

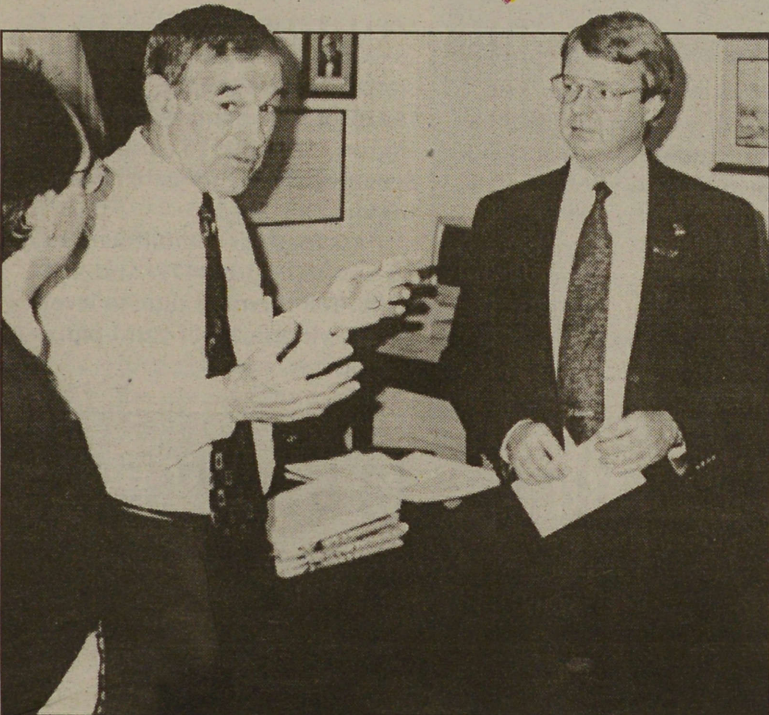
# LIBERTARIAN PARTY LP NEWS

The Party of Principle



April 1998

The Official Monthly Newspaper of the Libertarian Party ★ Volume 13 / Issue 4



■ LP National Director Ron Crickenberger (right) and LP Press Secretary George Getz (far left) confer with Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) directly after his House Committee testimony. The topic: What the Libertarian Party can do next to help Paul promote his ballot access bills — HR 2477 and HR 2478.

## Ballot access bills gain first U.S. House committee hearing

*LP submits written testimony to House Oversight Committee*

**A** Congressional committee was told that "limiting freedom won't solve the problem" of campaign finance reform — and that the best solution is to open up the political process to more competition.

That was the strongly worded statement of Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX), who testified before the House Oversight Committee on February 26, in favor of his pair of ballot access reform bills, HR 2477 and HR 2478.

His comments were buttressed by written testimony by Ron Crickenberger, the Libertarian Party's National Director, who informed the committee that "the current system discriminates against third-party candidates simply because of their political beliefs," and that Congressman Paul's bills were "essential in moving this nation toward greater citizen participation in our democracy."

"The hearing was historic, since [a] ballot access bill has been in five different sessions of Congress, and this is the first time [any bill] had a hearing," said Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access News*.



David Brudnoy: His "Libertarian Journey"

crowds ever to attend a state Libertarian convention in New England history. In his speech, which was taped by the C-SPAN television network, he described his "Libertarian Journey."

As part of that journey, Brudnoy told how he had "determined that the Republicans weren't going to do what they said," said Dasbach. "He mentioned that six years ago, he told New Hampshire Libertarians that the way to achieve liberty was through the Republicans. In this speech, he said he was wrong."

So Dasbach and Michael

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was more, not less, freedom.

"The bigger government gets, the more money people are willing to invest to get their person in [office]," he said, starting with the root causes of skyrocketing campaign costs.

"The proper solution is to greatly reduce the role of government which now concentrates extensive governmental power in the hands of relatively few lawmakers," he said.

"By drastically reducing the power these lawmakers currently maintain over virtually every aspect of citizens' lives, the sphere

of influence enjoyed by campaign contributors, lobbyists, and political action committees will quickly dissipate."

### "A freedom issue"

In other words, he said, "Unless we have a much smaller government that doesn't hand out favors, we won't have a solution. This is a freedom issue. And limiting freedom won't solve the problem."

Specifically, Paul spoke against any legislation that limits the ability of individuals or

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## Boston radio legend David Brudnoy joins LP

*After years as a "libertarian" Republican, he finally admits that the GOP is hopeless*

**R**adio talk show host David Brudnoy, who beams 50,000 watts of libertarianism five nights a week to 38 states from WBZ in Boston, Massachusetts, has joined the Libertarian Party.

After years of arguing that the Republican Party was the best political tool to achieve liberty in the United States, Brudnoy admitted in a speech at the LP of Massachusetts convention that he had been wrong, and officially joined the Libertarian Party on February 21.

