

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle



July 1999

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Photo by Bill Winter

Project Archimedes generates mail bombardment

■ Dollie Parker, the Membership Records Administrator at the Libertarian Party's national headquarters in Washington, DC, sorts through some of the dozens of trays of mail that have come in from the party's million-piece Project Archimedes membership recruitment effort. By mid June, the LP had received more than 10,000 responses — including new memberships, contributions, take-me-off-the-mailing-list demands, and requests for more information. Despite the promising early surge of mail, it will take another month before the party has a good sense of exactly how successful the mailing was, said LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

Anti-KYC bills pick up co-sponsors

Congressman Ron Paul's bills to kill the "Know Your Customer" regulation have picked up an influential co-sponsor — U.S. House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde (R-IL) — as well as numerous other Congressional supporters over the past several months.

The flurry of activity appears to have been propelled by the Libertarian Party's DefendYourPrivacy.com website, which has generated 50,835 e-mail lobbying messages, reported LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

Co-sponsors up

Since early April, the number of House co-sponsors to HR 516 (The Know Your Customer Sunset Act) has increased to 63 from 47, and the number of co-sponsors for HR 518 (The Bank Secrecy Sunset Act) has jumped to 15 from two.

"House members are feeling the heat from our DefendYour-

Privacy.com lobbying effort," said Dasbach. "The increased number of co-sponsors seems to prove the effectiveness of Internet-based lobbying."

Looming large among the co-sponsors in terms of influence on Capital Hill is Congressman Hyde, who signed on to both

bills in early June.

"As we grant the federal government ever-increasing law enforcement powers, we must ensure those powers are never abused and the rights of American citizens are not trampled on," said Hyde, explaining his

See **CO-SPONSOR** Page 3

Party pitches in for anti-pay raise effort

Libertarian Party joins new coalition to fight proposed presidential pay increase

The Libertarian Party has joined a coalition to fight a plan to double the president's salary to \$400,000 a year — a proposal party leaders say could "trigger massive increases in salaries paid throughout the federal bureaucracy."

In late May, the party officially joined an anti-pay-hike campaign sponsored by the Congressional Accountability Project (CAP) and supported by the Reform Party, the Free Congress Foundation, the Green Party, and the National Taxpayers Union.

The goal: To stop a proposal by the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government to give the president a \$200,000 annual pay raise — on top of the current \$200,000 annual salary.

Although the Libertarian Party's platform does not specifically address the issue of proper

salaries for government officials, the party joined the effort because it opposes any effort to increase the cost of government, said Steve Dasbach, LP national director.

"Being part of this coalition reinforces the image of the LP as consistently favoring the interests of taxpayers over politicians — and shows that we are serious about cutting the size and expense of government," he said.

Currently, the salary of the president serves as a cap on the salaries of members of Congress, federal judges, and other federal bureaucrats, noted Dasbach — so, if the president's salary was doubled, the "ripple effect" could cost taxpayers millions.

"We are talking about a lot more than \$200,000," he said. "Doubling the president's salary would trigger massive salary increases throughout the federal bureaucracy."

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Connecticut LP helps stop stadium plan

PERSONAL ESSAY

An American Libertarian in Poland

Watching a nation undergo "shock therapy" as it moves towards freedom

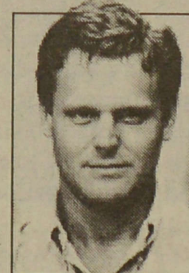
By Douglas Keegan

Editor's note: Between 1990 to 1999, Libertarian Douglas Keegan spent a total of eight years in Poland while that country underwent economic "shock therapy" — moving from Communism to a (not quite) free market.

During that time, he experi-

enced many facets of Polish life: As a student; working at a state-run theater; and employed as a privatization consultant.

Here are a few "snapshots" ■ Keegan: "A buzz in the air."



of his experiences in Poland: A Libertarian's perspective of a nation stumbling towards liberty.

I arrived in Warsaw, Poland on September 2, 1990. The government had just implemented radical political and economic reforms and there was a buzz in the air. Street vendors

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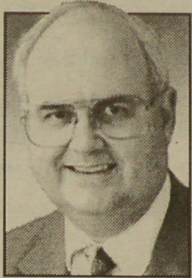
NEWSBRIEFS

Dasbach to play role in Cato Encyclopedia

Libertarian Party National Director Steve Dasbach has been invited to serve on an honorary board for *The Encyclopedia of Libertarianism*, a new publication being planned by the Cato Institute.

The *Encyclopedia* "is a comprehensive, single-volume reference work designed to fill the needs of academic and public libraries," said Jeffrey Schultz, who is on the editing team. "The work will contain entries on people, ideas, and policy perspectives [as well as] several appendices including a directory of libertarian organizations and an annotated bibliography of books." The planned publication date for the *Encyclopedia of Libertarianism* is late 2000.

"I'm honored to be asked to help with this important volume," said Dasbach. "The Libertarian Party has certainly played an important role in the development of the modern libertarian movement, and it's nice that our influence will be felt in this new *Encyclopedia of Libertarianism*."



■ Steve Dasbach: He's "honored."

How to meet your intellectual match

The Henry Hazlitt Foundation has started The Intellectual Matchmaker on the World Wide Web — a service that is a "cross between a personal networking service and a highly specialized search engine."

Available at <http://www.free-market.nevimm>, The Intellectual Matchmaker "introduces people who share the same libertarian ideas and interests, and makes personalized recommendations of online and offline resources," said Chris Whitten, executive director of The Henry Hazlitt Foundation.

Visitors to the site are asked 10 questions about libertarian influences and interests, and, based on their responses, are "instantly presented with a Web page of personalized recommendations, selected from over 3,000 people, home pages, news stories, books, e-texts, events, job openings, local clubs, and other resources from around the world," said Whitten.

"People sometimes accuse the Internet of being impersonal and putting up barriers to real human interaction," he said. "But as most Internet users know, it's just the opposite. Tools like The Intellectual Matchmaker are bringing people together."

The service, which is free, has already generated some rave reviews. "The Intellectual Matchmaker helps realize the promise of the Internet," said John Fund of the *Wall Street Journal*. "Never before in history have people of kindred spirit and like mind been so easily able to communicate and share ideas."

The Henry Hazlitt Foundation is a non-profit, libertarian corporation headquartered in Chicago, Illinois.

Scott Becker joins Voting Integrity Project

Libertarian Party activist Scott Becker has joined the governing board of the Voting Integrity Project (VIP), a nationally recognized non-partisan election watchdog organization.

"I am honored to serve on the Voting Integrity Project's board," said Becker when he joined in early June.

Based in Arlington, Virginia, the Voting Integrity Project offers free programs to "protect election integrity." It has been involved in elections in California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania — and most recently in Maryland, where it conducted a fraud-focused poll-watching program during that state's 1998 gubernatorial election.

Becker, a Maryland podiatrist, is best known in Libertarian circles for his campaign to reform Maryland's discriminatory ballot access laws. Coordinating an alliance that included the ACLU and the Maryland Public Interest Research Group, Becker convinced the state legislature to dramatically lower signature requirements for smaller party candidates to get on the ballot. The new law went into effect in January 1999.

For more information about the Voting Integrity Project, see: www.voting-integrity.org.

Libertarian Party joins campaign opposing presidential pay raise

Continued from Page 1

In a letter, co-signed by CAP director Gary Ruskin and coalition members, candidates for the 2000 presidential nomination were asked to oppose the pay hike.

"The president's salary and benefits come from the taxpayers, more than 99% of whom earn far less than the president," said the letter. "To the overwhelming majority of Americans, \$200,000 per year, plus enormous living expense benefits, pension, staff and lucrative future prospects is already a great deal of money."

In addition to a \$200,000

STEVE DASBACH:
"There is no economic reason to pay more."

salary, the president of the United States gets a \$50,000 expense allowance, an estimated \$500,000 a year in presidential perks, and a pension worth at least \$152,000 annually.

Given that generous compensation — and the fact that

there's no shortage of people who would like to be president — Libertarians also oppose the pay hike because they understand economics, said Dasbach.

No shortage

"It's a simple matter of supply and demand," he said. "There certainly doesn't seem to be a shortage of applicants for the job of President at its present salary of \$200,000. So there is no economic reason to pay more."

The pay-hike measure, which would not take effect until 2001, must still pass both the House and Senate and then be signed by President Bill Clinton.

StopTheWarNow.com shuts down

With Yugoslavian War over, site becomes inactive — for now

With the war in Yugoslavia apparently winding down and the U.S.-led bombing campaign halted, the Libertarian Party has suspended its StopTheWarNow.com website, calling it a "successful cyber-lobbying campaign" that allowed Libertarians to reach out to the anti-war movement.

On June 14, the party ended the active lobbying phase of the website, during which people had been able to sign personalized e-mail petitions against the war and send them to their U.S. Representative and two U.S. Senators.

During the 49 days the site was online, it generated 16,504 e-mail petitions.

A success

Although StopTheWarNow.com apparently played little role in the eventual end to the Yugoslavian war — and the number of signatures was modest in comparison to those generated by the party's DefendYourPrivacy.com site — the party considered the site a success, said LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

"It may have helped keep Congress from voting to endorse the war and made it less likely that the President would commit ground troops," he said. "The vote on endorsing the war was very close — a few votes could have made the difference. And, just as important, it provided a way for the LP to reach out to the antiwar community."

Although the StopTheWarNow.com website will no longer

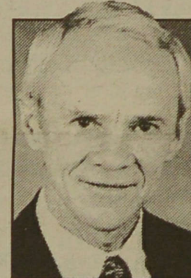
be active, it will remain accessible on the web, pointing people to the LP's website.

Plus, the party wants to keep the site ready for the next war, said Dasbach.

"Now that we have no significant enemies around the world, it seems the U.S. goes to war every year or two," he noted. "Sadly, I suspect that we'll need to reactivate StopTheWarNow.com before too long."

When the war ended, party leaders hailed the end of the bloodshed, but warned about the "high cost" of peace.

"Libertarians celebrate whenever bombing and killing stops," said the party's national chairman, David Bergland. "But the price of victory is distressingly high. Our nation will con-



■ Bergland: The "Cost of peace."

tinue to pay the penalty — politically, financially, and constitutionally — for this ill-conceived war for years or decades to come."

Dangerous lesson

■ It's a dangerous lesson in foreign policy: "Ironically, the legacy of peace in Yugoslavia may be more war," said Bergland. "Why? Because the relative ease of our victory and the lack of American casualties may embolden future presidents to launch more 'war-lite' conflicts, just to burnish their credentials as brave leaders of the World's Only Superpower."

■ It's going to hit American taxpayers in the wallet: "If you thought war was expensive, wait until you find out how much peace costs," he said. "The early estimate of the price tag to rebuild Yugoslavia — after we spent more than two months systematically bombing it to rubble — is up to \$150 billion."

LP NEWS

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Karl Hess ♦ 1923-1994

Hornberger ends bid for presidency

In a surprise development, Jacob "Bumper" Hornberger has dropped out of the race for the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination.

On June 12, Hornberger announced at the annual convention of the Washington state LP in Bellevue that he would shut down his presidential exploratory committee and return all contributions.

"Citing irreconcilable conflicts of interest between his duties as president of the Future of Freedom Foundation, and those of being a political candidate, Hornberger relinquished his hopes for the White House in favor of dedicating his energy towards the Foun-



■ Hornberger: Out of the race

dation and to championing the libertarian philosophy," reported James Walker of DebateUSA.com.

"Hornberger called it one of the hardest and saddest decisions he had ever been forced into making," wrote Walker.

At LP News deadline, Hornberger had not issued an official announcement about his decision, or responded to questions.

Just 66 days

Hornberger's announcement came just 66 days after he launched his exploratory committee, and after more than a year of hinting that he would run an innovative "guerrilla-style" presidential campaign.

Candidates still in the race include 1996 presidential contender Harry Browne; five-time LP candidate for public office Jim Burns; 1998 Libertarian candidate for U.S. House Dave Hollist; and LP member Larry Hines.

Influential co-sponsor signs on with KYC bill

Continued from Page 1

support for the legislation.

"I'm pleased Chairman Hyde has taken an active stance in working to protect the civil liberties of American citizens," said Paul.

The bills have also been endorsed by the Competitive Enterprise Institute, the ACLU, the Eagle Forum, the Free Congress Foundation, and Americans for Tax Reform, said Paul.

The Libertarian Party is supporting HR 516 and HR 518 as "Phase II" of its campaign to kill the Know Your Customer regulation, which would force banks to spy on their customers, and report all "suspicious" activity to the federal government.

Although the original regulation was withdrawn in March, federal regulators have strongly hinted the regulation would be back, or imposed as a semi-official "policy."

In response, Congressman Paul filed legislation to perma-

nently kill the proposal:

■ HR 516 ("The Know Your Customer Sunset Act") would prohibit the FDIC, Federal Reserve, or any other agency from implementing any Know Your Customer-style regulation.

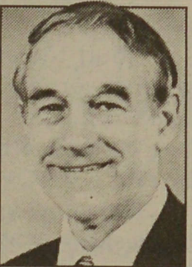
■ HR 518 ("The Bank Secrecy Sunset Act") would scrap the Nixon-era Bank Secrecy Act, which provides the regulatory excuse to monitor individuals' banking habits. The bill would require Congress to either rewrite the law, or devolve regulatory power to the states.

Lobbying destination

To support the bills, the LP turned its DefendYourPrivacy.com website into a one-stop e-mail lobbying destination. The site now offers the text of the bills, offers direct links to Congressional representatives, and allows people to send messages to other interested people about the campaign.

The original DefendYourPrivacy.com website, targeting just the FDIC, had generated 171,000 e-mail signatures against the proposed KYC regulation.

To visit the website, go to: <http://www.DefendYourPrivacy.com>.



■ Rep. Ron Paul: Active stance.

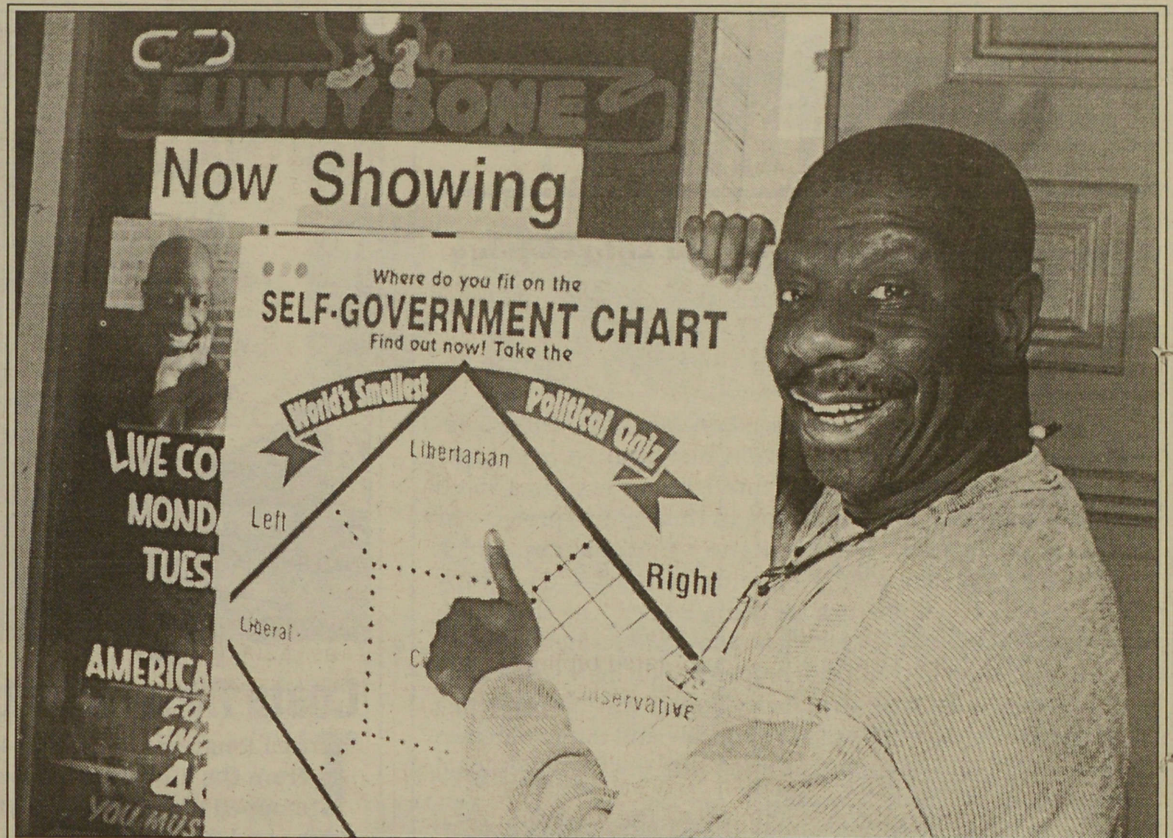


Photo by Ken Bush

A "Dyn-O-Mite" supporter of liberty

The Libertarian Party has won a "Dyn-O-Mite" supporter: Comedian Jimmy J.J. Walker. Missouri Libertarian activist Ken Bush met Walker at the Funny-Bone Comedy Night-club in St. Louis on April 4, and had a chance to quiz the comedian about his political beliefs. During the discussion, Walker — long rumored to have libertarian sympathies — confirmed that he considered himself a libertarian, and supported the Libertarian Party.

