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Indianapolis Convention Center CEO Bill McGowan (at podium) - shown here with (l-r) Indiana LP State Chair Mark W. Rutherford, LP National Director Steve Dasbach, and Mayor Bart Peterson - announces that the LP National Convention will be held in that city, July 4-7, 2002.

National Convention set for Indianapolis in 2002

t's official: The Libertarian Party's 2002 National Convention will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The announcement was made at a February 9 press conference in Indianapolis, which was attended by Mayor Bart Peterson, Indiana LP State Chair Mark W. Rutherford, and LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

The news generated a flurry of local TV and radio coverage in the city, which had tried - but failed - to land the 2000 Repub-

lican National Convention.

"Indianapolis is happy to host this important gathering of state and national political leaders," said Mayor Peterson. "This shows that our city continues to be a topnotch convention destination and a major player in national affairs. But it's also a chance to highlight another set of viewpoints, which is healthy for any democracy."

The convention will be held in the Indianapolis Convention Center, with the Marriott Downtown

See CONVENTION Page 2

Republican State Senator in Oregon joins Libertarian Party

But Senator Gary George keeps GOP registration

state senator in Oregon who colleagues had described for years as a "closet" libertarian — has joined the Libertarian Party, while keeping his membership and registration in the Republican Party

On January 20, State Senator Gary George joined the state and national Libertarian Party because he has become convinced it is a "viable platform from which to advance liberty," said Richard Burke, a past Oregon LP State Chair and currently George's legislative assistant.

George, 57, represents Senate District 2 in Oregon. A hazelnut farmer by trade, he was first elected to the state senate in 1996 and was re-elected in 2000. He will be term-limited out of office in 2004.

Public image

George decided to "sign on the dotted line" and become a cardcarrying Libertarian because the party is "finally building some stature and a good public image in Oregon," said Burke. "Senator George now believes that it is a viable platform from which to advance liberty."

The decision wasn't a complete surprise, said Burke, because "for years, legislators have



Oregon State Senator Gary George (center) poses with his Libertarian legislative assistant, Richard Burke (right), and Oregon LP State Chair Adam Mayer shortly after becoming a dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party.

accused Senator George of being a 'closet' Libertarian. In my opinion, he's about an 80/80 Libertarian. He is with us on almost all issues, but not all.'

George also has a family member who is already a Libertarian, noted Burke.

"One of his children, Larry George, is an Oregon LP member and is the President of Oregonians in Action, a property rights organization," he said.

George's decision was hailed

by LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

"We welcome State Senator George into the Libertarian Party - even if he is now keeping one foot in the Republican Party," he said. "Our job is now to make our party so big, so successful, and so supportive that Senator George is willing to take the next step, and become 100% Libertarian.

"And then, we need to convince other incumbent politicians See STATE SENATOR Page 2

SPECIAL FEATURE PRESENTATI

NJ's Mark Edgerton hires Jesse Ventura's political strategist for governor's race

PAGE 3

National Director Steve Dasbach is new COFOE chair



olice stopped 49-year-old Ethel Hylton at Houston's Hobby Airport and told her she was under arrest because a drug dog had scratched at her luggage.

INTE

Agents searched her bags and strip-searched her, but they found from an insurance settle-

ment and her life savings; accumulated through , over 20 years of work as a hotel housekeeper

and hospital janitor. Ethel Hylton completely documented where she got the her money anyway.

Nearly four years later, she was still trying to get her money back. Ethel Hylton is just one of a large and

growing list of Americans - now numbering in the hundreds of

thousands - who have been victimized by civil asset forfeiture. Under civil asset forfeiture, everything you own can be legally taken away even if you are never convicted of a crime.

Suspicion of offenses which, if proven in court, might result in a \$200 fine or probation, are being used to justify seizure of tens See FORFEITURE Page 10

NewsBriefs

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THE GREAT

LIBERTARIAN

Harry Browne

LP advertisements win 3 awards

hree Libertarian Party ads from the 2000 campaign have been honored with political advertising awards.

On January 27, Harry Browne's TV ad "Busted" won a Pollie Award Honorable Mention as the third-best TV spot in the presidential category at the annual awards banquet of the American Association of Political Consultants (AAPC).

The 60-second ad, produced by Kristin Overn for Polaris Productions, attacked the War on Drugs and memorably showed George W. Bush and Al Gore behind bars. It beat out other, better-known ads such as Ralph Nader's

"Priceless" and John McCain's "Ready to Lead. The fact that one of Harry Browne's ads won a Pollie in

the category of presidential TV ads speaks volumes about the ad!" said California Libertarian Doug Scribner, who co-wrote a radio ad that also won. "Congratulations to the Browne campaign team and the Libertarian Party!"

View the ad at: www.harrybrowne2000.org/com2.htm.

A radio ad for Libertarian candidates, "Tired of Getting F***ed?," written by Doug Scribner and Mark Hilgenberg for Third Wheel Group, won a Pollie Award Honorable Mention in the Political Party Radio Ads category.

The ad can be heard at: www.123abc.net/~thirdwheel/ F-edWApro28kmusic.ram.

Pollie Awards are given out in 77 different categories every two years by the AAPC. Winners are chosen by an independent panel of consultants, journalists, public affairs officers, and political academics.

Harry Browne's 30-minute infomercial "The Great Libertarian Offer" — also available on videotape — won a Telly Award for best informational program. The award honors "outstanding non-network and cable commercials."

"The Great Libertarian Offer" was selected from among 11,000 submissions in 150 categories.

LP member is new Free Inquiry editor

Libertarian Party member has been named as editor of Free Inquiry, a magazine that "celebrates reason and humanity.

New York LP member Tom Flynn was named editor in late 2000, and has promised to make the traditionally Left-leaning Free Inquiry more friendly to Libertarian perspectives.

The magazine "presents scholarly and popular articles relating to secular humanism, atheism, church/state separation, and issues affecting the rights of religious minorities.

It is published by the Council for Secular Humanism, a national group that "cultivates rational inquiry, ethical values, and human development through secular humanism.

Flynn is the author of the books The Trouble with Christmas and Galactic Rapture, co-founder of the Secular Humanist Bulletin, and director of the Center for Inquiry International.

For Free Inquiry subscription information, visit: www.secularhumanism.org.

Freedom Rally set for April 7-8, 2001

he LP of Orange County and the Freedom Law School have announced that they will co-sponsor the 2001 Freedom Rally

- a two-day bash that features more than a dozen speakers.

The event will take place on April 7-8, at the Atrium Hotel in Irvine, California. "This is the big annual festival of free-

dom, where freedom-lovers can educate and inform themselves about various freedom isaid Peymon Mottahedeh, president of the Freedom Law School.

Speakers at the Freedom Rally include Joseph Farah (publisher, WorldNetDaily.com), Richard Boddie (1992 California U.S. Senate candidate), Joe Bannister (former IRS agent), James Hirsen (professor, Trinity School of Law), and John Decamp (former state legislator, Nebraska).

Pre-paid price for the event is \$80 per person, or \$120 per couple. People under 21 get in free.

For information, call: (714) 838-2896. E-mail: freedom@livefreenow.org. Or visit: www.livefreenow.org.

Oregon GOP state senator becomes a member of the Libertarian Party

Continued from Page 1 to join us, too."

In the state senate, George serves as chair of the General Government & Transportation Committee, on the Revenue Committee, and on the Committee on Health & Human Services.

Those "choice" committee positions were the major reason why George declined to completely sever his ties with the Republican Party, said Burke.

Siberia

"If Sen. George registered as a Libertarian voter in addition to joining the LP, the GOP Senate leadership would almost certainly strip the senator of these positions - and consign him to the political equivalent of Siberia," he said. "Without good committee assignments, it would be virtually impossible for Senator George to be politically effective."

Given that George doesn't agree with the LP on every issue - and the fact that the senator is

"his own man" - Burke said he can't promise that George will vote doctrinaire Libertarian on every issue

'[He] cannot easily be influenced ex- **Gary George:** cept through His own man. information

and pragmatic arguments," he said. "Having said that, human nature dictates that having the support of a sympathetic group makes it easier to stand firm during difficult situations.'

However, despite some possible disagreements, George "has consistently supported minimizing the role of government in our private and financial lives [and] strives toward Libertarian ideals using an incremental approach," said Burke.

After he is term-limited out of the state senate, Burke said there is a possibility that George could run as a Libertarian — with no GOP connection - for another office

"He has not yet made plans," said Burke. "Anything is possible.

Burke, who was the Oregon LP State Chair from 1993-1994, started working for Senator George when the legislative session began in January. His job is to research and write bills, give advice about voting, and always "nudge the state senator in a more Libertarian direction," he said.

"Side bet"

George is one of several politicians in the last few years to make "side bets" on the Libertarian Party while retaining their membership in other parties.

Most recently, in 1998, Minnesota State Representative Tom Workman (Chanhassen District) became a dues-paying member of the LP, while retaining his Republican registration.

2002 Convention is set for Indianapolis

Continued from Page 1 Hotel serving as host hotel.

Taking place July 4-7, 2002, the convention is expected to attract about 2,000 delegates and guests from around the country.

While this may not be the Republican or Democratic national convention, this is a very, very important event from a public policy perspective, from a political perspective, and very important to the economy and the people of Indianapolis," said Peterson.

Indianapolis was selected for the 2002 convention, said Dasbach, in part because most of the party's recent conventions were held on the East or West coast.

Strong sentiment

"There was strong sentiment to have one of the next two conventions in the South, and the other in the Midwest," he said. However, out of all the possible locations that were examined, Indianapolis had the best facilities available on the right dates.

"Indianapolis offered the best combination of availability, convention facilities, nearby restaurants and entertainment, affordable transportation, and expressed interest by the local and state party in hosting the convention and providing local support," he said.

The decision to negotiate a contract with an Indianapolis hotel was approved by the Libertarian National Committee at its December 2000 meeting.

Although the Libertarian

STEVE DASBACH: "It was amazing to see a standingroom-only press conference."

Party has a very good reputation in Indiana, Dasbach said he was surprised at the media attention the convention announcement generated.

"It was amazing to see a standing room only press conference announcing a national Libertarian convention," he said. "Ev-

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EDITOR: **Bill Winter** PUBLISHER: Libertarian National Committee, Inc. EDITOR EMERITUS: Karl Hess + 1923-1994

eryone, including the mayor, treated this as an important event for the city, which demonstrates the growing credibility of and respect for the LP in Indiana."

The press conference was covered by all four of the local TV affiliates, and spawned stories in all the local newspapers.

\$26 million

At the press conference, the mayor was asked if the city had offered Libertarians the same \$26 million enticement it had offered Republicans, when it was trying to land that convention.

Dasbach said, "I stepped forward and pointed out, 'Libertarians wouldn't have taken the money, even if it was offered. We don't take government money to run our conventions.""

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Dick Boddie: Rally speaker.

Mark Edgerton hires Ventura mastermind for governor's race

Doug Friedline joins New Jersey campaign

The Mark Edgerton for Governor campaign has hired the man who masterminded Jesse Ventura's upset victory in hopes that some of that political magic will rub off on a similar upstart Libertarian campaign in New Jersey.

At a press conference at the State House in Trenton on January 17, Edgerton announced that he had hired Doug Friedline as his campaign manager.

Friedline was the political strategist behind Ventura's thirdparty campaign in Minnesota in 1998 that catapulted the former professional wrestler into the governor's mansion.

"Doug has a great deal of experience with the particular organizational and fundraising problems facing third-party candidates for high office," said Edgerton. "[And] Doug probably pulled off one of the biggest political upsets of the century in Minnesota.

"I want to put the voters, the media, and the politicos of New Jersey on notice that my candidacy is a serious attempt to capture the governorship. My true goal is to win the election, and Doug has shown that he can do just that."

Friedline's first advice to the campaign, said Edgerton, was about the importance of generating media coverage.

"Doug has indicated that we need to get the attention of the media," he said. "Thus far, we have been pretty successful attracting the media."

The press conference that unveiled Friedline drew reporters from New Jersey television affiliates, newspapers, and radio stations.

Opportunity

While acknowledging the uphill nature of the race, Friedline said the campaign represented a "huge opportunity" for the Libertarian Party.

"We are here to really move ahead and try to win this campaign," he said. "I'm not sure the political landscape will allow us to do that at this point, but we'll



■ Mark Edgerton announces at a press conference in Trenton, New Jersey that he has hired the man who masterminded Jesse Ventura's campaign, Doug Friedline, as his campaign manager. "My goal is to win the election, and Doug has shown that he can do that," he said.

try to pull off a major upset."

In order to be competitive, Edgerton said the campaign must raise enough money to qualify for state matching funds.

"We need to raise approximately \$260,000 to obtain matching funds and to get into the TV debates," he said. "Without these two key ingredients, it will be almost impossible for me to win."

Edgerton, 50, is a real estate broker. He has not previously sought public office. His campaign will focus on "taxes and government spending, education, and civil and personal liberties issues [such as the] drug war, civil forfeiture, racial profiling," he said.

The goal of the campaign, said Edgerton, is to win the governor's seat.

Not favored

"As in all third-party campaigns, [we] are not favored to win," he acknowledged. "However, I believe with the team that we are now assembling and the support from the national and New Jersey Libertarian parties, we can win this election."

In the race, Edgerton could face Republican Governor Donald

DiFrancesco or Jersey City Mayor Bret Schundler and Democrat James McGreevey.

Besides his stint with Ventura, Friedline worked on the 1992 Ross Perot for President campaign and the Natural Law Party's John Hagelin for President campaign in 2000.

For information about the Edgerton for Governor campaign, or to make a contribution, call: (973) 601-1900. Visit his website: www.markedgerton.com. Or write: Mark Edgerton for Governor, 133 Maxim Drive, Hopatcong, NJ 07843-1900.

Ed Thompson weighs bid for brother's job

LP mayor may run for governor in Wisconsin

The Libertarian brother of outgoing Wisconsin governor Tommy Thompson has said that he may seek that seat in 2002 — an announcement that generated statewide publicity and could result in a "Jesse Ventura type of upset" victory, according to the LP state chair.

In mid January, Ed Thompson, currently the mayor of Tomah, said he was considering following in his older brother's footsteps, and launching a bid for the governor's seat.

His brother, Tommy Thompson, had previously announced he would step down after four terms as governor when President George W. Bush nominated him for Health and Human Services Secretary.

"I visited my brother the other night at the [governor's] mansion," Ed Thompson said. "We had a good talk. I looked over there and said, 'Man, this wouldn't be a bad house to live in.' I even sat at the head of the table just to see what it was like."

If Thompson does run, "he [has] a good chance to gather a lot of votes," said LP State Chair Robert Collison. "If his campaign was run properly, he might even be able to pull off a Jesse Ventura, populist, type of upset."

While Thompson would bring many strengths to the race such as a well-known name, experience as the mayor of Tomah, and support among the Wisconsin Tavern League — he would require "two key elements" to emerge victorious in the governor's race, said Collison.

Advice

"Ed needs two key elements to win: A top-notch campaign manager and the ability to raise money. I believe he can raise the money and I'm talking with two successful campaign managers asking their advice," he said.

If Thompson could attract many of the 50% of Wisconsin residents who do not traditionally



■ Ed Thompson, brother of former Wisconsin governor Tommy Thompson: "Man, this wouldn't be a bad house to live in."

vote "like Jesse Ventura did, I truly believe he has as good a chance, if not better, than Jesse did," he said.

If he does run, Thompson would bring to the race a past almost as colorful as Jesse Ventura's: He was a professional poker player in Las Vegas, fought in Toughman contests, and was employed as a prison cook.

Thompson also has had a See **THOMPSON** Page 21

Steve Dasbach picked as new chair of COFOE

P National Director Steve Dasbach is wearing a second hat these days: He's been selected to serve as the chairman of the Coalition for Free and Open Elections (COFOE).

Representatives of the nine alternative parties that make up COFOE met in New York City on January 14, and selected Dasbach for the unpaid, one-year position because of "the organizational strength of the LP," he said.

"The Libertarian Party is bigger, better funded, better organized, and has a better track record of overcoming ballot access hurdles than any other third party in America," he said. "I think my selection as chairman is recognition of that fact."

Consensus

As chairman, Dasbach will lead meetings of the COFOE board and "help develop consensus among the members."

Since COFOE meets only a handful of times a year, Dasbach said he will act as its chairman while remaining national director

THE COALITION works to make election and ballot laws more fair for smaller parties

of the Libertarian Party.

COFOE — which includes representatives from the Libertarian, Reform, Green, Prohibition, Socialist, Communist, Independence (NY), Constitution, and Natural Law parties — is the nation's largest coalition of third parties. The presidential candidates of the coalition's member parties won 99.4% of third-party presidential votes cast in 2000.

The organization works to make the nation's ballot access and election laws more fair for smaller parties — a goal which See COFOE Page 12

I C SSUES

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 "announcerequest@lp.org" with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

Faith-based program: Bad for charities

resident George W. Bush's proposal to direct federal funds to faith-based organizations could destroy many of the virtues that make religious groups so successful at fighting poverty, the Libertarian Party warned.

"Religious groups will be making a deal with the devil if they accept the 30 pieces of silver from the government," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director.

In February, President Bush announced a plan to enhance the ability of religious groups to help the poor by allowing them to compete for federal contracts to fund charitable activities.

Unfortunately, such funding could make religious groups dependent on the government, said Dasbach. For example, Catholic Charities USA, which gets 65% of its \$2.3 billion budget from the federal government, already has a large lobbying staff in Washington, DC.

"Religious groups run a real risk of becoming another subsidized industry, more concerned about wining and dining their Congressmen than feeding and sheltering the poor," he said.

The plan would also destroy the moral benefits of charity, said Dasbach.

"Voluntary contributions teach moral lessons and build communities," he said. "Coercive taxation does none of those things. If you don't believe it, just ask yourself: How do you feel after you've written a check to your favorite charity - and how do you feel after you've written a check to the IRS? That's the difference between the compassion of voluntary charity and the coercion of tax-funded government programs."

Alcohol sniffer violates the Constitution

sneaky new high-tech device that allows police to analyze your breath for alcohol without your knowledge doesn't just violate the Fourth Amendment, warns the Libertarian Party - it could get you tossed into jail if you used mouthwash.

"All you have to do is breathe once, and, without so much as a search warrant or a warning, police can administer a drunkdriving test that is unreliable, underhanded, and unconstitutional," charged Steve Dasbach.

The device in question, the PAS III Sniffer, is now being used by thousands of police departments across the country. Built into a flashlight that police can shine into your car, the PAS III Sniffer contains a pump that draws in your exhaled breath, and instantly analyzes it for the presence of booze.

Police say the device is an "extension" of their nose, and therefore doesn't require a search warrant. Libertarians disagree. "The Fourth Amendment protects you

from search unless police have probable cause," noted Dasbach. "However, police using the PAS III Sniffer can conduct a hightech search of any motorist's breath, with no probable cause."

The device is also unreliable. "There is evidence that the PAS III Sniffer can get confused by alcohol that had previously been spilled in your car - or by the presence of alcohol in mouthwash, cologne, and perfume," said Dasbach. "Wearing too much cologne may be offensive, but it shouldn't be a crime."

New snow-shoveling bill goes too far

proposed bill in Montgomery County, Maryland that would make it a crime to not shovel your sidewalk within 24 hours of a snowstorm is not only ridiculous — it's another example of the rampant "criminalization" of our society, the Libertarian Party charged.

"Not shoveling your sidewalk may be unneighborly, but it shouldn't be a criminal offense," said Steve Dasbach. "Do we really want the Snow Police imposing fines - and perhaps one day arresting people - because of snowflakes on a sidewalk?"

In January, three Democratic politicians introduced the Pedestrian Winter Safety Act of 2001 in the Montgomery County Council. The bill would require homeowners to shove all sidewalks on or adjacent to their property within 24 hours of a snowstorm, or face a \$50 fine.

Supporters say the law is needed to guarantee passage on sidewalks for the elderly, the handicapped, and school children. But all the bill really does is add to the blizzard of laws that

pile up like a legislative snowbank, said Dasbach. "Everyone would agree that shoveling your sidewalk is the neighborly thing to do. The question is: Do we really want to turn people into criminals because they are not neighborly enough? If we do, where will the criminalization of America end?"

Marc Brandl and Dianne Pilcher get college, affiliate duties at HQ

wo members of the LP's Washington DC headquarters staff have been given new job responsibilities, as part of the party's effort to focus more attention on college organizing and affiliate support.

Effective as of January, Marc Brandl has been appointed as the party's new National Campus Coordinator, while Dianne Pilcher was appointed Affiliate Services Representative.

Previously, Brandl had served as the party's Customer Service Representative, and Pilcher handled LP product and literature order fulfillment.

More resources

"These new appointments highlight the fact that the party plans to devote more resources to building our presence on college campuses and strengthening our state and local affiliates," said LP National Director Steve Dasbach. "Marc and Dianne have done great work for the party in the past, and we expect them to continue that tradition in their new roles."

As National Campus Coordinator, Brandl's job will be to help

MARC BRANDL: Goal is for college Libertarians "to leave Republicans in the dust."

"grow the campus libertarian movement," he said.

.....

His duties will include "developing resources such as an organizing manual, brochure, posters, e-newsletter, etc. that are directly aimed at aiding campus activism," he said. "And I will put new campus activists in contact with their state party, local affiliate, or activists."

His goal over the next few years, said Brandl, will be to help the LP catch up with other political parties' campus organizations.

"According to my research, the Greens are on around 800 campuses; same for the Democrats," he said. "The Republicans have a presence on less than 500

while we have a presence on about 150 campuses.

"Over the next four to five years I would like to see the college Libertarian movement leave the Republicans in the dust and give the Greens and Democrats a run for their money."

This goal is important for the future growth of the LP, said Brandl.

