an "ideal candidate" to run on the Drug Prohibition issue, said Crickenberger.

"Carole Ann is a professional businesswoman and a person of great integrity and character," he said. "It is impossible to caricature her as a stereotypical dope-smoker."

Rand said she is eager to call attention in her campaign to how "out of touch" Barr is on the medical marijuana issue.

"To arrest and jail people who are just trying to relieve their pain and treat their diseases is the true crime involved in medical marijuana," she said. "We must replace our policy of handcuffs for patients with a policy of compassion and understanding."

#### Hotly contested

Currently, Barr is in a hotly contested primary battle with fellow Republican Congressman John Linder. Both are incumbents, but are facing each other in a GOP primary because of redistricting.

Although Linder previously boasted on his website that the Libertarian Party endorsed him for reelection, Crickenberger said the party has done no such thing.

"Targeting Bob Barr for defeat in no way means the party endorses John Linder," he said. "Obviously, we are endorsing our own candidate in this election."

Crickenberger said there is one potential obstacle to Rand's campaign: Given the onerous ballot access requirements in Georgia, it may be difficult to qualify her for the ballot for the November general election. State law requires about 16,000

## Medical marijuana ad ready to air

**T**he Libertarian Party has finished creating a medical marijuana television ad that will be used in an effort to oust U.S. Rep. Bob Barr (R-GA).

The 30-second ad features a moving testimonial from an elderly medical marijuana patient who suffers from multiple sclerosis. It can be viewed at: [www.randforcongress.com](http://www.randforcongress.com).

"This commercial is a scathing indictment of the most rabid Drug Warrior in Congress," said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger, who helped produce the ad. "It does a good job of putting a human face on the cruel and destructive war on medical marijuana."

The ad opens with a shot of multiple sclerosis sufferer Cheryl Miller laying on a stretcher. An announcer's voice says, "Why does Bob Barr want this woman in jail?"

Miller introduces herself as a medical marijuana user and says, "Bob Barr thinks I should be in jail for using my medicine. Why would you do that to me, Bob?"

The announcer then says, "When the Drug War turns on our own sick and dying, it's just gone too far — and so has Bob Barr."

valid petition signatures from one Congressional district to place a candidate on the ballot.

However, at least three lawsuits have been filed to overturn the law on Constitutional grounds, and to reduce the signature requirement, said Crickenberger. [See related story, page 3.]

But getting Rand's name on the November ballot is not the main concern at this point, said Crickenberger — since Rand can start running TV ads even before her ballot status has been confirmed.

"We aim to hammer Bob Barr with the medical marijuana issue and cause him to lose the primary election [on August 20]," he said. "If Barr loses the primary, whether or not Carole Ann is on the ballot, we will have achieved our main goal."

If Rand does qualify for the ballot and Barr wins his primary, the focus will shift to trying to cause the Congressman to lose the November general election, said Crickenberger — although that will be much more of a long-shot.

"We have two opportunities to retire Barr, and we're prepared to take advantage of both of them," he said. "But the primary is our best chance."

The footage for Rand's first TV

commercial features a medical marijuana patient with multiple sclerosis, said Crickenberger. [See sidebar above.]

Barr is the first politician to be targeted in the LP's so-called Incumbent Killer Strategy. Also targeted for defeat are U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla (R-TX), Senator Max Cleland (D-GA), Senator Tim Hutchinson (R-AR), and Senator Max Baucus (D-MT).

#### Wedge issue

The strategy of focusing on the War on Drugs as a "wedge" issue is one of 20 political strategies incorporated in the LP's comprehensive Strategic Plan, which was approved by the Libertarian National Committee in 2001.

In 1990, Rand became the first woman in Georgia history to run for governor. Her Libertarian campaign won over 37,000 votes, earning the party ballot status at that time.

Rand is also a former president of the Advocates for Self-Government, and a past member of its board of directors. She is married, and has four children and eight grandchildren.

For more information about Carole Ann Rand, medical marijuana, Bob Barr's record, or to make a contribution, visit: [www.randforcongress.com](http://www.randforcongress.com).

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**NATIONAL CHAIR:**  
Geoffrey J. Neale  
12903 Grubstake Gulch  
Austin, TX 78738  
E-mail: [chair@LP.org](mailto:chair@LP.org)



**EDITOR:**  
Bill Winter

**STAFF WRITER:**  
Jonathan Trager

**PUBLISHER:**  
Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

**EDITOR EMERITUS:**  
Karl Hess ♦ 1923-1994

SEND NEWS, LETTERS, ESSAYS,  
PHOTOGRAPHS, OR ADVERTISING:

Bill Winter  
1640 Worcester Road, #330-D  
Framingham, MA 01702  
Phone: (508) 820-7340  
E-mail: [Editor@hq.LP.org](mailto:Editor@hq.LP.org)

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:  
Libertarian Party

2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100  
Washington, DC 20037  
Or call: (202) 333-0008 x 223

**The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."**



# Ed Thompson campaign passes \$270,000 mark in fundraising; hits 25% in poll of state farmers

*The stars are now 'lining up' for his campaign for governor in Wisconsin, says Libertarian hopeful*

The Ed Thompson for governor campaign in Wisconsin passed two significant milestones in July: Reaching the quarter-million dollar mark in fundraising and earning 25% in a new straw poll.

"The stars are lining up," said Thompson about the progress of his campaign. "People everywhere have had enough. They want change."

One example of that hunger for change, he said, is a poll taken by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation on July 9-11, which surveyed 546 farmers in the state.

The survey included Thompson, incumbent Republican Governor Scott McCallum, and each of the four contenders for the Democratic nomination.

Although McCallum received just over 50% in each of the four versions of the survey, Thompson came in second place each time with an average of 25%.

"This poll shows how popular my common-man message is with the hard-working farmers of Wisconsin," said Thompson. "I'm grateful to have such strong support."

According to the Farm Bureau, the poll results indicate that farmers feel a "great amount of frustration and disillusionment" with the current political landscape.

"Many voters know that it's time for a change, and I'm the only one who is offering to really change things," said Thompson, the ex-mayor of Tomah and brother of former

governor Tommy Thompson.

Other statewide polls showed the Libertarian candidate at 11%.

Thompson also announced some favorable fundraising news in July, when a report filed with the State Elections Board showed the campaign had raised more than \$145,000 during the first six months of 2002.

While that was smaller than four of his five Republican and Democratic challengers, it pushed the total amount raised by the Thompson campaign to more than \$270,000.

"We may not have raised as much money as the Republicrats, but the reaction of the people around the state reassures me every day that I will win this race," said Thompson.

Now, the campaign is aiming to win 6% of the vote in the primary election on September 10, which would qualify Thompson for up to \$485,000 in matching campaign funds from the state.

## Passed first hurdle

Thompson has already passed the first matching-funds hurdle — raising more than \$53,000 in contributions of \$100 or less — but must receive over 6% of all the votes cast for all governor candidates in all parties' primaries to qualify.

Reaching that 6% threshold will not be easy, said Thompson, given the state's straight-ticket voting system.

In Wisconsin primary elections, voters can only cast votes for one party's candidates. Since the Demo-



■ Ed Thompson is interviewed on WTMJ — the highest-rated AM talk show in Milwaukee — at the Wisconsin State Fair on August 6. The host, Charlie Sykes, said he plans "to have all gubernatorial candidates on his talk show, but decided to have Ed on first because he is the most interesting," said campaign manager Adam Dick.

cratic and Republican candidates have primary challengers, Thompson said it will be difficult to convince people to vote in an uncontested Libertarian primary.

However, a good primary showing is necessary to secure victory in November, said Thompson.

"It's crucial that I get that 6% so I can get that additional money," he said. "I can win this race with less than a million [dollars], but probably not with less than half a million."

If he qualifies for the money, Thompson said he will use it to run television commercials prior to the general election.

The Thompson campaign also continued to attract media attention, including an interview on *Special Report* with Brit Hume, a prime-time show on the national Fox News network.

## Fox News crew

On July 10, a Fox News television crew interviewed Thompson about his plans to root out political corruption and bring "common-sense government" to the state. A broadcast date had not been set when *LP News* went to press.

"I am getting better and better at speaking on camera," said Thompson.



■ LP gubernatorial candidate Cal Skinner said he is glad the challenge is over. "Now we can start talking about issues," he said.

In June, the Illinois LP had filed over 52,000 signatures for its 2002 slate of candidates — more than double the requirement.

See **ILLINOIS** Page 15

## Wayne R. Parker may make election history in Georgia

Libertarian Wayne R. Parker is poised to make history in Georgia, after filing what should be enough signatures to qualify him as the first third-party candidate for U.S. House to appear on the state ballot in 59 years.

On August 7, just 20 minutes before the noon deadline, Parker submitted 17,558 ballot access signatures to the secretary of state's office in Atlanta.

If at least 9,558 of those signatures are valid, Parker will be the first third-party U.S. House candidate since 1943 to overcome what some have called the "worst" ballot access laws in the country.

"Georgia law has kept competition off the ballot for years, but now we've broken through that barrier," said Parker, who is running in the 11th Congressional District.

A counselor/administrator and

"I'm getting a lot of practice talking with reporters and delivering my small-government message."

That same day, Thompson debated three of the contenders for the Democratic nomination at the annual state Rotary Association Convention in Madison.

The crowd of about 300 people was very receptive to his low-tax message, said Thompson.

"I think I won that debate," he said. "When I said that we have to get Wisconsin off the list of the highest-taxed states, I got a good response."

In July, Thompson also campaigned at the Washington County Fair, held a fundraiser in Mercer, and spoke to the North Shore Milwaukee Rotary Club, among other events.

"I'm crisscrossing the state, bringing my common-man message to the voters," said Thompson. "I really think we're going to win this thing, and finally have a Libertarian governor in America."

Over the past month, Thompson also started earning more respect as a viable challenger from newspapers in Wisconsin:

■ On July 25, John Nichols at the *Capital Times* wrote: "The Libertarian candidate who started as 'Tommy's brother' has become a political phenomenon in his own right. On a drive over the weekend, I saw no signs for any candidate other than Thompson. Voters are so disgusted with politics as usual that a growing number of them are more willing to pick an honest amateur over well-connected professional pols."

See **THOMPSON** Page 15

## In surprise decision, GOP drops Illinois ballot fight

In a surprise development, Republicans have withdrawn their challenge to the validity of petition signatures filed by the Illinois Libertarian Party, clearing the way for the LP's statewide candidates to appear on the 2002 ballot.

On July 29, State Republican Party Chair Gary MacDougal released a written statement acknowledging that the Libertarians had gathered more than enough signatures to qualify their candidates.

"We feel it is in the best interest of all parties that we withdraw our objections," he said.

His statement came after Libertarians announced they had at least 32,000 valid signatures — far more than the 25,000 required to earn a spot on the ballot — with over 15,000 signatures left to review.

As a result, the state Board of Elections ruled 8-0 on July 30 that

the LP's statewide candidates should appear on the November ballot. The board is composed of four Republicans and four Democrats.

The Libertarian candidates approved for the ballot are Cal Skinner for governor; Jim Tobin for lieutenant governor; Matt Beauchamp for state secretary; Rhys Read for state treasurer; Julie Fox for state comptroller; Gary Shilts for attorney general; and Steven Burgauer for U.S. Senate.

## Long overdue

Libertarians said the GOP's announcement was long overdue.

"It's about time the Republicans ended this farce," said Tobin. "If the GOP had done the right thing sooner, we could have spent our resources campaigning instead of defending ourselves against this fraudulent, frivolous challenge!"

**GEORGIA BALLOT**  
"law has kept competition off the ballot for years, but we've broken through that barrier."  
—Wayne R. Parker

resident of Carrollton, Parker said his campaign will shake up the traditional two-party politics of the state.

"Georgia consistently has nearly the lowest voter turnout in the country, and I believe it's because voters are disgusted with status quo politi-

See **GEORGIA** Page 14



## POLITICAL NEWS

### Gaztanaga nomination is first for Maryland

**T**he Maryland LP has nominated Libertarian National Committee member Lorenzo Gaztanaga as the party's lieutenant gubernatorial candidate — making him the first Hispanic-American to run for that office in state history.

At a meeting on July 21 in Rockville, the state LP Central Committee unanimously chose Gaztanaga, 51, to appear on the LP ticket with gubernatorial candidate Spear Lancaster.

"I'm honored by the nomination, and I'm honored that Spear and his team selected me as his running mate," said Gaztanaga.

Gaztanaga, a native of Cuba and a fluent Spanish-speaker, replaces unofficial lieutenant gubernatorial candidate Lauren Hill, who had allowed the party to use her name for the petition drive. State law required the name of a gubernatorial and lieutenant gubernatorial candidate when circulating petitions.

Lancaster, who is working to become the first third-party gubernatorial candidate in Maryland in over 30 years, said Gaztanaga will be an asset to his campaign.

"Lorenzo has a keen sense of knowing what really matters to ordinary voters," he said. "I'm proud to have him as a running mate."

Gaztanaga said his focus will be to complement Lancaster by reaching out to the "vast number" of state residents who do not vote — which he will do by listening to voters and presenting Libertarianism in easy-to-understand terms.

Gaztanaga is the Region 5 Representative to the Libertarian National Committee, Inc., a former Maryland LP State Chair, and the current Chair of the Baltimore City LP.



■ **Lorenzo Gaztanaga: A first**

### Maad Abu-Ghazalah hires Doug Friedline

**A** Libertarian candidate in California has hired the architect of Jesse Ventura's successful Minnesota gubernatorial bid to "turbo-charge" his campaign for Congress.

In late June, Maad Abu-Ghazalah announced he had hired crack political consultant Doug Friedline to direct his campaign.

"I chose Doug specifically because he is one of the most successful third-party campaign managers in the country," said Abu-Ghazalah, who is running for U.S. House (District 12). "The philosophy of third-party campaigns is fundamentally different than running as a Democrat or Republican, so I think he's the best man for the job."

Friedline has already encouraged Abu-Ghazalah to engage in high-profile activities to boost voter interest in the campaign. For example, he proposed a fundraiser concert, a series of comics, tee-shirts, and perhaps even Maad bobble-head dolls, said Abu-Ghazalah.

"Those could be collector items some day," he said.

Abu-Ghazalah faces Democratic incumbent Tom Lantos and Republican challenger Mike Moloney in the election. California's U.S. House District 12 stretches from South San Francisco to San Mateo, and from Daly City to Pacifica, and from Moss Beach to Brisbane.

For more information, or to make a contribution, visit: [www.maad4congress.org](http://www.maad4congress.org). Or write: Maad4Congress, P.O. Box 1219, Pacifica, CA 94044.

### Mass. income tax repeal at 37% in new poll

**A** Libertarian ballot initiative to repeal the income tax in Massachusetts has the support of 37% of the state's registered voters, according to a poll commissioned by the *Boston Herald*.

Another 49% said they opposed the measure; 14% were undecided. The survey of 402 registered voters was taken between July 11-13. It has a margin of error of plus or minus 4.9%.

While the newspaper reported that the poll shows there is "broad opposition" to the proposal, initiative spokesperson Michael Cloud said it shows no such thing.

"Our initiative is polling at 37% despite the media blackout, and without any promotional advertisements running yet, and the *Herald* thinks that's bad news for us?" he said. "They've got to be kidding."

In fact, Cloud said that number is 7% to 12% higher than he anticipated it would be at this point before the election, demonstrating that "a significant portion of the electorate is already receptive to our message." And Cloud said that number will likely rise after the Committee for Small Government — the group spearheading the initiative — begins running advertisements on television.

Titled the Small Government Act, the initiative would end the state's current 5% tax on wages, the 5% tax on interest and dividends, and the up-to-12% tax on capital gains. If passed by voters this November, it will save the average state taxpayer about \$3,000 per year, for an estimated total savings of \$9 billion annually.

For more information, visit: [www.SmallGovernmentAct.org](http://www.SmallGovernmentAct.org).

# Anti-corruption crusader runs for the U.S. House in Colorado

**A** Libertarian military veteran is running for federal office, determined to defeat a Congressman who ignored his charges of "massive fraud" in the nation's missile-defense program.

Biff Baker, a 45-year-old resident of Colorado Springs, Colorado, has mounted a campaign for U.S. House (District 5).

An Army man of 22 years, Baker said his effort is motivated by a desire to expose corruption and "to see that justice is done."

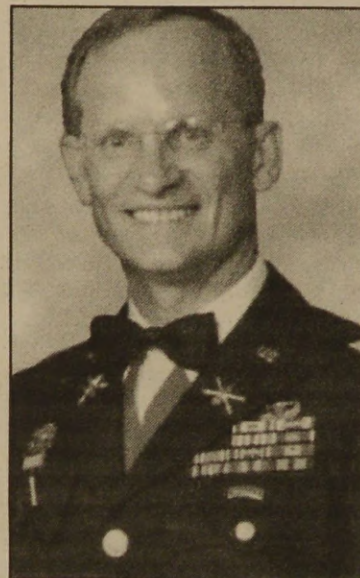
"My goal is to try and bring some honor and justice back to Congress," he said. "I want to see that people who are defrauding taxpayers — and the people who are helping to cover it up — are punished."

Baker's aversion to corruption comes from an experience he had after he retired from the U.S. Army.

#### Missile-defense system

Toward the end of his military career, Baker served as the director of plans for the Army Space Command in Colorado Springs. Army Space Command is one of the main agencies charged with developing a national missile-defense system.

In 2000, Baker retired from the military, and began teaching at Colorado Technical University while pursuing his doctorate degree. In the fall of 2001, he received a job offer from the COLSA Corporation.



■ **U.S. House candidate Biff Baker (shown here during his days in the military): "I want to see that people who are defrauding taxpayers are punished."**

The Alabama-based corporation is a subcontractor for the Department of Defense, charged with monitoring the efficiency of the missile-defense program and overseeing the program's development.

The company wanted Baker to return to Army Space Command to serve as its Colorado Springs inspector of operations. Baker agreed.

"I joined that job because I

thought I could make a difference," he said. "I wanted the best system for the taxpayers."

But soon after joining COLSA, Baker said he became aware of "questionable practices" regarding how contracts were being awarded.

Specifically, Baker discovered that about \$100 million in contracts had been distributed on a sole-source basis, instead of by competitive bidding, as required by law.

#### A single company

Even stranger, all of those contracts went to a single company: SY Technology.

Baker found out that the president of SY Technology was retired three-star General Jay Gamer, a former commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command outside Washington, DC — the agency that awards missile-defense contracts to independent firms.

Retired generals are prohibited from soliciting business from their former commands — a second apparent violation of federal law.

Believing the contracts had been improperly awarded, Baker typed up a report and sent it to Missile Defense Agency headquarters in Washington, DC. He never received a reply.

"I was shocked that I wasn't getting a response," he said. "Just totally shocked."

See **BIFF BAKER** Page 23

# Libertarian Party member gets sentenced in medical pot case

**I**n what legal experts are calling a setback for the drug reform movement, a California Libertarian who operated a medical marijuana distribution center has been convicted of conspiracy and of manufacturing the drug.

On July 11, Bryan James Epis was found guilty by a 12-member jury in a Sacramento federal court after a judge barred the jury from considering a medical-necessity defense.

A life member of the Libertarian Party, the 35-year-old Epis faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison. He was jailed pending his sentencing hearing on August 26 [after *LP News* went to press].

#### Deeply saddened

LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger said he was "deeply saddened" by the conviction.

"This conviction is a terrible miscarriage of justice," he said. "Mr. Epis is an upstanding member of his community, and does not deserve to be

## THIS CONVICTION

*"is a terrible miscarriage of justice."*

*Mr. Epis is an*

*upstanding member of his community."*

**—Ron Crickenberger**

erative, as well as against two other cannabis distribution centers in California.

Epis was subsequently arrested and charged with conspiring to manufacture at least 1,000 plants and manufacturing at least 100 plants within 1,000 feet of Chico Senior High School.

His trial commenced in June after Epis refused a district attorney's offer of four years in prison in return for pleading guilty to growing the 100 plants.

#### Trumped-up charges

"Mr. Epis wanted his day in court, and to be able to face a jury of his peers against these trumped-up charges," said Crickenberger. "His decision was nothing short of heroic."

However, the trial got off to a rocky start when U.S. District Judge Frank C. Damrell, Jr. ruled that Epis may have tampered with the pool of potential jurors.

Several would-be jurors had been

See **MARIJUANA** Page 23

jailed for providing medicine to patients whose doctors recommend it."

Epis, who has electrical engineering and law degrees, had helped finance Chico Medical Marijuana Caregivers after California voters approved Proposition 215 in 1996. Prop. 215 permitted patients with a doctor's prescription to use marijuana for medicinal purposes.

But in 1997, a federal court issued an injunction against his coop-



# 37% of Voters Support Carla Howell's Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax

## Polls Show Rising Support for Libertarian Ballot Initiative

What was the impact of the Boston News Blackout on Carla Howell's Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax?

37% in the polls!

Is this the beginning of massive news coverage of our Libertarian Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax?

For 11 solid months, we endured a Boston News Blackout of our Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax.

We were blacked out, black-listed, and black-balled by the *Boston Globe*, the *Boston Herald*, Associated Press, State House News Service, Boston CBS TV News, ABC TV News, PBS News, WB 56 TV News, and Fox News. (Boston NBC News did 1 story during these 11 months.)

TV Newsrooms refused to take our calls. Newspaper reporters refused to interview us or write articles about us. They refused to come to our News Conferences and Events. Blacked out, black-listed, and black-balled all of our News Releases. For 11 months.

Finally, a ray of light.

The *Boston Herald* commissioned a voter poll in mid-July. Then they published the results.

37% of the voters said they would vote for our Libertarian Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax. 14% were undecided. 49% said they would vote against it.

Why is this great news?

Over 95% of the people polled about our Ballot Initiative had never even heard of it. Yet, 37% already support it.

The 49% against have not been exposed to the benefits and reasons for our Ballot Initiative. Half of them are open to persuasion. The 14% undecided are also very convincible.

With virtually no information, virtually no news coverage, virtually no discussion of the merits of Ending the Income Tax ... 37% already support it.

### Ray of Light Becomes a Spotlight

37% should be worth serious news coverage. But how do we break through the Boston News Blackout?

We called in to Talk Radio Shows and told the Hosts and listeners about the 37% polling numbers.

We relentlessly phoned News Editors and Reporters.

Talk Radio Hosts Howie Carr, Moe Lauzier, and David Brudnoy started the buzz with their Talk Radio audiences.

Finally, one TV reporter decided that 37% was news. Jon Keller, political reporter and gadfly for WB 56 TV, did a half hour interview with Carla Howell. Then he did TV editorials on the importance of the 37% and our Libertarian Ballot Initiative.

New England Cable News did a showcase interview with Carla Howell about the Ballot Initiative.

### Then newspapers picked it up.

Wednesday, August 7th, Front Page, Headline: "Ballot items loom large," said the *Hampshire Gazette*.

Sunday, August 11th, Front Page, Headline: "Debate over income tax repeal grows," screamed the *Eagle-Tribune*.

Monday, August 12th, Front Page, B Section, *Boston Globe* headline: "On November 5th, a \$9 Billion question."

So did Radio and TV.

Tuesday, August 6th, WHYN Radio in Springfield interviewed Carla Howell on the Ballot Initiative and the surprising poll results.

Sunday, August 11th, Boston ABC TV interview. For 8 minutes, Carla Howell made the case for Ending the Income Tax in Massachusetts.

Tuesday, August 13th, WAIC Talk Radio interviewed Carla Howell about the Ballot Initiative.

Wednesday, August 14th, NEAL BOORTZ

welcomed onto his National Talk Radio Show to talk about Ending the Income Tax.

### Keep Spotlight Shining on the Libertarian Party

How much impact is this coverage having?

"This is far and away the most radical tax proposal ever to reach the Massachusetts ballot and would essentially require the dismantling of most of state government," said Michael Widmer, President of Massachusetts Taxpayers' Foundation.

This organization wrote the opposing argument to our Ballot Initiative for the voters guide.

Who's getting credit for this Ballot Initiative?

The Libertarian Party, that's who.

The *Boston Globe*, the *Hampshire Gazette*, WB 56 TV News, and the Boston ABC TV News are calling this "the Libertarian Party initiative."

The opposing statement in the Massachusetts voters guide says, "This proposal, offered by leaders of the Libertarian Party, would abolish the state income tax..."

Our Ballot Initiative advances the Libertarian cause. Ending the Income Tax is a key plank in our Libertarian National Platform.

Our Ballot Initiative promotes the Libertarian Party.

### We must move this forward.

We need to turn up the spotlight. We need to publicize and advertise our message. You can help.

Join us. Be part of this historic Libertarian Ballot Initiative. Please donate today so that we can shine the light of freedom and End the Income Tax.

