

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle

February 2001

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Medical marijuana case against Kubbys ends with hung jury

Jury was deadlocked 11-1 for acquittal

The medical marijuana trial of Steve and Michele Kubby has ended in a mistrial after a “hopelessly deadlocked” jury voted 11-1 in favor of acquitting the former Libertarian Party gubernatorial candidate and his wife.

After deliberating for 21 hours over five days, the eight-woman, four-man jury in Auburn, California said on December 21 that it could not reach a verdict on the most significant charges against the Kubbys — conspiracy, cultivation, and possession of marijuana with intent to sell.

After the trial, a jury spokesman said even though there was overwhelming consensus that the Kubbys were not guilty of the marijuana charges, one lone juror refused to agree, and “there was no way she could be convinced.”

However, Steve Kubby was convicted of what a local newspaper called “comparably minor” drug charges of possession of a

controlled substance, psilocybin and peyote. Michele Kubby was acquitted of those charges.

“Like Neo, dodging bullets fired by agents [in the movie, *The Matrix*], I was fast, but not fast enough,” said Steve Kubby about the decision. “We won on the important stuff and I’m looking for the rest to melt away.”

Proposition 215

During the four-month trial, the Kubbys had argued they were legitimate medical marijuana patients who took the drug under doctor’s orders, and were protected by Proposition 215, the state law that legalized medical marijuana.

“We stood and fought and defended the rights of sick people,” said Kubby after the trial. “Our case shows that juries won’t convict bona fide patients, even in ultra-conservative counties. We showed that the jury system is still as Jefferson described it, ‘The



■ Michele and Steve Kubby — shown here in happier times at the 1996 LP National Convention — saw their two-year legal odyssey end in a “no decision,” after the jury in their medical marijuana case deadlocked 11-1 for acquittal. “We won on the important stuff,” said Steve Kubby afterward.

best anchor by which the government can be forced to live up to the Constitution.’”

Steve Kubby was the LP’s gubernatorial candidate in California in 1998, and sought the party’s vice presidential nomination in 2000. He also played a key role in Proposition 215, which was

passed by voters in 1996.

The 11 members of the jury who voted to acquit were apparently swayed by the so-called Oakland Guidelines, said Kubby. Written by the city of Oakland, the guidelines allow patients to grow up to 144 marijuana plants

See **KUBBY CASE** Page 11

Ex-LP member nominated for Interior post

Gale Norton could be “step in right direction”

A former Libertarian Party member has been nominated by president-elect George W. Bush to be the next Secretary of the Interior — a move that could mark a “step in the right direction” towards more sensible federal environmental and land-use policies, say party leaders.

In late December, Gale Norton, 46, was picked by Bush to head the Interior Department, which manages nearly 500 million acres of government-controlled land, including national parks and wildlife refuges.

With a long history of speaking out against governmental “taking” of property via environmental regulations — and against the regulatory excesses of the

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) — Norton may be “the best possible” nominee for the position, said Steve Dasbach, the Libertarian Party’s national director.

“Gale Norton appears to have a generally libertarian mind-set about environmental protection, an appreciation of the value of private property, and an under-

See **INTERIOR** Page 2



■ Gale Norton: “Best choice?”

SPECIAL FEATURE PRESENTATION

Public school pandemonium

By Rachel Baxter
FREELANCE WRITER

“A tax supported, compulsory educational system is the complete model of the totalitarian state.”

— Isabel Patterson

The God of the Machine

Remember the movie *The Stepford Wives*, starring Katharine Ross?

It was about a small town where all the men, through some sort of clandestine medical procedure, turn their wives into

robotic, zombie housewives. These creatures’ primary goals in life were how clean they could get their floors, and how nauseatingly subservient they were to their husbands — no matter how inept and ridiculous they were.

Ross knew there was something really wrong when her normally outspoken, feminist best friend turned into one of these Betty Crocker androids. Ross was the only one who knew the

women were behaving strangely and that something was frighteningly off kilter. Her desperate attempts at trying to alert her friends to this bizarre situation fall on deaf ears.

Like Ross’s character, I had experienced this Stepford Syndrome, although in a different context: As a teacher in the public school system.

Let me explain.

Being a libertarian for 20 years, particu-

larly a libertarian woman, I’ve often felt somewhat apart from the crowd; certainly a contrarian in many ways. Couldn’t imagine being otherwise.

Although it frustrates and saddens me, I’m accustomed to most people shutting down, resisting, or getting angry at the profound and crucial message of freedom that libertarians like myself speak of. For a variety of reasons — lack of knowledge, emotionalism, laziness or fear — people shut their eyes, ears and hearts

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Advocates organizes huge outreach effort

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Seuss-I-Am is LP’s rhyming PR plan

NewsBriefs

New name for Browne foundation

Harry Browne's educational organization has undergone a name change.

The new name — the American Liberty Foundation, Inc. — replaces the Foundation for Libertarian Education, according to Perry Willis, one of the co-founders.

"We did it on the advice of our attorneys, in order to speed IRS approval of our 501c3 status," he said, since there was some concern that the word "Libertarian" would be perceived as partisan. The more generic "Liberty" was seen as less of a problem, he said.

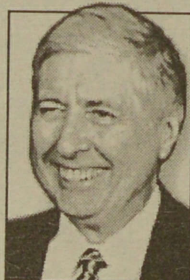
The non-partisan, non-profit American Liberty Foundation, Inc. was incorporated on December 8, 2000.

"We have done all of our legal filings to establish the organization, and have been working on logistical set-up and capital fundraising," said Willis. "The website is still under construction and should be online in a few weeks."

The goal of the foundation will be to "carry the libertarian message to Americans everywhere through national TV and radio advertising," he said.

Browne, who formed the foundation after his 2000 presidential campaign, said it will focus on "the benefits of ending the Drug War, downsizing government dramatically, repealing the income tax, freeing you immediately from Social Security, repealing the gun laws, and other libertarian proposals."

The American Liberty Foundation, Inc. will be based in northern Virginia.



■ Harry Browne: "Liberty" name

State Chair conference planned

The Libertarian National Committee is sponsoring a conference of State Chairs and State Executive Directors so state parties can "learn from the successes of their colleagues in other states."

The conference will be held at the Radisson Hotel City Centre in Indianapolis, Indiana, February 10-11, 2001.

At least 37 participants from 30 states have confirmed they will attend, said LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

The conference, which will be held in conjunction with the first meeting of the LNC's Strategic Planning Committee, will cover such topics as campaigns, advertising, fundraising, conventions, communications, and candidate recruitment.

"The presenters and panelists will be state chairs, executive directors, and other local activists with proven records of success in the areas they will be addressing," said Dasbach. "Participants will learn from the successes of their colleagues in other states and use that information to increase the effectiveness of their state and local parties."

Several members of the national HQ staff, including Operations Director Nick Dunbar and Affiliate Services Representative Dianne Pilcher, will also attend the conference.

Cato offers Handbook for Congress

Want to move the federal government in a more libertarian direction? Weighing in at 2.5 pounds and 680 pages, the *Cato Handbook for Congress* will tell you how.

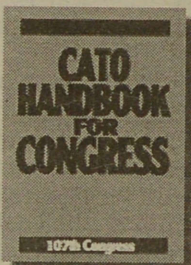
The handbook, released on January 12 by the Washington, DC-based non-partisan Cato Institute, "recognizes that the biggest problem facing America is a federal government that has slipped its constitutional bounds to become a threat to our lives, liberties and pursuit of happiness," said Cato President Edward H. Crane.

In 64 chapters, the book examines almost every government policy, program, and agency, and makes hundreds of recommendations for limiting the size, cost, and power of the federal government. Specifically, the handbook recommends:

- Ending corporate welfare. (Savings: \$65 billion a year.)
- Ending the war on drugs.
- Allowing young workers to opt out of Social Security and open private retirement accounts.
- Cutting taxes by \$2 trillion over five years.
- Cutting the defense budget to \$185 billion.

Co-edited by Cato Executive Vice President David Boaz and Crane, the *Handbook* was sent to every member of the House and Senate and to President-elect Bush's transition team.

The book is available online at www.cato.org. Or, it can be ordered for \$18.95 by calling (800) 767-1241.



George W. Bush nominates ex-LP member for Secretary of Interior

Continued from Page 1

standing of the limitations of government," he said. "She's certainly more Republican than Libertarian, but may be the best possible nominee that we could expect from George W. Bush."

Colorado LP State Chair Bette Rose Smith expressed a similar viewpoint.

"I was pleased to hear that Gale Norton was nominated," she said. "I wasn't sure how close she remained to the ideals of libertarianism, but I was sure she would be better than most anyone else except a Libertarian."

Norton's nomination will also help focus public attention on Libertarian solutions to environmental problems, and on alternatives to government control of so-called "public" land, predicted Dasbach.

"If nothing else, her nomination helps lend credibility to libertarian-style environmental policies that balance the need for a healthy environment with the importance of liberty, property rights, and a Constitutionally limited government," he said. "And it should give the Libertarian Party a more prominent platform to explain why we advocate the environmental positions we do."

Norton's selection will help lend credibility to the libertarian movement, agreed Smith.

"It is a positive [development] because it gives us one more person to point to and say this person leans libertarian and does good things because of it," she said. "This can't help but add something to our legitimacy."

LP connection

Norton's Libertarian Party connection has already been publicized by the Associated Press, the *Washington Post*, and the Knight-Ridder newspaper chain.

However, her Libertarian past has also been used to attack the nomination.

For example, a coalition of environmental groups opposed to Norton called her "an active member of anti-government Libertarian organizations and anti-environmental groups."

Norton had been a Colorado LP member in 1979-1980, a delegate at the party's presidential nominating convention in 1979, the Colorado state coordinator for the Ed Clark for President campaign in 1980, and had applied for the position of LP National Director in 1980. She later withdrew her name and apparently allowed her party membership to lapse.

"My understanding is that Ms. Norton wanted to become governor," said Smith. "Realizing that in the mid 80's the Colorado LP was not the way to get elected, she joined the Republicans."

At around the same time,

STEVE DASBACH:

Gale Norton's

"nomination will lend credibility to LP-style policies."

Norton went to work for the Mountain States Legal Foundation, part of the "wise use" movement that attempted to balance environmental action with protection of private property.

By the mid-1980s, she was active in the Republican Party, serving as deputy secretary of the Department of Agriculture (1984-85), was an assistant solicitor at the Department of the Interior (1985-90), ran unsuccessfully in the Republican primary for U.S. Senate in 1996, and was attorney general of Colorado (1991-98).

Her tenure as Colorado's attorney general drew mixed reviews from Libertarians.

Annoyed at her

"When she served as attorney general, many party members were annoyed at her for the positions her office took," said longtime LP activist David C. Bryant.

However, while she was criticized for supporting the multi-billion dollar lawsuit against tobacco companies, he said, "she did a good job of reducing government interference with many licensed professions in the state."

During her years in the Republican Party, Norton advocated many positions that were more "conservative" than Libertarian, said Dasbach.

"As with many conservatives, Norton seems content to tinker with environmental regulations and the management of government land," he said.

"For example, instead of talking about how we can start returning to individuals, private companies, and nature conservatory groups the one-third of the land in the United States that is owned by the federal government, Norton is willing to simply grant a little more access to government lands. That's not a real libertarian solution."

Smith echoed concerns about some of Norton's land-use views.

"Did she remain true [to libertarian principles] or has she been won over by the Republicans?" she wondered.

See a problem?


Noting that Norton has said the Department of the Interior "faces the challenge of seeing that our land is used in an environmentally responsible way," Smith asked: "Doesn't she see a problem with the fact that the government owns this much land?"

With one-third of the U.S. under federal control, "we hope Ms. Norton will start the process of returning these lands to the people," she said. "If she is really worried about land being used in an environmentally responsible way, putting land back in the hands of private citizens is the best way to accomplish this."

On the other hand, noted Dasbach, Norton has also criticized the federal government as the "worst polluter in the nation" for the toxic waste left by military bases, government agencies, and military weapons testing centers.

"Norton seems to recognize that the federal government has done more damage to the environment than all the big corporations combined," said Dasbach. "If she does nothing else as Interior Secretary other than stop the federal government from ravaging the environment, she will be a success."

Her nomination hearings before the U.S. Senate were scheduled to begin on January 17, as *LP News* went to press.



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Advocates organizes 'historic' outreach

Discover Liberty project will attempt to organize 2,000 OPH booths in 50 states

The Advocates for Self-Government has announced plans for the largest libertarian outreach project in history — an ambitious effort to reach more than a half-million Americans with information about the freedom philosophy.

The goal of the project — dubbed "Discover Liberty" — will be to operate 2,000 Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) outreach booths in all 50 states over a 12-month span, said Sharon Harris, president of the Advocates.

"Now that the elections are over, many libertarians are wondering what to do next," she said. "How can we reach more people with our ideas? How can we build on the publicity, goodwill and new name recognition we earned during the election-year? What important activities can we let our new members jump into? How can we strengthen and build our movement?"

"We believe Discover Liberty is the answer to those questions."

With an official kick-off date of June 1, 2001, Discover Liberty will attempt to recruit volunteers in all 50 states to schedule, organize, and staff an unprecedented number of OPH booths.

"Each state will be 'assigned' a suggested number of OPHs, based on the population of the state," said Harris. "The coordinator's job will be to see that

the OPHs are scheduled and done in their state."

The OPH booths — which are available from the Advocates — have been described as "libertarian events in a kit." Each one includes an oversized version of the "World's Smallest Political Quiz," political quiz cards, banners, and an instruction manual.

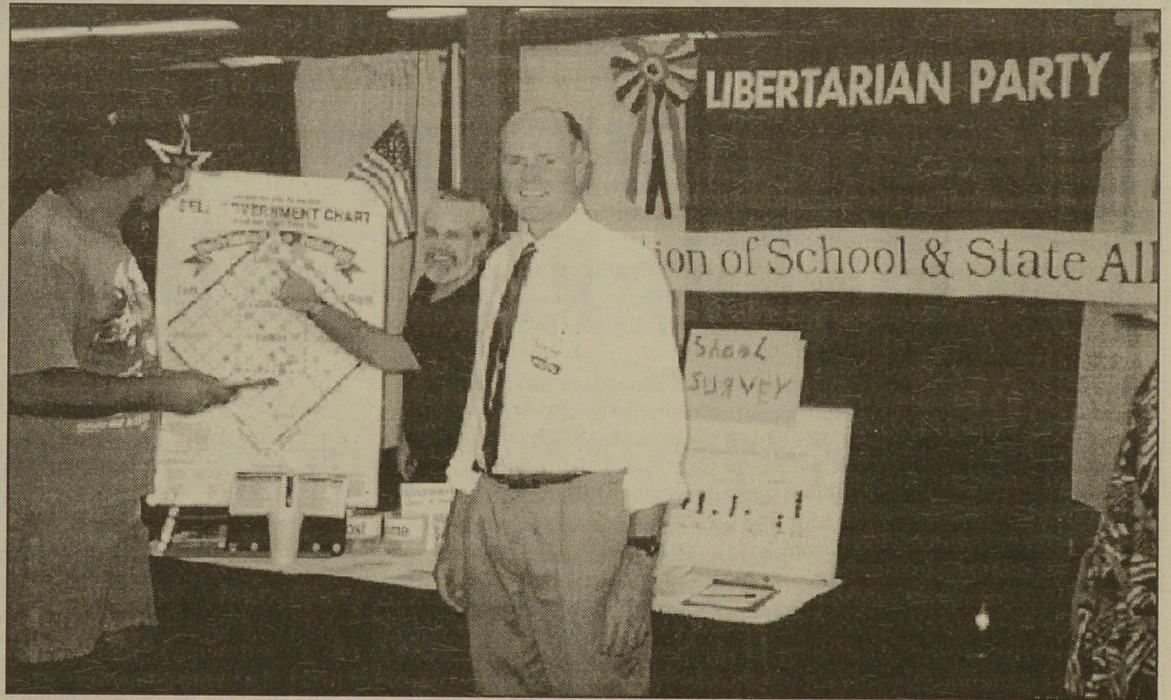
Using the OPH material, libertarians can easily set up an outreach booth at a public event, offer passersby a short political quiz, and determine whether people fall in the "libertarian" quadrant.

Fun and exciting

"OPH instantly transforms an ordinary outreach booth into a fun and exciting event that draws far more people than a typical booth," said Harris. "And OPH lets a few libertarians gather the names of dozens or even hundreds of libertarian-leaning folks, easily and efficiently."

If the Discover Liberty project is successful in setting up 2,000 OPH events, that should bring at least 500,000 Americans into contact with libertarianism, said Harris.

"Based on past results, the Advocates estimates that at least 250 people will stop by a typical OPH booth at a good location, see what's going on, and possibly pick up some literature," she said.



■ Pat Bratton of the Georgia LP shows a World's Smallest Political Quiz-taker his score at an Operation Politically Homeless booth at the Gwinnett County Fair. Former U.S. Senate candidate Dr. Bert Loftman (right) was also there to greet the public. The Advocates' new Discover Liberty program plans to coordinate 2,000 similar booths at events all across America.

"So 2,000 OPHs means 500,000 positive contacts for libertarian ideas. About half of those 500,000 people will actually talk to a libertarian at the booth and take the World's Smallest Political Quiz there. That's 250,000 people who will, at the very least, encounter libertarian ideas in a very positive, persuasive and favorable manner — many for the first time ever."

Out of that quarter-million, about 30% will score in the liber-

tarian quadrant of the Quiz — and half of those, or about 36,000 people, will leave their names, addresses, phone numbers, and/or e-mail addresses for more information, said Harris.

Hot prospects

"These are people who are already self-identified as libertarians or potential libertarians!" she said. "They are hot prospects to become activists, members, voters, and contributors."

The bottom line, said Harris: "Hundreds of thousands of people exposed to libertarian ideas in a positive, persuasive manner. Tens of thousands discovering they are libertarians or libertarian-leaning. And tens of thousands of hot prospect names and addresses for libertarian organizations like local and state LP chapters."

To monitor all the proposed OPH events, the Advocates will create "a sophisticated online See **ADVOCATES** Page 17

Colorado LP rallies for bookstore

A group of Colorado Libertarians participated in a rally in Denver in defense of the Tattered Cover bookstore to highlight "how the War on Drugs is slowly eroding the Bill of Rights."

About a dozen LP members joined other First Amendment activists outside the Denver District Attorney's office on November 13 for a rally that featured fife-and-drum music and little children holding "Protect the First Amendment" signs.

Their goal: To protest the DA's attempt to seize the Tattered Cover's book purchase records as evidence in a drug case.

The bookstore is fighting the search warrant, arguing that it violates the First Amendment's protection of free speech.

Libertarians agree, said Colorado LP Publications Director Ari



■ Michelle Konieczny and her three daughters participate in a rally in defense of the Tattered Cover bookstore in Denver.

Armstrong, and see the case as another example of how freedom and privacy are being eroded because of the drug war.

"We wanted to show our support for the bookstore, which is (still) resisting the efforts of local police attempts to search book purchase records," he said. "The possible chilling effect on free

speech rights is not worth it."

The rally, which generated TV and newspaper coverage for the Colorado LP, is the latest chapter of a months-long battle that has pitted civil libertarians and privacy advocates against local law enforcement.

The clash began in April See **COLORADO** Page 17

First Strategic Planning meeting set for February

The first meeting of the Libertarian National Committee's Strategic Planning Team (SPT) will be held in Indianapolis in February, with participants hoping that the event will create "a greater sense of consensus" about the party's future.

More than a dozen members of the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) — as well as staff members from the party's Washington office, elected Libertarians, State Chairs, and representatives of the libertarian movement — will meet for two days to brainstorm about possible strategies, tactics, and projects for the party.

It is the first in a series of meetings that will result in a comprehensive report, scheduled to be delivered to the LNC in August 2001, laying out a proposed one-, two-, and three-year strategic plan for the LP. The entire LNC would have to approve any new strategic plan for the party.

STEVE GIVOT:

"The ideas that come up will be the basis for our future work."

The LNC voted at its December 2000 meeting to begin a process to develop an "integrated strategic plan which will form the basis to define the activities of the [party] until 2004," said national LP Secretary Steve Givot, who will facilitate the meetings.

The first SPT meeting will be held on February 10-11 at the Radisson Hotel City Centre in Indianapolis, IN, in conjunction See **STRATEGIC** Page 10

The Issues

EDITOR'S NOTE: Each month, "The Issues" will highlight several 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.

Linda Chavez: Is compassion a crime?

Linda Chavez should receive a profound "thank you" for her efforts to help a penniless immigrant — instead of being forced to withdraw her name from consideration as the Secretary of Labor, the Libertarian Party says.

"By sheltering a destitute, battered immigrant woman in her home, Linda Chavez showed what real compassion is, and set a shining example for all Americans," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director.

"Ordinary Americans might describe Chavez's behavior as a selfless act of charity. Unfortunately, many politicians call it a crime. Only in Washington, DC, could being a Good Samaritan be considered a liability."

In early January, Chavez withdrew from consideration as U.S. Labor Secretary in the wake of revelations that she invited an undocumented Guatemalan woman, Marta Mercado, to live in her home in the early 1990s.

According to reports, Mercado had been beaten by a boyfriend and lived in a shelter for battered women before being taken in by Chavez. In gratitude, Mercado performed some household chores and was given some spending money by Chavez.

Critics described Chavez's actions as a violation of the Immigration Reform Act of 1986. But Libertarians ask: When did compassion become a crime?

"When it becomes a crime to shelter an impoverished, abused woman, it's the politicians who wrote the law that should be put on trial," said Dasbach.

Town uses zoning against religion

A town in Connecticut that has banned a family from holding prayer meetings in its home is using zoning laws to squash religious liberty, the Libertarian Party says.

"No town should be able to snob-zone God out of existence," said Steve Dasbach. "If zoning laws can be used as an excuse to ban prayer in a private home, then the First Amendment's protection of religious liberty doesn't, well, have a prayer."

In late November, the New Milford Zoning Commission ordered Robert and Mary Murphy to immediately stop holding weekly prayer meetings in their single-family home.

The Murphys had been conducting the meetings since 1995. But the Zoning Commission said it had determined that such gatherings were prohibited under the town's zoning laws.

In December, the American Center for Law and Justice filed a lawsuit against the town government, charging that the action infringed on the Murphys' constitutional rights of free speech, religious expression, and freedom of assembly.

However, American families shouldn't need lawsuits to protect their right to pray in their own homes, said Dasbach.

"You should have the right to pray in your own home without getting permission from government bureaucrats," he said. "A zoning board should have no more control over when and where you pray than they should over which God you pray to."

Clinton is decriminalization hypocrite

President Clinton was a "shameless hypocrite" for advocating the decriminalization of marijuana in a *Rolling Stone* magazine interview — after he stood by silently as 4 million Americans were arrested on marijuana charges during his administration, says the Libertarian Party.

"Shame on Bill Clinton for remaining silent for so long," said Steve Dasbach. "Where was this shameless hypocrite for the last eight years, as millions of Americans were arrested for using a drug that Clinton himself used?"

In the December 28 issue of *Rolling Stone*, Clinton strongly criticized the War on Drugs in general and marijuana laws in particular. In the interview, the president said marijuana use "should be decriminalized."

That's shocking, said Dasbach, because Clinton has waged a more vicious War on Marijuana than any other president. Since Clinton assumed office, 4,175,357 Americans were arrested on marijuana charges — 88% of them for simple possession.

Given these facts, said Dasbach, it's odd that Clinton chose to speak out just a few weeks before he left office.

"Why did Clinton remain uncharacteristically silent for eight years as more than 4 million Americans were arrested?" asked Dasbach. "Perhaps because Clinton always cared more about his own political viability than he ever did about doing what's right — which makes him a coward with a capital C."

Gorman offers 'political warfare' seminars for state, local parties

Former state legislator promises "hard-core, real-life politics"

Former New Hampshire Libertarian state legislator Don Gorman is offering to conduct campaign workshops around the USA to teach Libertarians the basics of "political warfare."