"David Brudnoy is an old friend of Libertarians. It's a pleasure to officially welcome him to the party," said Steve Dasbach, the LP's national chairman.

Brudnoy was the convention's featured dinner speaker, and addressed one of the largest

## Libertarians in office blaze new record: 250

**T**he Libertarian Party has set a new record for the number of Libertarians in office, with 250 office-holders now serving across the USA.

The party hit the 250-mark in early March, thanks to the addition of five new office-holders in Washington state.

"It seems like we were just celebrating 200 Libertarians in public office," said Mike Hihn, the Executive Director of the Washington state LP. "If we're now already at 250, after an off [election] year, that shows how solidly and rapidly Libertarians are building a grassroots foundation across America."

### 228% growth

The number of LP members in office represents a 228% growth since mid-1993, when only 76 Libertarians were serving in elected or appointed office.

"The growth in the number of Libertarians in office is a di-

rect result of our membership growth since 1993, as well as a better understanding among Libertarians about what it takes to get elected or appointed to office," said Steve Dasbach, the LP's National Chairman. "With more

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Who is Libertarians' dream candidate for the 2000 election?



# NEWSBRIEFS

## Libertarians suffer loss in KC land-grab vote

It took \$600,000 in advertising, but a coalition of big business and big government managed to convince Kansas City, Missouri, voters to endorse a downtown land-grab — handing a defeat to Libertarians who had opposed the multi-million dollar eminent domain scheme.

On February 3, KC voters approved by a 60-40% vote a plan to allow the Centertainment Corporation to build a 33-theater entertainment complex in the downtown area. The vote allows the city government to evict 60 businesses and seize that property under eminent domain law.

"I can't help but be saddened by how easy it is for the powerful to buy off the voters with lies and defy the Bill of Rights by taking family businesses for private gain," said LP member Jeanne Bojarski, who was active in the campaign.

She blamed the defeat on the fact that the pro-eminent domain group outspent them by a factor of 30-1, and on a blitz of "glitzy commercials" that saturated the airwaves.

"Whatever happens, a spirit of rebellion has been sown among those in the business community who now see how taxpayer subsidies to some are detrimental to all," said Bojarski.

## Libertarian wins 35% in Maine city council race

Maine LP member didn't win his February 10 race for the Auburn City Council — but won 35% of the vote with an "explicitly Libertarian campaign."

Ron Clement came in second in a three-way race, running a campaign "which was based largely on letters-to-the-editor of the local newspapers," said Robert Coolidge, the editor of the *Maine Libertarian* newsletter.

"The nature of Ron Clement's candidacy may encourage other Libertarians; a significant number of voters responded positively to a principled libertarian campaign," said Coolidge. "The 35% who chose Ron knew what their votes meant."

## Libertarian science fiction fans reorganize

The Libertarian Futurist Society is looking for new members — and nominees for their Prometheus Award to honor the best libertarian science fiction novel of the year — following a major reorganization of the 16-year-old group.

"The Society has reorganized to upgrade its programs, offer more opportunities and committees for members to get involved, and provide better services," said Michael Grossberg, a spokesman for the LFS.

Founded in 1982, the LFS sponsors awards, publishes the quarterly *Prometheus*, arranges a Prometheus Awards ceremony at the annual Worldcon science fiction convention, debates libertarian futurist issues, and "provides fun and fellowship for libertarian science fiction fans," said Grossberg.

The Prometheus Awards and LFS Hall of Fame honor outstanding science fiction and fantasy that explores a free future, champions personal and economic liberty, and dramatizes the conflict between individuals and governments.

To nominate a recent novel for the Prometheus Award, contact Grossberg via e-mail at [mikegrossb@aol.com](mailto:mikegrossb@aol.com), or call him at (614) 291-1441.

For membership information, or to join the LFS, write LFS, c/o LFS Director Victoria Varga, 89 Gebhardt, Penfield, NY 14526. World Wide Web: <http://www.libertarian.com/LFS/>.

## Summer seminars offered for libertarian students

Libertarian students, recent graduates, or grad students have just a short time left to sign up for summer seminars offered by the Institute for Humane Studies in Fairfax, Virginia. March 31 is the last day to register for the seminars, which "appeal to bright, thoughtful students who range from those curious about classical liberal ideas to the deeply committed," said Collette Ridgeway, IHS Director of Student Applications.

The seminars include topics such as The Foundations of Liberty, The First Amendment and Beyond, Liberty & Current Issues, and Liberty in Film & Fiction.

For registration information, call (800) 697-8799. World Wide Web: [www.TheIHS.org](http://www.TheIHS.org).

# HR 2477 gets US House hearing

Continued from Page 1

groups to participate in the political process — and said, instead, that Congress should enhance "the fundamental liberties and expand the exchange of political ideas."

His solution: His Voter Freedom Act of 1997 (HR 2477) and the Debate Freedom Act of 1997 (HR 2478).

