

California Libertarian News

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California

Editor: Sarah E. Foster, (213) 259-9580

April 1987

Donahue Blackout NBC CENSURES ALMODOVAR

LOS ANGELES: Norma Jean Almodovar, LPC candidate for lieutenant governor last November, was part of a three-woman panel on NBC's Phil Donahue Program Monday, March 9, discussing "Decriminalization of Prostitution." With Norma Jean was New York Supreme Court Justice Christin Bootglen and working girl Cynthia —. In the audience was Lizzie Borden, director and producer of the film *Working Girls*.



Filmed live in New York early in the morning, the Donahue Show was to be shown in Los Angeles at 3:00 that afternoon, and apparently NBC thought the subject important and timely enough to run announcements about it throughout the morning.

Yet when L.A. viewers tuned in their TV sets they were told that "the regularly scheduled program would not be seen at this time." Instead, they were treated to a group of speakers talking about ways to lose weight — a program that had been aired several weeks before.

Ann Jackson of Region 62 promptly called Norma Jean's brother Neil Wright, and he began phoning contacts throughout the country. Folks had seen it in San Diego and Colorado a few hours earlier — apparently only Los Angeles had been subjected to the ugly cloud of censorship.

It is difficult to escape the conclusion that Norma Jean's current problems with the District Attorney's office were the main reason for this. As *CLNews* reported in January, the D.A.'s office would be willing to drop all charges against Norma Jean if she'd just not talk about her case or the book she's writing about the L.A. Police Department. Were a few discreet phone calls made from D.A. Ira Reiner's office to the powers at NBC, or did the station manager act independently?

Calls to NBC turned up little that was concrete as to who actually ordered the blackout or why, but one person did admit that they sometimes black out speakers that are "political."

Attempts are being made to persuade NBC to run the censored segment as quickly as possible—no later than early May.

Comments and queries should be directed to Program Director Carol Cartwright, NBC Studios, 3000 W. Alameda St., Burbank, 91523.

Norma Jean Still Waiting

The three-judge panel still has not handed down a decision in the proceedings against Norma Jean Almodovar. As reported in previous issues of *CLNews*, D.A. Ira Reiner is pressing for a sentence against Norma Jean, officially on a charge of pandering, which carries a mandatory three-year sentence. It's more likely, however, that the real concern is with the book she's been writing on her experiences within the LAPD.

Norma Jean had been arrested in a classic case of entrapment. Forced to undergo extensive psychiatric evaluation, she was certified sane and "not a menace to society" (which is more than most political candidates can claim) and released on probation. On Ira Reiner's insistence the matter was not

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Russell Means in Protest March

LOS ANGELES: A chance meeting between Ann Jackson and L.A. City Council candidate Ken Ordura led to an opportunity for Russell Means, LP candidate for presidential nomination, to show his support of property rights to homeowners whose homes are threatened by eminent domain initiated by the L.A. School Board.

Ordura is one of 13 candidates running for the currently-vacant 10th Councilmanic seat. At a public meeting Ann was able to speak with him about his views on certain issues and learned he was adamantly opposed to the School Board's present land grab attempt — at least 500 homes are threatened by the bulldozer in the 10th District alone; 10,000 throughout the L.A. Unified School District! When Ordura also said he was interested in talking with Russell Means, Ann arranged a meeting between the two at her home.

On March 20, Means walked with Ordura at the head of a candlelight parade through the neighborhood to the Wilton

continued page four

News and Events from the Regions

Here and There

SANTA CLARA COUNTY: The big news is that the Taylor Street office will be closed and the headquarters moved to an uptown address on April 1. For details, see this page

Also, there's a new format for meetings. Instead of the restaurant-based Supper Club, there'll be monthly informal potluck dinners hosted by individual members in their homes. Occasionally, special supper club events with a speaker will be held.

Besides the potluck dinners, Santa Clara County Libertarians will be getting together each month at the Pizza Party Supper Club, at the House of Pizza, 527 Almaden Ave. in San Jose. Club founder Mike Iddings invites everyone "to join in, have some pizza and beer, and shoot the breeze."

For dates and time of the April potluck and the Pizza Party Supper Club, contact chair Steve Alexander (408) 554-1119.

ALAMEDA COUNTY: Alameda County has a new phone: (415) 531-0760. Callers will hear a recorded message of liberty and learn news of upcoming events. And, of course, they'll be able to request information, too.