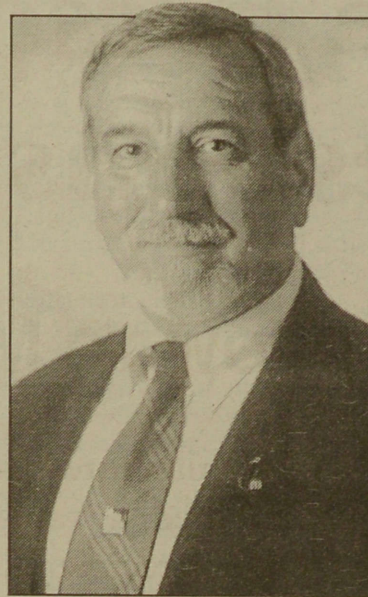
"I'm offering hard-core, real-life politics," said Gorman. "In my travels around the country, I have found a crying need for this kind of training."

The workshops, entitled "The Libertarian Candidate Seminar," will feature training and role-playing in all the major aspects of running a successful campaign, said Gorman, who served in the N.H. legislature from 1992-1996, sought the LP's presidential nomination in 2000, and currently serves on the Deerfield Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Hands-on training

"The centerpiece of the seminar is hands-on training, including media, press relations, talk radio, debates, debating skills, political thinking — political warfare!" he said. "The experience is kind of like being run over by a truck. However, this is a friendly truck, and you come out of the experience with a whole new appreciation of traffic."

The seminars can last from one to three days, "depending on the host's request," he said — with the longer versions featuring more information about "fund-



■ Don Gorman: "In order to bring Libertarian philosophy into the process, [Libertarians] must win elections!"

raising, paperwork, filing dates, research, etc."

One of his goals at the seminars is to give participants "the ability to clearly separate Libertarian philosophy from Libertarian politics," said Gorman.

"[Libertarians will get] a clear understanding that in order to bring Libertarian philosophy into the process, they must win elections!" he said.

Gorman said he charges a flat daily rate for conducting the semi-

nars, plus reimbursement for travel and lodging expenses.

"Fees are always negotiable and any funds raised over my expenses will stay in the host state," he said. "[And] I prefer lodging with local people whenever possible."

Workshops will usually be scheduled on weekends, "but I'm open," said Gorman, who hopes to conduct seminars in "20 to 30 states over the next two years."

Videotape

Gorman said he also plans to videotape each seminar, and leave a copy of the tape with each host state.

"At some time in the future, [LNC member] Jim Turney has offered to edit the raw materials and to create a production-quality tape," he said.

The Libertarian Candidate Seminar has already been conducted in Michigan and Maine, and Gorman said he currently has "definite invitations" from Pennsylvania, California, and Indiana. However, specific dates for those three states have not been set, he said.

"It's coming to your town; don't miss it!" he said.

For information about scheduling a seminar, call Gorman at (603) 463-7771. Or write: P.O. Box 94, Deerfield, NH 03037. Or E-mail: taylorgorman@juno.com.

Disturbed NH Republican legislator is 'positive' LP media opportunity

A Republican state legislator who made national headlines when he advocated killing women and police officers — and who had been kicked out of the New Hampshire LP eight years ago for such comments — generated some surprisingly positive attention for the Libertarian Party during his time in the public limelight, said party leaders.

"It was a classic good news/bad news situation," said LP Director of Communications Bill Winter. "It was bad news at first because some journalists mistakenly linked this disturbed person to the Libertarian Party. But, ultimately, it was good news because we were able to point out that we had expelled him years ago for his reprehensible and un-Libertarian beliefs."

Tom Alciere, 44, resigned from his post as a Republican State Representative in mid-January after a nationwide

BILL WINTER:
"The most basic Libertarian belief is that you do not advocate violence."

firestorm of controversy erupted over his letters-to-the-editor and Internet messages.

In his postings, Alciere had urged people to assassinate police officers and "throw [their] carcass in the dumpster with the rest of the trash." He also said men should be allowed to beat their wives to death with baseball bats if the women "nagged" them.

After he resigned from the New Hampshire House, the Bos-

ton Globe reported that Alciere's family considered him "mentally ill and have long urged him to seek psychiatric help."

Alciere had started making such "bloodthirsty" comments in the early 1990s — when he was briefly an LP member — and that's why he had been expelled, said Winter, who was the State Chair of the New Hampshire LP from 1988-1992.

Repugnant

"We kicked him out of the New Hampshire LP in 1992," he said. "The most basic libertarian belief is that you do not advocate the initiation of force. Mr. Alciere violated that principle with his repugnant and un-libertarian comments."

After being expelled from the New Hampshire LP, Alciere — who had previously run for office as a Democrat and a Libertarian

See **DISTURBED** Page 10

“At last, a self-help course where personal and political responsibility meet!”

— Dr. Mary J. Ruwart

HOME BASED LOW TO MID SIX-FIGURE INCOME POTENTIAL

You know the old problem: While bureaucrats, state educators, state licensed media, state-subsidized industries and entitlement recipients are propagandizing FULL-Time to insure their power and unearned wealth, productive advocates of liberty can work to reverse this onslaught at best as an avocation, since they have jobs and businesses to run. It's not a level playing field. Typically, we haven't had the time to counteract their mythology. If we had, we would have been FREE of their craziness long ago.

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Talking Points

GOP spending (versus promises) & Microsoft's racial shakedown

■ The tax bite

A recent booklet published by the Independent Women's Forum, "Women and Taxes," by tax lawyer Eileen O'Conner, reveals this startling fact: The largest single bill for most families is their tax bill.

Federal taxes, including Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes, consume 26% of the median two-earner household's income. State and local taxes consume another 13% of this median two-earner income of \$68,600. Compare the 39% share for taxes with the 15% for housing, 12% for medical care, and 9% for food.

— FORBES, December 11, 2000

■ (Don't) see me, feel me

The disability access movement may soon have another victory under its belt.

In September, Kenneth McGrath, owner of an English lap dance lounge called the Pussycats Club, petitioned local authorities for an exception to the strict no-touch clause in his establishment's license.

The proposal originated with two blind attendees at a stag party who felt that touching the girls would give them a better feel for the contours of the dancers' art.

The local government has promised to consider the request.

— REASON, January 2001

■ Government math

Discretionary (non-entitlement) spending levels, Fiscal Year 2001:

- \$541 billion: Amount Congress agreed to spend in FY 2001 in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act.
- \$600.3 billion: Amount Congress agreed to spend in FY 2001 in this year's Budget Resolution.
- \$626.0 billion: Amount President Clinton proposed to spend in his FY 2001 Budget.
- \$650+ billion: Amount Congress is on track to spend for FY 2001.

— DOLLARS & SENSE

November/December 2000

■ Racist Microsoft?

Microsoft, one of the great success stories in the history of American enterprise, has spent hundreds of millions to defend itself against the claim that it is a monopolist. But just as that ridiculous suit is burning itself out, the enemies of the company have launched another sneak attack.

The firm now stands accused



**A \$310 BILLION
defense budget
outspends all our
potential enemies
... combined.**

of — what else? — racial discrimination in hiring and promotion. A \$5 billion class-action suit has been filed by former and present employees claiming that they were damaged by an institutionalized racial bias (a "plantation mentality") at Microsoft.

Are we really expected to believe this?

Let's say the attack on Microsoft is not just another racial shakedown racket — which it is, but let's say it is not. What do we have to believe about the company to make this suit plausible? In an extremely tight job market, in which programmers and software engineers can almost name their price, where every firm competes fiercely for employees, and a slight competitive disadvantage can mean huge losses, we are asked to believe that Microsoft thought the following of its black applicants and employees:

"You guys have impressive programming and computer engineering skills, which even surpass those of our present employees and managers. We know that your abilities would help give us a competitive advantage. You might be just the key we need to fixing up and marketing our new software, or better managing our vast workforce. Our stock price might soar!

"We could even afford to make the highest bid to ensure that we enjoy the benefit of your brains and our competitors do not.

"But, too bad for you, you are

black and, for completely irrational reasons, we just don't like blacks (though we give hundreds of millions in charitable dollars to black students, schools and communities). Hence, we are going to forego the use of your talents to our own benefit. And we are going to do so despite the lawsuits and public-relations disaster that will come our way if this is revealed."

Does anyone believe the Microsoft management thinks this way? How perfectly absurd.

— LLEWELLYN H. ROCKWELL JR.
LewRockwell.com
January 4, 2001

■ To defend against...?

[The United States'] current defense budget calls for spending \$310 billion. In real terms, this means that this nation is spending more than 90% of what it spent on average during the Cold War and [is] outspending all its adversaries and potential adversaries combined.

— LAWRENCE KORB
The Washington Post
December 29, 2000

■ Felony fanny smack

A 14-year-old New Mexico boy who slapped a female classmate on the butt could face felony charges and two years in a juvenile detention facility.

The incident occurred at a middle school and was reported to police because of the school's strict sexual harassment policy.

The 13-year-old victim's mother said she would not have pressed charges considering that "it was just a slap on the butt," but police, assisted by forensic psychologists, are investigating and trying to decide whether the accident should be categorized as criminal sexual contact or just battery.

— SCOTT NORVELL, Fox News
January 1, 2001

■ ABCs of education

For three decades, American taxpayers have obediently given the education establishment what it said it needed — mostly more money to lower student-teacher ratios. Well, student-teacher ratios, over a 35-year period, have fallen to 17.3 in 1995 from 25.8 in 1960. Yet, as Eric Hanushek, senior research fellow at the Hoover Institution, argues: "Overall student performance has not improved."

While funds devoted to public school education have trebled, students' performance has languished. So, what's going on? Here are the ABCs.

A. The public school system is a monopoly. The government has conferred state monopoly status on public schools by funding them with taxpayer money and apportioning them, one to an area, and then directing a steady stream of students to them according to students' residential location.

B. A monopoly serves the monopolists first, not its customers. Monopolists know that its customers have little choice but to get their goods or services from the monopoly, so prices are higher than they might be under competition and the quality of goods or services is of minor consideration. (Just ask anybody living in an area served by a single cable TV company.)

C. Just as more money has not provided a remedy in the past, it will not miraculously do so in the future. As long as the government directs money and students to public schools, the current situation will continue and more money will make it worse: Many public schools will continue to offer inferior education for higher prices. The remedy can only come from introducing competition into the public school market.

The most powerful way to introduce competition would be to give parents a choice among schools. Take a look at the situation in the private school market.

Private schools do, of course, face a competitive market. If a private school does not deliver high-quality education relative to price, parents will withdraw their children and their dollars in favor of one that does. Thus, private schools face lethal incentives to produce superior student performance.

Moreover, competition keeps costs down. Consider: Currently, the cost of public school per pupil averages \$7,316; that is about double what private school costs.

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
December 20, 2000

■ Common sense

There's a dangerous outbreak of common sense occurring. The target is this nation's lunatic, self-destructive war on drugs.

Until now, we have had hysteria instead of sensible debate about the best way to deal with the wreckage brought on families, society, and the Constitution by illegal drugs and the failed war against them.

A fact of American life is that if you get crossways with someone and that person calls the law and says you are a drug dealer, police can do a midnight raid on your house, trash it, confiscate it — and you have no recourse whatsoever. As David P. Kopel points out in his essay in *After Prohibition*, "not even King George III had the temerity to order such raids on people's homes."

Bringing common sense to our drug policies will not be easy. The prison and law enforcement industries have become powerful lobbies. Thousands of jobs are at stake. Drug policy reformers can expect to be vilified as soft on crime. But despite the risk of political calumny, drug reform is gaining momentum.

Someday we will look back upon this siege of drug enforcement hysteria and be appalled. That day may come sooner than we think.

— JUDY MANN
The Washington Post
January 10, 2001

■ GOP Spendaholics

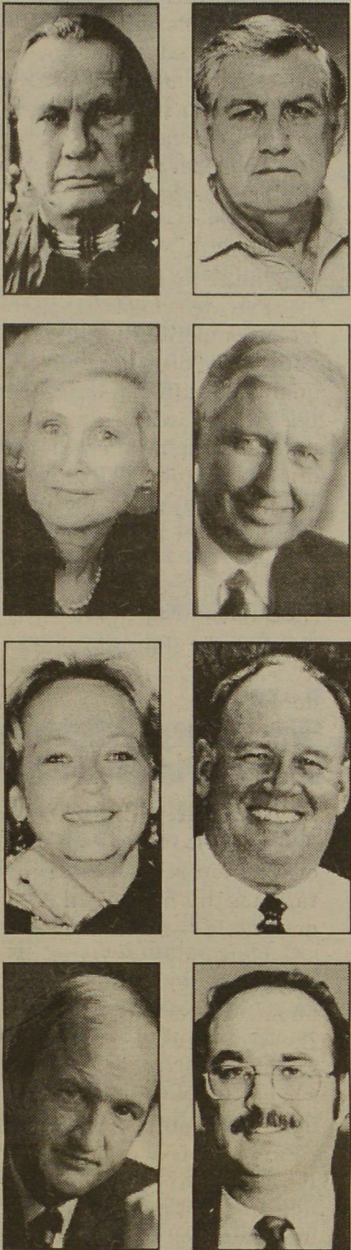
Many of the more than 200 programs that Republicans promised to eliminate in the 1995 "Contract with America" now have larger budgets than before Republicans took control of Congress. These range from farm subsidies (up 162%) and AmeriCorps (up 248%) to bilingual education (up 80%) and the Goals 2000 education program (up 112%).

— CAL THOMAS
The Washington Times
December 27, 2000

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a means to a higher
political end.
It is
itself the highest
political end."**

— LORD
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LIB00-02	Business Meeting
LIB00-03	Libertarian Politics Can Be Fun: Gail Lightfoot, Richard Rider / Liberty is the Cure for Racism: John Clifton, Reginald Jones
LIB00-04	KEYNOTE LUNCHEON: Waco: A Survivor's Story: David Thibodeau
LIB00-05	Why America Must End Drug Prohibition: Michele Kubby, Hon. Bill Masters / Persuasion Versus Force: Mark Skousen
LIB00-06a	Platform Committee Report & Debate (FRI 2:45-4:45): Part 1 of 2
LIB00-06b	Platform Committee Report & Debate (FRI 2:45-4:45): Part 2 of 2
LIB00-07	How Libertarian Policies Will Heal Our Communities: Hon. Bonnie Flickinger, Dr. Mary Ruwart / Why Gov't. Schools Can't Be Reformed: Hon. Roger Fritz, Marshall Fritz
LIB00-08	BREAKFAST 1: What Happened to the Reform Party? Jack Gargan
LIB00-09	BREAKFAST 2: Using Temperament to Improve Communication: David Bergland
LIB00-10	Small Gov't. Is Beautiful! Hon. Phil Miller, Carla Howell / I Am Not Throwing My Vote Away: I Am Voting Libertarian: Hon. Mark Taff, Neal Boortz
LIB00-11a	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 9:45-11:45): Part 1 of 2
LIB00-11b	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 2:20-4:30): Part 2 of 2
LIB00-12	Congressional Campaigns: Where Nat'l. Issues Meet Local Activism: Hon. Tom Tryon, David Nolan / Personal Responsibility is the Price of Liberty: Jo Jorgensen, Michael Cloud
LIB00-13	KEYNOTE LUNCHEON: Ayn Rand and the 21st Century: Barbara Branden
LIB00-14	Why I Left the GOP and Joined the LP: Gary Nolan / Revolution! Russell Means
LIB00-15a	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 2:30-4:30): Part 1 of 2
LIB00-15b	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 2:30-4:30): Part 2 of 2
LIB00-16	Presidential Debate (Browne, Hollist, Hess, & Gorman)
LIB00-17	BREAKFAST 1: Investing and Financial Privacy: Mark Skousen
LIB00-18	BREAKFAST 2: You Will Do Something Great for Liberty Sharon Harris
LIB00-19a	PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION & VOTING / It's Time to Retire Social Security: Barbara Howe, Michael Tanner / Roll Call of States / Presidential Campaign Platform (Part 1 of 3)
LIB00-19b	PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 2 of 3)
LIB00-19c	PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 3 of 3)
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LIB00-21c	V.P. NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 3 of 3)
LIB00-22	ACCEPTANCE SPEECH Dr. Nancy Lord, 2000 Libertarian Presidential Nominee Harry Browne
LIB00-23	Forum: Candidates for LNC Officers, At-Large, & Regional Rep
LIB00-24a	LNC Nomination & Voting / Judicial Comm. Nomination & Voting / Resolutions (Part 1 of 2)
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LIB00-27b	I Want to Get Elected: (Part 2 of 2)
LIB00-28	Claiming Our Political Marketshare Through Electoral Reform: Hill, Latham, Redpath
LIB00-29	Privacy: A Winning Issue for Libertarians: Dan Fylstra, Tim O'Brien, Steve Dasbach
LIB00-30	Caring for the Environment: A Libertarian Approach: Dr. Gordon LaBedz
LIB00-31a	Adventures in Public Office: Phil Miller, Hon. Bonnie Flickinger, Tom Tryon, Fred Collins, Bill Masters, Roger Fritz, Mark Taff (Part 1 of 2)
LIB00-31b	Adventures in Public Office: (Part 2 of 2)
LIB00-32	Using Personal Liberty Issues to Grow the LP: Doug Scribner, George Getz, Barbara Goushaw
LIB00-33	The State vs. Religious Liberty: Dean Ahmad
LIB00-34	Workshop: Communication Skills for Libertarians: Sharon Harris
LIB00-35	Publishing Effective, Professional LP Newsletters: Bill Winter
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Connecticut's Catch-22 strategy & Georgia's ballot law ad effort

■ CALIFORNIA

Politicians caused mess with electricity, says LP

Libertarians have called on state lawmakers to convene a special legislative session to deal with California's electricity woes — problems resulting from "a poorly crafted law written by politicians who have little understanding of basic economics and which catered to special interest groups," they charged.

"The 1996 so-called deregulation law was a joke," said State Chair **Mark Hinkle** in late December. "Calling the current electrical market deregulated is like saying the postal service is not a government agency — it's absurd."

Consumer advocates and politicians are blaming the 1996 law — widely described as a "deregulation" law — for the problems, which include skyrocketing costs and rolling blackouts. But such rhetoric displays a lack of understanding of economic principles, said Hinkle.

"California's electricity market is heavily regulated today and suffers from unforeseen problems of past regulation, make no mistake," he said. "For example, the transmission of electricity is managed by a government-created agency, the Independent System Operator (ISO), which has mandated price caps on electrical power — bringing some electrical companies near bankruptcy."

Government regulation also "created a lack of incentive for energy producers to build new plants in California over the last 10 years — which in the current restructured market has led to supply shortages."

What is the answer?

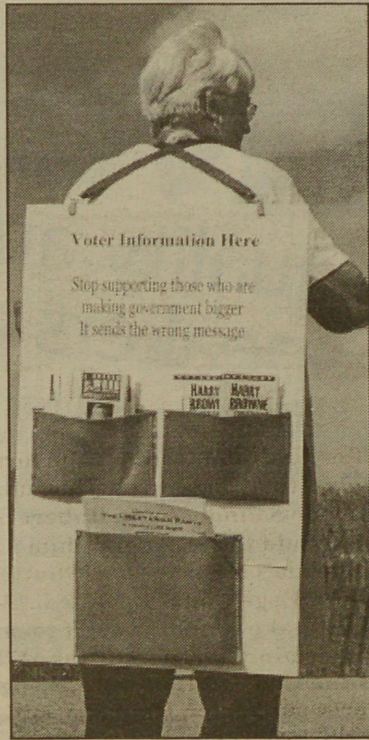
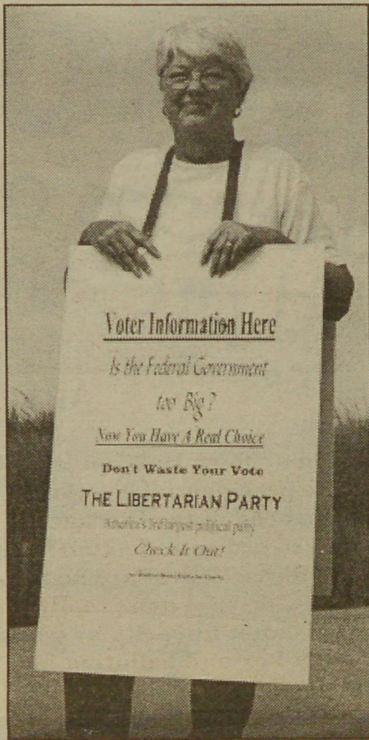
"Rather than return to the disastrous era of government-run utilities, politicians need to finish what they started," said Hinkle. "Libertarians call for a special session to rewrite the 1996 law and provide for a truly free electricity market in California."

■ CALIFORNIA

Ventura County LP holds community food drive

The Ventura County LP conducted a food drive in December to "give back to the community."

Party members collected canned, prepackaged, and nonperishable foods during the weeks leading up to the Christmas holi-



Old-fashioned (but effective) publicity

■ **Libertarian Party supporter Yvonne Bagwell demonstrates her low-tech — but effective — method of spreading the word about LP candidates.**

Bagwell, a resident of Cape Charles, Virginia, is shown here distributing campaign fliers for LP Congressional candidate Sharon Wood and presidential candidate Harry Browne during a local parade in the waning days of Election 2000.

day, and donated the items to the Manna Conejo Valley Food Bank.

"[The Food Bank is] a good organization that you know is legitimate, and will get the food where it needs to go," said **Robin Westmiller**, who helped coordinate the project. "We [got] a lot of food. It's nice to see this much participation from people."

Ventura County Libertarians collected the food for needy people because "it's a way for the Libertarian Party to give back to the community," she said.

■ COLORADO

Libertarians reject two unSAFE anti-firearm laws

The state Libertarian Party has come out in opposition to two proposed gun "safety" laws — arguing that both could put people at risk.

On January 8, the anti-gun group SAFE unveiled two bills for the Colorado legislature: One that would mandate "safe storage" for guns, and one that would raise the minimum age for firearms possession to 21.

The LP opposes the safe stor-

age law because it has "the effect of rendering a weapon useless for self-defense," said State Chair **Bette Rose Smith**. "It is obvious that a gun must be loaded and immediately ready to have any chance of deterring an attacker or intruder."

The age requirement is even more onerous, she said.

"Is SAFE saying an 18-year-old has no right to self-defense?" asked Smith. "We all have the innate right to defend ourselves. That must include the right to the means of that defense."

That's why, she said, "We demand that the legislature kill these bills if they come forward or that the governor veto them if they pass. After all, if we give up one right because it may seem inconvenient, we will soon find that we have no rights left."

■ CONNECTICUT

State LP 'cleverly' gets 22 new officeholders

The number of Libertarians holding public office in Connecticut has jumped by 22, thanks to some "creative thinking."

On January 1, 22 Libertarians were appointed four-year terms as Justices of the Peace, which is considered a "public official" in the state and has partisan status.

The project was the brainchild of LP member **John Joy** of Oxford, said State Chair **James Madison**.

"In September, John informed the party through e-mail that applications were being accepted for the next 4-year term for Justices of the Peace (JP)," said Madison. "He encouraged the party to get as many members to apply as possible. Several members then worked together to get the needed form, draft instructions on exactly how to apply, and mail the documentation to all party members."

At least 22 Libertarians took advantage of the opportunity, he said — which resulted in "a solid increase" in the number of LP officeholders in Connecticut.

■ FLORIDA

Lawsuit to monitor vote recount is nixed by court

The state Libertarian Party thrust itself into the frenzied post-election presidential vote-counting debate when it filed a lawsuit to allow Libertarian observers to be present during the recount process.

On November 21, the Florida LP filed a motion with the Florida Supreme Court, asking the justices to refuse to certify any manual recount since it would be "irredeemably tainted" by the lack of LP witnesses.

State law requires election boards to notify all candidates on the ballot of any recount, and permits representatives of all political parties to be present during the recount process. Despite the law, LP State Chair **Lisa Bullion** had been forcibly removed by two sheriffs deputies when she tried to observe a recount in Volusia County on November 14.

The lawsuit generated some publicity for the party, said Bullion, but the Florida Supreme Court refused to hear the case.

"Sadly, the Florida Supreme Court is only interested in maintaining political inclusion for the old parties, while denying our statutory right to participate," she said.

■ GEORGIA

LP launches advertising campaign for ballot law

The state LP has launched a television and radio advertising blitz to try to pass a ballot access reform bill.

The party is running about \$6,000 worth of radio and TV ads and has already reached about 500,000 people, said **Dr. Helmut Forren**, the Georgia LP Vice Chair and the Executive Director of the Voter Choice Coalition.