■ **HR 2477** requires states to establish fair, uniform, and non-discriminatory standards for candidates for president, U.S. House, and U.S. Senate, and would reduce petitioning requirements at the presidential level by approximately 85%.

This bill, said Paul, would "make the electoral process — and the government — more democratic and responsive to the American people."

■ **HR 2478** prohibits presidential candidates who accept matching funds from participating in debates that exclude candidates qualified for the ballot in at least 40 states.

"It is unconscionable to continue to exclude from debates the [presidential] candidates who represent the views of 40% of all American voters [who are not registered as Republicans or Democrats] especially when the current system of public financing forces voters, to at the same time, subsidize the ideas of candidates with whom they disagree," said Paul, who was excluded from the 1988 presidential debates when he was the LP's presidential candidate.

In his written testimony, Crickenberger reinforced the main points of Paul's testimony.

### Free and fair

"Political discrimination is the civil rights battle of the '90s, and America's third parties demand the right to free and fair elections," he said. "Make no mistake: The current system discriminates against third-party candidates simply because of their political beliefs."

"The Libertarian Party believes that each of these bills is essential in moving this nation toward greater citizen participation in our democracy. That's why we are inviting every American who believes in free and fair elections to join us in supporting the Voter Freedom Act of 1997 and the Debate Freedom Act of 1997," said Crickenberger.

"Voting and running for office are fundamental rights, and the government should treat every American equally, regardless of race, creed, sex — or political party," he said.

Paul's press secretary, Michael



■ LP National Director Ron Crickenberger (right) thanks Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) for his efforts on behalf of ballot access fairness.

Sullivan, said that more intense lobbying will be required to get more co-sponsors for the bills — or to actually get them passed

by the House or Senate.

"[Tell your members to] call or write their Congressman!" he said. "Every Congressman wants to be re-elected, and when they get calls and letters from constituents, they take notice."

■ **What you can do:** Call the Congressional switchboard at (202) 225-3121 or (202) 224-3121 and ask for the offices of your Congressperson.

Or write to: Your Congressional Representative, c/o U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC, 20515. Your U.S. Senators, c/o U.S. Senate, Washington, DC, 20510.

Ask for their commitment to co-sponsor HR 2477 and HR 2478. Tell them it's time to level the playing field for third-party candidates.

## LP Testimony to Congress

Highlights of testimony submitted by Libertarian Party National Director Ron Crickenberger on February 26, 1998, to the Committee on House Oversight.

Seventy-eight years ago, the ratification of the 19th Amendment guaranteed women the right to vote. Thirty-four years ago, the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1964 guaranteed full voting rights to African-Americans. Yet today, millions of American voters remain disenfranchised.

These American citizens are discriminated against not because of their sex or their race, but because of their political beliefs. They are America's third-party candidates, along with the nearly 10 million Americans who voted for them in the 1996 presidential election.

But just as African-Americans and women won the battle of electoral equality, so, too, will America's third parties. Political discrimination is the civil rights battle of the '90s, and America's third parties demand the right to free and fair elections. Today, America's most successful third party — the Libertarian Party — speaks for every third-party and every independent voter in demanding that we receive our full political rights.

If you wanted to form a new political party [in the United States] and run a full slate of candidates for all federal and state offices, you would need over 3.5 million valid signatures. In contrast, a new party formed in Russia needs only 100,000 signatures to get on the ballot, and a new party in South Africa needs only 10,000.

Isn't it deplorable when Russia and South Africa can boast of greater democracy than the United States?

## LP NEWS

*Libertarian Party News* (ISSN 8755-139X) is the official monthly newspaper of the Libertarian Party of the United States. Opinions, articles, and advertisements published in this newspaper do not necessarily represent official Libertarian Party positions unless so indicated.

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Libertarian National Committee, Inc.  
Attn: LP News  
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100  
Washington DC 20037

SEND ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS OR ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE:  
Attn: Membership Department

PUBLISHER:  
Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

EDITOR EMERITUS:  
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# Ohio LP wins fight to eliminate 'black-hooded' drug task force

**S**ECO is DOA — thanks in part to Ohio Libertarians.

The Southeast Counties of Ohio Narcotics Task Force (SECO) — decried by LP members as a "rifle-toting, black-hooded force used to terrorize our neighbors" — was abolished on February 17, when Athens County officials voted to reject \$150,000 in federal funds for a multi-county drug interdiction task force.

Their action came in response to a barrage of complaints from citizens, the ACLU, and Ohio Libertarians about the "paramilitary-style organization" — and came eight months after 1,052 signed petitions were delivered to the Athens County Prosecutor, demanding that the "super-police force" be disbanded.