## 37% Voter Support to End the Income Tax!

SLP902

### HELP MOVE THIS LIBERTARIAN BALLOT INITIATIVE FORWARD

NAME (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

☐ \$2,500

☐ \$750

☐ \$150

I'll pay by:

☐ Discover

☐ \$1,500

☐ \$500

☐ \$85

☐ Check

☐ Visa

☐ \$1,000

☐ \$250

☐ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Mastercard

☐ AmericanExpress

Here's my check made out to: "The Committee for Small Government"

Mail to: Committee for Small Government • 6 Goodman Lane • Wayland, MA 01778 • Massachusetts law requires us to report the name, address, occupation, and employer of each individual whose contributions total \$200 or more. No money orders over \$50. Paid for by the Committee for Small Government, Michael Cloud, Treasurer. Carla Howell, Chair

[www.SmallGovernmentAct.org](http://www.SmallGovernmentAct.org)



## TALKING POINTS

# Spending the tobacco settlement, & anti-terrorism worm collections

### ■ Where do I apply?

One recent study found that of roughly 100,000 "poor performing" federal employees, only 3% lost their jobs. An extraordinary 88% were given pay raises, which proceed on a rigid schedule, unrelated to merit.

— RICH LOWERY

*The Washington Times*  
July 15, 2002

### ■ Funding the Taliban

In [a new report], "Unsavoury Bedfellows: Washington's International Partners in the War on Drugs," Cato Institute Vice President for Defense and Foreign Policy Studies Ted Galen Carpenter argues that the United States has been far too eager to cooperate with dubious regimes around the world in the name of waging war on drugs.

"The most shocking example was Washington's decision in May 2001 to financially reward Afghanistan's infamous Taliban government for its edict ordering a halt to the cultivation of opium poppies," Carpenter writes.

Although the \$43 million given to the Taliban might seem a small amount, the equivalent financial impact on the U.S. economy would be an infusion of \$215 billion, he says. "In other words, the \$43 million was very serious money to Afghanistan's theocratic masters."

— CATO INSTITUTE, August 1, 2002

### ■ No joke

Chances an American believes the government should regulate comedy routines that make light of terrorist attacks: 2 in 5.

— HARPERS, July 2002

### ■ Not so grande tax

Add caffeine to the sin tax list. Seattle mulls slapping a 10-cent levy on its lattes to help fund education. The tax would raise \$7 million to \$10 million a year, backers say.

— JEFF A. TAYLOR

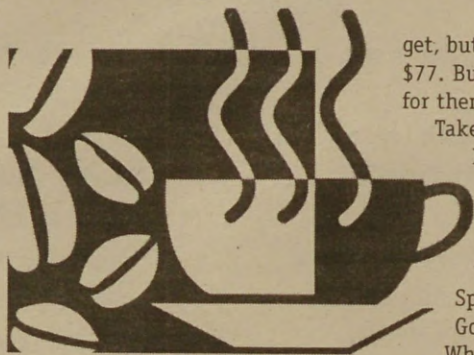
*Reason*, August 2002

### ■ Subsidizing tobacco

When the tobacco companies agreed to pay a \$200 billion settlement to states for medical costs due to smoking, and to help prevent kids from starting, it was a legal victory against "Big Tobacco."

"We need to finish this job and move on with saving children's lives," Christine Gregoire, the Washington State Attorney General, said after the settlement was announced three years ago. "This is not about the money."

Gregoire was not alone in that declaration. At the time, attorneys general from around the nation



**ADD CAFFEINE**  
to the sin tax list.  
**Seattle mulls**  
slapping a 10¢ levy  
on its lattes to help  
fund education.

—Reason

vowed to use the funds to fight teen smoking. But once the settlement money landed in state coffers, that wasn't always the case. While some states have spent the money on programs to fight teen smoking, others went on a spending spree.

The strangest twist: Money that was pledged to keep kids from smoking even went to tobacco farmers.

North Carolina spent \$42 million of the settlement funds to market tobacco and modernize the tobacco curing process.

"That just doesn't make sense," said John Kirkwood, CEO of the American Lung Association. "Why would we want to subsidize tobacco farmers when we are trying to reduce smoking?"

— ABCNEWS.COM, July 22, 2002

### ■ \$8,500 per student

Although lawmakers are frequently criticized for not spending enough on public education, recently published statistics from the U.S. Department of Education reveal that in 2001-02, American taxpayers spent over \$8,500 in revenues per student to public schools for the education of 47.6 million students — a grand total of \$405.8 billion. In the five years since 1997-98, revenues per student have increased by more than a fifth (20.6%).

— GEORGE A. CLOWES

*School Reform News*  
August 2002

### ■ Plunder Road

Tickets to Bruce Springsteen's tour are pretty hot stuff. They're hard to

get, but they're not too expensive at \$77. But not everyone wants to pay for them.

Take, for example, former Vice President Al Gore and his lovely wife, Tipper. Sources close to them and to Springsteen tell me Tipper tried to get free tickets to the Springsteen show for the entire Gore staff.

When that didn't work, and she was told even paid admission would be hard to come by, the ex-second lady persisted. "They wound up being offered four," says my source. "But when they were asked to pay \$75 apiece, they said forget it."

— ROGER FRIEDMAN

*FoxNews.com*, August 8, 2002

### ■ Disarming GI Joe

The BBC reports that a British woman was stopped at Los Angeles International Airport when she tried to carry a GI Joe doll with a two-inch plastic gun onto a flight.

"Security examined the toy as if it was going to shoot them and looked at the rifle," Judy Powell recounts. The guards made her discard the "rifle" and put the doll in her checked baggage.

"We have instructions to confiscate anything that looks like a weapon or a replica," an LAX spokesman tells the BBC. "If GI Joe was carrying a replica then it had to be taken from him."

— OPINIONJOURNAL.COM

August 5, 2002

### ■ National service?

Will the hypnotic beat of war drums enable Uncle Sam to rope-in more Americans for the cause of "national service"?

Politicians usually talk about military conscription during times of heightened international tension, but today many in Washington are (also) talking about beefing up domestic "national service."

Senators Evan Bayh (D-IN) and John McCain (R-AZ), for example, propose that AmeriCorps — the federally funded "volunteer" program begun by President Clinton — be increased from its current 50,000 "paid volunteers" to 250,000 by 2010.

Would enlarging AmeriCorps be a good thing? Not according to Independent Institute senior research fellow Robert Higgs, who characterized AmeriCorps as a "make-work" program.

"The federal government should not be in the make-work business to begin with," [said] Higgs. "Then there is the further problem that these programs are all financed with taxpayer money."

[Another problem is that

AmeriCorps steers] "tax money in a direction for programs favored by so-called progressives."

Such politicized uses for AmeriCorps are a matter of historical record. In 1994, AmeriCorps organized 40 groups to rally against a "three strikes and you're out" provision in a pending federal crime bill.

— THE LIGHTHOUSE

August 5, 2002

### ■ War on worms?

The president asked for \$27.1 billion [for a "War on Terror" supplemental spending bill], but the House padded it to nearly \$29 billion and the Senate porked it up even more to \$31.5 billion. The bill includes funding for such urgent anti-terror priorities as \$2 million for the Smithsonian worm collection.

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

July 15, 2002

### ■ Patriotic opposition

Opposition to the Patriot Act legislation, passed by Congress and signed by the President last year, is growing. Americans are beginning to understand that many precious liberties have been put in jeopardy by the government's rush to enact new laws in the wake of September 11th.

Federal law enforcement agencies now have broad authority to conduct secret, warrantless searches of homes; monitor phone and Internet activity; access financial records; and undertake large-scale tracking of American citizens through huge databases.

We're told this is necessary to fight the unending war on terror, but in truth the federal government has been seeking these powers for years. September 11th simply provided an excuse to accelerate the process and convince all of us to relinquish more of our privacy to the government.

— U.S. REP. RON PAUL

*Texas Straight Talk*  
July 22, 2002

### ■ Dangerous taxes

A new report from the Federation of Tax Administrators shows that 17 states have raised their cigarette tax rates so far this year. These increases will exacerbate an already serious

interstate-smuggling problem, which has been linked to terrorist activity.

The highest state tax rate is now \$1.50 per pack in both New York and New Jersey. However, New York City imposes an additional tax of \$1.50, for a total tax of \$3.00 per pack there.

For some years, police have warned that organized crime was moving heavily into the cigarette-smuggling business. There is also evidence that terrorists are engaging in cigarette smuggling to finance their operations. Just last month, a member of the militant Islamic group Hezbollah was convicted of running a multi-million dollar smuggling operation out of North Carolina.

As much as politicians and anti-smoking zealots hate to admit it, there are limits to how much states can tax tobacco. At some point, they may have to admit that the spillover consequences of high cigarette taxes might be worse than the effects of smoking.

— BRUCE BARTLETT

*The Washington Times*  
July 22, 2002

### ■ Support still strong

Amid the downturn in the stock markets and corporate accounting scandals, 68% of Americans continue to support allowing workers to invest a portion of their Social Security taxes in personal retirement accounts, a new Cato Institute poll of likely voters has found.

The national survey's findings were particularly revealing as the poll was conducted during an especially volatile week when the Dow experienced a drop of almost 700 points.

The results of the poll, conducted by Zogby International, reveal that Americans would back changes to the Social Security system to permit investment in individual accounts by a margin of greater than 2-1. Further, the support cuts across all demographic and ideological lines.

Younger people (83%) overwhelmingly supported individual accounts, while a clear majority of union workers and Democrats (64% and 56% respectively) felt the same way.

— THE CATO INSTITUTE

July 23, 2002

**"All government, of course, is against liberty."**

— H.L. MENCKEN



And all Libertarians, of course, are for liberty. That's why we understand that our nation's constant challenge is to limit government to only its most essential role — to minimize its threat to our liberty (and to our children's liberty). It's a challenge that will continue beyond our lifetimes, which is why you should consider naming the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy. To have a private discussion about this option, call National LP Treasurer Deryl Martin at (931) 858-0915. E-mail him at: dnc@multiapro.com.



# Finally! A Real Chance to End the War on Drugs



**M**ichael Cloud is the first Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate to ever be in a 2-way race.

His opponent is a zealous Drug Warrior. Three-term Democratic U.S. Senator John Kerry.

John Kerry's not just a candidate for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts. He's already mobilizing a campaign for President of the United States in 2004.

Senator John Kerry is high profile. The *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, and *USA Today* are touting his presidential prospects.

This gives us a huge opportunity to spotlight and debate Drug Prohibition and the War on Drugs.

## John Kerry, Drug Warrior

John Kerry legislated Federal Mandatory Minimums for Drug Offenses. Murderers spend an average of 7 years in prison. Drug offenders? Over 10 years.

Asset forfeiture? U.S. Senator John Kerry voted it into law. The DEA can thank John Kerry every time they confiscate a car, a home, or cash... without even the "inconvenience" of having to prove guilt in a court of law.

U.S. Senator John Kerry is responsible for locking up 1,000,000 non-violent drug convicts in Federal Prison. With Mandatory Minimums.

Murderers, rapists, and child molesters get plea bargains and early releases, while John Kerry's Mandatory Minimum Laws keep 1,000,000 peaceful drug offenders behind bars. 10 years to life.

John Kerry and Ted Kennedy sponsored and passed a \$1.4 Billion military aid package to Columbia — to fight the Drug War. Remember the missionaries who were killed when their plane was shot down in South America? U.S. Senator John Kerry supplied the bullets.

500,000 Americans die painful deaths each year from cancer and AIDS. Medical Marijuana could ease their suffering and even save lives.

U.S. Senator John Kerry refuses to sponsor or vote for legislation that would allow states to legalize Medical Marijuana.

John Kerry is a Drug Warrior. A militant hawk in the No-Win, Morally Wrong War on Drugs.

But you won't read about John Kerry's Drug War record in the *Boston Globe* or *Boston Herald*. Nor see it reported on *Boston ABC*, *CBS*, or *NBC News*. Why?

## "Don't Ask, Don't Tell... about John Kerry's Drug War Record"

1,200,000 people read the *Boston Globe* every week day.

873,000 people read the *Boston Herald* every week day.

Neither the News Reporters nor Editorial Writers for the *Globe* or *Herald* tell their readers about John Kerry's Drug War record.

Neither the *Boston Globe* nor the *Boston Herald* report on John Kerry's U.S. Senate votes for Mandatory Minimums, Asset Forfeiture, and locking up 1,000,000 non-violent drug offenders. Nor his sponsoring and passage of a \$1.4 Billion military aid package to Columbia to fight the Drug War. Nor his blocking of state choice on Medical Marijuana.

## Why?

The *Boston Globe* doesn't report U.S. Senator John Kerry's Drug War voting record because it would shatter his image as a likable and tolerant Massachusetts liberal. It would rip apart his carefully crafted consensus. It would divide the Massachusetts Democratic Party.

The *Boston Herald* doesn't report U.S.

Senator John Kerry's Drug War voting record because they like the way he votes.

That's why both the *Globe* and the *Herald* have a policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell... about John Kerry's Drug War record." The *Boston ABC*, *CBS*, and *NBC News* follow their lead. So do the rest of Massachusetts' newspapers.

The solution? End the silence. Tell the truth about Drug Prohibition and the War on Drugs. Tell the truth about John Kerry's Drug War record. Tell the truth about Michael Cloud's Libertarian proposal to immediately End Drug Prohibition and the War on Drugs.

Tell the truth to the 1,200,000 readers of the *Boston Globe*. Tell the truth to the 873,000 readers of the *Boston Herald*.

How?

Run full-page ads in the *Boston Globe* and the *Boston Herald* that will stir up a storm center of controversy.

Full-page ads in the *Boston Globe* and the *Boston Herald* designed to shatter the silence and launch a debate about the War on Drugs.

## Help End the War on Drugs

We need \$31,878 for a full-page ad in the *Boston Globe*. To directly reach 1,200,000 readers.

We need \$19,250 for a full-page ad in the *Boston Herald*. To directly reach 873,000 readers.

\$1,000 will reach 40,545 readers.

\$500 will reach 20,273 readers.

\$150 will reach 6,082 readers.

Whether you donate \$250 or \$85 or \$65, your donation today could help launch the End of the War on Drugs. We must act quickly. Please donate now.

**Personal Responsibility Sets Us Free**  
**Michael Cloud**  
**Libertarian for U.S. Senate**

You may donate up to \$2,000; \$1,000 for primary and \$1,000 for General Election



☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250  
☐ \$150 ☐ \$85 ☐ Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_  
I'll pay by: ☐ Check ☐ Mastercard  
☐ Discover ☐ Visa ☐ AmEx

MCLP902

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Donate to:** Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate • 131 Bridge Street • Salem, MA 01970 • Note: Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, plus occupation and employer for each individual whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year. Not tax deductible. No corporate checks. Paid for by Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate, William Pacheco, Treasurer.



## AFFILIATE NEWS

# A cluster of kindred campaigners, Chinese names, & campaign laws

### ■ ALABAMA

#### LP trucker candidate profiled in magazines

He may have already been profiled in two national magazines, but LP lieutenant gubernatorial candidate **Lyn Curtis Adams** plans to keep on truckin' — both professionally and politically.

In August, Adams, a Montgomery truck driver for the past 10 years, was profiled in *Overdrive* and *Truckers News* magazines. Both magazines are distributed by Randall Publishing, and *Truckers News* is the official publication of the National Association of Truck Stop Operators.

"I thought it was great that they acknowledged that I was running, and would actually print it," said Adams. "I hope a lot of truckers get to read the article, because I think they would really like the Libertarian message."

The article, which was printed in both publications, notes that Adams delivers alcoholic beverage products to Alabama's Alcoholic Beverage Control stores.

The article also notes that the Libertarian candidate wants to crack down on violent crime, and institute alternative sentencing for non-violent offenders.

### ■ ALASKA

#### State party supports instant-runoff measure

The state LP has joined an organization that supports an initiative to implement Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) in the state — a measure that Libertarians hope will boost party electoral success.

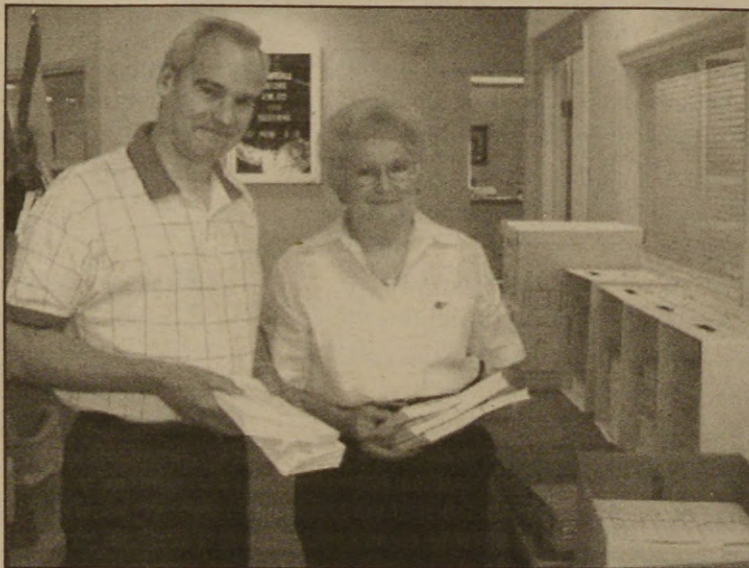
If passed, LP State Chair **Gordon Gottlieb** said the IRV initiative may help eliminate the "dreaded spoiler concern."

"This 'spoiler' issue causes so many voters, who are otherwise supportive of Libertarians, to vote for the lesser of two evils' candidate," he said. "With IRV, the true level of support for Libertarian candidates and ideas will become known."

Alaska voters will vote on the initiative in a primary election on August 27 [after *LP News* went to press]. The measure would adopt IRV for all state and federal offices except governor, which is exempted for constitutional reasons.

For more information, visit: [www.AlaskansforVotersRights.com](http://www.AlaskansforVotersRights.com).

Delegates to the 2002 national LP convention added a plank supporting proportional representation and instant run-off voting to the party platform.



#### Florida LP turns in record candidate slate

■ **Mike Meroney** of the Duval County Libertarian Party in Florida turns in over 5,900 candidate petition signatures to **Frankie Knight**, the Duval County Supervisor of Elections.

Around the state, the Florida LP is running 88 candidates — the largest third-party slate in Florida since the 1920s, said *Florida Liberty* editor **Julie Gilson**.

"For the first time in Florida, we are giving voters a Libertarian choice, [since] at least 60 districts would have gone uncontested, having only one Republican or Democratic candidate running for that district," she said.

The Florida LP's effort, called Operation Full Slate, recruited 85 candidates for State House, said Gilson.

"Even before November's election, the campaign is a huge success due to the overwhelming news publicity we are getting," she said. "News reporters are actually calling us to write stories."

### ■ CALIFORNIA

#### LP candidate victorious in Chinese name debate

A San Francisco Libertarian has achieved an unusual victory: Convincing the state Department of Elections (DOE) to change its policy governing how American names are translated into Chinese.

In early August, the DOE announced that it would allow **Mike Denny** to use his proper Chinese name on the ballot, instead of a phonetically transliterated version of his English name.

"The DOE finally made a good decision," said Denny. "[But] the battle wasn't won without a fight. That's why private citizens must get involved in the process."

The name fracas started on August 12, when Denny filed papers to run for California assembly (District 12). Since the area has a large Chinese population, Denny asked that the proper Chinese translation of his name — one he uses at his other home in Taiwan — be printed on the ballot.

However, Denny was told the name made him "seem Chinese" and might

confuse Chinese voters. In response, Denny argued that the DOE-approved phonetic version of his English name was nonsensical and "and would never be used by a Chinese person."

After Denny threatened to sue the DOE, the bureaucrats backed down, and announced the Chinese name policy for ballot translations would be repealed.

### ■ COLORADO

#### LP blasts legislators for 51 special session bills

Libertarians have chided state legislators for introducing 51 bills during a special legislative session — most of which allow greater government involvement in citizen affairs.

"These legislators think that they can use the power of government to solve everybody's problems, when in fact all they do is add to those problems," said LP State Chair **John Berntson**. "It's all useless rhetoric and more government intrusion where it's not needed."

Furthermore, the last regular legislative session produced an additional 877 bills that will increase the scope of government even more,

charged Berntson.

But instead of making government bigger, Berntson said legislators should be taking steps like removing government from the state forest industry to improve forest management, passing a concealed-carry law to increase citizen safety, and legalizing marijuana to free non-violent prisoners.

"You don't treat an illness by giving the patient even more of the illness," he said. "You purge the illness from the system."

### ■ FLORIDA

#### Libertarian participates in Elections Task Force

Duval County LP Chair **Doug Klippel** has participated in an Elections Task Force — a testament to the growing respect of the local chapter, he said.

"I was proud that the LP was invited to 'have a seat at the table' with the other parties," said Klippel. "It underscores the gains in credibility that the LP has made [in Duval County]."

Commissioned by Jacksonville Mayor John Delaney, the task force met on June 26 at City Hall to compile a report of recommendations to improve the state's notoriously flawed balloting system. The report will be presented to the mayor and the Florida Department of State.

Republican and Democratic Party representatives, Supervisor of Elections officers, representatives from the *Florida Times-Union*, and a number of local civic and business leaders also participated in the conference.

Two of Klippel's recommendations were that the Duval County Libertarians should be included in all future election law-related events, and that Libertarians should be solicited to help monitor polling places.

### ■ GEORGIA

#### LP candidate pledges corporate prosecutions

LP gubernatorial candidate **Garrett Michael Hayes** has pledged that he will prosecute corporate executives for committing accounting fraud against state investors if he is elected this November.

On July 12, Hayes announced that his first official action as governor would be to meet with the state attorney general to plan indictments against some executives at WorldCom and Enron.

"Individuals like Ken Lay of Enron and Bernard Ebbers at WorldCom have stolen from Georgians, and there's no reason Georgia can't proceed against them," he said. "And any other book-cooking swindlers better pay attention!"

However, Hayes said that new laws and bureaucracy aren't necessary in order to counter corporate crime.

"We already have laws against theft by deception, and these pirates broke those laws hundreds of times over peddling their lies to investors here in Georgia," he said.

For more information about the Hayes for governor campaign, visit: [www.hayesforgovernor.com](http://www.hayesforgovernor.com).

### ■ NEW JERSEY

#### Libertarians speak out against land seizures

Two Monmouth County Libertarians have spoken out against a government plan to seize the homes of several Long Branch families — criticizing the scheme as an unconstitutional infringement on private property rights.

The Long Branch School Board has asked the New Jersey government to buy — or seize if families decline to sell — a dozen properties to build additional school athletic fields, according to county freeholder candidates **Joe Conklin** and **Jennifer Carter**.

"But there are always alternatives," said Conklin, noting that there are town-owned fields around Long Branch that are not being used. "Taking away a family's home should not be an option."

Furthermore, Conklin said the proposed land acquisition may violate the New Jersey Constitution, which states that land may be seized only "for any public highway, parkway, airport, place, or improvement."

"The state has an obligation to protect everyone's home and property, not take it away for illegitimate purposes," he said.

### ■ NORTH CAROLINA

#### Kindred campaigners show LP 'family values'

For Libertarians in the Tarheel state, running for office is a family affair — with at least 10 sets of relatives appearing on the November ballot.

"[Our candidate slate] gives a whole new meaning to the term 'family values,'" said LP State Chair **Barbara Howe**. "It also shows that Libertarians value democracy and giving people a real choice in the polling booth."

Married candidates running under the Libertarian Party banner include **Barbara Howe** and **Tom Howe**; **Carey Head** and **Heather Head**; **Eric Preston Medlock** and **Jennifer Schulz Medlock**; **Laurin Macour** and

## Online Resources for LP Members

■ Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party or your State Chair  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Organization  
Click on: State Parties  
Click on: [Your state]

■ Find contact info for the National Committee  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Organization  
Click on: National Committee  
Click on: LNC Directory

■ Renew your membership  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
See: Special Features (left side)  
Click on: LP Members



Terry Mancour; Mike Owen and Rachel Mills; and Frederick Blackburn and Renee Montague.

Parent/child candidates include Tom Bailey, daughter Jessamyn, and son Zachariah; Roy Halliday, son Matthew, and son Jesse; and Pete Camp and son Jason. Brothers Mike and Chris Ruff round out the LP roster of relatives.

The cluster of kindred campaigners includes candidates for U.S. House, state legislature, county commission, county sheriff, and soil and water district boards.

## ■ PENNSYLVANIA

### Ken Krawchuk agrees to TV debate opportunity

LP gubernatorial candidate Ken Krawchuk has accepted an offer from Republican candidate Mike Fisher to participate in seven televised debates this fall.

Fisher, who serves as the state attorney general, sent a letter about the debates to Democratic candidate Ed Rendell on July 1. In that letter, Fisher proposed holding debates in each of Pennsylvania's six media markets and in the Lehigh Valley.

Fisher also wrote, "In addition, I would ask that the third party candidates for Governor and Lt. Governor be included once they have qualified on the ballot in August."

Krawchuk said Fisher should be commended for his proactive approach toward debating all candidates for the office.

"I'd be honored to join Mr. Fisher in as many debates as possible," he said. "I'm looking forward to being part of the true democratic process."

For more information about the Krawchuk for governor campaign, visit: [www.kenk.org](http://www.kenk.org).

## ■ TENNESSEE

### LNC treasurer accepts TVA debt-reduction post

Libertarian National Committee Treasurer Deryl Martin has been hired to tackle an unorthodox task for a Libertarian: Helping a quasi-governmental entity reduce its debt.