"I'm hoping to raise and spend another \$28,000 [over the next few weeks]," he said. "The additional advertising may reach

as many as one million persons enough times to motivate them into action — calling their legislators."

The ads encourage voters to support the Voters Choice Act, which was introduced in the State House in early January. It currently has eight co-sponsors in the House and Senate.

The bill, "would give the Libertarian Party full ballot access in Georgia," said Forren. Currently, "Georgia's petition requirements are 10 times higher than the average of all other states in the nation."

With the advertising and lobbying effort, "we hope to get [the bill] passed in the House," he said. "Prior to and parallel with that, we'll be rounding up more sponsors for the Senate side, in order to run the same bill parallel in that house."

■ GEORGIA

Bibb County LP fights new age restriction for bars

The Bibb County LP has come out in opposition to a new bill that would prohibit people under 21 from entering a bar.

The bill, which was the subject of a public hearing in late November, would make it illegal for young people 18-21 to go to any establishment in Macon that gets more than 50% of its revenue from alcohol. Public stadiums, restaurants, and hotels would be exempt.

The bill was sponsored by a councilwoman who said it would help curb alcohol and drug abuse, sexual activity, and violent crime.

But the Bibb County LP said the bill is "an absolute violation" of individual rights.

"The restriction would be imposed arbitrarily on a group of people who haven't broken any laws," said **Steve Gordon**, the county party treasurer. "The City Council is effectively trying to punish people for being 18 to 21."

■ ILLINOIS

Chicago LP files lawsuit about gun disappearance

The Chairman of the Chicago LP plans to file a lawsuit against a local sheriff to force the release of documents about a gun buyback program.

On January 9, **Matt Beauchamp** announced that he would file legal action against Cook County Sheriff Michael Sheahan under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, in order to gain access to public documents about the "Safe Streets 2000" gun buyback program.

The documents in question

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may help determine "whether Sheriff's deputies helped themselves to any expensive or rare guns that were turned in by little old ladies who were unaware of their value," said Beauchamp.

"The most potentially embarrassing question? The sheriff is unable or unwilling to disclose the whereabouts of 10 guns that were classified as antique and supposedly sent to museums around the country," he said.

"The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms informed the Chicago LP that they never took possession of these firearms. The Sheriff's Department says they did. It looks like one of these government agencies is lying."

MAINE

Election ethics complaint rejected by commission

A government commission has rejected an ethics complaint filed by state Libertarians against a Democratic state representative.

In mid-December, the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices unanimously ruled that State Representative Edward Povich (D-Ellsworth) had not violated state law by lying about his voting record.

The complaint had been filed by LP candidates **Robert Coolidge** and **R. Davis Hart**, who charged that Povich had violated the voluntary Maine Code of Fair Campaign Practices. During his campaign, they said, Povich had dishonestly claimed that he had not voted to tax Social Security payments.

However, the Commission ruled that candidates "can pretty much say what they want to say," and that Povich's comments — honest or not — were protected by the First Amendment.

The Maine Code of Fair Campaign Practices prohibits candidates from making false statements about their records. However, it does not provide for sanctions against those who break it.

MICHIGAN

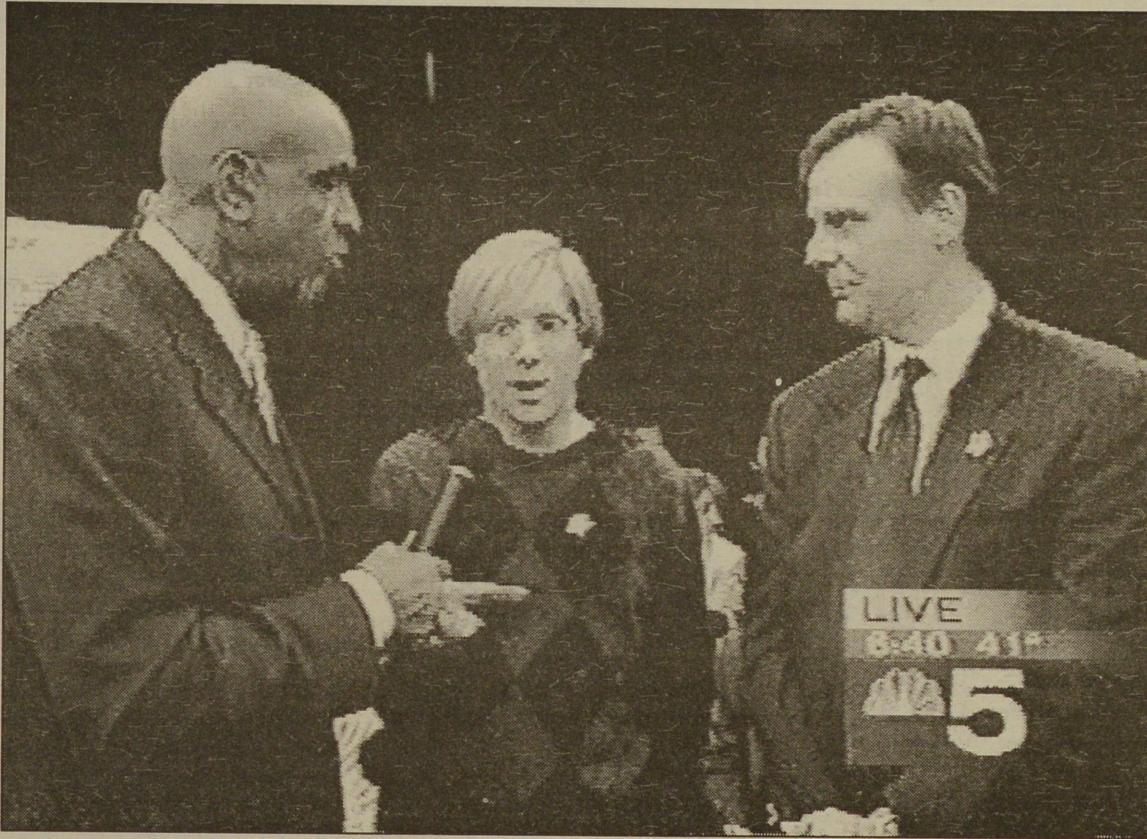
Investigation requested about open meeting law

A Libertarian city councilman has requested an investigation into what may be illegal city council sessions.

On January 12, Troy City Councilman **Martin Howrylak** sent a letter to the state's Attorney General, requesting a formal investigation into the legality of certain closed city council sessions.

"I am concerned in that I have seen what I believe to be a violation of the Open Meetings Act (OMA)," said Howrylak. "When I became a city councilman, I promised to uphold the laws and constitution of the State of Michigan. It is thus my obligation to report perceived transgressions to the proper authorities."

The state's Open Meetings Act requires most government



It's the Constitution, stupid!

Illinois Libertarian Chandler Hadraba (center) appears live on a "Town Hall" on the NBC affiliate in Chicago in December to discuss the "aftermath of the presidential election."

Shown here with host Warner Saunders and Robert Saar, the head of the DuPage Elections Commission, Hadraba said the show gave him a chance to promote election fairness.

Asked a question about Florida's controversial "butterfly" ballots, Hadraba, who also serves as an election judge in DuPage County, replied, "As a Libertarian, I don't really trust either one of these parties, but I take it upon myself to maintain ballot integrity by working as an election judge. If we undermine the sacredness of the ballot box and balloting in general then it is all lost. It's the Constitution, stupid — get it straight!"

Other than one Green Party supporter, Hadraba said he was the only third-party representative to appear on the program.

meetings to be made open to the public and is "a check against possible governmental abuses," said Howrylak.

However, the Troy City Council conducted nine meetings in 1999 and 2000 that may have violated the law, he said.

"While the letter to the Attorney General may not win me any friends on the city council, I believe that there are many questions that need to be answered," said Howrylak. "The public has a right to know what happened in those closed sessions if they were improper."

MICHIGAN

Campaign law violation sparks candidate appeal

A past Libertarian candidate is suing the Secretary of State's office after it dismissed an ethics complaint he filed against an incumbent officeholder.

In early December, **Paul Champion**, an unsuccessful candidate for Oakland County Executive, filed a suit demanding that the Secretary of State reopen an investigation into whether Champion's opponent in the 2000 election violated a state law that forbids candidates from using public resources.

The Democratic incumbent had sent out a press release announcing his re-election bid on county stationery, which violated Section 57 of the state's campaign finance law, Champion charged.

The Secretary of State's office ruled it was a violation of the law, but simply sent the Democrat a warning letter. However, stronger action is required, said Champion.

"Public money is everyone's money," he said. "The people who don't want to support a particular candidate shouldn't be paying to help them keep their jobs."

NEW MEXICO

LP applauds new report from Drug Policy Group

The state Libertarian Party has publicly praised the state's Drug Policy Advisory Group, which recommended the decriminalization of marijuana after a year-long study.

In early January, the Advisory Group, which was headed by a retired state judge, called for an end to criminal penalties for the possession of less than an ounce of marijuana by adults, and endorsed the medical use of the marijuana.

The Advisory Group had been formed in May 1999 by Governor Gary Johnson (R), who made national headlines when he called for an end to the War on Drugs.

Although many state Republican and Democratic politicians criticized the report, LP State Chair **Joseph Knight** praised Johnson's efforts at drug reform.

"It's about time," he said. "It's a step in the right direction. Not only is the war on drugs a failure,

it's morally wrong. Individuals should have dominion over their own bodies [and] prohibition causes more societal problems than the drugs themselves."

NEW MEXICO

State Central Committee opposes new curfew law

The state LP's Central Committee has passed a resolution opposing "another curfew ordinance" in Albuquerque.

On December 10, the state committee voted to officially condemn "the recent decision of the Albuquerque City Council to pass yet another curfew."

The action came after the Albuquerque city government had asked the state legislature to pass a new law allowing a more restrictive curfew against young people.

In response, the New Mexico LP noted: "Youth is not a crime. Curfews violate the First Amendment right of peaceable individuals to associate freely and are usually passed by local governments for the most trivial reasons."

The motion was introduced by Bernalillo County LP Chair **Mike Blessing**.

OHIO

Columbus Libertarians rally at 'Traffic' opening

Columbus Libertarians staged a rally at AMC Theatres during the opening weekend of

the movie *Traffic*, to draw attention to the Libertarian Party's stance against the War on Drugs.

On January 6, members of the Franklin County LP carried signs saying "Stop the Drug War" and "Treatment not Prison," and passed out fliers urging an end to the drug war, said **Rick Sargent**, chair of the Franklin County LP.

"[We] converged on the theater to show our discontent with the government spending more than \$13 billion a year to fight a losing battle," he said.

The critically praised movie, which stars Michael Douglas, Don Cheadle, and Catherine Zeta-Jones, is a panoramic indictment of the failure of the War on Drugs.

"The group chose the movie because it shows the futility of the drug war and that treatment programs are more effective than police efforts," said **Dena Bruedigam**, the state LP executive director.

The rally was the lead story on the 6 o'clock news that evening on WSYX-TV, Columbus' ABC affiliate, and generated a front-page article in the Ohio State University newspaper, *The Lantern*.

The rally was organized by **Jim Meara**, Franklin County LP Membership Coordinator.

OREGON

Ex-LP State Chair gets job with State Senator

A longtime LP activist has accepted a job as a legislative assistant for a Republican State Senator — and says it is a chance to "inject Libertarian ideas" into state government.

Richard Burke, who was the Oregon LP State Chair from 1993-1994, started working for State Senator Gary George when the legislative session began in January.

As legislative assistant, Burke will research and write bills, give advice about voting — and will try to nudge the state senator in a more Libertarian direction, he said.

"If Sen. George ever takes an un-libertarian stance, it won't be for lack of being lobbied by me," he said.

Some conflicts are inevitable, acknowledged Burke.

"Because Sen. George is a Republican, I realize that he will not always take positions I agree with," he said.

"[However, he] apparently took some heat from Senate Leadership for hiring a Libertarian, and the fact that he's doing it anyway is evidence that Sen. George really wants to have Libertarian input. I see this as a great opportunity."

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The Review

Traffic: Flawed but important

Reviewed by Christian Ettinger
DRCNET

Traffic, the just-released Hollywood film directed by Steven Soderbergh and starring Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta Jones, merits the attention of drug policy reform activists. An ambitious, sprawling, and panoramic overview of the drug war, the film dives into the tragedy and hypocrisy of the War on Drugs like no Hollywood movie before it.

Traffic is, at different times, heavy-handed, shrill, and melodramatic, and it carries mixed messages — it is, after all, a big-budget Hollywood blockbuster. But its bottom line is that the War on Drugs is doomed to failure. The film argues that a harm-reduction approach centered on drug treatment is a more realistic approach for reducing substance abuse and its harms.

Ironically, some of the politicians who designed the current drug policy have walk-on roles as themselves in the film. Do they realize their dogma is being questioned? According to the Associated Press, the filmmakers got Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) to appear in the film by telling his staff, "the movie will be about how drugs destroy families."

The AP story goes on to say the film has an anti-drug message, but that is an oversimplification. True, in some scenes that could have come from "Reefer Madness," teens fall victim to the allure of drugs. But to call Traffic an anti-drug movie misses the film's primary message, pounded into the viewer with all the subtlety of a sledgehammer, that the War on Drugs must end.

The film's plot centers on Michael Douglas as a reluctant Drug Czar whose high school-age honor student daughter dabbles in drugs and then in an absurdly short time becomes a full-fledged crack whore at the mercy of her demonic African-American drug dealer. This is the kind of cautionary tale that fueled the drug war to begin with, and it reads as if written by Barry McCaffrey himself.

McCaffrey also could have scripted the lurid scenes of the Drug Czar's daughter progressing with astounding speed from smoking pot to using speedballs, a mixture of cocaine and heroin. In its typically unsubtle fashion, the movie manages to bring in both the racial/sexual fears that envelop drug war zealots and the "gateway drug" theory.

While these cartoonish scenes certainly convey an anti-drug message out of the 1930s, it is unlikely that Sen. Hatch and other drug warriors will like the way the movie plays out. Watching his daughter's deterioration does not turn Douglas into an even more zealous drug warrior — far from it. Instead, Douglas comes to see his job and the drug war as a sham.

Just as the film-makers provide both anti-drug abuse and anti-drug war messages, they also try to have it both ways in the production notes used to promote the film.

"Everybody who read the script — whether from the political right or left, law enforcement or drug addicts — thought the script was on their side," said screenwriter Stephen Gaghan.

Producer Laura Bickford agrees, "The DEA felt it was one of the most truthful things they'd ever read about what it's like to be in law enforcement fighting the fight."

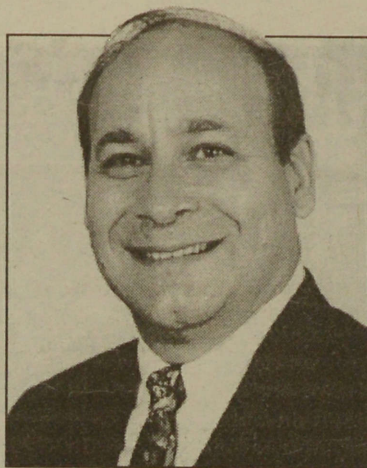
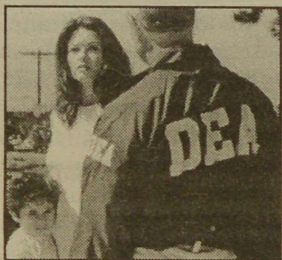
But if the DEA liked the script, it may therefore believe its mission is futile. In one of the most eloquently stunning scenes in the film, Douglas, headed back to Washington after a fact-finding mission in Mexico, asks his policy experts whether they have any new ideas or strategies. The silence is deafening.

Salon critic Jeff Stark sums up the film's message well:

"Traffic is the first mainstream, major Hollywood production that has come out and said that America's drug war is not winnable. The film argues both implicitly and explicitly that going after the suppliers and the drug traffickers — where the U.S. spends the bulk of its \$19-billion-a-year budget — simply doesn't work, that it kills innocents and turns others into criminals, that it devastates poor neighborhoods, that it can't stop an insatiable social maw of illicit drug use"

The New York Film Critics Circle agrees. When they awarded Traffic the prize for best picture, they called the film an indictment of the drug war.

Traffic is by no means a perfect film, but it does provide a huge potential opening to expand popular consciousness of the evils of the drug war and the search for better answers.



■ Steve Givot: Meetings will "define the activities of the [Libertarian Party] until 2004."

Strategic meeting set

Continued from Page 3
with a State Chair's Conference.

It will begin on Saturday morning with discussion of "views of the LP coming into the process," said Givot. On Saturday afternoon, a general brainstorming session — which will include State Chairs — is scheduled.

"The ideas that come up in that session will be the basis for our future work," said Givot.

On Sunday, the strategic planning team will organize those ideas "into subject areas or strategies," he said, and develop a "list of background, factual, or analytical information that would be helpful in evaluating these ideas."

Future meetings will work to incorporate the various ideas into a unified plan that will make the Libertarian Party more successful politically, said Givot.

High hopes

SPT participants said they had high hopes for the meeting.

"I volunteered because I strongly believe that the Libertarian Party is destined to be the major force in American politics," said LNC At-Large member Elias Israel. "I am convinced that with a good plan and a cohesive, success-oriented culture, we can witness that future very soon."

And LNC Treasurer Mark Tuniewicz said: "My greatest hope is that we can foster a greater sense of consensus as to the direction which will result in attaining a future Libertarian political majority. I want our membership to know we are taking this process very seriously."

LP members who want their suggestions aired at the first meeting should contact their LNC representative, said Givot. A complete list of LNC members is available at: www.LP.org.

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Disturbed NH Republican

Continued from Page 4

— successfully ran for State Representative in 2000 as a Republican, coming in third in a three-seat district.

Political observers said he probably won because he kept quiet about his violent beliefs and picked up numerous straight-ticket Republican votes. Several Republican PACs also contributed money to his campaign.

Repudiating

When the freshman legislator's controversial comments were publicized in December, the Republican Party tried to claim he was really a Libertarian, said Winter — but the state and national LP responded with press releases repudiating the charge.

"We noted that Mr. Alciere is a registered Republican. He ran for office as a Republican. He got money from Republican organizations. He was elected as a Republican. In short, Tom Alciere is a Republican," said Winter. "On top

of that, he was kicked out of the Libertarian Party. We noted that Republicans didn't bother to kick Alciere out when his horrific, murderous beliefs were revealed."

The controversy also offered LP spokespeople an opportunity to explain the party's non-initiation of force statement, which all members sign, said Winter.

"We got a forum to explain what makes us different from Republicans and Democrats — the fact that we reject violence as a means of achieving social or political goals," he said. "We were able to point out that this is not a principle that Mr. Alciere shared."

Danielle Donovan, the State Chair of the New Hampshire LP, said the state party also benefited from the firestorm about Alciere.

"[The situation] could have been disastrous had we not had such a strong response," she said. "Every opportunity to denounce Alciere was considered successful. It gave the LPNH a chance to be seen in a positive light."

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Kubby medical marijuana case ends in hung jury

Continued from Page 1
for medical reasons.

"The important thing is the jury upheld the Oakland Guidelines," he said. "Everything else is really superfluous."

Other California counties have more restrictive medical marijuana guidelines, and the failure to convict the Kubbys could convince them to reconsider those policies, said the Kubbys' lawyer, J. Tony Serra.

The mistrial decision was "mostly good news" for the medical marijuana movement, said Libertarian Party National Director Steve Dasbach.

Great news

"It's great news that 11 of 12 jurors voted in favor of medical marijuana, and voted against the government's effort to put sick people in jail," he said. "It's bad news that the 12th juror didn't have the good sense or compassion to agree, and refused to acquit the Kubbys of all charges."

"But after spending two years attacking the Kubbys, and hundreds of thousands of dollars on the trial, the hung jury will make prosecutors leery about arresting and charging future medical marijuana patients."

California Libertarians have a "mixture of elation, disappointment, and caution" after the

Kubby mistrial, said LP State Chair Mark Hinkle.

"We extend congratulations to Michele for her acquittal, but today's outcome is a mixed blessing," he said. "We share outrage with thousands of others over Steve's conviction on two senseless charges."

"We are very pleased and encouraged that in a county as politically conservative as Placer — where Proposition 215 was rejected by 52% of voters — 11 jurors would vote to follow the law approved by all Californians four years ago."

"The real tragedy is that countless other Americans continue suffering due to the government's failed drug policy."

Hinkle also predicted that the Kubbys would be found innocent if the case went back to trial.

Vindicated

"As far as we're concerned, Steve and Michele Kubby's use of medical marijuana has been vindicated," he said. "There is no doubt in our minds that Steve and Michele were using medical marijuana lawfully."

"There is no doubt that Steve was targeted by law enforcement authorities following his high-profile gubernatorial campaign — in which he openly testified that taking marijuana was the only thing

Kubby may try to recall DA

Now that his medical marijuana trial is over, Steve Kubby may launch a recall effort against the District Attorney who prosecuted his case.

At a press conference in late December, Kubby said he will launch a recall effort against Placer County District Attorney Brad Fenocchio unless the D.A.'s office agrees to accept the so-called Oakland Guidelines in medical marijuana cases.

The guidelines allow bona fide medical marijuana patients to grow up to 144 marijuana plants without facing criminal charges.

Under California's Proposition 215, it is legal to use cannabis for medical reasons, but the state and county government have continued to put people on trial for growing, possessing, or using medical marijuana.

"Our fondest hope is that Placer County will put their war on sick people behind them and assume a leadership role in protecting patients," said Kubby. "At some point, the voters are going to have to ask themselves if they can afford to continue subsidizing such an expensive and illegal war against bona fide medical cannabis use."

Kubby said he would make a decision about the recall effort in February. In Placer County, 15,550 signatures of registered voters are needed to qualify for a recall election.

keeping a rare form of cancer from killing him. And there is no doubt that he will eventually be completely exonerated."

Prosecutors have not announced whether they will retry the case.

"Considering [the] 11-1 outcome, they would be foolish to re-

try the case," said Hinkle.

Steve Kubby is scheduled for sentencing on February 2 for the psilocybin (a mushroom stem) and peyote charges. He faces a maximum of three years, eight months in prison, or a minimum of probation.

The Kubbys' long legal odys-

sey started on January 19, 1998, when police raided their Olympic Valley home and arrested them.

Both pleaded not guilty to all charges, arguing that they used marijuana in accordance with the law — Steve Kubby to treat adrenal cancer under doctor's orders and Michele Kubby to alleviate irritable bowel syndrome.

Attorney J. Tony Serra suggested during the trial that the Kubbys were targeted for prosecution because of their political activity.

Steve Kubby is "a lightning rod for medicinal marijuana activism," he said. "He was, and is, a symbol of medical marijuana — and a symbol of false prosecution."

Benefited

Despite the challenges, danger, and cost — and the charges still hanging over his head — Kubby said he and his wife had benefited in some unexpected ways from the two-year legal battle.

"In virtually every way, our life has improved," he said. "We are much closer to our family, friends and ourselves."

"Our connection with our fellow rank and file Libertarians is a bond for life. We've made so many friends and received such fantastic support that we feel genuinely blessed."

William Redpath

Libertarian for Governor of Virginia in 2001

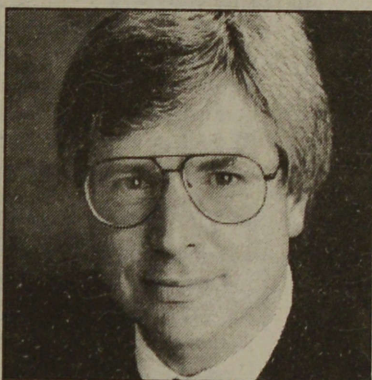
While America's attention is on election systems, Bill Redpath will campaign for proportional representation in the Virginia Senate and instant runoff voting for all single winner elections to end the "wasted vote syndrome"

Bill is well known in the LP for leading us to 50 state ballot access in 1992 and 1996 while he chaired the LNC Ballot Access Committee.

Redpath will also advocate serious spending and tax cuts, Universal Tax Credits for K-12, privatization of state universities, market solutions to transportation problems, repealing consensual crime laws and ending capital punishment!

Bill says: I will devote one-third of my campaign to discussion of election systems and how our current system leads to uncompetitive, "lesser of two evils" negative campaigns, and two-thirds to substantive, workable Libertarian solutions to public policy problems with the theme,

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Who says 'ending the drug war' is a single issue campaign?