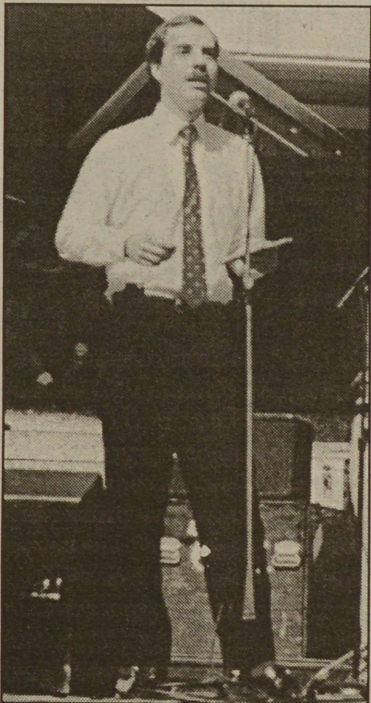
Donald Gallick, the Secretary of the Ohio LP, was one of the sponsors of the petition drive, and a leading spokesman in the campaign to disband the task force.

## Homes invaded

The purpose of the petition, said Gallick, was to show that "SECO and the style of enforcement it represents are unacceptable in this community. [County residents] do not support the tactics and methodology of having their homes invaded by black-hooded agents."

Gallick said he was also concerned about SECO because of its plan to "become self-sufficient using money and property [seized] from drug raids."

Gallick had first joined the anti-SECO campaign because of



■ Ohio LP Secretary Donald Gallick: He joined the anti-SECO campaign because of his "disgust and disdain for the paramilitary-style organization."

his "disgust and disdain for the paramilitary-style organization," he said, including "hooded raids on high schools, midnight assaults on private homes, and gathering evidence using invalid search warrants and dubious informants."

In the petition, the anti-SECO group accused the drug task force of targeting "poor and defenseless citizens," and using "excessive and reckless tactics" in "violent and brazen raids." Singled out for special criticism were the black hoods that SECO agents used during their late-night "no-knock" drug raids.

**S.E.C.O. WAS**  
*accused of*  
*"excessive and*  
*reckless tactics"*  
*in "violent and*  
*brazen raids."*

Such tactics, said Gallick, went well beyond any legitimate police action.

"When they say this is a drug war, they're serious," he said. "This is a war. This is the first domestic war carried out against American citizens."

Despite original statements by government officials that it was "unlikely that SECO would be abolished," Athens County Commissioners finally responded to community complaints, and voted 2-1 to effectively disband the eight-year-old task force by rejecting further federal funds.

## Top-cops

"When the top-cops style of enforcement hits this close to home, many citizens find the need to speak out. It took nearly a year, but Athens County just said 'NO!' to a drug task force," said Gallick.

Now, said Gallick, "Hopefully the county will return to its peaceful state, without SECO soldiers and paramilitary drug raids to taint it."



■ LP National Chairman Steve Dasbach (left) welcomes radio legend David Brudnoy into the party, as the Boston radio talk show host and author holds his membership form.

# David Brudnoy joins LP

*Continued from Page 1*

Cloud, one of the organizers of the 1996 Harry Browne for President campaign, invited Brudnoy to join the party. Brudnoy responded: "Yes, I've been thinking about joining."

Dasbach said he was "very pleased" by Brudnoy's decision.

"We have more and more people who are prominent who are joining [the Libertarian Party]," he said. "And that helps get the message out."

The David Brudnoy Show broadcasts on WBZ Radio 1030 AM, and airs Monday through

Friday from 7:00 pm until midnight. WBZ's 50,000-watt signal reaches as many as 38 of the United States.

"He's exceptionally witty, informed, articulate, bold, and insightful — earning the respect of radio listeners nationwide," said Carla Howell, the State Chair of the Massachusetts LP.

"Brudnoy's breadth and depth of knowledge is extraordinary — covering subjects as diverse as politics, literature, and the arts," she said. "He makes himself very accessible to callers. From the moment he hits the airwaves, his warm voice exudes the comfort and ease of an old friend who has stopped by to swap gossip in your kitchen. And he proclaims his Libertarian politics frequently on the air."

## 100 Most Influential

Brudnoy, who was named as one of the "100 Most Influential" radio talk show hosts in 1998 by *Talkers* magazine, is also a professor at Boston University, movie critic for the *Tab* newspaper in Boston, and author of the critically acclaimed autobiography, *Life Is Not A Rehearsal* (Doubleday, 1997).

Included in that frank memoir is a description of Brudnoy's nine-year battle with AIDS. After a brush with death in 1994, his health rebounded remarkably — "most fortunately for Libertarians and the many he entertains and endears," said Howell.

# 250 Libertarians in office: LP sets new record

*Continued from Page 1*

members, we have been able to run more and stronger candidates, who have been able to raise more money and recruit more volunteers."

The party's national director, Ron Crickenberger, echoed Dasbach's comments.

"It is only natural that as we grow, we will have more elected officials," he said. "And there is a definite synergy involved — more members means more elected officials, which gives us more credibility, which encourages more people to join the LP."