REGION 62, Beverly Hills: At their first meeting, March 7, the Beverly Hills Libertarians chose the fourth Saturday of each month as their regular meeting time. This month it will be April 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., when prominent local libertarian Ed Marshall will speak on *Privatizing Beverly Hills Schools, a viable alternative*.

REGION 64: Weather permitting, Central L.A. will hold its annual anti-tax protest Wed., April 15, at the downtown Terminal Annex Post Office. Several media-grabbing stunts are planned, and sympathetic fellow travelers are being invited to join local libertarians.

REGION 65: The race for the 33rd State Senate District (LA/Orange Counties) isn't over yet. Neither major party candidate got a clear majority on March 17, so a runoff election is set for May 12 among four candidates. Lee Connelly will face a Democrat, Republican, and Peace and Freedom candidate. He plans to do a mailing to residents in his home town of Buena Park, and has received enough in contributions to do a post card mailing to about 1,600 residents. If you'd like to help him reach another large block of voters, send your contributions to: Connelly for State Senate, 5841 Western Ave., Apt. B., Buena Park, 90621.

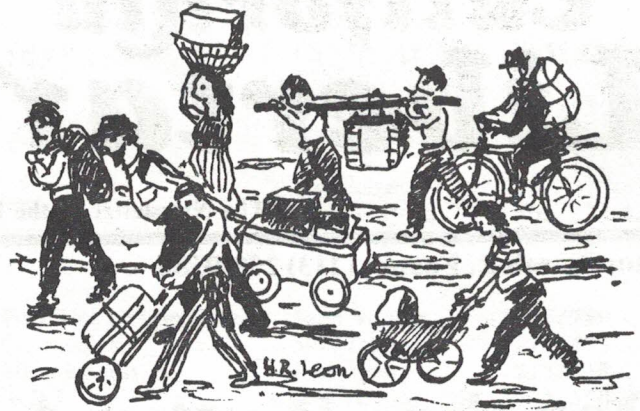
To spread the ideas of liberty, Region 65 has set up a lending library. A book may be rented for a \$1.00 a month, and books may be picked up and returned at the monthly meeting, or in person at Lee's home as long as arrangements are made in advance. The library has 16 titles available so far.

California Libertarian News (CLNews) is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions and articles contained therein do not necessarily represent official Party positions unless so indicated.

Please send regional news, calendar items, photos, non-member subscriptions (see below), and other material to:

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Subscription and Advertising Rates: Non-member subscriptions to *CLNews* are available for \$15 per year, bulk mail. Checks should be made payable to the LPC. Subscriptions are included as a membership benefit when you join the Libertarian Party of California (see membership form on page five). For advertising rates and specifications, contact Sarah Foster.



It's Movin' Day

A former private residence will be the home of the Santa Clara County LP and the Libertarian Party of California. On April 1, after six years at the location on Taylor Street, the headquarters will be moved lock, stock and filing cabinets. The new office, in a Spanish-style building, is larger and more comfortable, with carpeting, air conditioning, even a fireplace; and it has better freeway access.

The address is 2156 The Alameda, Suite B, San Jose, 95126; telephone number not known at press time.

Donner Finishes Marathon

Wearing a T-shirt imprinted with the words *Vote Libertarian*, Region 62 chair Neal Donner took time off from his LP activities to run the L.A. Marathon. As reported in *CLNews* last month, Neal was hoping to break his own record by finishing in three hours, 45 minutes. Unfortunately, a leg injury a week before the event caused a severe muscle cramp during the last five miles, so it took him over four hours to complete the 26-mile course.

Was it worth it? Absolutely. Discussing his views on marathon running Neal says, "It's a very personal, very individual experience, yet it's something that's within the reach of everyone. Anyone from 12-to-90 can take part. You don't need special talent, but if you hope to finish you need to practice regularly. It's truly democratic in the best sense of the word."

Fight the L.A. Metro

One of the all time boondoggles — a four mile segment of subway system — is planned for Los Angeles. Besides outrageously high tax assessments on property owners near the proposed line, much of the cost will be borne by the half-cent sales tax approved by L.A. County voters in 1980. Naturally, folks out in the hinterlands of the County are furious that they must subsidize a project miles from their homes: they believed that the tax would be designated for the development of rapid transit county-wide.

Taxpayers Watchdog is circulating a petition for the November ballot, which would prohibit this sales tax money going to the Metro. If it passes, it would mean the powers that be would have to dream up some other way to get their hands on our money — this might not stop them, but it would at least slow down the great Metro plan.