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Crime - prohibition promotes and rewards violent criminal behavior

Gun Rights - drug related gun violence is fueling gun control efforts

Corruption - law enforcement and justice systems have been compromised

Right to Work - end denial of licenses to users and stop mandatory urine testing

Justice - end mandatory minimums and sentencing "guidelines"

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HowTo

Increase your impact as a Libertarian leader

How can you become a more effective Libertarian Party state chair, county chair, campaign manager, executive director, or LP leader in general?

Last year, we asked state chairs and executive directors that very question. Specifically, we asked: "Based on your experience as State Chair, what one piece of advice would you give a new State Chair, to help him or her succeed more?"

Here are some of their responses:

Stay focused! Have a broad game plan, set realistic short and long term goals, and stay focused on those goals no matter who tries to divert you towards silly (or even reasonable) avenues. There is way too much to do. It is too easy to lose focus and get diverted. If you stay focused on your goals, you'll accomplish a lot. Be diplomatic about it, but zealously guard your precious time and stay committed and focused on your goals.

— MARK W. RUTHERFORD, Indiana LP

Delegate responsibility! Do not try to do it all yourself! Build a team. Push, push, push your people to perform. But remember, they are volunteers. Their careers and families must come first. It is better to have many people doing small things consistently than huge but sporadic efforts.

— MARK CENCI, Maine LP

Treat people courteously and with respect. Why? Because we are all on the same side. Most people really want to help; some just don't know how. As Chair it is necessary to know what's important and make sure those basics are getting done well. It's also important to recognize good ideas from volunteers and take advantage of them. When ideas are given serious consideration and thoughtful feedback, people are more likely to 1) Work hard to make sure their idea becomes a reality and 2) Stick around if their suggestion is nixed and pitch in elsewhere. Always give credit where credit is due.

— STACY VAN OAST, Michigan LP

Beware of internal dissemblers. They are more trouble than the non-Libertarians.

— DANIELLE DONOVAN, New Hampshire LP

The military strategist, Sun Tzu, said "Opportunities multiply as they are seized." It has been my experience that even the smallest opportunity yields more opportunities. Oftentimes an activity such as a tax protest, outreach booth, or a letter to the editor causes unanticipated results. For example, I have seen LP candidates be asked for opinion pieces for the local newspaper even after the campaign is over! Or, a week-long booth at the county fair resulting in two individuals coming forward to run for office. In turn, seizing these opportunities has resulted in more gains. Continually look for opportunities and do not become overly concerned with obtaining immediate results.

— GARY REAMS, Virginia LP

Don't get terribly depressed that 90% of the work in the Party is done by 10% of the people. It's more important to have 10 people who will work their butts off than 1,000 people who will sit around and bitch, even if they do pay dues.

— STEVE BOONE, Maryland LP

Work to capture your (and other activists') experience in a form that can be used by the next state chair/executive committee, so that when the leadership changes, the state doesn't have to spend time reinventing the wheel.

— MARK NELSON, Iowa LP

Forget personal politics and any personal agenda. Your only objective is to strengthen the state organization.

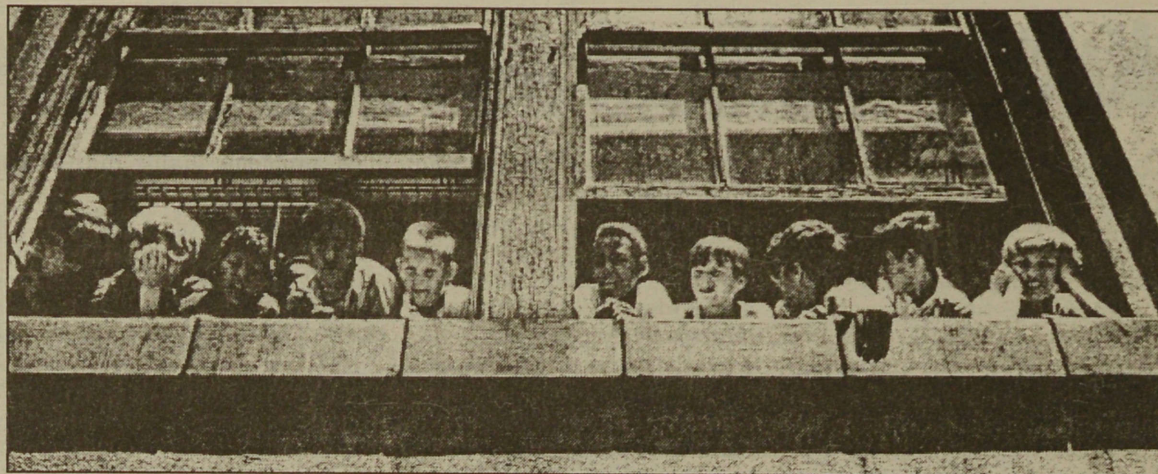
— CHUCK WILLIAMS, South Carolina LP

Prioritize and take on achievable goals. Given limited time and resources, a small volunteer organization can only do so much. So, make hard decisions about what projects you can accomplish, and then carry them out.

— PETER SCHMERL, Arizona LP

Ask, "How can the LP make a difference in our state, even if we aren't electing our candidates?"

— RICHARD COOPER, New York LP



■ As a public school teacher, Rachel Baxter found that "everywhere I turned, kids were subjected to some sort of emotional, physical, intellectual or spiritual carnage. The cruelty and madness of the system demanded that I treat the children as they did."

Public school pandemonium

Continued from Page 1

to the insane butchery of individual rights that is taking place all around them.

Yet, I've known this for a long time; it certainly isn't anything new. But no matter what I've come up against as a libertarian, nothing (other than my own public education and my beliefs on how kids learn best) prepared me for the harsh reality of what I witnessed being done to kids in the public schools.

And like Ross's character, I was stunned that nobody — teachers, parents, and administrators — thought anything was wrong. These were seemingly nice people, which made it much harder to understand why they didn't see the enormous amount of harm they were causing. Everywhere I turned, kids were subjected to some sort of emotional, physical, intellectual or spiritual carnage. The cruelty and madness of the system demanded that I treat the children as they did.

Fortunately, I failed: I lasted six months.

Did not fit

I taught special education to ten "intellectually disabled" (labeled "ID") kindergarten, first- and third-graders. A few of them had legitimate, physiological problems, such as speech disorders, but the rest of them — God forbid, individuals that they were — simply did not fit into a system that was incapable of recognizing and nurturing the talents they already possessed or were developing.

In fact, the system was bent on destroying any uniqueness, intellectual curiosity, or self-discovery that these kids brought with them into the school.

This wasn't just true for the special education kids. It is required that all children who enter the doors of public schools leave any semblance of themselves outside. The intention of government schooling is not to encourage kids' natural love and passion for learning, and it's definitely not in the agenda to foster independence.

The system is specifically designed to chip away, piece by piece, a child's inherent right to develop into an independent-minded, psychologically aware, autonomous human being.

This is not an exaggeration. Because I saw what was happening and was not able to stop it, it felt like I was in prison.

By the way, ever notice how schools look like prisons? This is no accident. A friend of mine calls the architectural style of some of the older schools "Gothic Penitentiary." The school I taught in had ugly yellow institutional tiling lining the hallway walls that reached above the children's

stroying technology, schools teach that nothing is worth finishing because some arbitrary power intervenes both periodically and aperiodically. If nothing is worth finishing, nothing is worth starting. Love of learning can't survive this steady drill."

Real lessons?

How do public schools curtail, control, or trample a child's growing sense of self? And what are the real lessons learned by the child lurking behind the lessons being taught?

Here are some examples I've seen in the short time that I was teaching. There are many more.

■ A 7-year-old boy walks into the class and finds his desk upside down and the contents dumped all over the floor. All the kids listened while the teacher admonished this child for having a messy desk.

The child remains standing, immobilized and embarrassed, looking at the floor. He learns it is okay to humiliate someone in front of others and that his property can be gone through without his permission. He learns disrespect for the property of others.

■ Children being forced to waste an inordinate amount of time waiting. They wait for other kids to finish their work; for recess; to go in after recess; for lunch; to go in after lunch; to answer a question; to ask a question; to go to the bathroom; to get on the bus; to take roll.

They learn that wasting precious time is normal. They do not learn how to manage time for themselves.

■ One teacher refused to open the windows or shades and kept the class in a continuous semi-darkness. The psychological impact of sitting in a dark room every day is devastating. It causes depression — not to mention eyestrain. To not be able to look out a window can certainly be likened to a prison sentence.

■ Bribery in the form of food, stars, prizes, "free time," alone time, grades or other means of manipulation in order to get kids

See **PUBLIC SCHOOL** Page 13

BY THE WAY, did you ever notice how schools look like Gothic Penitentiaries?

heads. I imagined the kids must have wondered if they were in one giant bathroom.

The environment was so madly chaotic that it was virtually impossible to learn anything, let alone finish a conversation. Many times I'd be in the middle of a discussion or project with a child and a bell would blast so loud, I'd have to cover my ears. Everyone else would be oblivious to the intrusion and move to another place — like rats in a cage.

Hurry up

Everybody rushed around as if something important was going on. If a child was in the middle of doing something, he'd better hurry up and finish so he could move on to the next meaningless task.

In his book *The Underground History of American Education*, former New York State Teacher of the Year, John Gatto writes, "By bells and other concentration-de-

Public school pandemonium

Continued from Page 12

to learn material they found useless and boring; to get them to stop moving, talking, or anything else the teacher thought was disruptive to "the learning process."

They learn to shut down their own natural joy of learning for its intrinsic rewards; and instead, perform like circus animals in order to get rewards.

■ Legally drugging kids with amphetamines or other psychotropic medications in order to control behavior.

Medicalizing then drugging normal childhood behaviors to control kids; which in turn, causes dangerous side effects and even death. Kids learn that they have no rights with respect to their physical well-being.

■ Punishment in the form of humiliation and physical pain (corporal punishment), failing grades, isolation, prohibiting physical movement (taking away recess) or verbal insults. I would cringe every time a particular teacher walked down the hall with her class. She always had something mean and nasty to say to some poor child.

Kids learn that disrespect, cruelty and physical force are the means used to getting what they want. They learn to treat themselves in the same fashion and they equate learning with drudgery, confinement and pain.

■ Preventing healthy, meaningful relationships by artificially fragmenting time, separating younger kids from the older; "slower" from the "quicker;" popular from unpopular; competing with other students for teachers' attention, or teachers and administrators functioning as guards instead of caring mentors.

Kids do not learn to effectively socialize with varying age groups or intellectual abilities. They learn contempt for "weaker" students and fear toward those who appear "stronger."

■ Making ridiculous rules and regulations that children inevitably break; such as not allowing toy guns, baseball bats and balls, and countless other fun toys and games that kids throughout all of human existence have used for play.

■ I was having a mundane conversation with a teacher. A child was sitting close by timidly watching us. In a spiteful tone of voice this teacher says to him, "We're not talking to you; mind your own business."

The child immediately looks down and tries to be invisible. The child learns not to be curious

about what adults are saying and doing — which is natural for children. He learns it is fine to speak to someone with harshness and contempt.

■ Kids have no privacy. There is nowhere to go to be alone — even the private act of going to the bathroom requires permission and often surveillance, and the child had better *hurry up and finish* and *get back to class!*

Children learn to be uncomfortable with being alone. They

have problems taking initiative without asking an authority figure what to do.

■ There is no time for the child to discover what he or she loves. All time is taken up by what others deem to be useful.

One child I know of always had a messy desk and had trouble writing neatly. The teachers were always reprimanding him for this. One day he asked me if he could read a book to me. We sat in the corner while he read perfectly

from *The Lord of the Rings*. He was 9 years old.

The child learns that what he loves is unimportant and secondary to what others think is significant. After a while, what he loves is buried.

■ Creativity and originality are stamped out. Most art classes require kids to construct replicas of what the teacher makes. Successful artists, poets and writers are not created within the public schools — they survive and prosper *in spite* of their schooling. Again, a child learns that ingenuity is not something to be valued.

Why is it that very few people

are aware of what's happening to kids in the government schools? One reason is that most of us went to public schools so we don't even notice the detrimental impact they have on kids, families, and society. I think kids are retaliating with a deadly violence (Columbine, for example) to a system that mercilessly crushes them.

Another reason is that the government should never have gotten involved in the business of education in the first place. The vast bureaucratic system of government schooling, like any dictatorial establishment, must fail. Let's hope so — for the kids' sake.

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Sat.	Feb. 17	WASHINGTON, DC	This is a special event of the We The People Foundation which we are participating in. Contact them at www.givemeliberty.org for details.
Sun.	Feb. 18	NEW YORK, NY	Sheraton LaGuardia East Hotel 13520 39th Ave, Flushing, NY (718) 460-6666
Sat.	Feb. 24	ORLANDO, FL	Radisson Orlando Airport Hotel 5555 Hazeltine National Dr., Orlando (407) 856-0100
Sun.	Feb. 25	ATLANTA, GA	Holiday Inn Atlanta Airport North 1380 Virginia Ave., Atlanta (404) 762-8411
Sat.	Mar. 3	NORFOLK, VA	Ramada Inn Limited Hotel 515 N. Military Hwy., Norfolk (757) 461-1880
Sun.	Mar. 4	WASHINGTON, DC	Natl. Airport Crystal City Holiday Inn 2650 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington (703) 694-3217
Sat.	Mar. 17	OMAHA, NE	Marriott Omaha 10220 Regency Cir., Omaha (402) 399-9000
Sun.	Mar. 18	MINNEAPOLIS, MN	Sheraton Inn Minneapolis Airport 2500 E. 79th St. Bloomington (952) 854-1771

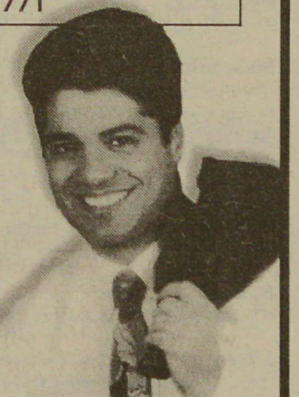
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ElectionResults

Here are the November 2000 election results for the Libertarian Party's candidates for State Senate, followed by State House. Each listing includes the candidate's state, district, name, vote total, and percentage of the vote won.

■ State Senate Results

Arizona

(Dist. 9) John Jason Auvenshine 1,455 2.32%
(Dist. 11) John T. Schmid 3,336 10.23%
(Dist. 13) Wayne Sunne 1,655 3.09%
(Dist. 14) Ed Kahn 9,161 23.32%
(Dist. 19) Clay Adair 2,335 3.33%
(Dist. 24) Gary Fallon 2,781 4.80%
(Dist. 28) Mark Horning 14,524 17.45%

California

(Dist. 1) Jon Peterson 16,052 4.21%
(Dist. 5) Carole Brow 1,028 3.45%
(Dist. 9) James Eyer 13,622 5.19%
(Dist. 11) Jack Hickey 12,676 4.08%
(Dist. 13) John Webster 10,507 5.12%
(Dist. 15) Gordon Sachtjen 6,256 2.30%
(Dist. 17) John Gibson 7,649 2.86%
(Dist. 21) Bob New 9,399 3.50%
(Dist. 23) Charles Black 15,059 4.71%
(Dist. 29) Leland Faegre 7,655 2.92%
(Dist. 31) Fritz Ward 9,851 3.77%
(Dist. 33) Michael Chacon 11,708 3.61%
(Dist. 35) Paul Studier 11,401 3.61%
(Dist. 37) Donna Tello 13,649 4.78%
(Dist. 39) Rusty Nicholsb 6,474 2.27%

Colorado

(Dist. 4) Amy M. Kacsh 2,954 5.48%
(Dist. 8) Michael Zuckerman 2,050 3.73%
(Dist. 10) Patricia Glidewell 2,339 5.22%
(Dist. 12) Patrick Lilly 10,826 23.54%
(Dist. 14) Wayne L. Bowlby 1,452 2.76%
(Dist. 17) Chuck Wright 1,941 3.50%
(Dist. 18) Mark H. Nikkel 1,615 3.31%
(Dist. 19) Bud Martin 1,517 3.19%
(Dist. 23) Steven E. Lechner 1,443 3.19%
(Dist. 25) Ronald G. Schweizer 1,050 3.73%
(Dist. 26) Steven M. Lee 9,637 24.68%
(Dist. 27) Harry Ozols 1,139 2.16%
(Dist. 28) Stephen J. Dreiling 1,397 3.40%
(Dist. 29) Cyril B. Smaling 798 2.92%
(Dist. 31) Patrick Adamson 1,383 5.66%
(Dist. 33) Jesse L. Wilkins 4,413 12.89%
(Dist. 35) Jeff Taton 1,028 2.15%

Connecticut

(Dist. 22) Carl Vassar 262 .73%
(Dist. 25) Joseph C. Bucciarelli 500 1.51%
(Dist. 32) Richard Antico 2291 7.24%

Hawaii

(Dist. 20) Wade Thode 411 2.2%

Idaho

(Dist. 1) Frank Reichert 496 3.2%
(Dist. 15) Bill Anderson 946 6.00%
(Dist. 17) David Slack 590 4.90%
(Dist. 18) Daniel Adams 3165 19.7%

Indiana

(Dist. 10) Matt Wilken 1,008 4.28%
(Dist. 16) Dan Headlee 863 2.17
(Dist. 18) Star Nelson 2,094 6.60%
(Dist. 28) Phil Aaron 5,308 10.75%
(Dist. 30) Alexander Cicak 1,277 2.29%
(Dist. 32) Phil Tennes 1,010 2.30%
(Dist. 33) Richard Gordon 831 2.53%
(Dist. 34) Eric Barnes 431 1.82%
(Dist. 35) Cindy J. Kirkpatrick 1,181 3.73%
(Dist. 36) Mike Williamson 1,026 2.72%
(Dist. 42) Albert Barger 3,403 10.09%
(Dist. 44) Seth Lambton 3,131 8.64%

Kansas

(Dist. 30) Carl Kramer 914 6.85%

Kentucky

(Dist. 19) Nick Karem 1,029 2.3%

Massachusetts

(Hampshire-Franklin Dist.) Michael Froimowitz 7,221 11.39%
(Middlesex Dist. 1) Peter Christopher Schoaff 7,782 15.57%
(Middlesex Dist. 2) Kamal Jain 10,883 16.57%
(Middlesex Dist. 4) Ilana Freedman 16,144 24.81%

Maine

(Dist. 5) Richard Davis Hart 1,864 9.12%

Missouri

(Dist. 1) Walter S. Werner 1,404 1.80%

(Dist. 11) Jeanne Bojarski 5,118 12.6%

(Dist. 19) John Dupuy 1,293 1.8%

Montana

(Dist. 30) Lowell Smith 401 4%
(Dist. 31) Russel Vogel 399 4%

North Carolina

(Dist. 7) Stephen Cowles Shepherd 639 3%
(Dist. 13) Sean Haugh 9,102 4%
(Dist. 17) Alan Light 2,438 1%
(Dist. 18) John Evans 1,0147 20%
(Dist. 23) Larry Clark 1,131 2%
(Dist. 28) Clarence Young 3,903 2%
(Dist. 38) Michael G. Smith 5,703 11%
(Dist. 42) Larry Gavel 5,788 10%

New Hampshire

(Dist. 11) Robert Multer 843 3.73%
(Dist. 13) Eric Postpischil 595 3.63%
(Dist. 15) James S. Vogt 728 3.12%
(Dist. 16) Ken Blevens 871 3.37%

New Mexico

(Dist. 1) Ron Barrett 2,276 18%
(Dist. 23) Ronald Bjornstad 3,258 17%

Nevada

(Northern Dist.) Billy Oswald 3,385 14.96
(Dist. 3) Alice Lillie 1,285 6.50%
(Dist. 5) Mark Warden 2,348 2.66%

Ohio

(Dist. 6) Thomas V. Brown 8,687 6.4%
(Dist. 8) Stephen R. Schulte 6,988 5.6%
(Dist. 14) Ann Leech 26,105 20.02%
(Dist. 16) William J. Kammerer 30,749 23.22%
(Dist. 18) Bart Hildebrant 3,978 3.2%
(Dist. 22) Cher Neufer 13,564 8.4%
(Dist. 28) Pearl Pullman 4,553 3.8%
(Dist. 32) Pat K. Urquhart 3,372 2.6%

Oklahoma

(Dist. 41) Clark Duffe 698 1.87%

Oregon

(Dist. 4) Pavel Gooberman 1,208 2.21%

Pennsylvania

(Dist. 21) Vernon L. Etzel 10,405 12.41%

South Carolina

(Dist. 40) John Hare 2,456 9.06%

Tennessee

(Dist. 6) Wade Boswell 6,508 11.3%
(Dist. 18) Dave Myers 1,074 1.6%

Texas

(Dist. 14) Tom Davis 40,829 18.05%
(Dist. 25) George Meeks 40,789 12.57%

Utah

(Dist. 2) Richard Barnes 1,214 8.60%

Vermont

(Caledonia Dist.) Ian Hardy 462 1.60%
(Chittenden Dist.) Brenden Kinney 2,377 0.7%
(Chittenden Dist.) Christopher Coolidge 2,178 .60%
(Chittenden Dist.) Stephen Pollak 3,028 .09%
(Orange Dist.) Scott Berkey 487 4.50%
(Washington Dist.) Alan LePage 1,210 1.5%
(Washington Dist.) Dwight Duke 644 .80%
(Windsor Dist.) David McCullough 8,304 11.3%
(Windsor Dist.) Chris Costanzo 1,213 1.6%

Washington

(Dist. 4) Robert Chase 918 4.13%
(Dist. 9) Randall Kenney 678 16.07%
(Dist. 10) Bradley Carey 595 2.93%
(Dist. 22) Randy Brooks 622 22.31%
(Dist. 23) Sheldon Scott Holman 714 3.03%
(Dist. 24) William F. Wolper 9,035 18.14%
(Dist. 25) Jerry Christensen 1,320 2.67%
(Dist. 39) Craig Chase 2,268 3.99%
(Dist. 40) Ian Bannerman 2,432 4.43%

Wisconsin

(Dist. 12) John Bailey 7,213 11.48%

West Virginia

(Dist. 14) John R. Bartlett 2,856 7.21%

Wyoming

(Dist. 10) Patrick O'Reilly 386 5.29%

■ State House Results

Arizona

State Representative

(Dist. 7) Frank Aranda 2,041 3.60%
(Dist. 24) Tim McDermott 5,532 6.38%

California

State Assembly

(Dist. 1) Josh Gilleo 7,474 4.69%
(Dist. 2) Pete Bret 4,924 3.23%
(Dist. 3) Bill Thomason 9,601 5.93%
(Dist. 5) Gene Frazier 35,353 24.09%
(Dist. 6) Richard Olmstead 4,893 2.76%
(Dist. 7) Bill Schoeffler 6,147 3.99%
(Dist. 10) Tom Kohlhepp 6,605 3.83%
(Dist. 11) Frank Manske 6,257 4.24%
(Dist. 13) Starchild 9,407 6.46%
(Dist. 14) Daniel Burton 7,383 5%
(Dist. 16) Richard Armstrong 2,365 2.03%
(Dist. 17) Roy Busch 2,943 2.43%
(Dist. 19) Steven Lundry 4,669 3.62%
(Dist. 20) Mark Werlwas 5,709 4.88%
(Dist. 23) Dana Albrecht 5,478 6.76%
(Dist. 24) Ray Strong 7,000 4.52%
(Dist. 25) Johnathon Zwickel 3,781 2.55%
(Dist. 27) David Bonino 5,055 3.34%
(Dist. 28) Roger Ver 2,085 1.71%
(Dist. 29) Ron Drioane 4,486 3.09%
(Dist. 32) Ric Pinkerton 4,107 3.00%
(Dist. 36) Greg Bashem 5,581 3.88%
(Dist. 37) Willard Michlin 3,306 2.37%
(Dist. 38) Philip Baron 7,033 4.81%
(Dist. 39) Kit Maira 3,020 4.33%
(Dist. 40) Kelley Ross 7,093 7.07%
(Dist. 41) Colin Goldman 7,527 4.50%
(Dist. 42) Mark Selzer 5,665 3.77%
(Dist. 44) Jerry Douglas 6,883 4.65%
(Dist. 47) Scott Pacer 4,027 3.34%
(Dist. 53) Phil Howitt 4,852 2.99%
(Dist. 54) Dale Ogden 3,719 2.63\$
(Dist. 55) Guy Wilson 3,822 4.94%
(Dist. 59) George White 6,359 4.58%
(Dist. 60) Scott Young 4,802 4%
(Dist. 61) David Kocot 2,894 3.05%
(Dist. 62) Henry Matus 2,651 3.56%
(Dist. 63) Ethel Mohler 5,603 4.09%
(Dist. 64) Phil Turner 3,237 2.91%
(Dist. 65) Bonnie Flickenger 10,263 8.22%
(Dist. 67) Autumn Browne 11,248 7.44%
(Dist. 68) Richard Newhouse 3,897 3.73%
(Dist. 70) Robert Vondruska 5,324 3.30%
(Dist. 71) Brian Cross 3891 2.14%
(Dist. 73) Paul King 6,473 4.51%
(Dist. 74) Tom Hohman 5,827 3.87%
(Dist. 75) Gary Pietila 8,136 5.03%
(Dist. 76) David Oakey 5,544 4.08%
(Dist. 77) Michael Metti 8,351 6.55%
(Dist. 78) Dennis Triglia 5,987 4.20%
(Dist. 79) Richard Cardulla 2,572 3.57%
(Dist. 80) Susan Marie Weber 4,728 3.86%

