

# Massachusetts LIBERTY

February 1980-1981

Editor: Steve Trinward

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FIRST OFF, AN APOLOGY: To all the loyal LIBERTY readers who have come to expect a fresh issue every second full moon, with nice clean type and margins and chock full of surprises. The only surprise this time is that I got this out at all...

Due to the usual SNAFUs and some brand new ones, this rendition is not so timely, nor nearly as polished, as our usual fare. However, if you'll bear with us for this time, we hope the next try will be much better. In the meantime subscribers should be content in the knowledge that their subscriptions will be extended to make up for the delayed printing of this issue.

## AND NOW THE NEWS...

For those who have seen neither the LP press nor its older-but-not-wiser kinfolk in the "real" world, Ed Clark's election effort netted 910,000 votes, or 1.06% nationwide this year. While this falls short of our wildest dreams, it is not too bad a showing for a band of "fringies" like ourselves; it gained us a certain respectability in the eyes of the mediocracy, and I'm sure we've all found more credibility in the eyes of our less-enlightened colleagues in light of Prop. 2 1/2 and the Clark showing itself.

Here at home, Ed was a bit below the national average, as would be expected; the Anderson sameness fooled some of the people all of the time, all the way to the voting-booth, and his gain was our loss, etc., etc. But we still managed to convince over 21,000 Bay Staters to consider the only alternative with their ballots. This tally, though smaller than those in many other states, was SEVEN TIMES the margin separating Carter & Reagan, and so Taxachusetts carried off the trophy for greatest balance-of-power status. (Even the Globe acknowledged that the Anderson vote was split about evenly between the Reprocrats and Demopublicans, rendering JBA's influence nil.)

As for local races across the nation, Dick Randolph was re-elected to the Alaska House and brought Ken Fanning on his coattails; they finished first and fourth in a 12-person field.

In non-partisan races, Stan Thompson is now mayor of Kenai Borough, a vast expanse of Alaskan terrain, while Mary Shell holds the similar mayoral reign in Bakersfield, California. Also rans include four more House hopefuls in Alaska--Bill Waugaman, Ed Hoch, Peter Schnaars and Gary Cotton; Jackson County, Oregon treasurer--almost Vivian Baures; Floyd County (GA) Commissioner--nearly Jim Clarkson; and others too numerous to mention here.

At home we had three candidates for State House seats, in all three Cambridge Districts. Lee Nason topped the 20% mark in her second try at unseating Sandra Graham (the poor woman's Angela Davis, by her PR at least), while David Oley grabbed over 15% against an entrenched Liberal Dem in the heart of the blue collars. Meanwhile Bill Hurst, fresh from his latest visit to the Probation Officer (for his role in last July's draft protests), garnered almost 9% in a three-way race, despite limited visibility and campaign work. (He got votes from some hardcore non-LP anarchists in the process, I might add...)

And of course there was the victory of Prop. 2 1/2, which many Libertarians considered to be a message to the partisan politician types among us, regarding the useful role of issue politics and the futility of the personal candidate sort. (I will not add my incendiary notes to the battle just yet, due to limited time and a sudden attack of good sense. Perhaps a perspective will be forthcoming in the future, though.) As the Citizens for Limited Taxation have discovered, however, passing a referendum is one thing; getting the legislouts to respect the "will of the people"(??) is quite another--or don't you remember when in 1976 we eliminated blue laws and stopped both the gun control and the bottle bill movements dead in their tracks, using the same methods? It is up to Libertarians to offer the commonsense alternatives which we all know and love, and see to it that the gains of November are not the discarded unworkables of July, when it is supposed to take effect. (For more on this, see the Convention report...)

AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR:  
WARNING--Unless you really like to read these long-winded prattlings, with no respite from another perspective besides that of your harried editor...CONTRIBUTE!!!  
The sanity you save may be my own.

CONVENTION REPORT

The LPM's 9th Annual Convention and Public Spectacle will be held on Saturday, March 21, at the Logan Airport Ramada Inn, East Boston. The theme will be "Growing From The Grassroots". Highlighting the festivities will be some noteworthy speakers, panelists and entertainment events, beginning with breakfast. Unlike preceding years Bob Nozick will NOT speak, having begged off this time around. Instead, Howard Katz, a transplanted New Yorker now helping with the Bay State battles, will hold forth on the topic, "Wolves in Sheep's Clothing", a thoughtful analysis of the true motives of the allegedly "bleeding-heart" liberal.

Following the usual business meeting, a panel on local activism will convene, featuring former LP National Director Bill Burt; his predecessor, Eric O'Keefe; and Citizens for Limited Taxation director Barbara Anderson. (Others may be added if scheduling permits.)