Woodrow Wilson

"If there is one time in even the most narrow-minded person's life where they are open to new ideas, it is likely to be while they are of college age," he said. "It is a lot easier to demonstrate the merits of libertarianism to a 19year-old than a 90-year-old who has been voting for the D's or the R's since Woodrow Wilson!"

Brandl, 25, has been working at the party's office since 1999. He first joined the LP at age 16, was a volunteer for the San Diego County LP, and co-founder of American University Liberty Now!/Students for a Sensible Drug Policy. Previously, he worked for DRCNet and the Marijuana Policy Project.

See BRANDL, PILCHER Page 21

Professional wrestler Val Venis wants to be spokesman for liberty

ove over Jesse Ventura: There's another professional wrestler who says he's a libertarian. And, unlike Ventura, this one apparently means it

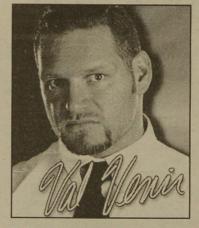
WWF wrestling star Val Venis - real name, Sean Morley - revealed in a recent interview in a Canadian college newspaper that he would like to become a spokesman for the Canadian Libertarian Party and build it to "where it can actually be something of a force" in politics.

"As long as you are not violating the life, liberty, or property of someone else, you should be able to do what you want," said the 6"3', 250-pound wrestler, summing up his political philosophy.

Porn star

In the WWF, Morley plays Val Venis, a former porn star-turnedmember of Right To Censor, a tongue-in-cheek puritanical group opposed to the sex and violence that has made the World Wresting Federation a television, merchandising, and pay-per-view money-making behemoth.

But offstage, Morley, a resident of Ontario, says his real "cup



Val Venis: "A criminal violates the life, liberty, or property of another individual."

of tea" is politics - debating libertarianism with other wrestlers, publishing a political newsletter called *Hardball*, and plotting how to turn Canada away from its "socialist" path.

Here some of Morley's comments, taken from from an interview conducted by Peter Jaworski in the January 16 issue of The Queen's University Journal. Ontario, Canada:

On government healthcare: "A socialist health care sys-

tem has never worked on any part of the planet - and it's never going to work."

On guns: "I think everyone should have the right to bear arms. Absolutely. You can never get rid of guns.

"I'll give you a prime example: In Mexico, you're not allowed to carry guns around. You're simply not allowed to. The only people who have guns are criminals and they know that law-abiding citizens don't have guns. So I think criminals feel a lot safer."

On crime: "A criminal should be defined as someone who violates the life, liberty, or property of another individual."

On the Drug War: "How long has that war been going on now? Forty years now? It's just wasting taxpayer's money. I'm not for drugs. I'm totally against them. But if my next door neighbor chooses to smoke dope, well, that's his choice."

On taxes: "A flat tax is still a slave tax. [A] 17% flat tax seems like a good idea, but you're still a slave; you still owe 17% of every dollar you make. So, basically, you don't own your skill, labor, work, and talent."

"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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PNNA(

La king Points The legacy of William J. Clinton and the 'wisdom' of politicians

The Nanny Award

They make the laws and regulations that we have to live by. Sometimes that power goes to their head.

The Honorable Mention Nanny Award for a government bureaucrat or agency that overstepped its authority to trample a personal choice goes to Dr. Rajen Anand, the Director of the USDA's Center for Nutritional Policy and Promotion, for his quote: "People don't have the knowledge or willpower to select the right kind of food.

- GUEST CHOICE NETWORK February 1, 2001

🔳 The Rosie Award

A collection of hypocritical politicians and just plain wackos are featured in the National Rifle Association's first annual Rosie awards, given to what the NRA calls the most hypocritical enemies of the Second Amendment.

Named for talk show hostess Rosie O'Donnell, who demanded a complete ban on handguns and then backed her own bodyguard's application for a permit to carry a concealed handgun, the awards were announced in the February issue of the NRA's America's Freedom magazine.

[Included was the] Associated Black Charities of Baltimore, which rejected a mural of abolitionist Harriet Tubman because it depicted her accurately as carrying a gun.

"We feel that in the year 2000 it is inappropriate for a piece of artwork depicting guns and violence to be displayed on our wall in Baltimore, which had more than 300 murders last year," said Donna Jones-Stanley, the group's executive director, who, the NRA suggested, is unable to differentiate between murder and self-defense.

NEWSMAX.COM January 27, 2001

The Clinton Legacy, I

[According to the] Progressive Review:

• Number of individuals and businesses associated with the Clinton machine who have been convicted or pleaded guilty to crimes: 47.

• Number of these convictions during the Clinton presidency: 33.

• Number of indictments/ misdemeanor charges: 61 • Number of Congressional

witnesses who have pleaded the



BILL CLINTON'S farewell journey on Air Force One involved stripping the plane of china, silverware ... even toothpaste.

Fifth Amendment, fled the country to avoid testifying, or, in the case of foreign witnesses, refused to be interviewed: 122

- JOHN LEO

The Washington Times January 24, 2001

The Clinton Legacy, II

President Clinton's farewell journey on Air Force One involved stripping the plane of everything that wasn't at least loosely tied down. Porcelain china, silverware, salt and pepper shakers, blankets and pillows - even a container of Colgate toothpaste without a presidential seal on it all gone.

- THE WASHINGTON TIMES January 26, 2001

🖬 The Clinton Legacy, III

Turns out you can be sued for sexual harassment for calling a woman "Monica Lewinsky."

A federal judge has ruled that a New York college student can sue her professor for repeatedly referring to her as "Monica." Inbal Hayut, 23, filed suit last May against the State University of New York at New Paltz and her former political science professor, Alex Young [who] made comments such as, "How was your weekend with Bill?" and "Shut up, Monica. I'll give you a cigar later. - THE WASHINGTON POST

February 3, 2001

Sex, 142; NYC, 2

• 144: Number of sex shops operating in New York City in 1998

• 142: Number of sex shops operating in New York City in

2001, two and a half years after a mayoral initiative to shut down one-third of all "adult" businesses within a year.

- TIME, January 15, 2001

Where 40% goes

Two out of every five public school dollars are spent on bureaucracy and overhead, rather than on classroom instruction. - SCHOOL REFORM NEWS

January 2001

And the other 60%

School officials suspended a third-grader who showed his classmates a gun-shaped medallion about the size of a half-dollar.

The boy apparently found the piece of jewelry in a snowbank and brought it to Owen Elementary School in Pontiac, school officials said.

"State law takes precedence and requires us to take action even though it was a toy," said Donna Poag, director of elementary education for the Pontiac School District.

Even though the piece of metal looks like a charm for a necklace, it violates the law. The medallion measures about 1-1/2 inches long and 1-1/2 inches wide, Poag said.

- JOHN WISELY

The Oakland Press

January 12, 2001

Political wisdom

Here are some classic political tickles that issued from the silver tongues of our appointed and anointed representatives:

"I can't believe that we are going to let a majority of people decide what's best for this state." – Louisiana Representative John Travis

"Whaddaya mean nepotism? He's my brother!" - Philadelphia mayor Frank Rizzo, when asked if it wasn't nepotism that he had hired his brother as fire commissioner.

"Statistics show that teen pregnancy drops off significantly

after age 25." - Mary Ann Tebedo, Colorado state representative

"We don't want to open a box of Pandoras." - [Former] New Mexico governor Bruce King

"If English was good enough for Jesus Christ then it's good enough for me." - An Arkansas congressman to the Joint National Committee on Language

- RICHARD LEDERER

Funny Times November 2000

How to end hate crimes

If Matthew Shepard had a gun, he would be alive today. As a new and very sad MTV teledrama reminds us, the 21-year old University of Wyoming student was pistol-whipped, tied to a rural fence and left to die on October 7, 1998. Anatomy of a Hate Crime depicts Shepard as an amiable scholar and his murderers as local delinquents who killed him in a robbery aggravated by scorn for Shepard's homosexuality.

Thankfully, there is no MTV telepic mourning a gay man named Tom. As the National Journal's Jonathan Rauch reported, Tom (who withheld his surname) and a male friend were walking through a dodgy part of San Jose, California when a gang of 20 thugs began taunting them.

"Hey, you f---ing faggots!" one of them yelled. "When we're done with you, they'll never find your bodies." Tom and his pal ran for their lives, with the hoodlums in hot pursuit.

Tom dug into his backpack and yanked out a semi-automatic handgun. He stood beneath a street light brandishing his weapon. His tormentors quickly retreated.

- DEROY MURDOCK

Scripps Howard News Service January 18, 2001

A way of life

Two peas in a pod: Bill Clinton and Dan Rostenkowski. You might not think so at first, but they are. Their appearance is different - Clinton the smooth-talking Rhodes scholar and Rostenkowski the Chicago-tough, deal-cutting politician.

But they are both career politicians whose loyalty, in the end, goes not to the country or the people, but to their gang of career politicians.

We've heard enough blather about Bill Clinton's narcissistic search for a legacy. Well, for my money he cinched it when he gave a presidential pardon to Dan Rostenkowski. What a powerful statement to the nation that political crime pays! Clinton - in addition to his own notorious shortcomings - will forever be Rostenkowski's partner in crime.

Rostenkowski ripped off the public from his lofty 36-year perch on Capitol Hill. He pled guilty to two felony counts of mail fraud to escape from 15 other felony indictments. The judge who sentenced Rosty to prison said, "The guilty pleas don't reflect the breadth of your crimes."

Don't get me wrong. Forgiveness is a wonderful thing. Had Dan Rostenkowski shown remorse for his widespread criminal enterprises in Congress, a pardon might have been warranted.

But Rosty never apologized. He said, "I'm not completely convinced that what I did was wrong. Dispensing gifts to some friends and hiring the children of others was my way of life."

- PAUL JACOB

Common Sense January 15, 2001

The Education Racket

The Oregon Educational Association has taken political combat to an unusual level: It has filed a lawsuit that charges a group of conservative anti-tax activists with . . . racketeering.

Oregon Taxpayers United, the educators' target, has often riled the teachers union by placing conservativé measures on the statewide ballot. Oregonians voted down two of the group's anti-union measures in November, and the teacher's association is suing to recover the \$750,000 it says it spent fighting the measures – or \$2.25 million if treble damages kick in.

THE NATIONAL JOURNAL January 20, 2001

"A little government and a little luck are necessary in life, but only a fool trusts either of them." A little luck may also be needed for Libertarians to succeed in their struggle against a government that's gotten too big, too expensive, and too powerful. But you're no fool. You're not going to count on luck. That's why you should consider bestowing a gift so future generations can continue the struggle...until victory is won. It's easy: Just name the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy. To learn more, call LP Treasurer Mark Tuniewicz at (508) 472-5321. Or e-mail him: Treasurer@LP.org.



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There is no charge for standard shipping. Allow up to 2-3 weeks for delivery. Or: Add \$5 for same-day shipping. Call (202) 333-2008 Ext. 221 for instructions on rush deliveries. Minimum order: 5.00. Orders shipped via UPS; please add \$5 for Post Office bo eliveries. Make checks payable to: Libertarian Party. Federal law occupation, and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. ***** Tax Day Materials

Q'NTY COST "Million Dollar Bill" Literature \$1 Million Tax Day Kit (\$10) Books for Sale Why Government Doesn't Work · Browne Libertarianism In One Lesson · Bergland Ready-to-use Literature Brochure: "Is This the New Political Party ...?" Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy" Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?" Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State" 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?" 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. Tools for Campaigning Libertarian Political Action Booklet Statue of Liberty logo master LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party - Defenders of Liberty" set of seven. Large & Small Banners Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18"h x 5'w) Please check preferred second line: Defenders of Liberty D 1-800-ELECT-US Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12"h x 5'w). Total Due Merchandise Total RUSH handling: Add \$5 for same-day handling RUSH shipping: Call office to arrange Send to a Post Office Box: \$5 extra TOTAL PAYMENT DUE Cash, check, or money order enclosed (No corporate checks!) Bill my Visa [] Bill my MasterCard] Bill my AMEX [] Bill my Discover Card Expires Membership ID# [On label] Occupation



Tax Day Outreach/Rally! the front side looks ant to add

some fun like a Federal Reserve and success to your Tax Day rally this year? Want to spends \$1 million of generate more prospect our money every five names? Want to make your rally more enjoyable for LP volunteers? political party trying Our "\$1,000,000 bill" to change that is the outreach literature will do the trick! is a reply coupon and Printed in green ink, our phone number

Is This the New Politi-

cal Party You've Been

Looking For? Brochure,

2-color (violet & black).

Introductory brochure;

gives a general, friendly

overview of Libertarian

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

/ VOTE LIBERTARIAN.

Red, white, and blue ink

Measures a big 24" x

18". Perfect for LP cam

paigns or rallies.

Cost: \$8.00 each.

PLACE

ORDER

YOUR

sturdy foamboard

Or \$7 for 100

Yard Sign

Party beliefs.

The "\$1,000,000 bill" is one of the most \$1,000,000 note. The popular LP outreach other side explains that devices ever, according the federal government to activists who have used it. Using the line, "How would you like seconds - and the only a million bucks to help pay your taxes?" LP volunteers report that Libertarian Party. There people smile, laugh, and joke when they get it, and even return

to get extra copies HOW TO ORDER: The ***\$1,000,000** Bills" are available for immediate shipment. Cost: \$5 per 100. (Call for rush shipping details.) Or, order the complete "\$1 Million Tax Day" Kit. It includes:

1 A 16-page booklet explaining how to use the "\$1,000,000 bill" to maximize the membership-building potential of your local Tax Day rally. (Also: How to organize a successful rally; how to get publicity; and more.) 2 50 samples of the "\$1 Million Bill" literature.

3 Two versions of camera-ready mechan icals to print the "\$1 Million Bills:" One with the National LP's return address and phone number, and one with a blank area to personalize them with your local LP's contact information.

4 A sample press release for your Tax Day Rally. Price for the complete package: \$10. (The \$1 Million Tax Day Kit will be sent via Priority Mail.)



LP Literature & Books

Why Government Doesn't Work by Harry Browne The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto: Explains why government doesn't work, and why it will never work as well as voluntary solutions. Outlines a Libertarian plan for victory. Hardbound, 245 pages. Cost: \$11.95

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 mustread. Softbound, 158 pages. Cost: \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights? Fullpage 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 phi losophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-andanswer 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

LP Program. 4 pages, blue ink. LP positions on education, jobs, political corruption, health care, and crime plus solutions. Cost: Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100

World's Smallest Political Quiz cards. Perfect for politically homeless" booths. Cost: \$1 for 100



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- Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US (Blue & white.)
- I'm Pro-Choice on Everything! (Red, white, & blue.)

Buttons (Cost: \$1 each or 75¢ each for 5 or more)

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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 a-ready print ads. One (ent ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. Cost: \$3 for set

Large & Small Banners

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

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. ★ Cost: Sample: 50¢ Or \$7 for 100 Or \$7 for 100 Making Your Neigh-Working to Cut Your borhood Safe Again. Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's five-point crime-control program that protects civil liberties - while providing more resources to fight real criminals.



★ Cost: Sample: 50¢

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Your Family Budget?

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black). Looks at how the

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Americans by taking more

in taxes than most families

spend on food, clothing,

and shelter (combined).

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢

Or \$7 for 100

Or \$7 for 100



general audience. ★ Cost: Sample: 50¢

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢

duce the size and cost of government by privatizing government services, abolishing corporate welfare, and ending income taxes. ★ Cost: Sample: 50¢ Or \$7 for 100

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NewsAffiliates

Libertarians mull Bible classes, gun show laws, and ice fishing

CALIFORNIA New laws will only make electrical crisis worse

Governor Gray Davis is making the state's electricity crisis worse by signing legislation that increases government intervention in the electric market, state Libertarians have charged.

On February 1, the Democratic governor signed a bill that allows the state to issue \$10 billion worth of bonds to raise money to buy electric power and sell it to consumers.

"With the stroke of a pen, Gray Davis has created a new power company: GG&E, Government Gas and Electric," said State LP Executive Director **Juan Ros**. "Rather than removing the obstacles that caused this mess in the first place, the governor and Legislature have erected more barriers to real deregulation."

And if the crisis continues, taxpayers could be forced to pay the cost of those bonds, said Ros.

"California has just made a \$10 billion gamble," he said. "If the bonds can't be paid back, taxpayers will be on the hook for the \$10 billion — not counting the \$600 million that has already been spent buying wholesale power."

Davis also issued an emergency order forcing retailers to cut their outdoor lighting in half or face fines of \$1,000 per violation.

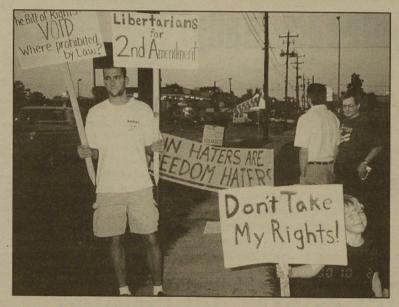
"His order smacks of authoritarianism," said Ros. "Forced conservation does not work. Davis is abusing his power by threatening businesses with hefty fines."

■ COLORADO Debate over Bible class isn't real issue, says LP

A fierce debate about whether a Bible class ought to be taught in public schools merely muddies the real issue, say state Libertarians — whether the government should be in the business of education.

"Would this have ever been a news story if [people] were not trying to use government as a sole provider of education?" asked Colorado LP State Chair **Bette Rose Smith** in mid-January. "Decisions that should be left to the parents are, instead, turned into public debate."

In Westcliffe, a public controversy is raging over whether a high school course entitled "Bible



Standing up for the Second Amendment

Harris County (Texas) Libertarians (clockwise from left) Paul Hansen, Anthony Garcia, and Gaby Coker-Garcia rally for the Second Amendment on October 2, 2000.

The Libertarians were joined by other gun-rights advocates to protest an anti-gun-themed "Unite to End Gun Violence" event at the Houston High School for Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

"While a small crowd of [gun control] supporters inside listened to a panel discuss the 'myth of handgun protection,' our signs and t-shirts drew the attention of the media," said Laura Coker-Garcia, who helped organize the event.

in a Historical and Literary Context" should be taught in a local government-run school.

While some Colorado residents argue that it's a secular course that teaches history, others claim it is a veiled religious class, and inappropriate for a public school.

The solution, said Rose: Let parents, not government, decide.

"Parents should be able to educate their children according to their own beliefs and nobody should be forced to pay for things they find morally offensive," she said. "It is the current public nature of education that puts these two factions at odds [and turns] matters of personal preference into political issues where only one side will win."

MARYLAND Proposed gun show law is "knee-jerk" reaction

A bill to restrict gun shows at government-funded public events in Montgomery County "misses the point," state Libertarians have charged.

County Bill 2-01 would prohibit the sale, transfer, possession, or transportation of weapons within 100 yards of certain exhibition facilities at governmentfunded fairgrounds, and prohibit government funding for any organization that allows gun shows at some exhibition facilities.

But the real question, said Maryland LP State Chair **Steve Boone**, is: Why are tax dollars being used to fund private enterprises, like fairgrounds, in the first place?

"If public funding weren't the issue, people would simply have to choose whether or not to attend these events, all legal, at privately-run facilities," he said. "Instead, because public funding is used, we get bogged down in emotional debates by people with special interests who purport to speak for the rest of us."

This bill, which was being considered by the Montgomery County Council in late January, is the council's "knee-jerk reaction to the protests of folks who would like to see even responsible use of firearms illegal," said Boone.

"The bottom line is, if taxpayers' dollars are used to fund such enterprises, then there should be no favoritism as to which legal events are to be conducted at these facilities," he said.

MICHIGAN County LP scorns new ice fishing legislation

Libertarians in Macomb County are giving the cold shoulder to new legislative proposals to regulate ice fishers.

"If the consequences weren't so dangerous to both our wallets and our liberties, we'd probably just laugh at the antics of our government officials," said Macomb County LP Chair **Diane Barnes** in late January.

The "antics" include, she noted, a \$100,000 federal appropriation to buy a special air boat so authorities can come to the aid of ice fishers "in the rare instances when they become stranded," proposed legislation to fine ice fishermen who must be rescued with the new boat, and a proposed bill to allow local agencies authority to order people off lakes during "unsafe" conditions.

"I am not an ice fisher," said Barnes. "But I can certainly appreciate the frustration of citizens who are not permitted to use their own judgment about the hazards of their leisure time activities.

"I am a taxpayer. And this is a perfect example of the ongoing assault on my wallet by do-gooder politicians. First, they spend a lot of tax money to prepare for highly unusual situations, then they restrict everyone's rights to prevent the very circumstance they claimed justified the expenditure."

MICHIGAN Libertarians honor GOP politician for his "help"

Libertarians in Oakland County have voted to give a Republican politician an unusual recognition — an award for helping to build the Libertarian Party.

On January 16, Oakland County LP Chair **Gary Bora** announced that Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson had won its annual Oakie Award, given to the person who made the greatest contribution to building Libertarian Party membership in the county.

Patterson won the award for his insulting behavior towards people who believe in basic liberties, said Bora.

"Mr. Patterson's recent pronouncement that he wants to 'reign in the far right' in his own party may be the best news we've had since our excellent showing in the last election," he said. "The people that Mr. Patterson calls the 'far right' are really just average citizens who know a pandering politician when they see one."

Patterson also helped convince former Oakland County Republican Paul Champion to join the LP and run against Patterson in the 2000 election, said Bora. Champion joined the LP after receiving a letter from Patterson calling him "an a**hole" for opposing a bill to make it more difficult for people to get a concealed carry permit.

"[That's probably the] reason

fewer and fewer people in Oakland County are voting Republican," said Bora.

County LP helps defeat \$86m tax and bond issue

Libertarians in Washoe County saved taxpayers more than \$86 million by helping to kill a property tax increase and a bond issue last year.

In the November 2000 elections, voters in Sparks killed a pair of property tax increases by 61% to 39% and 59% to 41%, while Washoe County voters rejected a bond issue by 70% to 30%.