"I've always felt like I've had libertarian leanings but just didn't know the label," said Walker — until, that is, he started doing more reading about politics in the early 1980s. "Simply put, the more I read the more I liked about libertarians."

Walker said he didn't agree 100% with the LP platform, said Bush, but did like Libertarians' consistent support of free enterprise and pro-choice policies on "so many issues."

Walker, an award-winning comedy writer and actor, is best known for his role on the CBS television show *Good Times* (1972-1980) and for his trademark line: "Dyn-O-Mite!"

Walker was so popular that in the mid-1970s, *Time* magazine named him "Comedian of the Decade." He now works as stand-up comedian and a radio talk show host.

"J.J. said that he learned to be a politically savvy fellow from his years as a radio talk-show host, dealing with callers having a wide diversity of opinions," said Bush. "He said that as a libertarian he could appreciate both the liberal and the conservative opinions."

DE candidates post strong showings

LP candidates for mayor and city council win 23% and 35% in April races

Two LP candidates in Delaware have run the most "impressive" campaigns in state history — racking up double-digit vote percentages in a pair of "bitterly contested" races.

On April 24, Libertarian John Reda won 23.8% of the vote in a three-way partisan race for mayor of Elsmere, while on April 13, Libertarian Dan Beaver won 35.2% of the vote for City Council in Newark.

The two strong LP performances "showed that the powers-that-be cannot rest on their laurels and expect [to] be able to get away with their business-as-usual attitude," said Mike Sensor, who was the campaign manager for Beaver and also helped with the Reda campaign.

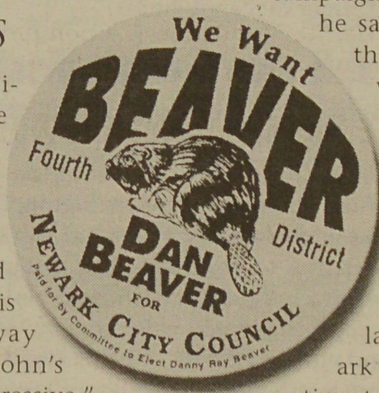
Reda, in his second run for mayor, faced a biased newspaper

and the opposition of the town's political establishment, said Sensor.

Given the obstacles, and "considering this was a three-way partisan race, John's vote total is impressive," he said. Reda won 238 votes to the winning Republican's 440 and the Democrat's 320.

More heated

Beaver's campaign was even more heated, with the Libertarian candidate getting "obscene gestures and verbal tirades" directed against him by supporters of the six-year incumbent as he worked the polls on Election Day, said Sensor.



"This was a hard-fought campaign for all involved," he said. "Every step of the way, we were met with resistance and opposition. We faced an uphill battle."

Despite the loss, Beaver's strong showing "changed the landscape of Newark politics for a long time to come," said Sensor. "No future Newark election will be the same again."

Delaware State Chair Brad Thomas said the party has gotten the message from the efforts by Reda and Beaver.

"The two campaigns, although not victorious, have shown us what needs to be done for better success in future campaigns," he said. "We need to grow bigger — [and] get new members."

NEWSBRIEFS

Liberty Project will fight forfeiture laws

A new Washington DC-based organization has been formed to "restore rights guaranteed all Americans by the Constitution," and plans to educate voters about threats to liberty, such as civil asset forfeiture laws.

The Liberty Project, announced on March 2, will use advertising, public relations, grassroots mobilization, and Internet outreach to "educate people throughout the United States and encourage them to take action in this fight to protect our fundamental liberties," said Phil Harvey, the project's founder.

"There is a rising tide of evidence seen every day in the media that our civil liberties are being eroded," he said — including asset forfeiture laws, which "allow enforcement authorities full discretion to confiscate property upon mere suspicion."

To reform such laws, the Liberty Project will "implement a strategic communications plan to educate and raise awareness [so voters will] initiate communication with their Congressional leaders about this issue," he said.

For more information about the Liberty Project, visit: www.libertyproject.org.

Kubby medical marijuana trial postponed

The high-profile medical marijuana trial of Steve Kubby and his wife Michele will be postponed until July 20, a judge has ruled.

Kubby asked for a postponement in late April, pleading scheduling conflicts with his attorney and several planned out-of-state public appearances.

Kubby, the 1998 Libertarian candidate for governor in California, and his wife Michele were arrested January 19 in a police raid of their Olympic Valley home. Despite being medical marijuana patients protected under Proposition 215, the Kubbys were charged with felony counts of conspiracy, cultivation, and possession with intent to sell.

The Kubbys have persistently denied the charges, insisting they grew marijuana solely for personal medicinal use. Steve Kubby had been diagnosed with adrenal cancer in 1975 and used medical marijuana under doctor's orders, while Michele Kubby took the drug to alleviate the symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome.

Because of allegations of "political persecution" against Kubby, the Libertarian Party of California formed a Proposition 215 Blue Ribbon Committee to develop an ongoing strategy to assist the former LP candidate.

Ron Paul's anti-war lawsuit dismissed

A lawsuit against the war in Yugoslavia filed by Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) and 30 other U.S. Representatives was dismissed on June 8 by a federal judge.

The lawsuit, filed on April 30 in Washington, DC, had asked the court to make a declaratory judgment against President Clinton, and order him to end hostilities in Yugoslavia. Specifically, the lawsuit charged that Clinton violated the U.S. Constitution by engaging in war without a formal declaration from Congress and violated the 1973 War Powers Act by failing to officially report to Congress his military strikes within the mandated 48 hours.

But Judge Paul L. Friedman ruled that because Congress had made contradictory votes on supporting and funding the war, there was no evidence of a Constitutional impasse between the president and the Congress that would warrant the court's action. The ruling came just days before a peace agreement was reached in Yugoslavia.

"It is a shame the judge has rejected his Constitutional obligation to hear the merits of the case," said Paul.

Paul, a long-time critic of American military intervention in foreign nations, was the Libertarian Party's presidential candidate in 1988, before returning to the U.S. House as a Republican in 1996.



Steve Kubby: "Persecution"?



Photo by Bill Winter

Costa Rican libertarians visit LP headquarters

The LP national office took on an international flavor on May 27 when four visitors from the *Movimiento Libertario* — Costa Rica's version of the Libertarian Party — stopped by for a chat. Shown here, bracketed by LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger (left) and LP National Director Steve Dasbach (right), are Carlos Roberto Rivera Ruiz, Pablo Guidian Bond, Mario E. Quiros Lara, and Fredrico Malauassi Colvo. The discussion during the visit focused on "political matters," said Crickenberger, including Costa Rica's proportional representation system which facilitated the election of Libertarian Congressman Otto Guevara. "We had an interesting discussion about their political system, and how it propelled them to immediate influence at the national level," said Crickenberger.

Toledo, Ohio Libertarians kick off recall effort against 'unfit' mayor

Libertarians in Toledo, Ohio have launched a much-publicized impeachment drive against the city's mayor — charging that he acts like an "emperor" and has a "callous disregard" for the rights of citizens.

On April 12, Libertarians Dr. LeRoy Lloyd, Dave Domanski, Duane Arquette, and others held a press conference to announce the start of a recall effort to oust Mayor Carty Finkbeiner.

They also announced a new website to support the effort, which doubles as their committee's name: RecallCarty.com.

At the press conference, Libertarians accused the mayor of "malfeasance" which made him unfit to continue in office.

"We, the people of Toledo, have had enough!" said Arquette. "It is time for Carleton S. Finkbeiner to be recalled."

Disarm citizens

Listing the specifics of their allegations, Arquette said, "Finkbeiner repeatedly uses the power of his office to abuse the rights of property owners. He champions an aggressive campaign to disarm law-abiding citizens. He places the city of Toledo in serious financial jeopardy. He ignores the Constitution."

The Libertarians were especially vocal in their criticism of Finkbeiner's anti-Second Amend-

DUANE ARQUETTE:

"We, the people of Toledo, have had enough!"

ment efforts — including proposals to require handgun registration, to ban possession of "Saturday Night Specials," and to allow prosecution if children gain access to guns without trigger locks.

"We are tired of hearing Mr. Finkbeiner brag that Toledo is an All-American City while he does everything in his power to trample the law and tradition upon which America was founded," said Arquette. "We, too, believe Toledo is an All-American city, and we demand to be treated and respected, as all Americans should be."

The RecallCarty.com com-

mittee has 90 days from the date of their announcement to collect 23,000 valid signatures — requiring about 35,000 "raw" signatures — to put the recall question on the November ballot.

The press conference generated an immediate wave of media attention for the Libertarians.

Unbelievable

"The result has been unbelievable," said Lloyd. "The radio and TV stations open their newscast with, 'A group of Libertarians are trying to recall the mayor!' I understand that our effort has made the news in the rest of the state."

"[But] the establishment is getting worried; our presence is as welcomed as the aroma of a hog barn on a hot sultry day," he said.

The campaign — and its use of a website — also attracted national attention: The June 1999 issue of *Campaigns & Elections* named RecallCarty.com its "Site of the Month."

Noting that the site offered information on signature gathering, T-shirts for sale, and reasons why the mayor should be recalled, the magazine wrote: "Whether the campaign is successful or not, RecallCarty.com is an innovative new way of using the Internet for grassroots petitioning."

—THE—
Concise Guide to Economics

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Amazon.com

Success '99: Because in politics... Knowledge is power

"Quality political training."
— SEAN HAUGH
State Chair, LP of North Carolina

**Cincinnati
Ohio**
July 17-18

★★FEATURING★★



Dr. Mary Ruwart
Author, *Healing Our World*

Jim Lark
Advisor, Liberty Coalition

Michael Cloud
1998 Candidate for U.S. Senate

"Go to Success '99."
— BARBARA CUNNINGHAM
Editor, *Lone Star Liberty* (Texas)

**Chicago
Illinois**
July 24-25

★★FEATURING★★



David Bergland
Libertarian Party National Chair

Michael Cloud
1998 Candidate for U.S. Senate

Jim Lark
Advisor, Liberty Coalition

"Best LP event in years."
— BRUCE A. SMITH
LP Member, Douglas, Michigan

**Salt Lake City
Utah** Friday & Saturday
August 27-28

★★FEATURING★★



Steve Dasbach
Libertarian Party National Director

Ron Crick-enberger
Libertarian Party Political Director

Sharon Harris
Advocates for Self-Government

"Everyone is raving."
— CAROL MILLER
Executive Director, LP of Washington

**Boston
Massachusetts**
Sept. 11-12

★★FEATURING★★



Bill Winter
Libertarian Party Director of Communications

Ron Crick-enberger
Libertarian Party Political Director

Jim Lark
Advisor, Liberty Coalition

**Minneapolis
St. Paul
Minnesota**
Sept. 18-19

★★FEATURING★★



Sharon Harris
Advocates for Self-Government

Aaron Starr
Libertarian Campaign Manager

Steve Dasbach
Libertarian Party National Director

**Kansas
City
Kansas**
October 9-10

★★FEATURING★★



Michael Cloud
1998 Candidate for U.S. Senate

Steve Dasbach
Libertarian Party National Director

Ron Crick-enberger
Libertarian Party Political Director

"A terrific seminar."
— STACY VAN OAST
State Chair, LP of Michigan

**Nashville
Tennessee**
October 23-24

★★FEATURING★★



Dr. Mary Ruwart
Author, *Healing Our World*

Barbara Goushaw
3-time LP campaign manager

Jim Lark
Advisor, Liberty Coalition

"Excellent program."
— CHUCK WILLIAMS
State Chair, LP of South Carolina

**Augusta
Maine**
November 6-7

★★FEATURING★★



Bill Winter
Libertarian Party Director of Communications

Sharon Harris
Advocates for Self-Government

Michael Cloud
1998 Candidate for U.S. Senate

"Speakers are excellent!"
— AUTUMN BROWNE
LP Member, Huntington Beach, California

**Denver
Colorado**
Nov. 13-14

★★FEATURING★★



David Bergland
Libertarian Party National Chair

Ron Crick-enberger
Libertarian Party Political Director

Jim Lark
Advisor, Liberty Coalition

"First-class presentation."
— RODGER ROSIE
LP Member, Los Angeles, California

**St. Louis
Missouri**
Nov. 20-21

★★FEATURING★★



Barbara Goushaw
3-time LP campaign manager

Dr. Mary Ruwart
Author, *Healing Our World*

Steve Dasbach
Libertarian Party National Director

Success '99 is an intensive, two-day series of workshops that teach the techniques of effective party-building and campaigning.

Taught by teams of the LP's most experienced activists, topics covered include how to... build a more active local LP organization; run an effective (winning or non-winning) campaign; raise more money; get more media; and communicate the Libertarian message more effectively. In other words, it's the knowledge you need to increase the LP's political "power."

Most seminars run all day Saturday and a half-day on Sunday. Cost: \$79 (includes Saturday lunch).

INTERESTED?

☐ **YES!** I plan to attend the following **SUCCESS '99** conference (below). **Sign me up.** Check the one(s) you'll attend.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CINCINNATI, OH / July 17-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> DENVER, CO / November 13-14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHICAGO, IL / July 24-25 | <input type="checkbox"/> ST. LOUIS, MO / November 20-21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SALT LAKE CITY, UT / August 27-28 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOSTON, MA / September 11-12 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MINN.-ST. PAUL, MN / Sept. 18-19 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KANSAS CITY, KS / October 9-10 | |
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■ **Note:** The Boise, Idaho event was replaced by a regional meeting; the Montgomery, Alabama event was postponed.

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AFFILIATE NEWS

Fixing the 'smut peddlers' crisis & lobbying for freedom to tattoo

■ Alabama

Alabama's election laws are so repressive that they would have kept third-party candidate George Wallace off the presidential ballot in 1968 — which illustrates why ballot access laws need to be reformed, State Chair **Mark Bodenhause**n told a state House panel on March 23.

"Had George Wallace faced Alabama's current ballot access laws, he might have been denied the right to run here in his own home state," he said.

Bodenhause testified on behalf of HB 131, which would ease some of the strictest ballot access laws in the nation. The legislation would lower the percentage of votes needed to retain ballot status to 3% from 20%.

Unfortunately, after a maneuver by the Secretary of State's office to push the figure back up to 10%, the bill was tabled — but Libertarians will keep trying to improve it, said Bodenhause.

■ California

How much land can a dollar buy you? If you're The Gap — the international clothing company — a single buck can get you \$4.4 million worth of prime real estate from your political friends on the Fresno City Council.

But the LP says the sweetheart deal is bad for taxpayers.

"If opening the bidding at the other guy's price is this council's idea of protecting the taxpayer's purse, we'd all better hang onto our wallets," said **Jonathan Richter**, Chair of the LP of Fresno County.

In May, the City Council voted 6-1 to sell The Gap a parcel of city-owned land for a proposed expansion for \$1.

While Libertarians have no objection to government land being returned to the private sector, they say the City Council should have at least gotten a fair market price from The Gap.

"Even a small effort at negotiation could have netted the taxpayers millions of dollars without jeopardizing the jobs The Gap can provide," said Richter.

■ California

State Libertarians have a plan for how to spend California's projected \$4 billion budget sur-



Photo by Jeff Chase

Surprising outreach results in "Kennedy country"

■ In one of the country's premier bastions of liberalism — Harvard Square in downtown Cambridge, Massachusetts — Libertarians Jason Solinsky and Michele D. Maniscalco staff the first LP "Operation Politically Homeless" booth of the summer, on May 2. The outreach effort, held during a Harvard Square street fair, generated a surprising result: "Most of the OPH dots were placed in the upper left [Libertarian] quadrant — shocking, I know," said local activist Jeff Chase.

plus for the 1999-2000 fiscal cycle: Give it back to the voters.

To be precise, give \$330.58 to each of the 12.1 million taxpayers who filed a state tax return last year.

"We call it the *Give It Back* plan," said State Chair **Mark Hinkle** in a statement on May 14. "Give back the entire surplus to everyone who filed an income tax return. No meaningless tax cuts, no new pork projects — just a full refund."