A film, "For A New Liberty", will follow the panel. This one-hour production offers a good overview of the Libertarian position for newcomers, and should be enjoyable for the rest of us veterans, too. (At least we can throw popcorn at the LP activists posing as "common folk"...)

The next item is another panel, on minority outreach, led by LP National Chair David Bergland and black activist Vernon Brown. The two Libertarians have started **their** own organization, Concepts of Liberty, for that specific purpose. They will also be appearing (Golem willing) on various news media outlets throughout the weekend, to promote the foundation and the LP.

Finally, as banquet speaker, we have the privilege of hearing Robert Poole, editor and founder of Reason magazine, and author of the recently published handbook for dismantling local government, "Cutting Back City Hall". He will offer some ideas on how we can make Prop. 2 1/2 work for us in the coming years. He will also be appearing on local media during the convention weekend.

All in all it should be a fine time for all: a chance to share campaign experiences, social event, a primer for interested "non-Libertarians", and a chance to meet and hear ~~some of~~ the leading figures in our movement.

NOTICE TO WOULD-BE POLITICAL HACKS:

All deletions, additions, etc. to the LPM Constitution and/or Bylaws must be received

by February 10, so we can include them in the pre-convention mailing. Similarly, if you wish to run for LPM office, delegate to the 1981 National Convention (Denver, late August), or be considered for a Platform Committee post for that event, please let us know before the convention (by March 1). Although nominations will be accepted from the floor, this will at least give us some idea how many more arms we must twist...

AND FOR RECLUSES...Please let us know if you do not wish your name to be circulated outside our mailing-list. Several libertarian groups have approached us about a merger of files, none of which seem as considerate of their patrons' wishes and privacy as we are.

LAWSUIT UPDATE

Believe it or don't, the LPM is party to a legal battle with the City of Woburn, over their refusal to grant us a license to hold a Las Vegas Night for fundraising.

Thanks to a hasty decision handed down by the town solicitor, or someone impersonating him, we are considered neither a "civic" nor an "educational" group, but are instead deemed (by Woburn, at least) a "Political Party". This despite the fact that by law we cannot be such without collecting 3% of the vote in the next Governor's race! Until that point we are legally only a social club with delusions of political influence.

Now to my mind, "civic" means "of or relating to a citizen, a city, citizenship, or civil affairs" (thanks, Mr. Webster!). And "educational" seems self-explanatory. Somehow, it would seem we qualify nicely, at least until the state grants us greater powers...

Michael Reilly, an LPM member and trial attorney, agrees, and has taken our case, largely out of the goodness of his heart. He has now filed briefs and several affidavits, claiming our vast experience in everything from indoctrination to outright edification over the years. We expect a decision soon, and when we win, it could be the solution to fundraising woes forever. The average LV Night nets between \$2000 and \$4000, with minimal hassle and lots of fun. And what a nice way to do it--with one of our most harmless "victimless crimes"...

A BUMPERSTICKER IN THE WORKS...

"Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian"  
COME TO THE CONVENTION, OR WRITE.  
POB 2610, Boston 02208 for details.

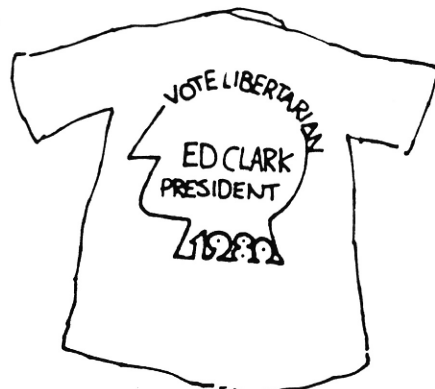
...from those wonderful folks who brought you HUBCON '78 and the Space Cadet buttons, now comes:

**SPECIAL  
CLOSE-OUT  
SALE!!**

# the "WHO IS ED CLARK" T-SHIRT



FRONT.



BACK.

*would you believe, 7.50?\**

*Collector's item/souvenir of Clark Campaign?*

**WEAR YOUR COLORS PROUDLY  
~~HELP ELECT ED CLARK~~**

**LPM,**

Designed in black, green and white (like Clark's own literature) the shirt is a stylish way to promote Ed's campaign. And for a donation to the Mass. Clark Committee, it's yours absolutely free. Send

per shirt desired (plus \$1.00 per order for postage), in check or money order, to:

T-shirts, ~~Mass. Committee to Elect Ed Clark~~, POB 2610, Boston 02208. Order now, supplies limited.