For more information and/or copies of petitions, interested L.A. County libertarians should contact *CLNews*, 777 Terrace Forty-Nine, Los Angeles, 90042; or Taxpayers Watchdog, 14422 Victory Blvd., Van Nuys, 91401.

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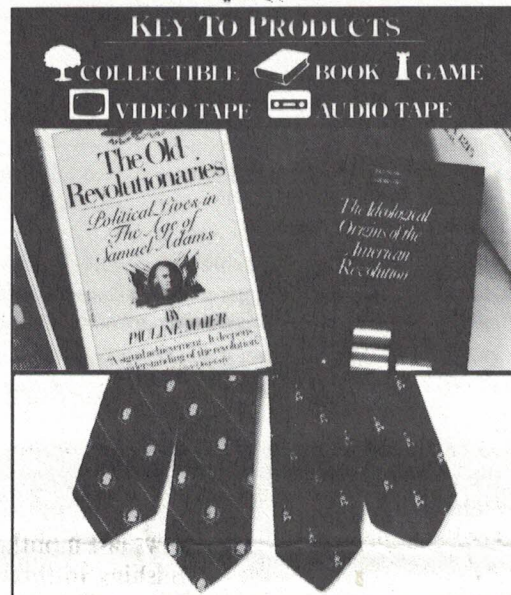
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LPC Delegates to the National Convention

Word has come in from National Headquarters that, based on membership, California is entitled to 67 delegates to the National Convention to be held this September in Seattle. Delegates at the California Convention in February submitted over a hundred names in nomination and voted for those they wanted. The nominees were then ranked according to the number of votes received, and the top 67 designated officially as delegates. Those not ranked among the top 67 may serve as alternates. The names of the delegates, arranged alphabetically, are listed below.

George Abrahams	Laurel Fest	Clarica Laubscher	Dave Nichols	Jeff Smith
Steve Alexander	Elaine Fossati	Rudolph Laubscher	Edna Nichols	Ray Strong
Phyllis Avery	Sarah Foster	Larry Leathers	George O'Brien	Mark Sweany
Sara Baase	Craig Franklin	Gail Lightfoot	Kate O'Brien	Carolyn Treynor
Ellen Baker	June Genis	Steve Malmberg	Tom Olson	Linda Torno
Bud Bates	Mary Gingell	Hugh McLean	Donna Peart	John Vernon
Bob Binsley	Tom Grey	Thea McLean	Jim Peron	Lou Villadsen
Darlene Brinks	Tim Groseclose	Brian Marrs	Melinda Pillsbury-Foster	B. J. Wagener
Ted Brown	Al Heitzman	Mike Mayakis	Robert Poole	Sandy Webb
Alicia Clarke	Chris Hofland	Gary Meade	Murray Rothbard	Bill White
Ray Cullen	Karen Huffman	Carol Moore	Lyn Sapowsky-Smith	Dan Wiener
Bruce Daniel	Michael Iddings	Geoffrey Neale	Dennis Schlumpf	Perry Willis
Jack Dean	Bruce Lagasse	Nancy Neale	Don Smith	James Wilson
Brian Esterson	Cullene Lang			

ex officio

SIGS and SWAT Teams

SIG Alert

Steve Malmberg

To increase our effectiveness in the political arena we have to recognize that the world is run by Special Interest Groups (the squeaking wheel gets the grease), and having recognized this, we should begin creating special interest groups (SIGs) of our own to interface with the community at large. The creation of SIGs would facilitate necessary networking between individuals; it would allow us the greatest degree of freedom of choice in utilizing volunteer efforts, while maintaining basic control over the functioning of the party.

We can have both official party endorsed SIGs and party affiliated SIGs: we need not be locked into tight compartments. As individuals, we should be free to choose both our area of interest and level of interest. As our interests develop and change, so can SIGs change. Old time party members can become involved in various SIGs to pass on their acquired wealth of information. Regular meetings would not be necessary, although SIG meetings could be organized as part of our outreach programs. Offering someone a slice of pie is sometimes better than requiring that person to eat a whole pie; and, of course, a party of individualists will have many kinds of pies from which to choose.

The first requirement for successful SIG activism is strong county/regional organization. These larger units serve as the right arm of the Party. The county/region central committee would be the official body for endorsing SIGs.