Hinkle said such a plan would benefit the California economy and increase the quality of life for all Californians.

"The term 'surplus' is a euphemism for 'We've taken too much,'" he said. "The state has overcharged taxpayers, who are now entitled to a refund. Since individuals know how to spend their money better than the government does, our plan would allow taxpayers to save or spend as they see fit, thus benefiting themselves and the economy."

■ California

The Ventura County LP says it will go to court if necessary to fight a million-dollar proposal to build "affordable" government

housing in Simi Valley without the consent of voters.

"Government agencies have to learn that they are not above the law," said county chair **Saul Rackauskas**. "We will not let them ignore the clear meaning of the [state] constitution."

At issue is a plan by the Ventura County Area Housing Authority to build 25 low-income apartments in the city of in Simi Valley. Article 34 of the state constitution prohibits such housing projects without the consent of the voters.

Housing Authority officials said they met this requirement because no taxpayer objected within 60 days, after they had posted notice of the plan in an out-of-the-way office.

But Rackauskas said the notice was deliberately hung on a location "where no one would notice it," and Libertarians will

file a lawsuit if "they try to evade this legal requirement."

■ Maine

State Libertarians are cheering a major lobbying victory: They convinced state politicians to push back the presidential ballot access deadline by three months, making it easier for the LP to get its 2000 ticket on the ballot.

On May 20, Governor Angus King signed LD-1492, which moves the third party petition deadline from May to August 8 of the election year, reported **Robert Coolidge**, editor of the *Maine Libertarian*.

"Maine previously had the earliest petition deadline [in the country], well before the Libertarian nominating convention," he noted.

The bill is important, said **Richard Winger**, publisher of *Ballot Access News*, because the LP "won't know who its presidential candidate will be until [its National Convention on] July 5, so under the old law, it would have been impossible to qualify its presidential candidate."

Libertarians had testified before the state legislature in favor of reform, and worked with the Legal & Veterans Affairs committee and the Secretary of State's office to craft a satisfactory bill.

■ Massachusetts

One of the state's best-known civil-liberties activists has become a registered Libertarian.

"Renowned attorney **Harvey Silverglate** registered to vote Libertarian shortly after speaking at the Massachusetts Libertarian convention in Bedford on April 17," said *Massachusetts Liberty* newsletter editor **P. Christopher Schoaff**.

Silverglate has been the civil liberties columnist for the *Boston Phoenix* for more than 20 years. He also writes for the *National Law Journal*, is a past president of the Massachusetts ACLU, and is a former attorney for the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

■ Massachusetts

Tattoo you? Well, if you want a tattoo, you should be allowed to get one: That was the testimony of Libertarian **Doug Krick** before the state House Committee on Government Regulations on May 26.

"As a Libertarian, I firmly believe that individuals should make decisions that affect their

lives without interference," he said. "People who get tattoos have a safe and fun experience. [The state government] has no basis for the current prohibition on tattooing."

Krick, the LP candidate for State Representative for the 14th Suffolk District, testified in favor of HB 441 and HB 3841, which would end the current state prohibition on tattooing.

"Government regulation cuts down on competition in the marketplace," he said. "When there is a lack of competition, the quality goes down. I want people to be able to choose from the best [tattoo] artists available."

■ Nevada

Authorities on the Las Vegas Strip want to crack down on "smut peddlers" who are handing out flyers advertising sexual services. But Libertarians have a better idea: Legalize prostitution.

"A legalized brothel system would put an end to the problem almost overnight," said Nevada LP State Director **Chris Azzaro**. "By creating a black market, you end up with smut peddlers passing out sexually explicit materials to families and children, and that is totally unacceptable."

In an attempt to banish the flyers, the Clark County Commission considered a measure on May 4 to ban all handbills on the Vegas strip. In response, Azzaro urged the commission to pass a resolution urging the state to strike all down all laws banning prostitution.

"The solution is not to restrict freedom, but to expand it," he said. Prostitution is illegal in Las Vegas, but has been legalized in some Nevada counties.

■ New Hampshire

A debate in the New Hampshire legislature over legalizing video gambling isn't just unnecessary — it's "immoral," say state Libertarians.

"It's bad enough that half of our income is taken through government taxation and regulation," said State Chair **Danielle Donovan**. "But now they want to tell us what we can and can't do with the 50% they so generously let us keep."

In early March, New Hampshire politicians debated whether to legalize video gambling, with one side arguing it could be a source of revenue to solve the funding-the-schools crisis, and the other arguing it would adversely affect the "quality of life" and increase crime.

But Donovan said both sides missed the real question.

"It is not a matter of 'sending the wrong message' by legalizing gambling, it is a matter of sending the right message; as a

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free people we should be allowed to dispose of the fruits of our labor as we choose," she said.

Besides, she said: "The state's addiction to the power and money is more dangerous to our freedom than any individual's [gambling] addiction."

■ Ohio

Ohio State University is trying to turn a student ID into a privacy-busting "national ID card" — complete with digitized photos stored in a computerized database — a Libertarian who heads a pro-privacy group on campus has warned.

"This system can be abused far too easily," said LP member **James Moyer**, president of the Buckeye Privacy Coalition.

The coalition of students and faculty is trying to stop the so-called "Buck ID" card system, which includes digitized photos.

Moyer warns that the database could be used in tandem with the university's "Oval Cam," a surveillance camera, which snaps a photo of the main campus every 10 seconds.

"We're concerned that this database might allow officials to focus their attention on a single individual or cultural group," said Moyer.

■ South Carolina

Three new bills being considered by the state legislature to address violence in schools are "cures" that are worse than the disease, say state Libertarians.

"The General Assembly is poised to pass dangerous legislation [in] a fit of knee-jerk over-



Libertarian-sponsored anti-tax rally draws 5,000 in Minnesota

■ The Libertarian Party of Minnesota played a prominent role in the "Tax Cuts NOW!" rally held on the Capitol steps in St. Paul on April 17 — as evidenced by the LP signs and flags that waved above the 5,000-strong crowd. The crowd's message to the state legislature and Governor Jesse Ventura: Return the state's multi-billion-dollar surplus to taxpayers. "Government is overtaxing us," said Minnesota LP State Chair Charles Test, who spoke at the rally. "It's using our money for programs that we don't want and don't need. What we are asking for is not really the legislature's to give. It is *our* money — not theirs."

reaction," said SCLP Press Secretary **Timothy Moultrie**.

The bills — proposed in the wake of the Columbine High School — would:

■ Create a "First Steps" pre-school program. Such a program "exacerbates the problem of separating youngsters from their most influential mentors, their parents," charged Moultrie.

■ Start a "Cops in Schools" program — which will create "a

prison atmosphere for our young people," he said.

■ Make it a felony to discharge a firearm within half a mile of a school. But the bill "provides no 'Good Samaritan' clause for citizens coming to the defense of children," he noted.

The bottom line: Despite good intentions, "each of these proposals provides fertile soil to create events like Columbine in South Carolina," said Moultrie.

■ Texas

Libertarians 1; proposed new state constitution 0: That's the legislative score this year for the LP of Texas.

On April 23, Libertarians announced victory in their campaign to defeat TX76/RHJR-1, a bill that Democrats and Republicans claimed would "streamline" the state constitution — but would have actually imposed an income tax, curbed gun

rights, fueled pork barrel spending, and shifted the balance of power to the state government.

"When we discovered the flaws in this bill that concentrated power in fewer hands, extracted more of hard-won earnings from Texans, and threatened our Constitutional rights, we knew we had to act," said State Chair **Geoffrey Neale**.

To fight the bill, Libertarians set up a website to analyze the bill and educate citizens about alternatives. Thanks in part to the LP's efforts, the bill's sponsors pronounced their efforts dead for 1999.

■ Vermont

Libertarians have promised to fight a decision by a city to keep a law restricting the right to carry firearms in city limits.

"The Vermont constitution is very explicit in supporting the right to keep and bear arms," said State Chair **Scott Berkey**. In fact, there is even "a state law that forbids any locality in Vermont from regulating the keeping and bearing of arms."

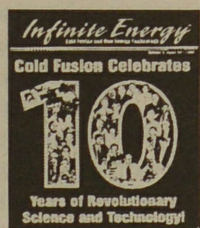
Despite the law, the City Council in Montpelier voted in early May to keep its anti-gun law, fearing bad publicity in the wake of the Columbine High School shootings.

But politicians should not let "momentary passion" overrule the "clear requirements of the law," said Berkey.

"It is unwise and shortsighted to rush unthinkingly into a curtailment of liberty whenever faced with unfortunate events," he said.

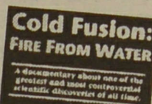
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TALKINGPOINTS

Why the Swiss are crime-free & how guns are safer than buckets

■ Reinflating government?

Government employment at all levels rose by 324,000 in 1998, the largest increase in eight years, the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government at State University of New York in Albany reported. Local government grew the most.

— **THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**
June 1, 1999

■ Next: Parking tickets

Federal agents can seize a person's house, car, boat or other property by invoking more than a hundred different federal statutes involving everything from wildlife (prosecutors have seized farm equipment from ranchers and farmers accused of violating the Endangered Species Act) to taking money out of the country or making large bank withdrawals or deposits. In Miami, the \$150,000 home of an elderly Cuban-American couple was grabbed after they were convicted of holding illegal weekly poker games for friends and relatives on their patio. A federal appeals court eventually nixed the seizure, saying it was an excessive punishment.

Since 1979, federal seizures under forfeiture laws have increased 25-fold. More than \$5 billion in property has been confiscated from accused private citizens and businesses. Seizures by state and local governments have increased a hundredfold since the early 1980s, according to forfeiture expert Steven Kessler.

The Clinton administration is pushing to make forfeiture laws even more sweeping. Justice Department lawyer Irving Gornstein told the Supreme Court in November 1997 that the government had a right to confiscate practically any property involved in a violation of law "except that one small category of cases where perhaps the property is involved in what might be a minor infraction, such as a parking offense."

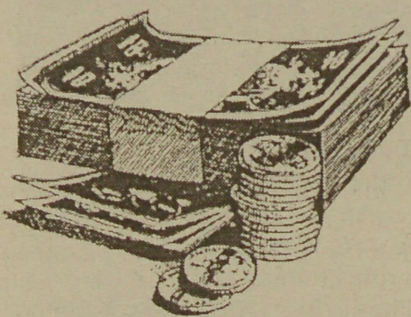
— **JAMES BOVARD**

USA Today, May 27, 1999

■ Emergency, emergency!

James Madison once declared that crisis is the rallying cry of the tyrant. How prophetic.

EDITED BY
Marc Beauchamp



**LAST YEAR,
Congress crammed
a whopping \$21
billion into an
emergency funding
bill, with hardly a
peep of protest.**

Every crisis these days always means bigger government. Over the past decade, federal emergencies have averaged some \$3 billion a year. Last year, Congress crammed a whopping \$21 billion into an emergency funding bill, with hardly a peep of protest. It's hard to believe we're in a period of prosperity and (until Kosovo) peace. In just the past five years while the emergency sirens have been ringing, the combined income and payroll tax rate has quietly risen from 22% of wages to just under 27%. When will Congress ever declare that an emergency?

— **Stephen Moore**

The Washington Times
April 15, 1999

■ Micro-government

When [Bill Clinton] — this smallest of presidents — told us the era of big government was over, he was not abandoning statism. He kicked big government over, shattering it into thousands of tiny shards. Watch your step; Clinton's micro-government proposals are everywhere. Who but Bill Clinton could simultaneously make gov-

ernment smaller and give us a lot more of it?

The Clinton-Gore team is on its way to a neighborhood near you, with urban planners and traffic management bureaucrats. They have a plan for your car. A plan for your house. A plan to fix your suburbs. They are guaranteeing you more time with your children. A grassy green park to go to. Protection from suburban sprawl.

— **ALEJANDRO CASTELLANOS**
Reason, June 1999

■ More teachers?

Literacy levels have declined over the past 30 years, despite significantly increased resources for public schools:

■ Inflation-adjusted per-pupil expenditures have increased more than 14 times since 1920.

■ In 1955, there were 27 students per teacher; by 1990 there were 17.

■ In 1949, there were 19 pupils per staff member; by 1990 there were nine.

— **DAVID KIRKPATRICK**

School Reform News, May 1999

■ Art irritates life

Another bizarre example of someone demanding life accommodate them: A theatergoer filed a complaint with the Florida Division of Consumer Services for being exposed to secondhand smoke from actors who smoked [as required by the script] during a live performance of Noel Coward's *Private Lives*.

— **GUEST CHOICE NETWORK**,
May 1999

■ More bucket control!

Are gun locks, as President Clinton says, a "no brainer"? Yes, indeed. The lock-up-the-guns proposal is great — as long as one doesn't think about it carefully.

Contrary to the impression created by sensationalist media, fatal firearms accidents involving children are far from common.

According to the National Safety Council, there were about 30 fatal gun deaths in 1995 among kids age 0 to 4, and less than 40 for kids 5 to 9. This shows that even without legislation from Washington, the overwhelming majority of families with firearms already know how to act responsibly.

Any parent knows that a single child's death is unspeakably tragic. Yet the number of toddlers who die from gun accidents is fewer than the number who die from drowning in buckets. And its much lower than the 500 who die in swimming pools. Yet the President is not scoring political points inveighing against bucket manufacturers, or demanding federal laws against unfenced pools in private homes. Politics, not saving children's lives, is the foundation of the current anti-gun campaign.

— **DAVE KOPEL & EUGENE VOLOKH**, Independence
Institute Feature Syndicate
June 3, 1999

■ Swiss: Dull but safe

In 1994, when the U.S. Congress debated whether to ban "assault weapons," a talk show host asked then-Senator Bill Bradley (NJ), a sponsor of the ban, whether guns cause crime. The host noted that, in Switzerland, all males are issued assault rifles for militia service and keep them at home, yet little crime exists there. Sen. Bradley responded that the Swiss "are pretty dull."

For those who think that target shooting is more fun than golf, however, Switzerland is anything but "dull." You see shooting ranges everywhere, but few golf courses. If there is a *Schuetzenfest* (shooting festival) in town, you will find rifles slung on hat racks in restaurants, and you will encounter men and women, old and young, walking, biking and taking the tram with rifles over their shoulders, to and from the range. They stroll right past the police station and no one bats an eye.

Shooting is the national sport, and the backbone of the national defense as well. More per capita firepower exists in Switzerland than in any other place in the world, yet it is one of the safest places to be.

According to the U.N. International Study on Firearm Regulation, England's 1994 homicide rate was 1.4 (9% involving fire-

arms), and the robbery rate 116, per 100,000 population. In the United States, the homicide rate was 9.0 (70% involving firearms), and the robbery rate 234, per 100,000.

[But] Switzerland, which is awash in guns . . . has substantially lower murder and robbery rates than England, where most guns are banned.

Here are the figures: The Swiss Federal Police Office reports that in 1997 there were 87 intentional homicides and 102 attempted homicides in the entire country. Some 91 of these 189 murders and attempts involved firearms. With its population of seven million (including 1.2 million foreigners), Switzerland had a homicide rate of 1.2 per 100,000. There were 2,498 robberies (and attempted robberies), of which 546 involved firearms, resulting in a robbery rate of 36 per 100,000.

— **STEPHEN P. HALBROOK**
The Wall Street Journal
(Europe), June 4, 1999

■ 339 weren't enough

Tens of billions of taxpayer dollars are wasted each year on hundreds on federal programs that duplicate or overlap the work of other programs. For example, there are 74 clean water programs, 127 programs for "at-risk" youth, 340 programs for children and families, 64 economic development programs, and 12 food safety programs.

— **CITIZENS FOR A SOUND ECONOMY ISSUES ANALYSIS**
April 2, 1999

■ Approved reading

In May, the Modern Library division of Random House announced its 100 Best non-fiction works of the century. Among the biggest surprises was its selection of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* as the fifth-best English non-fiction work of the century. Carson is the godmother of a movement which believes the earth is sick, poisoned by chemicals and toxins; plagued by over-population, deforestation, scarcity of resources. The culprit? Mankind. The solution? Massive government controls.

Left-wing works on politics and economics [such as Keynes' *General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money*] are heavily represented on the Modern Library's list. But virtually none of the important free-market works of the 20th Century can be found. Missing are several popular and important books: F.A. Hayek's *The Road to Serfdom*, Henry Hazlitt's *Economics in One Lesson* and *Free to Choose* by Milton and Rose Friedman.