Libertarians in Sparks led the fight against two Property Tax Override Questions, S-1 and S-2, which would have increased funding for the police and fire departments said **Tim Hagen**, editor of the *Free Nevada* newsletter.

Washoe County LP Chair Brandan Trainor and former Sparks City Councilman Ernest Walker wrote the ballot arguments against the tax hikes, handed out anti-tax literature, attended neighborhood meetings, and appeared on local radio and TV in opposition to S-1 and S-2, said Hagen.

Trainor also spearheaded the opposition of an \$86 million bond issue to build a new Justice Center — defeating "the political establishment of Washoe County," said Hagen. "The entire political establishment wound up with omelet on its face, while the Libertarian Party positioned itself again as the taxpayers' friend."

NEVADA LP officeholder stops snooping zoning grant

A state Libertarian won a "small but significant victory" in January, when he cut off funding for a "Gestapo-style" zoning enforcement program.

Chris Azzaro, the vice chairman of the North Las Vegas Citizens Advisory Committee, convinced fellow committee members to kill a \$200,000 grant request from the city's Code Enforcement Department.

The money would have allowed "officers to drive around older neighborhoods looking for [zoning code] violations and ticketing people, even if there were no complaints," said Azzaro.

"[I gave] an impassioned plea," he said. "I pointed out that we are supposed to use these funds to help low to moderate income people, not harass them.

"I told them that we did not need Gestapo-style cops peeking over fences and making people's lives miserable. I pointed out that it was none of the business of the



government to tell people what to do on their own property if none of the neighbors are complaining." The Advisory Committee

voted 4-3 to kill the grant. "These are the types of small, but significant victories we Libertarians can win at the local level," said Azzaro.

New HAMPSHIRE State LP: Keep control of schools at the local level

Granite State residents want "TLC (Total Local Control)" over schools — and no new state taxes to fund education.

That's the analysis of **Ken Blevens**, the Education Committee Chair of the New Hampshire LP, after state politicians again began debating ways to solve the state's education "crisis" in late January.

"This is not a funding problem, it is not an education problem, and it is not a constitutional crisis," said Blevens. "It is a power problem. It is about power and control by politicians."

At issue: A state Supreme Court ruling that local funding of schools is unconstitutional, since it creates unequal educational opportunities between rich and poor towns. The court ruled that the state government must ensure an "adequacy" of education.

The solution proposed by Blevens: State politicians should set that "adequacy" level at zero.

"Setting the adequacy level to zero relieves the state of further liability," he said. "The voters in each community will control their taxes — not Concord politicians."

New Jersey LP joins fights to stop bill limiting campaign funds

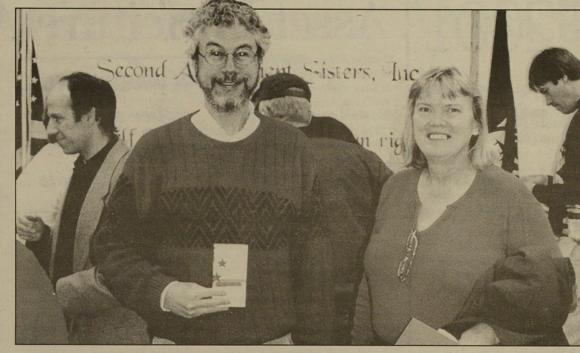
State Libertarians have joined a lobbying campaign to kill a bill that would make it more difficult for third-party candidates to qualify for campaign matching funds.

On January 26, several Libertarians attended a press conference sponsored by the Coalition of Alternative Political Parties (CAPP) at the State House in Trenton to speak out against S1985, which they described as "a self-serving vehicle of special interested politics."

The bill would change state law to exclude out-of-state contributions from being matched by state government money, and would make reporting requirements for small contributions more onerous. The bill is widely seen as a reaction against 1997 LP gubernatorial candidate **Murray Sabrin**, who received hundreds of thousands of dollars in state matching funds by raising money from Libertarians around the country.

But out-of-state money can create a "more open inclusive dialogue than the deep-pocket contributions of in-state special interests," said state LP Treasurer Lou Steffanelli.

"It seems the height of hypoc-



Celebrating the Bill of Rights in Colorado

■ Colorado Libertarian Tom Parker — shown here with Lori Van Buren — displays his copy of the U.S. Constitution at the Bill of Rights Day celebration in Loveland on December 15. In all, about 100 people attended the event, which was designed to draw attention to the civil liberties guaranteed to Americans in the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution.

Speakers included *Colorado Liberty* newsletter editor Ari Armstrong, who, echoing Harry Browne, said, "Either the Constitution means what it says, or it means nothing at all."

Other speakers included County Commissioner Tom Bender, high school student Jesse Schleiger, Second Amendment Sisters coordinator Sue Rehg, and Sheriff Jim Alderden.

risy to let the political power brokers discriminate against small grassroots contributors," he said.

And LP gubernatorial candidate **Mark Edgerton** asked, "Who would you rather set the stage of public dialogue: The 200 fat cats for the two major parties who ante up the \$2,600 maximum contribution, or thousands of grassroots people who don't benefit from political privilege, who can barely spare a few dollars?"

New York More money, studies not answers to NYC's woes

Proposals from a New York City politician to increase funding for government-run schools and to track police treatment of minorities are not "real solutions to the city's most pressing problems," the Manhattan LP has charged.

The proposals — unveiled on January 17 by New York City Council Speaker Peter J. Vallones — would do nothing to stop racial profiling or improve failing government schools, said **Jim Lesczynski**, the Manhattan LP media relations director.

"Instead of fresh thinking, [Vallones] gave us the same old big-government nonsense," said Lesczynski. "More statistics will tell New Yorkers nothing we don't already know. We already know minorities are subject to mistreatment, almost always in the name of the war on drugs. The quickest way [is to] put an end to the insane drug war."

And rather than spend another \$500 million in taxpayers' money for schools, parents should "be empowered to remove their children from" failing public schools, said Lesczynski.

"Calling for increased fund-

ing for government schools is also nothing new, but it has failed time and again to improve the quality of our children's education," he said. "The answer is not more money for the city's schools, but school choice."

TENNESSEE Committee of 66 works for major party status

State Libertarians have set up a new group — The Committee of 66 — to win lasting ballot status and the right to run candidates with the "Libertarian" label.

The goal of the Committee of 66 is to collect about 25,000 certified signatures of registered voters, which must be submitted by November, said party webmaster, **Steve Trinward**.

The signatures would qualify the Libertarian Party as an "official" political party in the state.

The Committee of 66 is now recruiting two volunteers to coordinate petition gathering in each of Tennessee's 33 State Senatorial districts — "thus, the name Committee of 66," said Trinward.

VERMONT

New bill "sells out" state gunowners, charges LP

Republicans have "sold out gunowners" by introducing a bill that "would restrict the rights of gun ownership," Vermont Libertarians have charged.

H.97, introduced by a Republican State Rep., would outlaw the possession of a gun by people convicted of non-violent felonies.

The bill is a "clear betrayal of Vermont gun owners," said State Chair **Scott Berkey**. "Libertarians believe our rights to self-defense and of gun ownership are so fundamental that they should only be abridged in cases of a blatant violation of such rights."

Noting that Vermont has no gun-control laws and one of the lowest crime rates in the nation — the bill is "a solution in search of problem," said Berkey.





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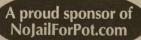
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Libertarian news, notes, & tidbits

■ Attacking the death machine: In Washington, DC, a group called S.A.N.D. defaced the **Cato Institute**'s headquarters over Inaugural weekend in January. The group smeared the office building with acid and paint, leaving a note that read: "The invisible hand of laissez faire capitalism that the Cato Institute so highly touts is in reality the invisible hand that cranks the gears of the death machine." Also in Washington, DC, the **Libertarian Party** headquarters received a piece of mail that was addressed to: "Disneyland on the Potomac 20037."

■ In Ohio, **Don Jaynes** was elected Chair of the Northwest Ohio Libertarians. In Washington state, **Matthew Dunning** was elected Chair of the Lewis County LP. In Indiana, the Hendricks County LP has become the state's 18th local affiliate. In New Mexico, **Frank Martin** was appointed Chair of the Grant County LP. And in Maryland, **Chip Spangler** was appointed as the state party's new webmaster.

■ Want to find out what freedom event happened today? Visit www.mises.org/2001.pdf and download the **Mises Institute Freedom Calendar** for 2001. It features "days that matter in the history of liberty" — birth dates of great economists, tax revolts in Colonial America, the end of Prohibition, and more. Interested in joining an "online libertarian community"? Visit: http://communities.msn.com/TheLibertarianParty.

■ The January 2000 issue of *Revolution* magazine (circulation: 75,000) included a mention of the **Chicago Libertarian Party**, and reprinted its Social Security advertisement (originally designed to be run on the Chicago Transit Authority trains). In California, past State Chair and U.S. Senate candidate **Gail Lightfoot** is organizing the California Liberty PAC to raise money for local candidates running in 2002.

Cupid Shrugged: In Hawaii, Libertarians celebrated Valentine's Day (February 14) by

screening the film, *The Passion of Ayn Rand*. In New Jersey, **Ned Kelley**, founder of the Califon Karate Academy, will give a talk on March 14 on "The Tao of Liberty," discussing the similarities "between Eastern concepts of self-defense and the noninitiation of force and the political philosophy of libertarianism."

■ In Michigan, **Chris Pellerito** was elected Chair of the Oakland County LP. In California, **Saul Rackauskas** was elected chairman of the Ventura County LP, while the Santa Barbara LP selected **Colin Hayward** as chairman. In North Carolina, **Candi Copas** is serving on the state's Election Law Revision Commission. And in Iowa, Roland City Council member **Roger Fritz** was appointed Mayor Pro Tem on January 22. Fritz recently convinced the city to stop funding the county's DARE program.

■ Making sense of Maher: The February 2001 issue of *Brill's Content* has a profile of **Bill Maher**, the host of ABC's *Politically Incorrect*. Speculating about Maher's political beliefs, the magazine notes: "He identifies himself as a Libertarian, but *Vogue* has called him a 'conservative pit-viper,' while the conservative *National Review* says he 'plays by the Left's rules,' and *Vanity Fair* deems him a 'throbbing-boner libertarian.' The truth is that Maher is all of those and none of them. More of a libertine than a libertarian, Maher resents all government regulation of morality. The rest of his politics are syncretic and postpartisan." Oh. Thanks for clearing that up.

■ In Michigan: Ottawa County LP Chair **Jason C. Miller** has announced plans to run for a spot on the Hudsonville Public Schools Board of Education. Election date: June 11. **David Eisenbacher** announced he is a candidate for Troy City Council. And **Ray Kirkus**, chairman of the Berrien County LP, has begun collecting signatures to get on the ballot as a candidate for New Buffalo City Council. Election date: March 12.

■ In New Jersey, Ned Kelley has announced plans to run for Township Committee in Lebanon Township; Jennifer Collins and Jay Edgar will run for Monmouth County Freeholder; Jay Boucher will be a candidate for Monmouth County Surrogate; and Robert Hull will run for State Assembly (11th District). The New Jersey LP hopes to run a full slate of Assembly candidates this year, reports Political Director Bill Schetlick. If they garner 10% of the vote, the LP wins "major party" status.

Asset Forfeiture Abuse

Continued from Page 1 or even hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of property. Totally innocent Americans are losing their cars, homes and businesses, based on the claims of anonymous informants that illegal transactions took place on their property. Once property is seized, it is virtually impossible to get it back.

Property is now being seized in every state and from every social group. Seizures include pocket money confiscated from public-housing residents in Florida; cars taken away from men suspected of soliciting prostitutes in Oregon; and homes taken away from ordinary, middle class Americans whose teenage children are accused of selling a few joints of marijuana. No person and no property is immune from seizure. You could be the next victim.

Here are some examples:

■ In Washington, DC, police stop black men on the streets in poor areas of the city, and "routinely confiscate small amounts of cash and jewelry." Most confiscated property is not even recorded by police departments. "Resident Ben Davis calls it 'robbery with a badge." [USA Today]

■ In Iowa, "a woman accused of shoplifting a \$25 sweater had her \$18,000 car — specially equipped for her handicapped daughter — seized as the 'getaway vehicle.'" [USA Today]

Detroit drug police raided a grocery store, but failed to find any drugs. After drug dogs reacted to three \$1.00 bills in the cash register, the police seized \$4,384 from cash registers and the store safe. According to the Pittsburgh Press, over 92% of all cash in circulation in the U.S. now shows some drug residue.

■ In Monmouth, New Jersey, Dr. David Disbrow was accused of practicing psychiatry without a license. His crime was providing counseling services from a spare bedroom in his mother's house. Counseling does not require a license in New Jersey.

That didn't stop police from seizing virtually everything of value from his mother's home, totaling over \$60,000. The forfeiture squad confiscated furniture, carpets, paintings, and even personal photographs.

■ Kathy and Mark Schrama were arrested just before Christmas 1990 at their home in New Jersey. Kathy was charged with taking \$500 worth of UPS packages from neighbors' porches. Mark was charged with receiving stolen goods. If found guilty, they might have paid a small fine and

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IN WASHINGTON, police stop black men on the street and confiscate cash and jewelry.

received probation.

The day after their arrest, their house, cars, and furniture were seized. Based upon mere accusation, \$150,000 in properly was confiscated, without trial or indictment. Police even took their clothing, eyeglasses, and Christmas presents for their son.

The incentive for government agencies to expand forfeiture is enormous. Agencies can easily seize property and they usually keep what they take. According to the *Pittsburgh Press*, 80% of seizure victims are never even charged with a crime. Law enforcement agencies often keep the best seized cars, watches, and TVs for their departments, and sell the rest.

How extensive are seizures in America today?

The Washington Post has reported that the U.S. Marshals Service alone had an inventory of over \$1.4 billion in seized assets, including over 30,000 cars, boats, homes, and businesses.

The FDA

Federal and state agencies seizing property now include the FBI, the DEA, the U.S. Marshals Service, the Coast Guard, the IRS, local police, state highway patrols, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the FDA, and the Bureau of Land Management.

Asset forfeiture is a growth industry. Seizures have increased from \$27 million in 1986, to over See FORFEITURE Page 11



The Time to Act Is Now!

In New Jersey, they have a matching funds program for Governor. It accomplishes two things . . .

A) If I can raise \$260,000 in contributions, they will match us nearly at a two-to-one ratio!

B) If we reach this goal, we will be included in the televised debates come this fall!

Whatever you can afford to send today will be a big help. Just imagine: A contribution of \$500 would mean a contribution of \$1,500 to the campaign — and would help us get into the televised debates. The legal limit in New Jersey is \$2,600 for each individual and/or corporations; \$5,200 with spouses.

Contributions: Make checks payable to "Edgerton for Governor." You must include the following information, as required by New Jersey law.

City	State	Zip
Phone		Signature
Employer		
Saint Street Street Freetow	A MAR STREET	
Employer's Address	and the second second	and the second s



Asset Forfeiture: Looting America

Continued from Page 10 \$644 million in 1991 to over \$2 billion today.

Civil asset forfeiture defines a new standard of justice in America; or more precisely, a new standard of injustice. Under civil seizure, property, not an individual is charged with an offense. Even if you are a totally innocent owner, the government can still confiscate your "guilty" property.

Proven guilty

If government agents seize your property under civil asset forfeiture, you can forget about being innocent until proven guilty, due process of law, the right to an attorney, or even the right to trial. All of those rights only exist if you are charged with a criminal offense; that is, with an offense which could result in your imprisonment.

If you (or your property) are accused of a civil offense (offenses which could not result in your imprisonment), the Supreme Court has ruled that you have no





presumption of innocence, no right to an attorney, and no protection from double jeopardy.

Seizure occurs when government takes away your property. Forfeiture is when legal title is permanently transferred to the state. To get seized property returned, you have to fight the full resources of your state or federal government; sometimes both!

You have to prove your property's "innocence" by documenting how you earned every cent used to pay for it. You have to prove that neither you nor any of your family members ever committed an illegal act involving the property.

To get a trial, you have to post

a non-refundable "bond" of 10% of the value of your property. You have to pay attorney fees ranging from \$5,000 to over \$100,000 - out of your own pocket. Money you pay your attorney is also subject to seizure (either before or after the trial) if the government alleges that those funds were

"tainted." And you may be forced to go through trial after trial, because under civil seizure the Constitutional protection against "double jeopardy" doesn't apply.

Impoverished

Once your property is seized, expect to spend years fighting government agencies and expect to be impoverished by legal fees with no guarantee of winning while the government keeps your car, home, and bank account.

In fact, in a recent Supreme Court decision (Bennis v. Michigan), the Court said explicitly that innocent owners can be deprived of their property if it is used to facilitate a crime, even without

the owner's knowledge or consent. That means you can now lose your home or business because of the action of employees, relatives, or guests, over whom you have absolutely no control.

Not only do police and prosecutors have the power to seize anything you own on the slightest pretext, they also have the incentive. The dirty little secret of the forfeiture racket is that police, prosecutors, and judges can benefit personally by stealing your property

Brenda Grantland - a leading asset forfeiture defense attorney - gives these examples of government greed in her book Your House Is Under Arrest.

 Suffolk County, New York. District Attorney James M. Catterton drives around in a BMW 735I that was seized from an alleged drug dealer. He spent \$3,412 from the forfeiture fund for mechanical and body work, including \$75 for pin-striping.

Warren County, New Jersey. The assistant chief prosecutor drives a confiscated yellow Corvette

Little Compton, Rhode Island. The seven-member police force received \$3.8 million from the federal forfeiture fund, and spent it on such things as a new 23-foot boat with trailer and new Pontiac Firebirds.

But that's just the tip of the iceberg. The head of one Los Angeles police forfeiture squad claims his group personally pocketed over \$60 million in seized property.

Why do our courts tolerate these outrageous legalized thefts? Because they get their cut. It's completely legal for confiscated property to be used by police, prosecutors, and judges, so long as it's for official business. In 1996, a federal district court even ruled that police can personally receive 25% of the value of any confiscated home, car, or business.

National park

In Malibu, California, park police tried repeatedly to buy the home and land of 61-year-old, retired rancher Don Scott, which was next to national park land. Scott refused.

On the morning of October 2, 1992, a task force of 26 LA county sheriffs, DEA agents and other cops broke into Scott's living room See ASSETSPage 12

Corrections

■ In the February 2001 issue of LP News, the review of the movie Traffic was reprinted from the December 22, 2000 issue of The Week Online, published by the Drug Reform Coordination Network (DRCNet).

In the same issue, in the Pulse column, Thomas Sowell won 6.5% of the vote for his third-place finish.

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CAN-DO: Elected ONE of the country's 57 legislators in our first electoral run in 1998, attorney Otto Guevara, a Harvard graduate. Also gained permanent nationwide ballot access. In the U.S. and

elsewhere the road to liberty is long and difficult. But through

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your financial contributions you can join the worldwide team that is making it happen in Costa Rica.

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CAN-DO: For the third consecutive year Otto has been chosen best Congressman by 80% of news media people. And we average 3.9 newspaper citations daily. The libertarian position is now part of every political debate in Costa Rica.

CAN-DO: Otto was named best Congressman in all six nationwide polls since 1998. A projection of the latest one shows that libertarians have a good chance of electing 6-8 out of 57 Congressmen.

CAN-DO: in that poll, even before declaring his imminent candidacy or doing any publicity, Otto got 7.5% of the presidential preference. The top-rated candidate only got 22.5% after 3 years of



potential for the February 2002 elections. But our openly libertarian educational and electoral campaign must be media-intensive, which is costly everywhere, and as

funds. With a strong campaign we have an outside chance of winning the Presidency in 2002. But we certainly will by 2006 if we can elect many Congressmen next year.

At long last, let all the world's libertarians join hands to achieve the libertarian dream in one country, so it can spread everywhere!

All this indicates great

libertarians we don't accept government

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Yes! I want to financially support making the libertarian dream come true in Costa Rica so it can spread everywhere. Sign me up as a proud member of Costa Rica's CAN-DO libertarian team! **CONTRIBUTION CHECK** I have enclosed my check for \$ Make checks payable to: Movimiento Libertario, SJO 1410, P.O. Box 25216, Miami, FL 33102-5216 CREDIT CARD PAYMENT □ VISA □ MasterCard □ AmericanExpress (check one) Please charge \$_ MONTHLY/QUARTERLY PLEDGE _ to be charged (cbeck one): I pledge \$ ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly installments of \$____ EXPIRES: SIGNATURE NAME: ADDRESS. FAX: EMAIL **PRIVACY** Please do not exchange my name with other organizations Email newsletter: Contact us at candoteam@libertario.org ------

a costly publicity campaign. individuals and entities in any amount (see our website)

Seizing Assets

Continued from Page 11 unannounced. When he heard his wife, Frances, scream, he came out of his upstairs bedroom with a gun over his head. Police yelled at him to lower his gun. He did, and they shot him dead.

Police claimed to be searching for marijuana, which they never found. Ventura County DA Michael Bradbury concluded the raid was "motivated at least in part by a desire to seize and forfeit the ranch for the government ... [The] search warrant became Donald Scott's death warrant."

Outrageous

As police confiscations become more and more outrageous, opposition has been mounting. California and several other states defeated draconian forfeiture laws a few years ago, and the Supreme Court rendered several hopeful decisions. In 2000, Congress passed what author James Bovard described as a "largely hollow reform measure" that left the playing field "heavily tilted in the government's favor."

No wonder, then, that federal, state, and local governments are again expanding confiscation with little concern for justice. The latest targets: Doctors who resist government-controlled medicine . . . Businesses that employ illegal aliens (who sew most clothing and harvest many crops) . . . and gun owners.