In addition to membership growth, said Dasbach, Libertarian candidates are now running

**"THERE IS A**  
*definite synergy:*  
*More members*  
*means more*  
*elected officials."*

smarter campaigns.

"Knowledge about how to run effective campaigns is more widely disseminated among Libertarians, through workshops like Sal Gazzetta's and Success '97," he said.

The party now has office-holders in 37 states, from Florida to Michigan, and from Massachusetts to Washington — where the newest Libertarians in office were discovered.

## Surprise benefit

"The increase [of office-holders in Washington] is only apparent," said Hihn. "It's actually a surprise benefit from our current aggressive grassroots organizing effort. Technically, we have only one recent new office-holder. Most of our people had been in office from six months to several years, but we didn't know about them. Until recently, they were not in organized local parties."

Hihn said that Tom Hayden, who serves as a Demming Diking District Commissioner, was probably the "official" 250th Libertarian in office.

"As we keep organizing new regions, we keep discovering more office-holders," said Hihn. "Hayden was discovered in January, the same day Whatcom County was organized."

Now that the LP has hit the 250-threshold, Dasbach said he is already looking to the future.

"We still have a long way to go," he said. "To keep the number of officeholders growing, we need to continue building our membership, until we are larger and stronger than our opposition."



# 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.

## Let Boy Scouts decide who can be a Boy Scout

**Y**ou don't have to be homophobic to oppose a recent court decision that forces Boy Scouts to accept a gay scout master — you just have to support the right of free association, the Libertarian Party said.

"This case isn't about being gay. It's about being free," said Steve Dasbach, the party's chairman. "And it isn't about tolerance. It's about the power of the government to nullify the moral decisions of six million members of the Boy Scouts of America."

In March, a state appeals court in New Jersey ruled that the Boy Scouts' ban on gay members violated state anti-discrimination laws. The three-judge panel ordered the Boy Scouts of America to reinstate an expelled gay scout master.

At issue: Whether the Boy Scouts, who have taught "traditional family values" since 1910 and argue that homosexuality is "not a role model," can set its own membership standards.

For Libertarians, there's no question, said Dasbach: "Individual Libertarians may consider the Boy Scouts' anti-gay regulations morally wrong or foolish. But, politically, we support their right to set whatever membership requirements they choose — without government interference."

## Captioned depravity — and you paid for it

**B**attling bisexuals, pregnant strippers, and transsexual threesomes — thanks to the federal government, your tax dollars are being spent to close-captioned their antics every day on the Jerry Springer Show, the Libertarian Party noted.

The reason: The Department of Education considers the Springer show an "enriched cultural experience" and underwrites the captioning of the show for the deaf.

"Most TV critics regard the Jerry Springer Show as a squalid slugfest and they encourage you to turn it off," said Dasbach. "Only the federal government considers it a cultural experience, and forces you to help it reach a wider audience."

Last year, the Department of Education spent \$1.3 million to caption daytime TV shows — including Jerry Springer, the Ricki Lake Show, and the Montel Williams Show — for the deaf.

"Libertarians are fervent supporters of free speech, so we don't object to such programs being broadcast," said Dasbach. "We do object to the federal government forcing all taxpayers to underwrite what millions consider to be offensive material."

Besides, he said, Americans don't need Jerry Springer to get a daily dose of immorality, lies, and strife: "If you want to see something really offensive, watch C-SPAN while Congress votes to squander our money on such ridiculous programs."

## How "bizarre" will the War on Drugs get?

**P**oliticians want to cut off your arm or leg if you use drugs. They want to quarantine you so you won't "infect" others. And they want to lock you in jail for life — a jail sentence that's tougher than what convicted murderers get.

Those are just some of the "bizarre" anti-drug measures being proposed by politicians around the country, the LP noted.

"Politicians have tried spending their way and jailing their way to victory in the 25-year-old War on Drugs," said Dasbach. "Now they're willing to amputate their way to victory."

■ In Mississippi, a bill by Democratic State Rep. Bobby Moak — dubbed "Smoke a Joint, Lose a Limb" — would punish marijuana smokers by amputating an arm or a leg.

■ In Kansas, 38 Republican state legislators want to impose life terms without parole for growing marijuana plants — while first-degree murderers can be paroled after 25 years.

■ Congressman John Linder (R-GA) wants drug users to be quarantined at military bases so they don't "infect" others.

"Imagine an America where 72 million citizens had been brutalized with the loss of a limb, or thrown in jail for life, or quarantined like lepers — simply for the crime of smoking marijuana," Dasbach said. "That's the kind of America that these drug warriors say they want."

# West Virginia Libertarians rally to repeal Monongalia Co. smoking law

**U**sing "personal rights" arguments and effective organizing, West Virginia Libertarians successfully lobbied to overturn a health board order that banned smoking in Monongalia County restaurants, bars, and bowling alleys.