— **MAX SCHULZ**
The Washington Times
June 2, 1999

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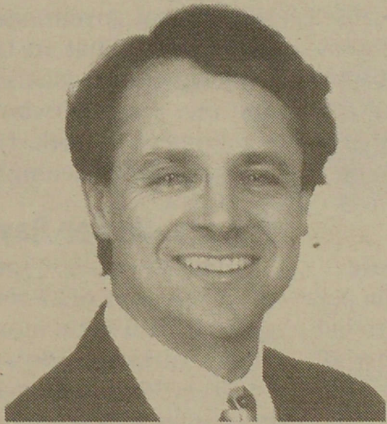
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Do Rights Come from the Constitution?

by Jacob G. Hornberger

It is commonly believed that the rights of the American people come from the Constitution. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Throughout history, the standard belief was that people were unconditionally subject to the commands of their government. If the king ordered a person to leave his family to fight in a war thousands of miles away, that person would have to obey. The king could control and regulate both lives and property because he was sovereign and supreme, and the citizens, as subjects, were subordinate and inferior. When the king commanded, people obeyed.

Gradually, people began questioning the notion of the king's having unrestricted control over their lives and fortunes. For example, in 1215, with Magna Carta, the king was forced to admit that his powers over the citizenry were limited.

It was in 1776, however, with the publication of the Declaration of Independence, that the histori-

cal concept of sovereignty got turned upside down. Government wasn't sovereign and supreme, Jefferson declared to the world. Individuals are. And government officials are subordinate and inferior to the citizenry.

The Declaration emphasized that men have been endowed with certain fundamental and inherent rights that preexist government. In other words, man's rights don't come from the king or from any other government official. Rights such as life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness exist independently of government, not because of government.

It also emphasized that the reason people call government into existence is to protect the exercise of these rights. That is, in the absence of government, anti-social people such as murderers, rapists, and thieves would make life quite miserable for everyone else. Therefore, government is needed to arrest, prosecute, and punish these types of people.

What happens when government transgresses its rightful duty of protection and becomes more destructive than what would be the case in the absence of government? The Declaration tells us that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish that government and to implement a new government that is designed to protect, not destroy, the exercise of man's natural or God-given rights.

The quandary, of course, that

our Founders faced was whether it was possible to bring a government into existence that would remain limited to an inferior and subordinate role rather than attempt to assume the more traditional sovereign and supreme role.

In 1787, the Founders attempted to solve the problem by writing a Constitution that called the federal government into existence. The result was historically significant: The Constitution made it clear that this government, unlike others in history, would not be one of unlimited powers. Instead, by the express terms of the Constitution itself, the federal government would be one of limited, enumerated powers. For example, the powers of Congress are limited to those enumerated in Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.

Thus the correct question is not "What rights does the Constitution give to the American people?" but rather "What powers does the Constitution grant to the government?" If a certain power is not enumerated, the government is not permitted to exercise it.

Not trusting government officials, however — even democratically elected ones — the American people ensured the passage of the first 10 amendments to the Constitution. These should more appropriately have been called the "Bill of Prohibitions" than the Bill of Rights. Why? Because a careful examination reveals that they are

express restrictions on government powers rather than a grant of rights to the citizenry.

Some people argued that a Bill of Rights was unnecessary because government's powers were already limited to those enumerated in the Constitution itself. Since the government has not been given the power to regulate speech, for example, there was no reason to have an express prohibition against the regulation of speech.

Fearful, however, of the propensity of government to move toward dominance and control, the people felt safer with express restrictions on the power to interfere with rights that they believed were of the utmost importance. Playing it safe, they included the Ninth Amendment: "The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people."

So the next time someone refers to your "constitutional rights," remind him that people's rights don't come from the Constitution. And if you really want to stimulate thinking, ask him whether he believes that today the federal government is destructive of the very rights it was designed to protect.

Mr. Hornberger is founder and president of The Future of Freedom Foundation.

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Poland: A Libertarian perspective

Continued from Page 1

lined the boulevards flogging consumer goods. Shoppers rushed about looking for deals. And children darted from shop to shop in stunned disbelief at the variety.

The buzz was contagious and immediately infected me.

Even the towering Palace of Culture — Stalin's gift to Poland in the 1950s and a symbol of oppression and Bolshevik authority — stood in awe. Right in front of it an open-air market was brimming with activity, as statues of Marx and Engels, extolling the Idea of Dialectical Man, looked down upon the multitude with raised brow. However, no one seemed to notice or even care, for they were too busy shopping for bargains.

And then a sustained rush of joy and pride struck me. Here were real people, after 45 years of tyranny, displaying the very values we Americans hold dear: Liberty, entrepreneurship, and self-reliance. I felt like screaming at the top of my lungs, "Welcome home, welcome home!"

Profound respect

A strange reaction, perhaps. But as I look back, I now understand that it was simply an extension of my having absorbed the philosophical tenets, morals, and values of our Founding Fathers. Seeing those vendors and shoppers scurry about on the once desolate and poverty-ridden streets of Warsaw, rekindled in me a profound respect for common sense and the very ethical and political pillars upon which our great nation was built.

Yet beneath this glorified surface, there remained serious political and economic questions. In such an environment I quickly became ensnared in the political debate. However, I never forgot the buzz of the street vendors nor the excitement of the children as they dashed about the marketplace. My first impressions of Poland stuck to my ribs like hot porridge. And I must confirm, those impressions were libertarian.

Chopin Academy Days

When I entered the Chopin Academy of Music in 1990, there were about 20 foreign students enrolled. By 1993, that number had increased to 84, representing over 10% of the student population. Administration plans were to increase that number to at least 15% by 1996.

While the administration had accomplished its goal of attracting more foreign students,



■ Polish folk dancers: At the National Theater, "government cutbacks and lack of reform stifled the staff's motivation."

it lagged behind in providing the requisite support services. Because of budgetary constraints, only one administrator had been assigned to foreign student affairs, while the traditional policy of upperclassmen simply "adopting" the newcomers, became ineffective.

Recognizing this, I took action. In October of 1993, I spoke with several classmates about starting a foreign students' organization.

Our mandate was simple: To write a school information brochure; to win a seat on the school's senate; to organize meetings and concerts; and to serve as a support group for new foreign students.

**"I'LL NEVER FORGET
the buzz of street
vendors nor the
excitement
of the children."**

Despite our varied backgrounds, we all shared similar libertarian views. We sincerely believed in the spirit of volunteerism and felt it our duty to help. There was only one catch, though. To function legally, we had to get official approval from the Ministry of Education. And here is where the bureaucratic nightmare began.

We submitted our Statute on November 4, 1993. After much haggling and nudging, we finally got official approval some three months later on February 22, 1994. This meant that for a large part of the school year we could

not use the school's facilities nor have fundraisers.

To be fair, it wasn't the administration's fault. They didn't intend to impede the process. Rather, it was the process itself, shackled as it was in bureaucratic red tape, which had become the impediment. For example, the Ministry of Education wouldn't meet with us until we had approval from the school's senate. The school's senate wouldn't meet with us until we had approval from the school's lawyer. The school's lawyer wouldn't meet with us until we had approval from the Ministry of Education. And so on.

Everyone seemed just as confused as we were. Nonetheless, we went ahead with plans, winning an advisory seat on the school's senate in March, completing the information brochure by April, and staging a gala concert attended by many dignitaries in May.

The impact we had was tremendous. The organization grew to 65 members from over 13 countries and was the first foreign students' organization to be sanctioned in Poland since the political reforms of 1989.

State-Employee Days

After graduating from the Chopin Academy in 1994, I returned to the U.S. to work for a year as an adjunct college professor. Wanting, however, to return to school and, if possible, to Poland, I enrolled in an international MBA program that allowed me to return to Warsaw in the fall of 1995.

Near the end of my studies, I worked at the National Theater of Poland which, at that time, housed both the opera and drama stages. It is one of the largest theater complexes in the world and employs over 1,300. Though a reputable institution, it suffered from malaise, as government cutbacks and lack of reform stifled the staff's motivation.

The new general director, who had solid private-sector business experience, felt he could change this and wanted to institute forward-looking reforms. Unfortunately, he failed.

The Solidarity Union posed the main problem, as it opted for more government subsidies, not reform. (In Europe, arts institutions are largely funded by the government.) Compounding the morass were the policy wonks at the Ministry of Culture who were

afraid that pro-market reforms — that is, corporate and individual sponsorship programs — would nullify their power base at the theater and make their jobs redundant.

This disturbed me because I got to know the theater employees quite well. They cared about improving operations and confided in me that they wanted reform more than anything else. A "who cares" attitude ensued.

Reform: Not the issue

When I mentioned the possibility of reform, those in the administration laughed. After all, there had been four general directors since 1993 and seven Ministers of Culture since 1990. Reform was not the issue, they said: Survival was.

Determined, I wrote a strategic report that eventually found its way into the mainstream press and caused some debate. I also set up a program with the Warsaw School of Economics whereby students could use the theater as a case study.

But these initiatives went ignored, as a new Cultural Minister ousted the general director and I, outraged, resigned and went to work for the private sector. Though disappointed, I learned that government is not ambiguous. That in fact it is made up of individuals like you and me, many of whom want government to work. The question is: Who's listening?

Private-Sector Days

The numbers speak for themselves: Consistent GDP growth of 5% or more since 1994; inflation down from 18.5% in 1996 to 8.6% in 1998; unemployment down from 15% in 1995 to 10% in 1998; and foreign direct investment up \$10 billion in 1998 to a total of \$30.7 billion since 1990, the largest in Central Europe.

Indeed, Poland has stayed the course since initiating "shock therapy" reforms back in 1990 and is enjoying unbridled economic growth. Yet, as someone

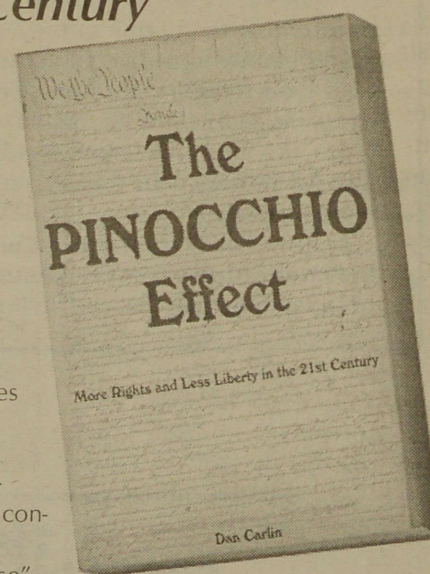
See **EXPERIENCE** Page 11

The Pinocchio Effect

More Rights and Less Liberty in the 21st Century

"The right to swing my fist ends where the other man's nose begins."

— Oliver Wendell Holmes



When Oliver Wendell Holmes made that statement he probably never considered the idea that the average American's "nose" might continually grow. These days it has become almost impossible to exercise a liberty without violating someone else's rights. In the next century nobody will be able to swing their fist without contacting another person's nose.

The Pinocchio Effect answers the following questions:

1. Why don't most Americans realize they are losing their individual liberty?
2. Why do many Americans regard individual liberty with suspicion these days?
3. Who is responsible for the loss of freedom in modern America?
4. What role will liberty play in the everyday lives of 21st Century Americans?

In clear, straightforward language, *The Pinocchio Effect* explains which freedoms Americans have lost and which liberties are next on the chopping block. It breaks down the modern tactics for restricting rights and identifies the forces, groups and agencies behind them. A must for those interested in real-world freedom issues rather than esoteric philosophy

■ Available through on-line bookstores and directly at:
(800) 636-8329. Or visit: dancarlin.com

Libertarian experience in Poland

Continued from Page 10

who had worked for Poland's top management consulting company, I know that given less government intervention, these numbers could have been better.

Now, I don't want to give the impression that I'm anti-government. I genuinely believe that government has a role to play — encouraging, not discouraging, economic liberty.

Since 1990, there have been eight governments in Poland. And while successive governments have adhered to sound fiscal and monetary policies, frequent changes have limited policy consistency, particularly concerning privatization.

Polish politicians often pay lip service to free enterprise, market economics, and capitalism. But for too many, mere lip service is where it stops. Depending on the ruling coalition's agenda, you either get protectionism or unionism. And, as a result, right-thinking employees at lower ministry levels, subject to the ruling coalition's whims, cannot improve policy to meet the demands of the market. Policies, therefore, become static.

Arcane requirements

For example, I worked on the winning bid to privatize LOT Polish Airlines. The most frustrating part of the bid was preparing all of the arcane requirements for the Treasury Ministry. I soon realized that it was a matter of paper over substance. I discovered that if we did not have all the paperwork in place, we would simply be disqualified, regardless of how good our selling strategy was.

Many at lower ministry levels agreed with me, saying that some of the requirements were indeed absurd. But they quipped that they could do nothing about it, for policy change was strictly "top-down," if at all.

In this regard, Poland is not alone. Many countries throughout the world suffer from statism, where economic liberty is viewed as an anomaly and politicians support flawed socialist theory instead. As a libertarian, this distresses me. Yet I know that common folk everywhere are increasingly beginning to recognize that a free-market system, unfettered by government,

works. And that in time, with the proper democratic mechanisms in place, they will come out fighting for economic liberty and, with luck, win.

Liberty Restored?

Poland had a profound influence on me. Everywhere I went I was reminded of its long struggle for freedom and resolve for liberty. And while Poland cannot escape its communist past over-

night, it certainly has been making great strides to do so.

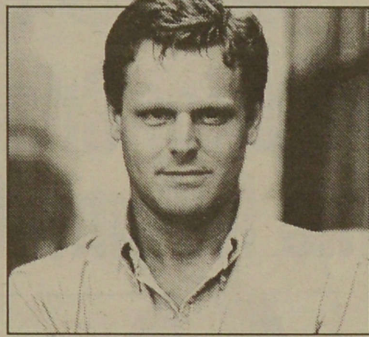
If there is one virtue I gleaned, it's this: Don't fret at government recalcitrancy; just be patient; work hard to improve the system and, above all, show mercy — for government often does not know what it does.

When colleagues of mine in Warsaw would complain, I would take them to Europe's largest outdoor market for "therapy." Located just five minutes from downtown Warsaw, this market houses thousands of street vendors from all over Eastern Europe

who, from dawn to dusk, stand their ground to make a buck.

These vendors have a gleam in their eye, a bounce to their step, a forwardness about them that's contagious. Unlike Faust, who just before his death exclaimed, "Not yet have I my liberty made good," these rugged individuals can exclaim, and rightfully so, "I my liberty have made good. And now, can I interest you in a fine polyester shirt from Vietnam?"

Remembering those who drive the economy everyday restores one's faith in liberty.



■ Douglas Keegan: "Poland had a profound influence on me."

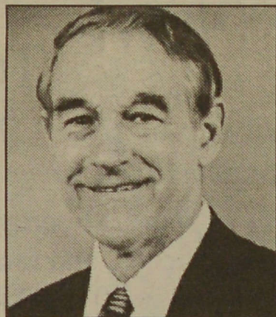
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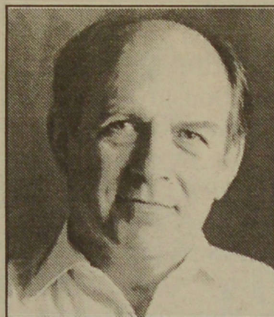
'Winning the World For Liberty'

What attendees said about our LAST Anniversary Event:

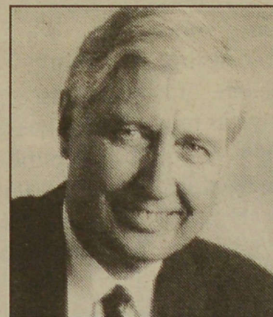
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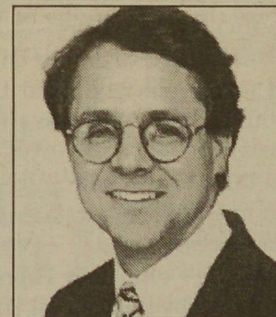
Congressman Ron Paul
Friday Reception Speaker



Charles Murray
Banquet Speaker



Harry Browne
Saturday Luncheon



Jacob Hornberger
Friday Luncheon



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movement — and see its future.

- Meet and mingle with today's libertarian leaders and a wonderful group of **freedom lovers** in beautiful surroundings in the capital city of the South.
- **LOCATION:** The luxurious Sheraton Gateway Hotel, Atlanta. Free 24-hour shuttle service to and from the airport. All the amenities. Minutes from top attractions.

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— JW, Georgia

"Extraordinary. I laughed and I cried. I made new friends and got clear on my own commitment."

— TM, Virginia

"The Super Bowl of my 15 years in the libertarian movement. I am energized!"

— SS, Ohio

"The best of the best!"

— VK, Tennessee

"I have been entertained, enlightened, challenged, intrigued, surprised, provoked, and moved emotionally. Thank you, thank you, thank you!"