Martin, a professor of finance at Tennessee Technological University, was hired by the Tennessee Valley Authority in July to help "make the cost of electricity as low as possible so that all ratepayers benefit."

"I am thrilled to be a consultant to the TVA and its ratepayers," said Martin.

Among Martin's challenges will be reducing the debt burden for the \$6.3 billion government-owned corporation, identifying new capital sources, and helping to develop price forecasting models.

What does Martin say to Libertarians who argue that electricity should be supplied by private companies?

"I'm a realist," he said. "To me, not taking advantage of such an op-



### DuPage County Libertarians advertise candidates at July 4th parade in Wheaton, Illinois

■ Chandler Hadraba, Libertarian candidate for state representative (48th District) in Illinois, hands out "Million Dollar Bills" at the July 4th parade in Wheaton.

Accompanying Hadraba are other DuPage County Libertarians in a vintage 1974 Volkswagen Thing, which sports promotional LP signs and a listing of all the Libertarian Party candidates for state representative in the county.

"Our county club organized 20 volunteers along with a car to appear in two 4th of July parades," said Hadraba. "The first was in Wheaton. The Wheaton parade is the largest 4th parade in the entire state of Illinois — yes, even larger than Chicago! — with over 60,000 spectators. The second parade was in Glen Ellyn."

Also marching with Hadraba was fellow state representative candidate Steve Dubovik (95th District).

portunity would be analogous to refusing to run for office because, if elected, you'd be an 'insider.'"

## ■ TEXAS

### Polk County Libertarians protest closure of casino

Polk County Libertarians have protested a federal court ruling that ordered a local Indian casino to close its doors — denouncing the ruling as a blow to the local economy and freedom of association.

During the July 24 rally at the Livingston Courthouse grounds, participants held up signs and distributed about 50 flyers to passersby, said Polk County LP Chair Kris Overstreet.

"The majority of people in Polk County want this casino to stay," he said. "Losing the casino means 300 people out of work at the casino."

The event garnered coverage from two television news stations, a radio station, and the student newspaper at the University of Texas.

"Government [officials] need to learn that they are not the babysitter for the people," he said. "Grown men and women should be free to be as frivolous or as frugal as they wish — not bound to the moral codes of a political elite."

Unless overturned, the ruling will force the Alabama and Coushatta

Tribes to close their casino to conform with Texas anti-gambling laws.

## ■ TEXAS

### Candidate Jeff Daiell stops commercial crime

Many candidates for governor talk about fighting crime — but on June 8, LP gubernatorial candidate Jeff Daiell actually stopped a minor commercial crime.

On that day, the 50-year-old Daiell was working in a Houston bookstore when a customer attempted to buy a book-and-cassette combination (value: \$70 to \$80) with a check.

Remembering that the man had victimized the store before with bogus checks — and matching his description to a posted notice — Daiell summoned the store manager, who declined the check.

"This proves that individual Libertarians — individuals of any sort, actually — can play a role in preventing crime," he said. "In this case, it didn't require courage, just being alert to the notice that had been posted about this crook."

"Libertarians favor a crackdown on crimes of violence, theft, and fraud. It felt good to prevent one!"

For more information about the Jeff Daiell campaign, visit: [www.JeffDaiell.LPcandidate.com](http://www.JeffDaiell.LPcandidate.com).

## ■ VERMONT

### Gubernatorial candidate: Downsize VT government

Citing an expected \$39 million shortfall in state revenues, LP gubernatorial candidate Joel Williams has called on Democratic Governor Howard Dean to downsize state government.

On July 12, Williams charged that the governor and the legislature had "shirked the responsibility of living within their means," and demanded cuts to government programs and staff.

"The size and scope of our state bureaucracy mushroomed during the 1990s," he said. "Now with the economy in recession and Vermont companies laying off employees en masse, it's time for state government to pull back on the reins."

"When I am elected governor, I will propose dramatic cuts to bring about lean government."

Williams is a former two-time gubernatorial candidate of the Vermont Grassroots Party. He resigned from that party in 2001, and joined the LP shortly thereafter because, he said, of the Libertarian commitment to protecting all individual rights.

For more information about the Joel Williams for governor campaign, visit: [www.williams2002.org](http://www.williams2002.org).

## ■ VERMONT

### State LP blasts court ruling on campaign law

Libertarians have blasted a federal appeals court ruling that upholds campaign finance restrictions for

state candidates — calling the ruling "a setback for free speech."

On August 7, the court ruled 2-1 that the state can set limits on the amount of money used to finance private political campaigns for state candidates. The ruling overturned a lower court decision that held such restrictions were unconstitutional.

"The provisions of the law that limit the amount of money a candidate may spend in an election, and the amount an individual may donate, are blatant limits on our right to free speech," charged LP State Chair Brendan Kinney.

In addition, "the right to free speech doesn't only ensure the freedom of the media, but ensures the freedom of political speech as well," he said.

"Whether through the media or in the form of a campaign, speech cannot be limited by the government."

However, Kinney said he is confident that the U.S. Supreme Court will eventually overturn the decision.

"With principle and precedent on our side, we believe that the campaign finance law provisions in question will finally be eliminated, and the right to free speech will be upheld," he said.

### When do Human Beings Begin? "Scientific" Myths and Scientific Facts

Read it on <http://www.L4L.org> or send \$3.00 to Libertarians for Life  
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Wheaton, MD 20906 - (301) 460-4141  
[libertarian@erols.com](mailto:libertarian@erols.com)

## Miss Liberty's Guide to Film and Video

The definitive guide to Libertarian film. A great gift!

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## THE ISSUES

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Each month, "The Issues" will highlight several recent Libertarian Party press releases. To get the complete text of all press releases issued by the LP, send a message to "announce-request@lp.org" with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

### Iraqi invasion plan lacks any valid reason

**P**resident Bush's unfolding plan to invade Iraq is totally unjustified, Libertarians say, because that nation poses no direct threat to the United States.

"Before the president risks the life of even one American soldier, he needs a reason, not an excuse," said Steve Dasbach, Libertarian Party executive director. "Unless the United States is at risk of an Iraqi military attack, Bush's proposal to invade that nation should be denounced for what it is: reckless foreign interventionism."

Yet a full-blown war against Iraq appears inevitable, according to administration sources, after reports in early August that all of Bush's top national security advisors agree on the need to topple the Iraqi dictator. The most likely scenario involves using 200,000 U.S. troops to invade Iraq as early as the winter of 2003.

But one crucial fact has been ignored, Libertarians say: Saddam has not committed an act of aggression against the United States.

"Wars that are not defensive are acts of aggression against sovereign nations," said Dasbach. "And wars that are launched by presidents, rather than formally declared by Congress as the Constitution requires, are illegal."

Moreover, while the U.S. government has made vague claims that the Iraqi regime has terrorist links, it has produced no public evidence specifically linking Saddam to the September 11 attacks, noted Dasbach.

"Since Bush has no legitimate reason for waging war on Iraq, he has cobbled together a list of accusations — none of which provide sufficient justification for invading a sovereign nation," he said.

### Fast-food obesity lawsuit is a real whopper

**A** lawsuit filed by an obese New Yorker against several popular fast-food chains should be immediately dismissed, Libertarians say, because individuals — and not restaurants like Burger King — are responsible for what they eat.

"Claiming you don't know that fatty food is bad for you — now that's a real whopper!" said Steve Dasbach. "This man and his lawyer should be rebuked for filing this preposterous suit — then forced to reimburse the targeted companies for any legal expenses."

Caesar Barber, a 5-foot-10-inch, 272-pound maintenance worker, filed a suit in Bronx Supreme Court last week that accuses McDonald's, Burger King, Wendy's and KFC Corp. of false advertising because they "misled" him about the nutritional value of their food. Barber says he has been eating fast food "four or five times a week" since the 1950s, and blames that for his high blood pressure and heart attacks.

The lawsuit seeks monetary damages and also aims to force the fast-food industry to offer "greater variety" to consumers, including vegetarian meals. Supporters also hope to spur legislation requiring warning labels on fast food similar to those on tobacco products.

"This lawsuit isn't just an attack on Burger King and McDonald's; it's an attack on the very notion of personal responsibility, without which a free society can't function," said Dasbach.

### Privatizing Social Security still makes sense

**T**he government should immediately move to privatize Social Security despite the recent turbulence in the stock market, Libertarians say.

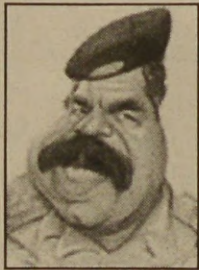
"Memo to politicians: The markets go up and the markets go down, but your Social Security program is going in only one direction — down," said Steve Dasbach.

One side effect of the recent dramatic decline in the stock market, political analysts predict, may be a reluctance by politicians to address Social Security privatization. With millions of Americans concerned about their retirement savings, key Republicans are urging President Bush to postpone debate on privatization.

But the real danger is that politicians will exploit Americans' anxiety in order to torpedo Social Security privatization, said Dasbach.

"Even with its ups and downs, the stock market pays long-term investors five times as much money as Social Security," he said. "The average annual return on money paid into the Social Security system is a paltry 1.5%, and for some younger Americans the returns could actually be negative, according to Social Security expert Peter Ferrara."

"Even including the 1929 stock market crash, the Depression of the '30s, the bear market of the '70s, the recessions of the '80s, and the corporate scandals of 2002, the stock market is still a far better investment than Social Security."



# San Diego Libertarian wins 'dueling propositions' lawsuit

**A** San Diego Libertarian has won a lawsuit that should force the city council to implement a tax-limitation initiative passed by voters.

On August 8, the San Diego Superior Court ruled that Proposition F — a "poison pill" initiative the city council used to try to block a more restrictive citizen-supported measure — violated the California constitution.

As a result, Proposition E, which requires approval by two-thirds of local voters for any tax increase, should now be in force, said San Diego LP Chair Edward Teyssier, who was a co-plaintiff in the lawsuit.

"[The ruling was] a crushing blow for the big spenders at City Hall," he said. "Prop E should now take effect, blocking any general tax increases in the city of San Diego without a two-thirds vote of the electorate."

#### Appeal decision

The city council may try to appeal the decision, but probably won't be successful, said Teyssier.

"The case is so clear-cut as to leave little doubt that the ruling will withstand review," he said. "[The] judge didn't mince words in his four-page ruling, shooting down every city argument and declaring in no uncertain terms that Prop F violated the California constitution."

The battle between the dueling

**THE RULING WAS**  
"a crushing blow  
for the big spenders  
at City Hall."  
**Proposition E should  
now take effect."**  
— Edward Teyssier

propositions ended up in court after San Diego voters passed two initiatives during the same March 2002 election.

The first, Proposition E, called the "Taxpayer Protection Act of 2000," passed with 54.3% of the vote. It required the support of two-thirds of San Diego voters before any new tax could be levied or any existing tax raised. It was sponsored by a citizens' anti-tax group.

The second, Proposition F, passed with a scant 50.14% of the vote. Backed by the city council, it amended the city charter to require that any revenue-related initiative be approved by two-thirds of voters.

The city council certified Proposition F, arguing that its two-thirds requirement meant that Prop E failed, since it got only 54% of the vote.

"Obviously, Proposition F was created by the city council as a 'poison pill' to oppose Proposition E's two-thirds vote requirement for any new taxes or tax increases," said Teyssier. "It's typical political hardball."

In response, Teyssier and the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association filed a lawsuit in April.

"[We] filed a lawsuit to stop the city council from taking away our rights and to force the city council to obey the law," said Teyssier. "Their goal is nothing less than thwarting those very rights of citizens they took an oath to uphold."

In the lawsuit, Teyssier argued that the city council did not have the authority to amend its own charter under California law.

#### Higher percentage

In addition, in the case of conflicting ballot initiatives, California law states that the initiative which receives the higher percentage of the vote becomes law, said Teyssier.

"The council was legally obligated to certify Prop E and not Prop F," he said. "But they did just the opposite. On both counts, state law [was] clearly on our side."

Proposition E was originally supposed to be placed on the ballot in 2000, but did not appear because the city delayed certifying the measure until after the deadline, noted Teyssier.

Amendment 'A' needs a  
'Ticket to Ride'  
to Victory!



Can all four rock stars be wrong? No!

Amendment A will let an accused person argue in court that the law under which he is charged lacks merit or validity, and therefore should not apply to him or his act(s).

Juries will soon begin acquitting (or hanging) in trials where the law is unpopular, which is the case with most political/victimless crime laws, or laws which serve special interests.

When juries quit enforcing a law, it usually gets repealed. Passing "A" will therefore be like enacting much of the national Libertarian Party platform in South Dakota!

It's already on the ballot!

All it needs is a majority vote. What it will take to get a majority vote is more money to promote its passage.

Please, "RUSHMORE" money to A's sponsor:

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Thank You!!



# Why are Gun Owners Endorsing Carla Howell for Governor of Massachusetts?

## Why Carla Howell for Governor?

100% Pro-Gun Freedom.  
Carla Howell is the only candidate for Governor who will Shred every Anti-Gun Freedom Law in Massachusetts.

Repeal Chapter 180.

Immediately Repeal and Remove every bureaucratically imposed Anti-Gun Regulation and Restriction on the books.

\$3,000 each for 3,000,000 working people in Massachusetts. Every year.

How? With her Small Government Act Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax in Massachusetts.

When you vote for Carla Howell for Governor on November 5th, you can also vote to End the Income Tax in Massachusetts.

## small government

Massachusetts state government spending has more than doubled in the last 10 years. Ending the Income Tax in Massachusetts will reduce the state budget from \$23 Billion today down to \$14 Billion on July 1, 2003.

Small government respects our Right to Keep and Bear Arms. Small government keeps its nose out of our family decisions.

Small government leaves us free and responsible for running our own businesses.

Small government restores our right to our own Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness.

## The Governor's Office

When elected Governor of Massachusetts, Carla Howell will use her office to stand up for the forgotten taxpayer. The forgotten gun owner. The forgotten family.

Governor Carla Howell will fight Attorney General Tom Reilly to End his unconstitutional and high-handed interference in the rights of gun owners to purchase firearms.

Governor Carla Howell will go after the bureaucrats, courts, and legislators on behalf of responsible and self-supporting Massachusetts citizens.

## The Governor's most powerful weapons: a Shredder and a Veto.

Day and night, Governor Carla Howell will use her shredder and veto to advance the

**carla howell for Governor**  
**small government is beautiful<sup>SM</sup>...**  
**AND IT LEAVES OUR GUNS ALONE!**  
**Libertarian • Massachusetts 2002**



**Carla Howell Marches for Gun Freedom.**

Photo by: Norm Reynolds

## Carla Howell's Pro-Gun Pledge

Vote Carla Howell for Governor. Elect Me.  
I will work to Shred Anti-Gun Chapter 180.  
I will push to immediately Repeal all state laws, regulations, restrictions, and policies that infringe on our Right to Keep and Bear Arms.

I will go to Beacon Hill  
with a Shredder and a Veto.  
I put the Second Amendment First.  
Every Issue. Every Time.  
No exceptions. No excuses.

cause of Personal Responsibility, Individual Liberty and small government in Massachusetts.

Carla Howell will Just Say, "No more Big Government!"

## Gun Prohibition is Destructive

Gun Prohibition is one more Big Government program.

Gun Prohibition doesn't work.

Gun Prohibition makes things worse.

Gun Prohibition causes new problems.

Gun Prohibition squanders Billions of dollars.

Gun Prohibition diverts money and energy from positive and productive uses.

## small government = Gun Rights

Why does Big Government infringe on our Right to Keep and Bear Arms? Because it CAN.

Why doesn't small government infringe on our gun rights? Because it CAN'T.

The problem is NOT the abuse of power.

The problem is the power to abuse.

Take away the power, make government small — and no abuse is possible.

Make government small. Eliminate the problem once and for all. The solution is simple, elegant — and it works.

Big Government promises that our gun rights are never safe. Small government *guarantees* that our gun rights are always secure.

Carla Howell puts the Second Amendment First. Every Issue. Every Time. No Exceptions. No Excuses.

Please support Carla Howell, Libertarian for Governor.

Please make your most generous donation.

**small government is beautiful<sup>SM</sup>**  
**AND IT LEAVES OUR GUNS ALONE!**

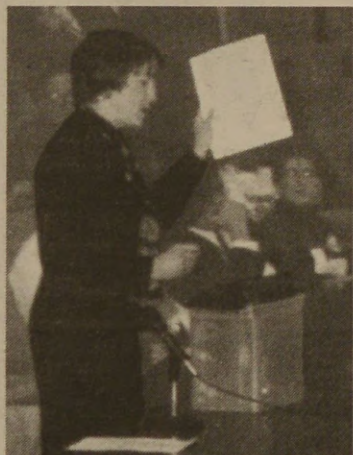
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Here's my check: "Carla Howell for Governor." You may donate up to \$500 in 2002. And so may your spouse.

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**Carla Howell testifies against and shreds Chapter 180.**

Photo by: Dean Hodgkins



## NEWS BRIEFS

### Tax-repeal initiative gets on Irvine ballot

**H**oping to save taxpayers about \$3 million per year, a Libertarian in Irvine, California has overcome the opposition of local politicians and qualified an initiative to repeal the city's utility tax for the ballot.

On July 23, the five-member Irvine city council refused to pass the initiative outright, but agreed to place it on the ballot in November.

Spearheaded by Linda Lee Grau, a past Chair of the Orange County LP and current candidate for city council, the measure would eliminate the city's 1.5% tax on telephone, electricity, and natural gas bills.

Although the tax applies only to businesses in Irvine, it forces consumers to pay higher prices for goods and services, said Grau.

"This is a hidden tax in Irvine," she said. "It's egregious and not necessary now."

Over the last few months, Grau collected over 2,300 signatures to qualify the tax-repeal initiative. Just 1,900 signatures were required.

Irvine Mayor Larry Agran and other city council members expressed concern about eliminating the tax, claiming that public-safety positions would have to be cut.

But that's ridiculous, said Grau, since the city budget is roughly \$100 million. "There is plenty of fat that can be cut out of the budget right now," she said. "It shouldn't mean losing a single police officer."

### Colorado's Rick Stanley gets 30-day sentence

**C**olorado LP U.S. Senate candidate Rick Stanley has been ordered to serve 30 days in home detention for violating a Denver gun law, after using the discredited "sovereign citizen" legal theory to try to defend himself.

Stanley, who was convicted of misdemeanor gun charges in May for engaging in a Second Amendment civil disobedience protest, was sentenced by Judge Robert L. Patterson in a Denver courtroom on July 25.

Patterson sentenced Stanley to 180 days in jail, but suspended all but 30 days, and said the LP candidate could serve it in home detention.

Stanley was also ordered to perform 75 hours of "useful public service" and assessed a fine of \$500, plus \$126 in fees.

The conviction carried with it a maximum sentence of one year in jail and a fine of up to \$999. Stanley said he will appeal the sentence.

Stanley, who represented himself after dismissing his lawyer, argued during the hearing that he was "a sovereign citizen of Colorado," and that his participation in court was voluntary because it operated under "admiralty law." Stanley also claimed he was not a "United States citizen subject to the jurisdiction thereof."

The sovereign citizen defense has been tried before in other court cases, noted [www.quatloos.com](http://www.quatloos.com), a non-profit financial and tax fraud website, but has always been "uniformly rejected by the courts" as "utterly without merit."

Stanley had been arrested for carrying a gun at a Bill of Rights Day celebration in Denver in December 2001. He had notified police in advance about his intent to violate Denver Municipal Ordinance 38-117.5(b), which bars individuals from carrying guns in public.

### ALF offers new libertarian outreach products

**T**he American Liberty Foundation is now offering "low-cost, high-impact, electronic communication tools" to help Libertarians spread the word about freedom.

In August, the Virginia-based educational organization launched an online "eLibertyTools" store ([www.eLibertyTools.com](http://www.eLibertyTools.com)) that will sell innovative "libertarian conversation-starters and persuasion tools," said Steve Willis, the foundation's operations director.

"We're not attempting to compete with think tanks," he said. "We won't do cutting-edge research or develop computer models. Our goal is to mass market these well-thought-out [libertarian] ideas."

The first items for sale at eLibertyTools are:

- A two-CD set (or cassette) audio presentation by 1996 and 2000 LP presidential candidate Harry Browne entitled "The Fatal Flaws of Big Government Programs."

- A "conversation-starter" tee-shirt based on the foundation's "Intruder" television advertisement, which promotes the use of firearms for self-defense.

- A booklet entitled *How to Persuade Your Friends & Family Guns Save Lives & Reduce Crime*. The booklet "will arm you with everything you need to know to persuade others that private gun ownership is a positive social value," said Willis.

The American Liberty Foundation was founded by Browne and Perry Willis after the 2000 campaign. Its mission is to use mass media techniques to reach the American public with a pro-freedom message.



■ Rick Stanley: 30-day sentence.

# Advocates for Self-Government honors Lights of Liberty winners

**T**he Advocates for Self-Government has honored 214 of the world's most energetic libertarian communicators with its annual Lights of Liberty awards.

The winning libertarians — residents of 32 states and three foreign nations — wrote libertarian-themed letters to the editor, delivered speeches about libertarianism, or worked at an Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) outreach booth in 2001, said Sharon Harris, president of the Advocates.

"Our awards are intended to thank the great folks — too often unsung — who are doing this vital work," she said. "These activities provide the kind of grassroots outreach and publicity that is essential if libertarian ideas are to flourish."

#### Increased activism

The 214 award-winners were just shy of the record 277 winners in 2000, "which is remarkable, because 2001 was a non-election year," said Harris. "I believe this is a sign of increased activism among libertarians."

Eleven of the winners were recognized as "libertarian outreach triathletes" — winning awards in all three categories: Letters, speeches, and OPH booths.

In addition to winners in the U.S., Lights of Liberty awards were also won by libertarians in Australia, the Seychelles Islands, and Canada.

**THE AWARDS ARE**  
*"intended to thank*  
*the great folks —*  
*too often unsung —*  
*who are doing*  
*this vital work."*  
**— Sharon Harris**

A complete list of winners is available at: [www.self-gov.org/lights/winners.html](http://www.self-gov.org/lights/winners.html).

One positive development in 2001, said Harris, was that more state Libertarian parties were using the awards to encourage outreach.

"This year, several states gave out the awards at their state conventions to winners who were members," she said. "Great idea! We hope more will use the awards as incentives."

The types of outreach activities encouraged by the Lights of Liberty awards are important because they take "libertarian ideas to literally millions of people," said Harris.

"The letters [to the editor] from Lights of Liberty winners are the equivalent of many thousands of dollars of advertising in the most widely read section of the newspaper — the

letters page," she said. "[And] speeches and OPH booths reached thousands of people face-to-face."

Every 2001 Lights of Liberty Award winner received a certificate of achievement, a year's subscription to *The Libertarian Communicator* magazine, a coupon worth 20% off purchases from the Advocates, and other items.

#### Presidential Library

In addition, Tony Seno of New Mexico was given the "Libertarian Presidential Library," an autographed collection of campaign books (and one videotape) by every LP presidential candidate, 1972-2000. Seno was selected in a random drawing.

To qualify for the Lights of Liberty award, individuals must:

- Get three or more letters to the editor published that use the words "libertarian" or "libertarianism" in a positive light.

- Give three or more speeches to a predominately non-libertarian audience, using the words "libertarian" or "libertarianism" in a positive light.

- Participate in three or more Operation Politically Homeless events.

The Lights of Liberty program is continuing in 2002, said Harris — giving libertarians another opportunity to qualify for awards while telling voters about liberty.

For information, visit: [www.self-gov.org/lights](http://www.self-gov.org/lights).



## THEY'VE STOLEN OUR GOLD!

#6



**HOW THE MIGHTY ARE FALLEN!** Have you noticed that Citigroup, JPMorgan, Chase and others of their ilk are suddenly in Deep Doo Doo? Congresssional investigations? Major financial problems? Derivatives with no backing? Why? We've been telling the world why for the past several years. We're the only ones who have! These are the major manipulators of the gold markets, in direct cahoots with well known government figures. Now it's coming back to haunt them. In this series of ads, we've told you WHO, HOW AND WHY...and what you can do about it. And how to help stop it. And how to profit from it.

**EDUCATE YOURSELF!** Go to the site keeping you informed about the daily changes in this war for true freedom and honest money. Go to [[www.lemetropolecafe.com/LP](http://www.lemetropolecafe.com/LP)] and sign up for a FREE 2 WEEK TRIAL. Then visit the Gold Anti-Trust Action Committee website [[www.GATA.org/LP](http://www.GATA.org/LP)] and get on their mailing list. You'll be stunned. Learn the facts! Then follow that information to gain the kind of profits one only gets from getting in on the beginning of a huge runup in precious metals!

You *won't* get the info about this on CNBC or in the NY Times.



## GLOWING REVIEWS

"Remembering what America was yesterday strengthens the foundation we stand on today. Cleveland and Noyes have recaptured the passion and vision of our Founding Fathers; retracing politics back to morality, civility, and a government for the people."