Libertarians led a formidable turn-out of 80 to 100 people at the County Board of Health on January 23, and convinced the bureaucrats to overturn a previous 3-2 vote that made it a crime to light up in most private business locations, punishable by a fine of up to \$100.

After hearing from dozens of speakers opposed to the ban, the board abolished the law.

"I have never seen a committee so thoroughly trounced as I did at that meeting," said David Croft, Chair of the Marion County LP. "The LP of West Virginia had a great night."

The County Board of Health passed the so-called Indoor Clean Air Act on December 12 without a public vote. A board member defended that decision, saying: "I don't think that the people can vote on any issue involving health."

In response, Libertarians organized to overturn the ban.

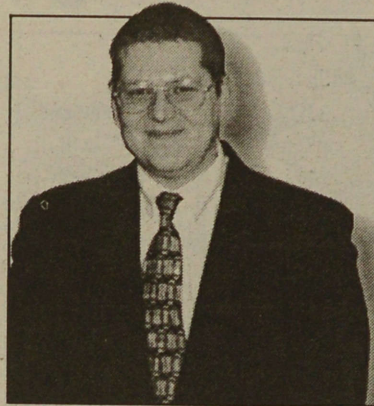
## More addicting

Dr. Richard Kerr, Vice Chair of the LPWV, contributed an op-ed piece in a local newspaper, writing: "The one high that is more addicting than smoking is the high that collectivists get from suppressing individual liberty. Is a coercively smoke-free society really better than a free society? Libertarians think that it is not."

But the climax of the anti-ban campaign came at the final meeting of the County Board of Health before the law went into effect.

Clearly stunned by the large and angry crowd, the board heard their ordinance blasted as a civil rights violation and a moral mistake, and promptly voted to overturn the law.

Afterwards, Libertarians celebrated their victory, and enjoyed the extensive media coverage, which included stories on television and radio stations, and



■ David Croft: "The LP of West Virginia had a great night."

in local newspapers, said Croft.

"We clearly identified ourselves as LPWV members opposed to the anti-smoking ordinance," he said. "Everyone at that meeting came to understand that the West Virginia LP was

there, where we stood, and why."

However, WV Libertarians were not as successful in a battle to defeat a security camera law in the town of White Hall.

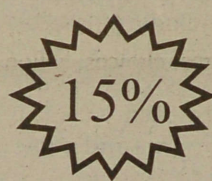
Despite a barrage of letters-to-the-editor, TV coverage, and testimony before the town council, Croft was unable to convince politicians to reject a law that required 24-hour convenience stores to install security cameras.

"I am disturbed by the growing number of laws that seek to usurp the judgment of citizens for our own good," said Croft.

However, Croft said that some good came from his efforts: A State Rep. planning to introduce a similar bill at the state-wide level, "seems to be backing down," he said. "He didn't like to be called Big Brother."

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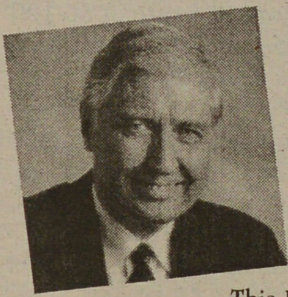
# How to LIVE FREE in an Unfree World

**FREEDOM IS LIVING YOUR LIFE THE WAY YOU WANT TO LIVE IT.** And since 1973, many discerning individuals have become free to live as they choose. Their secret? Harry Browne's *How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World*! This book will show how you can be free too—living the life you choose.

You can be free. You can live without social restrictions, family problems, high taxes, or long working hours. And you can do it without giving up love, money or personal relationships.

Your life can be exciting. Your relationships can be honestly exhilarating. The career or job you choose can be a source of enjoyment—providing the creativity, recognition, and money you want.

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**Harry Browne** will show how you can have this freedom—without having to change the world or the people around you. As he says, “You won’t have to convince anyone else of anything. Every idea in this book will depend solely upon your own action. I can assure you that I didn’t achieve my freedom through long hours, articulate oratory or mysterious powers of persuasion. And yet I am free.”

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“Two libertarian books changed my life, *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand and *How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World* by Harry Browne.”

— **MICHAEL CLOUD**

“The greatest gifts are given by the truly selfish—by those who find and follow their loves no matter what. From this man’s love of freedom, then, has come this book, a gift of power and of joy for whoever yearns to be free.