— RC, Colorado

Any libertarian stuff on TV this week?

www.missliberty.com

THE ISSUES

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

The high price of "pickpocket" taxes

If you think you pay too much in taxes, wait until you hear about the "pickpocket taxes" that every American unknowingly pays — a whopping \$2,462 per person per year, the Libertarian Party said.

That number comes from a new study by the National Taxpayers Union (NTU), which figured out that Americans fork over \$657.5 billion a year in "stealth" federal, state, and local taxes. That's in addition to the income tax and most sales taxes.

"If you think April 15th is bad, this new study reminds us that for the government, every day is Tax Day," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director. For example, Americans pay:

- \$18.7 billion a year in import taxes — which drive up the cost of a wide range of imported items, including peanut butter, girdles, and brooms. That's \$70 per person every year.

- \$10.7 billion in travel taxes — such as hotel rooms, rental cars, and airline tickets. According to NTU, a family of four traveling from Chicago to Orlando to stay at Disney World for five days would be hit with \$150 in travel taxes.

- \$12.6 billion in government licenses, covering every occupation from hairdressers to bartenders to amusement park operators. The cost for every American: \$47 a year.

Violence study: "Intimidation by bureaucrats"

A new federal commission that will study whether entertainment companies market violence to children is a case of "intimidation by bureaucrats," the Libertarian Party said.

"America already has a mechanism to protect children against violent entertainment: It's called parents," said Dasbach. "It's unlikely that a handful of bureaucrats will be as effective as tens of millions of concerned parents."

In early June, President Bill Clinton announced the government will spend \$1 million to study the marketing strategies of movie, music, and video game companies.

Launched in the wake of the Columbine High School massacre, the study will be conducted by the Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department.

But while concern about the effects of violent entertainment on children is legitimate, spending tax dollars so bureaucrats can "study" the issue isn't, said Dasbach.

"This is a case of the government targeting an unpopular industry, and using intimidation by bureaucrats to put the squeeze on the First Amendment," he said. "These studies — and the threat of federal regulation — are what elitist politicians do when ordinary people don't behave like politicians think they should."

New federal subsidy "buffaloes" taxpayers

Taxpayers are getting "buffaloed" again, thanks to a new federal program that is buying surplus bison meat at inflated prices — a subsidy that's going straight into the pockets of people like billionaire Ted Turner.

"Politicians have created a new form of food: Buffalo-pork," charged Dasbach. "Taxpayers are picking up the buffalo bill, and welfare billionaires like Ted Turner are profiting."

The Agriculture Department has announced that it will spend \$6 million this year to buy surplus bison meat — or about one-quarter of the industry's ground-meat production.

The problem: There are 250,000 commercial bison in America now, and bison ranchers are producing more meat than the public wants. The surplus is piling up — so the federal government has stepped in to buy the extra meat at \$3.45 a pound.

"This program is welfare for rich epicureans: Subsidizing the production of a luxury meat that most Americans can't even afford," said Dasbach. "Even worse, it's welfare for billionaires, since the single largest producer of buffalo meat is Ted Turner."

"It's a pathetic sight: A billionaire like Ted Turner begging for hand-outs from the taxpayer. People who make the minimum wage are subsidizing a billionaire's hobby of producing high-priced novelty steaks for other wealthy people."

CAMPAIGN 2000 LIBERTY FOREVER! UPDATE

Innis says he's in; Grant bows out in high-profile NY and NJ elections

Roy Innis is in and Bob Grant is out — that's the latest word for two potentially high-profile campaigns in New York and New Jersey.

Innis, head of the Congress Of Racial Equality, has confirmed that he does expect to run for mayor of New York City in 2001, while Grant, a popular talk show host on WOR Radio, said he won't run for U.S. Senate in New Jersey as a Libertarian in 2000.

At the New Jersey state convention in late March, Innis told Libertarians, "Yes, I do expect to run" for mayor of New York City in two years, reported *New Jersey Libertarian* newsletter editor Jim Van Blarcom.

"I would hope that others like myself could be brought into the Libertarian Party to meet these challenges [of running for office]," said Innis.

Innis, 64, is the president of CORE, the third-largest civil rights organization in America, and has a reputation as a powerful public orator. He joined the LP in January 1997, and was a speaker at the party's 1998 National Convention.

Meanwhile, Grant has backed away from a statement that he would run for U.S. Senate as a Libertarian next year.

"Very serious"

In mid-April, Grant told listeners on powerhouse WOR Radio (AM-710) that he was "very serious" about potentially taking on current governor Christie Whitman and ex-governor Jim Florio in a bid to become New Jersey's next Senator.

Grant, although popular, is also controversial: He was fired from WABC radio in 1996 for making a joke about the death of U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, and has frequently been accused of being a racist.

His declaration that he might run as a Libertarian brought criticism from New Jersey LP members — who pointed out that Grant was not a party member, and never talked to anyone in the party before making his announcement.

"Bob seems to think he can just come in and be our candidate, but it's more complicated than that," said NJLP Press Secretary Mike Pierone. "Do we want people in the party who



■ Roy Innis: Says he "does expect" to run for mayor of New York City in 2001.

aren't necessarily Libertarians?"

Party members also pointed out that Grant supports gun control and is vehemently anti-immigrant.

In response to the criticism, Grant announced in late April that if he runs, he would run as an independent.

"I won't shade my views to fit the [Libertarian] mold," said Grant. "It would be like trying to wear a suit that doesn't fit."

With Grant apparently out of the running, New Jersey Libertarians will pick a U.S. Senate nominee at their state convention in the spring of 2000.

From the author of *Healing Our World...*



Short Answers to the Tough Questions

Inspired by Dr. Ruwart's Internet column at the Advocates Web Site (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.



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LITERATURE BUTTONS & MUCH MORE!

Libertarian Party Literature

■ **Ain't Nobody's Business If You Do** by Peter McWilliams. The definitive argument against "consensual crimes," packed with facts, quotes, and statistics. Paperback, 693 pages. **Cost:** \$9.95

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

■ **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 7th edition. The classic introductory work. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political issues; contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. Softbound, 158 pages. **Cost:** \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

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

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

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 1998: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-1997) 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

Bumperstickers

Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100. Size: 11" x 3"

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** (Red, white, & blue).

■ **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; LP address and phone # below.)

■ **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)

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-682-1776

Miscellaneous Items

■ **Libertarian Party stickers.** Size: 5/8" x 2-1/8". (Red and blue.) Text: "Tired of big government & high taxes? Call the Libertarian Party." Includes LP 800#. **Cost:** Four sheets (96 stickers) for \$1. Or 25 sheets (600): \$5

■ **Windbreaker.** Blue, with LP logo & party name. Available in M, L, XL. (Please specify.) **Cost:** \$25 each

■ **Liberty Teddy Bear:** 12" high. Brown bear, blue shirt: "Liberty Bear" on front. **Cost:** \$20.

Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian TV Ads:** A videotape of TV ads by LP candidates — from State Representative to president. (Not broadcast quality.) **Cost:** \$20.00 each

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

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

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

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 choose second line: ★ "800-682-1776" ★ "Defenders of Liberty." **Cost:** \$40 each



Celebrate the true spirit of July 4th!

What are you doing this 4th of July? Going to a barbecue? To the beach? To a parade? Instead, why not celebrate the true *spirit* of the holiday by telling people about the Libertarian Party — the only party dedicated to the classic American tradition of "liberty for all"?

Our literature can help you. It presents our positions on a wide range of issues in a compelling and easy-to-understand way. Our brochures and booklets will help your friends and neighbors embrace the benefits of liberty... and understand why the Libertarian Party is the best means to achieve the *rebirth* of liberty in our nation.

The July 4th holiday: Why bother to celebrate it if you don't use it to celebrate *liberty*?

LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



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

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

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

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

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

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

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

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

Yard Sign

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH / VOTE LIBERTARIAN. Red, white, and blue ink on sturdy foamboard. Measures a big 24" x 18". Perfect for LP campaigns or rallies.

Cost: \$8.00 each.

■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how the government impoverishes Americans by taking more in taxes than most families spend on food, clothing, and shelter (combined)

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Making Your Neighborhood 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¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Working to Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). How the LP would drastically reduce 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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_____ 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?"
_____ *Why Government Doesn't Work* book
_____ *Libertarianism In One Lesson* book
_____ *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/1-800-682-1776

Buttons

_____ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian
_____ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-682-1776
_____ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Miscellaneous Items

_____ Sheets of LP stickers (24 per sheet)
_____ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL
_____ "Liberty" Teddy Bear

Tools for Campaigning

_____ Libertarian TV Ads Video
_____ 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 ☐ 1-800-682-1776
_____ Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" h x 5' w).

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Expires _____ Signature _____
Name _____
Membership ID# (On label) _____
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City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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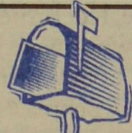
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HowTo

Run a more effective outreach/OPH booth

■ **Editor's note:** Now that summer is here, Libertarian outreach booths will start springing up at county fairs, flea markets, and other outdoor gatherings. Here are 10 tips from an experienced activist about how to make any outreach booth a successful one.

1 Use the Operation Politically Homeless Chart [with the four-way Libertarian/Conservative/Liberal/Authoritarian axis] and World's Smallest Political Quiz.

(a) If you don't already have one, get an easel, with the "Diamond Chart" prominently displayed. Ask passersby if they would like to take a political quiz. Have plenty of copies of the quiz available on small clipboards or with cardboard backing, so people can easily write while standing up.

(b) Before they take the quiz, ask people where they think they fall on the chart. Nine times out of 10, the person will get it right, which helps to validate the effectiveness of the quiz.

(c) After they take the quiz, use adhesive dots (available in office supply stores) to mark their spot on the chart. Explain the difference in "Left vs. Right" politics as opposed to individual freedom vs. government control, as the chart illustrates.

(d) Remember that you can't convert everyone. Forget about the authoritarians and concentrate on those who score in or near the Libertarian quadrant. Emphasize that their views are Libertarian, tell them about the LP, and give them a flier.

(e) When you find a good prospect, ask if they would like to receive more information in the mail. If they do, get their name and address.

(f) When couples or groups participate, use that to your advantage. Comments like, "I'll bet you two have some interesting discussions!" or "You guys probably agree on most issues," help to break the ice and get a dialogue started. This allows you a greater opportunity to promote Libertarianism.

(g) Remember your goal: *To locate good prospects.*

2. Make sure you have a banner or sign displayed that identifies your booth as Libertarian.

3. Have a good supply of LP literature available, including buttons, bumper stickers, and other items (available from the National LP office). Be sure to have your local affiliate number on fliers. If possible, publicize local meetings.

4. Be sure to schedule at least two people to be in the booth at all times.

5. Remember that you won't know the answer to every question. Keep a notepad handy where you can write down names and phone numbers of people who request information that you don't have.

6. Don't engage in long arguments. If someone persists, tell them that you obviously don't agree and change the subject to something you do agree on (find this out by looking at the answers they gave on the quiz). If someone is verbally abusive, don't take it personally and never lose your cool.

7. Whenever possible, always get elected Libertarians and candidates to work in the booth. I have found that one of the most common questions asked is, "Who are your candidates?" They should be there to answer in person.

8. Keep an eye out for possible candidates and activists. Make notes on their address cards so you won't forget about them later on.

9. Appearances count. Dress appropriately. Don't wear a suit to a street fair or grungy clothes to a business event. Never wear camouflage or fatigues — even at a gun show.

10. Always be gracious and thank people for taking the time to talk to you.



By Dena L. Bruedigam

Success '99 heads for Ohio and Illinois

Want to gain the skills needed for Libertarian political victory?

Want to learn how to run a winning campaign — or to use a non-winning campaign to increase the strength of the party?

Want to build a more active, more energetic, more successful local Libertarian Party — and make yourself a more valuable part of that organization?

If you live in Ohio or Illinois, you'll be able to learn all that at Success '99 in July.

Political leadership

Success '99, the Libertarian Party's intensive, two-day series of political leadership workshops, will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio (July 17-18) and Arlington Heights, Illinois (July 24-25).

"Success '99 is a combination of a data-dump, a pep rally, and just plain fun," said LP National Director Steve Dasbach. "You shouldn't miss it."

■ **In Ohio**, Success '99 will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, Cincinnati Eastgate (4501 Eastgate Blvd.) For directions, call (513) 752-4400. Presenters include Jim Lark (advisor to the Liberty Coalition), Michael Cloud (creator of "The Essence of Political Persuasion"), and Mary Ruwart (author of *Healing Our World*).

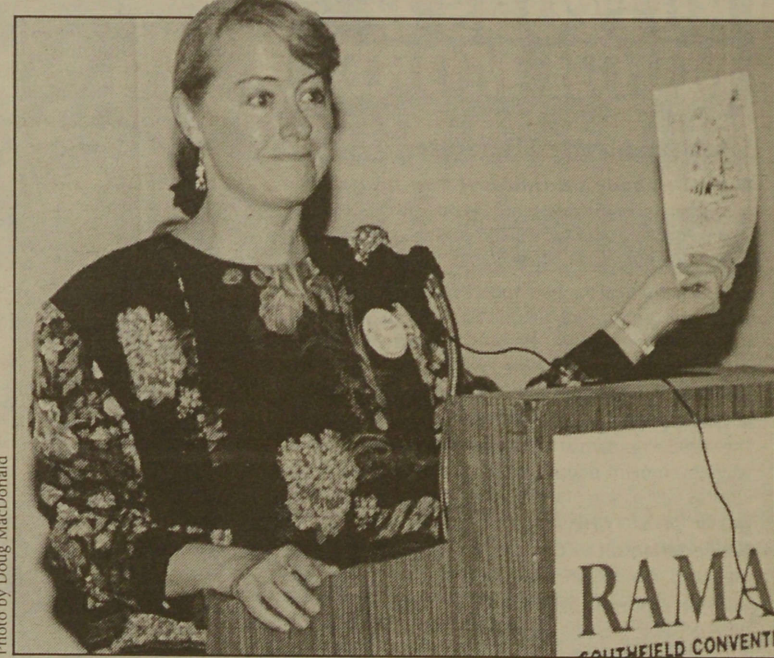


Photo by Doug MacDonald

■ Dr. Mary Ruwart, author of *Healing Our World*, presented a workshop on temperament types at the Success '99 event in Michigan on May 1. New Michigan LP State Chair Stacy Van Oast described Success '99 "a terrific seminar."

■ **In Illinois**, Success '99 will be held at the Radisson Hotel Arlington Heights (75 West Algonquin Road). For directions, call (847) 364-7600. Presenters include David Bergland (LP National Chairman), Jim Lark, and Michael Cloud.

(The Success '99 event scheduled for July 10-11 in Montgomery, Alabama has been postponed, Dasbach announced.)

Each Success '99 event consists of 12 hours of workshops, conducted all day Saturday and on Sunday morning. The registration fee for the seminar is \$79, and includes a Saturday lunch. Participants pay for their own transportation and lodging.

For a complete list of upcoming Success '99 events — or to request more information or register — see the full-page advertisement on page 5. Or call the Balcom Group at (202) 234-3880.

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climb out of the media black hole.

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Or e-mail us at liberty64@jps.net. —Mark Selzer, Chairman, Region 64 —R. William Weilburg, Vice Chairman

PS: These ads have really helped to make our region more active. But we are only at 1% of where we should be. Your help is sorely needed. Thank you to all who have already donated.

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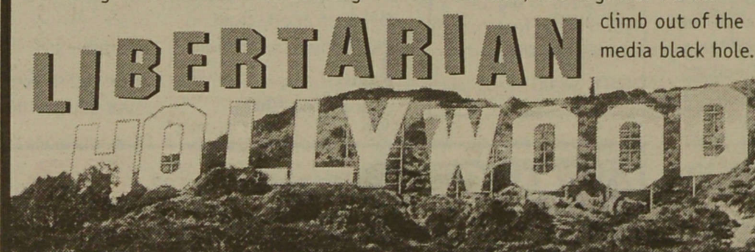
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Connecticut LP wins billion-dollar anti-stadium battle

Libertarians in Connecticut have won a "patriotic" victory: They helped defeat a plan to build a government-funded stadium for the New England Patriots professional football team that would have cost taxpayers as much as \$1.274 billion over the next three decades.

"Although the official reason for the collapse of the deal cannot be directly attributed to the LP of Connecticut, we did fight it every step of the way — so we

can certainly claim to have some part," said James Madison, the party's communications director.

On April 30, the governor of Connecticut announced that plans to build a taxpayer-financed stadium in Hartford had been scrapped.