**The  
"WHO IS  
ED CLARK?"  
T-SHIRT OFFER**

Specify size, style and quantity:

Regular: S(34-36)  M(38-40) \_\_\_\_\_ L(42-44) \_\_\_\_\_

Sportique(Unisex): S(18-20)  M(34-36) \_\_\_\_\_ L(38-40) \_\_\_\_\_

French cut: M(18-20) \_\_\_\_\_ L(34-36) \_\_\_\_\_

Boys: M(small)  L(34-36)

Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ shirts.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\$5 for students (enclose xerox of ID)**

*Overstock items - \$5 each (for students)*

## DON'T APPLAUD, JUST THROW MONEY

With all the things that went on during the waning days of the Clark campaign, it's not surprising that the LPM is just about broke right now. In the anticipation of last-minute windfalls from disaffected folks who decided not to flip the coin, but to use it for better purposes for a change, we spent the egg money, and the milk fund, and the rainy-day sawbuck, and all the other bits and pieces squirreled away for emergencies. And now, like most of the people reading this, we're tapped out.

In this light, and at the urging of the national LP, which is in similar yet even direr straits, we are initiating a no-holds-barred, hellbent-for-salvation fundraising drive. You may even have received one of the missives by the time this sees print. And if you're like most of me, you've already consigned the offending BRE to its proper circular file, with much muttering about vital fluids being gotten from certain tuberous veggies.

But give it a second thought: the notoriety gained from the Clark effort was probably worth its weight in pennies (the only thing after all worth much of anything anymore), and if we'd tried to make such inroads on our own we'd still be smooching the posteriors of every TV and radio and print maven in the city, just to get a one-sentence mention in the back of the "Living" sections.

Instead, we're on somewhat-good terms with most of the mediacrats in the region, with a certain authenticity and credibility we never had before. The word "Libertarian" gets pronounced correctly more often, and the ideas are being taken much more seriously, even when the label doesn't tag along. This time around, we expect there will be at least a few newsies curious enough to look in on the LPM Convention, and the best is surely yet to come.

But in order to keep the pressure on, in order to keep the releases, and the coverage, rolling, we need everyone's help--with time, with energy, and most of all with money. It will take an estimated \$100,000 to run a successful Governor's campaign in 1982, without which '84 will be just as difficult as this year was--and they'll be waiting for us with loaded

blackjacks next time, because we're becoming a rather serious threat to the status-quo by now. We're trying to find a willing candidate who can benefit from a well-run campaign, and we may have found him/her (no hints yet, but soon, my children, soon...)

HEY, GET THIS GUY--FROM A GOSSIP COLUMNIST TO A KEEPER OF OFFICIAL SECRETS?!!

At any rate, to raise that kind of cash we need everyone's help. So I'll add my own pitch:

If every LIBERTY reader contributed \$5 a month, from now until November 1982, to the LPM war chest, we could raise almost \$25,000 between now and the '82 election.

If we raised that to \$10 a month (\$120 per year, 230 over the long haul) we'd be almost halfway to the goal without scratching the surface of other funding possibilities.

I won't push this any farther, but it is well worth some thought.....

THE OFFICE IS DEAD, LONG LIVE THE... BR-R-ING!

We no longer have a home at 739 Boylston Street, and the files are hiding, shivering in Jim Poulin's garage in Woburn. But there is a link with the party available during normal office hours, 8:30 to 5:30 M-F, and 9-1 Saturdays. Call 536-5217 as usual and let us know you're still alive under the snow and cold of winter.

## "YOUR PLACE OR MINE" VACATION - TRAVEL SERVICE



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### CALLING ALL PROSELYTIZERS...

In an effort to improve the quality and quantity of LPM spokespersons, there will be a speechcraft colloquium in operation in the very near future. Organized in conjunction with Toastmasters, under the tutelage of LPM Presiding Officer Jim Poulin, the course will consist of eight to ten weekly gatherings, at which participants will be expected to deliver three or four brief speeches. Critiques and discussion will follow the speeches.

For anyone who's even remotely considering a run for office, or giving public speeches to non-Libertarians, or just interested in improving elocutionary skills, this project should be invaluable. Toastmasters is a proven-effective system, with experience and support-group functions to help the most fumble-mouthed among us.

If you are interested, please contact Jim Poulin at 935-1509.

### A BENEFIT PERFORMANCE...

In case you haven't been shopping for the latest Libertarian literature during the past couple of months, the Avenue Victor Hugo Bookshop is in serious trouble. Thanks to the current publishing depression, and some perhaps-ill-advised planning, both Galileo and Galaxy science fiction magazines have gone under, leaving considerable debts in their wakes. AVH Bookshop is a half-owner in these enterprises, and has therefore had to declare bankruptcy in order to prevent a complete shutdown. (By the time this sees print, they will have had their day in court, Jan. 21, and the fate will be decided.)