— Gary E. Johnson, Governor of New Mexico

"A well articulated and very positive description of what will happen when we return to the fundamental, and eternally valid, principles upon which this country was founded."

— U.S. Congressman Ron Paul, Texas Republican

"If you care about this country and its potential read this book! Have conversations you have never had, feel hope that you have never felt, and then GET POLITICAL!"

— U.S. Congressional Candidate Kara Anastasio (7th District Ohio, Democrat)

"The need to bring government back to the people calls for a new revolution: one of decentralization. Democracy is maintained when decision making and accountability are at the local level, which is the most efficient and most economical way of governing. We CAN Restore America by a return to government by the people."

— Iowa State Senator David Miller (Republican, Libertyville)

"What a joy to discover a new breed of politicians that want to expand our freedoms, enliven communities AND save our environment! Clyde Cleveland and Ed Noyes give us a striking vision of what is possible in politics and our lives. Iowa could easily become the state to emulate. Hallelujah!"

— Jennifer Read Hawthorne, Co-Author, Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul

"Cleveland and Noyes have a vision for America that must be heard and carefully considered. This book lays out a game plan that will restore our environment and change our country forever."

— David A. Kidd, Founder of American Free Tree Program

"Intelligent, articulate, compassionate, insightful, spiritual, ecological, inclusive, promoting sovereignty and freedom, built on a foundation of love. A far cry from the top down federal government that is the best money can buy."

— Jeff Hutner, Writer, Producer and Director of Practical Visionaries: A Documentary Celebrating Genius in Service to Life

"Clyde Cleveland and Edward Noyes have drawn a clear map to political freedom and economic prosperity. This book makes me want to move to Iowa."

— G. Edward Griffin, Documentary film producer and author of The Creature From Jekyll Island: A Second Look At The Federal Reserve

"Cleveland and Noyes have real solutions, and anybody can understand them. They are brilliant and they write in plain language, with passion — for our country, our world, and all our lives."

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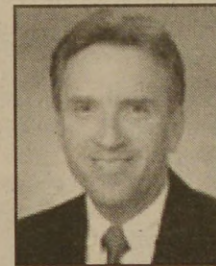
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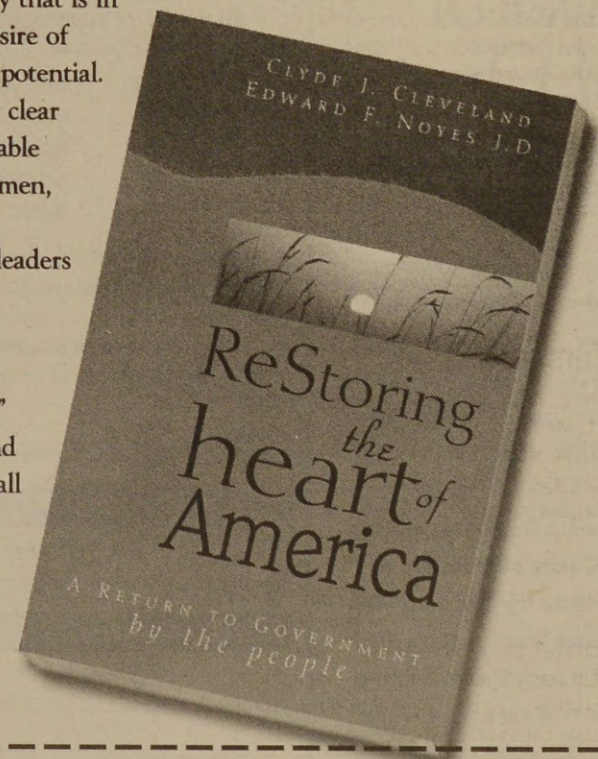


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Libertarian candidate for Governor of Iowa, entrepreneur, ecologist, public speaker, and political historian. In 1986, he was named "The First Socially Conscious Venture Capitalist"



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# Libertarian group works to pass FIJA-style law in South Dakota

A Libertarian-led organization has launched a campaign to turn a FIJA measure into law in South Dakota.

Led by longtime LP activist Bob Newland, Common Sense Justice is working to convince voters to add Fully Informed Jury Amendment-style language to the state constitution.

If passed this November, the measure will "effectively enact a significant portion of the Libertarian Party's national platform" in South Dakota, said Newland, 54, who wrote the amendment.

Titled "Initiated Constitutional Amendment A," the measure allows defendants to debate the merits of a law — as well as the facts of a case — in a criminal trial.

In other words, defendants could present evidence to a jury that a law under which they are charged is flawed, or has been wrongly applied, or that the statutory punishment is too harsh.

The amendment is "aimed at the spate of victimless crimes that legislators have passed over the years," said Newland, a former State Chair

and the 2002 LP candidate for attorney general.

"If we can end convictions for victimless crimes, we will indirectly enact a lot of the party's platform that calls for the repeal of those laws," he said. It could achieve "almost everything I've ever hoped to achieve by running as a Libertarian."

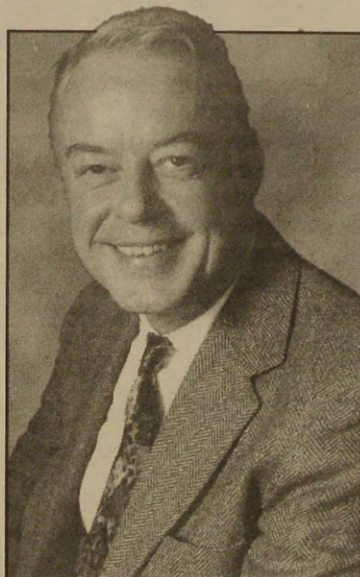
## Fair penalty?

Currently, noted Newland, criminal trial judges can instruct juries to accept the validity of the laws as written, and demand that jurors consider only whether a defendant has committed a criminal act — not whether the potential penalty is fair.

This situation often puts jurors "on the horns of a dilemma," he said.

"Most jurors take their oath to uphold the law seriously," he said. "But when it comes to imprisoning somebody for doing something that hasn't hurt anybody else, many jurors don't know what to do."

The amendment has been criticized by some lawyers who claim it would institutionalize jury nullification. However, Amendment A is not jury nullification in itself, said



■ **Bob Newland: Amendment A could achieve "almost everything I've ever hoped to achieve by running as a Libertarian."**

Newland.

"Amendment A has no language implying or directing that anyone must do anything, including judges and juries," he said. "It simply allows implementation of what we believe

to be a self-evident moral right.

"Obviously, if the government wants to press ridiculous cases, then juries will nullify, with prejudice. On the other hand, juries aren't going to let dangerous people go free simply because they tell a sob-story in court."

If passed, the amendment would be appended to Article VI, Section 7, of the South Dakota Constitution. The amendment's language confirms the right of defendants "to argue the merits, validity and applicability of the law, including the sentencing laws."

## Cost, about \$70,000

Newland estimated it will take about \$70,000 to get Amendment A passed in South Dakota.

Common Sense Justice has hired the Robert Sharp Advertising Agency in Rapid City to schedule media events, and is renting fair booths around the state and distributing pro-Amendment A bumperstickers and brochures.

"This idea has already been arguably endorsed by the 40,000 South Dakota voters who signed the petition to place the question on the ballot," said Newland. "When it passes in November, it will have a profound and beneficial effect for many of the hundreds of South Dakotans whose liberty and wealth are threatened by the existence of laws creating crimes without victims."

# Ballot access history on tap for Georgia?

*Continued from Page 3*

cians," he said. "I'm very excited about bringing a fresh, third choice to voters."

Parker's historic ballot status — should he achieve it — was made possible by a court victory on July 30. A U.S. district court judge in Atlanta ruled that the Libertarian Party did not need to submit signatures equal to 5% of all registered voters in the district, as the law requires.

Instead, because a redistricting debate ran two months over schedule — depriving Libertarians of one-third of the normal petitioning time — the judge ruled that Parker needed signatures from only 3.33% of the district's voters. That worked out to just over 9,500 valid signatures.

But the one-time court ruling didn't change the fact that Georgia has the most restrictive ballot access requirements for U.S. House in the nation, said Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access News*.

## Worst in the country

"It's absolutely the worst law in the country," he said. "No [third-party candidate] has ever successfully overcome it."

In 2000, Parker ran for Public Service Commissioner, winning 135,888 statewide votes. He is the past secretary of the Georgia LP.

Parker holds a Master of Arts in Counseling from Truman University and a Bachelor of Science in the Psychology of Human Perception-Communication Processes. Married for 20 years, he is the father of four children. He is the superintendent of the Sunday School program at the Stripling Chapel United Methodist Church.

In the November 5 election, Parker will face the winners of the Democratic and Republican primaries (held on August 20).

Parker said it doesn't matter whether he faces a "liberal" or "conservative" in the general election.

"This whole left-right political concept is gobbledygook," he said. "Either you are for freedom, or you are not. I'm not a politician. I believe in individual freedom and personal responsibility, whether you're talking about taxes, retirement, education, or our personal lives and activities. It's time to get the professional politicians out of politics."

Other Libertarian Party candidates on the Georgia ballot this year include Sandy Thomas for U.S. Senate and Garrett Michael Hayes for governor. As a "major party" in the state, LP candidates automatically qualify for the ballot in statewide races.

"I'm very proud of each and every one of our candidates this year," said Georgia LP State Chair Helmut Forren. "Incumbent legislators have erected a complex web of barriers to keep our candidates off the ballot. Nevertheless, our candidates have overcome those barriers."

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# GOP drops Illinois ballot challenge

Continued from Page 3

But on July 1, Logan County Circuit Clerk Carla Bender, a Republican, and Sangamon County Republican Chair Irv Smith filed objections, claiming that more than 28,000 signatures had not met state requirements.

In Illinois, any candidate who files the necessary paperwork and gathers at least one signature automatically earns a spot on the ballot unless someone files an objection to the quantity or validity of the signatures.

The Republicans claimed that Libertarian circulators were not present when signatures were notarized; that two petitioners moved during the petition drive, which changed their voter registration status; that abbreviations had wrongly been used for towns, counties, or streets; and that circulators may have forged certain petition signatures.

## Devoid of merit

However, Libertarians denied the charges, and said the Republican challenge was devoid of merit.

"This Republican challenge is outrageous, frivolous, and malicious," said Tobin at the time. "This shows how petty and spiteful these professional officeholders are."

Illinois LP Executive Director Scott Kohlhaas agreed there was no merit to the Republican charges.

"These are absolute lies and ridiculous objections made by desperate Republicans to keep Libertarians off the ballot," he said.

Ironically, Republicans had not filed a challenge against independent Marisellis E. Brown, whose petition consisted of one signature — his own. Had he been challenged, his one signature would have left him 24,999

**THE ILLINOIS LP**  
is "considering  
taking legal action  
to recover costs on  
behalf of taxpayers."

—Mike Ginsberg

signatures short of the requirement.

In response to the GOP challenge, Libertarian representatives visited different localities with Republican representatives and Board of Elections officials for several weeks in July to verify the signatures in dispute.

Illinois LP Communications Director Mike Ginsberg estimated the cost of the challenge prior to the Republican concession to be about \$80,000.

"This isn't over for us," he said.

"We're considering taking legal action to recover costs, not only for us, but on behalf of taxpayers who had to foot the price tag for this challenge. We're thinking of initiating a taxpayer-based lawsuit to compel Republicans to reimburse the Board of Elections for this fiasco."

## Glad it's over

LP gubernatorial candidate Skinner said he is glad the challenge process is over.

"Now we can start talking about issues," he said. "Like how we can make the tollways freeways; how we

can reduce crime by 2.3% per year by passing a personal security act; and how we can't trust Republicans not to sign tax increases."

Getting the Libertarian candidates on the ballot was important, said Libertarian Party officials, because if any LP statewide candidate obtains 5% of the vote in November, the party will achieve "major party" status and automatic ballot access in 2004.

Automatic ballot access would save the party from having to spend between \$75,000 and \$100,000 on a statewide petition drive to qualify the LP's presidential candidate.

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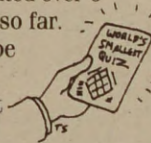
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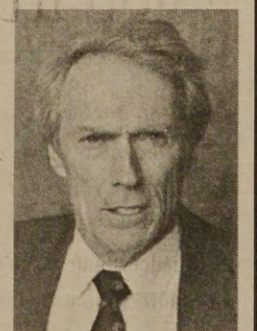


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# Thompson milestones

Continued from Page 3

■ On July 7, Rebecca Christmas at the *Milwaukee Post* wrote: "Voters are already disillusioned with the state of politics, and it seems that a growing number may just be influenced by Ed Thompson's straightforward honesty and the lack of political double speak."

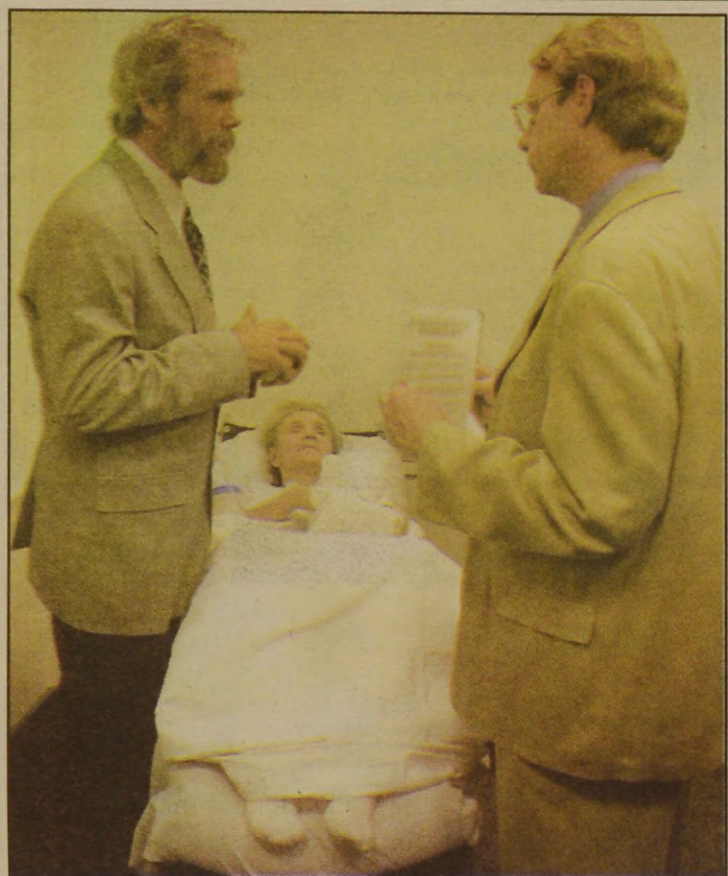
Running with Thompson is six-term Democratic legislator Marty Reynolds. Reynolds agreed to be the LP's lieutenant gubernatorial candidate in late June, after announcing that he would not seek re-election to the State Assembly in 2002.

Candidates for the Democratic nomination include Attorney General Jim Doyle, U.S. Representative Tom Barrett, and Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk.

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## Medical marijuana meeting in Washington

■ LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger (right) meets with multiple sclerosis sufferer — and medical marijuana patient — Cheryl Miller and her husband, Jim Miller.

The meeting took place on July 24 at a press conference for H.R. 2592, the States' Rights to Medical Marijuana Act, in the Capitol Building in Washington, DC.

The bill, sponsored by Reps. Barney Frank (D-MA) and Ron Paul (R-TX), would amend federal law so states that choose to permit the legal use of medical marijuana may do so, without interference from federal law enforcement.

"The Libertarian Party supports H.R. 2592 because of courageous people like Cheryl Miller," said Crickenberger. "It's appalling that her own government can arrest her for trying to ease the pain of a debilitating disease."

Miller appears in a pro-medical marijuana ad produced by the LP. [See related story on page 2.]

## Arizona LP primary legal win put on hold, pending appeal

The Arizona Libertarian Party has won a federal lawsuit challenging the state's open primary system — although the victory was put on hold two days later by an appellate court, pending an appeal.

On August 5, a federal judge in Tucson ruled that the state's open-primary law violated the First Amendment right of political parties to select their own candidates and party leaders.

### Victory for parties

"This ruling is a victory for political parties and the principle of freedom of association," said LP State Chair Peter Schmerl. "With this decision, we're no longer required to let folks who aren't Libertarians vote in our primary."

The ruling applied to all recognized parties in the state, including Republicans and Democrats.

Before the ruling, registered independents and members of unqualified parties were allowed to vote in the primary election of any recog-

nized political party, and select candidates for the November general election.

Primary voters also chose each party's precinct committeemen, who, in turn, elected the party's county officers and its state committee.

As a result, independents — who outnumber registered Libertarians approximately 25-to-one in Arizona — had the power to control the outcome of the Libertarian Party's primary elections and select the party's leadership, said Schmerl.

"It's a question of freedom of association," he said. "We're required to let folks who aren't Libertarians

See **ARIZONA** Page 23



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# A libertarian reflection on the September 11 attacks

Continued from Page 1

also involves a renewed confidence in the federal government: A recent poll found that 64% of Americans say they trust the federal government to do the right thing "nearly always" or "most of the time" — the highest level of trust in government since 1966 and double the level a year ago.

The increased support for the federal government makes sense. Finally, the government is focused on its main purpose: the protection of the lives and property of Americans. People who had lost confidence in the government's attempts to run the trains or the post office or to provide everything under the sun can only be pleased to see it concentrating on protecting individual rights.

### Government failed

However, the increased confidence in government is not as clear as it seems. The September 11 attacks, after all, reflect a massive failure of the government. With \$1.9 trillion a year and 1.8 million employees, the government failed to anticipate or prevent a military attack on New York and Washington. It failed in its first duty.

It might be suggested that the attacks came out of the blue, that no government could have been prepared for them. In fact, there were repeated warnings — often from within the government itself — that terrorist attacks in the United States were likely.

■ The attempt by associates of Osama bin Laden to blow up the World Trade Center in 1993 should have been a stark warning of terrorist threats inside our borders.

■ In 1997 the National Defense Panel — a group of retired generals and civil defense experts — called for a re-emphasis on defending the American homeland in light of the increase in threats of terrorism.

■ That same year the Department of Defense wrote in its report, *Proliferation: Threat and Response*, "As the new millennium approaches, the U.S. faces a heightened prospect that regional aggressors, third-rate armies, terrorist cells, and even religious cults will wield disproportionate power by using — or even threatening to use — nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons against our troops in the field and our people at home."

■ After bin Laden's bombings of the U.S. embassies in Africa in 1998 reminded us of the threat, former Defense Secretary John Deutch said, "We must insist on superior intelligence that will warn of potential terrorist actions. . . . Our country is not fully prepared to act effectively on these matters."

■ Also in August 1998, the Reagan administration's former anti-terrorism chief, L. Paul Bremer III, wrote that bin Laden and his associ-

ates "hate America, its values and its culture and proudly declare themselves to be at war with us." He urged beefed-up security, more pressure on terrorist groups, and "a large reward for bin Laden's capture — dead or alive" to "exacerbate the paranoia common to all terrorists."

■ Bremer was appointed to head a National Commission on Terrorism, which reported in 2000 that "the threat of attacks creating massive casualties is growing."

■ On July 26, 1999, Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen wrote: "In the past year, dozens of threats to use chemical or biological weapons in the United States have turned out to be hoaxes. Someday, one will be real. . . . There is not a moment to lose."

■ Later in 2001 — but before September 11 — the Federal Aviation Administration's Criminal Acts Against Civil Aviation report warned, "Bin Laden's anti-Western and anti-



American attitudes make him and his followers a significant threat to civil aviation, particularly to U.S. civil aviation."

Warnings came from foreign sources as well. Columnist Jim Hoagland writes, "The Clinton White House did not want to hear about or deal seriously with Iraq. Defectors ranging from Khidhir Hamza, one of Saddam's chief nuclear scientists, to lowly intelligence officers have been met with a cold shoulder and reluctance by the FBI, CIA, DIA, etc., to listen to, assess and then share the information about terrorism the defectors possess."

### Exaggerating

And the respected Israeli journalist Ze'ev Schiff wrote recently that the former head of Israel's Shin Bet security service met with Attorney General Janet Reno and the heads of the FBI and the CIA to inform them that terrorist cells were being established in the United States. "They looked at him forgivingly, and claimed that he was exaggerating."

And the Cato Institute issued sev-

eral warnings about the threat of terrorism, often based on official government documents. The 1997 *Cato Handbook for Congress* warned, "The sabotage of Pan American flight 103, the bombing of the World Trade Center, and (possibly) the crash of TWA flight 800 make it clear that Americans have become targets of international terrorism. Unfortunately, that danger is likely to grow rather than recede in the coming years. Moreover, the potential for thousands, rather than dozens or hundreds, of casualties in any single incident is also rising."

In his 1998 paper "Protecting the Homeland," Ivan Eland wrote, "Recently, several government reports have emphasized the need for increased attention to the defense of the American homeland. The proliferation of technology for creating weapons of mass terror and conducting chemical, biological, nuclear, and information warfare has reawakened interest in protecting the homeland."

So it's odd that Americans' confidence in government would rise sharply after a massive failure of government to do its job. Presumably the phenomenon reflects Americans' love for their country, which they express in a time of crisis by declaring their support for their government and approval of the Bush administration's response to the attacks. It's a sort of prospective vote of confidence, not in what the government has done, but in what we hope it will do.

If our elected officials want confidence in government to stay at these high levels, they must show results in the fight against terrorism.

### Core function

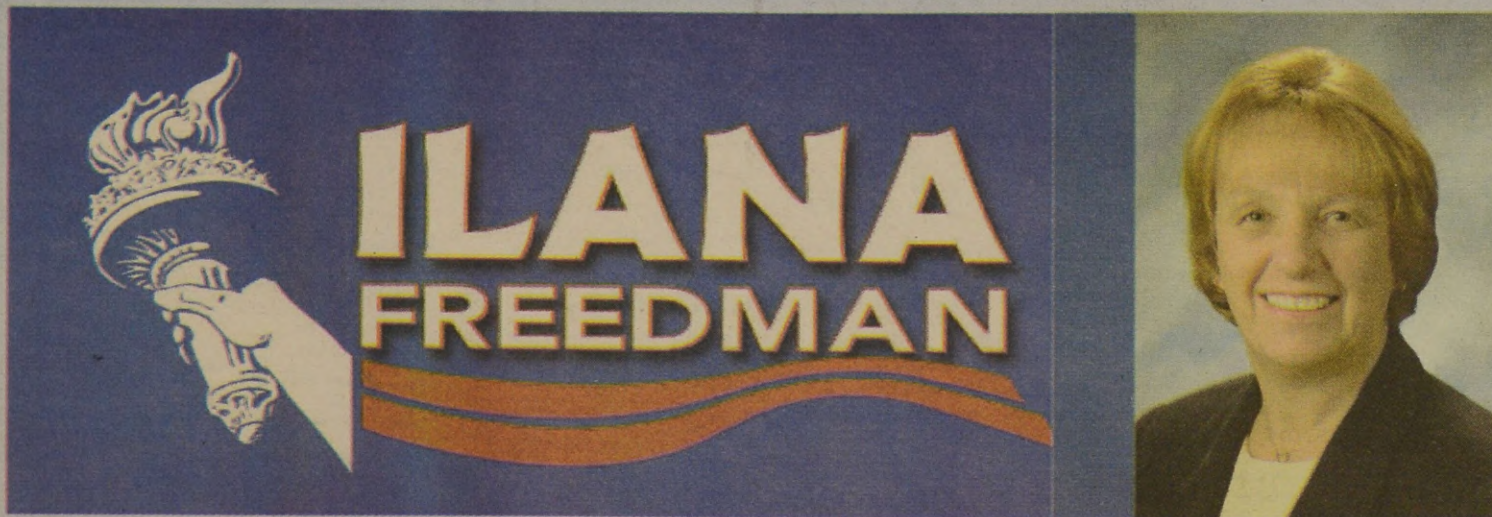
One element of that process involves trimming the vast scope of the federal government and focusing on the core function for which it was established. As the Declaration of Independence says, "governments are instituted . . . to secure these rights [of] life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." That's a big enough job for one entity, even the federal government.

A lot of the corporate conglomerates of the 1960s proved unwieldy, and their managers eventually sold off many of their acquisitions and focused on their core businesses. They trimmed and they got stronger — less is more.

The U.S. government should emulate that model: Get out of the game of trying to supply all the desires of 270 million people, and concentrate on protecting us from mass murder. As for the rest, the market and American know-how will take care of it.

■ **About the author:** David Boaz is executive vice president of the Cato Institute. For information about Cato, visit: [www.cato.org](http://www.cato.org).