Lead the fight

Over the previous five months, Connecticut Libertarians had helped lead the fight against the stadium, working

with an organization called Stop The Stadium (STS), said Madison. Other members of the STS coalition included the Green Party and Ralph Nader.

"We don't want to be affiliated with Mr. Nader or the Green Party too much, but we did manage to work with them, and that shows that Libertarians are willing to work with anyone on an issue by issue basis if their cause is on the side of freedom," he said. "It shows that we can co-

operate without compromising our principles."

To show the widespread opposition to the stadium, Libertarians helped STS gather 35,000 signatures.

"The petitions are non-binding since we have no initiative or referendum, but it shows that the grassroots support was out there," said Madison.

Libertarians also participated in a letters-to-the-editor campaign, furnished anti-stadium

videos to local access stations, did dozens of media interviews, and participated in a public rally to make the point that "entertainment is not a government function."

Correction

■ In the "Libertarian Solutions" column in the June 1999 LP News, the correct figure for the cost of cleaning up the Energy and Defense departments' polluted sites should have been \$100 billion.

Texas party blasts "fake" election data

Where are the Libertarians? That was the question Texas LP members used to shame Texas politicians into removing — for one day, at least — web pages containing "falsified" election information.

On May 14, Travis County LP Chair Robert "Rock" Howard charged that the Texas Legislature website contained "hundreds of pages of falsified election results" that ignored Libertarian results from Election '98.

"I'm shocked," he said. "The percentages of every election count in every state district [were] systematically falsified to give Republicans and Democrats 100% of the vote."

For example, an LP candidate who earned 500,000 votes in a race for Court of Criminal Appeals was left off the listing — while the vote totals for the Republican and Democratic candidates were rounded up to 100%.

Forbidden Access

Howard reported the problem to the House Online Research Group and House Elections Committee, but got no response from any official, he said. However, the pages were blocked for one day with a "Forbidden Access" message, before being returned without any changes.

"The fact that these fraudulent pages were restored to the website also seems to indicate that the state officials may no longer have access to accurate vote totals," said Howard.

"The Texas LP conducted its best election in a non-presidential year in 1998," said State Chair Geoffrey Neale. "Collectively they earned over one million votes. Apparently our state government would rather mislead the public by pretending that these votes never occurred."

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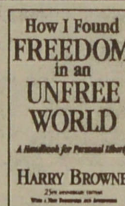
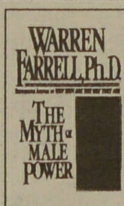
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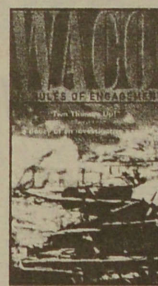
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THE FORUM

How to help the cause of liberty in Cuba

If the Cuban authorities persist in jailing Cuban citizens for criticizing Cuban socialism, they might have to implement a new five-year plan for prison expansion.

I recently spent a week in Cuba. Since the United States embargo against Cuba makes it a criminal offense for Americans to spend money there, I had secured a license from the U.S. Department of the Treasury to travel to Cuba to conduct an informal study of the country's socialist economic system.

I then contacted the Cuban Interest Section in Washington, D.C., and requested a special "fact-finding" visa to conduct an informal study of the effects of the U.S. embargo on Cuba.

The Cuban authorities issued me the visa and authorized me to interview people on the streets as well as academics employed in "research centers" at the University of Havana.

When I arrived in Havana, tension was in the air. Dissent in Cuba is always dangerous, of course, and the point was being reinforced by the trial of four dissidents who had advocated reform, especially since portions of the trial were being shown on television. (The four were later sentenced to 3-5 years in prison.)

Nevertheless, perhaps reflecting the desperate economic plight of Cuban citizens, dozens of people on the streets talked candidly with me, as long as they were confident that no one was monitoring our conversation.

Disgusted

One thing became startlingly clear: While many of the academics in the Cuban research centers I visited still purport to believe that socialism will ultimately succeed in improving people's standard of living, the people in the street are disgusted with Cuba's economic system.

One man, about 35, told me that he could not even afford shoes for his children. When I asked him what he thought about the state's owning everything and employing just about everyone, he whispered in my ear, "¡Mierda!" ["Crap!"]

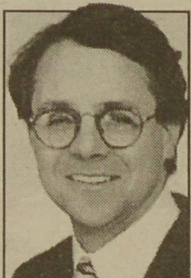
A young woman who worked as a museum guide told me that life is desperate and dreary for her and her little girl. She receives a government salary

of 150 pesos a month (approximately \$7) to work in the museum every other day. When I asked whether she had another job on her days off, she answered critically:

"No, we are not permitted to have two jobs in Cuba and we are often required to perform social service on our free days."

I asked a taxi driver, who was in his mid '50s, why the buildings in Havana were so dilapidated and appeared as if they had not been painted in 40 years. He paused for a few moments and carefully phrased his answer: "When you are permitted to own your own place, you take care of it. When society owns things, no one takes care of them."

I asked a 60-year-old retired woman whether she still had hope for the future, and she responded, "I am too old for hope." I asked another woman, in her early '20s, the same question and she answered: "What can one person do? When the state is the sole employer, resistance means being transferred to a different city. What we need is



By Jacob Hornberger

someone with the courage and spirit that Fidel had 40 years ago to help us. Unfortunately, all of them emigrate to Miami."

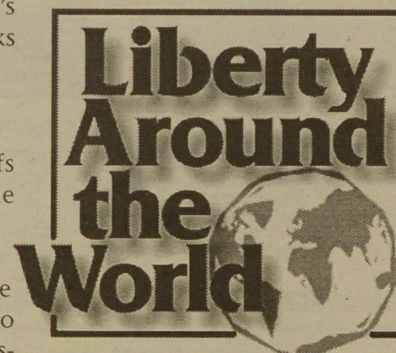
No one in Cuba, except perhaps those at the top of the political hierarchy, can respond in the affirmative when asked, "Are you better off today than you were 20, 30, or 40 years ago?" A society in which people once had a relatively high economic standard of living is today mired in a desperate battle for survival. And Havana, once one of the world's most beautiful cities, today looks like a ravaged war zone.

Illegally sells meals

Since the basic foodstuffs that the state rations to people are insufficient to live on, people are doing whatever is necessary to survive. One woman who rents a bedroom to tourists under Cuba's new licensing laws told me that she illegally sells meals to tourists who are not boarders. I met trained engineers who drove taxis to earn tips from tourists. I was told that a Cuban physician is famous for the pastries he sells after work. One woman said that she quit teaching to manage the rental of three bedrooms in her home.

For four decades, the United States embargo (called *el bloqueo* in Cuba) has only made things

worse for the Cuban people. People told me, "Fidel has not been hurt by *el bloqueo*. It is the Cuban people who have suffered." I was told that despite Castro's constant railings against the embargo, it has actually been his biggest asset. Castro has brilliantly outwitted Americans, people told me, by constantly blaming the embargo and, more recently, the Helms-Burton Act, rather than socialism, for the country's economic distress.



This perception was fortified by hardliners in the research centers I visited, who harped on how successful Cuban socialism would be if it were not for the U.S. embargo and Helms-Burton. One young man said, "Lift the embargo so people can see that our *real* problem is socialism."

Of course, it was always impossible for me to explain why the American people, who proudly proclaim the virtues of

economic liberty, nevertheless permit their government to control how they spend their money.

What surprised me most during my trip to Cuba was how Cubans on the street treated me. Every day, I visited with people from all walks of life — waiters, maids, ice-cream vendors, taxi drivers, booksellers, craftsman, museum guides, students, hotel clerks, sales clerks, academics, and many more. To get a better taste of average Cuban life, I ate in *paladares* (licensed restaurants in people's homes) and spent one night in a \$25-a-night bedroom in an elderly woman's home.

Treated rudely?

I had expected to be treated rudely because of what the U.S. embargo and Helms-Burton have done to the Cuban people. I was amazed to discover that it was the exact opposite. I have never encountered people anywhere in the world as friendly as the Cuban people. I occasionally asked them, "Why are you so courteous to me after what my government has done to you?" Their response was always the same: "What fault do you have for what your government does?"

After 40 years, the time has come to end two of the 20th century's most powerful engines of economic oppression: Cuba's socialist economic system and the U.S. economic embargo against Cuba. Ending Cuban socialism is the business of the Cuban people. Ending the embargo is ours.

■ **Editor's note:** Jacob Hornberger is president of the Virginia-based Future of Freedom Foundation, and co-editor of *The Case for Free Trade and Open Immigration*.

Costa Rica's favorite politician: A Libertarian

Can one person really make a difference?
In Costa Rica, Otto Guevara already has

Proving that one determined, talented man can make a difference in the course of a country, Costa Rica's Libertarian Congressman, Otto Guevara, has been named "Congressman of the Year" by the country's largest newspaper.

La Nacion had polled 48 print, radio, and TV journalists on the performance of the government and the Congress since the election a year ago. Guevara got more than double the votes of his nearest competitor.

What is the source of his popularity? Guevara has become known as the source of accurate information about Congressional action. He carries a pager

and cell phone wherever he goes and responds to media calls immediately. Every political reporter has his number.

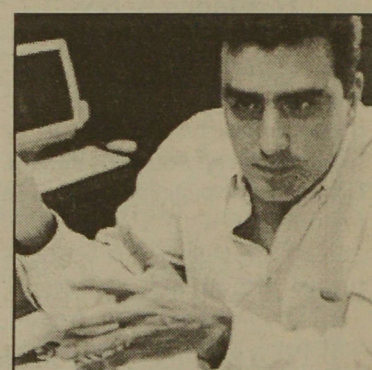
He is also popular with the people for being well-informed on policy issues, for having a clear-cut agenda for the country, for defending the poor, and for being courageous enough to speak his mind.

Prior to his election, as spokesman for the *Movimiento Libertario*, Guevara garnered national headlines with his statement "Our Goal is Zero Taxes." This year as a Congressman, he

has been constantly on the front pages. One of his recent headlines was for calling for the abolition of the central bank.

While the *Movimiento Libertario* builds its base and works on these long-term goals, Guevara is having an immediate impact on legislation. He has successfully persuaded his colleagues to eliminate some sales taxes, has weakened laws that violate civil liberties, and stopped a forced-savings plan.

Guevara also files lawsuits with the Costa Rican Constitutional Court. One recent victory stopped the government from issuing any more bonds for general deficits until certain procedures were changed. As a result, the government has been unable to access the financial markets for two months. Now, Guevara



■ **Otto Guevara:** Costa Rica's "Congressman of the Year"

is filing another lawsuit and is working in Congress to make the ban permanent.

■ **Editor's note:** Vince Miller is the president of the International Society for Individual Liberty. For information about ISIL, call (707) 746-8796. Or e-mail: isil@isil.org.

By Vince Miller

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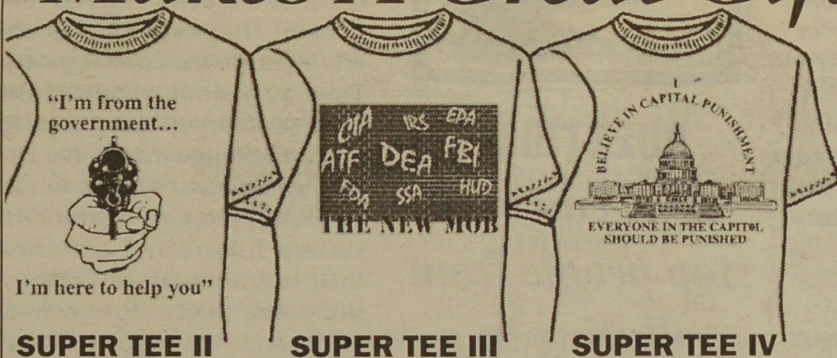
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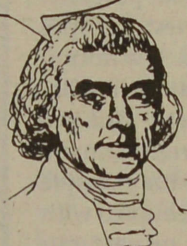
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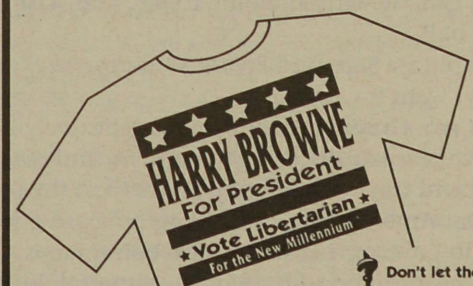
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From THE EDITOR

Survey: Do surveys drive you crazy, too?

If you're a Libertarian, public opinion surveys probably drive you crazy. I know they have that effect on me.

Depending on *which* survey you read, about *which* political issue, on *which* day, your fellow Americans are:

a) **Solidly libertarian**; proud heirs to the Jeffersonian principles of self-government. Or . . .

b) **Solidly socialist**; clamoring to be relieved of their last few rights, responsibilities, and dollars. Or . . .

c) **All of the above**. In short, potential recruits for the Schizophrenia Party.

I vote for "c," based on some recent polls I have read.

For example, in the "Take My Rights, Please!" category, a survey from Cloakroom's Poll Track (*National Journal*, May 29, 1999), reports:

■ 65% of Americans think it's more important to control gun ownership than it is to protect the right to own guns.

■ 85% think the government is spending either the right amount on federal disaster relief aid, or should spend more.

And if that's not bad enough:

■ 65% support "tougher seat belt" laws (Air Bags & Seat Belts Safety Campaign, the *Washington Post*, December 11, 1998).

So: Solid majorities of Americans want to turn our nation into *Sweden*, where politicians can take our guns, spend more of our money, and force us to wear seatbelts.

But wait! There's good news, too:

■ 44% of Americans say they wish they could opt out of Social Security (*Wall Street Journal*, March 11, 1999).

■ 73% say federal law should be amended to make medical marijuana legal (Gallup Poll, March 21, 1999).

■ 64% say it should be legal for adults to wager on sports events (Rasmussen Research, *USA Today*, March 12, 1999). And:

■ 65% think the maximum percentage of a person's income that should go to all taxes shouldn't exceed 20% — or less than *half* of the 42% that the average American currently pays. (Fox News, the *Wall Street Journal*, April 15, 1999).

So: Americans want a *more* Libertarian nation where we can stop paying Social Security taxes, have access to medical marijuana, gamble without going to jail, and slash taxes by more than half.

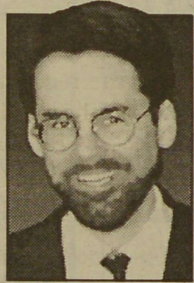
To paraphrase Sigmund Freud: What the heck do Americans (really) want?

Here's my theory: Americans are reflexively libertarian. They tend to *generally* distrust government, and *generally* think they can spend their own money better than the politicians.

But most Americans are also *specifically* pro-government. They turn to government solutions when there is a "crisis" they think needs to be addressed (the shooting in Littleton, for example); when they think particular federal programs are effective (disaster relief aid); or when they think other people need to be forced to behave better (seat belt laws).

For Libertarians, we must build on that general distrust, and highlight the many government programs that are wasteful or destructive. And we need to remind people that the price they pay for government programs or policies they *like* are other programs or policies they *hate*.

Will we ever get 100% of Americans to agree with us on 100% of the issues? No, but we don't need to. Politics works by majorities (which we must earn one vote at a time), not unanimous consent. If we do our job right, Libertarian candidates will start scoring better in the voting booth — even if public opinion polls keep driving us crazy.



By Bill Winter,
Editor

Pollution Solution II: Restoration as a tool to save the environment

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 Dr. Mary Ruwart

Last month's "Libertarian Solutions" column explored two steps that libertarians would take to save the environment. First, libertarians would eliminate government's sovereign immunity so that victims of the country's greatest polluter — government — would have recourse. Second, libertarians would privatize "land and beast" to save endangered species, preserve our parks, protect our national forests, and improve our vast cattle ranges.

In addition, libertarians would couple these powerful reforms with restitution, to prevent pollution before it starts. Libertarians reject the initiation of physical force as a means to their ends. Restitution is the remedy when someone harms another, takes their property, or damages it. While punishment is intended to hurt the aggressor, restitution restores the victim to the fullest extent possible. Restitution is "punishment" that fits the crime and therefore provides a more effective deterrent.

Dumping garbage

For example, if your neighbors dumped garbage on your lawn, you would expect them to clean it up. If they didn't do so when asked, you'd call local law enforcement. When your neighbor finally did restore your lawn, you'd expect them to compensate you for whatever additional costs were incurred in the enforcement of your claim.

Obviously, the expense and hassle of cleaning up your lawn far outweighs the benefits that your neighbors might get from dumping garbage on your lawn in the first place. Thus, if they knew that you were likely to seek restitution, your neighbors would not pollute your property.