We could have two types of membership in a SIG, with the same dues structure for both:

1. Voting: for those individuals who wish to contribute both time and money to the party and the SIG.
2. Non-voting: for those who wish to be supportive with money only.

To request formal creation and endorsement of a SIG, a person could draft a resolution to this effect which would be sent to the membership of the region at least one day prior to a county/regional meeting. The person introducing such a resolution would have to agree to chair the committee (SIG) thereby created and to pay for the costs of the mailing.

An annual review of SIGs by the county/region might include some kind of "sunset" device for phasing out that which

has proved ineffective, and to encourage the introduction of fresh, timely ideas. Official endorsement by a county/region of a SIG should allow that SIG full use of the mailing lists.

SIGS could be set up and/or utilized by candidate committees, action "fronts," and such organizations as the Sam Adams Society, the Constitution Study Group, etc. Your imagination would be the only constraint.

Steve Malmberg is a former chair of Region 63 and candidate for State Board of Equalization. He can be reached at 1214 E. Colorado Blvd., #205; Pasadena, 91106; tele: (818) 795-3115.

SWAT Teams Swing Into Action

Jim Wilson

What's this? A para-military operation in Libertarian circles!? Not really, just a dramatic device to call attention to an important project. Most Libertarian discussions and activities seem to focus on national and state issues — income taxes, Social Security, draft registration, etc. But it is actually the local governments that affect our lives the most directly — through business regulations, zoning laws, mass transit, property taxes, schools, *ad nauseum*.

Unfortunately, Libertarian activists tend to overlook these goings-on. Sure, we run local candidates for legislative office, but these hardy folks rarely get to pronounce a libertarian position on local issues.

But libertarians can have an impact — on the local political scene. It's not unusual to hear some city council member complaining that they don't get enough input from the public. At the same time, it seems that practically any special-interest group can invade a council meeting *en masse* and get an ordinance or resolution passed in their behalf. Well, it's time that libertarians were one of those groups.

Nowhere else will we have the political leverage that we can get on the local scene. Imagine what would happen if a city council heard three or four libertarians speaking out on a given issue, especially if there were only a handful of others addressing the same meeting? Libertarians are in general intelligent, informed and articulate. We should "attack" local elected officials with the skills we have developed and refined debating each other. Not only might a few libertarian positions be adopted, but we could end up converting some unsuspecting councilperson or supervisor to Libertarianism.

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Address Changes

CLNews does not handle the mailing list. All address changes and corrections should be sent to Donna Peart on the form on page five. That way you can be certain that your request is entered directly into the LPC computer.

Is Your Newsletter Stamped Red?

A number of libertarians have not renewed their membership which expired at the end of December. They have been kept on the *CLNews* mailing list, but let's face it, there ain't no such thing as a free newsletter. So, this month we have stamped those with lapsed membership.

Please regard it as a gentle nudge. We wouldn't want you to miss any of the news — especially when we're going into a presidential campaign. Just fill out the form on page five and send it with your dues to Donna Peart, our database administrator, at the Alameda address in San Jose.

At the same time, you might want to join the national LP, for only \$15 more. That entitles you to a subscription to *LP News*, edited by Karl Hess.

from page one

Place Elementary School. About 100 persons took part in the demonstration, among them several libertarian activists. Besides Russell Means there was Ann Jackson, Chris Hofland (editor of the Region 62 newsletter), Norma Jean Almodovar and her husband Victor, and Carol Moore.

Means is particularly sensitive to the issue of land seizure and pointed out that the U.S. government has broken every promise it ever made to the Indians but one: it said it would take over all the Indians' land, and it did!

Norma Jean

from page one

allowed to drop, and he demanded that she be incarcerated. The three-judge panel had, it was thought, 90 days to decide the case, which would have meant by March 15.

With no ruling either way, Norma Jean is in a state of intense stress. "This is no way to live," she said, "It's a nightmare. If I go out to run errands I'm afraid to come home. I'm afraid every time the doorbell rings."

Her attorney Lawrence Teeter describes the whole case "an outrage" and says he's willing to follow it to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary, and it may be. Even if the panel rules in her favor, Reiner could appeal the decision as he did the original one permitting probation. *CLNews* has learned from outside sources that Teeter is a man very committed to civil liberties, one who will hang in with a case if he perceives it as one involving gross injustice on the part of officials or violation of basic rights. In this case, besides the First Amendment issues (the D.A.'s brief refers specifically to her book and declares that writing such an expose compounds the crime of pandering), there's the question of the constitutionality of the mandatory sentence for pandering. Teeter seems interested in testing this issue.