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## STATE CONTACTS

# Comprehensive contact information for Libertarian state parties around the USA

### Alabama Chair

Mark Bodenhausen  
1818 83rd Street South  
Birmingham, AL 35206-4035  
205-833-5012 (h)  
markbodenhausen@yahoo.com

### Alabama HQ

2330 Highland Ave  
Birmingham, AL 35205  
205-328-8683

### Alaska Chair

Gordon Hartlieb  
3419 Grissom Cir  
Anchorage, AK 99517-2318  
907-243-8198 (h)  
gordon@systems33.com

### Arizona Chair

Peter Schmerl  
340 East Via Terrenal  
Green Valley, AZ 85614  
520-625-7264  
PGSchmerl@aol.com

### Arkansas Chair

Gerhard Langguth  
243 White Road  
Russellville, AR 72802  
501-967-0873 (w)  
501-967-4531 (h)  
Gerhard@langguth-us.net

### California Chair

Aaron Starr  
1743 Cochran Street, Apt. F  
Simi Valley, CA 93065-2183  
805-583-3308 (h)  
starrcpa@pacbell.net

### California HQ

David Molony, Exec. Director  
14547 Titus Street, Suite 214  
Panorama City, CA 91402  
818-782-8400  
818-782-8488 (f)  
director@ca.lp.org  
office@ca.lp.org

### Colorado Chair

John K. Berntson  
242 W Rockrimmon Blvd. #D  
Colorado Springs, CO 80919-1745  
719-532-0118  
JKBColoSp@aol.com

### Colorado HQ

6280 E 39th Avenue, Suite L  
Denver, CO 80207-1319  
720-941-2344  
303-329-0498 (f)

### Connecticut Chair

Lenny Rasch  
96 Dorothy Lane  
Terryville, CT 06786-7016  
860-585-8246  
chairman@lpct.org

### Connecticut HQ

P.O. Box 551  
East Granby, CT 06026  
800-364-0023 (Inquiries)  
800-423-0230

### Delaware Chair

George Smith  
724 Foxdale Road  
Wilmington, DE 19803-1604  
302-478-5919 (w/h)  
grsassociates@icca.org

### Delware HQ

P.O. Box 1472  
Dover, DE 19903-1472  
302-653-1920

### District of Columbia Chair

Kat DeBurgh  
P.O. Box 65803  
Washington, DC 20035  
202-422-4090  
Chair@lp-dc.org

### District of Columbia HQ

P.O. Box 65803  
Washington, DC 20035  
202-636-4277

### Florida Chair

Frank Longo  
22742 Vistawood Way  
Boca Raton, FL 33428-5557  
561-883-3357 (h)  
Flongo@adelphia.net

### Florida Executive Director

Marcus Vahle  
2610 Overlook Court  
Merritt Island, FL 32953-4135  
407-453-5889 (h)  
321-266-1626 (cell)  
mvahle@aol.com

### Georgia Chair

Helmut Forren  
3928 River Walk Drive  
Duluth, GA 30096-6113  
770-448-9550  
helmut@forren.org

### Georgia HQ

Mark Mosley, Executive Director  
1874 Piedmont Rd, Suite 590-E  
Atlanta, GA 30324  
404-888-9468  
lpga@mindspring.com

### Hawaii Chair

Roger Taylor  
P.O. Box 1542  
Aiea, HI 96701-1542  
808-545-3007  
Roger-Taylor@hawaii.rr.com

### Hawaii HQ

625 Keawe Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
808-537-3078

### Idaho Chair

Ted Dunlap  
5417 Howard Ln  
Nampa, ID 83687-8597  
208-344-6230  
teddunlap@outdrs.net

### Idaho HQ

P.O. Box 15582  
Boise, ID 83715  
208-344-6230 (voice mail)

### Illinois Chair

Austin Hough  
562 Cottonwood Circle  
Boilingbrook, IL 60440  
630-378-4593 (h)  
houghfamily4@msn.com

### Illinois HQ

Scott Kohlhaas, Exec. Director  
316 1/2 N River Street, Suite B  
East Dundee, IL 61108-3830  
800-735-1776  
847-844-3410  
director@il.lp.org

### Indiana Chair

Mark Rutherford  
156 E Market Street, Suite 600  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3227  
317-257-1912 (h)  
317-637-6071 (o)  
Rutherfordlaw@prodigy.net

### Indiana HQ

Brad Klopfenstein, Exec. Director  
3601 N Pennsylvania Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205  
800-388-1776  
317-924-2920 (f)  
lpinhq@lpin.org

### Iowa Chair

Mark Nelson  
3434 Forest Road  
Davenport, IA 52807-2434  
563-344-0013  
lpiachair@mcshi.com

### Iowa Inquiries

800-655-LPIA

### Kansas Chair

Steven Rosile  
227 Lochnivar Street  
Wichita, KS 67207-1112  
316-618-1339  
sarasile@att.net

### Kansas HQ

P.O. Box 2456  
Wichita, KS 67201-2456

### Kentucky Chair

Donna Mancini  
719 Talon Place  
Louisville, KY 40223  
502-254-3975  
disco4freedom@cs.com

### Kentucky HQ

719 Talon Place  
Louisville, KY 40223  
888-595-4276  
502-635-6326

### Louisiana Chair

Raymond "Chuck" Dumas  
57 Oakland Drive  
Boyce, LA 71409  
318-793-5266  
radco@speedgate.net

### Louisiana HQ

P.O. Box 66301  
Baton Rouge, LA 70896

### Maine Chair

J. Fred Staples  
15 Decary Road  
Biddeford, ME 04005-9711  
207-284-6332  
jstaples@maine.rr.com

### Maine HQ

P.O. Box 6677  
Portland, ME 04101  
207-780-1776

### Maryland Chair

Nicholas Sarwark  
8504 Haskins Place  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
301-439-2139 (h)  
301-526-7491 (cell)  
nsarwark@cuc.edu

### Maryland HQ

P.O. Box 2343  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
301-951-0539 (Bethesda area)  
800-MLP-1776 (Inquiries only)  
chair@md.lp.org

### Massachusetts Chair

Elias Israel  
101 Middlesex Tpke, Suite 6  
PMB 313  
Burlington, MA 01803  
781-434-0610 (h)  
eisrael@lpma.org

### Massachusetts HQ

Kamal Jain, Exec. Director  
P.O. Box 2610  
Boston, MA 02208  
800-JOIN-LPM  
978-952-2472  
kjain@lpma.org

### Michigan Chair

James Hudler  
17165 Fahrner Road  
Chelsea, MI 48118  
734-475-9792 (h)  
aguli@provide.net

### Michigan HQ

619 East Nine Mile Road  
Hazel Park, MI 48030  
248-591-FREE

### Minnesota Chair

Kevin Houston  
P.O. Box 580774  
Minneapolis, MN 55458  
612-825-5100  
800-788-2660  
Kevin@urly-bird.com

### Minnesota HQ

P.O. Box 580774  
Minneapolis, MN 55458  
651-223-0995  
800-788-2660 (Inquiries)  
612-874-6803 (f)

### Mississippi Chair

Wayne Parker  
P.O. Box 607  
Saucier, MS 39574-0607  
601-928-5749 (h/o)  
jethro@datasync.com

### Mississippi HQ

Suite 200-145  
1625 E Country Line Road  
Jackson, MS 39211-1832

### Missouri Chair

Bob Sullentrop  
140 Hunters Ridge  
St. Charles, MO 63301-0427  
636-946-3227 (h)  
rwsully@charter.net

### Missouri HQ

Greg Tlappek, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 78623  
St. Louis, MO 63301-0427  
314-997-8585 (inquiries)  
Gtlapek@aol.com  
Or: P.O. Box 32731  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
913-383-7777 (inquiries)  
877-VOTE-4-US

### Montana Chair

Mike Fellows  
P.O. Box 4803  
Missoula, MT 59806-4803  
406-721-9020  
mfellows@usa.net

### Montana HQ

P.O. Box 4803  
Missoula, MT 59806-4803

### Nebraska Chair

Nydra Karlen  
310 Fawn Ct  
Bellevue, NE 68005-2006  
402-554-1971  
nydra@cox.net

### Nebraska HQ

10883 County Road P 38  
Omaha, NE 68122  
402-426-5667

### Nevada Chair

Brendan Trainor  
3396 Le Veaga Court  
Sparks, NV 89431-1430  
775-331-5731 (h)  
chair@lpnevada.org

### Nevada State Director

Kat Schlesinger  
1350 W. Horizon Ridge #1322  
Henderson, NV 89012  
702-361-2208 (h)  
StateDirector@lpnevada.org

### Nevada HQ

PMB 136  
1306 West Craig Road  
North Las Vegas, NV 89032  
702-260-8328  
702-639-4894

### New Hampshire Chair

Tom Kershaw  
1 Rocky Ledge Road  
Merrimack, NH 03054-6628  
603-424-0100  
Kershaw@bigplanet.com

### New Hampshire HQ

P.O. Box 5293  
Manchester, NH 03108  
800-559-LPNH  
603-627-3666

### New Jersey Chair

Emerson Ellett  
1308 Spruce Avenue  
Ocean, NJ 07712-4648  
732-774-3684 (h)  
chair@njlp.org

### New Jersey HQ

P.O. Box 56  
Tennet, NJ 07763  
800-201-NJLP

### New Mexico Chair

Joseph Knight  
Box 698  
Flora Vista, NM 87415  
505-330-7713  
nm\_libertarian@yahoo.com

### New York Chair

Albert Dedicke  
13 Lake Street  
Mount Morris, NY 14510-1215  
716-658-3017 (h)  
aadedicke@yahoo.com

### North Carolina Chair

Barbara Howe  
5046 Tar Hill Drive  
Oxford, NC 27565  
919-286-0152  
Chair@lpnc.org

### N. Carolina Exec. Director

Sean Haugh  
1821 Hillandale Rd, Suite 1B-332  
Durham, NC 27705  
919-286-0152  
director@lpnc.org

### North Carolina HQ

1821 Hillandale Rd, Suite 1B-253  
Durham, NC 27705  
800-292-3766  
info@lpnc.org

### North Dakota Chair

Martin Riske  
P.O. Box 9002  
Fargo, ND 58106-9002  
701-241-9687  
martyriske@hotmail.com

### Ohio State Chair

Jeff Zweber  
2716 Blackhawk Road  
Kettering, OH 45420  
937-293-2603 (h)  
jzweber@aol.com

### Ohio HQ

35 East Gay Street, Suite 310  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614-221-4876  
614-221-4877 (f)  
headquarters@lpo.org  
800-669-6542 (Inquiries only)

### Oklahoma Chair

Richard Prawdziensky  
1712 Timber Ridge Road  
Edmond, OK 73034-4305  
405-844-7577 (h)  
Prawdz@aol.com

### Oklahoma HQ

P.O. Box 14042  
Tulsa, OK 74159

### Oregon Chair

Mitch Shults  
11734 SW Fairview Lane  
Tigard, OR 97223-2868  
800-829-1992

### Oregon HQ

Richard Burke, Exec. Director  
P.O. Box 33432  
Portland, OR 97292-3432  
800-829-1992 (inquiries)  
503-640-8717 (f)  
rpb.LPO@rpb.com

### Pennsylvania Chair

John Storey  
3863 Union Deposit Road #223  
Harrisburg, PA 17109  
800-774-4487  
Public@stohn.net

### Rhode Island Chair

Daniel Harrop  
P.O. Box 603364  
Providence, RI 02906-0764  
401-439-7622  
State-chair@LPRI.org

### Rhode Island HQ

Box 603159  
Providence, RI 02906  
RILibertarians@yahoo.com

### South Carolina Chair

Charles F. (Chuck) Williams  
P.O. Box 23172  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29925  
843-681-8350 (h)  
843-816-0441  
waterbaron@compuserve.com

### South Carolina HQ

P.O. Box 50643  
Columbia, SC 29250  
803-254-3204 (messages)  
843-689-2528 (f)

### South Dakota Chair

Brian Lerohl  
29048 486th Avenue  
Fairview, SD 57027  
605-987-5378  
boilers@dtgnet.com

### South Dakota HQ

P.O. Box 9341  
Rapid City, SD 57709

### Tennessee Chair

Ray Ledford  
4911 Frontage Road NW  
Cleveland, TN 37312-2986  
423-728-3720 (h)  
423-473-2066 x4 (w)  
rledford@mindspring.com

### Tennessee HQ

P.O. Box 2131  
Brentwood, TN 37024-2131  
865-448-6493 (inquiries)  
Texas Chair  
David DeLamar  
P.O. Box 98131  
Lubbock, TX 79499  
806-773-6382  
think@door.net

### Texas HQ

P.O. Box 56426  
Houston, TX 77256  
800-422-1776

### Utah Chair

Cabot Nelson  
984 East Simpson Avenue  
Salt Lake City, UT 84106  
801-466-9315 (h)  
adjustable\_pliers@yahoo.com

### Utah Executive Director

Dwight Lee Steffner  
817 Songbird Lane  
Saratoga Springs, UT 84043-8143  
801-768-2666  
steffnerutah@aol.com

### Utah HQ

P.O. Box 526025  
Salt Lake City, UT 84152-6025  
800-280-7900

### Vermont Chair

Brendan Kinney  
4 Rosewood Trail  
Essex, VT 05452  
802-878-3178  
brendankinney@yahoo.com

### Vermont HQ

P.O. Box 5475  
Burlington, VT 05402-5475

### Virginia Chair

Marianne Volpe  
2601 Wagon Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22303-2613  
703-960-2973 (h)  
mvolpe@starpower.net

### Virginia HQ

P.O. Box 4201  
Suite 110-164, Wilson Blvd.  
Arlington, VA 22203-1859

### Washington Chair

John Mills  
3713 N 22nd Street  
Tacoma, WA 98406-5305  
253-226-6362 (w)  
chair@LPWS.org

### Washington HQ

Brien Bartels, Executive Director  
Suite 1776  
400 NE 45th Street  
Seattle, WA 98105  
206-329-5669  
800-353-1776  
director@lpws.org

### West Virginia Chair

Richard Kerr  
483 Rebecca Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505-2246  
304-599-8056 (h)  
rskerr@adelphia.net

### West Virginia HQ

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# Party sets new candidate record

Continued from Page 1

2,002 candidates this year, said Crickenberger.

"There are still more spots on ballots without a Libertarian candidate than with one," he said. "We need more Libertarians to run."

Already, a number of states have announced record-breaking candidate slates, said Crickenberger.

On July 18, the Florida LP filed 88 candidates with the State Board of Elections in Tallahassee — the largest third-party slate in Florida since the 1920s.

## Operation Full Slate

The Florida effort, dubbed Operation Full Slate, aimed to fill as many of the state's 120 House slots as possible with Libertarian candidates. Of those 88 candidates, 86 are candidates for State House.

Full Slate Coordinator Mark Eckert said the plan was conceived after a Libertarian noticed that ballot access requirements are lowered in redistricting years such as 2002.

Consequently, each candidate was required to turn in just 445 petition signatures, which could come from any Florida resident.

The LP slate for Florida State House is just eight shy of the 93 Re-

publican candidates, and 18 better than the 67 Democrats who are running, said Eckert.

"This is huge," he said. "At least 23 of our candidates have the enormous potential of acting as spoilers in their race, and I believe that up to three candidates will win."

Furthermore, Eckert said the LP has received significant publicity for running such a large number of candidates.

"We have received more press ar-

ticles written about us in the last five months than in the entire history of the Florida Libertarian Party," he said.

Also adding to its candidate roster is the North Carolina LP, which submitted a list of 150 candidates to the secretary of state's office in Raleigh on June 26.

This is nearly triple the 58 candidates the party nominated at its state convention in May, noted state LP Executive Director Sean Haugh — and includes candidates for a majority of

seats in the State Assembly and the State Senate.

"Only the two older parties have ever done anything like that," he said. "We're putting the Democrats and Republicans on notice: Look in your rear-view mirrors, because the Libertarians are gaining fast."

## 57 in Alabama

In Alabama, at least 57 Libertarians have been nominated for public office — including John Sophocleus, the first Libertarian candidate for governor in two decades.

"This ensures voters will have another option," said State Chair Mark

Bodenhausen.

Other state parties running record slates of candidates are Texas (183), Missouri (52), Idaho (49), Indiana (158) and Wisconsin (25).

In a few states, candidate recruitment efforts are still ongoing, said Crickenberger.

"To anyone who has been considering a run for office: Now is the time to commit yourself to the cause," he said. "Whether you plan to run an active or an educational campaign, the Libertarian Party needs you to become a candidate."

To run for office, visit: [www.LP.org/campaigns/run.html](http://www.LP.org/campaigns/run.html).

## Cal Skinner may be in TV debate

Illinois LP gubernatorial candidate Cal Skinner has received a promise from the League of Women Voters (LWV) to include him in their televised gubernatorial debate — if he does well enough in an upcoming poll.

State LP Communications Director Mike Ginsberg said that if Skinner scores at least 5% in an independent poll, the LWV has pledged to invite him to the debate it will sponsor in early or mid-September.

"It's a great opportunity for us," said Ginsberg. "The League's debate is televised across the state. It's the crown jewel of all the debates."

The invitation came after Skinner appeared to do well in another poll.

On August 1, a local CBS-TV affiliate commissioned a poll of 635 likely voters from around the state to gauge support for each of the gubernatorial candidates. The poll had a 3.8% margin of error.

Survey results showed Republican candidate Jim Ryan receiving 34% of the vote, and Democratic candidate Rod Blagojevich garnering 52%.

Although Skinner was not mentioned by name, the poll had "other" at 12%, with only 2% of voters undecided. Skinner and independent candidate Marisellis Brown are the only other candidates on the ballot.

Skinner served eight terms in the Illinois House as a Republican before joining the Libertarian Party in 2002.

For more information, visit: [www.skinnerforgovernor.com](http://www.skinnerforgovernor.com). Or call: (217) 789-6616.

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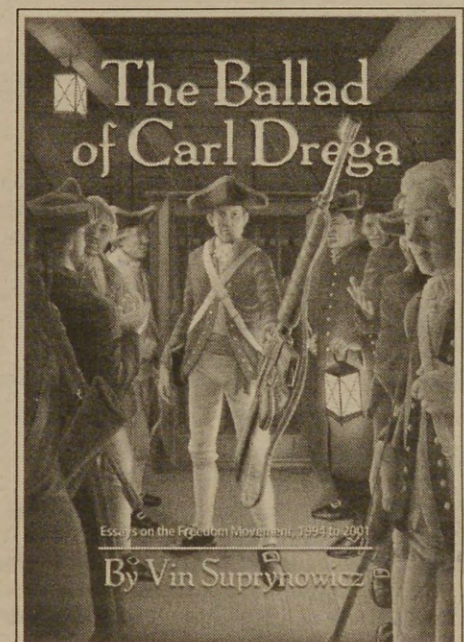
"There were times I wanted to scream, times I wanted to cry, and numerous occasions where I was laughing so hard that I had tears coming out of my eyes."

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## POLITICS 2002

### The thought police, a cruise, and Crossfire

■ In Washington state, **Robin Palachuk** was appointed to the Spokane Regional Transportation Council's Citizen Advisory Board. In Pennsylvania, **George Wright** was appointed to the National School Board Association Federal Relation Network. Wright also serves on the Crawford Central School Board.

■ In Illinois, **John Erder Yackley** is running for State House (11th District). In Wisconsin, **Richard Levandowski** has entered the race for State Assembly (59th District). In Florida, **Craig Russell** has announced his campaign for State House (District 29). In Indiana, **Clark Brittain** will be a candidate for State House (District 61). In Connecticut, **Abelardo Arias** is running for state representative (91st District). In Iowa, **Kevin Litten** is a candidate for U.S. House (2nd District). In Colorado, **Ross Glidewell** has accepted the Colorado LP's nomination for Colorado House (District 15).

■ In Colorado, **Bo Shaffer** was elected Chair of the Boulder County LP. In Maryland, **Shannon McMenamin** was honored with the Champion of Liberty award at the 2002 state convention. Also in Maryland, **Chip Spangler** was elected Chair of the Prince George's County LP.

■ **Media news:** LP Executive Director **Steve Dasbach** appeared on the *Sam Donaldson Show* on the ABC Radio Network on August 2 to discuss various anti-obesity legislation and tax proposals. On the same day, he also appeared on CNN's *Crossfire* to discuss government mandates. In Alabama, lieutenant governor candidate and professional trucker **Lyn Curtis Adams** got a story about his campaign on the eTrucker website in August. The article noted that Adams "says both truck drivers and trucking companies pay too many taxes and deal with too many regulations."

■ In Michigan, **Stephen Townsend** has won the LP's nomination for Midland County Commissioner (District 4). In Colorado, **John Gurley** is running for Mesa County sheriff. In Indiana, **Thomas Jester** left the Republican Party to run as a Libertarian for State House. In Texas, **Marjory Staehle Glowka** has ended her race for Texas Land Commissioner to run for Texas House (District 51). The move "helps the local party retain a presence in a race where the party stands to do well, given the lack of a Republican opponent," said Texas LP Political Director **Robert "Rock" Howard**.

■ In California, Students for Individual Liberty at the Los Angeles Harbor College sponsored a speech by **Tammy Bruce**, bestselling author of *The New Thought Police: Inside the Left's Assault on Free Speech and Free Minds*. Bruce said she voted for George W. Bush, but is now "trying out the Libertarian Party," even though she disagrees with the party's positions on some issues. In Massachusetts, LP gubernatorial candidate **Carla Howell** campaigned on July 28 at the HOGS (Harley Owners Group) charity benefit motorcycle rally to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. In Illinois, gubernatorial candidate **Cal Skinner** garnered media attention in August by calling for higher speed limits on state roads — 65 mph on two-lane highways and 75 on four-lane highways. He also said he'd give counties the option to raise the speed limits on their roads.

■ Libertarian Party Vice Chair **Ken Bisson** announced that his Sixth Annual Libertarian Cruise has been set for June 8, 2003. The seven-day cruise on the Holland America Line, which is open to all LP members (and families), will start in Vancouver, British Columbia (Canada) and go to Seward, Alaska. For more information, visit: <http://kbisson.tripod.com/CRUISE2003.htm>.

■ In Florida, **Dr. Kenneth Mertz** (Vice Chair of the Nassau County LP), was appointed to the Fernandina Beach Port Authority Board, while **William Cole** was appointed by the Supreme Court of Florida to the Thirteenth Circuit Unlicensed Practice of Law Committee "A." The committee reviews and investigates allegations of unlicensed practice of law, and makes recommendations regarding prosecution.

■ In Nebraska, seven LP candidates will appear on the ballot: **Jack Graziano** (U.S. Senate), **Robert Eckerson** (U.S. House, District 1), **Dave Stock** (U.S. House, District 2), **Jerry Hickman** (U.S. House, District 3), **Tudor Lewis** (secretary of state), **Jerry Kosch** (Butler County Board of Supervisors), and **Klaus Lindner** (La Vista City Council). In New Mexico, **Antoinette Fontaine** is running for Lincoln County Commissioner, District 2, along with **Weslie B. Owen** for Lincoln County Commissioner, District 4, and **Bonnie B. Richardson** for Lincoln County Commissioner, District 5.



■ **Tammy Bruce:** "Trying out" LP.

## CAMPAIGN 2002 REPORT

# Jay Bozievich hopes to capitalize on two-way Oregon House contest

*Party-building race turns serious when Republican doesn't run*

By Jonathan Trager  
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

Given the current makeup of the Oregon legislature, Jay Bozievich says his state representative race will be an "extraordinary opportunity" for the Libertarian Party.

That's because with an almost evenly divided state House — 32 Republicans and 28 Democrats — an elected Libertarian could be the key "swing vote" on important legislation.

The result would be a Libertarian representative who wields far more power than a single legislator would ordinarily command, said Bozievich.

"I'd vote with the Democrats to block the Republican social agenda, but vote with the Republicans to block any Democratic attempts to increase taxes or spending," he said. "A representative who consistently supports liberty could be very influential."

The 44-year-old Bozievich wasn't always "running to win" the District 13 seat in the state House. Originally, he was going to use his campaign to help build the Lane County LP, which he helped found several years ago.

However, Bozievich learned that the Republican Party wasn't going to field a candidate in the race. The move was surprising, given the "fiscally conservative" nature of Eugene, Oregon, said Bozievich.

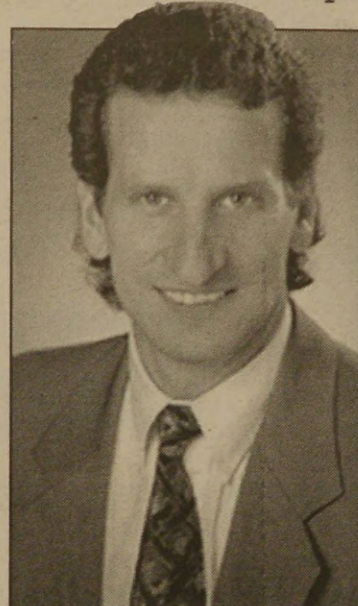
"It seems [the Republicans] were counting on an ex-mayor to be their candidate, but he decided to take some time off for his business instead," he said. "I guess they couldn't find anyone else to run after he dropped out."

### Opponent's track record

That fact transformed Bozievich's campaign from a party-building vehicle into a much more serious undertaking. And given his opponent's track record on fiscal issues, Bozievich said he has reason to be optimistic.

During his opponent's last term, said Bozievich, the Democrat supported raising state "sin" taxes, and delayed a voter-approved tax cut to cover an \$800 million budget deficit. His opponent's taxpayer-hostile voting record earned him a failing grade from the Oregon Taxpayers Association.