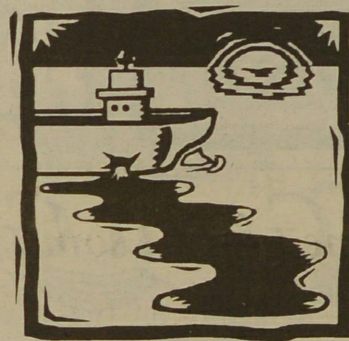
Environmental restoration is costly and difficult. Restitution therefore becomes an incredibly onerous punishment and the most effective deterrent known. Let's examine a real-life example of how restitution, coupled with privatization, can protect our waterways.

In Britain, individuals have property rights in the rivers that

LIBERTARIAN Solutions

run through their land. If someone upstream pollutes the water and harms the fish, the downstream owners don't have to wait for a bureaucratic commission to study the issue. Instead, they immediately sue the polluters to protect their valuable property and claim restitution for damages. As a result, would-be polluters are effectively deterred from damaging the environment.

Waterways that don't have a private protector fare much



QUESTION:

How can you stop people from polluting in a free society?

worse. A citizen's action group recently contacted me because they were concerned about businesses dumping toxic chemicals into the neighboring Ohio River. Because the government claims stewardship of this waterway, individuals have no ownership rights on which to base a suit. They must wait until bureaucrats decide to take action. If the businesses contribute to the campaign chests of powerful politicians, nothing may ever happen,

even if local authorities are truly protective of the environment.

Even when the government does decide to move against a corporate polluter, restitution is seldom required. Instead, the business usually pays a fine. Sometimes the fine is small enough that the business finds it cheaper to pollute and pay.

Private owners would seldom be willing to let their property be polluted for a small sum, because the decrease in property value would be a devastating financial blow.

Fishing rights

Even ocean beds can be protected from pollution when private ownership of fishing rights is coupled with restitution. In some states, homesteading of oyster beds is permitted. Private oyster beds are more prolific and profitable than public ones. The owners have incentive to invest money in caring for the beds and harvesting them sustainably.

In the early part of this century, shrimp fishers along the Gulf of Mexico collectively claimed "homesteading" property rights in the coastal waters. Their association regulated the harvest of shrimp sustainably to maximize long-term profit. The U.S. government refused to recognize the property rights of the shrimp fishers and outlawed their organization. Not surprisingly, too many shrimp were taken and the population has dropped.

Our air can be protected from pollution with restitution and private ownership as well. For example, in a completely libertarian society, the roadways would be privately owned. If neighbors complained of pollution, the road company might offer monetary compensation.

Deny access

Most likely, however, the neighbors would want the pollution to stop. Since 80% of emissions' pollution is caused by 20% of the cars, the road company might deny access or charge much higher user fees to polluting vehicles.

Given these alternatives, most of the owners would probably buy a newer car or get their emission system upgraded. Such measures would reduce pollution until the neighbors were no longer bothered by it.

Similarly, if a product polluted the air, victims could sue

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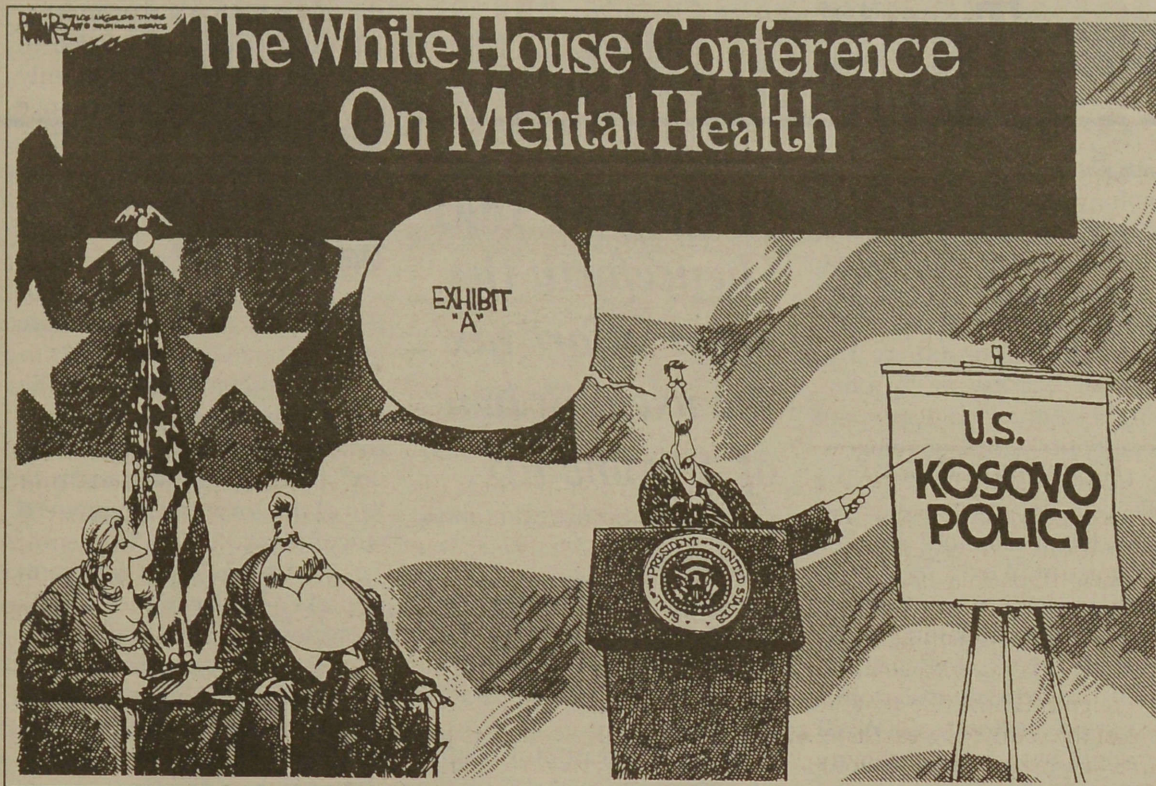
Libertarian Online Guide

Libertarian Party:

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THE MAILBOX

Fight the power

I have heard some recent concern about how to convert Democrats to Libertarians.

I find these people most often to be the easiest. The key is to quickly identify yourself and your party as the ones who are for their ideals and against the politicians — before you turn them off as a boring person talking about your interest in politics.

I believe Daniel Smith has the best one-liner, "fight the power" [News Briefs, *LP News*, June 1999]. Not only do Libertarians work for everybody's rights on every issue, but we are the one political force that is against today's ruling class.

It is the individuals and their organizations that makes a difference on bringing traditionally Democrat ideals to reality.

With the politicians out of our way, we would have more money and time to spend on the things we care about, such as protecting the environment, helping ourselves and our families, helping others through charity and churches and protecting our rights through such organizations as the ACLU.

I think that Daniel Smith may have the best answer to reaching out to minority communities and having them better represented within the party.

As far as reaching out to these groups, Democrats, Republicans, and the indifferent alike, I would suggest, provided funding, television or print images of individuals and groups fighting the power, helping others, and

"IT DISHEARTENS me to read some of the comments regarding the Yugoslavian conflict."

protecting the environment — with Daniel Smith encouraging individuals to fight the power by joining and becoming active in the Libertarian Party to selfishly work for everyone's rights on every issue.

— **KEITH GARDNER**
Atlanta, Georgia

Government schools

I think we ought to encourage all Libertarians to lose the ingrained habit of using "public" schools in written and spoken communications, and call them by the true name and function: government schools.

Since "government" is gradually regaining the somewhat sleazy and dangerous con-

notations it should have, I think this may alert some to the potential danger in having government running our schools.

— **STEVE ALLISON**
Ramona, California

Extreme isolationist

As a long-time libertarian and LP member, it disheartens me to read some of the comments by four of our leaders regarding the Yugoslavia conflict [LP News, May 1999].

With phrases such as: "Clinton's war," or "the U. S. government's war," or "Mr. Clinton's adventure," they seem to forget that there are 18 other countries involved with us.

Why should we take seriously or have respect for someone who says: "Clinton's assault on Serbia is a flagrant, shameful act of aggression" or Clinton's war on Serbia is "unwarranted on strategic, legal, or moral grounds"? If expulsion of nearly one million innocent people from their homes and country, robbery of most of their property, burning of their villages, and murder of a large fraction of their men does not rise to this person's "moral grounds" threshold, then what will?

Some will say this also happens in Africa, but intervention there is perhaps less justified since the people there have shown less propensity for starting world wars than have the Europeans.

When people read claims such as: "The total of this administration's foreign policy is

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 20

THE PULSE

The name remains the same

A rose by any other name would still smell as sweet, wrote William Shakespeare. But a Libertarian Party by any other name would result in a loss of "brand equity," would blur what the party stands for, and would confuse voters. At least, that's the opinion of *LP News* readers — by a slim majority.

In response to this month's unscientific "Pulse" question, 50.7% of the respondents said the Libertarian Party should *not* change its name to the Liberty Party. The most common argument: The party has spent many years building public awareness for the "Libertarian" name and any change would jeopardize that growing recognition.

However, there was significant support for the Liberty Party: 43.5% voted for the name change, arguing it was simpler, less confusing, more inspiring, and easier to pronounce. Another 5.8% either had no opinion, or gave confusing answers, or suggested different names for the party.

Here's a representative sample of the answers:

■ No, don't change. I submit that any voter who finds "Libertarian" too confusing is not a voter likely to be supporting us in the first place.

— **JAMES LAWRENCE**, Greenville, NC

■ Yes, change the name. The word "libertarian" is one of the least esthetic words I've ever heard in English. As for name recognition, consider the following companies who've changed names in recent years: Esso/Exxon, First National City Bank/Citibank, Datsun/Nissan. All have prospered after giving up name recognition

— **DAVID BRICKER, PH.D.**, New York, New York

■ No. Any politician in the country could claim to be "for liberty." It would sound like we're throwing trendy words around to gather attention, like the Republicans' use of "integrity" and "family values."

— **JENNIFER KERNS**, Gainesville, Florida

■ No. The word "libertarian" has been around long enough that it has built up name recognition and respect. To change names now would be to start all over again.

— **CHRIS STRUBLE**, Boise, Idaho

■ Yes. The name Libertarian Party is a liability. The typical voter doesn't know what we stand for but knows he believes in Liberty — if only for himself.

— **WALKER CHANDLER**, Zebulon, Georgia

■ Yes, change it to the Liberty Party. Keep it simple. Who doesn't understand and want Liberty, except politicians and bureaucrats?

— **MARK PETERSON**, Mahwah, New Jersey

■ No. Besides losing name recognition, the short name Liberty has a small-party "ring" to it, like Green or Reform. The longer name Libertarian sounds like it belongs in the same rank as Democratic and Republican.

— **BRADLEY BOBBS**, Van Nuys, California

■ Yes. It's snappier. It comes with a logo, the Statue of Liberty. It saves ink on all our publications. We'll get publicity when we change names. And the most important reason: I like it.

— **LORINDA KASTEN-LOWERRE**, Garden Grove, California

■ No. Our name is finally getting out there — changing it would put us back in the heap with the other generically named third parties.

— **JOHN R. PACK**, Sandy, Utah

■ Yes. "The Liberty Party: A new name for the new millennium!"

— **MARK HILGENBERG**, Oak Park, California

See **THE PULSE** Page 20

Abortion and Rights: Applying Libertarian Principles Correctly

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THE PULSE

Continued from Page 19

■ Neither. We should go all the way and change our name to the Liberal Party. It's accurate; it's provocative; it puts Socialists misusing the term on the defensive.

— JIM TURBETT, Alexandria, Virginia

■ No. Many countries all over the world use the word "libertarian," and libertarians all over feel related to you. If you change, this international synergy will be lost.

— HUBERT JONGEN, Schijf, Holland

■ Yes. I spend more time explaining the meaning of the word "libertarian" than I do explaining the basic issues. The simple irony is that they do not know the meaning of the word libertarian because they attended government-run schools!

— FRED BLUESTONE, Lauderdale Lakes, Florida

■ No. Do not change our name to the Liberty Party. This party was a pre-Civil War party which, combined with others, was a forerunner of the Republican Party.

— BRAD STEPHENSON, Denver, Indiana

■ No. I have been a Libertarian since February 8, 1924. That's the day I left my mother's womb, and I shall remain a Libertarian as long as the wind blows out of the skies into the tree tops and as long as the world stands!

— JAN G. STROM, Las Vegas, Nevada

September question: Convention speaker?

Want to have input about who's invited as a speaker at the 2000 Libertarian National Convention? *Here's your chance!* In 12 months, thousands of Libertarians and millions of Americans around the USA will see the LP's presidential nominating convention in Anaheim, CA — either via C-SPAN or in-person. The question: Who should be given one of the few, coveted spots to speak at the convention?

Your suggested speaker should be someone *you* want to see (or see again), and can either be a libertarian, libertarian leaning, or just an individual with a message of interest to LP members. (Note: Results of this survey will be given to the Convention Planning Committee.)

■ **QUESTION:** What ONE speaker do you most want to see at the 2000 LP National Convention? And why? (Keep answers to 100 words.)

■ **DEADLINE:** August 5, 1999

August question: Best 'libertarian' group?

Libertarians, it is said, can be quick to complain but slow to praise. Here's your chance to remedy that, by voting for the *best* "small-l" libertarian organization.

Think of it as a public service: There are a lot of new LP members for whom libertarian groups — such as FEE, FEAR, NORML, DPF, EFF, FIJA, GOA, CEI — are just alphabet soup. And even groups with "real" names — the Cato Institute, Advocates for Self-Government, Reason Foundation, Future of Freedom Foundation, and the International Society for Individual Liberty (to name just a few) — are unknown commodities to new members.

Please, help them out — and cast a proud vote for the organization that's doing the *best work* to advance liberty!

■ **QUESTION:** What ONE "small-l" libertarian group (either single-issue or more broad-based) is doing the best job? Why? (Keep answers to 100 words.)

■ **DEADLINE:** July 5, 1999

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

■ E-mail: 73163.3063@compuserve.com. (Please include "Pulse" in subject line.)

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THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 19

bombs" we should not be surprised if they choose thereafter to ignore most libertarian ideas. The cause of liberty is not helped when libertarian leaders do nothing but shout against those who would at least try to do something to restore the liberty and property of the Kosovo refugees.

Certainly in retrospect, the NATO strategy could have been better, but if we can learn anything from World War II it should be that it is better to stop ethnic hatred and killing earlier rather than later. If we had followed the extreme isolationist path at the beginning of WWII we would have as much liberty today as do the people in Cuba.

— GAYLORD OLSON

Hillsborough, New Jersey

Both wings

Despite all the arguing and name-calling among the political ideologies, it remains incontrovertible that the liberals are left wing, the conservatives are right wing, and moderates have no wings at all.

So, while these three incomplete bird ideologies are forever doomed to endlessly flapping and foundering on the ground, Libertarians, who have both wings, are flying straight and true toward the goals of individual freedom and liberty.

— AUGUST SALEMI

Atascadero, California

**"I SUGGEST THAT
henceforth the
term 'effort tax'
be used in lieu
of 'income tax.' "**

You can do it!

I was intrigued by Neil Randall's effort to pass a tax credit for homeschoolers in Vermont [LP News, June 1999]. It's a great idea.

The faulty reasoning behind the opposition, as stated by the chairperson of the Education Committee, was ridiculous. That person said that no funds had been appropriated ("misappropriated" might be a better word) to hire an inspector to oversee how the \$800 tax credit would be spent! This is just political sleight-of-hand. Homeschoolers are already spending money on their children without a government inspector intruding.

The real issue is: Should homeschoolers get back at least some of the money taken from them by the state for the purpose of educating their children — or should they be burdened with having to subsidize a school system they choose not to use?

Mr. Randall suggested, off

the top of his head, that another 20 "yes" votes were needed to pass this excellent bill, but only 12 vote switches would change 58-80 to 70-68. You can do it!

— SCOTT FROST

Kenmore, Washington

The Effort Tax?

Every April 15th serves to remind us that the Nannystate must be served, or else.

As my contribution to the coming revolution, may I suggest that henceforth the term "effort tax" be used by Libertarians in lieu of the government approved "income tax"?

When the "effort tax" term is picked-up by pundits, talk show hosts, and freedom-seeking people everywhere, perhaps we might further shape the debate on this most sinister of all tax burdens.

— K. EUGENE SMITH

Wellington, Nevada

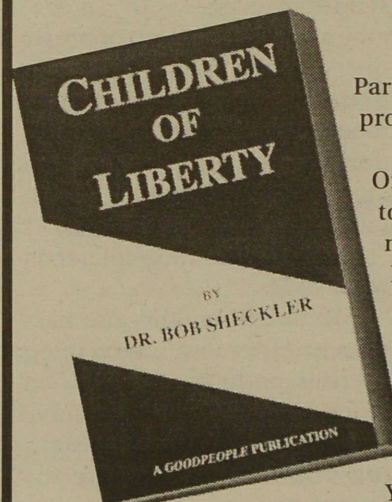
The Fair Tax?