Colorado

State Representative

(Dist. 1) Dwayne Smilanich 665 3.38%
(Dist. 2) Vernon Tomkins 629 5.23%
(Dist. 3) Benjamin J. Aycrigg 2,984 19.26%
(Dist. 4) Ralph Carlos Estrada 1,345 8.60%
(Dist. 5) Martin Joseph Vigil 2,554 19.46%
(Dist. 6) Richard J. Blair 675 2.54%
(Dist. 8) Walter Schlomer 1924 11.01%
(Dist. 9) Dawn Reader-McCreery 812 3.35%
(Dist. 11) Glenn Brink 2987 1,0.80%
(Dist. 12) Dwight Harding 483 23.42%
(Dist. 13) Wright J. Morgan 1,203 3.34%
(Dist. 14) Johnathan R. Birge 925 4.11%
(Dist. 15) Carol Geltemeyer 1,184 5.08%
(Dist. 16) Bradford A. Ricker 800 3.94%
(Dist. 17) Michael V. Hechtman 501 3.54%
(Dist. 18) Desiree Hackett Hickson 1,205 3.86%
(Dist. 19) Colette Wright 1,695 7.59%
(Dist. 20) Ariane Hildenbrandt 397 15.85%
(Dist. 21) Robert G. Herzfeld 697 3.37%
(Dist. 22) Kent McNaughton 1,261 4.94%
(Dist. 24) Shawn Elke Glazer 1,440 7.10%
(Dist. 25) Duane Bates 1,136 3.92%
(Dist. 28) Mike Spalding 5,942 23.14%
(Dist. 29) Gregg Miller 8,36 3.95%
(Dist. 30) Kelly B. Koop 1,322 4.14%
(Dist. 31) W. Earl Allen 1,078 3.11%
(Dist. 32) Stephen M. Hutchens 3,005 24.49%
(Dist. 33) Norman T. Olsen 1,024 4.16%
(Dist. 34) David Wood 3,753 22.46%
(Dist. 35) Ari Armstrong 693 4.58%
(Dist. 36) Clayton Steiner 627 3.98%

(Dist. 38) Richard A. Roeder 4,673 20.19%
(Dist. 39) Ross Atwood 779 2.51%
(Dist. 40) Jay Bloomfield 868 3.51%
(Dist. 41) Jal Staples 570 2.81%
(Dist. 42) Lyman (Bud) Hall 492 3.46%
(Dist. 43) Grace Reed 713 3.62%
(Dist. 45) Lawrence W. Tudor 452 1.58%
(Dist. 47) Betty Kay McCanless 4,372 23.92%
(Dist. 48) Anthony Barbour 4,778 16.07%
(Dist. 49) Robert J. Brooks 5,609 16.53%
(Dist. 50) Russ J. Haddad 3,208 25.11%
(Dist. 51) Brenda Bissell-Morey 1,214 3.86%
(Dist. 52) Alberto Squassabia 1,060 4.18%
(Dist. 53) Clifford P. Ham 893 3.67%
(Dist. 54) Christella K. Lans 4,492 17.51%
(Dist. 55) David E. Cooper 4,137 16.74%
(Dist. 56) Barry Maggert 1,266 3.92%
(Dist. 57) J. Brent Shroyer 5,169 21.36%
(Dist. 58) W. Dale Murphy 6,345 20.58%
(Dist. 59) William E. Zimsky 1,817 6.30%
(Dist. 60) Robert L. Johnson 695 3.46%
(Dist. 61) Tim P. Sauer 1,474 4.87%
(Dist. 63) Gene Leverett 3,262 13.04%
(Dist. 64) Zachary Ullevig 1,697 2.49%
(Dist. 65) Trent Lynn Eichhorn 2,193 10.44%

Connecticut

State Representative

(Dist. 33) Vinnie Marotta 334 5.90%
(Dist. 43) Michael Costanza 2,835 26.12%
(Dist. 44) Sandi Cote 357 6.36%
(Dist. 46) William Russell 63 .94%
(Dist. 49) William Rood 896 15.85%
(Dist. 66) George C. Eggert 379 3.35%
(Dist. 67) Robert Kinney 179 1.94%
(Dist. 84) Arline Dunlop 91 1.80%
(Dist. 98) Ned Vare 434 5.21%
(Dist. 100) James Madison 86 .83%
(Dist. 11 East Hartford) Richard Connelly 89 1.52%
(Dist. 39 New London) Allen Nicholas 307 8.70%

Delaware

State Representative

(Dist. 26) Gregg 104 1.27%
(Dist. 28) Lewis 243 4.35%

Florida

State Representative

(Dist. 42) John Wayne Smith 2,160 3.30%

Georgia

State Representative

(Dist. 34) Dale Ritchey 6,174 29.9%
(Dist. 85) Tom Chernetsky 3,689 11.7%
(Dist. 94) Leo Baca 464 6.3%

Hawaii

State Representative

(Dist. 4) Aaron Anderson 815 8.8%

Iowa

State Representative

(Dist. 7) Dan Rogers 277 2.14%
(Dist. 42) Richard Moroney 329 2.94%
(Dist. 43) Lawrence Wittstruck 158 1.37%
(Dist. 49) Steven Drahozal 1,958 14.42%
(Dist. 50) Christy Ann Welty 2,617 20.28%
(Dist. 61) Eric Cooper 281 2.40%
(Dist. 68) Paul Lay 830 9.99%
(Dist. 89) Aaron Rudich 790 7.14%
(Dist. 98) Hugh Tweedy 2,098 17.20%

Idaho

State Representative

(Dist. 7) Andy Jolliff 441 3.2%
(Dist. 15) Marvin Gardner 556 3.5%
(Dist. 17) David Langley 581 4.8%
(Dist. 18) David Knight 796 4.8%
(Dist. 19) Brooke Wilmoth 872 6.0%
(Dist. 22) Jonathon Stump 1554 15.4%

Illinois

State Representative

(Dist. 34) Brian Poynton 1,230 4.03%
(Dist. 39) Elizabeth Quaintance 10,103 26.20%
(Dist. 64) James Young 52 .09%
(Dist. 104) Dave Wood, Jr. 36 .09%

Indiana

State Representative

(Dist. 15) Kristen M.Backlund 448 1.82%
(Dist. 29) Jack Stefani 2,585 7.66%
(Dist. 42) Ron Stevenson 454 2.07%
(Dist. 43) Ed Gluck 1,703 11.27%
(Dist. 46) Jim Baughn 454 2.24%
(Dist. 53) Kim Brand 3,085 14.05%
(Dist. 58) Mark McCauley 3,820 18.61%
(Dist. 86) Jacob Perry 878 3.10%
(Dist. 87) Charlie S. Kennedy 648 2.56%
(Dist. 88) Steve Siroky 502 1.80%
(Dist. 89) Jade Huberts 414 2.14%
(Dist. 90) Amy Stinson 977 5.38%
(Dist. 91) Joell Palmer 495 2.74%
(Dist. 92) David Danz 460 2.74%
(Dist. 93) Lewis J. Richardson 1,509 8.58%
(Dist. 94) Renee Grant 426 1.89%

(Dist. 96) Fred Peterson 433 2.47%
(Dist. 97) Andrew Hart 311 3.09%
(Dist. 98) Brad Klopfenstein 303 2.30%
(Dist. 99) Webster J. Smith 362 2.38%
(Dist. 100) Joh Padgett 301 3.34%

Kansas

State Representative

(Dist. 17) Michael Kerner 573 5.32%
(Dist. 82) Kalor Hebron 286 3.49%
(Dist. 85) David Everett 387 3.65%
(Dist. 88) David Moffett 254 5.32%
(Dist. 100) Sarah McIntosh 780 5.55%

Kentucky

State Representative

(Dist. 36) Mark Gailey 832 7.60%

Massachusetts

State Representative

(Dist. 2) Joe Fischetti 34,55 19.68%
(Dist. 13) Irwin Jungreis 690 3.34%
(Dist. 4 Essex) Frank Mackay-Smith 3,033 15.81%
(Dist. 6 Essex) Dean Cook 326 1.80%
(Dist. 8 Essex) Dave Rizzo 3,516 19.14%
(Dist. 2 Hampden) Alan Wilcox 3,364 18.77%
(Dist. 7 Middlesex) Carlton Garfield 747 5.15%
(Dist. 9 Middlesex) Daniel MacKenzie 7535.54%
(Dist. 16 Middlesex) Patrick El-Azem 3,724 20.40%
(Dist. 24 Middlesex) Jim Mollison 2,973 19.32%
(Dist. 30 Middlesex) Ron Bargoot 1,927 14.46%
(Dist. 38 Middlesex) Vera Meyer 904 5.92%
(Dist. 6 Norfolk) Rich Yampell 1,979 11.20%
(Dist. 9 Suffolk) Heather Ashcraft 1,977 21.41%

Maine

State Representative

(Dist. 16) Peter T. Sipes 751 17.93%
(Dist. 28) Richard W. Eaton 856 24.78%
(Dist. 36) Mark Cenci 1,000 25.69%
(Dist. 52) Charles Ayer 430 10.66%
(Dist. 57) Ben Barth 512 10.71%
(Dist. 62) Shawn S. Levasseur 131 4.02%
(Dist. 76) William Reid 1,550 35.85%
(Dist. 102) Wayne Leach 893 23.22%
(Dist. 130) Robert B. Coolidge 343 6.38%

Michigan

State Representative

(Dist. 1) Craig Hodges 906 2.21%
(Dist. 3) Joann M. Karpinski 345 1.65%
(Dist. 9) Kenneth E. Vojtech 205 .98%
(Dist. 12) Michael Donahue 404 1.24%
(Dist. 15) Greg Stempfle 1,097 2.92%
(Dist. 16) Christopher Gonzalez 1,133 3.23%
(Dist. 18) David Nagy 926 3.01%
(Dist. 19) John Tatar 1,285 3.32%
(Dist. 22) Ken Reyes 941 3.52%
(Dist. 23) Rick Secula 726 1.69%
(Dist. 24) Eric B. Gordon 593 1.87%
(Dist. 25) John Morgan 1,063 3.42%
(Dist. 26) Keith Edwards 1,00

Montana

State Representative
(Dist. 61) Erik C. Jerde 518 8%
(Dist. 68) Andy Lochridge 111 3%
(Dist. 69) Leonard Stark 203 4%
(Dist. 70) E. L. Bernosky 123 2.71%
(Dist. 75) Fred L. Fekete 263 5%

North Carolina

State Representative
(Dist. 11) Michael J Todaro 226 1.00%
(Dist. 18) Christian Davis 2,973 6.00%
(Dist. 21) Jesse Halliday 1,872 9%
(Dist. 22) Tom Howe 1,975 3.00%
(Dist. 23) Ray Ubinger 7,397 4.00%
(Dist. 23) Robert Dorsey 2,672 2.00%
(Dist. 24) John Bauman 479 2%
(Dist. 30) Victoria Davis Prevo 336 2%
(Dist. 37) Paul Burks 336 2.0%
(Dist. 62) Ian Sands 1,573 3.00%
(Dist. 64) Thomas Luther 641 3.00%
(Dist. 66) Don Biles 2,155 15.00%
(Dist. 69) David Gable 2,678 9.00%
(Dist. 89) Tom Bailey 1,642 2.00%
(Dist. 91) Joe Young 2,454 14.00%
(Dist. 93) Thomas Bishko 1,495 10.00%
(Dist. 94) Ken Younts 1,912 11.00%

New Hampshire

State Representative
(Dist. 7 Belknap) Robert Kingsbury 675 4.24%
(Dist. 7 Carroll) Michael Hurley 212 6.11%
(Dist. 8 Cheshire) Eugene Donahue 144 2.86%
(Dist. 14 Cheshire) Michelle Otterson 135 8.73%
(Dist. 16 Cheshire) Keith R. Walter 106 5.56%
(Dist. Coos) Frederick Strong 189 6.74%
(Dist. 3 Grafton) Anne M. deRham 70 4.21%
(Dist. 1 Hillsboro) Boyd Quackenbush 175 9.16%
(Dist. 5 Hillsboro) Lisa M. Wilbur 385 8.24
(Dist. 7 Hillsboro) Jeannine Bernier 1,192 4.27%
(Dist. 7 Hillsboro) Danielle Donovan 1,115 3.99%
(Dist. 14 Hillsboro) Rhonda Keiper 622 4.28%
(Dist. 18 Hillsboro) Walter Wienzek 1,660 2.99%
(Dist. 23 Hillsboro) Tony Lekas 1,428 3.90%
(Dist. 27 Hillsboro) Daniel Groves 489 5.38%
(Dist. 44 Hillsboro) Steve Vaillancourt 1,622 17.97%
(Dist. 46 Hillsboro) Howard Darms 247 3.07%
(Dist. 47 Hillsboro) Gaston J. F. Morin 394 8.58%
(Dist. 48 Hillsboro) Donald Welch 483 5.58%
(Dist. 1 Merrimack) Howard Wilson 534 9.73%
(Dist. 7 Merrimack) Brad Dorsey 874 3.40%
(Dist. 11 Merrimack) Don Galloway 517 4.47%
(Dist. 7 Rockingham) Donald Gorman 633 34.79%
(Dist. 9 Rockingham) William R. DiScipio Sr. 771 16.88%
(Dist. 12 Rockingham) Arthur J. Janelli 915 12.87%
(Dist. 13 Rockingham) Leonard Epstein 2,014 2.56%
(Dist. 22 Rockingham) Joseph Rosenquist 607 1.63%
(Dist. 29 Rockingham) Douglas H. Currie Jr 1,231 2.23%
(Dist. 30 Rockingham) Dan Belforti 308 19.32%
(Dist. 12 Strafford) Roy Bremner 483 2.47%
(Dist. 15 Strafford) Dean Murdo 115 3.03%
(Dist. 17 Strafford) John McDaniel 261 6.68%
(Dist. 18 Strafford) Christopher Fitzgerald 275 7.97%

New Mexico

State Representative
(Dist. 2) Destri Gleim 102 2.00%
(Dist. 43) Gary Miles 1,721 16%
(Dist. 65) Charles Mellon 1,543 23%

Nevada

State Assembly
(Dist. 10) Lewis Whitten 255 4.97%
(Dist. 24) Chuck Eby 312 3.41%
(Dist. 28) James Dan 990 45.27%
(Dist. 34) James Minser 1,173 9.18%
(Dist. 37) Karen Savage 3,398 16.18%

Ohio

State Representative
(Dist. 4) Milton Mann 1,483 3.00%
(Dist. 5) Frank Keller 1,265 3.30%
(Dist. 14) Richard Pierce III 5,434 13.60%
(Dist. 17) John Hartman 1,574 5.10%
(Dist. 18) Ted Lesniak 2,013 4.20%
(Dist. 21) James Moyer 1,091 4.40%
(Dist. 24) Roy A. Wagner 1,965 4.30%
(Dist. 29) Charles Hazlett 2,421 4.60%
(Dist. 30) J. David Ekstrum 3,848 11.60%
(Dist. 31) Autumn Mueller 861 3.30%
(Dist. 32) Emanuel Tepper 946 2.20%
(Dist. 33) Patrick Quealy 912 2.6%
(Dist. 34) Gary Sweeney 1,802 3.60%
(Dist. 36) Everett J. DeJager 875 1.80%
(Dist. 40) Frank Fenton 3,066 6.90%
(Dist. 41) Bryan Carey 1,074 3.80%
(Dist. 43) Robert DeBrosse 3,066 6.90%
(Dist. 44) Chester Sutherland 1,074 3.80%
(Dist. 46) Robert B. Hart Jr. 1,887 3.60%
(Dist. 52) William V. Stephenson 307 .70%

(Dist. 56) Ronald L. Brown 2,139 4.4%
(Dist. 60) Patrick K. White 1,955 4.30%
(Dist. 63) Gerald A. Seman 911 1.90%
(Dist. 64) John Fockler 3,176 10.00%
(Dist. 67) Tim McNeil 4,464 10.20%
(Dist. 68) Frank Evan 1,769 3.90%
(Dist. 69) Sarah E. Tetzloff 1,116 2.50%
(Dist. 70) Alan Majni 940 2.10%
(Dist. 78) Scott Nazzarine 1,140 2.50%
(Dist. 81) Don Bower 2,856 5.50%
(Dist. 83) Gregory A. Harpel 6,843 14.60%
(Dist. 91) Bruce Wilson 1,514 3.80%
(Dist. 93) Benjamin Wills 1,518 3.6%

Oklahoma

State Representative
(Dist. 44) Aaron Lein 290 2.37%
(Dist. 74) Albro Daniel 169 1.06%
(Dist. 82) Steve Galpin 2,003 12.03%
(Dist. 100) Christopher Powell 1,556 14.72%

Oregon

State Representative
(Dist. 1) Don L. McDaniel 1,588 6.71%
(Dist. 6) Kevin Schaumleffe 925 4.40%
(Dist. 12) Joe Tabor 1,320 5.32%
(Dist. 14) John McEnroe 2,747 12.33%
(Dist. 34) J.T. Barrie 479 2.00%
(Dist. 33) David Hintz 1,950 3.99%

Pennsylvania

State Representative
(Dist. 20) Charles Stutler 762 5.07%
(Dist. 61) S. Douglas Leard 312 .91%
(Dist. 88) Otto "John" Storey 315 1.14%
(Dist. 101) Eric Paul 784 4.64%
(Dist. 146) John Haley 901 3.91%
(Dist. 153) Larry Goulart 401 1.47%
(Dist. 158) Ken Evans 1,588 5.24%
(Dist. 161) Barton Smith 792 4.73%
(Dist. 171) Kathleen Stroh 1,515 7.16%
(Dist. 182) Richard Schwarz 1,035 4.78%

South Carolina

State Representative
(Dist. 18) David Morris 943 10.97%

Tennessee

State Representative
(Dist. 10) Ron Winkles 4,327 22.7%
(Dist. 13) Charles B. Meyer 623 5%
(Dist. 22) Ray Ledford 2,814 16.80%
(Dist. 23) Robert Calloway 4,108 23.4%

(Dist. 43) Richard Sharpe 729 4.10%
(Dist. 48) Shannon Dickens 1,032 4.50%
(Dist. 56) Rich Husband 1,125 3.30%

Texas

State Representative
(Dist. 14) Bruce Rose 4,368 13.10%
(Dist. 15) Allen Wolf 6,984 11.61%
(Dist. 21) Amy Jacobellis 531 1.10%
(Dist. 23) Steven Multhaup 767 1.73%
(Dist. 46) Shannon Louise Carr 2,031 4.21%
(Dist. 47) Micheal Badnarik 1,5210 16.87%
(Dist. 48) Philip Durgin 2,264 3.90%
(Dist. 49) Rock Howard 3,354 6.60%
(Dist. 50) Vince May 4,873 13.35%
(Dist. 52) Clark Simmons 10,368 16.06%
(Dist. 63) Patrick Flanagan 6,914 11.92%
(Dist. 67) Dan Lemon 6,880 11.58%
(Dist. 83) The Mad Hatter 3,017 13.38%
(Dist. 84) Brian Winn 5,257 12.40%
(Dist. 96) Colin F. Sowards 6,144 13.43%
(Dist. 97) Charles Ellis 5,705 12.01%
(Dist. 98) Patrick O'Brien Jackson 1,710 2.65%
(Dist. 121) Jay Moore 1,387 3.08%
(Dist. 122) Bill Grisham 8,360 14.22%
(Dist. 123) Alice Yau 7,923 15.41%
(Dist. 129) Kevin Hagan 5,358 12.08%
(Dist. 130) Jeff Craig 1,565 2.42%
(Dist. 133) John Kormylo 4,523 11.53%
(Dist. 147) James Galvan 1,602 6.88%

Utah

State Representative
(Dist. 1) Dave Nelson 898 14.09%
(Dist. 2) Richard Partridge 1,165 13.06%
(Dist. 10) Wallis Burnside 260 2.51%
(Dist. 13) Donald Kingsley 620 5.28%
(Dist. 16) Laren Livingston 1,513 12.75%
(Dist. 17) Joe Judd 377 3.05%
(Dist. 18) Daniel Roy Nelson 314 2.99%
(Dist. 19) Richard Hopkins 434 3.97%
(Dist. 22) William Jones 279 3.67%
(Dist. 24) Joyce Jefferson 569 5.97%
(Dist. 26) Robert Comstock 188 3.70%
(Dist. 30) Richard Madsen 581 6.36%
(Dist. 34) Dennis Houseal 131 1.79%
(Dist. 36) M. Gene Linder 270 2.42%
(Dist. 41) J. Boyd Seal 263 2.16%
(Dist. 50) Wesley Peters 550 3.18%
(Dist. 56) Dwight Steffner 160 1.23%
(Dist. 64) Mark Lees 318 4.85%

(Dist. 65) Neil Wyllie 320 3.10%
(Dist. 67) Steven Thomas 344 3.34%

Vermont

State Representative
(Dist. Chittenden 2-4) Joana Chappelow 247 3.2%
(Dist. Chittenden 7-7) Jeff Pascoe 648 37.3%
(Dist. Chittenden 7-9) Lynn Fife 88 3.6%
(Dist. Franklin 2) David Baker 484 8.2%
(Dist. Windsor-Rutland 1) Hunter Melville 95 4.2%
(Dist. Windsor-Rutland 2) Larry Curtis 307 13.9%

Washington

State Representative
(Dist. 5 Position 1) Steve Otto 2,024 3.47%
(Dist. 6 Position 1) Jesda Gulati 1,044 2.08%
(Dist. 10 Position 1) Dean Brittain 1,525 2.87%
(Dist. 17 Position 1) Lori Loranger 3,211 5.55%
(Dist. 22 Position 1) Josh Amos 2,511 4.69%
(Dist. 23 Position 1) Dennis Haynes 1,981 3.53%
(Dist. 26 Position 1) Don Vandervelde 1,651 3.01%
(Dist. 31 Position 1) Don Bingham 1,359 3.00%
(Dist. 34 Position 1) Gary Knutson 8,394 19.11%
(Dist. 35 Position 1) Marty Lewis 2,600 5.25%
(Dist. 36 Position 1) Andrew Rogers 2,067 3.79%
(Dist. 38 Position 1) Blythe Brockway 2,086 4.67%
(Dist. 39 Position 1) Robert Donat 1,736 3.02%
(Dist. 40 Position 1) Mark Leigh 11,160 22.25%
(Dist. 42 Position 1) Tom Spanos 1,594 3.05%
(Dist. 46 Position 1) John Sample 4,471 9.57%
(Dist. 6 Position 2) Bonita Varner 1,717 3.53%
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(Dist. 10 Position 2) Lewis Randall 1,918 3.70%
(Dist. 20 Position 2) Bruce Brown 8,719 19.06%
(Dist. 21 Position 2) Gordy Bohnke 1,410 3.01%
(Dist. 23 Position 2) Diane Haynes 2,085 3.74%
(Dist. 32 Position 2) Bill Healy 7,010 16.72%
(Dist. 35 Position 2) Ron Ralstin 2,364 4.89%
(Dist. 36 Position 2) Don Zeek 2,093 3.87%
(Dist. 38 Position 2) Howard Gross 3,574 8.45%
(Dist. 39 Position 2) Christine Lawniczak 2,093 3.63%
(Dist. 40 Position 2) Charles Manning 3,159 5.94%

(Dist. 42 Position 2) Joan Hansen 1,386 2.62%
(Dist. 44 Position 2) Jesse Brocksmith 1,492 2.85%
(Dist. 48 Position 2) Rick Gallegos 1,298 3.03%

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State Assembly
(Dist. 15) Robert Pritzl 2,174 12.31%
(Dist. 31) Bernard Dalsey 3,082 13.24%
(Dist. 38) Leroy Watson 455 1.68%

West Virginia


State House of Delegates
(Dist. 3) Stephen Dajchak 922 4.46%
(Dist. 15) Adam Barracrough 937 2.57%
(Dist. 26) Richard W. Dulee 1,285 23.52%
(Dist. 27) Joy Johnson 3,748 4.07%
(Dist. 31) John A. Sturgeon 132 2.99%
(Dist. 32) Greg Henshall 1,643 2.00%
(Dist. 44) Robert Jones 3,266 4.00%
(Dist. 56) Timothy West 230 3.44%

Wyoming

State Representative
(Dist. 5) Mark Spungin 657 18.49%
(Dist. 29) Elmer Kuball 616 20.20%
(Dist. 54) Marie Brossman 612 16.37%

Corrections

■ In the January 2001 *LP News*, incorrect vote totals were listed for Michigan U.S. House candidates Constance Catalfio and Raymond Warner. Catalfio (Dist. 14) won 2,113 votes; Warner (Dist. 15) won 1,690 votes. ■ In the same issue, former AOL Libertarian forum moderator James Merritt was incorrectly described as a resident of Maryland. In fact, he lives in California.