Meanwhile, however, there is a benefit fundraiser to be held on January 30 (Friday), at the Sheraton Commander Hotel, Garden St., Cambridge. (Old time LPers will recall the Nicholas von Hoffman speech in the same spot, back before Nicky came out as a fellow-LPer.) The main (and probably sole) event of the evening will be Harlan Ellison, whose "Libertarian" credentials are somewhat in doubt, but whose sincerity and integrity as a writer, editor, scenarist, speaker and occasional street-fighting man would make him an almost Randian hero-figure in another life.

The \$20 cost may seem steep, especially,

for those of us still recuperating from their largesse during the Clark campaign. But the cause is extremely worthy: keeping Boston's (or New England's?) only libertarian-owned and -stocked bookstore in operation, while at the same time saving a good offering of small-press, poetry, science fiction and used books from the vagaries of a sadly dislocated marketplace. (NOTE: AVH also hosts a weekly poetry series, which would also go by the boards if they took the gaspipe.)

The program offered for the double-saw-buck donation is about four hours' worth of Harlan Ellison, reading new works and old, bantering with the audience, answering questions (impertinent and worse, most likely, given the rowdy crowd of snotty liberal and anarchist sf-ers the man usually attracts), and generally carrying on as only a multi-winner of Hugo, Nebula and Writer's Guild awards can.

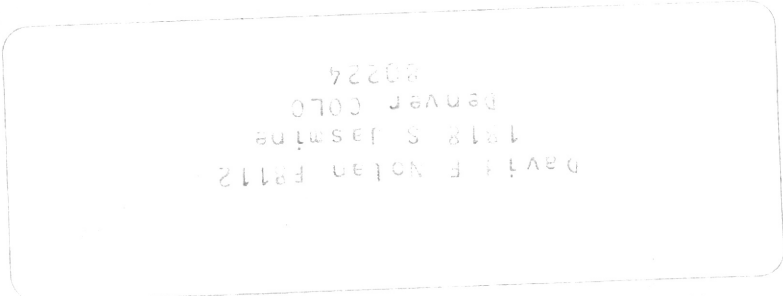
It will be a grand night for all, I assure you.

### BILLS, BILLS, BILLS...

Those with a preference for direct political action will be glad to know that the LPM is sponsoring several bills in the '81 Legislature. Of primary importance on a pragmatic basis is a tuition tax-credits measure which would provide for a \$100 direct-credit reduction of tax liability (on state taxes) for anyone providing for the education of a child in private schools. This translates to a \$2000 income shelter, given that Mass. taxes us at about 5% of income.

The provisions would be available for all levels of education, and would apply to those donating to scholarship funds as well as to parents of school-age children. Rep. William Galvin (D-Brighton) is co-sponsoring the bill.

A second bill, or series of them, would make 1982 a lot more promising. These three provisos would 1.) reduce the signature requirements for third parties by about half; 2.) cut the figures for established parties (as a sop to the established lawmakers, of course--how else are we gonna get what we want?); and 3.) broaden the scope of eligibility to include state Rep and Senate races.



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# Massachusetts LIBERTY

*Article I, Paragraph 3, (partial) of the Constitution of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts (April 1, 1978):*  
 The purpose for which the Party is organized is to implement and give voice to the following fundamental principle of libertarianism: NO PERSON, GROUP OF PEOPLE, OR GOVERNMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO INITIATE FORCE AGAINST ANY OTHER PERSON, GROUP OF PEOPLE, OR GOVERNMENT. (The word "force" is interpreted broadly to cover such acts as fraud, extortion, stealing, and threats against life or property, as well as physical aggression.)

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MASSACHUSETTS, P.O. BOX 2610, BOSTON, MA 02208  
 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Name..... Phone (Hm)..... (Wk).....  
 Address.....

Membership:  Basic(\$2 per year)  Sustaining†(\$25 per year)  Patron†(\$50 per year)  Life†(\$250)  
 †All these members receive the newsletter without extra charge.

Newsletter:  Members rate(\$6 per year)  Non-members rate(\$10 per year)  Information packet(\$2)

*I hereby certify that I do not believe in nor advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.*

Signature:..... Date: .....

I would like to be active in the L.P.M.:  Newsletter  Editorial rebuttals  Position papers  Speakers bureau  Local organizing  Campaigning  Other (specify).....

I would like to join the National L.P.:  Student(\$5 per year)  Regular(\$10 per year)  Sustaining(\$25 per year)  Patron(\$100 per year)  Life(\$250)  Life Sustaining(\$1000)

Note: L.P.M. members are entitled to 20% discount on National membership.