The Libertarian Party should endorse the Fair Tax, which has been proposed by Americans for Fair Taxation and the National Taxpayers Union.

The Fair Tax would eliminate all personal income, corporate income, Social Security, Medicare, capital gains, inheritance and self-employment taxes, and replace them with a 23% national retail sales tax. There would be monthly rebates to those below a certain income to account for the cost of necessities like food and clothing.

I know, pure Libertarians will say we should support no taxa-

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Of course the book throws in a free market, libertarian twist you will enjoy, but the system presented is solid, has worked for both parties in the past, and will work now for the Libertarians.

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THE MAILBOX

tion at all. But we must accept that that is not a political reality today and will not be for the foreseeable future. The American public will not support simply slashing the size of government by two-thirds overnight. The best we can hope for, and credibly call for, is to gradually move in that direction. The Fair Tax does that in a number of ways.

■ No marginal income taxation: Americans will no longer be penalized for earning money. They will know that they get to keep every penny of every extra dollar they earn.

■ Increased savings rate: By only taxing what you spend, the Fair Tax encourages people to save. No more capital gains taxes, and when you die it all goes to your kids.

■ Enables an honest discussion about the level of taxation and spending by the federal government. Today, taxes are hidden in so many places that most people don't even realize how much they are paying — how much less money is in their pockets because of government. Also, the liberals have deliberately skewed the most visible tax of all, the income tax, and exempted tens of millions of poor Americans from the tax roles. It is easy to support every new program that comes down the pike, when you know that the costs will be borne by someone else.

I urge the LP leadership to consider making adoption of the Fair Tax the official position of the Libertarian Party.

I urge you to find out more about it by going to the Americans for Fair Taxation website at www.fairtax.org

— JONATHAN RICHTER
Fresno, California

Census response?

Some months ago, there was a discussion in *LP News* about intrusive questions to be expected in the year 2000 national census questionnaire; questions about race, income, and other sensitive subjects. Just recently, I read that the Census Bureau intends to conduct its most comprehensive door-to-door interview process ever.

Consequently, I would like to know if there is any informa-

tion available in print or on the Internet that describes legal, non-confrontational responses to questions beyond the enumeration of people in my household.

Any assistance you can provide would be appreciated.

— D.L. CUMMINGS
Houston, Texas

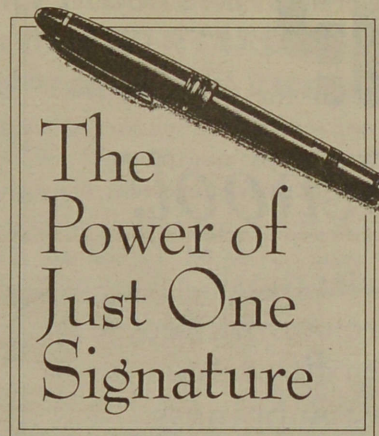
■ **Editor's note:** *If anyone knows of any such resources, please mail, e-mail, or fax them to LP News; we'll share the most helpful responses in a future issue.*

Christ vs. force

This letter is in response to Charlotte Poe's letter [*LP News*, May 1999] regarding whether or not Jesus Christ was a communist. I would suggest that Ms. Poe study the Bible a bit more carefully before writing a letter stating her views on Christianity. It would also be to her benefit if she were to consider studying the history of Communism more closely.

First, Communism has almost always been brought about through force. The best example I'll relate is when Lenin wanted

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 22



Do you think that our government has gotten too big and too powerful? Do you think a maze of bureaucrats and politicians are chipping away at the freedoms Americans used to take for granted? Do you think the Bill of Rights is being silently repealed — one precious freedom at a time?

You can help change that by joining the Libertarian Party! We're the only political party that is fighting — with 100% of our energy — to lower taxes, to reduce the size of government, and to defend the Bill of Rights. With your support — and your proud signature on this membership form — we can work harder than ever to build a powerful political force for freedom.

But we need your help to do it. Join us today!

Pollution Solution: Start with restitution

Continued from Page 18

the product maker, who in turn would pass the costs of restitution onto the consumer. Higher prices would discourage use and decrease pollution.

Instead of using restitution to alter the usage of potentially damaging products, government today simply bans them.

For example, the insecticide DDT eradicated insects that carried malaria, yellow fever, sleeping sickness, typhus, and encephalitis, especially in Third World countries. Pressured by the ban placed on this chemical by the U.S. government, Sri Lanka (then Ceylon) abandoned spraying DDT in 1964. Malaria rose from less than two dozen cases per year to over two million. The victims had no recourse because governments have sovereign immunity.

Adverse effects

Without sovereign immunity, victims of bans or harmful laws could sue for restitution. The threat of such a suit would encourage lawmakers to consider the adverse effects of their actions. Today, because of sovereign immunity, our politicians literally get away with murder.

In today's society, polluters

"BY INSTITUTING restitution, polluters will face a formidable deterrent."

might simply declare bankruptcy and walk away.

However, in a libertarian society, a creditor could not be forced by government to give up their claims for damages. Polluters who couldn't pay immediately would most likely have to make monthly payments until their debt and the interest on that debt was paid in full.

If they refused to make such payments, they would most likely end up in a work prison where the additional costs of incarceration would be added to their tab. Rather than lose their freedom and incur additional costs, most polluters would choose to make their payments.

In some cases, the damage might exceed whatever the polluters could pay even with a lifetime of trying to make things

right. Restitution can't bring back the dead or easily reclaim a poisoned well.

However, by privatizing land and animals, bad political policy won't be able to destroy the 40% of our nation's land and wildlife now controlled by the government. By instituting restitution, polluters will face a formidable deterrent. By eliminating sovereign immunity, our bureaucrats will no longer be able to get away with the murder of millions.

■ **Editor's note:** *Mary J. Ruwart, Ph.D., is the author of Healing Our World: The Other Piece of the Puzzle, a liberty primer for liberals, Christians, New Agers, and pragmatists. She also wrote Short Answers to the Tough Questions after her Internet column (www.selfgov.org) of the same name.*

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4. Mary J. Ruwart, "Destroying the Environment," "Pollution Solution," and "The Other Piece of the Puzzle," in *Healing Our World: The Other Piece of the Puzzle* (Kalamazoo, MI: SunStarPress, 1993), pp. 110; 171-182; 159-169 respectively.

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THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 21

to bring about a revolution, did he peacefully move about society asking his followers to live by certain truths? If I recall history correctly, his Bolshevik revolution was brought about by a civil war with the Mensheviks and the slaying of the royal family. Those who refused to live in the dictator Lenin's socialist government were put to death.

Jesus Christ never forced anyone to do anything they didn't want to. His goal was not to get people to do his whim. It was for them to choose whether or not they would become self-governing individuals. He never used force to accomplish his aims. On the night of his betrayal, Jesus was faced with a large crowd of murderous individuals. His apostle, Peter, pulled

out a sword and cut off one of the enemies' ears. Even amid the tumult, Jesus calmly responded, "Put up again thy sword into his place for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." (Matt 26:52).

This is one example of where Christ showed the power of persuasion rather than force. When people live the law of Communism they do it without choice; when people live the law of Christ, they do it with complete choice.

— CAMERON CLARK
St. George, Utah

"A TENET OF Christianity is that acts must be voluntary for them to have merit."

Christ: No socialist

In response to Charlotte Poe, I have to say that Jesus is very definitely a Libertarian in the

political sense. Jesus' admonition that we cannot serve both God and money was simply a warning about excessive concern with material wealth. It was never a blanket condemnation of money or financial institutions. In fact, Christian doctrine is very staunch in its support for individual rights and protection of private property.

As for the instruction to "sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor," note that Jesus never once took the Communist/Socialist/Democrat/Republican position of "take all that your neighbor has and give that to the poor."

An important tenet of Christianity, unfortunately forgotten by all too many Christians, is that acts must be voluntary for them to have any merit or significance. Jesus never advocated imposing his commands by force, and he never instructed His followers to force non-believers to obey His commands at sword point.

While Jesus demands a great deal from those who follow Him, He relies on persuasion, not force. Obedience to Him must be voluntary, or it is meaningless. While He would not approve of prostitution or excessive drug use, He would also not approve of preventing these activities by force, since abstention is only virtuous if it is voluntary.

Libertarianism is the only political philosophy consistent with the Christian concepts of free will and responsibility.

— CHRISTOPHER MINA
Overland Park, Kansas

Totalitarian impulse

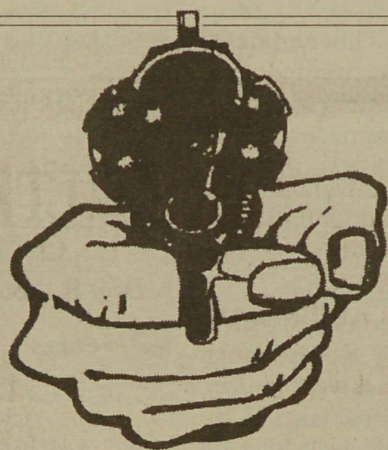
It has been interesting to read the letters from Christians who do or do not believe that the Libertarian Party is compatible with their religious beliefs.

If you look at the vast majority of "activist" Christians, however, you will note that Libertarianism is the last thing on earth they want. For proof, simply look at the vast numbers of conservatives (many from the so-called "Christian right") who are desperate to abandon the Republican Party but who refuse to consider the LP as an alternative, instead suggesting yet new third (or fourth or fifth) parties.

If you ask yourself why, it can only be because they cannot buy into our philosophy of "live and let live."

Libertarians should be wary of these groups, no matter how much disdain for Bill Clinton and big government we share. The totalitarian impulse is the same whether it comes from the right or the left, from godlessness or Christianity.

— MITCHELL J. MCCONNELL
Brookline, New Hampshire



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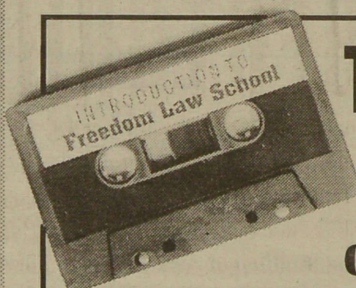
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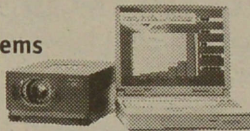
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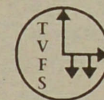
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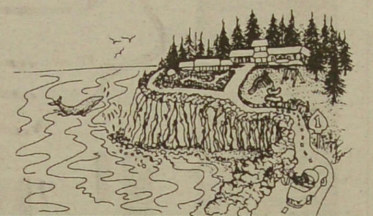
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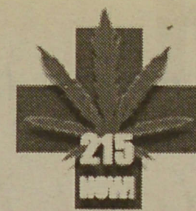
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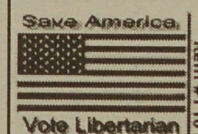


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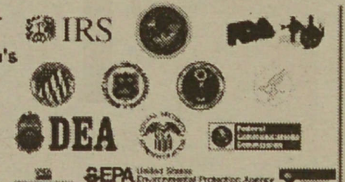


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July 17-18, 1999

Success '99 Leadership Seminar, Cincinnati, Ohio. Speakers include Jim Lark (Liberty Coalition advisor), Michael Cloud (1998 candidate for U.S. Senate in Nevada), and Dr. Mary Ruwart (author of *Healing Our World*). For information or to register, call the Balcom Group at (202) 234-3880.

July 24-25, 1999

Success '99 Leadership Seminar, Chicago, Illinois. Speakers include David Bergland (LP National Chairman), Jim Lark (Liberty Coalition advisor), and Michael Cloud (creator of "The Essence of Political Persuasion"). For information or to register, call the Balcom Group at (202) 234-3880.

August 7, 1999

Virginia LP Convention, Richmond. Exact location and speakers TBA. For information, contact Marc Montoni via e-mail: ambassador@bigfoot.com. Website: www.lpva.org.

August 14-15, 1999

Libertarian National Committee, Inc. meeting, Marriott Hotel, Anaheim, California. Open to all party members. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 228.

August 22-27, 1999

International Society for Individual Liberty World Conference, San Jose, Costa Rica. Speakers include Enrique Ghersi (Peru), Otto Guevara Guth (Costa Rica), and Carlos Alberto

Montaner (author of the *Manual of the Perfect Latin American Idiot*). For information: (707) 746-8796. E-mail: 71034.2711@CompuServe.com.

September 17-19, 1999

1999 Gun Rights Policy Conference, Airport Renaissance Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri. Sponsored by The Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep & Bear Arms, and the Second Amendment Foundation. For information: (425) 454-4911. Or visit: www.saf.org or www.ccrkba.com.

September 24-26, 1999

Advocates for Self-Government's 15th Anniversary Celebration, Atlanta, Georgia. Speakers include Congressman Ron Paul, Charles Murray, Harry Browne, Michael Cloud, Karl Hess Jr., Walter Block (author of *Defending the Undefendable*), and Dr. Mary Ruwart. For information, call (800) 932-1776. E-mail: advocates@self-gov.org. Website: www.self-gov.org.

October 8-10, 1999

Florida LP Convention, Sheraton Hotel, West Palm Beach. Speakers include Michael Cloud (1998 Libertarian National Convention Keynote Speaker). For information, call Frank Longo: (561) 883-3357. E-mail: FLongo@bellsouth.net.

October 23, 1999

New Hampshire LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Nashua. Speakers include Larry Hines. For information, contact Tom Kershaw at (603) 424-0100. E-mail: kersha19@IDT.net.

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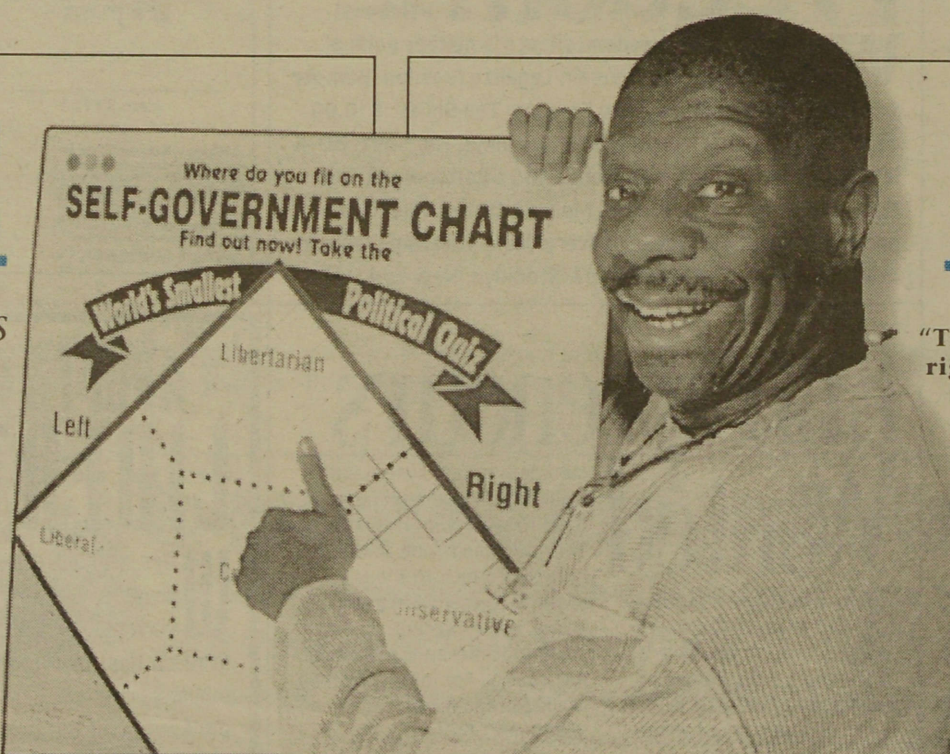
Permit #102

INSIDE

■ **PAGE 1** LP works against pay hike for president

■ **PAGE 3** Strong showing by two DE candidates

■ **PAGE 12** Innis in; Grant out?



FIRST WORD

"The Libertarian Party's focus on individual rights, tax issues, and smaller government have tapped emotional, if ill-defined and visceral, uneasiness, among voters. Libertarian positions have increased in popularity since the country made a right turn in the 1980s."
— Mike Taylor, *Pitch Weekly*
(Kansas City, Missouri), May 17, 1999

"With their advocacy of less government, Libertarians would seem to draw votes from the Republicans. But with their emphasis on civil liberties, Libertarians also appeal to liberals and Democrats."
— *Indianapolis News* (Indiana), May 5, 1999