Furthermore, the Democrat currently serves on the board of Lane Community College. Due to "financial mismanagement," the college is now faced with "drastic cutbacks in



■ **Jay Bozievich:** "A representative who consistently supports liberty could be very influential."

programs or huge raises in tuition," said Bozievich.

"I plan to tie him to those problems, and ask if that is the foresight the voters want in resolving the state budget problems," he said.

Bozievich said his campaign will primarily focus on cutting taxes and the state budget, which has doubled over the last 10 years from about \$17 billion to roughly \$34 billion.

Such unrestrained spending was "terribly irresponsible," said Bozievich — considering that Oregon has the highest unemployment rate in the nation at 7.4%, and is in desperate need of new jobs.

In addition, Bozievich said he will emphasize reforming the state's public employee retirement fund. The fund has been paying out far more than it is supposed to, running up about \$8.5 billion of debt, he said.

"Basically, the legislature was terribly irresponsible throughout the 1990s, when the economy was booming," he said. "Now that the economy is going down, they expect the taxpayers to foot the bill for all their new programs."

Bozievich said it will probably take about \$45,000 for him to win election in Eugene, a town of about 33,000 registered voters located 100 miles south of Portland.

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To reach voters, Bozievich will address community organizations and clubs, put up signs, and go door-to-door with leaflets.

He will also send mailings to all registered independents and registered Republicans in his district. If he raises enough money, he said he will buy local radio advertisements.

"I want to make it well-known throughout the district that a vote for Jay Bozievich is a vote for economic stability," he said.

Bozievich won't be the only one touting his commitment to the free market. His fiscally frugal campaign has already garnered support from several influential sources, including the Lane County Builders' Association, a current city councilor, and a county commissioner.

### Publicly endorsing

"Even though these are both non-partisan offices, one officer is a registered independent and the other is a registered Republican," he said. "That they are publicly endorsing a Libertarian candidate shows how concerned they are about the state's budget problems."

"We have never had a Libertarian state legislator in Oregon. With hard work and a little luck, I'll be the first."

A member of the Libertarian Party for three years, he currently serves as the state LP communications director. He works as a civil engineer for a water utility company.

For more information, visit: [www.jayboz.com](http://www.jayboz.com). Or e-mail: [jayboz@qwest.net](mailto:jayboz@qwest.net). Or write: Bozievich 2002, 304 Sunnyside Drive, Eugene, OR 97404.

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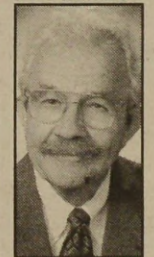
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## Tape Session Title

	GENERAL SESSIONS
LIB02-01	<b>Welcome to Indianapolis, Indiana:</b> Steve Dasbach, Mark Rutherford, Hon. Phil Miller / Tribute to John Perry / Ron Crickenberger, Andy Horning / SPECIAL JULY 4th ADDRESS — From Socialism to Libertarianism: Otto Guevara
LIB02-02	<b>Business Meeting</b>
LIB02-03	<b>GOLD LUNCHEON</b> — The Prospects for Liberty in America: Harry Browne
LIB02-04	<b>OPENING ADDRESS</b> — The Great Government Revenue Scam: John Berthoud / Presentation by Damian Mason
LIB02-5a	<b>Bylaws Committee Report &amp; Debate</b> (THUR 2:30-5:30) - Pt 1 of 2
LIB02-5b	<b>Bylaws Committee Report &amp; Debate</b> (THUR 2:30-5:30) - Pt 2 of 2
LIB02-06	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b> — Setting Priorities in a Free Country: Sheriff Bill Masters
LIB02-7a	<b>Platform Committee Report &amp; Debate</b> (FRI 9:30-11:30) - Pt 1 of 2
LIB02-7b	<b>Platform Committee Report &amp; Debate</b> (FRI 9:30-11:30) - Pt 2 of 2
LIB02-08	<b>CLOSING ADDRESS</b> — The Cheerful Libertarian: David Brin
LIB02-09	<b>GOLD LUNCHEON</b> — Learning the Lessons of 9/11: Ron Paul
LIB02-10	<b>OPENING ADDRESS</b> — Rebecca Sink-Burris, Ed Thompson, Carla Howell
LIB02-11	<b>Platform Committee Report &amp; Debate</b> (FRI 2:45-4:45)
LIB02-12	<b>CLOSING ADDRESS:</b> Steve Dillon, Hon. Gary Johnson (governor, New Mexico)
LIB02-13	<b>MORNING ADDRESS</b> — Personal Responsibility Sets Us Free: Michael Cloud, Reginald Jones
LIB02-14	<b>National Chair Nominating Speeches</b>
LIB02-15	<b>Announcement Of Results By State / Acceptance Speeches/</b> Presentation by Tim Slagle
LIB02-15a	<b>Announcement Of Results By State / Acceptance Speeches</b>
LIB02-16	<b>AFTERNOON ADDRESS</b> — Street Selling Our Message: Spear Lancaster / The Establishment vs. The Second Amendment: Larry Pratt
LIB02-17	<b>LNC Officer Nominating Speeches</b>
LIB02-18	<b>AFTERNOON ADDRESS</b> — Bottom-Up Government: Clyde Cleveland / <b>Announcement of Results by State</b>
LIB02-19	<b>LNC At-Large Nomination Speeches</b>
LIB02-20	<b>MORNING ADDRESS</b> — The Winning Attitude: Gary Nolan / <b>Announcement of LNC At-Large Results / Judicial Committee Nominations</b>
LIB02-21	<b>Announcement of Results / Resolutions</b>

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

LIB02-22	<b>The Temperament Toolkit: Communication Power &amp; Team Building:</b> David Bergland
LIB02-23	<b>Building Consensus on the Tough Issues — Abortion:</b> Dr. Mary Ruwart
LIB02-24	<b>How to Win Hearts and Minds to Liberty:</b> Sharon Harris
LIB02-25	<b>Building Consensus on the Tough Issues — 9/11 Response:</b> Bill Winter, Harry Browne, Moderator: Dr. Mary Ruwart

## Tape Session Title

LIB02-26a	<b>I Want to Get Elected:</b> Phil Miller, David Eisenbacher, Don Gorman, Moderator: Chris Azzaro (Pt 1 of 2)
LIB02-26b	<b>I Want to Get Elected:</b> Same panel as above. (Pt 2 of 2)
LIB02-27	<b>Black-Belt Persuasion:</b> Michael Cloud
LIB02-28	<b>How to Create Short Answers to the Tough Questions:</b> Dr. Mary Ruwart
LIB02-29	<b>Adventures in Public Office:</b> Hon. Willy Marshall, Don Gorman, Fred Collins, Martin Howrylak, Jeff Steinport
LIB02-30	<b>Is That a Burqua on the Bedroom Floor?</b> Sarah Lawrence
LIB02-31	<b>Campus Organizing:</b> James W. Lark III, Marc Brandl
LIB02-32	<b>Drug War Panel:</b> Steve Dillon, Rob Kampia, David Borden, Ron Crickenberger
LIB02-33	<b>Political Action in Costa Rica:</b> Otto Guevara, Mario Vedova, Werner Ossenbach
LIB02-34	<b>Public Policy Panel:</b> Kurt Weber, Craig Ladwig, John Berthoud, Sue Blevins
LIB02-35	<b>Libertarian Lawmen Panel:</b> John Buttrick, Bill Masters

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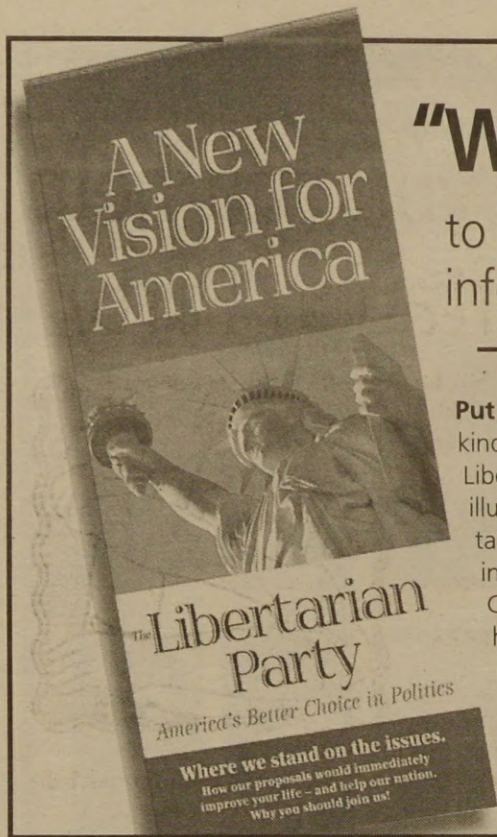
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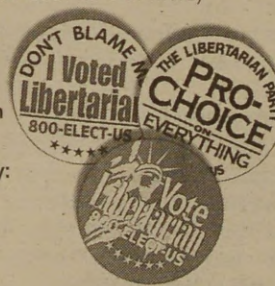
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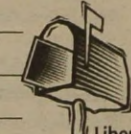
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# Biff Baker seeks justice in U.S. House campaign

Continued from Page 4

Then, in March 2002, Baker attended a speech at Schriever Air Force Base in Colorado Springs. The speaker was John W. Holly, the one-star general who heads the Missile Defense Agency operation in Washington DC.

After the speech, Baker approached Holly and told him about the apparent violations of federal law. He also gave Holly a letter that contained evidence of the improperly awarded contracts.

"When I gave [Holly] the letter and told him what I knew, he turned white," said Baker. "It made the hair stand up on the back of my neck."

Baker said Holly promised to investigate the allegations, and assured Baker that he would not lose his job for blowing the whistle.

Eight days later, Baker was fired. At that time, Baker's boss at COLSA, Ken Grant, told Baker that he had been taken off the missile-defense contract at the behest of Thomas DeVanney, a deputy to General Holly. Later, Grant would tell Baker the order had originated from Holly himself.

## Honest, forthright

In an interview with the *Colorado Springs Independent*, Grant declined to comment on the details of Baker's dismissal. However, he did say Baker had been a "productive employee" and "honest, forthright, and congenial."

Spokespersons for SY Technology and the Space and Missile Defense Command have refused to comment on the details of Baker's allegations.

However, the Space and Missile Command has since claimed that SY Technology was awarded no-bid contracts because it was "uniquely qualified" to do the work. It later acknowledged that, in fact, this wasn't the case, and said such contracts would be awarded on a competitive basis in the future.

That decision didn't come soon enough for SY Technology competitor DESE Research, which filed a lawsuit against SY Technology, spear-

**"THIS GUY'S A U.S. Congressman, and he can't contact me for three months to investigate \$100 million in fraud?"**

**—Biff Baker**

headed by attorney Howell Roger Riggs.

The suit, filed in February in a district court in Huntsville, Alabama, charged that SY Technology's cozy relationship with the Space and Missile Defense Command is a payoff for Gamer's service at his old post.

After losing his job, Baker sought protection under the federal Whistleblower's Protection Act.

But in May, the Inspector General at the Department of Defense told him that whistleblower protection applies only to employees of "prime contractors" with a government department — not subcontractors, as was the case with Baker.

"It was extremely disappointing," said Baker. "It's not difficult to see why other people don't want to come forward when they discover things aren't right — they don't want to lose their jobs."

## Shady practices

A frustrated Baker embarked on a campaign to contact his representatives in the U.S. Congress, hoping to persuade them to launch an investigation into the government's "shady contractual practices."

Consequently, U.S. Senator Wayne Allard asked the General Accounting Office and the Department of Defense Inspector General to investigate. Baker said he doesn't think the matter is being vigorously pursued, but is "thankful" that Allard has been

responsive.

By contrast, Baker said his U.S. Representative, Republican Joel Hefley, has not been nearly as cooperative.

For three months, Baker said he called, wrote, and e-mailed Hefley's office, and never heard from the Congressman. It was only after the article on Baker's travails appeared in the *Colorado Springs Independent* that he finally received a letter from Hefley.

Even then, said Baker, Hefley made excuses why he hadn't contacted Baker sooner, and told Baker that "these things take time."

## Doesn't really care

"This guy's a United States Congressman, and he can't contact me for three months to investigate \$100 million in fraud?" asked Baker. "Give me a break. He has proven that he doesn't really care about taxpayers."

And that's why Baker said he is challenging Hefley in the November election.

Since he received the Libertarian Party's endorsement in May, Baker has given speeches, distributed campaign fliers, and gone door-to-door soliciting votes in the district.

He has also taken out full and half-page local newspaper ads and appeared on several radio shows, touting his military background and his crusade against missile-defense corruption.

If he wins the race in November, the individuals involved with the missile-defense program who are defrauding taxpayers will be investigated and prosecuted, vowed Baker.

"When I was at West Point, we were taught to live our lives by a code of honor," he said. "I feel like I have done that, and I'm not about to stop now."

A lieutenant colonel when he retired from the U.S. Army, Baker is a former Army Ranger and a staffer at the American Embassy in Kuwait.

He currently works as an associate professor at Colorado Technical University, teaching business and management. He is married and has two children.

For more information, or to make a contribution, visit: [www.biff1.org](http://www.biff1.org). Or write: Biff Baker 2002, 6660 Delmonico Drive, Suite D #408, Colorado Springs, CO 80919.

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- 6) Establish a local affiliate of the Advocates for Self-Government.
- 7) Set up and operate a Libertarian Party or Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) booth at a county fair, gun show, or other event. Or volunteer to work at an OPH booth that has already been organized.
- 8) Write letters to the editor supporting liberty in local and state affairs.
- 9) Provide literature about Libertarianism to local libraries, senior citizen centers, and other locations.
- 10) Join the monthly pledge program for your local, state, or national Libertarian Party.
- 11) Volunteer to do a specific task for your state party — such as serv-



ing as newsletter editor, outreach director, or events organizer.

12) Attend the next convention of your state Libertarian Party. Get to know your fellow Libertarians and find out what your state chapter is doing.

13) Run for office as a Libertarian.

14) Volunteer for the campaign of a Libertarian candidate.

15) Help a Libertarian candidate by donating money to his or her campaign.

16) After you finish reading it, leave this issue of *LP News* at a local laundromat, coffee shop, or recreation center.

■ **Editor's note:** This article adapted from an essay in the *South Dakota Freedom Rider*.

# Arizona LP gets victory, delay in primary lawsuit

Continued from Page 16

vote in our primary, yet [according to party bylaws] we can't nominate anyone who is not a registered Libertarian."

The open primary law was passed by voters in 1998.

In their lawsuit, Libertarians argued that the system violated their Constitutional right to freedom of association. Judge Raner Collins of the Federal District Court agreed, and struck down the open primary law.

However, the state attorney general immediately appealed the decision to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, which granted a stay on August 7.

## Early 2003

The stay will prevent the ruling from taking effect, pending the outcome of the appeal. A decision is not expected before early 2003.

The stay is a setback, said Schmerl, since it means that the LP's September 10 primary election remains open to outside voters. However, he said, prospects for victory are still good.

"This is part of the process," he said. "I still think our substantive arguments are strong."

The suit is *Arizona Libertarian Party, Inc. vs. [Secretary of State] Bayless*.

## CORRECTIONS

■ In the review of George M. Stephens' *Locke, Jefferson and the Justices* in the August 2002 issue, *LP News* incorrectly described the outcome of the 1905 Supreme Court case, *Lochner vs. New York*. In the case, the high court actually struck down a New York law limiting bakeries to a 60-hour work week. Oliver Wendell Holmes dissented, arguing that the government did have the power to regulate business. *LP News* regrets the error.

■ In a News Brief item in the August 2002 issue about the stalled *Atlas Shrugged* miniseries, *LP News* incorrectly spelled the name of James Bidinotto, the director of the Atlas Society.

# Medical marijuana case is legal setback

Continued from Page 4

given a statement attributed to Epis that said, "I never profited from medical cannabis, and [only] provided it to seriously ill patients with a doctor's recommendation."

Furthermore, potential jurors received a pamphlet from the Fully Informed Jury Association that informed jurors of their right "to judge the law itself and vote on the verdict according to conscience."

As a result, Damrell dismissed 42 prospective jurors, called in a new panel, and set a hearing for August 1 to determine whether Epis was guilty of obstructing justice by attempting to influence a jury.

Epis' lawyer, however, argued that Epis had nothing to do with the distribution of the materials, suggesting that the vocal crowd of medical marijuana activists who had been demonstrating outside the courthouse may have been responsible.

## Weeks of testimony

The new jury then heard about two weeks of testimony, including that of Epis and other witnesses on the subject of medical marijuana.

However, Damrell instructed the jury to disregard the medical-use defense, and the panel took less than four hours to return with a guilty verdict.

Epis' attorney has said he plans to appeal the decision.

The verdict was "terrible news," said Hilary McQuie of Americans for Safe Access, a medical marijuana lobbying group. "We fervently hope Bryan will win his appeal."

The Epis case, which was the first federal criminal case involving a medical marijuana distribution center to reach a jury, shows that federal drug laws urgently need to be changed, said Crickenberger.

"Until we elect officeholders who support ending the disastrous War on Drugs, peaceful and honest people like Mr. Epis will continue to be sacrificed on its altar," he said.



## THE FORUM

# Why is the federal government dictating our television format?

Suppose that in the early 1970s a government agency looked into the future, decided that the future of video recording was with Cartrivision (a promising system of the time), and mandated that all video manufacturers use Cartrivision.

We probably never would have had VHS, Beta, 8mm, or DVD. We'd still be dealing with clumsy, one-hour videotapes of questionable fidelity.

Suppose in the 1960s a government agency dictated that 8-track cartridges were the "industry standard" for audio recording — precluding any development of cassettes, CDs, or mini-disks.

Or suppose in the 1980s a government agency decreed that manufacturers must build all computers around the MS-DOS operating system — stifling the development of Macintosh, Linux, or other systems.

What kind of a country would America be if government agencies could make such decisions and force everyone to abide by them?

Well, I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but that is the kind of America we have. No, the government doesn't dictate video, audio, and computer formats — but that may not

be very far away.

It already forces standards on the health-care industry, education, charities, the securities business, and most other areas.

The result is schools that are a constant scandal, a stifling of investment innovation, and a deterioration in what was once the best health-care system the world had ever seen.

### There goes your TV

And now they're trying to reduce your choices in television.

In 1997, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) decided that the television of the future must be digital (unlike the current analog system we use). The FCC dictated that all American TV stations must install the necessary equipment to transmit digital TV signals by 2002.

The cost to do this is roughly \$3 million per station. For some small TV stations, that's 10 years' worth of earnings. Where is the money supposed to come from?

As a result, less than one-third of all American TV stations met this

By Harry Browne

year's May 1st deadline. Many of them will lose their licenses for not complying. The stations aren't likely to be taken over by larger companies — because they're in small markets, and so the \$3 million conversion cost doesn't make financial sense, no matter how rich a station owner is. So there will be fewer TV stations for viewers to choose from.

Meanwhile, there is very little digital TV programming, and practically no digital TV sets in homes. But no matter. The FCC is going to force progress on us.

### Compulsion

In fact, however, this isn't progress. Progress doesn't come from coercing people. If it did, we ought to bring back slavery.

Progress comes when people are free to experiment, to innovate, to offer new ideas and products — when there is no national policy that forces one way upon everyone. When one system succeeds in totally unregulated competition because it meets more of what consumers are willing

to pay for — and eventually it's supplanted by something even better.

It's amazing that some folks still think the free market is thoughtless and brutal, while government is supposedly kind and benevolent.

### Responsibility

How can federal bureaucrats impose this ridiculous TV order on the marketplace — probably reducing the number of TV stations?

subsidize the losses they've created.

It's important to realize that whenever you give power to politicians or bureaucrats, it will be used for what they want, not for what you want. It will be used to enrich their friends and punish their enemies, not to make business more efficient or society more just.

The Founding Fathers recognized this, and so they created a Constitution that limited the federal government to a few specified functions. This provided the best political system in history.

Unfortunately, the Constitution wasn't self-enforcing — and within a hundred years the politicians had managed to circumvent it.

It will be a tough road getting back to a free society. But you can help if you realize that no new government program — not school vouchers, not corporate regulation, not medical savings accounts, not anything — will make things better for you. It will be used by politicians and bureaucrats to make things better for themselves.

You can't solve the dilemma of big government by yourself. But at least you can make sure you're not part of the problem

— by not supporting any new government program, and by refusing to support politicians who claim that government will make things better.

■ **About the author:** Harry Browne is the Director of Public Policy for the American Liberty Foundation. He was the Libertarian Party's 1996 and 2000 presidential candidate.



It's because no one responsible for it will suffer for the mistake. None of them will pay the bankruptcy costs for stations going out of business, no one will lose his job for using heavy-handed power to impose a personal preference on people who know far more about what they're doing. In fact, the bureaucrats may even get more of your money — so they can

# The tough lessons LP candidates must learn to be successful

What name are we sometimes called? "Losertarians." Why have we earned it, and what can we do to defeat it?

We have earned it because we incessantly run candidates that are candidates on paper only, simply to hold a place on the ballots.

Let me give you a little background about me. My father was one of the people in South Carolina who helped initiate the state Republican Party.

He was a die-hard Republican; so much so that, as a teenager, I challenged his authority and argued for the Democratic platform.

As I grew a little older, however, I became a diehard Republican, too. It was my religion, my commitment, my life.

My family was so much into the Republican Party that, when my father passed away, Senator Strom Thurmond called us personally to offer his condolences.

What caused me to pull back from the Republican Party was a state convention that I attended as a delegate. Here were Republicans, whom I thought were soul sisters and brothers, talking about the legislation of morality by espousing laws against gambling and abortion.

"Wait a minute!" I protested. "Legislating private lives is what

Democrats do, not Republicans! Aren't we the party that supports personal responsibility, and the individual freedom to make choices?"

I was shouted down and physically threatened. I abandoned the party immediately.

### Embraced

When I discovered that there was a party out there that actually did believe that adults were capable of making their own decisions and accepting responsibility for their own actions, I embraced it wholeheartedly.

I had been a columnist for a small

weekly newspaper for many years, espousing what I thought were Republican — but what later turned out to be Libertarian — approaches to solving the problems of my community. I also wrote letters, once or twice a month, to the local daily newspaper, protesting government or political actions that took away liberty.

Moreover, I went to county council meetings and city council meetings, at which I stood in protest on behalf of the taxpaying citizenry. I joined groups that supported taxpayers' rights. (I was also a volunteer firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician.)

I became well known in my community as someone who would stick up for what was right for the people, not the politicians. I kept people informed through my columns.

Basically, I did exactly what my father and his compatriots did 30



By Bea Jones

years ago — I kept arguments going, kept people informed, and kept people thinking.

When I ran for Hardeeville City Council in May, many people I have influenced over the years, argued with, and helped backed my candidacy.

It wasn't easy. My daughter picked up the phone one afternoon and into a 13-year-old's ear, someone said "We're going to kill you and your mother."

I was more angry than upset, as was my daughter, because the caller hadn't the courage to identify himself. He just wanted to use his voice to intimidate us and shut me up. If anything, it made me more vocal.

That is my background. Let me show you what it has taught me.

### Disparaged, ignored

Frequently, in the Libertarian Party, candidates who run for non-partisan seats are disparaged or ignored. Certain members of the Libertarian Party hierarchy believe that the Libertarian name on the ballot is everything. It is not.

The Libertarian Party is sometimes dismissed as a bunch of eggheads with unworkable theories. The only way to prove that the party is more

than a group of Cato-headed theorists is to get Libertarians into positions where they can make an actual difference.

Active, hard-working, committed Libertarians who can prove that government can operate on a limited basis — and still raise the standard of living for all.

You can yammer on about Austrian economics until your audience audibly snores, but until you get off of your high horse and actually present workable ideas and simple solutions, Libertarians will be ignored.

The first questions that should be asked about any Libertarian candidacy are:

1) Is this person a committed member of the community, with examples of service or protests behind him or her?

2) Is this person well known in his or her community as a hardworking citizen and/or a volunteer for projects that espouse Libertarian ideals?

3) Does this person understand the political process?

Number (3) is the most important of all.

You see, it is not the candidate See **GET ELECTED** Page 25



# You've won your election! So what do you do next?

Those who were not in Indianapolis for the National Convention missed a thought-provoking talk by Maricopa County Superior Court Judge John Buttrick.

What does the Hon. Judge Buttrick do when a prostitute and her customer are brought into his court? As a Libertarian, he should dismiss the case, holding that the law that brought them into his court should not be on the books. But if he does that, he will be impeached.

Further, we would want him impeached, as the Constitution was written to prevent one individual or group from imposing their will on others. As an officer of the court, his obligation is to uphold the law, and the Arizona and U.S. constitutions. This is not a matter of choice.

## Good conscience

Judge Buttrick insightfully made the point that before we run for office, we must decide whether or not we can do a job of which we may not approve. An excellent point, because, as he said, if you can't in good conscience do the job, don't run.

But it brings home a much more important point that the LP must deal with. Our candidates, when elected, do not have the option of implementing a Libertarian agenda overnight.