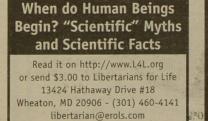
Anything you own now can be seized at any time. Every week, over 5,000 innocent Americans lose their cars, bank accounts, homes or businesses, without ever being charged with a crime.

Protect yourself

What can you do to protect yourself? Read books like Brenda Grantland's *Your House Is Under Arrest*. Demand of your representatives why they're voting for these outrageous laws. Speak out on talk radio, through letters, newspaper editorials, and Internet forums.

Contribute to groups that are fighting police confiscation, like the International Society for Individual Liberty, the Libertarian Party, and Forfeiture Endangers American Rights (FEAR).

The fight against civil asset forfeiture is a battle for your freedom and property. If confiscation isn't stopped, liberty and justice will soon be fading memories. Help stop the looting of America now, before it's too late.



■ About the author: Jarret B. Wollstein is a member of the International Society for Individual Liberty's Board of Directors and a founder of the original Society for Individual Liberty. This essay is reprinted with permission, and is available in brochure form from ISIL. Call: (707) 746-8796. Or visit: www.isil.org.

For more information about forfeiture, contact: Forfeiture Endangers American Rights. Call: (888) FEAR-001 (332-7001). Write: P.O. Box 33985, Washington, DC 20033-3985. Or visit: www.fear.org.

Steve Dasbach is new COFOE chair

Continued from Page 3 transcends the fact that its members disagree on almost every political issue, said Dasbach.

"All of the parties are united on issues of fair and open elections, so political issues where we disagree rarely come up," he said.

As chairman, Dasbach will work with a Socialist vice chair, a Prohibitionist secretary, and a Socialist treasurer.

At its January 14 meeting, COFOE also decided to promote a ballot initiative to reform Oklahoma's "backward election law." The initiative would reduce by 80% the number of signatures required to get candidates on the state ballot.

100,000 signatures

The coalition voted unanimously to recommend that its member parties jointly sponsor the initiative, which will require about 100,000 signatures to qualify for the 2002 ballot and cost at least \$170,000.

Law School

The initiative would allow Oklahoma voters to reduce ballot access requirements from 5% of the last election's vote to just 1%.

"The problem is that Oklahoma Republicans and Democrats write ballot laws that — surprise! — favor Republicans and Democrats," said Dasbach. "I'm pleased that other parties seem interested in joining together to reduce this barrier to participation in the political process."



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Sun.	Mar. 18	MINNEAPOLIS, MN	Sheraton Inn Minneapolis Airport 2500 E. 79th St. Bloomington (952) 854-1771
Sat.	Mar. 24	TUCSON, AZ	Mimi's Cafe, Sat. Morning Breakfast Club 120 S. Wilmot, Tucson, AZ (520) 747-7273
Sun.	Mar. 25	DALLAS, TX	Ramada Inn Texas Stadium, Love Field 1055 Regal Row, Dallas TX (214) 634-8550
Sat.	Mar 31	OAKLAND, CA	Executive Inn, 2077 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward, CA (510) 732-6300
Sun.	Apr. 1	SAN JOSE, CA	Hanford Hotel, 1755 North First Street San Jose, CA (408) 453-3133
Sat/Sun.	Apr. 7/8	FREEDOM RALLY	Atrium Hotel, 18700 MacArthur Blvd. Irvine, CA (949(833-2770
Sat.	Apr. 21	DETROIT, MI	Four Points Sheraton Detroit Metro • 8800 Wickham Rd., Romulus, MI (734) 729-9000
Sun.	Spr. 22	CHICAGO, IL	Marriott Schaumburg, 50 N. Martingale Road Schaumburg, IL (847) 240-0111

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A report on the party's goals, accomplishments,

shortcomings, and finances in 2000

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FROM THE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

2000: A look back

Dear friends and colleagues:

The year 2000 brought several successes upon which we can build. However, we also experienced some major disappointments during the year. The purpose of this report is to provide you with information about Libertarian Party accomplishments and shortcomings last year; more information can be found in the accompanying material.

Some notable successes:

Nearly 1,440 LP candidates ran for office during 2000; 34 LP candidates were elected. Both of these numbers are records for the party. 256 LP candidates ran for the House of Representatives; for the first time in 80 years, a political party other than the Democrats and Republicans were able to run House candidates in a majority of districts.

Over three million voters cast at least one vote for a Libertarian candidate. LP candidates clearly influenced the outcomes of some major elections, such as the U.S. Senate race in Washington.

Several state organizations experienced substantial growth in terms of number of candidates, number of Libertarians in office, influence in matters of public policy, or other types of useful political activity. Other state parties which heretofore were basically dormant were reenergized due to the work of dedicated activists. (In some cases, it took only one or two people willing to do the spadework to revive an organization.)

Also, promising new projects designed to recruit and elect candidates are being developed and evaluated. California's "Operation Breakthrough," organized by Aaron Starr, is an outstanding example of such projects.

We are seeing more high-quality city and county organizations that are making progress in their communities. I had the pleasure of visiting a few of these communities last year; it is exciting to see the potential for success by these organizations.

Our campus organizing efforts are slowly but surely bearing fruit. Due to the fine work of activists such as Marc Brandl, Scott Kjar, and many others, at last report we now have campus contacts on over 160 colleges and universities. While some of these contacts serve only as a conduit for those seeking more information about the LP and Libertarian positions, many of the contacts represent groups that are very active, both on campus and in their communities.

(Not all of the groups are partisan LP organizations; some are more oriented toward educating people about Libertarian ideas.)

With the exception of the "prestige press" mentioned below, attention from media organizations increased with respect to both quantity and quality. Note that Mr. Dasbach touches upon this in his report.

Some notable disappointments:

While a record number of candidates ran for office in 2000, See CHAIRMAN Page 14

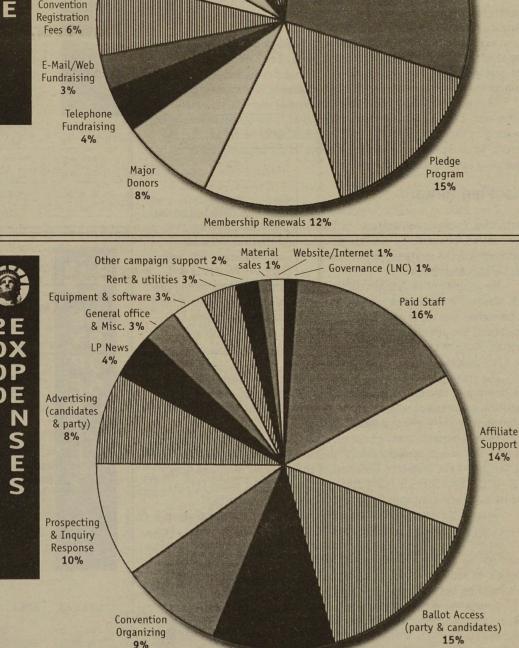


LP NATIONAL

CHAIR

6% 28% OV OE Convention Fundraising N 4% U E Convention Registration Fees 6% E-Mail/Web Fundraising 3% Telephone Fundraising 4% Major Donors 8% Membership Renewals 12% Website/Internet 1% Material Other campaign support 2% sales 1% - Governance (LNC) 1% (T Rent & utilities 3% Equipment & software 3% Paid Staff General office 16% 2E & Misc. 3% OX LP News 4% OP OE Advertising N (candidates & party) SES 8% Prospecting & Inquiry Response

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HQ Fundraising Expense 10%

2000 ANNUAL REPORT

List Rental 2%

Material Sales 2%

Direct Mail

House List

LP News

White Mail & Misc. 2%

Website

Dues Via State Affiliates 2%

Prospect

& Inquiry

Response

★ FROM THE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

Continued from Page 13

none of our candidates for federal or state offices was elected. We had hoped to have ballot status in 28-31 states following the elections. Instead, we ended the year with ballot status in 25 states. (In the case of West Virginia, we were heartbreakingly close to retention of ballot status.)

The number of members and contributors, which serves as an indicator of the effectiveness of our efforts, leveled off during 2000. This is particularly disappointing, since party membership usually grows during presidential election years.

■ A longstanding factional problem in Arizona continues. A result of this problem was a decision by the Arizona Libertarian Party against naming Harry Browne as the Libertarian presidential candidate on the Arizona ballot.

■ The Browne-Olivier presidential ticket received significantly fewer votes in 2000 than did the Browne-Jorgensen ticket in 1996. Most of the attention given by the "prestige press" (*Washington Post, New York Times, Los Angeles Times,* ABC, CBS, CNN, and NBC) to presidential candidates other than Mr. Bush and Mr. Gore went to Ralph Nader.

Also, my impression is that there was less agitation to include the LP presidential ticket in the debates than in 1996. (I saw surprisingly little agitation to include anyone other than Mr. Bush and Mr. Gore in the presidential debates.)

One area of great concern to me is the extent to which the LNC fell short with respect to several of its goals for 2000. (Please see the accompanying list for details.)

In some cases, such as failure to achieve 50 state + DC ballot status for the presidential ticket, the cause (the factional problems in Arizona) of the failure is easy to identify.

In other cases, such as the membership goals, proximate causes can be identified (funds budgeted to generate membership growth were used to deal with other important time-sensitive matters). However, these proximate causes may be manifestations of more fundamental problems.

At this time, I don't know whether some of our failures were ultimately due to poor leadership on my part, poor planning and goal setting by the LNC, failure by staff, bad luck, or other factors. In any event, we must make many improvements, including our procedures for planning and program evaluation.

Looking forward

I see 2001 as a year in which we take the time to reflect upon our activities, improve our strategy, tactics, and operations, and lay the foundation for success. I am especially hopeful that the systems analysis and the strategic planning processes now underway will help us lay this foundation.

We should not underestimate the magnitude of the task facing the LP. We must acknowledge a fundamental selection bias problem: most Libertarians don't like politics. Too many Libertarians (including LP members) are unwilling to become involved in purposeful political action. Most LP organizations have far too much work being done by far too few people.

The Libertarian message of individual liberty and personal responsibility resonates with many people, but it must compete in the political marketplace with an enticing "something for nothing" hook promoted by many of our political competitors.

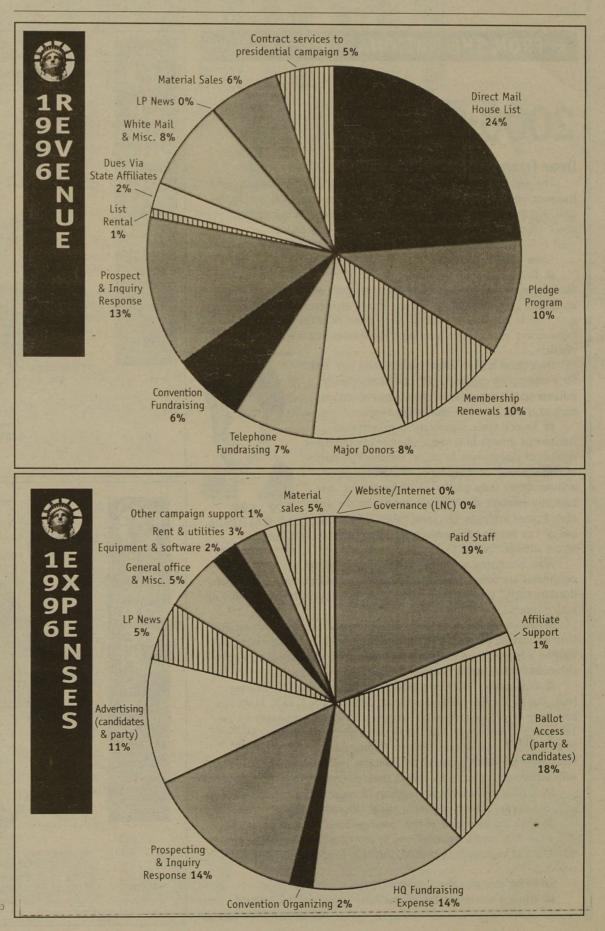
For the present, many of our candidates face the "wasted vote" issue. (This was apparently a major problem for the Browne/Olivier ticket, given the projected closeness of the votes for Bush and Gore.)

Of course, there are many other problems such as ballot access restrictions and campaign finance laws that hinder our efforts.

Despite these problems, I am optimistic about the coming years. I have confidence in the power of our ideas and the quality of our members. As the eminent moral philosopher and football coach Woody Hayes

used to say, "You win with people." We have thousands of talented, dedicated activists throughout the U.S. who through their hard work are building the LP.

Among these activists are the LP national staff and my LNC teammates, who labor at great personal expense to build a free and responsible America. It is an honor and a pleasure to work closely with such champions of liberty. al perfected scale of the second scale of See page 15 for a Balance Sheet summary of the Libertarian Party's expenses and revenues, 1996-2000. Below, for comparison purposes, are pie charts of the Libertarian Party's revenues and expenses from the last presidential campaign year (1996).



Balance Sh	ieet Sui	mmary			
DATE	12/31/96	12/31/97	12/31/98	12/31/99	12/31/00
Assets	\$25,003	\$112,506	\$49,628	\$39,142	\$111,169
Liabilities	\$118,006	\$87,049	\$197,596	\$74,514	\$22,768
Net Worth	\$(93,003)	\$25,457	\$(147,968)	\$(35,371)	\$88,400
Gain (Loss)	\$(89,621)	\$118,460	\$(173,425)	\$112,597	\$123,771
AND LNC Power		nonco			
Summary 2					
LNC Revenue	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Revenue from HQ Fundraising					
Direct Mail - House List	\$495,227	\$443,237	\$340,600	\$622,739	\$969,496
Pledge Program	\$212,471	\$378,846	\$493,601	\$493,811	\$502,661
Membership Renewals	\$216,110	\$243,318	\$335,277	\$434,822	\$443,710
Major Donors	\$165,806	\$308,906	\$110,584	\$166,518	\$292,003
Telephone Fundraising	\$155,876	\$173,058	\$99,331	\$72,427	\$135,793
Email/Web Fundraising Subtotal HQ	\$—	\$-	\$39,867	\$42,076	\$110,080
Fundraising Revenue	\$1,245,490	\$1,547,365	\$1,419,260	\$1,832,393	\$2,453,743
Other Revenue		and the			
Convention Registration Fees	\$-	\$-	\$169,720	\$-	\$242,145
Convention Fundraising	\$126,485	\$-	\$29,387	\$-	\$130,034
Prospecting & Inquiry Response	\$268,148	\$181,051	\$513,451	\$439,459	\$229,285
Website	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$47,795	\$109,880
List Rental	\$31,036	\$18,730	\$18,664	\$21,760	\$87,562
Dues Via State Affiliates White Mail & Misc	\$48,793	\$64,945	\$86,138	\$95,372	\$84,396
LP News	\$178,628 \$7,264	\$99,689	\$70,154	\$132,466	\$82,095
Material Sales	\$134,520	\$21,119 \$52,860	\$47,516 \$75,428	\$55,200 \$45,877	\$80,985 \$76,502
Contract Services/Pres. Campaign	\$134,520	\$	\$75,420	\$-	\$
Subtotal Other Revenue	\$906,375	\$438,394	\$1,010,457	\$837,929	\$1,122,885
Total Revenue	\$2,151,865	\$1,985,759	\$2,429,716	\$2,670,322	\$3,576,627
INC Exponsos					
LNC Expenses	¢201 220	¢504 605	¢/75.000	¢/00 117	¢57/ 507
Paid Staff	\$391,228 \$30,593	\$504,685	\$475,009	\$489,117	\$574,507
Affiliate Support Ballot Access (Party & Candidates)	\$371,826	\$209,909 \$34,390	\$320,821 \$79,164	\$483,170 \$86,148	\$525,377 \$507,105
HQ Fundraising Expenses	\$319,482	\$396,777	\$387,379	\$249,193	\$356,602
Convention Organizing	\$41,006	\$1,389	\$160,386	\$7,425	\$314,698
Prospecting & Inquiry Response	\$311,893	\$254,118	\$705,945	\$693,661	\$335,660
Advertising (Candidates & Party)	\$254,276	\$34,226	\$25,033	\$-	\$262,273
LP News	\$102,770	\$128,231	\$105,540	\$129,026	\$135,253
General Office & Misc	\$122,148	\$111,645	\$112,548	\$125,182	\$110,099
Software & Equipment	\$55,531	\$69,009	\$99,574	\$108,002	\$90,001
Rent & Utilities	\$72,828	\$76,968	\$84,957	\$83,289	\$88,699
Other Campaign Support	\$27,067	\$2,902	\$19,503	\$6,705	\$55,549
Material Sales	\$113,622	\$17,906	\$6,240	\$38,139	\$45,952
Website/Internet	\$2,625	\$2,538	\$2,977	\$49,609	\$33,136
Governance (LNC)	\$9,345	\$31,751	\$25,813	\$30,722	\$31,401
Total Expenses	\$2,226,240	\$1,876,444	\$2,610,890	\$2,579,388	\$3,466,310
NET INCOME	\$(90,664)	\$117,027	\$(176,294.40)	\$90,933.55	\$110,317
2156 24%	A CALL OF THE PARTY OF	tion dig miring			

1996-2000 LNC

★ REVIEW OF 2000 GOALS

2000: LNC Goals

he following are the goals for 2000 adopted by the LNC at its meeting of December 11-12, 1999, along with notes on how things actually turned out. Additional information and commentaries relating to some of these goals may be found in the accompanying statements by the Chair, Treasurer, and National Director, and in the graphs.

Core Goals

■ Goal: To achieve 50-state plus DC ballot access for the presidential ticket, either on a party or independent basis.

■ Outcome: The Browne/Olivier ticket appeared on the ballot in 49 states plus DC. As a result of the unresolved dispute in Arizona, different names were listed as the Libertarian ticket in that state.

■ Goal: To field at least 218 candidates for the U.S. House. ■ Outcome: There were 255

candidates on the ballot for U.S. House, plus a candidate for Delegate (non-voting representative) from D.C.

■ Goal: To achieve by June 30, 2000 a minimum of 39,000 paid members while striving to achieve 50,000 paid members; a minimum of 46,000 contributors while striving to achieve 60,000 contributors.

To achieve by December 31, 2000 a minimum of 50,000 paid members while striving to achieve 80,000 paid members; a minimum of 60,000 contributors while striving to achieve 100,000 contributors.

■ Outcome: At year end there were 32,982 dues-paying members, down 91 from the beginning of the year, and 37,062 contributors, down 1,585 from the beginning of the year.

Goal: To end the year with an excess of cash over accounts payable of at least \$150,000.

Outcome: At year end cash over accounts payable was \$75,450.59.

Additional Goals

Goal: To field at least 2,000 candidates for all levels of office, running for both partisan and non-partisan offices.

■ Outcome: There were about 1,500 candidates for all levels of office, 1,439 of whom appeared on the November ballot. Comparable November numbers for 1998 (previous Congressional election) and 1996 (previous Presidential election) were 840 and 730 respectively.

Goal: To develop and approve a completely revised Program that our Congressional candidates can

support no later than the March LNC meeting.

Outcome: A draft was developed for consideration at the March meeting but it was not approved.

■ Goal: To purchase at least \$1 million worth of television and other public media advertising and measure the response.

Outcome: Approximately \$267,000 was spent on advertising — about \$247,000 on television and about \$20,000 on the Internet.

Goal: To break even on the convention, excluding fundraising from the banquet.

■ Outcome: Convention expenses were \$314,000 and revenue excluding banquet fundraising was \$243,000, for a net loss of \$71,000. Banquet fundraising was \$129,000.

■ Goal: To complete initial development of and launch the new Internet site no later than 11 March.

Outcome: The new site was launched on 26 May, but some work in the original plan remains to be completed.

■ Goal: To retain party ballot status in 28-31 states.

Outcome: Coming out of the 2000 election we had party ballot status in 25 states.

■ Goal: To achieve gross revenues of \$5 million.

■ Outcome: Gross revenue for the year was approximately \$3.6 million. Major shortfalls compared with budget were in the following areas: membership income from prospecting (\$432,000), membership income from inquiries (\$345,000), direct mail fundraising (\$132,000), convention fundraising (\$132,000), convention fundraising (\$120,000), and material sales (\$118,000).

Goal: To provide 3,000 personhours of campaign and activist training at the national convention, state conventions, and other events. Outcome: Approximately 1,600 person-hours of training were provided.

Goal: To produce and distribute a half-hour television outreach program suitable for home viewing, public access television, or cable television, and measure the following:

the number of copies sold
 the number of copies
 distributed for airing on public
 access or cable channels
 the number of copies given as
 See GOALS Page 16

★ GOALS

Continued from Page 15 a premium for contributions solicited specifically to produce the program

• the number of times aired using purchased time

• the response to each outreach effort to the extent feasible

Outcome: The party did not produce an outreach video during 2000.

Goal: To achieve the following targets for media coverage (not including presidential candidate appearances not arranged by the office):

 average 130 media contacts per month • average 55 media interviews

per month • produce and distribute 18 op-

ed columns during the year • 24 TV appearances during the year

Outcome: There were an average of 130.25 media contacts and 49.4 media interviews per month. There were 12 op-ed columns produced (resulting in 40 printed opeds) and 28 TV appearances during

FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

the year.

Achievements 2000

n 2000, the Libertarian Party set new records in the following areas:

Number of candidates. Number of people voting for at least one LP candidate.

Number of victories in an even election year.

Number of Libertarians serving in public office.

Number of registered Libertarians.

Number of states with ballot status after a presidential election.

Media contacts, interviews, and TV appearances.

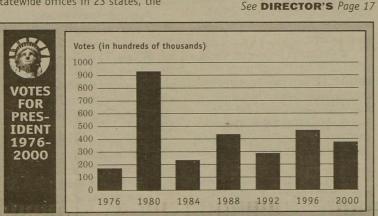
Presidential vote

The historically close presidential election had a negative impact on the results of all minor party presidential candidates. Harry Browne, Ralph Nader, and Pat Buchanan each received about 60% of the support indicated in national polls the day before the election. Browne won 382,892 votes.