As of press time we don't know how it will go, but Norma Jean can be reached at (213) 389-4495 and 382-6445.

Business Reply Mail Permit

If you're planning a fundraising drive, one way to help ensure that money pours in is to enclose a printed, prepaid reply envelope with your appeal letter to would-be donors.

According to chair Mark Hinkle, any subsidiary group of a business or organization which has purchased a Business Reply Mail Permit, can use that permit number at no additional cost. The National Libertarian Party purchases this permit every year. Any state or local party may use the number, but you must provide your local post office with a copy of the receipt. *Bear in mind, that although the permit was paid for by the National LP, the local party is responsible for paying for locally returned mail.*

For more details and a copy of the receipt, please contact Mark Hinkle.

LibertyTree Network

Be sure to look over the flyer included in this month's *CLNews*. Even if you don't plan on buying anything now, you'll want to send for the terrific free catalogue. LibertyTree president David Theroux has put together a veritable treasure chest of libertarian items: video and audio tapes, books, collectibles, games — beautifully photographed and printed in full color. How's your knowledge of Americana? Order the game *Welcome to America* and invite your liberal and conservative friends in for an evening of trivia pursuit, testing your skill against theirs. Military history buffs will go for the games which recreate the tactics of the American Revolution. There's plenty of books — if there's one thing libertarians do, it's read — and here's a good opportunity to begin building (or filling in the gaps of) your freedom library.

You can send in your request by mail or pick up the phone and order toll free.

SWAT Teams

from page three

So, how do we accomplish this political miracle? Simple — just start attending local government meetings and speaking up. In order to facilitate that, we (in Santa Clara County) are starting the SWAT Team project. The goal is to find interested activists, encourage communication among them, develop our persuasive and lobbying skills, and focus our efforts on chosen issues. More specifically, we will meet at least once a month to plan strategy, and mobilize whenever a hot item comes before a governmental body. After we gain experience (and maybe a few victories), we will be introducing our own "initiatives" and lobbying local officials for support.

To be effective, we need "monitors" and speakers in as many areas of the county as possible. There is already a volunteer for "early warning" of issues in San Jose. . . This could be your best opportunity to influence the future of freedom.

Jim Wilson is vice-chair of the Santa Clara LP. His article is reprinted from *Santa Clara Libertarian* (March).

Eye on Sacramento

AB 2570, for Easier Ballot Access

Richard Winger

On March 6, Assemblywoman Gwen Moore introduced AB 2570, which would provide that any new political party which qualifies in California would nominate its candidates by convention, instead of by primary, until after it had polled as much as 5% of the vote for president or governor.

AB 2570 also provides that any party which polled less than 5% for president or governor, but which participated in the 1986 election in California, could choose to nominate by primary or convention. An amendment is being made to the bill to provide that such a party could change its mind — that is, it might try the convention system, but could later decide to go back to nomination by primary.

A party nominating by convention would have the authority to write its own organizational rules and set its own timetable and procedures for making nominations. The party's officers would not need to certify the party's nominees until mid-August. Thus a party nominating by convention would have the flexibility to decide which election races to enter, after the Democratic and Republican parties had chosen their candidates.

AB 2570 makes it substantially easier for a new party to qualify. The existing law requires either 761,000 signatures on a petition or 76,100 registered members. The new requirement would be 65,000 signatures.

The County Clerks Association is backing this bill. The county governments of California now pay for election administration. It costs \$1,000,000 every election year for each additional party which must be given its own primary. If even one of the existing third parties of California opted to nominate by Convention, it would save a great deal of tax money and a great deal of work on the part of the people who administer elections.

The biggest advantage for the LPC is that if we ever fail to get enough votes to remain on the ballot, it wouldn't be unthinkable for us to get back on. Another big advantage is that it will aid the fight to lower ballot access requirements in other states, if California lowers its requirements. California is the most populous state and serves as a model for other ones, for good or evil.

Richard Winger is a ballot access consultant and editor of *Ballot Access News*, 3201 Baker St., San Francisco, 94123; tele: (415) 922-9779.