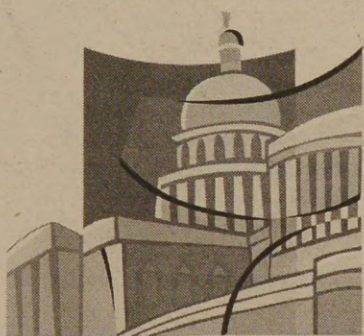
As I mentioned, our constitutional government is designed to prevent exactly that which we, as Libertarians, might like to do. Inevitably, our successful candidates will either violate their principles, or not do the job they were elected to do. The latter will result in the public percep-

tion that Libertarians will not do the job, so don't elect them.

This obviously is not the result we want. We want the public to think of Libertarians as the best possible choice for any office, and that puts us in a bind philosophically.

Though we have taught our candidates how to campaign, how to raise funds, how to get their message out — in other words, how to win an elec-

**By George Squyres**



tion — we have not taught them what to do when they win!

Unfortunately, when they are unable to implement the Libertarian agenda instantly, we have sometimes turned on them. For example, Scott Stewart was elected to the Pima County Community College board in Arizona and ended up voting to renew property taxes.

Did we educate him on being an elected Libertarian — or throw him in and hope he would figure it out?

This is not to defend Stewart's vote, but to recognize that we have not addressed this issue. We cannot

put people into a position where they are required to violate principle in order to do the job, and then crucify them when they do.

The solution is to educate our people about how to use a situation to make the case for Libertarianism.

For example: "Schools should be privately funded. No one should have to pay the cost of educating someone else's children, just because they own a piece of real estate. As a Libertarian, I cannot support funding schools by taxation, but if we remove the funding today without providing an alternative, the school will close tomorrow. So I will discharge my responsibilities, but I'm not going to do so without stating how wrong I think this is."

## Gets message out

A message like this can be put out by Libertarians in office, and will show that Libertarians can be relied on. It also gets the message out. Providing rhetoric along these lines gives our candidates the tools they need to deal with an impossible task.

Failing this, either our members view us as compromising our integrity, or the public views us as someone they don't want to elect.

A goal that emerged in the Strategic Planning process was to remain the party of principle as we grow. As we win more elections, we will confront situations that demand we play hardball with the big boys.

If we are to remain the party of principle, we had better decide how we are going to do a dirty job and still maintain our best weapon — our principles. If we don't, the road's going to get pretty bumpy.

■ **About the author:** George Squyres of Arizona is the Region 2 Representative to the Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

# Here's what to do to get elected to public office

*Continued from Page 24*

that is the problem — it is the public perception of the candidate. Any candidate who thinks that money is the whole problem with the Libertarian political progress has lost the election already. You have to change the public's perception of what Libertarianism is.

To do this, yes, it is important to have money for radio and television advertising.

However, what is more effective than a campaign based on the "You know me" principle?

In other words, a Tax Day protest is good, but not good enough. A radio show interview is good, but not good enough. Everything that gets Libertarians exposure is good — but not good enough.

The candidate must be chosen to run long before any election occurs, based on his or her commitment and action in his community.

Do you think that the other parties do not carefully groom and promote their candidates — especially for higher office — long before they run for any elected position?

## Hasn't a prayer

I am in e-mail contact with a Republican candidate for South Carolina governor. She is thoroughly committed, well-educated, and well-spoken. However, as much as I admire her courage and thoughtfulness, I told her that she hasn't a prayer.

Why? Because the Republicans have already groomed someone else over the past 10 years to take the nomination.

It isn't fair. It isn't right. But that is how the political process works. The parties that want to put their candidates in office know this.

If we want to start putting candidates in office — particularly higher office — we have to start small and work our way up. We have to present candidates with knowledge, experience, and intelligence. We have to start flooding the smaller towns with Libertarian ideals and candidates. Then we will have groomed, educated, popular candidates who can take state and federal offices with ease.

## A necessary evil

Yes, I recognize the necessity of keeping the Libertarian name on the ballot in every state. Name recognition is important; ballot retention even more so. It is a necessary evil.

However, shouldn't we be getting involved in our local political processes as well — grooming ourselves for those non-important, non-partisan elections where we have a chance to put our feet on the first rungs of the ladder?

"So, you're a Libertarian? What have you done for your community lately?"

This should be the litmus test for all Libertarians. Until we live it, we can't prove it works — not even to ourselves.

■ **About the author:** Beatrice M. Jones was elected to a seat on the non-partisan Hardeeville city council (South Carolina) in May. She is also the Chair of the Jasper County Libertarian Party.

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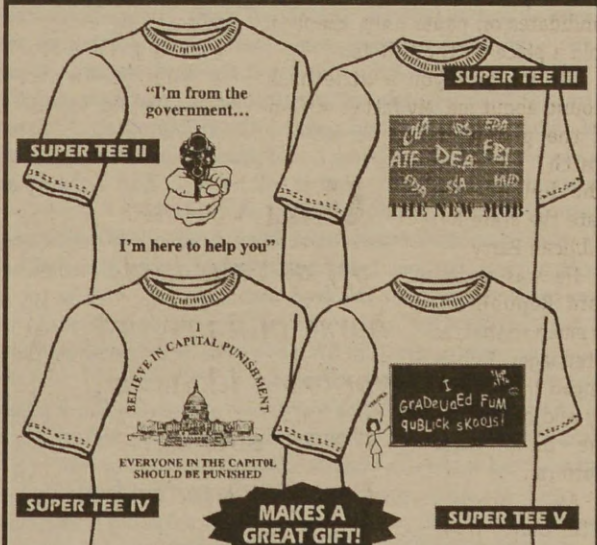
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## THE DIRECTOR

# Who poses the greater danger to our liberty?

**W**ho poses the greatest threat to our lives and liberty? As we mark the first anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, it's important that Libertarians step forward to challenge the conventional wisdom that terrorism poses the greatest threat to our lives and liberty. Speaking bluntly — it doesn't.

Yes, terrorists took over 3,000 lives a year ago. And there will be more terrorist attacks, and more innocent lives will be lost.

But we need to keep this in perspective. Far more lives are lost every year due to the misguided policies of our own government.

Americans die because government denies them the right to carry a weapon. Americans die because violent felons are released from jail to make room for non-violent drug users serving federally mandated sentences. Americans die because the FDA denies them access to new life-saving medicines.

Americans like Peter McWilliams die because they are prevented from using medical marijuana to control the nausea produced by chemotherapy and AIDS medications, as part of the government's continuing war on people who use drugs.

**And, while would-be terrorists can threaten our lives,** they can't threaten our liberty. Only politicians overreacting to the threat of terrorism can accomplish that.

As Walter Williams wrote, "It's *Washington*, not Osama bin Laden, that represents the greatest threat to both liberty and security . . .

"Americans have bought into the most massive government growth since the LBJ days and attacks on our liberties out of the mistaken belief that there's a tradeoff between liberty and security. We're willing to permit government to take away our ability to move about freely, take away our personal privacy, and number and process us — all in the name of security against terrorist attacks."

Three years ago, Libertarians successfully defeated the FDIC's "Know Your Customer" bank-spying regulations. However, 9/11 provided the excuse to implement similar regulations in the name of fighting terrorists. The regulations haven't helped catch any terrorists yet, but they've succeeded in reducing our liberty. And Americans are putting up with it.

Random roadblocks are occurring more frequently, and for ever more ridiculous reasons. Unbelievably, Florida state troopers were recently pulling people over to take a mass transit survey. And Americans are putting up with it.

**Every time you think that airport security measures can't get any more absurd,** you read about a situation like 9-year-old Ryan Scott, whose 4-inch G.I. Joe rifle and tiny toy pistols were confiscated at an airport as federally prohibited items. It sounds too absurd to be real — but it's happening. And Americans are putting up with it.

The USA Patriot Act is the law of the land. National ID cards are coming. Bush and Ashcroft even proposed creating a massive network of citizen informants and spies — the TIPS program — that would have seemed right at home in Communist East Germany. TIPS has been blocked for the moment, but it will be back. And if there's another terrorist attack, it will probably pass.

American citizens have even been detained without being charged with a crime, without being permitted to see an attorney, because they are suspected of being involved with terrorists. And far too many Americans seem to think that's OK. They don't understand that once you give government that kind of power, it is inevitable that it will be turned against the innocent as well as the guilty.

**And it gets worse.** The war drums are beating for a preemptive attack on Iraq. Launched by presidential decree. Not in response to an attack, and without a Congressional declaration of war.

And, of course, every pork-barrel project has suddenly become a matter of national security. Government spending is skyrocketing, and surpluses have given way to expanding deficits.

Some Republicans may quietly bemoan the expansion of government power in the name of fighting terrorism, but they aren't likely to stand up and oppose their president. Some Democrats may be dismayed at the loss of civil liberties in the name of fighting terrorism, but they are too afraid of being branded as unpatriotic to take a stand.

As Libertarians, we can best honor those who perished at the hands of terrorists by ensuring that our precious liberties don't perish at the hands of politicians. For if we don't stand up for liberty, who will?



**By Steve Dasbach**

LP EXEC. DIRECTOR

# The truth about drug companies (that Peter Jennings didn't tell)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, *LP News* will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a more libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.

**By Merrill Matthews and Joseph L. Bast**

THE HEARTLAND INSTITUTE

**O**n May 29, ABC aired an hour-long attack on the nation's pharmaceutical industry masquerading as an objective documentary. Narrated by Peter Jennings, the program accused the industry of free-riding off taxpayers, earning "huge profits" by manipulating patents, marketing "me-too" drugs instead of finding new cures, and suppressing research exposing the dangerous side-effects of its products.

The documentary's title, *Bitter Medicine: Pills, Profit and the Public Health*, should have tipped off viewers that the program was not an objective view of a complex subject. Language used throughout the program was uncompromising and misleading.

Drug companies, Jennings said, earn "huge profits" partly by letting taxpayers finance basic research. Jennings said repeatedly, in a tone indicating he expected viewers to be shocked, that drug manufacturers are allowed to market new products that haven't been proven to be better than those already on the market.

## Huge profits?

According to Jennings, the pharmaceutical industry is the most profitable in the country. The likely source for the assertion (Jennings didn't say) is *Fortune* magazine's annual ranking (April 15, 2002) of the top 500 companies. The 14 companies that make up the "pharmaceuticals" category had a median profit (as a percentage of revenue) of 18%, more than any other industry's median.

Jennings did not report the profitability of individual companies. The most profitable drug company on the *Fortune* list is Amgen (28%). Three other companies came in at 24%. Pharmacia and Abbott both report 7%, according to *Fortune*, and Gemzyme was at negative 9%.

Compare this to Coca-Cola's 20% profit; Bank of New York (19%); Mellon Financial (33%) (more than any drug company); Microsoft (29%); Oracle (24%); AT&T (13%); and SBC Communications (16%). Even the *Washington Post* earned a 10% profit, as much as or more than four of the 14 drug companies on the list.

## Libertarian SOLUTIONS

Yes, most of the drug companies are profitable, but no more so than many other companies in other fields. There are companies in other industries that are even more profitable — and a Coca-Cola never saved a life.

## Enough innovation?

*Bitter Medicine* suggested there are fewer original drugs being produced today than in the past. The actual record contradicts this: Twenty new drugs were approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 1988 and 23 in 1989, compared to 27 in 2000 and 24 in 2001.

The pharmaceutical industry in-



the best-selling drugs today were funded by the NIH. But according to the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers Association (PhRMA), the trade association for the manufacturers of innovative drugs, industry outspent NIH \$26 billion to \$18 billion in 2000. According to the NIH itself, only four out of the 47 best-selling drugs were developed in part with NIH funding.

How much of the industry's spending on R&D goes toward new drugs? According to PhRMA, 78% is spent on innovative new products. At the current time more than 400 new medicines for cancer, 122 for heart disease and stroke, and 24 for Alzheimer's are undergoing testing.

Is this record "good enough"? No one can say how many new drugs "should" be discovered each year. We do know that regulations requiring extensive testing of new drugs before they can be marketed lengthen the time it takes for a newly discovered drug to reach the market and dramatically increase the cost.

It may also be true that as medicine finds more cures for more diseases, the "easy" diseases disappear from the list, and those that remain are tougher and take longer to find a cure. Another possibility is that many diseases without cures affect smaller populations, making it more difficult for drug companies to justify the high cost of getting a drug approved.

## New and improved?

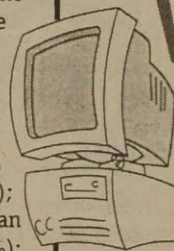
According to a study from a managed care advocacy organization cited by Jennings, 80% of "new" drugs are not "significantly different" or "proven to be more effective" than drugs already on the market. But it is impossible even for experts, much less television commentators, to characterize most or even some changes to prescription drugs as being medically "insignificant."

Some of the doctors interviewed in the program did not think some new drugs are better than others. If he had wanted to present balanced coverage, Jennings easily could have found very respected doctors who believe some of the new drugs are better than others.

Doctors have different opinions about the best drugs and therapies available. That's not greed or conspiracy; it's medicine. No two patients are exactly alike, and no two doctors have past experiences so similar that they will always make the same diagnoses or prescribe the same medicine. In cases such as depression, where symptoms can change over time and are often elusive, the only way to determine the best drug for a

See **MEDICINE** Page 30

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## THE MAILBOX



### Read the book

Brendan Kinney's letter regarding Vin Suprynowicz's new book ("Cold-blooded killer," August 2002) was hilarious! To summarize, "While I have not read the book, I disagree strongly with its conclusions."

It's one thing to make hasty assumptions about a book based on an advertisement you've seen. But if your first impression arouses enough emotion in you to prompt a letter to the editor, wouldn't you want to read the book before sending the letter, just to be sure your first impression was correct?

As someone who has read *The Ballad of Carl Drega*, I can state that Mr. Kinney's assumptions are wrong. Vin Suprynowicz does not "put Carl Drega on the same footing as someone like Peter McWilliams." In fact, Vin goes to great pains to explain why he does not advocate anyone doing what Carl Drega did. (In particular, Vin warns that relatively innocent people are likely to die, such as the reporter Drega killed.)

I highly recommend that anyone and everyone in the freedom movement read *The Ballad of Carl Drega* immediately. It contains lots of valuable stuff that you won't see if you've only read Vin's columns (even more so if you've only read his advertisements).

More importantly, buy it for someone outside the movement. It could be the Common Sense of our time.

— JIM LESZYNSKI  
New York, New York

### The debate begins

A response to Brendan Kinney:  
As a Libertarian, I'm sure you have at one time or another shared the

frustration most of us can remember hearing expressed among our ranks as: "Jeez, how can our arguments win the day if we can't even get them heard?" I see my new book has caught your attention. First goal achieved.

Now, you wonder how I can "attempt to martyr Carl Drega as a freedom fighter." (While of course I can hardly be the one to "martyr" someone already dead, I believe I do take your meaning.)

**IS IT YOUR BELIEF  
that the first  
martyrs on the side  
of liberty in any  
struggle can be  
hand-chosen as  
ideal 'poster boys'?**

You wonder why I would include Drega in my chronicles. At the risk of seeming self-serving, I might suggest you read the book and see. You might just find I've gone to some considerable trouble to assert that I neither endorse his actions nor recommend that anyone emulate them . . . yet.

On the other hand, if and when the time does finally come for us to "water the tree of liberty with the blood of patriots, and of tyrants," as Mr. Jefferson advised us would be necessary, perhaps you can instruct us how we're to identify the agents

of the state who are to be spared. Will you be issuing them little ID bracelets?

And is it your belief or experience that the first martyrs on the side of liberty in any such struggle can usually be hand-chosen as ideal "poster boys"?

What do we really know, for instance, of the character, motivations, and moral stature of Crispus Atticus, or those first eight farmers who fell on the green at Lexington, in that commonwealth so near to you which now proudly warns new arrivals, "Have a Gun, Go to Jail."

Should Tom Paine and Sam Adams have rubbed their chins, said, "What, the only casualty was some black guy?" and refrained from publicizing the Boston Massacre until some more "suitable" martyr came along?

Yes, I dare say I would have elicited less controversy if I'd simply titled the book "Essays on the Freedom Movement 1994-2001," as at least one well-meaning friend advised me, after he delayed reading my first book, *Send in the Waco Killers*, for months under the misimpression it was about Waco.

But should that be our goal — to package our libertarian message within bland and inoffensive covers which just sit there on the shelves until being returned to the distributor, unsold, after 90 days . . . all to avoid the slings and arrows of unpleasant "controversy"?

Are we in need of more bland and academic treatises on Austrian economics? Do you believe that listing just one or two more such titles in the *Laissez Faire* catalog will finally put us over the top?

See **MAILBOX** Page 28

## THE PULSE

### The LP News report card

To paraphrase that exemplar of thespian achievement, Sally Field: "You like us! You really like us!"  
Except for those of you who don't, that is.  
And, of course, except for those of you who didn't express a clear opinion.

In response to this month's unscientific Pulse question — "Do you think *LP News* is doing a good job? And what could we do to improve?" — a plurality (41.7%) gave the newspaper generally favorable reviews.

The most popular features, according to readers: The Talking Points page and The Pulse column.

On the other hand, 25% of the respondents were generally critical, while 33.3% did not state a definitive opinion about the overall merits of *LP News*.

In the suggestion department, comments were all over the map. The only suggestion brought up by more than one reader was to stop continuing articles on later pages. (Editor's note: That's a reasonable suggestion, but one that is extremely difficult to implement — unless we start running very short articles.)

With no punches pulled, here is a representative sampling of the responses from *LP News* readers . . .

■ *LP News* is a great publication that I look forward to every month. I have no suggestions for improvement. Talking Points is my favorite feature.

— STU YOUNG, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

■ Preach activism in *LP News*. When we cover local groups, we [should] emphasize messages like, "We did it, and so can you. At first we were shy, but the more we did the easier it got." That's leading with your examples. *LP News* needs to have a peel-off sticker where members' names are. Then each of our members can peel off their sticker and place *LP News* in a local school, library, grocery store, or office lobby.

— AARON BITERMAN, Brookfield, Wisconsin

■ *LP News* makes me angry and hopeful. The reporting on government excess and infringement on liberty makes me angry. The reporting on candidates and activists makes me hopeful. It is one of the few publications that I actually read from cover to cover. When I'm finished with a copy, I leave it in a public place in the hope that someone might pick it up and feel the same way. I wouldn't change a thing.

— ERIC DECKER, Chelmsford, Massachusetts

■ Improve *LP News*? I read most of it (except ads I've seen before). Guess I like The Pulse best; it's interactive. One improvement? Give the *Liberty* magazine people a monthly column, or a monthly paragraph in which they ask questions for the party to answer; face up to some hard constructive criticism.

— ANDREW LOHR, Chattanooga, Tennessee

■ What one thing could be done to improve *LP News*? Avoid hype. Example from the August 2001 edition: "According to a report by the Institute of Medicine, 98,000 Americans are killed every year by medical errors." I repeated this in a letter to a local newspaper, and the editor called me on it. Estimates from the Institute of Medicine range from 44,000 to 98,000 deaths per year.

— BOB DOSTAL, Iowa City, Iowa

■ *LP News* is doing a very good job. I especially enjoy the column by editor Bill Winter. His columns are insightful, interesting, and readable.

— ERIC ANDREW ROWLEY, Simi Valley, California

■ I would like to see a question and answer section. People would write in and ask specific questions that are difficult to answer through normal channels. Then the brightest minds of the LP can get together and provide good and complete answers. Examples: What are the most libertarian counties in a given state? How many people commit suicide each year as a result of abuse by the IRS?

— JOHN MARTIN, Wetumpka, Alabama

■ I just read the August issue and my favorite section was "Talking Points." I found every single item in there to be fascinating, informative, and revealing. That one page alone should be enough to convince anyone to vote Libertarian!

— TOM PARKER, Louisville, Colorado

■ Please quit splitting up articles! I'm tired of going from page 1 to page 16, back to page 1, off to page 2, back to page 1, then off to

See **THE PULSE** Page 28



## THE PULSE

Continued from Page 27

page 20! Keep these good articles continuous, so we can read *LP News* from front to back without skipping around.

— CHUCK HADDAD, Sparks, Nevada

■ Yes, *LP News* does a good job. One of the best parts of all good papers and magazines are the letters to the editor, or just commentary. These give local color, and demonstrate many common and uncommon viewpoints about many aspects of what's going on, high and low points in the political arena, ways and means to get things done. The MailBox, like Brickbats in *Reason*, has lots of information that doesn't make other media. I'd do a whole centerfold of these things, and as much as possible put whole items together, so if someone wants to take them out, they don't have parts scattered all through the paper.

— CHRISTINA GROTH, Hobbs, New Mexico

■ *LP News* and the *New American* magazine provide me with information about the libertarian movement. I would be more supportive of *LP News* if more links with the Objectivists and the John Birch Society were covered. I least like repetitive advertisements from the same sources about candidates from Massachusetts, even though their finances help keep the paper alive.

— JEFFREY DIKET, New Orleans, Louisiana

■ I don't normally critique a newspaper. I presume the editor knows what I should be informed about. I do resent having to waste so much time skipping to back pages. Can't you continue stories on the next page? You're making the paper hard to read.

— REGINALD MICHAELS, Los Angeles, California

## Nov. Question: Green Allies?

**C**o-operate with the Green Party? It's a horrible idea, says Jack Gardner in this month's MailBox. Why? Because the Greenies are flat-out socialists — and our archenemies. No, it's an excellent idea, counters Jean Allen, also in the MailBox. Why? Because Ralph Nader and his young brigades are passionate and charming — and may be our only allies in the fight for civil liberties. The great "Greens: Allies or Enemies?" debate started after Libertarians read an essay by Aaron Day in the Forum [*LP News*, July]. In it, Day suggested that Libertarians should "embrace the Green Party whenever and wherever possible." In fact, he argued, the LP should cheer every Green victory because "anyone who challenges the state of things" is our ally. A strategic Green/Libertarian alliance is crucial, he went on, because the Green Party has "caught the ears of the youth" — and, he said, those young Greens care about "the drug war, abuses of the corporate oligarchy, and the environment. These are Libertarian issues with Libertarian solutions." Is he correct? Or crazy?

■ **QUESTION:** Should the Libertarian Party begin to work more closely with the Green Party? Are they really our anti-status quo allies? Why or why not? (Please keep answers to 100 words.)

■ **DEADLINE:** October 8, 2002

## Oct. Question: A Better Platform?

**A**t the recent National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, delegates approved what some observers called "historic" changes to the LP Platform. Specifically, they approved a one-sentence "Executive Summary" for each plank, and gave permission to the Platform Committee to work to create a new structure for each plank — consisting of the LP position, additional discussion of the issue, proposed solutions, and statements detailing what the party has already done on the topic. Question: Do you approve of these changes? Is it what our Platform needs to be a more effective outreach tool? Or, do you think the changes are a mistake? That is, do you think the Platform is still too radical, and needs to be completely overhauled to present a more "mainstream" face to voters? Or, on the flipside, do you think the Platform is excellent as it is, and these changes are an effort to "water down" the principles that Libertarians hold so dear?

■ **QUESTION:** What do you think about the changes to the LP Platform, approved at the recent National Convention? If you don't like them, what should be done to the LP Platform? And why? (Please keep answers to 100 words.)

■ **DEADLINE:** September 8, 2002

**ENTRY GUIDELINES:** Please include your name and your city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.

■ E-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org. (Put "Pulse" in subject line.)

■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ Mail: Bill Winter, Attn: *LP News/The Pulse*, 1640 Worcester Road, #330-D, Framingham, MA 01702

## THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 27

You will, of course, remain free to disagree with me under any circumstances. Perhaps you favor a "reasonable accommodation" with those incursions onto our historic property rights now widely euphemized as "planning, zoning, and code enforcement."

If so, we can hardly oppose the federal income tax as currently enforced, since "virtually everybody else has no problem accepting that." Ditto the government schools, not to mention our current laws concerning drugs, guns, immigration, mandatory childhood vaccinations, and "environmental protection." Our "selling job" is about to get a whole lot easier under this new standard, isn't it?

I thank you for taking the time to write. Let the debate begin.

— VIN SUPRYNOWICZ  
Las Vegas, Nevada

### Excess baggage

Re: The MailBox letter, "Is the LP too pure?" by W. Andrew McCullough of Midvale, Utah [August 2002], I would say that I now consider myself to be a Democratic Libertarian, not mainstream nor conservative.

I just want to live and let live and be let alone to live as I see fit, in peace and freedom. As long as I don't hurt or harass others or their property, this should be the rule.

The remainder, to me, is excess baggage.

— DAVID MELVIN THORNBURGH  
Miami Beach, Florida

### Embrace the Greens

I totally agree with Aaron Day, who recommended embracing the Green Party [The Forum, July 2002]. I'm glad that not all Libertarians think alike. Some avoid debates with ultra-liberals whenever possible. I'm not sure we're making such a good impression at an OPH when we dismiss those who fall short of Libertarian standards with a "Thank you!" and turn to the next person.

As for me, a former "hippie" type, I'd rather don my bellbottoms and engage the tofu-eaters. They are passionate, charming, and will probably be the leaders of tomorrow. I like the kind of youngster that would sit in the top of a giant sequoia tree to prevent it from being chopped down.