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Advocates announces 'Discover Liberty' project

Continued from Page 3
tracking system at its website," said Harris.

"The site will show what OPHs are planned, what events are coming up, and how to volunteer online to do an OPH," she said. "The site will also show what OPHs have been successfully completed, and list the results."

"We hope to stimulate a lot of excitement with this. And maybe some friendly competition between state organizations, too."

Since location is an important factor in the success of any outreach event, the Advocates "will work with the volunteer coordinators to find the best sites [and] the best events for maximum success for OPHs," said Harris.

Huge crowds

"We especially want to take advantage of state, county, and local fairs, which offer a great way to encounter thousands of people daily for several days, since such events draw huge crowds and often last a week or more," she said.

The Advocates is currently looking for people who are experienced with OPHs to volunteer as state coordinators, said Harris.

"We need to line up our state coordinators now to make this successful," she said. "We're breaking the task down into bite-size pieces so that no one will have too much to do. We want this to be fun for everyone involved."

Colorado bookstore

Continued from Page 3
2000, when Denver police raided a suspected methamphetamine laboratory and found several how-to books about illegal drug production. Evidence at the scene indicated the books had been purchased at the Tattered Cover.

The police got a search warrant, and demanded that the bookstore turn over its sales records so prosecutors could link the book to one of the suspects. The owners refused on First Amendment grounds.

The legal appeals have reached the Colorado Supreme Court, and a decision is expected within the next several months.

Whatever the ultimate outcome, "This is clearly another example of how the War on Drugs is slowly eroding the Bill of Rights," said Armstrong.

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In addition to reaching the general public, said Harris, Discover Liberty will also focus on reaching college students.

"Every libertarian knows how vital it is that we reach students," she said. "The Greens said they're going to be targeting campuses this year. Liberals and conservatives are already there. Libertarians must have a strong campus presence. And Discover Liberty is our chance to make that happen."

"We also know that there are

SHARON HARRIS:

"I hope libertarians across America will jump on board with Discover Liberty!"

libertarians on virtually every campus in America. Discover Liberty will give them all the tools they need to go out and take our message to their fellow students."

The Advocates will also offer a *Discover Liberty* outreach tabloid newspaper that gives basic libertarian information, said Harris, as well as online training about how to run an OPH booth, "instant" press releases to publicize an OPH event, and "recognition, prizes and other incentives"

to people who volunteer to help.

"The Advocates can help tremendously with his effort," she said. "But it can only work if local and state libertarians see the great benefits. I hope libertarians across America will jump on board with Discover Liberty!"

For more information — or to volunteer as a Discover Liberty coordinator or an OPH booth participant — call the Advocates at: (770) 386-8372.

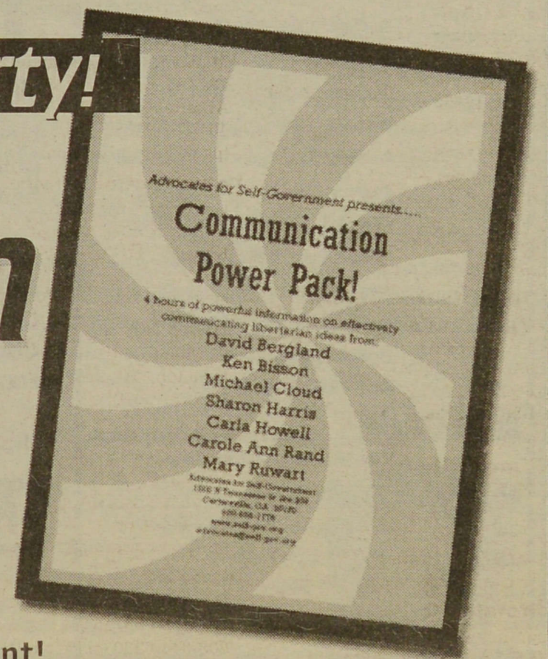
Or e-mail: DiscoverLiberty@TheAdvocates.org. Or write: 1202 N. Tennessee Street, Suite 202, Cartersville, GA 30120. Or visit: www.TheAdvocates.org.

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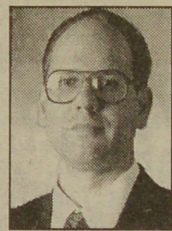
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Dr. Mary Ruwart:

"Libertarianism is the Most Compassionate Philosophy."

The author of *Healing Our World* and *Short Answers to the Tough Questions*, plus writer of the *Liberator Online's* "Ask Dr. Ruwart" column presents a wealth of information on how to appeal to liberals. She also gives specific and concise answers you can use to respond to the concerns of your liberal friends and adversaries. A treasure. Presented at the Advocates 10th Anniversary conference October 1995.



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Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"
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Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
"Million Dollar Bill" Literature
America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)
1995 LP Program
World's Smallest Political Quiz

Yard Signs

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

Bumper Stickers

Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian
I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN
Vote Libertarian/1-800-ELECT-US

Buttons

Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian
VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-ELECT-US
Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Miscellaneous Items

Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL

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LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
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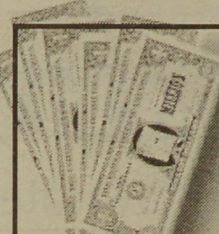
Employer

Send a Liberty Valentine This Year!

Do you love liberty? February 14th is Valentine's Day. This year, why not send a "valentine" from the Libertarian Party to your friends and neighbors? Yes, you can share your heartfelt love of liberty by spreading the word about the Libertarian Party — the only political party that remains true and faithful to America's heritage of personal liberty and responsibility!

Give them a bouquet of brochures to explain how the LP will reduce taxes and protect their family budget. Instead of jewels, present them with an attractive Libertarian button. Or hand out copies of *Libertarianism In One Lesson* or *Why Government Doesn't Work* — two "love poems" to the Founding Fathers' vision of a free nation.

This Valentine's Day, show your passion for liberty by sharing the good news about the Libertarian Party!



Tax Day (April 15th) is getting closer! Do you have a supply of Million Dollar Bills for your Tax Day rally? Order today! Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For? Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). Introductory brochure; gives a general, friendly overview of Libertarian Party beliefs.

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Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy. Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."

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Or \$7 for 100

Ending the Welfare State. Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.

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Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners. Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains and defends the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for a general audience.

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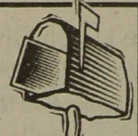
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■ **Libertarianism In One Lesson** by David Bergland. Expanded 8th edition. The classic introductory work. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political issues and contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. A must-read. Softbound, 158 pages. Cost: \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for the gun community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. Cost: \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 2000: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-1999) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

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■ **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; 800-ELECT-US phone number below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

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■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-ELECT-US

Miscellaneous Items

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Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning:** 32 pages. Comprehensive explanation of winning campaign techniques for Libertarian candidates. A must read! Cost: \$3.00 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. Cost: \$1 each

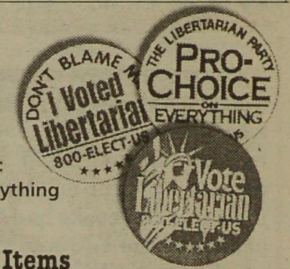
■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk. Cost: \$3 each

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. Cost: \$3 for set

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■ **Small Banner.** (12" x 5'). White on blue. One line: "Libertarian Party." Cost: \$25 each

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party." You can pick the second line from these two choices: "800-ELECT-US" or "Defenders of Liberty." (Specify which on order form.) Cost: \$40 each



Dr. Seuss press release catches the fancy of media across the USA

Want the media to pay attention to your next press release? Make it rhyme.

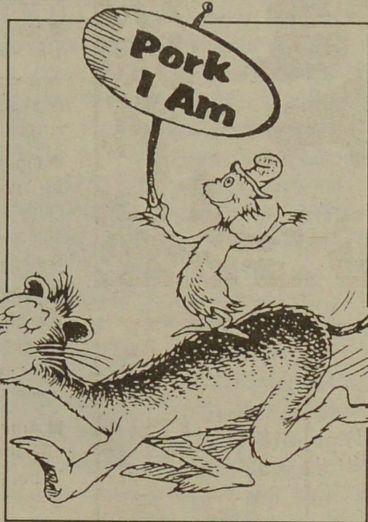
That's what the Libertarian Party's national office discovered when it issued a press release criticizing a tax-funded memorial to Dr. Seuss, the well-known author of children's books — and wrote it in the form of a Dr. Seuss-style poem.

The release, issued in late November 2000, was picked up by newspapers across the country, generated several radio interviews, and was reprinted in its entirety in a national news magazine.

"Frankly, I was surprised at the enthusiastic reception it received," said Bill Winter, the party's director of communications, and author of the poem entitled *Green Eggs and Pork*. "I am anything but a poet, so it was nice to see that it struck such a chord."

Senator Kennedy

The press release blasted a bill, sponsored by Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA), that authorized \$400,000 in federal funds for the Springfield Library and Museum Association to build a memorial to Theodore Geisel (aka Dr. Seuss) in Massachusetts.



Tribune, the *Lowell Sun* (MA), *Congressional Quarterly*, the national news magazine *Insight*, *Spectrum* (Sacramento, CA), and the *Argus* (Freemont, CA).

David Kline, a columnist at the *Metropolitan News-Enterprise* (Los Angeles), wrote: "Just like Dr. Seuss' originals, these simple rhymes contain a lot of wisdom."

The press release also generated interviews — or was read on the air — on the nationally syndicated Michael Medved Show, KNUU-AM radio (Las Vegas, Nevada), KFTV-AM radio (Modesto, California), and WNWS-FFM (Jackson, Tennessee).

What was the secret to its success?

"We made a serious point — government waste — but did so in a lighthearted way," said Winter. "And it was entertaining. Even if you didn't agree with us, it was fun. It was libertarianism with a smile, not a frown."

However, writing a press release in the form of a poem has special challenges, said Winter.

"It's tough enough trying to explain Libertarian ideas to a dubious public — now try to do it in iambic pentameter that rhymes!" he said.

The poem began:

We do not like it, Pork-I-Am,
This spendaholic Uncle Sam.
We do not like those Rs and Ds,
Who can't resist more subsidies...

And it concluded:

Now, just in case you are obtuse
I'll make it clear, with no excuse
We would not do it for a moose
We would not do it for a goose
And as you may by now deduce
We'd vote "no" on Dr. Seuss.

The rhyming rhetoric proved irresistible to columnists and reporters, who reprinted the poem in the *Washington Times*, the *San Diego Union Leader*, the *Oakland*

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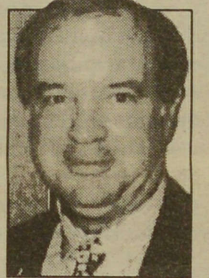
LP news from around the USA

In Michigan, **Mark Owen** has been selected as the new Chair of the Shiawassee County LP. In Wisconsin, **Amy Case** has been named new editor of the *Wisconsin Libertarian* newsletter. In Florida, the Indian River County LP may have the country's oldest active Libertarian: **Bob Bigham**, who is 90. In Virginia, **James Grey** has been elected as the chair of the Highlands Libertarians.

■ Celebrity chat: Nice comments from Senator **George Allen** (R-VA) on WNIS radio in January. "I like the Libertarians!" he said. "They have a lot of good ideas, and we agree on many issues. There are issues where we differ philosophically, but Libertarians are good people." *Politically Incorrect* host **Bill Maher**, who frequently describes himself as a Libertarian, said in *Emmy* magazine he is not afraid to make fun of Libertarians on his show. "I have made fun of [libertarianism] on the show," he said, "because there are people who take it much too far."

■ In Missouri, **Allen Underdown** is running in a special election for a vacant St. Charles County Council (District 7) seat. "My campaign will consist of a simple platform of protecting property rights from endless zoning laws, ending the County General Fund Tax and Road and Bridge Fund Tax, eliminating Tax Incremental Financing and enticing more high-technology industry to St. Charles County," he said. The election will be on April 3. In New Jersey, **Bob Heitner** has been named campaign manager for the **Mark Edgerton** for Governor campaign.

■ A few final results from the 2000 election: In Colorado, over 343,000 votes were cast for LP candidates — "shattering all previous records and establishing the Libertarian Party as the strongest challenger to the two-party system," said State Chair **Bette Rose Smith**. In Texas, **Lance Smith** won 859,729 votes (18.7%) in his race for State Supreme Court (Place 3). Five other Texas LP candidates each won more than a half-million votes in state-wide races. In Georgia, both **Dick Withington** and **Wayne Parker** won a record-setting 130,000-plus votes in their statewide campaigns for Public Service Commission.



■ **Dick Withington: 130k**

■ In Indiana, the LaPorte County LP became the state party's 17th county affiliate on January 6. In New Jersey, the Hunterdon LP "received very favorable press" by sponsoring a campaign sign clean-up day after the November election. The event's slogan: "Clean up the environment in Hunterdon." In Colorado, **Frank Atwood** has suggested an innovative money-making idea: A calendar featuring Libertarian women, posing "for great moments in the history of freedom."

■ The California-based Reason Foundation has named **Lynn Scarlett** as its new President and CEO. Scarlett is the organization's former Executive Director. In Nevada, Libertarian talk show host **Art Bell** is scheduled to return to his nationally syndicated show, Coast to Coast, in February.

■ In Indiana, the party is brainstorming to find an issue on which to focus for the next few years. "We would like to find a single issue that we can use to draw attention to ourselves and become associated with in most voters' minds," said **Phil Miller**. "It may not be a winning issue, but one that will give the LPIN a positive 'branding' in most people's minds." In Maine, the state LP has reorganized to "copy the successful strategies of bigger state parties," said State Chair **Mark Cenci**. The party has established three areas of activities "and treats them in a businesslike way" — finance/database, communications, and candidates/membership.

■ Former editor of the *New Jersey Libertarian*, **James Amos Van Blarcom**, 53, passed away in January. "He was a life-long political and civil Libertarian, a pacifist vegetarian, an environmental activist, and an essentially harmless guy," said his son, **James Van Blarcom, Jr.**

■ In New Mexico, the party has begun a petitioning drive to reclaim its major party status, which it lost in 2000. In Michigan, the party honored four activists at its Liberty Fest Awards Banquet late last year: **Joann Karpinski**, **Bill Shotey**, **Bill Bradley**, and **Tom Shull**.

The Forum

In Memoriam: The Bill of Rights

On December 15, 2000, while the rest of the country continued the seemingly endless debate over which sixth of the population's votes actually reflected "the will of the people" in the last presidential election, most libertarians took a moment to commemorate the Bill of Rights — the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution. And they eulogized on the 209th anniversary of the adoption of that inspired and inspiring document about the freedoms it sought in vain to protect.

After two centuries of "interpreting," only one of the ten has actually survived completely unscathed. Taking them in no particular order, see if, by process of elimination, you can guess which one it is.

Common law

Let's start with No. 7. This one guarantees the right to a jury trial in all civil matters where the amount in dispute is more than \$20, and that the legal system shall be governed according to the principles of common law.

Under the Coinage Act

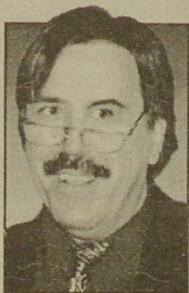
of 1794 the "Eagle," or "\$10 piece," was precisely defined as 270 grains of standard gold.

Thus, until the creation of the Federal Reserve system early in the 20th Century, our money was fixed; our monetary system was, quite literally, "as sound as a dollar."

Unfortunately, subsequent inflation made possible by the issuance of printing-press money for the last hundred years has rendered the original \$20 minimum absurd.

As for common law, its principles still hold some sway in criminal matters, but are otherwise regarded as the quaint affectations of a bygone era, their necessity in civil law having been preempted by the licensing and regulatory state.

Well, then, how about No. 2 — the fabled "right to keep and



By Tim O'Brien

bear arms?"

This amendment undoubtedly has more ardent defenders and opponents than any of the other nine. Nevertheless, despite the hand-wringing of gun control advocates over what is left of it, I wouldn't advise walking around with a .357 in your pocket and waving a copy of the Constitution as your "gun permit."

The reason there is so much confusion about the intent of the Second Amendment is because most people today don't realize that in the eighteenth century it was their government that Americans didn't trust — not their fellow citizens.

Is the intact amendment No. 4? This one is supposed to protect us from "unreasonable search and seizure" and require "probable cause" for a search or arrest.

Smuggling

The framers insisted on these protections because they remembered bitterly the "Writs of Assistance" — basically, general search warrants — issued by the British Crown prior to the revolution in a (futile) effort to clamp down on smuggling.

Search warrant requirements have now been all but eliminated in order to wage the War on Drugs, that is, in a (futile) effort to clamp down on smuggling. Irony, isn't it?

And "probable cause"? Nowadays, simply matching a police profile is considered sufficient.

Okay, but surely the First Amendment continues to serve.

"Free speech"? Ask the tobacco companies, which are prohibited from TV advertising, about free speech.

"Free exercise of religion"? Native American ceremonies pre-dating the United States by centuries have been criminalized — another compromise for the sake of drug prohibition.

And "peaceable assembly"? Only with a government-granted permit.

Retain powers

Well, how about Nos. 9 and 10? These two were included to make it absolutely clear that no central government powers should be inferred from the omission of restrictions in the Bill of Rights. They formally retain any powers not expressly given the federal government to the individual states or to the people themselves.

But today, our federal government does precisely what these amendments explicitly reject, taking for granted the authority to do anything not expressly prohib-

ited by the Constitution.

Could it be No. 6? This one guarantees a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of your peers.

Intended to insulate Americans from persecution under unjust laws, it has been stood on its head by the courts which now instruct juries that the judge will define and rule on the appropriateness and application of the law, restricting the jury to mere trier of fact. This, of course, renders moot the original purpose of even having a jury.

How about No. 8? This one is supposed to prohibit both "excessive fines and bail" and "cruel and unusual punishment."

It has become yet another casualty of the all-consuming Drug Jihad.

What would the drafters of the Bill of Rights have thought about forfeiting your home because your teenager grew some marijuana plants in the backyard without your knowledge? How about life in prison for mere possession of certain, refined plant products — the same as for premeditated murder?

Maybe it's No. 5, the one that requires "due process of law" and prohibits both "double jeopardy" and "self-incrimination"?

Please! Today the IRS can

take your bank account, the Coast Guard can take your boat, the welfare authorities can even take your children, prior to any process at all — "due" or otherwise.

"Double jeopardy"?

It has become a routine tactic for prosecutors to argue that for instance, a murder for which the defendant was acquitted under state law

also represented a violation of the victim's "civil rights," bringing new charges for precisely the same act, only under federal law.

And "Self-incrimination"? I have yet to hear an explanation of how

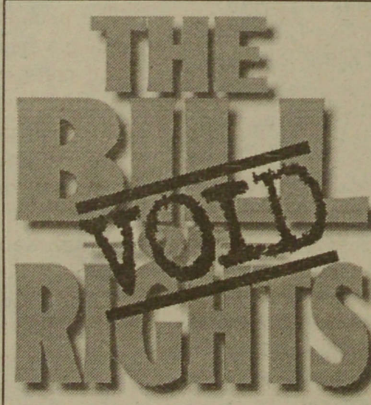
one can comply with the Internal Revenue code without waiving this right.

So that leaves only one of the original ten amendments that comprise the Bill of Rights still intact. If you guessed No. 3, you win.

What protection has survived more than two centuries of statist assault?

If you don't know, I think I'll leave it to you to look it up. And, perhaps, in the process you'll reflect for a moment on the nine that have been lost.

■ **About the author:** Tim O'Brien is the Executive Director of the Michigan LP.



Election 2000: Where do we go from here?

Well, it happened again. Despite the improved Harry Browne campaign and the valiant efforts of the Ballot Access Retention Committee, the Michigan LP has lost ballot status because of the November election. The "wasted vote" syndrome raised its ugly head and swamped all other factors. What to do?

I always allow myself five days of depression after Election Day and then on Monday it's back to work. E-mails have been flying with ideas from both the Young Turks and us stodgy old-timers and we will be kicking them around for a while. The debate will do us good. No one has a monopoly on wisdom and it's fun besides. And it kills depression!

85 years

As I e-mailed one of our good active candidates, perspective is important. The Socialists took from 1848 to 1933 to get their way in the United States — 85 years from Marx to Roosevelt — and it wasn't easy. There is not only a political war to fight, but also a

philosophical one. Collectivism has captured politics and individualism has to fight right back and undo the damage.

The modern libertarian movement started in 1943 and the Libertarian Party began in 1971-72. The movement is growing fast and has a way to go, but the fallacies of collectivism have become obvious. The word "libertarian" is being used often in public debate as our ideas spread. Electoral politics is just one of the ways to make ideas popular.

Our first job in Michigan is to regain ballot status, which should be much easier this time because there are more of us to spread the work. Then we will have to set priorities. Major races provide more visibility. Minor races provide a better chance to elect candidates. Finding a balance can be tricky and will be debated fully.

The nature of human beings is to use our ability to solve prob-

See **WHERE?** Page 21

By Keith Edwards

How do we reach that star called Freedom?

While talking with a good friend last week, she asked (not entirely innocently), "Why didn't Harry Browne just take federal matching funds so the Libertarian Party can get some attention, and maybe you'll win some elections?"

"That's not who we are, and that's not what we're about," I explained.

How do you explain to a Democrat that there are some things we Libertarians just won't do? And what do principles mean to someone who thinks Clinton has been a great president?

Obviously politics has nothing to do with our friendship, but core values, those few values that are so fundamental and deeply held that they will seldom change, do. Values that I'm sure most of us Libertarians share, like honesty, integrity, hard work, and respect for others.

Just what are we trying to do then, if not "whatever it takes to win elections?" What is our core purpose, our reason for being? Goals can be achieved, but a pur-

pose is never entirely fulfilled; it's like your guiding star on the horizon, always out there leading you onward.

Is the Libertarian Party's core purpose to win elections? To keep a presidential candidate on the ballot? To get more members? NO! Those are all perfect examples of strategies — vehicles which will help us achieve our core purpose.

The core purpose of the Michigan Libertarian Party is spelled out clearly in our platform: "Our ultimate goal is nothing less than a State . . . in which all individuals control their own lives and property free from coercion of any sort."

As I talked to my friend, I realized that these core values and our core purpose are important

See **STAR** Page 21



By Stacy Van Oast

Understanding California's electricity crisis

*What caused the shortages in California?
And is a Socialist energy policy the answer?*

In a scene more reminiscent of Soviet Russia or Maoist China than America, central government bureaucrats, economic planners, regulators, and regional government officials met behind closed doors in early January in Washington.

The purpose of their meeting? To discuss a wholesale government takeover of California's electricity industry.