The record LP vote for President remains Ed Clark's 1980 campaign, fueled by the generous support of his VP candidate, billionaire industrialist David Koch.

Ballot Access:

The Libertarian Party is now gualified to run candidates for all statewide offices in 23 states, the



most ever after a presidential election. We have more limited ballot access in two other states.

> Victories: The LP's Mission Statement is:

STEVE DASBACH "To move LP NATIONAL public policy in a libertarian DIRECTOR

direction, by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

Thirty-four Libertarians were elected to public office in 2000, a record for an even-year election. By comparison, only 19 Libertarians were elected in 1998. And only seven were elected in 1996:

Our closest competitors, the Greens, elected 20 people to office. The other national third parties achieved zero Election Day wins.

At the end of 2000, 383 public offices were held by Libertarians including 209 elective offices. That's more than twice as many as all other alternative parties combined.

Candidates:

In 2000, we ran twice as many

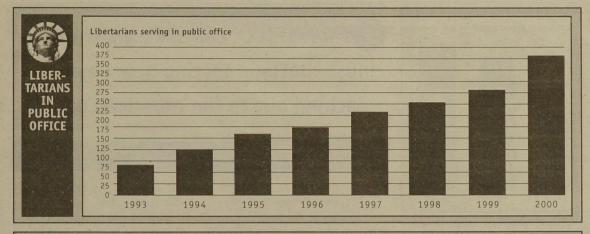
LP State-by-State Membership Numbers

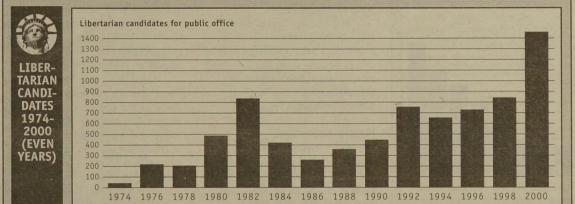
Total Libertarian Party Membership

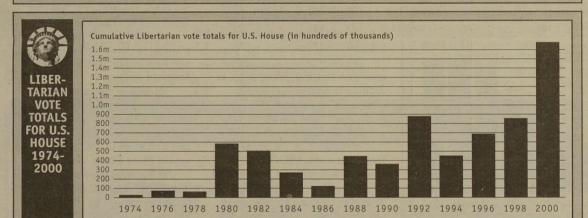
Libertarian Party membership as of December 31, 2000. This chart shows "raw" membership numbers per state; the number of members in each state per million population; each state's growth in 2000 in "raw" numbers; each state's growth as a percentage; and each state's growth per population.

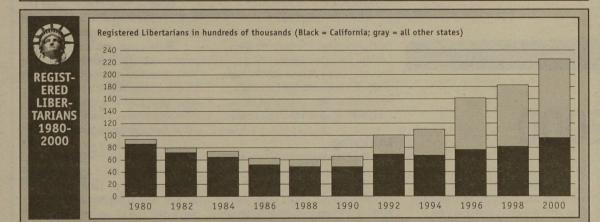
State	Number of	Densi	ty per	Grow		Grow		Grow	
	Members	Millio	on Pop.	(Num	iber)	(Perc	entage)	(Рор	ulation)
CA	5,989	NH	254.1	GA	448	GA	29.6	GA	54.7
GA	1,959	GA	239.3	TX	138	NC	16.9	NC	13.4
FL	1,803	VT	210.2	FL	119	OK	16.5	NM	11.5
TX	1,746	AK	207.4	NC	108	RI	14.5	OK	9.3
MI	1,611	NV	204.7	OH	52	IA	9.5	RI	8.6
PA	1,284	WA	202.1	MI	44	TX	8.6	FL	7.4
WA	1,191	CO	196.7	OK	32	NM	7.6	TX	6.6
OH	1,171	CA	176.8	TN	30	FL	7.1	IA	6.5
IL	1,117	WY	168.1	IL	23	KY	6.8	UT	5.8
NY	1,103	NM	164.4	VA	23	TN	6.2	TN	5.3
VA	1,004	MI	162.1	NM	21	SC	5.3	OH	4.6
MA	869	DC	159.1	IA	19	UT	5.2	MI	4.4
CO	846	OR	153.2	MN	19	ND	4.9	SC	4.2
NJ	767	ME	142.0	MA	17	OH	4.6	MN	3.9
NC	746	VA	141.8	SC	17	MN	4.3	KY	3.7
AZ	640	MA	136.9	WI	17	WI	3.9	VA	3.2
IN	622	MT	125.3	KY	15	LA	2.9	WI	3.2
MD	588	AZ	124.7	UT	13 19 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	MI	2.8	ND	3.1
МО	536	UT	118.7	CO	12	AL	2.3	СО	2.8
OR -	524	DE	116.1	NY	10	VA	2.3	MA	2.7
TN	514	ID	115.9	RI	9	IL	2.1	ID	2.3
MN	460	CT	114.8	AL	8	ID	2.0	IL	1.9
WI	458	FL	112.8	IN	8	MA	2.0	AL	1.8
NV	409 .	MD	111.0	LA	6	NE	1.5	DC	1.7
CT	391	HI	106.5	MO	6	CO	1.4	IN	1.3
AL	362	KS	106.4	ID	3	IN	1.3	LA	1.3
SC	339	PA	104.6	AR	2	AR	1.1	NE	1.2
NH	314	OH	103.1	ND	2	DC	1.1	МО	1.1
NM	299	IN	102.3	NE	2	MO	1.1	AR	0.7
KS	286	MO	95.8	DC	1	NY	0.9	NY	0.5
UT	265	MN	93.5	WY	0	WY	0.0	WY	0.0
KY	235	NC	92.7	HI	-2	CT	-0.8	CT	-0.9
ОК	226	NJ	91.2	CT	-3	KS	-1.4	KS	-1.5
IA	219	TN	90.3	KS	-4	HI	-1.5	HI	-1.7
LA	213	IL	89.9	ME	-5	WA	-1.8	MS	-1.8
AR	186	WI	85.4	MS	-5	ME	-2.7	WA	-3.7
ME	181	SC	84.5	DE	-8	MS	-3.7	ME	-3.9
ID	150	TX	83.7	SD	-8	VT	-5.9	WV	-7.2
NE	132	AL	81.4	VT ·	-8	CA	-6.3	NJ	-7.8
AK	130	NE	77.1	AK	-9	AK	-6.5	MD	-8.9
MS	130	IA	74.8	MT	-10	MD	-7.4	DE	-10.2
HI	129	AR	69.6	WV	-13	NJ	-7.9	SD	-10.6
VT	128	RI	67.7	WA	-22	DE	-8.1	MT	-11.1
WV	114	ND	67.0	NH	-46	MT	-8.1	CA	-11.9
MT	113	OK	65.5	MD	-47	WV	-10.2	VT	-13.1
DC	91	WV	63.0	NJ	-66	NH	-12.8	AK	-14.4
DE	91	SD	58.3	NV	-75	OR	-13.1	OR	-23.1
WY	83	KY	58.1	OR	-79	SD	-15.4	AZ	-27.5
RI	71	NY	58.1	AZ	-141	NV AZ	15.5	PA	-28.9
SD	44 .	LA	47.7	PA	-355	AZ	-18.1	NH	-37.2
ND	43	MS	45.7	CA	-403	PA	-21.7	NV	-37.5
		-	1					22.04	22
	with currently re			FDO 00	(Non 115 . 10			32,93	
Other:	U.S. areas (terri	itones,	etc.): 12 / APO+	rP0: 30	/ Non-U.S.: 18				50

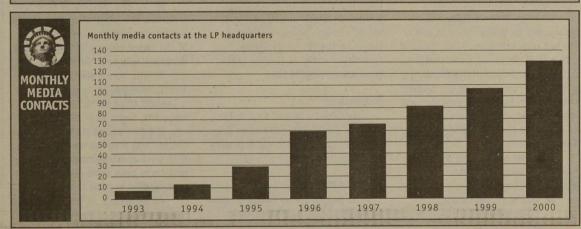
32,982











★ DIRECTOR'S

Continued from Page 16 candidates as all other third parties combined. While we fell short of our ambitious target of 2,000 candidates in 2000, our record-setting line-up of 1,438 candidates was a 71% increase from two years ago, and the largest slate of third-party candidates since before World War II.

We also became the first third party in 80 years to run candidates in a majority of U.S. House races, and the first ever to win over 1 million cumulative votes. Our team of 256 U.S. House candidates garnered nearly 1.7 million votes double our total from two years ago.

Total Votes:

Over 3.3 million Americans voted for at least one Libertarian candidate. That's more than the 2.7 million who voted for Ralph Nader, and more than the 3.1 million who voted for at least one Green candidate.

Election impact:

At both the state and national levels, the Libertarian Party had a major impact on the outcome of close elections.

In Washington state, the 62,127 votes received by Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate Jeff Jarad were the deciding factor in that race. As a result, the U.S. Senate will be split 50-50, giving neither the Democrats nor the Republicans a clear majority.

Plus, seven of our U.S. House candidates received more votes than the margin of victory — influencing the partisan makeup of the closely divided Congress.

See DIRECTOR'S Page 18

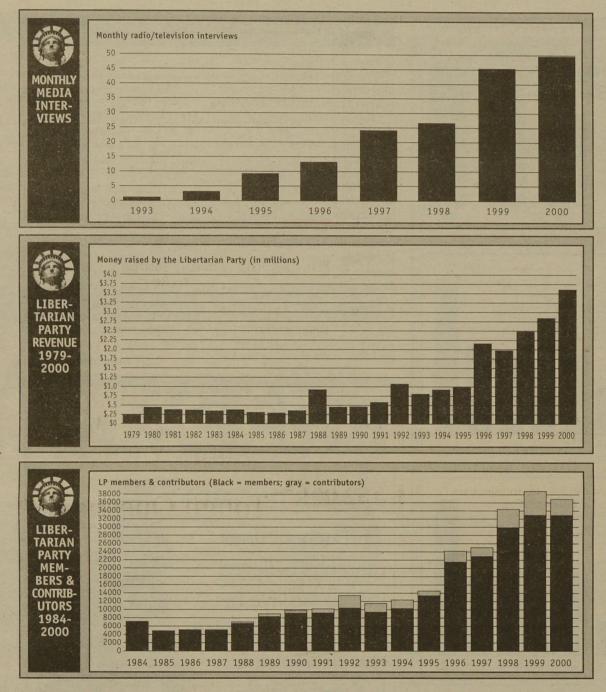
a novel by JAMES RUSHING

Throughout time man has believed that to survive he must kill or be killed, rule or be ruled. Is this the final law of man's existence? Or is there another way?

This is the story of the other way.

ORDER NOW armedfreedom.com paperback \$13.00 e-edition \$6.00





LP TREASURER'S REPORT

The LP's finances in 2000

m pleased to present this brief overview of the Libertarian National Committee's (LNC) financial picture for 2000, and to offer some commentary on where we're heading in the future.

First, I'd like to stress that in addition to oversight by the LNC's own Audit Committee we continue to have an outside, independent audit performed each year — a practice started some years ago. Each year, our auditors (who, incidentally, are the same firm that the Cato Institute uses) have given us a clean bill of health, issuing unqualified opinions that our financial information is accurate and dependable. I believe that spending \$12,000/yr for this purpose is a small price to pay for



TREASURER revenues. We fell well short of that mark — revenues for 2000 were just \$3.6 million. This shortfall was one key reason why several of our goals were not met this past year.

任殿

Still, staff was able to curtail expenses sufficiently so that prior to any audit adjustments, we ended the year with a surplus (revenues less expenses) of about \$110,000.

Creation of the budget and attainment of budget goals is one of the key responsibilities of our national office staff. At the last LNC meeting, I made a presentation highlighting a pattern of increasingly severe revenue shortfalls vs. budgeted revenues, and with specific suggestions as to how to eliminate them going forward. These included:

Closer monitoring of monthly financial results by staff, officers, and the LNC in 2001.

> Taking of immediate See DIRECTOR'S Page 19

I f we want to continue growing, we must continue testing new ways of reaching out to the American people.

★ DIRECTOR'S

Continued from Page 17

And, Harry Browne received more votes than the margin of victory in four close states, including hotly contested Florida.

In 2000, we reached the next stage of our development: While we didn't elect people to major federal offices ourselves, we had an impact on who was elected, which may encourage future candidates to address libertarian issues.

Media coverage:

We continued to produce a regular series of press releases and our media contacts increased to an average of 130.25 per month, an increase of 35% from 1999.

The number of monthly broadcast interviews also continued to increase. We averaged 49.4 interviews a month — up 10% since last year.

LP spokespeople appeared on television 28 times during 2000, in addition to appearances by our candidates. To the best of our knowledge, this is another record.

The year's highlight was our first appearance on one of the "Big Three" networks, ABC's 20/20. The interview was part of a John Stossel "Give Me a Break" segment about how Democrats and Republicans force taxpayers to pay for their conventions. The segment ran on August 18.

LP spokespeople were also featured on CNN's Crossfire (another first), Fox News Channel, MS-NBC, C-SPAN, Christian Broadcasting Network, Court TV and others. Many of these, including the Crossfire appearance, were generated by our campaign against the 2000 Census.

Lobbying:

The Libertarian Party mounted a lobbying campaign against HR 2987, the "Methamphetamine Anti-Proliferation Act," that would have made it a crime to distribute certain kinds of information about drugs, and would have allowed police to secretly search people's homes. In late July, the House Judiciary Committee voted to remove these provisions from the bill.

Revenue:

We raised a record \$3.6 million in 2000, about \$800,000 more than last year, but significantly less than our \$5 million goal.

Membership:

We had to spend \$400,000 more on ballot access in 2000 than in

1999, over \$300,000 to stage our national convention, and over \$250,000 on advertising (less than our goal of \$1 million), so we had to cut expenses in other areas.

As a result, we had to eliminate much of our direct mail membership prospecting, which had a negative impact on membership growth.

Since late 1996, the Libertarian Party's growth has been largely the result of our aggressive direct mail prospecting program. Now that the expense of a presidential campaign is behind us, we plan to resume our prospecting efforts — and get our membership growing again.

Direct mail has been vital to our membership growth over the past few years. However, it's clear that direct mail has limitations.

So, if we want to continue growing, we must continue testing new ways of reaching out to the American people.

We believe the Internet will become increasingly important as a medium for organizing and membership growth. We took some important first steps in 2000, and plan to expand those efforts in 2001.

Our redesigned website was launched in May, and has been very favorably received by LP members and the general public.

We've more than doubled the size of our e-mail announcement list, to more than 26,785 subscribers.

We conducted a successful experiment with Internet advertising that generated measurable increases in site traffic. It also appears to have generated new inquiries and members more economically than other forms of advertising.

I'd like to close with recent quotes from writer conservative/ libertarian Alan Bock and George magazine, both of whom remarked on how well organized and successful the LP has become.

"By any reasonably objective criterion, the Libertarian Party is the most successful and best organized of the minor parties." (Alan W. Bock, WorldNetDaily.com, October 6, 2000)

"The Libertarian Party [has] quietly emerged as America's best organized third party." (George magazine, September 19, 2000)

It's nice to see that others have noticed the progress we are making. With your continued support, we can give them even more reasons to commend us in 2001.

We appreciate all you did in 2000 to help the cause of liberty. Thank you!

2000 was a challenging financial year for the national LP. The staff developed and the LNC approved a budget which called for over \$5 million in

the reassurance

it brings to our

TREASURER'S

Continued from Page 18 corrective action during the year if

revenue shortfalls appear in 2001. Taking greater care to analyze revenue-related projections and their underlying assumptions well before

the annual budget is presented. Establishing a much more formalized and perpetual major donor program with a "financecommittee" type structure.

While no formal action was taken by the LNC on the above items, I believe the LNC sees this as an important area and is generally supportive of the above points. I am working with the staff to develop our new major donor program, to be presented to the LNC in April.

A second important area is liquidity. Adequate working capital, which for our purposes is defined as cash less accounts payable, is essential for any growing organization facing unexpected expenses. At several times during 2000 (and also in 1999) we had a negative working capital position. (See chart, right.)

This is an important issue that I've stressed to staff and the LNC since 1996. My specific recommendations to the LNC on this issue, developed jointly with the National Director, were to:

Segregate a set amount of funds separate from our normal operating accounts ("the reserve") that cannot be spent without LNC approval; (passed unanimously at 12/2000 LNC meeting).

Require a positive working capital position on an ongoing basis (added to policy manual at 12/2000 LNC meeting).

To give you an idea as to where we obtained and expended funds in 2000, please refer to the Expenses and Revenues pie charts on page 13 of this Annual Report. They represent the Libertarian Party's major sources and uses of funds.

Revenue Sources

In terms of revenue sources, my hope is that we can increase the funds we derive from the monthly pledge program and major donors, becoming less reliant on membership renewals.

I also expect that contributions from our web site will continue to increase both in dollar and percentage terms.

The LP established a bequest program about two years ago, in which party members are encouraged to name the LP as a beneficiary in their will or insurance policy. I'd like to offer my thanks to the dozens of members who've responded with great generosity, resulting in a pledge range of between \$1.6 and \$4.3 million

(If you'd like information about how to do this, please contact me directly).

Overall, the LP has good internal controls in place, a board of directors who take an active part in goalsetting and policy making, and a staff that executes under sometimes difficult conditions.

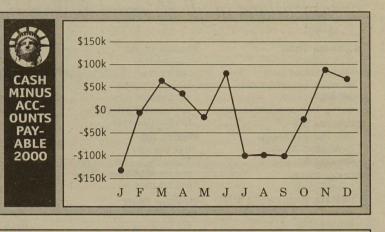
While there are differences over policy and political issues that arise from time to time, I feel we have been able to address these in a constructive, businesslike fashion.

If you have questions about the LP's finances, feel free to e-mail me at Treasurer@lp.org, or call (508) 230-2356.

Much more detailed financial information is available from our Federal Election Commission filings, available online at www.fec.gov.

My friends, I take my responsibilities to you as Treasurer very seriously. I will be speaking and/or fundraising at the California, Florida, and Indiana conventions this year, and would welcome the opportunity to visit your state.

It's my privilege to continue service as your Treasurer through our 2002 convention in Indianapolis.



Year	Budgeted	Actual	Shortfall Revenue	As % of Budget
1998	\$2.67m	\$2.43m	-\$264,405	-10%
1999	\$3.64m	\$2.68m	-\$954,994	-26%
2000	\$5.12m	\$3.58	-\$1.62m	-32%
	1998 1999	1998 \$2.67m 1999 \$3.64m	1998 \$2.67m \$2.43m 1999 \$3.64m \$2.68m	Revenue 1998 \$2.67m \$2.43m -\$264,405 1999 \$3.64m \$2.68m -\$954,994

From the author of *Healing Our World*... Short Answers to the **Tough Questions**

Inspired by Dr. Ruwart's Internet column at the Advocates Website (www.self-gov.org)

Score a libertarian victory with the voters, press, friends, and family by explaining how liberty works — in 30 to 60 seconds!

Topics include: Roads, restitution, children's rights, environment, animal rights, national defense, drugs, gun control, assisted suicide, discrimination, abortion, poverty, education, and more!

Written by long-time libertarian activist, Dr. Mary J. Ruwart, veteran of two dozen campaigns! Dr. Ruwart has been a contender for the LP vice-presidential and presidential nomination, has served on the Platform Committee, and is a National Committee Member At Large.



Unconditionally guaranteed!

"Sound Bites for Libertarians!"

Please rush me Short Answers to the Tough Questions. □ I enclose \$12 Now only \$10.00! Plus \$2 (s&h) (Total = \$12). Or: I'll pay by \Box Visa \Box Mastercard

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

Reams Referendum Virginia's vote to end pot prohibition

- * Property Rights —
- * Privacy Rights —
- ★ Racism —
- * Patient Rights —
- ***** Human Rights —
- * Crime -
- ★ Gun Rights —
- ***** Corruption —
- ★ Right to Work —
- ★ Justice —
- ★ Economy –

end forfeiture without due process and criminal charges stop monitoring bank accounts and intrusive searches end profiling and targeting African-Americans stop arresting sick people for using medical marijuana

every person deserves control over what they put in their Dody

prohibition promotes and rewards violent criminal behavior

drug related gun violence is fueling gun control efforts

law enforcement and justice systems have been compromised end denial of licenses to users and stop mandatory urine testing

end mandatory minimums and sentencing "guidelines"

stop prohibition of industrial hemp farming and manufacturing

★ Foreign Policy — end intrusion into affairs of countries under guise of drug war

Reams for Lieutenant Governor

PO Box 1500 • Lorton • Virginia 22199

Toll Free (866) 420-Reams • ReamsReeferendum.com In a Townson in Paid for by Garry Myers, Treasurer of Reams for 45 Governor a 20 8 01 0 3511 C ac

SECOntacts

Here's how to contact Libertarian Party affiliate organizations in all 50 states & Washington, DC

Alabama Chair

Mark Bodenhausen 818 83rd Street South Birmingham AL 35206-4035 205-833-5012 (h) markbodenhausen@yahoo.com

Alabama HQ 2330 Highland Avenue Birmingham AL 35205 205-328-8683

Alaska Chair Len Karpinski PMB 373, 205 E. Dimond Blvd. Anchorage, AK 99515 907-566-1235 warmgun@ak.net

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

Arkansas Acting Chair Gerhard Langguth 243 White Road Russellville AR 72802 501-967-0873 501-967-4531 glanggut@cswnet.com

California Chair Mark Hinkle 17545 Chesbro Lake Dr. Morgan Hill, CA 95037-9104 510-673-5003 (h) 408-778-1115 (f) chair@ca.lp.org

California HQ Juan Ros, Executive Director 14547 Titus Street, Suite 214 Panorama City CA 91402 818-782-8400 818-782-8488 (f) director@ca.lp.org office@ca.lp.org

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Richard Kerr

Brandl, Pilcher get new job duties at party HQ

Continued from Page 4

To contact Brandl about campus activism, call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 237. Or e-mail him at: MarcBrandl@hq.lp.org.