— **RICHARD BACH**, *Author of Jonathan Livingston Seagull & Illusions*

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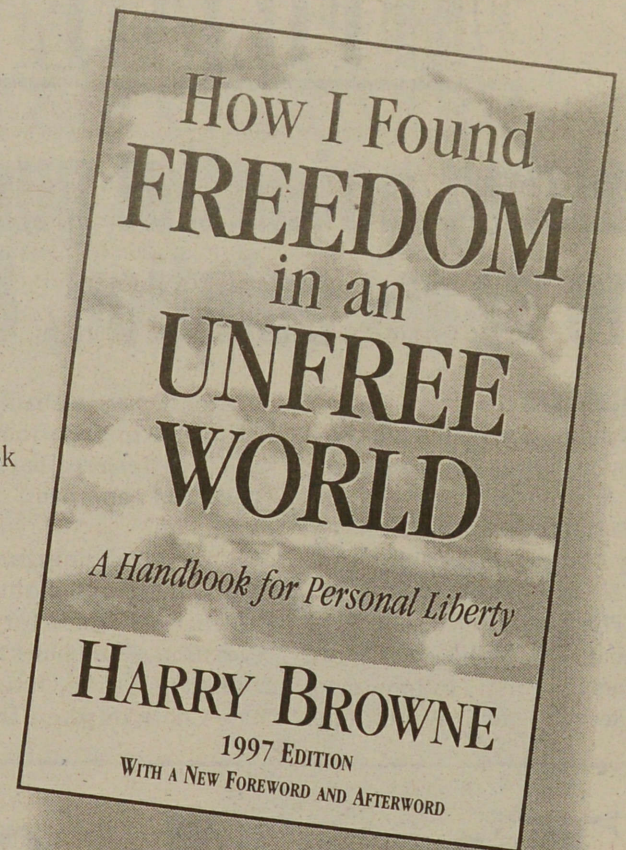
Browne aptly points out, “There is so much you can have—and it will be yours to keep, to cherish, and enjoy without guilt or insecurity. You won’t be dependent upon your ability to “hold things together,” you’ll be enjoying what is easily and firmly yours.”

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# AFFILIATE NEWS

## Halting potential gun confiscation, the spam solution, & GOP begging

### ■ Alabama

Libertarians have launched a lobbying effort to protect the 2nd Amendment after the Alabama House passed a bill on February 3 setting up the "infrastructure for gun confiscation."

The proposal, dubbed the "Alabama Brady Bill," forces gun dealers to submit customers' Social Security numbers and other

data to the new Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center, which performs a background check and "approves" the purchase.

"In centralizing control over firearm purchases, the bill sets up the infrastructure for stricter regulation of purchases as well as confiscation in the future," said State Chair **Stephen Dow**. "To

defend the Constitutional right to keep and bear arms, we can't afford to wait until the politicians propose outright confiscation."

Libertarians have formed a coalition to stop the bill in the Senate that includes Gun Owners of America, the Alabama State Rifle & Pistol Association, and Citizens for Safe Government.

### ■ Alaska

When it comes to recruiting new members, Alaska Libertarians are working from the Outside in. They are trying to lure "active Libertarians" from Outside — the lower 48 states — by publicizing Alaska job opportunities on their web page.

"Operation Help Wanted will attempt to locate high-paying professional positions worth moving to Alaska for," said State Chair **Len Karpinski**. The site will list contact information and job descriptions for companies that are hiring, or soon will be.

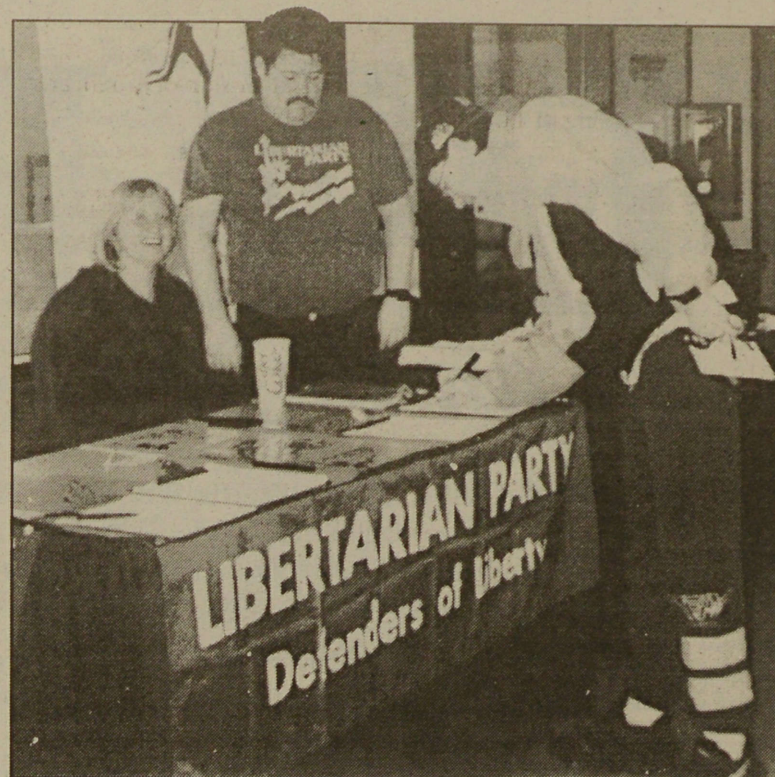
"We want to persuade active Libertarians from other states to move here permanently to increase membership as well as cash flow," he said.