As frightening as this development may be to Americans who believe in free markets, it was not unexpected. California has faced severe energy shortages for more than a year. Residents and businesses in the state have seen dramatic increases in their electric bills, with some paying 200% more than a year ago. Shortages and blackouts are threatened.

Socialist energy policy

In response to this crisis, California Governor Gray Davis has become an increasingly vocal proponent of an outright socialist energy system for the nation's largest state. He decided (not surprisingly) to go to the Feds for help, resulting in the meeting with Energy Secretary Bill Richardson and Treasury Secretary Larry Summers.

California's woes are due in part to its tremendous population growth over the past decade. The influx of residents and businesses, particularly energy-intensive

tech businesses, has greatly increased demand for electricity. The problem is that the California government has not allowed the construction of new power plants, in large part because of "environmentalists," citizens groups, and regulators hostile to property rights.

The blatantly obvious result of high demand coupled with artificially low supply must be: high prices. Had the free market been allowed to operate, profit-seeking utility companies would have built new power plants to meet the demand and the situation would be very different today.

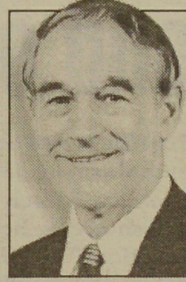
Governor Davis, seemingly oblivious to the real problem (his own government), has accused California's electricity companies of "price gouging" and called for stricter price controls. He even threatened (chillingly) to seize the assets of utility companies if they do not lower prices. Ultimately, he wants a new state agency to control the industry and even build new power plants if necessary! (New plants apparently are OK if the government builds them).

Davis exhibits the classic bureaucratic cycle: First the government creates the crisis, which is blamed on the free market, and then more government is justified to fix the crisis.

Price controls will never work, because the laws of economics cannot be fooled. Price controls

always result in shortages, because no rational business wants to produce something to sell at below-market rates.

The California utility companies, which already are forced to sell to consumers at state-mandated prices, cannot do so forever. Their costs have increased dramatically; if they cannot raise prices they will be bankrupt. Utility companies outside the state simply refuse to sell to California because they can sell



By Ron Paul

their power for a higher price elsewhere.

This is why Governor Davis sought the meeting with Energy Secretary Richardson. He wants the Feds to force utility companies in other states to sell energy to California. Unfortunately for Davis and Richardson, there are no laws (yet) forcing companies to stay in business forever while the government destroys them.

Too vital

To politicians like Davis, only the government can save us. Like most politicians, he apparently accepts the myth that some goods and services are too vital to be left to the free market. However, it is precisely *because* energy is so vital that the government

should not interfere in the electrical market.

The operation of the market does not create a utopia, but it clearly would have prevented the California crisis. When the price rises in a free market, consumers simply use less energy (which supposedly is the goal of the "environmentalists"). When growth creates greater demand in a free market, the supply of energy increases to meet that demand.

These simple principles, which are obvious to anyone studying basic economics, should be clear to the likes of Davis and Richardson. The likely explanation is that their true goal is the expansion of government power without regard to the well-being of the people of California.

■ **About the author:** Ron Paul is a member of the U.S. House (R-TX), and was the LP's 1988 presidential candidate.

Reaching that star called Freedom...

Continued from Page 20

only to people within the LP; they're not inspiring to outsiders, especially Democrats. It's the people *inside* who need to commit to the core ideology that determines who joins the party. And they, in turn, determine the course the party will take to reach our star.

Do we want to win elections? The answer is a resounding YES! Of course we Libertarians want to win elections. As Libertarians, our ultimate goal is to make our country a better place to live by reducing the control by governments and by showing people how much

better freedom works in their personal and economic lives.

In other words, there are some things that are more important than just winning. And that's precisely what inspires and motivates me to be a Libertarian.

Core values

As the party grows and our members expect more results, we must keep in mind exactly who we are and why we are doing what we are doing. It is crucial to all that we are that we never forget our core purpose.

After all, electing a bunch of Libertarians who don't share the

same values only takes us farther away from ever reaching that star on the horizon.

We all have our eyes on the same star. There are lots of vehicles that can help carry us toward that star called Freedom.

Let's keep the discussion going and let's focus on those things we can effect. Together we'll get there. I know we will.

■ **About the author:** Stacy Van Oast is the State Chair of the Michigan Libertarian Party. This essay reprinted from the November/December 2000 issue of the Michigan Libertarian.

Where do we go from here?

Continued from Page 20

lems, survive, and prosper. The definition of a libertarian is "a person who values freedom of thought and action."

That's what we are and why we are. And the only political party that has a consistent philosophy of freedom is the Libertarian Party. As such it must survive and thrive.

The entire libertarian movement, the think tanks, the magazines and books, the speakers and the party are absolutely vital to the restoration of freedom and to avoid a repeat of the brutality of the 20th Century.

We must be consistent in our philosophy, no short-cuts or short-circuits to contradict our message. We must be articulate in our ex-

pression of the message so no one misunderstands or readily distorts it. And we must be persistent in our efforts so that we miss no opportunities and are always there to help others see what we have seen.

The Big One

Losing battles happens in every war. George Washington lost action after action, beset by the world's greatest army, an incompetent Congress, desertion, disease and treachery, but he won the big one. He proved that you can lose a lot of battles, but still win the BIG ONE.

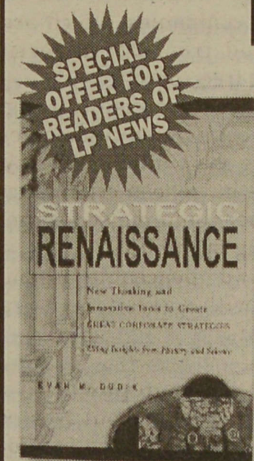
Well, we just lost another one, but the BIG ONE is still in the future and probably a long way off. We are not yet at Trenton, and Yorktown is still far away in the future.

So let's maintain our perspective and get back to work.

■ **About the author:** Keith Edwards is the editor of the Michigan Libertarian. This essay reprinted from the November/December 2000 issue of that newsletter.

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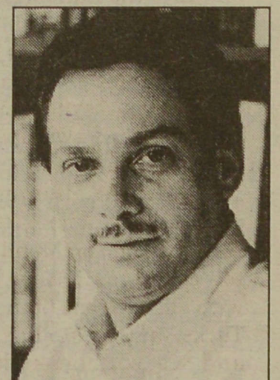
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FROM THE Chair

Three areas where we can (and will) improve

I write this column soon after the dawning of the new year. I hope your New Year's resolutions include commitments to improve substantially your efforts for liberty. Allow me to share with you some areas where I have resolved to achieve improvements for the LP this year, with a little help (actually, with a lot of help) from my friends.

While I have many ideas about accomplishing these improvements, I welcome your suggestions; the good idea donation window is open 24/7. I shall give special attention to these areas because of my personal interests and expertise; however, there are many other areas that will also command my attention.

■ Improve customer service by ensuring that we do the basics very well.

One of the projects now underway is a systems analysis of LP operations; my Libertarian National Committee colleague Michael Gilson De Lemos has invested a great deal of effort in this project. From the analysis completed so far, we have discovered places (e.g., order fulfillment, updates and exchange of database information) where we can improve our service to members. National staff members are already working to implement improvements.

A related area involves improving the way we welcome new members and encourage them to become active. I believe we can do a better job of making new members feel part of the team and showing them how their investments of time can produce substantial returns.

■ Improve our youth outreach program.

During the past three years, we have raised the quality of our campus outreach with respect to the number of college contacts and active campus groups. However, we still have much to do in building a first-rate campus organizing program. Moreover, organizing on college campuses is only part of a more general outreach effort to young people. Of particular importance is improving outreach to high school students.

This year, as chef Emeril Lagasse would say, we're going to kick it up some notches. By virtue of programs I am developing in conjunction with work by LP staff member Marc Brandl, Scott Kjar, Aaron Biterman, Jason Miller, Mark Hilgenberg, and Doug Scribner, and other fine activists, I anticipate by year's end we shall be in a much better position to reach and influence the youth of America.

■ Improve the manner in which we reward volunteer effort.

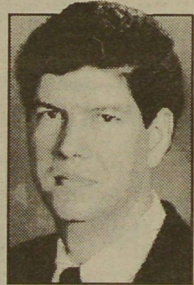
If a member contributes \$1,000 to the LP during a given year, that person earns the status of Life Member. However, another member who invests hundreds of hours of time during the same year may not receive much more than a pat on the back from the LP.

I realize that valuing investments in time is not a simple matter. (I don't subscribe to a labor theory of value). However, we should find better ways to recognize and thank those teammates whose contributions are in the form of donating many hours of their precious time to the battle for liberty.

As mentioned in the last *LP News*, the LNC has established a strategic planning process that we believe will improve substantially the effectiveness of the LP. Part of this process involves a re-examination of our current assumptions and programs. However, I believe the areas mentioned above should receive attention regardless of the strategic direction taken by the LP.

If all goes as planned, I shall make at least three driving tours of the U.S. this spring and summer. A major purpose of these tours is to meet with LP colleagues and provide assistance to state and local LP organizations.

While details remain to be determined, I plan to visit the Rocky Mountains area in mid-May, New England in late May, and the upper Midwest (e.g., Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa) in late June. If your LP organization is located in one of these areas (or along the way from Virginia to these areas), and if you believe that by visiting your area I can help your organization, please contact me at your earliest convenience.



By Jim Lark,
National Chair

The 'reincarnated seagull' rule and other zoning law outrages

EDITOR'S NOTE: How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, *LP News* will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.

By James D. Saltzman
IDEAS ON LIBERTY

Don't let people control the appearance of their property.

That's the view of Montgomery County (Texas) Judge Alan Barb Sadler. During the spring of 1995, he proposed a law to restrict commercial signs on strips of privately owned land along rural highways in his county. Mr. Sadler decried the "general decay of the area, and by decay I mean unlimited signage . . . It's a classic case of private property rights versus beautification and environmental concerns."¹

This belief that private property rights compromise a public interest in beautification has generated a host of legal procedures allowing the government to veto an owner's wishes for the appearance of his property.

There are ordinances to prescribe landscaping, boards to oversee alterations to historic buildings, bodies to govern changes to trees, committees to dictate the design and color of new buildings, commissions to restrict eyesores such as strip shopping centers, and laws — as were proposed in Montgomery County — to prohibit such forms of visual pollution as billboards and other types of outdoor advertising.

Beautification

All too often, supporters of such regulation presume that private property ownership threatens beautification. But is that a fair assumption?

Consider the case of trees in Houston. Other cities like Charlotte, North Carolina, and Austin, Texas, have statutes controlling alterations to privately owned trees. In March of 1996, Houston passed such legislation to calm the fears of some politicians and citizens that private property owners — particularly commercial developers — were tearing down too many trees. As one angry citizen wrote to the *Houston Chronicle* (December 1, 1994), "We don't need our day ruined by a greedy jerk with a chain saw."

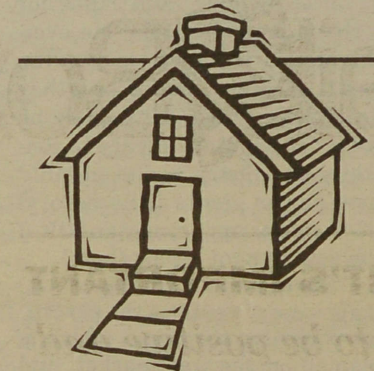
However, in Houston developers and other private owners have had their way with trees for over 100 years. The result? As another writer to the *Chronicle* (November 20, 1994) pointed out, "[o]ne has only to go to the top of any tall Houston building, look all four



ways and admire the forest within the city of Houston, and realize they were nearly all planted by property owners and developers without the help of government or complainers."

That's right. A forest. Though Houston has undergone decades of the intensive commercial development that frightens supporters of tree preservation, the city remains blanketed by trees.

It wasn't always. Before private development, Houston con-



QUESTION:
Without zoning laws, how can we keep cities and towns beautiful?

tained large areas virtually without trees. One such area included Rice University, in a section of Houston now extensively developed and filled with trees.

A July 25, 1996 article in the *Rice News* pointed out that "[p]hotos from the turn-of-the-century show campus grounds as a coastal prairie where trees were the exception not the rule." In fact, much of Houston was once

part of what the article calls "bald prairie, prime grazing land in frontier days."

But with extensive private development — both commercial and residential — came trees.²

For example, the December 1995 issue of *Bellaire Monthly* shows before and after photographs of the same street in Meyerland, one of Houston's most upscale neighborhoods, first developed in the 1950s. The first photograph shows the neighborhood brand new — and bereft of trees except for a sapling or two in each front yard. In the second photograph, shot from the same location and angle approximately 40 years later, it's hard to see the houses because of all the mature trees.

That's not surprising because trees improve the value of property 3% to 5% for single-family residential tracts, according to one study cited in a November 13, 1994 article in the *Houston Chronicle*. The article also pointed out that The Woodlands, a privately planned and developed community 30 miles north of Houston, has been the top selling new home community in the Houston area in the 1990's.

No. 1 reason

Why? The Woodlands leaves large stands of trees and undisturbed forest underbrush throughout the project, according to the *Chronicle*. As one spokeswoman for the Woodlands explained: "When we do surveys, the No. 1 reason people move here is the vegetation and trees."

In other words, private property rights encourage improvements in the appearance of what people own because the owners benefit.

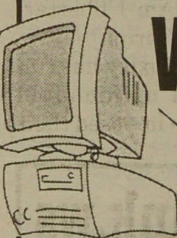
As economists James D. Gwartney and Richard L. Stroup explain: "If private owners fail to maintain their property or if they allow it to become abused or damaged, they will bear the consequences in a decline in the value of their property. . . . With private ownership, wise stewardship is rewarded. . . . Private owners can gain by figuring out how to make their property and its services more attractive to others. It's just common sense." The people crowding into Home Depot on weekends to buy paint or shrubs aim to make their property look better, not worse.

And what of the homeowner who worries about the tastes of his neighbors? He can choose to buy property in a neighborhood with aesthetic controls enforced through private contracts known as deed restrictions.

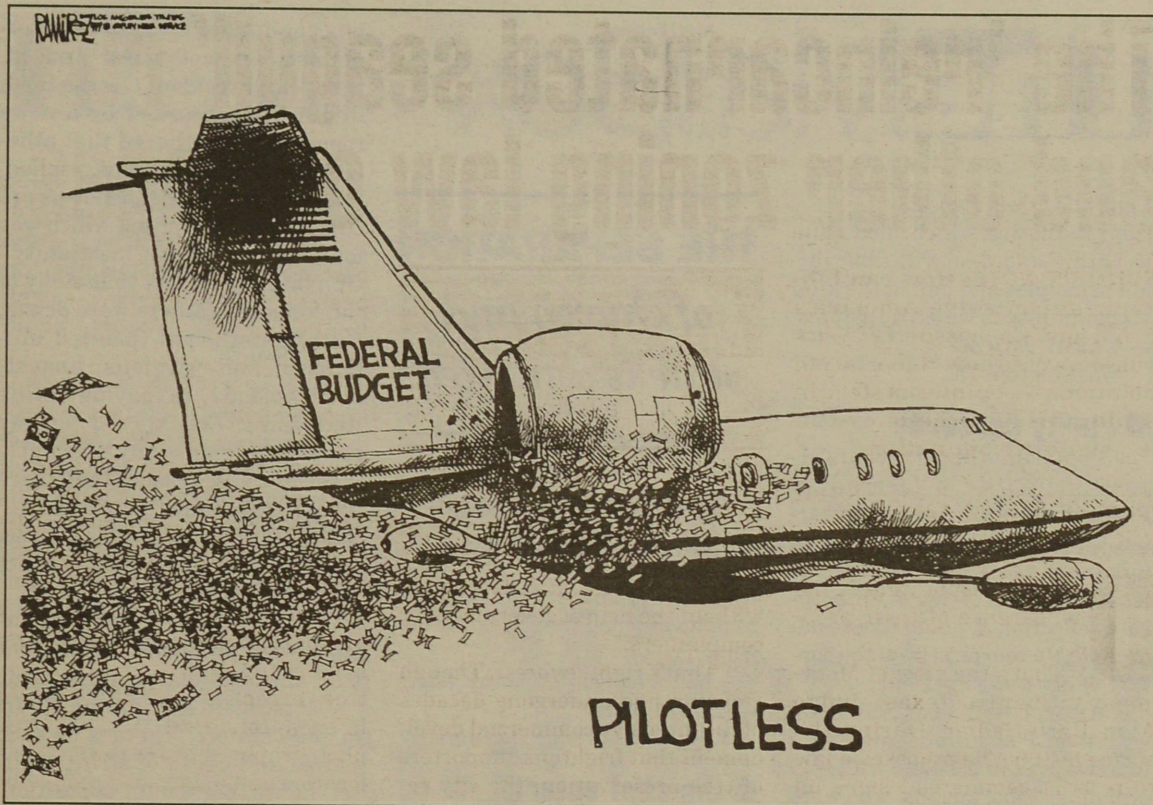
Such restrictions, also known as restrictive covenants, are usually See **ZONING LAWS** Page 26

LP News

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The Mailbox

■ Rewriting Seuss

Regarding the LP press release on Dr. Seuss [The Issues, January 2001].

This was a great press release until the last line. It could have easily been given a more positive spin.

It's important that we shake off our reputation as the "Grinch" party.

Here is my take on the last stanza of the poem:

We love that Seuss and all the joy
He brings individual girls and boys
But we think kids should not be used
for a self-serving, political, media ruse
Now just in case you're a little thick
I'll show you what makes us tick
We don't feel it's right to inflict
the beloved Seuss with politics.

— DOUG SCRIBNER

Los Angeles, California

■ Not Libertines

In response to recent letters advocating a change of name for the Libertarian Party, I offer a few observations on successful political parties and their names:

Republicans belong to the Republican Party, not the Republic Party. Lest anyone harbor suspicions about nationalistic devotion to the Republic, the name alone makes it clear: as a governing body they aim to practice republicanism, not nationalism.

Similarly, Democrats belong to the Democratic Party, not the Democracy Party. Their name makes it perfectly clear how they aim to govern.

Libertarianism is another method of governing. Our success as a political party comes from educating the public about it. That's a task in itself. Change the name of our party and we'll have

IT'S IMPORTANT to be positive and shake off our reputation as the "Grinch" party.

the additional task of explaining that we're libertarian.

The politically naive assume all third parties are of either the radical left or the radical right. Calling ourselves the Liberty Party won't change that. And to the vocabulary-impaired we won't be Libertarians at all, but rather "Libertines."

Changing our name would involve a lot of work and expense. If the only objective is to connect libertarian with liberty, we can do that through the Libertarian Party's symbol — Liberty.

— ANDREW AKERS

Salem, Virginia

■ Opinionated

In the January 2001 LP News Ben Pixley asks, "Am I libertarian enough?" [The Forum].

Obviously, Mr. Pixley has run into a number of opinionated Randians who have imposed their

individualist ideology on the noninitiation-of-force principle. This can cause problems in any party grouping, just as new libertarians coming in and not sufficiently studying libertarian principles and their practical ramifications can cause problems — especially if inexperienced libertarians demand the party promote issue stands or strategies that most libertarians have long rejected.

To remain in tune with the party's principles and mission, we must continue to work for the repeal of most or all laws, regulations, and taxes imposed by the federal, state, and local governments. Individual candidates and local parties can decide how quickly these should be repealed, but repeal remains the goal.

We should not be calling for new regulations or taxes, even as a bribe to convince politicians to [repeal other] regulations and taxes.

Perhaps the greatest drawback of an overly individualist approach is libertarians' failure to advance a libertarian decentralist, or community-oriented, approach, which, in 20 years of activism, I have found appeals to many non-libertarians. Believing in the sanctity of contract, libertarians hold individuals have a right to voluntarily enter into private, self-governing communities which may prohibit certain activities or property or may tax members to achieve common goals.

The freedom to create or join the community that actualizes one's values should be a primary libertarian goal.

Mr. Pixley might appreciate
See THE MAILBOX Page 24

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ThePulse

2004 presidential wish list

President Howell. Does that have a nice ring to it? LP News readers apparently think so. Carla Howell, fresh off her record-setting U.S. Senate campaign in Massachusetts, was the leading choice as the person Libertarians would most like to see as the party's presidential candidate in 2004.

In this month's unscientific Pulse survey, Howell picked up 16.4% of the vote in a wide-open race that saw readers endorse two dozen-plus potential candidates.

Coming in tied for second place (each with 8.2%) was an odd match-up of brains and brawn: Feisty former wrestler, former Reform Party member, and current governor of Minnesota, Jesse Ventura — and African-American columnist and author Walter Williams.

Standing alone in third place was another African-American author and columnist, Thomas Sowell.

And in a four-way tie for fourth place (4.9%) were TV and movie star Tom Selleck; African-American talk show host and author Larry Elder; pro-drug-legalization New Mexico Republican Governor Gary Johnson; and a generic "high profile" or "famous" person.

Other nominees for president in 2004 ranged from Microsoft CEO Bill Gates (!), to two-time presidential candidate Harry Browne, to movie star Kurt Russell, to NRA president Charlton Heston, to humorists P.J. O'Rourke and Dave Barry.

Here is a representative cross-section of answers:

■ Carla Howell. She is the kind of dynamic and inspirational speaker who can make me "feel" the power of the Libertarian message, instead of just agreeing with it. Being a woman may make her more acceptable to voters.
— ERIC ANDREW ROWLEY, Simi Valley, California

■ Jesse Ventura may not be 100% libertarian, but he's as close to our platform as most Democrats and Republicans are to theirs. He's well-known, holds political office with a high approval rating, and shares more of our views than almost any other public figure in America.
— JENNIFER KERNS, Gainesville, Florida

■ Gary Johnson. Although not as "pure" a Libertarian as some, his support for lower taxes and his opposition to gun control and the drug war are clearly consistent with libertarian ideology. As a governor who has already received a considerable amount of press attention, it would be nearly impossible for the media to ignore him.
— MATTHEW STOLL, Syracuse, New York

■ We Libertarians need a celebrity candidate in 2004. Here's my suggested list: Walter Williams, Tom Selleck, Thomas Sowell, Russell Means, John Stossel, and Roy Innis. Any of these men would make a fine candidate.
— MARK BAHNER, Durham, North Carolina

■ Harry Browne. Have we ever had a better candidate?
— JEFFREY KRADIN, Delray Beach, Florida

■ Thomas Sowell, because he is a very intelligent man with a unique perspective on many issues facing America. Sowell appears to be a conservative on some social issues, but one thing he is not, is a supporter of "big government" conservatism. Also, since Sowell is an African-American, it is likely he might attract more minority voters and more media attention.
— TROY DOUGLAS, Grand Blanc, Michigan

■ John Stossel and Walter Williams. Stossel is not just America's most publicly visible libertarian, but one who has a special gift for explaining libertarian positions in terms the ordinary person can understand. Williams would give us a presence in two demographics liberals take for granted (the other one is academia!).
— ALAN GORE, Phoenix Arizona

■ This is a no-brainer: Tom Selleck!
— JOHN F. RYLAND, San Francisco, California

See THE PULSE Page 24

ThePulse

Continued from Page 23

■ A ticket of Carla Howell and Larry Elder (or vice versa). This would help diminish the notion that we are a party for white males. This ticket would also have the celebrity factor along with a proven vote getter.

— JIM RONGSTAD, Woodbury, Minnesota

■ We need name recognition and star power, so why not Kurt Russell? He's got the wholesome, good-boy image from his early Disney movies, and a tough-guy image from some of the later ones. I can see the slogan: "Escape from Washington, DC — with the Libertarian Party!"

— PAUL SCOTT WILLIAMS, Denver, Colorado

■ Jacob Hornberger, for his years of political experience. Then, balance the ticket by selecting an independent dark-horse celebrity for vice president. The choice for this seat should be Microsoft CEO Bill Gates.

— JERRY ESKRIDGE, Port Royal, South Carolina

■ Jesse Ventura. Get the LP away from the "nerd" image.

— DIANE DESANDERS, Dallas, Texas

■ Russell Means. He is revolutionary with Hollywood and folk appeal. In a debate he could really chop Gush or Bore down to size. Imagine: libertarianism, passion, and down-to-earth talk from a guy who wants to be president!

— IAN P. HAWXHURST, New Orleans, Louisiana

■ New Mexico governor Gary Johnson. I can't imagine a better candidate. Let's bring this self-described "Republican Libertarian" home.