As Affiliate Services Representative, Dianne Pilcher will "act as liaison between the national headquarters and our state party affiliates," she said.

Her primary goal will be to "open up the communication lines between the national party and the affiliates, so that they feel

comfortable in their partnership monthly UMP with their national headquarters," said Pilcher.

Within the next few months, she plans "to send out a survey to our affiliate chairs and their directors to determine what national is doing right and what still needs improvement," she said.

"I also intend to be very proactive in contacting newly elected State Chairs to be sure they understand how our shared database works, how their

(Unified Member Plan) checks are calculated, and how national can assist them in building their state parties."

> The job is important, said Pilcher, the campus LP because



Marc Brandl: Plans to "grow "a movement."

good relationship between the headquarters and our affiliates is essential" to the LP's success.

Here's how to find out.

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plain weird — about libertarians and libertarianism.

portant areas where teamwork between national and the affiliates is necessary," she said.

A national office employee since she moved from Florida to Washington, DC in 2000, Pilcher had previously served as a State Chair, state newsletter editor, and representative to the Libertarian National Committee.

"I'm very excited about the progress the party has made so far and look forward to further growth in the future," she said.

To contact Pilcher about affiliate support, call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 231. Or e-mail her at: DiannePilcher@hq.lp.org.

Ed Thompson mulls run for governor

Continued from Page 3

well-publicized brush with the law: His Tee Pee Tavern and Restaurant was raided by police in December 1997, and he was charged with operating three nickel-slot video gambling machines. The cops seized the machines and also took \$1,000 from the cash register.

Thompson successfully fought felony charges of running an illegal gambling operation, and the district attorney who prosecuted him was later voted out of office over the raid.

That experience turned the tavern-owner into a Libertarian.

"I was never interested in politics until the raid," said Thompson. "But after that, I could never again with any respect call myself a Democrat or Republican. I figured that was the time for me to get involved."

Elected mayor

Running on a pro-gambling legalization platform, Thompson was elected mayor of Tomah in April 2000. He beat a two-term incumbent by 58-42%.

His announcement about a possible run sparked statewide news coverage, including a story from the Associated Press.

A final decision will be made when "we feel we are ready to proceed," said Collison.

If he does run, Thompson could face Democratic Attorney General James Doyle – the man who prosecuted the gambling case against his tavern.

"That would be interesting," admitted Thompson. "I would want to beat him because he's the one who raided me.'



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"While there are areas that we can operate in independent of each other,

Dianne Pilcher: "I look forward to future growth." there are im-

For free.

EctionResults

Here are the November 2000 election results for the Libertarian Party's candidates for local and county races. Each listing includes the candidate's state, office sought, name, vote total, and percentage of the vote won.

🖬 Alabama

Barbour Co. Probate Judge Diane Lichtensteiger 834 9.5% Mobile Co. Constable Ken Hearin 100% Blount Co. Constable Jerry Vines 158 100% Barbour Co. Constable Dist. 9 Daniel Bowden 190 90.9% Dallas Co. Constable Jack Andrews 539 97.3%

Arkansas

El Dorado City Council Rodney Wimberly 502 42.1%

Arizona

Drexel Heights Fire Dist. Board Jim Bertrand 4,559 56.10%

California

Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist. 7 Mike Anfinson 2,803 3.4%

- Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist. 5 Reginald Thatcher 5,780 8%
- Orange Co. Water Dist. 3 Richard Fraim 18,146 37%
- Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist. 7 Armando Estrada 4,609 5.7% Moulton-Niguel Water Dist. 7 Michael

Vardoulis 183 4.5% Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist.

- 7 Donald Fisk 3,532 4.3% Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist.
- 5 Kevin Dooley 5,265 7.2% Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist.

4 Richard Nelson 1,432 1.9% Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist.

- 4 John Briscoe 1,690 2.3% Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist.
- 4 John Braze 2,701 3.7% Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist. 2 William Little 7,108 11.2%
- Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist. 2 Mary Carter 7,784 12.2%
- Moulton-Niguel Water Dist. 5 Harriet Goren 678 10.8%
- Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist. 7 Gregory Russell 12,965 15.9%
- Mesa Consolidated Water Dist. 2 Rod Black 438 8.79 Orange Co. Water Dist. 6 Willa Johns
- 5,573 10% Los Alisos Water Dist. Robert Dormanesh
- 1,388 7.8% Los Alisos Water Dist. Paul Studier 3,384 19%
- Irvine Ranch Water Dist. Jeff Arneson 8,631 7.5%
- Huntington Beach City Council Norm Westwell 6,325 2%
- East Orange Co. Water Dist., Short Term James Vest 1,242 7.2% East Orange Co. Water Dist. Timothy
- Kershner 1,367 4.6%
- East Orange Co. Water Dist. Jeffrey Byrnes 2,355 7.9%
- Costa Mesa Sanitary Dist. Douglas Scribner 7,586 20.2%
- Mesa Consolidated Water Dist. 3 Rick Pascoe 1,708 31.8%
- South Placer Fire Protection Dist. William Swim 296 3.87%
- San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water Dist. 1 Dale Frederick 2,601 12.6% San Juan Water Dist. William Thompson
- 2.82773% Rio Linda-Elverta Recreation and Park
- Dist. Lester Oliver 1,970 44.4% Orangevale Recreation and Park Dist.
- Melissa Manfre 2,873 13.3% Galt Fire Protection Dist. Joseph Corey 2,481 20.3%
- Fair Oaks Recreation and Park Dist.
- James Hansen 2,996 11.2% Elk Grove Community Services Dist. Gary Bingham 6,171 26.6%
- Cordova Recreation and Park Dist. Eric Lund 6.952 21.2%
- Arcade Water Dist. Burnard Brady 3,524 10% Arcade Creek Recreation and Park Dist Helen Loretz 1,519 15.6%
- Orange Co. Water Dist. 3 Kenneth Cummings 6,515 8.6%
- Tahoe City Public Utility Dist. 4 Thomas Murphy 487 31%
- Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist. 7 Bill Hajdu 2,482 3.1%
- Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Co. Dist. 1 Samuel Dorrington 2,895 4.1%

Yorba Linda Water Dist. Scott Carroll 4.808 11.4%

- Sunset Beach Sanitary Dist. Neal Franks 158 13.6% Sunset Beach Sanitary Dist. Yena Ferrara
- 146 12.59
- South Coast Water Dist. 4 Glen Montgomery 400 29.2%
 - Santa Margarita Water Dist. Karen Martin 2,268 2.89
- Santa Margarita Water Dist. Christopher Harris 2,235 2.89
- Placentia Library Dist. Geoffrey Braun 100% Orange Co. Water Dist. 6 Samuel Allerton
- 21,594 41.6% Monterey Peninsula Airport Dist. Robert
- Pack 5,311 7.7 Laguna Beach Unified School Dist. Bill
- Hajdu 1,188 7% American River Flood Control Dist. Stewart Gardner 12,049 19.99
- Central Contra Costa Sanitary Dist. Roy
- Simmons 9,736 4.5% Antelope Valley Health Care Dist. William Wheeler 3,286 1.94%
- Antelope Valley Health Care Dist. Deanna Peugeot 8,183 4.84%
- Antelope Valley Health Care Dist. Greg Bashem 4,160 2,46% Tehachapi Valley Health Care Dist. Teri
- Kahn 4,014 55.5% Kern Co. Water Agency Dist. 7 Ronald
- Spradley 5,719 25,9%
- Clovis Unified School Dist. 2 Jonathan Richter 4,444 9.92%
- Cameron Park Community Services Dist. Leonard Salsbury 1,403 14.9% West Contra Costa Health Care Dist.
- Joseph Crandall 5,397 6:7% Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park Dist.
- Ron Nevels 3,613 17.29 Mt. Diablo Health Care Dist. Scott Wilson
- 7.317 6.1% West Basin Municipal Water Dist. 5
- Richard Hettish 759 2.24% Contra Costa Water Dist. 3 Frank
- Raymonde 5,673 22.2% Beach Cities Health Care Dist. Robert
- Abadjian 1,102 3.1% Bay Area Rapid Transit Dist. 1 George Steffner 36,476 33%
- Hayward Area Recreation and Park Dist.
- Dee Ann Dugan 12,667 10.4% Bay Area Rapid Transit Dist. 7 Christopher Housh 2,584 10%
- Bay Area Rapid Transit Dist. 7 Peter Aguilar 2,988 7.6%
- Bay Area Rapid Transit Dist. 3 Alan Johnson 15,980 20.6%
- Alameda Co. Fire Protection Dist. Erik Bergesen 678 8%
- Rancho Santiago Community College Dist. 1 James Kaufman 28,182 14.7% El Dorado Co. Super. Dist. 2 Ellen Day 2,436 Santa Monica City Council Rick Horner
- 1,314 1.24% Downey City Council Dist. 5 David Bowers 1,682 6.6%
- Lakeside Fire Dist. Board Lynn Badler 1 532 5 7%
- Dublin San Ramon Services Dist. Andrew Cleary 820 4.5% Three Valleys Municipal Water Dist. 6
- Edward Sewell 1,806 13.37% West Basin Municipal Water Dist. 5 John
- Russell 3,433 10.1% Bonsall Union School Dist. Mark Laythorpe 186 3.8%
- West Basin Municipal Water Dist. 3 Michael Rusth 2,963 6.12%
- Hayward Area Recreation and Park Dist. James Jensen 8.771 7.2%
- Water Replenishment Dist. of Southern CA Dist. 5 Helen Lechner 2,429 7.2% Water Replenishment Dist. of Southern CA
- Dist. 5 Michael Conness 19,071 12.3% Water Replenishment Dist. of Southern CA Dist. 2 Rick Wagner 29,120 17.2% Water Replinishment Dist. of Southern CA
- Dist. 2 Joseph Miller 5,942 3.5% Water Replenishment Dist. of Southern CA
- Dist. 2 Patrick Lewis 13,604 8.1% Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water Dist. 4 Kathleen Paz 5,288 14.3%
- Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water Dist. 4 Alan Cuperus 1,159 3.14%

Antelope Valley Health Care Dist. Diana Wheeler 3,286 1.9%

.....

Florida

23,401 18.81%

18,196 14.97%

lowa

5.874 5%

6.582

ldaho

Linville 100%

Illinois

Indiana

280 1.94%

1.7%

26,178

Perez 6,321 5.05%

Coakley 5,468 4.32%

Seminole Co. Commissioner James

Orange Co. Soil & Water Conservation

Palm Beach Co. Soil & Water Conservation

Seminole Co. Clerk of Court Steve Snipper

Seminole Co. Commissioner Zea Proctor

Seminole Co. Commissioner Franklin

Johnson Co. Supervisor Tim Borchardt

Ada Co. Commissioner Robert Blakesly

Ada Co. Sheriff Ryan Davidson 4,720

Champaign Co. Board Member Dist. 8

Champaign Co. Board Member Dist. 8

Washington Township Advisory Board Dist.

Cass Co. Commissioner Dist. 2 Jeff Murray

Cass Co. Council At Large Gary Grable 699

Cass Co. Surveyor Lisa Waters 406 2.89%

Marion Co. Superior Court John England

Cass Co. Coroner Forrest Fernung 598 4.12%

Pike Township Advisory Board Dist. 7

Delaware Co. Council At Large Robert

Hendricks Co. Council At Large Dennis

Hendricks Co. Coroner Rachael Derrick

Hendricks Co. Council At Large Bernard

Wayne Township Advisory Board Dist. 4

Perry Township Advisory Board Dist. 5

Franklin Co. Council At-Large Daniel

Hendricks Co. Council At Large Gordon

27,343 1.7% Franklin Co. Council At-Large Annette

Warren Township Advisory Board Dist. 5

Marion Co. Superior Court Michael Caudill

Morgan Co. Superior Court Brian Baldwin

Washington Township Advisory Board Dist.

Johnson Co. Treasurer Cheryl Pearcy 5,960

Warren Township Advisory Board Dist. 6

Warren Township Advisory Board Dist. 3

Warren Township Advisory Board Dist. 1

Owen Co. Council At Large John Crawford

Warsaw Community School Board (Kosciusko

Washington Co. Treasurer Shelia R. Adkins

Washington Co. Coroner Wendell Tye 496 5%

Hendricks Co. Auditor Ben Petro 3,636 11%

Kosciusko Co. Council At-Large Deanna S.

Washington Co. Council At Large Jeffrey S.

Marion Co. Surveyor Valerie Hurd 6,498 2%

Johnson Co. Surveyor Edward Dilts 5,718

Franklin Co. Commissioner Dist. 3 Steve

Hendricks Co. Commissioner Dan Derrick

1,680,4,43% Marion Co. Superior Court Robbin Stewart 28,576 1.8%

Sullivan Co. Coroner C.H. Crafton 271

Monroe Co. Circuit Court Steve Dillon

Washington Co. Commissioner Dist. 4

Center Township Advisory Board Dist. 5

Marion Co. Superior Court Dist. 2 Jame

Co.) Dist. 6 Dan Stevens 184 16%

6 Michael J. Fallahy 195 3%

Larry Strawbridge 168 4%

James L. Rainey 62 3%

Marion Co. Superior Court Kurt St. Angelo

Joseph Hamm 91 2%

Trapp 3,284 2.90%

Derrick 2,895 2.9%

Piotrowski 2,186 2.2%

Arash Cyrus Hayat 171 3%

Bryan Van Vlymen 202 5%

Precht 628 2.7%

Werner 2,201 2.3%

Kristoff 907 4.00%

John Taylor 161 3%

26,253 1.6%

1,028 4.77%

John Sosna 81 2%

Goldstein 31,760

Lisa Tennies 202 4%

Newton 2,999 5.10%

Teresa L. Tye 389 4%

Adkins 843 3.2%

Kristoff 513 6%

8.186 27 15%

15.88%

16.30%

501 3%

1,326 16%

3.889 12%

Nathaniel Krause 1,176 13.2%

Andrew Trapp 830 9.3%

3 Gary J. Proksch 266 3%

Gem Co. Prosecuting Attorney Richard K.

Board Dist. 5 Dave Barron 100%

Board Dist. 2 Frank Longo 100%

Oceanside City Council Joseph Henchman

Santa Margarita Water Dist. Mark

Adrian Rymties 824 1.0%

Orange Co. Municipal Water Dist. 7 Al

Mariposa Co. School Board Dist. 2 Eleanor

Marin Healthcare Dist. Robert Baker 6,369 5%

Tri City Health Care Dist. John Flanagan

El Camino Hospital Dist. Leyla Hansen

Sequoia Health Care Dist. Rodd Bench

Howard Van Jepmond 65,004 48%

Robert Green 17,338 11.28

San Mateo Co. Board of Education Dist. 7

San Mateo Co. Board of Education Dist. 4

North Coast Co. Water Dist. Kim Epperson

Port San Luis Harbor Dist. James Lowrie

Stockton East Water Dist. 4 Philip Leveton

La Mesa-Spring Valley School Dist. Sharon Jurist 6,408 11.7%

Vista Fire Protection Dist. Wallace Stewart

Tri City Health Care Dist. Ian Noble 8,880

Vista Irrigation Dist. 5 Bruce Strachan

Tri City Health Care Dist. Carolyn Capps

San Miguel Fire Protection Dist. Damon

Poway School Dist. Kenneth Hamilton

Palomar Pomerado Health Care Dist.

Otay Water Dist. 4 David Turgeon 834 16.3%

Otay Water Dist. 2 Thomas Dougherty 384

Grossmont Healthcare Dist. Linda Stromm

Calleguas Municipal Water Dist. 3 Richard

Lakeside Community Planning Area Linda

Central Fire Protection Dist. Christopher

Oak Valley Hospital Dist. Kent Holman 1,426 12.4%

Petaluma Health Care Dist. David Reis

Forestville Fire Protection Dist. Dennis

Vista Irrigation Dist. 2 J. Melville Capps

Alexander Valley Unified School Dist. John

Sequoia Health Care Dist. Melissa Lusin

Milpitas Unified School Dist. Paul Simoni

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space Dist. 3

Santa Clara Board of Education Dist. 1

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space Dist.

Gavilan Joint Community College Dist. 2

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El Camino Hospital Dist. Perr Cardestam

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Dist. of Columbia

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Forum A market solution to the abortion quandary

here are few issues more divisive than abortion.

Those who regard human fetuses as human beings in embryo see the policy in place since Roe v. Wade as essentially state sanctioned infanticide, and hence implacably evil. Others, regarding a fetus as simply an appendage of the female body, lacking any meaningful human characteristics, demand the right of a woman to choose abortion whenever a pregnancy is unwanted.

This controversy affects the libertarian movement also.

Those in the movement favoring the "right to choose," who seem to dominate, erroneously assume that this is the only natural libertarian position. In fact, it still all depends on whether the fetus is assumed to be human, because if it is, it has certain rights, including the right not to be killed unjustly. There is no more naturally libertarian position than that.

It is highly likely that the reflexive rejection of this perspective inhibits a very large group of people who would otherwise be more than willing to join the movement.

There may be an oblique way to approach the issue, however, yielding a solution that would satisfy existing and potential libertarians on both sides of the issue.

By James some odd features of the **R. Edwards** current situation. On the

Consider

one hand, about two million children in embryo are killed through abortion each year. That looks much like there is an excess supply, or surplus, which in any product market we would attribute to the price being above equilibrium.

On the other hand, there are several million people in any given year who wish to adopt a baby and are frustrated in their efforts due to a lack of availability. That looks much like an excess demand, or shortage, which in any product market we would attribute to the price being fixed below equilibrium.

Suppressed

In fact, the proper interpretation of both conditions is that there is a suppressed market which is in a state of excess demand because of the price being fixed at zero by laws forbidding transactions. Fixing a price below equilibrium in a market causes two phenomena: an increase in the quantity demanded, and a decrease in the amount supplied, which together yield the shortage. The two million abortions each year represent the decline in quantity supplied due to fixing

the price below equilibrium (i.e. mand for babies, allowing a finanat zero).

Obviously, these people, the suppliers and demanders in this potential market, need to be allowed to get together and transact on mutually beneficial terms, which should be easy in the day of the internet.

Suppose the law was changed to simply allow a market for onetime trades in custody of and normal parental rights over (and responsibilities for) newborns at contractually determined prices?

It is impossible to predict how high the market would set the price for such rights, but one thing can be predicted: the price would be high enough to clear the market. What that means is that, as a price demanders would be

priced out, while on the supply side, most, if not all abortions, would disappear, as a result of the financial incentive generated to supply on that market. Eventually, a price would be reached at which the quantities demanded and supplied were the same.

The reason so many women now choose to have an abortion is precisely that they perceive the costs of pregnancy to exceed the benefits. Given the known de-

cial incentive for such women to carry their babies to term would almost certainly solve that problem in nearly all cases, and do so not by imposing, but precisely by removing, governmental coercion.

Consider the benefits that would result from such a policy. Not only would nearly all

abortions disappear, leaving it a quantitatively trivial phenomenon, but the children born as a result would gain by the shift in custody through the transactions



from those families valuing the children less to those valuing them more

The benefits of the financial remuneration to the birth mother should not be overlooked either. Many poor women who are pregnant would find themselves with funds that could be used to start a business or obtain an education. In addition, certain behav-

ioral dysfunctions and their harmful effects on children conceived would be severely reduced. Contracts would be written months in advance of birth, while actions could still be taken to ensure the health of the baby.

Prices agreed upon would be contingent on that health, with a heavy discount - perhaps even voiding the transaction - for problems such as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome or crack addiction. The incentive for the birth mothers to avoid such behaviors and deliver a healthy child would be large.

Now for the downside. If the normal price established in the market was relatively high, additional supply would be attracted into the market. Some women who otherwise would not be having children would almost certainly be acting as regular, deliberate suppliers in this market, in it for the money.

In other words, the pecuniary incentive would increase certain forms of sexual behavior that many of us, myself included, regard as immoral.

Immoral behavior

But is it worth either the two million annual murders of children in embryo we have now or the massive governmental coercion that would be necessary to suppress abortions in order to avoid this added increment of immoral behavior? I think not.

Certain inevitable objections need to be dealt with.

I will surely be accused of advocating the selling of babies. Not so. Parents do not own their children now. What parents have is custody and parental rights and responsibilities, which do not include rights to enslave or physically abuse children, but do include the responsibilities of love, See MARKET Page 25

The wisdom of the LP's current position on abortion

ibertarians recognize that abortion is an emotionally charged and divisive issue. We find it despicable that the older parties use this issue to exploit the emotions of voters into backing legislation and concepts that will do nothing but polarize society even further.

Libertarians condemn those who wish to make abortion an entitlement - and those who knowingly deceive American citizens by backing restrictive laws that will only exasperate our abortion woes

No consensus

Libertarians empathize with all those who hold convictions as to exactly where life begins. Libertarians also realize that this is the one question on which we cannot reach consensus.

The older parties concentrate on this question because they know they will have captive blocks of voters always hoping that somehow their elected representatives will come up with an answer that will never come.

The Libertarian platform already holds the solution. It should be inherently obvious that the LP wants the government out of all

aspects of the **By John** human repro-Geltemever ductive process. "When life begins"

and the "morality of abortion" are two questions that we don't want the government to decide.

The Libertarian stance tively means that abortion remains legal. This is obvious comfort for those who believe life begins somewhere after conception. But what of those who believe that life begins at conception? The Libertarian Platform addresses these questions as well.

Whether you believe that abortion is right or wrong is a matter of a personal moral decision; a matter of hearts and

minds. If a person believes that there is nothing wrong with getting an abortion, then no law or constitutional amendment will change their mind or their actions. If you believe laws alone mold our society then I'm afraid that the Libertarian Party has nothing for you.