They don't understand that the Constitution was perverted by the progressives, and that the history books are full of lies. But then, neither did I, until recently.

After Waco, Ruby Ridge and the Gonzales raid, I was ecstatic to discover the Libertarians. I believe the USA-Patriot agenda may scare some of the young leftists in our direction. I don't think we can count on the Democrats or Republicans in the battle for civil liberties.

— JEAN ALLEN  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

### Reject the Greens

In the July 2002 *LP News*, Aaron Day horribly suggests that the party should be "celebrating every victory

that rattles the status quo," such as those by the Greens and Ralph Nader.

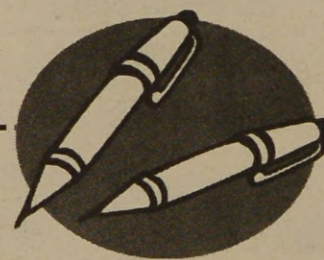
What status quo is he talking about? The fact that there is still partial deference to the U.S. Constitution, partial recognition of the right of self-defense and bearing of arms, partial support for free speech, and partial defense of property rights? All of which are opposed by Greens, Nader, and other socialists. Is it victories in further undermining individual rights that we are to celebrate?

Or, are we to somehow limit our praise of the Greens to their anti-victimless-crimes activities, however inconsistent? They oppose the war on drugs, unless the drug is tobacco. They think that manufacturing and owning some vehicles, cutting down some trees you own, and keeping some of your money and management of your business independent of government control should be crimes.

**THE GREENS ARE  
not our allies, but  
our archenemies.  
They are opposed to  
the principles of  
individual sovereignty  
and capitalism.**

Day suggests that there is "frustration that so many fail to see that we — Libertarians — are the true alternative." He proposes to correct this by blurring the differences between those fighting the status quo from a position of natural rights and those fighting from socialist-altruist myths and rationalizations.

Day says the Greens have "caught the ears of the youth," and that we need the youth. What youth is this? The "youth" is not a collective, thinking with one mind. People of all ages are individuals. If many are seduced



## Make Your Voice Heard!

**LP News welcomes letters.  
Send correspondence to:**

**E-mail:** Editor@hq.LP.org.  
**Fax:** (202) 333-0072  
(Attn: *LP News*).

**Mail:** Bill Winter, Attn: *LP News*,  
1640 Worcester Road, #330-D,  
Framingham, MA 01702

by false ideas, the solution is not to treat the Naders of the world as competent, intellectually honest men fighting noble causes.

The Greens are not "our allies," but our archenemies. They are opposed to the fundamental principles of individual sovereignty and capitalism. Even when leftist and rightist groups appear to take a correct position on an issue, they do so for the wrong reasons — from some variety of personal preference, not from a principled application of natural rights. Any sanction of such groups by Libertarians can only undermine libertarianism.

Day's mistake stems from a common error, thinking that the primary opposition to a libertarian society is the Republican and Democratic parties. These are only the symptoms, not the cause. The cause is the ideas taught in the public education system. Society cannot be improved by treating a worse symptom as if it were part of the cure.

One cannot lie down with dogs and not get up with fleas. Those who think that the ideas underlying one's support for socio-political positions do not matter are doomed to living in a world of inconsistency, confusion, and compromise of principles.

— JACK GARDNER  
Austin, Texas

### Drug War names

Let's start calling the War on Drugs what it is: "The Drug War on Rights" or "The Drug War on Liberty" or "The Drug War on Privacy," etc.

— KEN OBENSKI  
San Diego, California

### Stampede into war

I want to earnestly thank the Libertarian Party for its press release on August 8, 2002 announcing its opposition to the hysterical effort by the ungainly coalition of Neocons, End-times zealots, and Bush careerists to stampede the American people into a war in the Middle East that is not in American interests.

This may be a moment in history not unlike that of 1914, or of 1939, when wiser minds, reasoning as you, have could have prevented the calamities that followed. Hopefully, your stand now will help scatter the unlikely pack of dogs of war like Richard Perle, Pat Robertson, and George Bush.

— JAMIE KELSO  
Santa Monica, California

■ **Editor's note:** An edited version of that press release appears in *The Issues* column on page 10.

### No to CIA, NSA

Have we become the "Party of the Somewhat Principled"?

I regret to say that I won't be donating any funds to the Libertarian Party for the time being. I will still be doing outreach. I'll still be voting for our candidates. I'll still be managing the campaign for our local candidate, Bill Van Allen. My activism for the LP hasn't stopped.

Yet, I don't understand how "The Party of Principle" could possibly rescind its call for the abolishment of

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## THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 28

the CIA and NSA ["Delegates make 'historic' changes, deletions to Libertarian platform," *LP News*, August 2002].

Let's set aside the proven fact that these organizations are at best, ineffective, bloated bureaucracies. Let's set aside the fact that they aren't authorized in the Constitution. What makes those "Libertarians" who voted for the platform change think that the agencies will ever operate correctly? Whatever happened to freedom providing the best security?

If it weren't for all the statism being espoused in the Mailbox of our very own *LP News* and on Libertarian newsgroups, I would have been shocked at hearing about this platform change. Instead, I was just mildly surprised. It seems the statist Republicrats, or perhaps even the CIA itself, have been successful at infiltrating our party.

Until the LP gets back to its principle, my hard-earned dollars will go to the American Liberty Foundation.

— IAN BERNARD  
Sarasota, Florida

### Freedom First

Regarding the question about the LP slogan (better late than never!):

I just came up with "Freedom First." It sums up our positions quickly and accurately, and it's alliterative, making it easy to remember.

I think it would also create a favorable impression among those who cherish personal liberties, but haven't heard of the LP before.

— CHRIS PEIKERT  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

### Shady gimmicks

Would you invest in a company that during the past five years alone spent \$142 billion more than earnings — 12 times Enron, Xerox and WorldCom combined?

In 2001 alone, its inept accountants lost track of \$17.1 billion in investor capital.

The firm employs shady accounting gimmicks like "forward funding," in which expenditures for the current year are allocated to the next fiscal year to get around spending limits. Once the calendar turns, the firm then reallocates those expenditures back to the previous year.

It's the U.S. government.

To end the hypocrisy, fraud, waste and abuse, and focus government at all levels on its only lawful purpose — the protection of life, liberty and property — vote Libertarian.

— BILL HOLMES  
Carlsbad, California

### Go Austrians!

Given our current economic conditions, it is imperative that the Libertarian Party begin to embrace the Austrian School of Economics again.

The Libertarian Party was founded, in large part, by Murray Rothbard.

The LP has moved away from its Austrian School roots and into the Friedmanite camp. This may not be a very popular thing to say, but the Irving Fisher/Milton Friedman Chicago School is really a subculture of the Keynesian school.

I can agree with Mr. Friedman on any number of particular issues that he speaks on, but he is, in abstract, a socialist. He is a microindividualist, but a macrosocialist.

The LP is also in bed with such crypto-Keynesian, neo/pseudo-libertarian organizations such as the Cato Institute. It is time for us to have some robust debates between the Austrian Schoolers and the Friedmanites and, perhaps, split the blanket with the Friedmanites. Socialism is inextricably linked to our monetary system — so are cyclical recessions.

— MARK ANDERSON  
Brooklyn Center, Minnesota

### Voting magic

It took me quite a while before I discovered that elections are not

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Laissez Faire Books  
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## THE LP IS ALSO in bed with such crypto-Keynesian, pseudo-libertarian organizations such as the Cato Institute.

about picking the winning horse in a horse race. Though we all do love to be a part of a winning team. For me, what is important is to stand where I stand. To use my vote to say, this is me and I stand here.

Politics is slow to change, but change it does. If there is a significant percentage of the population sitting over here, the agenda of one or the other or both the major parties will start to move in that direction. Or, the other possibility is that neither of them will catch the wave and a new party will be born.

So for me, it's not about compromise. It's about what person or party most closely matches my own views. There is no such thing as a wasted vote, except the vote not cast, and especially more so when we have an almost equally divided two-party system. This gives third party candidates an incredible amount of leverage in terms of moving the political agenda.

So now more than ever, I think

it's important to encourage people to vote. Stand where you stand and be counted. Say I am here, this is me, and watch the magic happen!

— RANDY S. KESSLER  
Bend, Oregon

### Supreme Court error

I was surprised to see a misstatement of historical fact in the August issue. This was in Jonathan Trager's review of *Locke, Jefferson and the Justices* by George M. Stephens.

I don't know if the error is Trager's or Stephens', but the famous U.S. Supreme Court case *Lochner v. New York* (1905) was decided exactly the opposite of what was written.

*Lochner* had been convicted of violating a New York law that limited bakeries to a 60-hour work week. The Supreme Court actually overturned his conviction, in what my Constitutional law book from college calls "the most extreme statement ever made by the Court of the right of business to be free of government regulation."

The heroic author of this decision was Justice Rufus Peckham, who wrote, "The statute necessarily interferes with the right of contract between the employer and employees, concerning the number of hours in which the latter may labor in the bakery of the employer. The general right to make a contract in relation to his business is part of the liberty of the individual protected by the 14th Amendment of the Federal Constitution."

See THE MAILBOX Page 30

# Libertarians: Here's How You Can Avoid Being the Next Target in the War on Terrorism

In the months after September 11<sup>th</sup>, over 2,000 people — including hundreds of U.S. citizens — were imprisoned by police and the FBI as suspected terrorists.

Some were thrown naked into freezing-cold cells and repeatedly beaten by the FBI, according to *Newsweek*. Hundreds are still being held — without access to an attorney or even a hearing. President Bush says some may be held forever.

It's about to get much worse — and libertarians are prime targets. The FBI and CIA are being turned into an internal security police modeled on the KGB, and Bush wants to use the Post Office to spy on every family.

New laws and edicts — like the USA Patriot Act — threaten all of us. They give police dictatorial powers to spy on you, seize your bank accounts and business, and imprison you indefinitely without charges or trial. America's founding fathers must be rolling over in their graves.

**Don't be a victim.** In his new 312-page *Special Report*, Jarret Wollstein — one of the founders of the modern libertarian movement — explains how the twin threats of terrorist attacks and new national security laws threaten all of us and the future of this country.

**Surviving Terrorism could save your life, property, & freedom. Included is valuable information on . . .**

- ✓ Why more terrorist attacks — including bio-terrorism — are inevitable. Government's likely draconian response
- ✓ 7 crucial steps to take NOW to protect your privacy and freedom from new "anti-terrorist" laws — before they're gone forever
- ✓ Avoiding five disastrous mistakes libertarians make at airports. Blunders that could now get you arrested — or worse
- ✓ The 10 most dangerous and 10 safest places in America
- ✓ 18 ways to avoid government scrutiny under martial law
- ✓ 17 areas of the economy that are soaring — how some entrepreneurs are making \$200 to \$2,000 an hour, and how you can too
- ✓ How to find out NOW if your bank & insurance company will survive
- ✓ What if the lights go out? Complete guide to affordable ways to generate your own power, day or night, no mat-

ter where you live.

- ✓ What if terrorists disrupt our food or water supplies? How to store water, how to store food, and where to buy it for as little as 5 cents a meal.
- ✓ Protecting your family from a bio-weapon terrorists already have that's 100-times more deadly than anthrax
- ✓ Jobs that will disappear within 18 months — how to protect yours
- ✓ Terrorist nukes: Massive evidence that they have them and will use them on us. Four crucial steps to protect yourself from nuclear or radiological attack.
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# The truth about developing new medicines

Continued from Page 26  
patient is by trial and error.

One of the doctors interviewed sneered at the fact that one drug company had altered a drug so it needs to be taken only once a day. Yet, such a change is known to actually save lives. Getting patients, particularly those who are elderly, recent immigrants, or low income, to take their medication on a prescribed schedule can be very difficult. Moving from two pills a day to one improves patient compliance and can prevent serious medical complications.

Similarly, it is absurd to suggest that every new drug must be proven superior to drugs currently available before they can be sold. Such a requirement is imposed on no other industry because competition among producers, even of very similar goods and services, benefits consumers. It is by allowing producers to advertise the features and benefits of their products, and consumers to choose among firms competing to satisfy their wants, that markets produce the best products at the lowest prices.

Prohibiting companies from introducing new products unless a government bureaucracy declared them good would be devastating to consumers

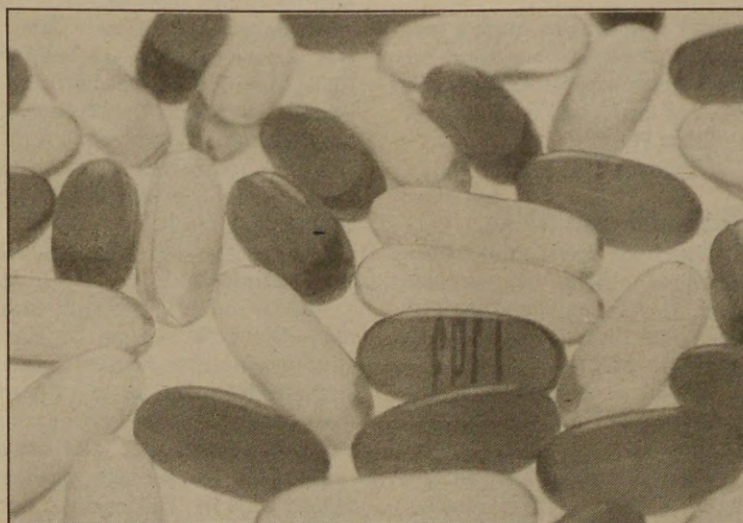
and a violation of the rights of both consumers and producers. Should television commentators be required to prove their documentaries are better than those that previously aired before being allowed to broadcast? Of course not.

## Generic drugs

Jennings implied that patents provide drug companies with a monopoly so they can charge higher prices. However, later in the show he noted there are 170 drugs available for high blood pressure. Many of those drugs have existing patents. So which is it? Monopoly or strong competition?

The country's Founding Fathers thought intellectual property rights were so important that patents and copyrights are the only property rights affirmatively protected in the U.S. Constitution (Article 1, Section 8). Yet, one talking head on *Bitter Medicine* called patents "a government patronage system." That's a radical view, and just plain wrong.

Patents reward innovation by protecting inventors from competition during the 20 years following the granting of a patent. In the case of pharmaceutical drugs, approximately



■ Thanks to the Food and Drug Administration's regulations, it takes nine years and more than \$800 million to get a new drug approved.

nine of those years will be taken up with testing, trials, and FDA delays. This leaves the companies with 11 years, on average, to recover their R&D expenses and earn a profit.

The patent system has worked well in the drug industry. Generic drugs — copies of the original patented drugs that are "bioequivalent," meaning they are absorbed into the body at about the same rate as the brand-name drug and produce the same effect, have increased their market share rapidly in recent years and now account for nearly 50% by volume of prescription drugs.

In many cases there are numerous patented drugs for the same medical condition (e.g., Claritin, Allegra, or Zyrtec for allergies; or Vioxx, Celebrex, or Arthrotec for pain). Just because laws prevent you from making a copy of Coca-Cola and marketing it as Close-a-Cola doesn't mean there isn't competition in the soft drink industry.

## No better?

Jennings interviewed some doctors employed by Group Health and HMO Kaiser Permanente, who complained that Vioxx and Celebrex are no better than pain killers already on the market but cost 10 times as much. There is nothing about the current system of patents or drug pricing that prevents or discourages HMOs from giving their patients access only to older and cheaper drugs.

When any company releases a "new and improved" version of a product, most of us have a lingering suspicion that the only thing really new is a higher price. However, increasing competition is forcing drug companies to keep some prices lower. For example, after the release of the new generation of antidepressants such as Prozac in 1987, the "launch price" of the next six competitor drugs was between 7% and 45% less than the original. Schering-Plough priced its new drug, Clarinex, lower than the one it will succeed. Why? Competitors were hoping to gain market share over a more established and better known drug.

If General Motors came out with a new and improved car or truck and offered it at a lower price, consumers

would be very pleased. Why, when drug companies do something similar, are they criticized?

## Consumer protection

Some of Jennings' interviewees complained that new drugs are tested against placebos rather than existing drugs. But that is what the FDA wants. Drug companies have little control over the drug approval process, so criticizing them when they are playing by the rules doesn't make much sense.

The FDA's drug approval process requires new drugs to be safe and

erably greater and the duration of the trials is longer. A large number of such programs would have a considerable impact on the price of health care by consuming the time of thousands of doctors, nurses, and support staff.

Are FDA-approved drugs unsafe? Problems and side effects that might not show up in a sample of 3,000 people may show up when 100,000 or a million patients use the drug. When that happens, the drug companies may change the warnings on the labels or sometimes pull the drug off the market. No one can know all the possible side effects until a drug is distributed widely.

## A real problem

There is, in fact, growing controversy over the FDA's clinical testing requirements, but it is not the one Jennings described.

There is mounting concern that the FDA is simply too slow and too risk-averse to act as a tribunal over the fast-paced pharmaceutical drug industry of the 21st century.

Henry I. Miller, M.D., a senior research fellow at the Hoover Institution and former FDA official, says "if we can end regulatory excesses, introduce competition into regulatory oversight, and redirect government involvement to those few activities where a central monopolistic role is essential, more patients will benefit from a greater number of drugs made available to them in a timelier way."

## Conclusion

Whether one drug is better than another ought to be decided by patients in consultation with their physicians. Only they can decide whether the trade-offs of benefits, costs, and risk are worthwhile. *Bitter Medicine* was full of people attempting to second-guess patients and their doctors. We should not go down that road.

The underlying theme of Peter Jennings' program was that everyone — doctors, regulators, members of Congress, and especially patients — is getting duped by drug companies. Everyone, that is, except for Peter Jennings. This is obviously implausible. Jennings is the one who was duped, by a small group of anti-industry activists.

Jennings concluded the program by calling for the federal government to "close the loopholes" in patent law and FDA regulation of new drugs. There are few if any such "loopholes" to be closed. He conveniently overlooks the fact that too much heavy-handed and inept federal regulation has caused many of the country's health care problems.

Can Jennings point to a case where more federal regulation has improved health care? Is Medicare a good example? That government-run health care program is so badly run doctors and other providers are fleeing! No, American consumers don't need more of that bitter medicine.

■ About the authors: Joseph Bast is president of the Heartland Institute. Merrill Matthews, Ph.D., is a senior fellow with the Heartland Institute and the Institute for Policy Innovation. A longer version of this essay was originally posted at [www.heartland.org](http://www.heartland.org).

## THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 29

In his review, Trager states that there was only one dissenter, "Oliver Wendell Holmes, a libertarian." In reality there were four dissenters, including Holmes, all of whom dissented in favor of government regulation.

Holmes was no libertarian. He was a modern-style liberal appointed by Theodore Roosevelt. In his dissent, he wrote, "The case is decided upon an economic theory which a large part of the country does not entertain... The 14th Amendment does not enact Mr. Herbert Spencer's Social Statics."

It is the nation's great loss that the courts no longer recognize what was called "substantive due process" violations of our economic rights, though thankfully they have since World War II been more likely to strike down violations of some of our civil liberties. What we need is consistency of liberty, but given how the Supreme Court today will rarely uphold any right other than free speech, that will be a long time coming.

— TED BROWN  
Arcadia, California

■ Editor's note: LP News made the error, not George M. Stephens. See correction on page 23.

## Off high horse

Once again, a "pro-choice" Libertarian [Robert S. Stone, The Mailbox, August 2002] finds that it is so very easy to define the one-and-only libertarian view on abortion: we are "pro-choice on everything," and so

we oppose government intervention into absolutely anything, right?

Wrong! We are not pro-choice on murder. We do not oppose government intervention to prohibit murder. Now maybe most of us believe that abortion is fundamentally different from murder; but can we prove it? No, and we never will. A belief that abortion is akin to murder does not make someone unlibertarian.

Let's get off our high horses and stop assuming that anyone who doesn't agree with us on absolutely everything must not be libertarian.

— BRADLEY BOBBS  
Granada Hills, California

## The drug problem

I wonder if other Libertarians are encountering the same problem as I. I have convinced many friends of the merit of many planks in the LP platform, but I have never convinced a single person of the futility of the War on Drugs.

What's the problem? It's not the lack of convincing facts. The landscape is littered with the failures of the drug war. So what is it? I think that being in favor of the legalization of drugs carries with it the appearance of being in favor of drugs. That's not the case, but that's the way it looks.

Yes, it's a tough sell, by far the toughest of any of our planks. And that's why I suggest: If you are trying to convert a person to Libertarianism, don't start with drugs — take on the easy planks first. Make drugs the last item.

— RICHARD E. HALL  
Palm Beach, Florida

**CAN PETER  
Jennings point to a  
case where more  
federal regulation  
has improved health  
care? Is Medicare a  
good example?**

more effective than placebos, not more effective than existing drugs. Even achieving this level of quality assurance is astonishingly time-consuming and expensive: It requires nine years and costs more than \$800 million to get a new drug approved in the U.S.

"Phase III" trials, in which a new drug is compared to a placebo, often include 2,000 to 3,000 patients at 20 to 30 academic medical centers around the country. Additional trials comparing the effectiveness of different drugs are very expensive; the number of patients has to be consid-

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### LP NEWS EDITOR

Bill Winter

### CONTACT LP NEWS

1640 Worcester Road, #330-D

Framingham, MA 01702

Phone: (508) 820-7340

Fax: Call for fax

E-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org

Website: www.LP.org/lpnews

## UPCOMING

### ■ August 31, 2002

**Arkansas LP Convention**, Old Post Park (Pavilion #3), Russellville. Events include candidate nominations. For information, e-mail: info@lpar.org. Or write: Arkansas LP, P.O. Box 15214, Little Rock, AR 72231.

### ■ September 3, 2002

**Patrick Henry Supper Club** with Stephen Flaherty (Director of Campaign Operations, Citizens for a Sound Economy), China Buffet Restaurant, Richmond, Virginia. For information, call Leonard T. Harris at: (804) 266-6572 E-mail: liberty@leonard-harris.com.

### ■ September 7, 2002

**Connecticut LP State Convention**, Old State House, Hartford. Speakers include Ralph Sherman (chairman, Gunsafe) and Walter Gengarely (candidate, U.S. House). For information, call: (860) 585-5857. Or write: Connecticut LP, 358 New Britain Avenue, Newington, CT 06111.

### ■ September 21, 2002

**Dinner and fundraiser** with syndicated radio talk show host Neal Boortz, Embassy Suites Hotel, Cary, Georgia. Sponsored by the Wake County Libertarians. For information, e-mail Scott Quint at: scottquint@scottquint.com.

### ■ September 27-29, 2002

**Gun Rights Policy Conference**, Sheraton-Crescent Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona. Sponsored by the Second Amendment Foundation (SFA) and the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms. Speakers include Alan Gottlieb (founder, SFA) and Wayne LaPierre (NRA). For information, call: (425) 454-4911. E-mail: GRPC2002@saf.org.

### ■ September 28, 2002

**New Hampshire LP Convention**, Holiday Inn, Nashua. Speakers include John Babiarz (LP candidate for governor, New Hampshire) and Vin Suprynowicz (syndicated newspaper columnist and author, *Send in the Waco Killers* and *The Ballad of Carl Drega*). For information, call: (603) 523-8315. Or e-mail: rosalie@endor.com.

### ■ October 3-6, 2002

**"Toward a Free and Virtuous Society" Student Conference**, North Bend, Washington. Sponsored by the Acton Institute. Features an "introduction to the principles of liberty" for students of religion, theology, philosophy, and related fields. For information, call: (616) 454-3080. Or visit: www.acton.org.

### ■ November 5, 2002

**Patrick Henry Supper Club** with Larry Pratt (Executive Director, Gun Owners of America), China Buffet Restaurant, Richmond, Virginia. For information, call Leonard T. Harris at: (804) 266-6572 E-mail: liberty@leonard-harris.com.

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### ■ November 8-10, 2002

**Marijuana Policy Project's National Conference** (co-hosted by Students for Sensible Drug Policy), Anaheim, California. Speakers include Bill Maher (*Politically Incorrect*). For information, visit: www.mpp.org/conference.

### ■ December 1-4, 2002

**Fourth National Harm Reduction Conference: "Taking Drug Users Seriously,"** sponsored by the Harm Reduction Coalition, Seattle, Washington. Speakers include Dr. Joycelyn Elders (former U.S. Surgeon General). For information, e-mail: conference@harmreduction.org. Or visit www.harmreduction.org. Or call (212) 213-6376.

### ■ February 15-17, 2003

**California LP Convention**, Ontario Marriott, Ontario. Speakers TBA. For information, e-mail: convention@ca.lp.org. Or visit: www.ca.lp.org/conv/2003/.

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## FIRST WORD

"Those who value individual liberty above all else, and who see its preservation as requiring severe restraints upon governmental power, land firmly on the libertarian square of the board. At the least, libertarians seem to be clear about what they are for and against, and, better still, can provide consistent explanations for why they are for and against such things."

— BRADLEY R. GITZ, *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, March 31, 2002

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— *High Point Enterprise* (North Carolina), July 9, 2002