— JONATHAN WRIGHT, Nashville, Tennessee

April Question: Misconception?

When he ran for president in 1984, David Bergland has recounted, the only "third party" most voters had ever heard of was the Communist Party. So, back then, Libertarians were perceived as just another brand of communist. Things have changed — but how much? Today, some voters mistakenly think the LP is affiliated with perennial Democratic crackpot Lyndon LaRouche. Some think we're just left-over liberal hippies in the "marijuana legalization" party, while some perceive us a buttoned-down (if radically conservative) branch of the Republican Party. In fact, there may be as many misconceptions — whether about our positions, motivations, image, and goals — about the Libertarian Party as there are voters.

■ QUESTION: What is the biggest misconception the general public has about the Libertarian Party? Why? And what can be done to fix this? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: March 8, 2001

March Question: Convention date?

Back in the Old Days (1992 and before), the LP held its presidential nominating convention a full 14 months before Election Day. In 1996, as the LP got bigger and ballot access became less of a problem, the convention date was shifted forward nine months — to the July 4th weekend. This new date put it in the same approximate time-frame as the R's and D's. But the new date had problems: It gave our presidential candidate just four months to campaign, and local candidates complained it deprived them of July 4th meet-the-public opportunities. A sense has been growing that the convention should be moved backwards — a few weeks, a few months, or into the previous year. What do you think?

■ QUESTION: When should the LP hold its 2004 presidential nominating convention? And why? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: February 8, 2001

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include name and city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.

■ E-mail: Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org. ("Pulse" in subject line.)

■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ Mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

TheMailBox

Continued from Page 23

this alternative, which allows him to both stand fast with libertarian principles and join in the kind of community to which he aspires.

— CAROL MOORE

Washington, DC

■ Purity concerns

Complaints about the intolerance and purity of Libertarian Party members ("Am I Libertarian Enough?") seem to be an unfortunate yet growing trend, at least if the LP News is an accurate reflection. I would like to address these concerns from the context of my own experiences.

After I had been involved with the LP about nine months, I found myself in a debate with several other Libertarians, who were trying to show me how my position was inconsistent with libertarian principles. We argued into the wee hours of the morning; we raised our voices; we waved our arms. At times, the debate became heated, but we mostly kept it on a civil and mature level.

In the end, I admitted that I was wrong. Trust me, this wasn't easy. But my dedication was to truth and intellectual development. So I did my level best to argue my position, and had the courage to see where it was flawed. Most importantly, I learned.

The next day, one of the libertarians called to apologize for the argument having become heated; he wanted to assure me that my beliefs would always be respected, if sometimes disagreed with.

It was then that I realized something very important about libertarianism; it is like a scenic drive through the mountains — brilliant with every passing mile, but with plenty of roadside rest areas along the way, to stop and think about what you've seen and where you're going. The only catch is, at some point you've got to get back on the road.

Human beings are fallible — that is not a moral crime. What is unforgivable, and yes, intolerable, is a conscious decision to learn no more. Quite simply, if I hadn't changed my ideas, my core values, my beliefs, I would not be a Libertarian.

PS: Jacob Hornberger, the "purist" Libertarian candidate for the LP nomination for president, received only 13% of the vote in the 2000 convention. Am I to believe that our party suffers from an overabundance of purity?

— SCOTT MCPHERSON

Tulsa, Oklahoma

■ Who is John Gault?

I can understand Ben Pixley's concern that he won't be accepted as a Libertarian because he doesn't adore Ayn Rand. I can also understand how many Libertarians would wonder about someone

THE SEPARATION of church and state is a twisted concept of our court system.

who doesn't share their sense of happiness when they discover her work.

But who is John Gault [sic]?

— LOUIS RUSS

East Brunswick, New Jersey

■ Big-shot voters

Regarding the responses of "libertarian big-shots" to the question of whom they voted for [News/Politics, December 2000]:

Ed Crane says he doesn't vote, that it only encourages them. But isn't the very purpose of the Cato Institute which he heads — and to which thousands of people donate their hard-earned dollars — to influence how legislators vote? Why is this any less an encouragement to them (or any less an involvement in the political process he supposedly refuses to sully himself with by casting his own vote), I cannot fathom. Maybe I'm missing some fine semantic distinction.

Jerome Tucille brusquely tells people to vote for Bush, because Gore is a reprehensible, insufferable twit. Well, what's Bush then, a wonderful, delightful and brilliant man? Tucille must think I'm a twit if he expects me to believe that.

In "Politics 2000," Ron Paul's efforts to urge registered Libertarians to vote for the Republican candidate instead of the Libertarian is the biggest back-stab I've ever seen. Both he and Tucille are part of a long and insidious effort of Republicans to dilute, undermine and ultimately co-opt the freedom movement.

With "libertarian" big-shots like these, who needs Republicrats?

— JAMES N. DAWSON

Redwood Valley, California

■ Lawsuit kudos

Kudos to Jeffrey Adkins for suing his county for posting the Ten Commandments in its courthouse.

As a born-again atheist (and hard-core libertarian), I am deeply offended by any government's endorsement/establishment of religion. Posting of The Ten Commandments, mandatory prayer at city council and county commissioners meetings, U.S. Senate and House Chaplain-led prayers, etc. have no place in the public arena.

The implication is that athe-

ists, agnostics and secular humanists are not moral. Indeed, then-Vice President George Bush in 1984, when asked by a news reporter if he believed that atheists can be good citizens, replied, "No, I don't think nonbelievers are citizens of this country, which was founded on Judeo-Christianity." Oblivious to the fact that many of the founding fathers were deists, Bush nonetheless insulted millions of non-religious, honest, hard-working, taxpaying voting Americans. Frankly, I'd put my morals up against any theocrat's.

One of the reasons (and there were many) that I joined the LP was because of the party's position to support and maintain a strict separation of state and church.

Our founding fathers understood what problems are inherent with church/state entanglement.

Wisconsin's Supreme Court in 1890 stated: "There is no such source and cause of strife, quarrel, fights, malignant opposition, persecution, and war, and all evil in the state, as religion. Let it once enter into our civil affairs, our government soon would be destroyed. Let it once enter our common schools, they would be destroyed."

— BARRY ROWE

Melbourne, Florida

■ No separation

Would someone please inform Mr. Adkins and Mr. Kristoff, (who seem to believe in free speech as long as they don't find it offensive) that the Constitution does not mandate a "separation of church and state" [LP News, November 2000-January 2001]. This was a twisted concept of our 20th Century court system, and their efforts to replace religion with humanism.

The First Amendment reads, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Do you understand what that means? That means no outlawing praying in schools, no outlawing the posting of religious verbiage in public places, etc.

Kindly respect the wishes of our nation's founders, or stop erroneously claiming to be Libertarians. Enjoy your lawyer bills.

— KURT SNYDER

Warren, Michigan

■ Religious symbols

In the January MailBox, Ken Obenski says persons who do not object to the Ten Commandments on government property sound like Republicans. Those who do sound like Democrats.

Persons who object to the Commandments or school prayer

See THE MAILBOX Page 25

Any libertarian
stuff on TV
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The MailBox

Continued from Page 24

and include bread in their diets or secure their homes with keys are not only Democrats, they are hypocrites. Bread and Keys are religious symbols (Jn. 6, Mt. 16:19).

Jesus said to Pilate, "My kingdom is not of this world" (Jn. 18:36). Remove the Commandments from public places and post the Bill of Rights in their place.

He who objects to the Bill of Rights is both Democrat and Republican — very dirty.

— **BOB DOSTAL**
Iowa City, Iowa

■ Addiction treatment

We hear a lot about alcohol, nicotine and drug addiction, but not enough about a more serious condition, called addiction to wealth and power. Also known as "greed," this addiction has given us the threat of nuclear, chemical, biological, and conventional war.

Rather than attempt the impossible task of identifying all those addicted to wealth and power, I would like to propose instead a plan, using the best recovery program known to man, the 12-step program.

My plan simply suggests that the President and his Cabinet, the Congress, the Supreme Court and the CEOs of the Fortune 500 companies be prevailed upon to attend a minimum of one 12-step meeting per week, to learn about recovery and to set an example for the rest of the world.

I guarantee that if my plan is implemented, we'll have more progress in politics in one year than we've had in the last thousand years.

— **DAVID J. POLEWKA**
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

■ Be like the Viet Cong

We shouldn't be surprised that the Libertarian presidential candidate did not fare well in the election — it was a close race.

To a Libertarian, Al Gore was a far worse candidate; it was no tweedledum versus tweedledee choice. We had a corrupted Socialist versus a moderate Republican.

We should act as voters in an election like the Viet Cong guerrillas did in warfare; engage in battles we can win, back off from the ones we can lose — and practice patience! Harry Browne is one of our generals, not a miracle worker.

If polls show there is a definite winner between the two major parties, vote Libertarian; if the

election is close, a pragmatist must vote for the more desirable candidate.

Let's allocate our resources where they do the most good.

— **ALLEN T. HYDE**
Newland, North Carolina

■ Not fooled again

As a Life Member and 200% Libertarian, I voted an exact Libertarian Party vote, and Libertar-

ian on each issue presented, as I will continue to do. So should we all if we wish our votes to count.

Here is why. My straight-line Libertarian vote for human freedom and dignity, and against human slavery, sends an extremely clear message to the entire world that states: I will not be fooled again in my lifetime.

That vote is heard.
— **JEFF THOMSEN**
Kingman, Arizona

■ A poor campaign

Harry Browne is a smart and articulate spokesperson for libertarian ideas! The low vote total in

his presidential bid, however, can be explained in part by a poor campaign. Ralph Nader's campaign was better.

Facts suggest that a presidential campaign piggybacked on state LP office-seekers would be at least as good, and more cost-effective, than an independent presidential campaign with its own staff. As stated in the December LP News: "In states where the LP ran energetic candidates for local, county, and statewide races, we racked up impressive vote totals across the board."

The main strategy of LP presidential nominees could be to

appear at events staged by state candidates. Publicity would capitalize on local press coverage. State candidate staff members would do most of the campaign work so few presidential campaign staffers would be needed. Membership in the LP would rise as happened in Massachusetts with the Howell campaign.

— **GERALD SCHNEIDER**
Kensington, Maryland

■ Wrong focus

I believe that the Libertarian Party is missing the boat by focusing on the presidential election. See **THE MAILBOX** Page 26

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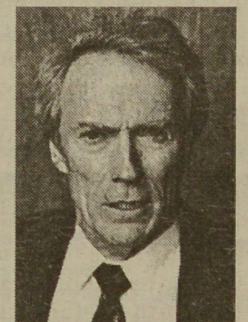


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The MailBox

Continued from Page 25
tion. We are at least two generations away from Libertarian ideas being accepted on any scale, and that's only if good economic times continue.

Many people do not know that Libertarian concepts even exist, and of those that do, most are willing to evade any kind of

principled approach to politics in favor of continuing to get what they can out of the system.

What I suggest is concentrating spending on introducing as many people as possible to Libertarian principles. What is needed is a wholesale philosophic overhaul, which will require clear explanation and repetition. A good

way to do this would be to run advertisements in major metropolitan newspapers, discussing current events from the Libertarian perspective.

We should not ignore the electoral process, particularly at the grass roots level. However, expecting the masses to vote to dismantle the current system of favors and perceived benefits presupposes that people grasp underlying philosophical premises, which they do not.

— SCOTT EPELMAN
Coppell, Texas

Zoning laws, or deed restrictions?

Continued from Page 22

ally initiated by developers to blanket entire subdivisions. The restrictions are enforced by homeowners' associations, and residents of the subdivision typically have the opportunity to vote periodically to reinstate, revise, or even cancel the restrictions.

And these rules have teeth. A June 3, 1993, article in the *New York Times* reported that one homeowners' association in Seattle successfully sued a husband and wife for painting their house an unapproved color. "These defendants, under a court order and facing the threat of imprisonment or fines of up to \$2,000 a day . . . finally agreed to repaint their house. They . . . already had their checking account garnished and a lien put on their home."

And according to the article, paint color is not the only exterior feature that private controls can regulate. Under deed restrictions, homeowner groups can control a myriad of things, from how often homeowners must mow their lawns to whether to allow basketball hoops in the driveway and even that old cars cannot be left in the driveway . . . and that trailers, boats, and motor homes must be stored out of sight.

Deed restrictions can also govern fencing, flagpoles, the types and configuration of bedded flowers, and even architectural features, such as facades and the number of stories.

Voluntary contracts

Yes, deed restriction enforcement can be harsh on non-conformists, but non-conformists need not buy into a restricted neighborhood in the first place. As an attorney told *The American Legion* (February 1996), "These agreements are voluntary contractual arrangements where you have agreed that this is how you are going to live."

As they shop around for property, home buyers can choose how much aesthetic protection they desire, without the government deciding for them. Private controls over the appearance of property, however nitpicky, operate through elective contracts with terms explicitly spelled out.

Meanwhile, the government's

ONE CALIFORNIA man endured 20 hearings about the size, shape, and color of his house

controls operate through coercion. Everything is up for grabs. Just ask Stephen Page.

According to his article in the *Wall Street Journal* (December 24, 1994), he had bought a 1.08 acre lot on the Monterey Peninsula in Pacific Grove, California, in 1991 to build his dream house. But rather than a dream, the city's design review process gave Mr. Page a nightmare.

Over a two year period, Mr. Page recalled, "we endured 20 public hearings regarding the size, shape, height, siting, texture, materials, and color of our proposed residence."

Life as a seagull

During one of 11 public hearings with the Pacific Grove Architectural Review Board, a commissioner objected to Mr. Page's plans for the design of his house because "[i]n my former life as a seagull, I was flying up and down the California coastline and saw your house built shaped as a seashell, built out of driftwood and feathers, with the aperture facing out to sea."

Apparently, Pacific Grove leads the country in protecting the feelings of reincarnated seagulls from the aspirations of property owners.

To appease the city's wishes for a smaller house, Mr. Page shrank his request for a 4,200-square-foot residence to 3,600 square feet. But then the Pacific Grove Planning Commission and City Council reduced it to a 1,900-square-foot house with a 600-square-foot garage, hardly enough space to justify Mr. Page's investment at that point of approximately \$1.4 million for the lot and carrying costs to date.

When the Planning Commis-

sion chairman was asked to justify the 1,900-square-foot figure, he replied, "I pulled the number out of a hat."

After two years of hearings, Mr. Page sued the city to gain his development rights. A year later the city backed off and voted to allow Mr. Page to build a 3,680-square-foot house with a 600-square-foot garage.

Capricious

Mr. Page's story shows how capricious government inevitably becomes when it sees its purpose not as protecting individual liberties but as trashing them for some crusade like making the community look right. As Frederic Bastiat points out in *The Law*:

"The mission of the law is not to oppress persons and plunder them of their property. Its purpose is to protect persons and property.

"If you exceed this proper limit—if you attempt to make the law religious, fraternal, equalizing, philanthropic, industrial, or artistic (emphasis added)—you will then be lost in uncharted territory, in vagueness and uncertainty, in a forced utopia . . .

"This is true because fraternity and philanthropy, unlike justice, do not have precise limits. Once started, where will you stop? And where will the law stop itself?"

[Continued in the March 2001 issue of *LP News*.]

■ This essay reprinted with permission from the November 1996 issue of *Ideas On Liberty*, published by the Foundation for Economic Education. To contact FEE, call (914) 591-7230. Or visit: www.FEE.org.

1. Paul McKay, "Sign, sign everywhere a sign..." *Houston Chronicle*, June 4, 1995.

2. See Ralph Bivens, "A growing conflict" in the *Houston Chronicle*, November 13, 1994, p. 1 E. This study of the tree controversy in Houston shows how commercial developers often save trees to enhance their company's image or to improve the value of property they own. The article says that merchants in shopping centers worry that keeping too many trees will prevent potential customers from seeing their stores. However, the article shows how one developer saves trees from a commercial project to transplant elsewhere on the same site or move the trees to a residential project with the hope of making the area more attractive to home buyers. The article also alludes to the fact that Houston has many office parks extensively adorned with trees.

UpComing

March 31, 2001

Kentucky LP Convention, Executive Inn, Louisville. Speakers TBA. For information, call State Chair Donna Mancini: (502) 254-3975. E-mail: disco4freedom@cs.com.

April 5-9, 2001

Libertarian International Spring Convention, Lund, Sweden. Speakers include John-Henri Holmberg, Ingemar Nordin, Sven Rudenfelt, and Christian Michel. For information, e-mail: Info@libertarian.to. Visit: www.libertarian.to. Write: Libertarian International, P.O. Box 21, B-2910, Essen, Belgium.

April 14-15, 2001

Minnesota LP Convention, Mystic Lake Casino/Hotel, Prior Lake (just outside Minneapolis). Speakers TBA. For information, contact: ChasDTest@aol.com.

April 20-22, 2001

Washington state LP Convention, Doubletree Seattle Airport Hotel, SeaTac. Speakers include Tim Slagle (libertarian comedian). For information, visit: www.lpws.org.

April 21, 2001

Libertarian National Committee, Inc. Meeting, Washington, DC. Exact location TBA. Open to all Libertarian Party members. For information, call: (202) 333-0008 Ext. 228.

April 21-22, 2001

Ohio LP Convention, Holiday Inn West, Columbus. Speakers TBA. For information call: (614) 221-4876.

April 27-29, 2001

Indiana LP Convention, French Lick Springs Resort, French Lick. Speakers TBA. For information, call Indiana LP Executive Director Brad Klopfenstein: (317) 920-1994. Or e-mail: lpinhq@lpin.org.

April 28, 2001

New York LP Convention, Holiday Inn Midtown (Manhattan), New York City. Speakers TBA. For information, visit: <http://ny.LP.org>.

May 18-20, 2001

Colorado LP Convention, Best Western Executive Hotel, Denver. Speakers include Carla Howell (2000 Massachusetts U.S. Senate candidate), Reggie Rivers (columnist and former Denver Broncos player), and Russell Means (actor, author, and Indian rights activist). For information, contact Bette Rose Smith: (303) 639-5530. Or Michele Poague: (303) 690-2907.

May 25-27, 2001

Libertarian Futurist Society National Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel & Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio. Speakers include F. Paul Wilson (author, *Healer*), Victor Koman (author, *Kings of the High Frontier*), L. Neil Smith (author, *The Probability Broach*), and Poul Anderson (author, *The Star Fox*). For information, visit: www.LFS.org.

June 15-17, 2001

National Taxpayers Conference 2000, Radisson Hotel & Suites, St. Louis, Missouri. Sponsored by the National Taxpayers Union Foundation. Features workshops, strategy sessions, and policy forums. For information, visit www.NTU.org. Or call: (703) 683-5700.

July 1-5, 2001

Libertarian World Conference, Caliceo Hotel, Dax, France. Sponsored by the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) and Le Cercle Frederic Bastiat. Speakers include Henri Lepage (author, *Tomorrow Capitalism*), Donald Boudreaux (president, Foundation for Economic Education), Madsen Pirie (president, Adam Smith Institute), Dr. Rigoberto Stewart (Costa Rica), Benoite Taffin (leader, French taxpayer revolt), and Anthony de Jasay (author, *The State*). Cost before March 31: \$689 for one person, \$1098 for two. For information, visit: www.libertarian.to or www.bastiat.net.

August 4-10, 2001

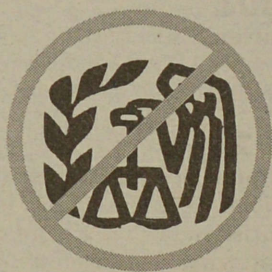
Cato University Summer Seminar, The Rancho Bernardo Inn, San Diego, California. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (202) 789-5229.

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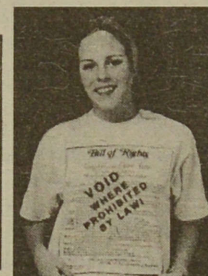
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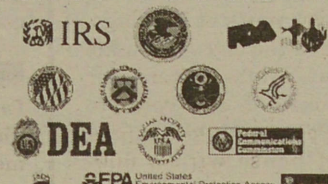
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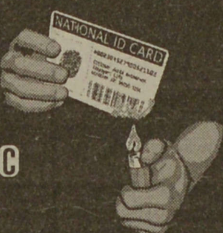
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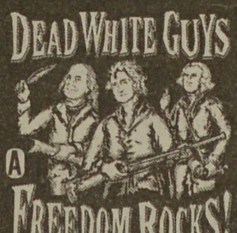


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UpComing

February 4, 2001

Michigan LP Winter Leadership Conference, Comfort Inn, Plainwell. Sponsored by the Ottawa County LP. Speakers include Jim Lark (LP National Chair). For information, call Ben Steele III: (517) 288-5616. E-mail: bsteele1@tir.com. Or call Jason Miller: (616) 669-2851. E-mail: jcmiller@triton.net.

February 6-7, 2001

"Privatizing Social Security: Beyond the Theory" Conference, Cato Institute, Washington, DC. Invited speakers include Rep. Charles Stenholm, Martin Feldstein, Peter Ferrara, Jose Pinera, Michael Tanner, and Thomas Siems. For more information or to register, visit: www.cato.org/events/ssconf01.

February 10-11, 2001

Libertarian National Committee, Inc. Strategic Planning Meeting & State Chairs Conference, Radisson Hotel City Centre, Indianapolis, Indiana. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 228.

February 16-19, 2001

California LP Convention, Doubletree Hotel, San Jose. Speakers include: Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*), Richard Winger (Editor, *Ballot Access News*), Mark Tuniewicz (LP National Treasurer), John Hospers (1972 LP presidential candidate), Jim Lark (LP National Chair), Gary Reams (Lt. Governor candidate, Virginia), Tibor Machan, and Ed Clark (1980 LP presidential candidate). For information, contact Cullene Lang: (916) 362-0855. E-mail: cullene@aol.com.

February 17-18, 2001

Oklahoma LP Convention, Quality Inn North (I-35), Oklahoma City. Speakers include Prof. John George (UCO), Ken Bush (Mis-

souri LP activist), and Nancy Pellow (State Senate staff). For information call Richard Prawdzienski: (405) 844-7577. E-mail: prawdz@aol.com.

February 24, 2001

Massachusetts LP Convention, Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Trade Center, Marlboro. Speakers include: Phillip Zimmerman (author of PGP), Michael Cloud (political persuasion expert), Carla Howell (2000 candidate for U.S. Senate), and Barbara Anderson (Citizens for Limited Taxation). For information, call Brandi MacGilvray: (877) 891-8400. E-mail: info@anothergreatevent.com.

March 2-4, 2001

Florida LP Convention & Business Meeting, Hampton Inn, Altamonte Springs. Speakers include Dr. Randall Holcombe (Florida State University), Barbara Goushaw (Keynote Speaker, 2000 Libertarian National Convention), and tentatively Senator Otto Guevara Guth (Costa Rica). For information, call: (800) 478-0555 (inside Florida). Or visit: www.LPF.org.

March 23-25, 2001

Illinois LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Rolling Meadows. Speakers TBA. For information: (888) 266-1776. E-mail: phenix815@aol.com.

March 30- April 1, 2001

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Radisson Hotel, Bethlehem. Speakers include Tim Slagle (Libertarian comedian), Jacob Hornberger (president, Future of Freedom Foundation), and Tom Knapp (editor, free-market.net). For information, e-mail: lppachair@enter.net. Or visit: www.lppa.org.

For more Upcoming Events, see page 26

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InSide

■ **PAGE 1** Kubbys get hung jury in medical marijuana case

■ **PAGE 1** Former LP member picked for Interior Secretary by George W. Bush

■ **PAGE 1** An inside look: Public School Pandemonium



FirstWord

"Libertarianism is on the rise."

— HILLARY JOHNSON, *Worth Magazine*, November 2000

"[The Libertarian Party's] message of returning the federal government to its limited constitutional duties, and increasing the amount of freedom and responsibility enjoyed by its citizens has caused this small organization to grow significantly in recent years."

— JAMIE BECKETT, *The News Chief*,
Winter Haven, Florida, October 8, 2000

"The Libertarians are winning more these days."

— BILL MCCLEERY, *The Indianapolis Star*, August 27, 2000

"Polls have shown increasing public interest in the libertarians' arguments against government intrusion."

— Salim Muwakkil, *The Chicago Tribune*, August 21, 2000