Abortion did not start with Roe v. Wade - that Supreme Court decision came about as a consequence of a change in society values. Laws will never eliminate abortion. Laws will not reduce abortions if hearts and minds feel otherwise. The Libertarian Platform will reduce aborons. voluntarily, far greater than any law ever will

The LP Platform states or infers the following:

Eliminate taxpayer supported abortions.

Abortions based solely on financial difficulties will be reduced as taxes are lowered and eliminated.

Current government welfare style programs are non-judgmental and help instill a respon-

sibility and a consequence-free environment, the type of attitudes that may lead to unwanted pregnancies. Private charities would lead to a renewal of responsibility, which may reduce abortions.

An education system that will reflect the values of parents. Libertarians want the government out of schools. These values may also contribute to a decrease in abortions.

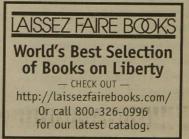
Our policies on crime will alleviate a prison population made up of consensual criminals and violators of regulations. This will allow us to hold violent criminals, like rapists and molesters, in prison longer. The deterrence effect will reduce abortions that result from these crimes.

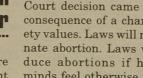
Reduced taxes and regulations will be a boon to medical research. Prenatal afflictions that would have resulted in abortion will now result in cures inside the womb. Pregnancies that threaten the mother's life will be reduced.

Breakthroughs in medicine could well end "abortions as we know it." We currently have the technology to freeze an embryo and then introduce it into the womb at a later date. This may lead to technology to allow unwanted pregnancies to be treated like an adoption, where an undeveloped fetus is given to a woman who wants to be a mother.

A Libertarian government will not invade the most private aspects of a person's life. At the same time Libertarian ideals provide the methodology to reduce and possibly eliminate the practice of abortions. All this will be accomplished without divisiveness, force or intrusive new laws.

About the author: John Geltemeyer is a Libertarian Party member in Colorado.





Recruiting more 'pro-life' Libertarians

Does the Libertarian Party's 'pro-choice' position scare off too many prospective 'pro-life' members?

was delighted to see a recent newspaper article published in California about a local Libertarian Party, but disturbed by a comment its author had included: "Voters who might otherwise go Libertarian also stop short on its position on abortion. The party supports a woman's right to choose."

Although I personally support the "pro-choice" position on abortion, I thought about how this comment would scare away potential new LP members. In my own recruiting efforts, I have talked to many whose primary hesitation to join was the LP's pro-choice image. I hate to see our growth limited this way.

Many pro-choice Libertarians, however, find this limitation to be a good thing, keeping the party true to its principles.

But is the "pro-life" position really incompatible with libertarian principles? Many hold that it is not only consistent with those principles, but in fact demanded by them. If you visit the Libertarians for Life website at www.L4L.org, you'll find many essays supporting this view.

Even as a firm pro-choicer, I have to admit that the arguments I found there are well-founded in logic, without resorting to the religious or emotional arguments of-

ten used elsewhere to support the pro-life position.

Just how important is the difference between pro-choice and pro-life Libertarians, anyway?

In terms of how it affects our laws, it boils down to a disagreement over a single number: The youngest age of the victim in the definition of murder. Most prochoicers agree it should be illegal for mothers to kill their offspring after birth, while pro-lifers only want to adjust this minimum age to nine months earlier. Do we really want to divide the party over the fine-tuning of a number?

Set priorities

If you are pro-choice, then you need to set some priorities. What is more important to you, electing leaders who are pro-choice on abortion, or leaders who are proliberty overall? Is it really necessary that the LP agree with all of your views, and so limit its growth severely; or can it open itself to other views which still support the fundamental libertarian principles — so that it may grow to be a major player in U.S. politics?

If you agree that the LP should be welcoming pro-life members, how then can we do it? How can we dispel the party's reputation of being intolerant to the pro-life view?

For starters, let pro-life potential recruits know that they would not be alone in the party. Point out the results of the July 1998 *LP News* poll, where a sampling of LP members showed that a full 30% are pro-life.

Also, let's focus on common ground to bind us together. Re-

member that the LP stands against government funding or mandating of abortions.

And think about the landmark Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade*, the major legal setback for the pro-life movement. That decision said in essence that the federal government could overrule a state government's power to ban abortions.

See something wrong with this picture? As a Libertarian, you should — it's called violating the 10th Amendment. Surely Libertarians can agree on upholding

A market solution to abortion

Continued from Page 24 care, education, and discipline.

Nothing would be different in the potential market I am discussing. I advocate only one-time trades in custody of (and responsibilities for) newborns. The transactions should be legally required to be consummated immediately at birth, before the birth mother and child bond, easing the strain on both. Later and repeated transactions should be forbidden. Children badly need stability.

There is, then, a solution to both the abortion and the adoption problems that would eliminate nearly all abortions without requiring coercion by the state. Indeed, all that is necessary is to remove existing state coercion that is acting to prevent the mutual gains available from exchange between those having babies they do not want and those wanting babies they do not have.

Like other solutions to complex human problems, it is probably not perfect. But surely it would be far bet-

ter than the massive embryonic infanticide and and social conflict we are now experiencing.

■ About the author: James Rolph Edwards is an associate professor of economics at Montana State University-Northern. the Bill of Rights and the limits it places on the federal government. Imagine how impressed pro-lifers would be to know that even many pro-choice Libertarians support overturning *Roe v. Wade.*

Finally, we really need to modify our national platform. A sentence in the platform starts off with "Recognizing that abortion is a very sensitive issue and that people, including libertarians, can hold good-faith views on both sides . . ." sounding for all the world like it says libertarians may be either for or against government intervention in abortions.

Contradiction!

However, that platform sentence continues with "... we believe the government should be kept out of the question," stating now that libertarians oppose government intervention in abortions, in blatant contradiction with the first part of the sentence!

We should reword our statement on abortion to make it clear that Libertarians can hold either the pro-choice or pro-life view or maybe we should just eliminate the statement altogether.

Polls say that somewhere around half of all Americans are pro-life on the abortion issue. If we could change our attitudes, image, and platform to make the party more accepting of them, we could dramatically boost our growth.

■ About the author: Bradley Bobbs is active as an LP recruiter in Van Nuys, California.

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Wince Miller, President, ISIL

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The ISIL 2001 World Conference will be g held at the resort and spa town of Dax, in southwestern France (just south of Bordeaux) during July (1st - 5th). The conference theme will be a celebration of the bicentennial of the birth of the great French classical liberal Frederic Bastiat. Contact ISIL for the conference brochure or visit the conference website at www.bastiat.net.

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** <u>Costa Rica</u> - where the Movimiento Libertario has elected the dynamic Otto Guevara (named "Congressman of the Year" by the media) to the national congress. ****** Other examples of freedom surging across the globe, include the Libertarianz, party in New Zealand, the new Libertarian Society in Australia; the Hayek Society in Hungary, and more.

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Why George W. Bush will be bad for liberty

ike so much of his presidency, Bill Clinton's exit from Washington has set a new record for unseemly behavior. Whether it's looting the White House to furnish his new digs, or the expensive office he expected from the taxpayers, Clinton's excesses are making his successor look like a statesman by comparison.

However, as much as Libertarians rightly despise Clinton, it's possible that we may face even greater threats to our liberty during the reign of George W. Bush.

How is that possible? Doesn't Bush talk about limiting government? Won't government grow less under Bush than it did under Clinton, or would have under Gore?

So far, it doesn't look encouraging.

Take education. When Clinton made proposals to expand the role of the federal government in education, there were always some conservative Republicans making the case that the federal government shouldn't be involved in education at all.

However, now that proposals for an expanded federal role are coming from the "Compassionate Conservative," those voices have been silenced. Aside from some bickering about the meaningless voucher element in the Bush proposal, there is broad bipartisan support and it is almost certain to pass.

Conservative Republicans may see the danger, but they won't speak up against "their" president. Only Libertarians will oppose this bipartisan assault on liberty

The same is true with Bush's initiative to allow "faith-based" programs to receive federal funds. If Bush gets his way, thousands of worthwhile voluntary programs will soon become addicted to federal handouts. Plus, we'll probably see the creation of hundreds of new "faith-based" programs, each trying to get on the government gravy train.

If expanded federal grants for social welfare had been proposed by Bill Clinton or Al Gore, you can bet there would have been conservative Republicans trying to stop it. However, throw in the words "faith based" and change the author's name to Bush, and their voices fall silent.

What about government assaults on privacy and asset forfeiture, both outgrowths of the War on Drugs? Bush's choice for Attorney General, John Ashcroft, is a staunch drug warrior, with a record of supporting asset forfeiture, random roadblocks, and anti-privacy laws like "Know Your Customer." This suggests that these assaults on liberty will continue, and perhaps intensify, in the Bush administration.

Most of the opposition to "Know Your Customer" and asset forfeiture in the last Congress came from conservative Republicans. Will they mount the same level of opposition when the proposals are coming from a Republican president? I doubt it.

Once again, only Libertarians can be counted on to continue the fight for privacy, and to oppose asset forfeiture laws, no matter who occupies the White House.

It's ironic, isn't it? Some small "L" libertarians, afraid of "wasting their vote" and electing Gore, voted for Bush over Libertarian Harry Browne. They thought that government would surely grow less with a Republican president than a Democrat.

However, just the opposite appears to be happening. The Republican president submits proposals to expand the role of government, and the Republicans in Congress support him. Meanwhile, the Democrats push to expand the programs even more, and are likely to experience some success.

The Republicans have demonstrated, time and time again. that they won't reduce the size, power, expense, or intrusiveness of government, even when they are in charge. Like their Democratic colleagues, what they really care about is power.

Only Libertarians will stand up for liberty as a matter of principle, and work to promote it no matter who is in power.

The Bush years will provide a challenge for Libertarians. While Bush talks about limiting government, his actions contradict his rhetoric. Since Republican conservatives won't oppose him, Libertarians must. America's future depends on it.

Director The Appearance Police, Part II: Are there limits to zoning law?

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

Editor's note: In Part 1 of this essay, James D. Saltzman examined ways local governments infringe on property rights with zoning laws that "dictate the design and color of new buildings . . . restrict strip shopping centers, and . prohibit billboards and other types of outdoor advertising."

"As Frederic Bastiat points out in The Law," he wrote: " 'Once started, where will you stop? And where will the law stop itself?

Indeed. Where will the law stop itself?

> erhaps at requiring you to dole out an extra \$3,400 to put a wall around your yard.

That happened in Galena, Illinois, where historic preservation rules would not let Jim Holman build a wall with \$200 worth of railroad ties. Only a stone wall costing at least \$3,600 would suffice, the Houston Chronicle (November 25, 1989) reported.

Yes, for appearance's sake, it's easy to spend someone else's money.

In Seattle in 1993, Zymogenetics, Inc., a biotech company, had spent \$25 million renovating the city's defunct steam plant into a laboratory. But the building was a designated landmark, so the city's historic preservation officials forced the company to shell out an additional \$500,000 to add half a dozen fake smokestacks to resemble the ones that had been part of the original structure, according to the Wall Street Journal (September 19, 1995).

Dictating how private property should look is also a good way to encourage people you don't like to leave your community.

Pickup trucks

In Flossmoor, Illinois, that meant cracking down on owners of pickup trucks. In this town of 8,000 just south of Chicago, the open display of pickups by the town's blue-collar residents offended an affluent elite. So the village passed an ordinance that bans the parking of pickup trucks in one's driveway or on the street.

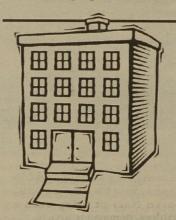
As one resident of Flossmoor for 32 years told Insight magazine (May 21, 1990), "I moved to this community because it was beautiful, quiet, upper-class . . . If they want a pickup truck and there's an ordinance in the village that



says you cannot have one on your property, then go live somewhere else

But given that there was no such ordinance when they moved in, why should the pickup owners be the ones to relocate, rather than those who wish to avoid seeing pickup trucks?

In 1990, people who lost their



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

homes to the Painted Cave fire in California weren't told to relocate. They were only not to rebuild without meeting Santa Barbara County's exacting standards for architectural correctness. Although they eventually settled for dictating detailed landscaping plans to him, county officials initially told fire victim David Pritchard that he could not replace the house he had completed just seven months earlier because it had been too tall.



At one meeting, Mr. Pritchard explained that before burning down, his hillside home had blocked the view of no neighbor. But a planning commissioner replied that allowing him to rebuild his home as tall as it had been would "allow it to be in view of everybody who drives up [Highway] 154.'

Censorship

That's a typical excuse for censoring how someone thinks his property should look: It might offend the tastes of someone else.

But is this a good reason for the government to regulate what we see? As Bernard Siegan notes in his book Land Use Without Zoning

"People differ greatly in their perceptions and concepts of beauty, and this makes it most unfair and perilous to progress to allow any one person or group to impose aesthetic controls.

"History readily bears out that society will be enriched by being subjected to a great variety of artistic or visual experiences; modern culture is enormously indebted to creations that were highly unpopular and virtually subversive in the past. Controls on the appearance of property allow intolerance to masquerade as high-mindedness, stifling innovation and creativity."

In Siegan's view, a historical preservation commission that stops controversial buildings is engaging in "a kind of censorship, no more justifiable than censoring controversial books or museum displays. The result is that we may be creating through [landuse] regulation a society in which aesthetic diversity is highly limited."

And in revoking the right of citizens to determine the appearance of their property, the government only weakens general consumer welfare.

When the New York City Landmarks Commission vetoed the building of a tower over Grand Central Terminal, it also vetoed the interests of the tower's potential residents and of the surrounding businesses that would have served those residents. As Siegan has remarked elsewhere, "the aesthetic ideals of a publicly appointed body were allowed to deny material comforts to a significant segment of the community. Only individuals exercising their private property rights, not government committees exercising dictatorial powers over property, can satisfy the widely diverse tastes and desires of people."

Take strip shopping centers. Advocates of aesthetic control may condemn them as eyesores and seek to use zoning to prevent See ZONING Page 30



Dasbach

LP National Director





Dictatorial

I keep wondering if it will ever be possible to penetrate all the previous indoctrination that Americans, including libertarians, have experienced in the truly sick, authoritarian academic system, and open their minds to the reality of what is really happening in schools.

Rachel Baxter's article, "Public School Pandemonium," [LP News, February] deals with some of the many serious problems that are found in the public schools. She comments: "Kids were subjected to emotional, physical, intellectual or spiritual carnage." How true!

But what Miss Baxter, and other libertarians, do not see is that the same things that are going on in public schools are also going on in private schools. I know this first hand, since I spent 12 years in a private school. And believe me, these institutions are just as authoritarian and just as mentally and psychologically damaging as any public school.

Both private and public schools also provide all of their victims with many years of indoctrination in blind obedience to authority figures. After all, the spoken or implied cardinal rule in all schools is: "Sit down, shut up, and do what you are told."

One does not raise freedomloving, independent, mentally healthy children in this dictatorial environment.

- THOMAS L. JOHNSON Fredericksburg, Virginia

Demagogic

After reading "Public School Pandemonium" by Rachel Baxter, I know I am not a Libertarian. I can't imagine any party, Libertarian, Republican, Democrat, or even Nazi printing such a worthless, demagogic article.

Why would you print an article talking about the public school system from any perspective which was written by someone who has only six months experience teaching in one public school?

That is, literally, incredible. - PHILLIP C. MILLER

Montandon, Pennsylvania

BELIEVE ME, private schools are as authoritarian and mentally damaging as any public school

Stick to principle

Atrocities reported in "Public School Pandemonium" remind me of my parochial school days. Instead of going out of the way to discredit public schools, stick to principle: there is nothing liber-

Any libertarian stuff on TV this week?

tarian about socialized education.

One reason why I dropped out of the ACLU is because it constantly whines about religion in public schools instead of striving to abolish public education. The other reason is because the ACLU supports a woman's right to kill and just says nothing about the right to self defense, which is opposite from a prudent libertarian position.

My elementary and secondary education were paid for by the Catholics of the community. If it were not for the public school tax, I would be able to pay them back by supporting the Catholic school system.

- BOB DOSTAL

Iowa City, Iowa

In dire need

My grandfather supported Franklin D. Roosevelt because he perceived that Roosevelt "kept the people from starving."

Times will get harsh sometime, and we Libertarians should be ready with a practical, realistic answer for the folks in dire need. I was brought up in the Depression and witnessed folks who were really poor.

A hungry person may perceive the finer points of liberty as not relevant to immediate needs. - ROLAND O. PETERSON Waltham Massachusetts

Waltham Massachusetts

Do something

After reading The Pulse's responses to "And the #1 priority is . . ." [LP News, January] I have concluded that you are all correct. Unlike Socialism, the quest for liberty is not centrally planned. There is no "One True Way" for See **THE MAILBOX** Page 28



Three cheers for April 15th!

pril 15th, the day when Americans must file their income tax forms, may be the most reviled day of the year for Libertarians — except when it comes to the party's national convention.

Tax Day 2004 (or shortly before or after) was the most popular answer to this month's unscientific Pulse question: When should the LP hold its presidential nominating convention for the 2004 campaign, in order to maximize publicity and credibility and minimize conflicts and inconvenience?

Pointing to the obvious public relations tie-in, the fact that the date is still close to the traditional convention season, and other "reasons too obvious to mention," April 15th was selected by 37% of the respondents.

Coming in second with 26% of the vote was late June 2004 — which, supporters said, lacked the scheduling conflicts of the July 4th weekend but was still around the time that the "real" political parties nominated a presidential candidate.

No other date garnered more than a few percentage points. Here is a representative selection of responses:

■ Just after April 15th, of course! Also, the Revolutionary War started on April 17th, so we can celebrate the anniversary of the shots heard 'round the world, at the same time we'll have 200 million taxpaying Americans thinking about joining us!

– EDWARD TEYSSIER, San Diego, California

■ May I suggest moving it back to St. Valentines Day to honor Lady Liberty? (Sadly most of our wives and girlfriends are mad at us for getting into politics anyway.) - SCOTT A. WILSON, Concord, California

■ Often new holidays supplant old holidays. I suggest we have the convention on the May 1st weekend, to take away the Communist May Day parade. — ANDREW SULLIVAN, Omaha, Nebraska

■ The weekend before April 15th, for reasons too obvious to mention.

- PAUL SCOTT WILLIAMS, Denver, Colorado

■ Mid-January, 2004. Why: To give the presidential candidate more time to campaign; and to avoid using stand-in names on ballot petitions, which cause unnecessary confusion. Unlike the major parties with their permanent ballot status, nationally known candidates even before nomination, and millions with which to blitz the media in the last few months, we can't play by their book. We should start earlier. Be the first to kick off the season. - CARL VASSAR, Trumbull, Connecticut

■ Columbus Day, 2003, with all participants wearing black armbands, clearly establishing Columbus Day, for Libertarians, as a day of mourning — as it is for Native Americans. Columbus, like the rest of his conquistador thugs, was a macho, moronic idiot who raped, enslaved, and killed natives non-stop. Let's redefine the paradigm! — MAX WHEELER, Falmouth, Massachusetts

■ The convention should be held in 2003 not 2004, preferably about August. This will give our presidential candidate time to run a long-term campaign. The decision to hold it in 2003 should be made ASAP so all potential candidates can prepare.

- MIKE SMITH, Wilmington, Delaware

■ Nooooooo! Not back into the previous year! Not even back a couple months. Doing that would be like conceding. We may not be making the kind of progress we'd like to, but it's certainly not time to fold up our tents and retreat back into the prior year where all the tiny parties live who need 18 months to get ballot access in 18 states. I see the point of moving it backwards a few weeks, but no more than that.

- RICHARD MORONEY, Davenport, Iowa

See THE PULSE Page 28



Continued from Page 23

Schedule the convention as closely as possible to the Federal Income Tax deadline, April 15th. This is when anti-government sentiment is high, thus guaranteeing that any publicity will fall on open ears. - TOM HARTUNG, Denver, Colorado

How about a week after the last [Republican and Democratic] primary, so as not to compete with primaryseason news - but to be the top political story that week (Lord willing)?

- ANDREW LOHR, Chattanooga, Tennessee

The third weekend of June is best: Close to July 4th without imposing upon it.

- ROBERT SEZAK, Waterville, Maine

How about Tax Freedom Day [early May]? An excellent opportunity to further educate the country on the burdens of government. And how about this for a slogan, "When you elect a Libertarian as President, Inauguration Day will be Tax Freedom Day for America!" - MARK D. MATHES, Stuart, Florida

Move the convention back but not too far back. As a new member of the party I would not have noticed the convention on C-SPAN had it been in September of 1999. - JACK MCHUGH, Folcroft, Pennsylvania

■ In the latter part of April 2004. At that time, the cost of the Republicrat government is still fresh in everyone's mind. This focal point could be emphasized! - H.R. BOWLES, JR., Huntington Beach, California

May Question: Benefit of voting LP?

oting, it has been said, is like economics. People vote because they want something - so they "invest" a vote to get a particular benefit from one party, or to keep another party from taking a benefit away. If true, is that why the LP doesn't get more votes? Because we don't promise realistic and immediate benefits for people? Working on that assumption, what "benefits" could principled Libertarian candidates promise voters - benefits that would immediately help individuals or families, but, at the same time, don't seem wildly improbable? For example, voters might not believe that an LP candidate could abolish the federal income tax. But would they believe that we could repeal (at the state level) the annual fee to renew your auto registration?