Redevelopment Bills Coming Up

With a record number of bills on all matters thrown into the hopper in Sacramento by the February deadline, it was inevitable that a bunch of particularly dangerous ones designed to strengthen and expand the powers of redevelopment agencies were introduced. Most of these were deliberately intended to encourage greater secrecy and permit less accountability to the public on the part of the agencies. Here are the bill numbers of a few of them: AB 466, 1374, 1582, 1314, 2179, 2181, 2178, 2177, 1355, and 2180.

Seven of these horrors were introduced by Richard Polanco, 55th Assembly District, at the request of the Los Angeles CRA and with the approval of the City Council. A couple of samples: AB 2181 would authorize a redevelopment agency to acquire (by eminent domain if necessary) property *outside* a project area; AB 1314 would do away with the mandate that noticed public hearings be held prior to final approval of a redevelopment plan by an agency. Hearings on these bills will be held in late April and early May.

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LOCAL EVENTS AND CONTACTS

COUNTY	DATE	EVENTS	CHAIR or CONTACT*	PHONE
Alameda	Thu., Apr. 9	Program to be Announced	Mike Tejeda	415/531-0760
Butte			Mark Sweany	916/345-9970
Contra Costa	Tue., Apr. 7	Program to be Announced	John Corl	415/223-4112
Fresno			Tim Salzer	209/233-4393
Kern			Craig Gifford	805/832-6231
Lake			Randall Grindle	707/994-4817
Los Angeles Co. (Regions 61-67)				
-61, San Fernando Valley	Wed., Apr. 8	Jeff Hummel: Are Libertarians as Principled as They Think ?	John Vernon	818/780-9943
-62, West L.A.	Mon., Apr. 13	Barbara Branden: <i>The Passion of Ayn Rand</i>	Neal Donner	213/477-6462
-62, Beverly Hills	Sat., Apr. 25	Ed Marshall: Privatizing Beverly Hills Schools	Joel Bross	213/278-2714
-63, Foothills	Tue., Apr. 21	Melinda Pillsbury-Foster: Plans for '87	Kim Goldsworthy	818/280-5644
-64, Central L.A.	Thu., Apr. 9	IRS Whistleblower: Tales from the Dark Side of the IRS	Ted Brown	213/257-8922
-65, Downey	Wed., Apr. 15	Meet Candidate Connelly	Lee Connelly	714/994-3256
-66, South Bay			Sam Treynor	213/546-2846
-67, East San Gabriel Valley			Gail Lightfoot	714/599-1627
Marin	Wed., Apr. 1	Lee & Joyce Schulman: Coping with the State	Dan Dougherty*	415/457-1411
Monterey			Bob Ratto	408/424-9346
Orange			Lee Connelly	714/994-3256
Placer			Bruce Daniel	916/663-2568
Riverside		No Meeting Scheduled for April	Ron Holman	714/684-5218
Sacramento			Roger Pope	916/921-1776
San Bernardino		No Meeting Scheduled for April	Brian Bishko	714/684-5218
San Diego	Tue., Apr. 14	Dr. Faye Girsh: The Right to Die	Dick Rider*	619/276-7166
	Tue., Apr. 21	Business Meeting	Pat Wright	619/295-9510
San Diego (No. Co.)	Tue., Apr. 28	Steve Thorne: Freedom from Religion	Paul Keene*	619/575-6058
San Francisco	Fri., Apr. 10	An Evening with Karl Hess	Jim Peron	415/864-0952
	Sat., Apr. 11	Mark Hinkle: Libertarians as Winners (Free Exchange)		415/731-3031
San Luis Obispo			Clyde Steele	805/541-8892
San Mateo			Lyn Sapowsky	415/368-8148
Santa Barbara	Fri., Apr. 2	Milton Friedman: LPC Convention Banquet Talk (video)	B. J. Wagener*	805/925-7088
Santa Clara	TBA	Potluck Dinner; Pizza Party Supper Club	Steve Alexander	408/554-1119
Santa Cruz			Bill Anderson	408/476-9753
Solano			Mark Moberg	707/864-1673
Sonoma			Jim Oglesby	707/823-5261
Tulare	Apr., 7 & 21	Discussion: Charles Murray's <i>Losing Ground</i>	Vicky Daley	209/688-4159
Ventura	Wed., Apr. 15	Tax Protest: Oxnard Post Office	George Hasara	805/525-6321
Yolo	Mon., Apr. 13	Marshall Fritz (tentative): Introduction to Libertarianism	Bryce Bigwood	916/756-9283

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: SATURDAY, APRIL 18

California Libertarian News

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