Question: What is the *single* best, immediate, believable benefit that state or national Libertarian candidates could promise voters, if elected? And why? DEADLINE: April 8, 2001

April Question: Misconception?

hen he ran for president in 1984, David Bergland has said, the only "third party" most voters had ever heard of was the Communist Party. So back then, Libertarians were seen as a strange brand of communist (!). Things have changed - but how much? Today, some voters mistakenly think the LP is affiliated with Democratic crackpot Lyndon LaRouche. Some think we're left-over liberals in the "marijuana legalization" party, while some perceive us as a radically conservative bunch of ubër-Republicans. In fact, there may be as many misconceptions about the Libertarian Party's positions, motivations, image, and goals 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

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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

LITEMailBox

Continued from Page 23 everybody. There is a way for every individual to contribute. You decide what to support.

If you think presidential races are important, support them

If you think congressional races are the way to go; get involved.

If your thing is local politics; go to your city council meeting and speak out.

Single issue voters; find a club or PAC. Can't? Start one. You would be amazed at what three or four people can do if they try.

Don't waste too much of your time telling other libertarian activists that they are wrong. Save that for the Statists; they are the real enemy.

And remember that you don't promote Liberty by reading about it in books, magazines, or endless e-mail list serves. You can promote Liberty by writing about it, but only if it motivates somebody to action.

Or to put it another way, as the Honorable Fred Collins (LP City Councilman Berkley, Michigan) recommended at our National Convention, "Shut The F*** Up and DO Something!" - SCOTT A. WILSON Concord, California

Punch or stab?

Allen T. Hyde writes (The MailBox, February) that a pragmatist must vote for the more desirable candidate of the two major parties in a close election.

TO BE A PARTY member, does one need to conform 100% to the party line?

When the candidates are the likes of Bush and Gore, that's like saying one should ask for a punch in the face rather than a stab in the heart, because a punch in the face is much less likely to be fatal

- WALT THIESSEN Simsbury, Connecticut

Purity Police

This is an open letter to Mr. Ben Pixley, who wrote "Am I Libertarian enough?" [LP News, January 2001].

Mr. Pixley, as a party which exists to advocate, and someday implement, our idealistic philosophy, some folks are very concerned that some people might claim the libertarian label for themselves, and yet publicly espouse ideas which we do not believe, thereby confusing people about what we really stand for.

Others fear the party being "watered down" and eventually losing its principles if enough such people join. Hence the people you refer to as the "purity police."

SELECTED BY SOUNDVIEW EXECUTIVE BOOK SUMMARIES...

I've met LP members from the early days who've told me stories about being jailed for passing out literature, or protesting, legislatures passing laws making it harder for us to get ballot access, media attacks, etc.

Like you, these folks want a community of fellow thinkers to "fall back on," to use your words. They've seen a lot of threats to the party from outside, and are very wary about destruction from the inside.

So here's my advice to you there's only one officer on the "purity police force" that you need listen to: yourself. Examine your beliefs logically, and measure them against your Libertarian pledge never to initiate force or fraud, or to advocate doing so.

If nothing you believe conflicts with this, then you certainly are libertarian enough, and you are hereby encouraged to ignore anyone who thinks you're not! - PAUL SCOTT WILLIAMS

Denver, Colorado

Libertarian enough?

I recently joined the Libertarian Party and have read my first LP News. I am now questioning this act. I wonder is anyone Libertarian enough?

Upon reading the LP News I have become confused and concerned. To be a member of the Libertarian Party does one need to conform 100% to the party line? It appears from Ben Pixley's article "Am I Libertarian enough?" that he doesn't know. I wonder if 99% or even 99.9% agreement would be OK.

Personally I haven't happened upon anyone or anything, including my fiance, the Holy See THE MAILBOX Page 25

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RENAISSANCE

LITEMailBox

Continued from Page 24 Bible, and the Libertarian Party, which will agree with my views 100% of the time.

Now I personally believe in most of the party ideals but if 100% agreement is required I will not be a member for long. I hope to find diverse, individual thought welcome and admired.

- JAMES A. NEWMAN

Macomb Township, Michigan

Snobby politics

Ben Pixley asks, "Am I Libertarian enough?"

This man's opinions and attitudes towards libertarianism are humbling. Mr. Pixley deals with a silver tongue to some of us who are tied up in the chains of egomania, smug elitism, snobby politics, etc.

After doing a double take on this article, I realized that most Libertarians are well-adjusted, high-minded individualists, but some seem to come across as simply stuck-up. Thank you, Mr. Pixley, for your wise thoughts. - CHRIS COX

San Marcos, California

Victory?

The U.S.A.'s new president seeks a general tax cut, and seeks serious privatization of part of Social Security?

I think that's something of a libertarian victory.

- ANDREW LOHR Chattanooga, Tennessee

RIP, #3

I would like to express disagreement with Tim O'Brien's article in the February 2001 *LP News* (The Forum, "In Memoriam: The Bill of Rights").

In it, he states that the Third Amendment of the Bill of Rights "has survived more than two centuries of statist assault." He mentions, of course, that the other nine are being violated. Add one to make that ten.

The Third Amendment in the

Bill of Rights says, "No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law."

This Amendment was created with the occupation of British soldiers in the colonial cities and dwellings fresh in the minds of the Anti-Federalists. The abomination of the occupation and quartering of British troops was the British's surveillance of the Colonists, against their rights of privacy. And the predominant agent of the federal government in the founders' times was a soldier. However, we can logically infer from the text that it actually prohibits any federal agent from living among you in your home, and monitoring you.



With the technological advances that have developed since then, the government now can conduct surveillance via wiretapping your phone, watching you through your window 5,000 feet above, and placing bugs in all of your possessions to make them a fully quartered, uninvited guest in your home. And no doubt, with the tyranny of J. Edgar Hoover up to modern times, the federal government does exactly that!

So therefore, it has been decades since the Third Amendment has been desecrated by snooping politicians, and that vital Amendment has been lost as well.

- KEITH M. DONAT Shaker Heights, Ohio

Shaker Heights, Oh

More tolerant

In the February 2001 *LP News* [The MailBox], Carol Moore disses Objectivists and individualism.

She refers to "opinionated Randians who have imposed their individualist ideology on the noninitiation of force principle." Considering that libertarians got this principle from Rand's philosophy and separated it from its underlying philosophical justification, it is Ms. Moore who is doing the imposing with her radical decentralism.

That said, as an Objectivist, I personally don't try to ram my philosophy down anyone's throat. I think that only a reawakening of ethical individualism will bring about a libertarian society, but I take a cue from David Kelley that truth and toleration should go hand in hand. It is groups such as The Objectivist Center that are waging the battle for liberty on the cultural front, and the work they do will help propel the LP on the political front.

Therefore, I value my participation in the party to help support an organization that may one day play a major role in defending liberty and protecting the possibility of human flourishing.

To the Objectivists in the party, I encourage you to stay and be a positive influence, but practice your people skills. As Ayn Rand pointed out, you can't force a mind, so a soft-handed approach to persuasion are valuable.

And to the Carol Moores of the party, please try to be a little more tolerant yourselves.

- MARK SULKOWSKI Buffalo, New York

See THE MAILBOX Page 26

BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY





Continued from Page 29

Name change I

I want to second Ghazey Aleck's letter in The MailBox [LP News, December 2000], recommending a name change.

Why are we all so stubbornly hanging on to a party name that brings instant rejection from potential members?

It matters little whether the label "Libertarian" has been wrongfully maligned so that the general public believes a Libertarian to be someone who wants to coddle criminals and godless communists, et cetera.

I don't have a name suggestion but, when you consider Tom Davis' article, recognizing that people vote emotionally, it is clear that we ought to have some names submitted by other members, and choose a new name through a voting process permitting all members to cast their vote.

Let's do it now, so we can begin to grow and make a real difference for the next election! - GERHARD KLEINSCHMIDT

Aledo, Texas

Name change II

As a long-time supporter of the Libertarian Party, I am aware of its uphill struggle to gain wide public recognition.

We all know how much more media recognition was given to Pat Buchanan and Ralph Nader in this presidential campaign than was given to Harry Browne in spite of Harry's valiant efforts

WHAT IF WE changed our name to the "Liberal

Party," with its original meaning?

to gain publicity. Whether we will have future candidates with wide name recognition is an unknown. But there is something we could consider doing right now about name recognition that would bring instant publicity. I am referring to the name of the party.

We chose a word for our party's name that most of the public had never heard. Even today, in spite of 28 years of our devoted efforts, the word "libertarian" is still not understood by many.

What about the widely known word "liberal"? We longingly explain to others that we are the true or classical liberals, but that doesn't get us much publicity except among the scholars. We have allowed the Democrats to capture the use of the word "liberal" even though they joined the big government movement in 1933.

We have spent many years and millions of dollars just to explain to the voters the meaning of an obscure word in the dictionary

What if, instead, we recap-

tured the word "liberal" with its original meaning by changing our name to the Liberal Party? The publicity and possible media furor might put our agenda right out in front of the huge number of potential voters.

- ROBERT B. GLASSCO Grass Valley, California

Flaunt it

A recent letter writer suggested that LP members flaunt Libertarian bumper stickers on their vehicles. I concur.

My friends often tell me, "Hey, don't you think it's about time to remove your Harry Browne for President 2000 bumper sticker? I mean, it's over already!"

To which I reply, "No way, I'm going to leave it on until the 2004 stickers are available!"

- BARRY ROWE Melbourne, Florida

Wasted votes I'll never waste my vote for president again.

In 1992, I voted against Bill Clinton even though I was very unhappy with George Bush's abandonment of Reagan's legacy. That vote was followed with four vears of sadness and regret.

In 1996, I once again voted against Clinton even though I felt I could expect only a little better with Bob Dole. Once again, my vote was followed by four years of shame and embarrassment.

Finally, in 2000, I voted for Harry Browne, a candidate whose political philosophy parallels mine. I'm proud and I feel great. I'll never waste my vote for president again.

- EDWARD P. JUCEVIC Reno, Nevada



April 20-22, 2001

Washington state LP Convention, Doubletree Seattle Airport Hotel, SeaTac. Speakers include Ed Crane (president, Cato Institute), Justice Richard Sanders (Washington Supreme Court), Carla Howell (2000 Massachusetts candidate, U.S. Senate), and Tim Slagle (libertarian comedian). For information, call: (425) 917-0777. Or visit: www.altopia.com/Secure/Ipws/convention.htm.

April 21, 2001

Libertarian National Committee, Inc. Meeting and Strategic Planning Meeting, Washington, DC. Exact location TBA. 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 21-22, 2001

Minnesota LP Convention, Mystic Lake Casino/Hotel, Prior Lake. Speakers include Marshall Fritz (Separation of School & State Alliance). For information, contact: ChasDTest@aol.com.

🖬 April 27-29, 2001

Indiana LP Convention, French Lick Springs Resort, French Lick. Speakers include Mark Tuniewicz (LP National Treasurer), William Styring, III (Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute), Carla Howell, (2000 Massachusetts U.S. Senate candidate), and Steve Dasbach (LP National Director). For information, call Indiana LP Executive Director Brad Klopfenstein: (317) 920-1994. E-mail: lpinhq@lpin.org. Or visit: www.lpin.org.

🖬 April 27-29, 2001

Georgia LP Convention, Four Points Sheraton, Atlanta. Speakers TBA. For information, contact Mark Mosley at (404) 888-9468. E-mail: mark.mosley@ga.lp.org.

🖬 April 28, 2001

New York LP Convention, Holiday Inn Midtown (Manhattan), New York City. Speakers include Reginald Jones (motivational speaker), Joan Kennedy Taylor (Association of Libertarian Feminists), Dr. Donna Gaines (author, Teenage Wasteland: Youth In Suburbia), Ray Mincome (OSCAR lawsuit), and Mark Edgerton (LP candidate for governor, New Jersey). For information, call: (516) 746-5769. E-mail: nylibertarian@hotmail.com.

April 28, 2001

Wisconsin LP Convention, location and speakers TBA. For information, contact Ron Emery: (414) 377-0325. E-mail: ronemery@aol.com.

🖬 April 28, 2001

Alabama LP Convention, Capital City Club (RSA Tower), Montgomery. Speakers include Sharon Harris (president, Advocates for Self-Government). For information, call Mike Rster at: (205) 328-8683. Or e-mail: gallatin76@aol.com.

🖬 May 4-6, 2001

Michigan LP Convention, Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth. Speakers include Lawrence Reed (president, Mackinac Center for Public Policy), R.W. Bradford (editor, Liberty magazine), and Cameron Knowles (libertarian radio talk show host). For information, call: (248) 591-FREE. Or visit: www.mi.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), and Poul Anderson (author, The Star Fox). For information, visit: www.LFS.org.

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). For information, visit: www.libertarian.to or www.bastiat.net.

PRINCE CHARLES asked about an 800-foot skyscraper, "Why does it have

onto an unwilling public, but because these media provide information consumers desire.

A free market ruled by consumers is not what Scenic America wants. Neither do other advocates of coercive controls on the appearance of property. Unfortunately, Prince Charles of England is such an advocate.

According to the November 5, 1988, edition of The Spectator, Prince Charles does not like tall buildings.

When viewing the plans for an 800-foot skyscraper, Prince Charles asked the architect, "Why does it have to be quite so tall?"

cause the developers think enough consumers want to purchase or lease space in a building that tall. Individuals who must bear the economic consequences of what they do with their property are competent to decide how it should look This essay reprinted with per-

mission 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.

3. Bernard H. Siegan, Land Use Without Zoning (Lexington, Mass.:D.C. Heath and Co., 1972), p. 143. 4. Siegan, p. 143.

5. Countering claims that billboard advertising or other advertising - of alcohol and tobacco could contribute to the public health problems associated with increased consumption of those products, Ekelund and Saurman note that the 1971 ban on the broadcast advertisement of cigarettes apparently had only a small effect on overall consumption. Moreover, advertising restrictions for such controversial products retard the introduction of their safer versions, as the ban on TV cigarette advertising slowed the introduction of low-tar and low-nicotine cigarettes. See Robert Ekelund and David Saurman Advertising and the Market Process (San Francisco: Pacific Research Institute for Public Policy, 1988), pp. 149, 137.

Zoning: Who controls your property? Continued from Page 26 The answer is simple: Be-

their construction. Yet the outlets they contain - laundromats, convenience stores, repair shops serve the needs of the poor and less mobile in the population. ⁴

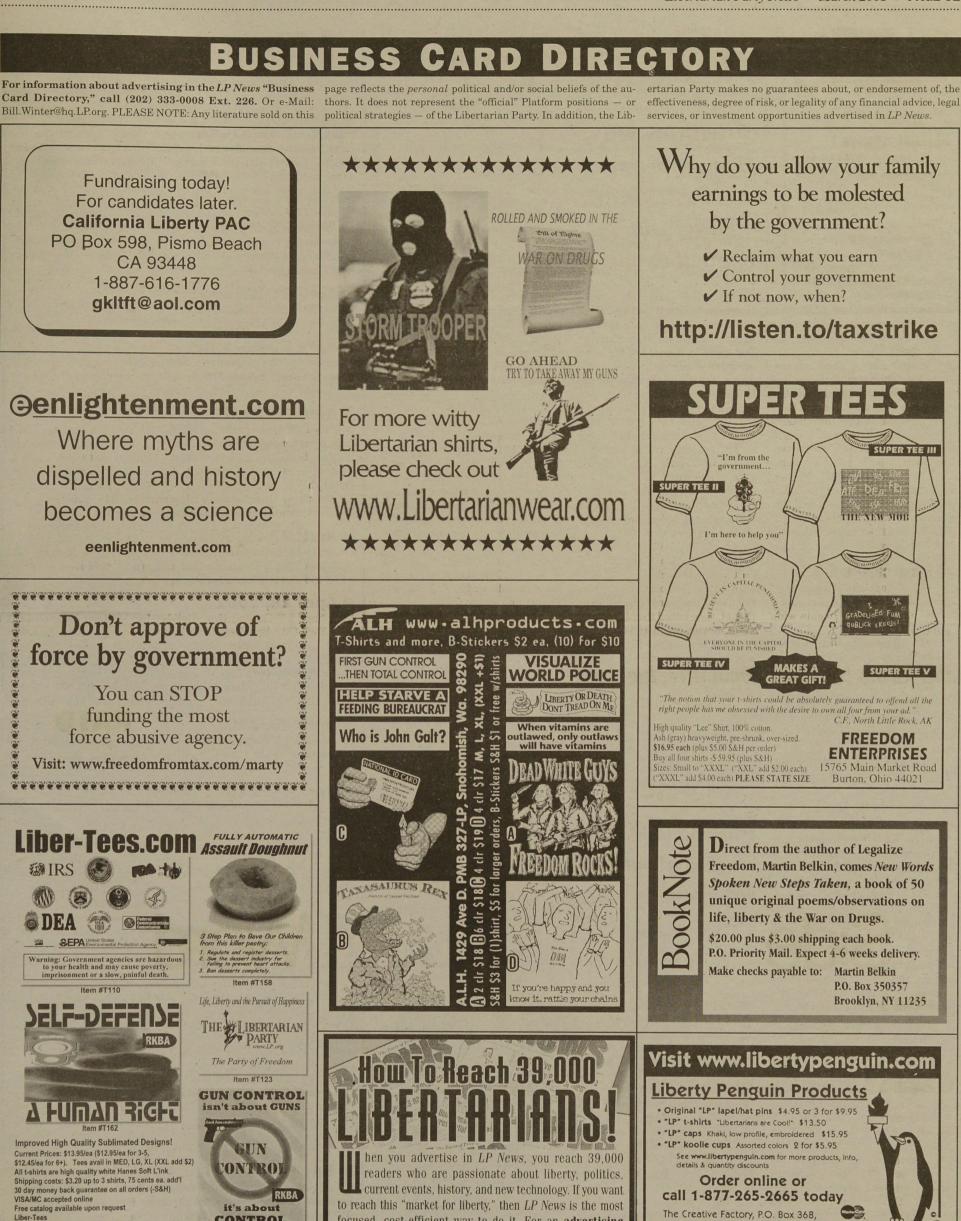
Or take billboards. Scenic America, a national lobbying organization devoted to cleaning up visual pollution, dismisses billboard advertising as "a parasitic industry benefitting a small interest group at enormous cost to the public," according to the group's Sign Control News (March/April 1990).

Business rivalry

In fact, outdoor advertising benefits consumers by increasing business rivalry. Roadside signs are often the cheapest way for new businesses to challenge more established firms for the patronage of customers. Billboard price advertising allows consumers to find lower-priced gasoline more easily, reducing the average price paid.⁵

In others words, billboards and other commercial signs exist, not because a parasitic outdoor advertising industry forces them

to be so tall?"



CONTROL P.O. Box 1330 Questions? Redlands, CA 92373 email: info@liber-tees.com Item #T169

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COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Linfo Uccoming

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 FL). Or visit: www.LPF.org.

March 3, 2001

Delaware LP Convention, Rusty Rudder, Dewey Beach. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (302) 659-1920.

March 10-11, 2001

Libertarian National Committee Strategic Planning Meeting, Chicago, Illinois. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 228.

March 15-18, 2001

Reason Weekend 2001, Loews Miami Beach Hotel, Miami, Florida. Sponsored by the Reason Foundation. For information, call Amber Trudgeon: (310) 391-2245. E-mail: ambert@reason.org

March 16-17, 2001

Iowa LP Convention, Memorial Union, Iowa State University, Ames. Speakers include Barbara Goushaw (LP campaign manager and keynote speaker, 2000 National LP Convention), Ed Fallon (Democratic State Representative), and recent Iowa LP candidates. For information, call Sylvia Olson: (712) 335-4049. E-mail: bensylolson@ncn.net.

📕 March 17 , 2001

Tennessee LP Convention, Realty Association Building, Nashville. Speakers include Jim Lark (LP National Chair). For information, visit: www.lptn.org.

March 23-25, 2001

Illinois LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Rolling Meadows. Speakers include Jim Tobin (National Taxpayers United of Illinois). For information, call: (800) 735-1776. E-mail: phenix815@aol.com.

March 24, 2001

New Jersey LP Convention, Ramada Inn, East Windsor. Speakers include Roy Innis (CORE), James Bovard (author, *Feeling Your Pain*), Sharon Harris (Advocates for Self-Government), Doug Friedline (Campaign Manager), and Jim Lark (LP National Chair). For information, e-mail: RobertLJ@yahoo.com. Visit: www.LPNJ.org.

March 30- April 1, 2001

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Radisson Hotel, Bethlehem. Speakers include Bradley A. Smith (FEC Commissioner), Tim Slagle (libertarian comedian), and Jacob Hornberger (president, Future of Freedom Foundation). For information, e-mail: lppachair@enter.net. Or visit: www.lppa.org.

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.

March 31, 2001

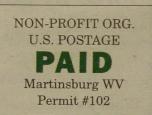
Nebraska LP Convention, Sheraton Four Point Hotel, Omaha. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (402) 426-5667. Page: (402) 899-7877. E-mail: chair@lpne.org. Or visit: www.lpne.org.

March 31-April1, 2001

Cato University Weekend Seminar: "The American Enlightenment," Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. For information, visit: www.cato-university.org. Or call: (202) 218-4633. For more Upcoming Events, see page 30.

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

Watergate Office Building 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100 Washington DC 20037



L**TSide**

- PAGE 1 State Senator in Oregon joins the Libertarian Party
- PAGE 3 Edgerton plus Friedline equals victory in New Jersey race?
- PAGE 4 Val Venis lays a smackdown for libertarianism

LITS Word

"Libertarian thinking [is] by far the most resourceful and imaginative strand of political [philosophy] extant today."

 JAMES RIDGEWAY, The Village Voice, January 30, 2001

"The Libertarians' free-market fundamentalism strikes a responsive chord among some of those attracted to idealistic politics." - SALIM MUWAKKIL, *In These Times*, Nov. 13, 2000

"The bracing thing about the Libertarian message is that it is rigorously consistent. They are not just telling people what they want to hear. This is not the politics of the free lunch."

- JOEY CHIN, Sacramento Valley Mirror (California), November 7, 2000