### ■ California

East Bay Region Libertarians are raising money for a radio advertising campaign to counteract a taxpayer-financed advertising blitz in support of California's radical anti-smoking law.

The law, which went into effect January 1, bans smoking in every bar and restaurant in the state. The California House repealed the measure in February after angry business owners lobbied lawmakers in Sacramento — but anti-tobacco activists continued to broadcast a barrage of "public service announcements" at taxpayer expense.

"Anti-tobacco activists are producing these ads with seemingly unlimited taxpayer funding and the use of free television and radio airtime," said LP member **Terry Floyd**. "These commercials thank the politicians for making our lives better and our lungs cleaner by taking away more of our rights. Those of us who feel that the decision to smoke should be left to the individual and not to the politicians



### Signing on the dotted line

LP members Karen Fincher and Gary Fincher (center) sign up another registered Libertarian, as part of their ongoing voter registration drive in Alaska. They're shown here at a sign-up table at the University of Alaska in Anchorage, working their way towards the 6,400 registered voters required for "major" party status. "We're collecting registrations at a rate of 50-100 per day," said Gary Fincher. "There is no reason why this drive cannot be completed in time for the election this fall."

must work to repeal this ridiculous law."

Floyd and other Libertarians are trying to raise \$1,600 — privately — to produce a series of radio ads promoting "individual freedom and personal responsibility" on the smoking issue.

"The House vote shows that politicians can be educated, but it will take a much greater effort to finish the job," said Floyd.

### ■ California

Who says you need more laws to stop spamming? To prove that private solutions can work, San Mateo County Libertarians have unanimously passed a resolution against using it for advertising.

"Spamming — the practice of sending unsolicited e-mails to a large group of people — is widely frowned upon on the Internet," said LP member **Christopher Schmidt**, who introduced the measure at January's meeting. "The use of it could cause severe damage to our party's name and reputation."

The resolution reads, in part:

"Spamming is widely considered rude and obnoxious, and spamming for the purpose of publicizing the LP could result in condemnation across the Internet, [so] the LP of San Mateo County [will] not advertise by spamming."

The resolution does not preclude responsible use of e-mail to communicate with interested members, said Schmidt, who added that an identical resolution has already been passed by the LP in Santa Clara County.

### ■ Maryland

The LP is waging an all-out effort to support a ballot access reform bill that lost by just one vote last year.

"We're gearing up for what will hopefully be our last battle to reform ballot access — and grassroots lobbying of our legislators is one of our primary weapons," said ballot access expert **Scott Becker**.

The proposal, which Libertarians have been trying to get passed for several years, reduces the number of petition signatures a candidate must collect from 3% to 1%. The bad news is that a competing bill would more than double the number of signatures for a new party.

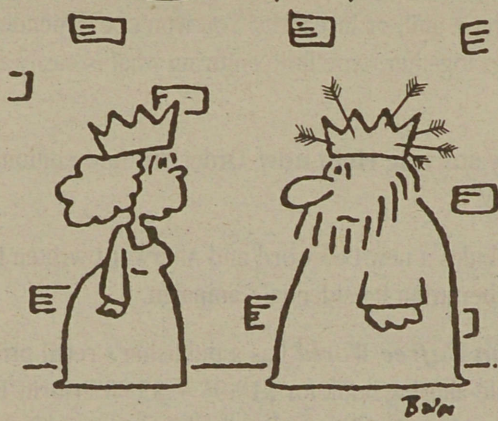
"The Libertarian Party must make a concerted effort to get this bill passed," said Becker.

### ■ Michigan

Libertarian Congressional candidates have reduced Republicans to begging again.

"We received yet another

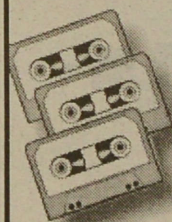
## Tired of Being Shot?



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## LP Online Guide

**Libertarian Party:**

<http://www.lp.org/>

**Libertarian Party News:**

<http://www.lp.org/lpn/>

**Libertarian Party Affiliates:**

<http://www.lp.org/lp-aff.html>

**Libertarian Party Platform:**

<http://www.lp.org/platform/>



wimpy Republican plea for the LP [candidate] to drop out of a race," said **Doug MacDonald**, chair of the Michigan Libertarian Congressional Committee.

The target of the request: LP candidate Ben Steele III, who was asked by Republican Susan Munsell to sit out the volatile 8th Congressional District race.

Libertarians have a history of influencing the outcome in Michigan races, said MacDonald. In fact, former Republican Congressman Dick Chrysler blames his 1992 loss on the LP.

"Munsell's request was accompanied by a typical 'I'm a Libertarian at heart comment,'" said MacDonald. "[But] it fell on deaf ears with me. Once again, in 1998, the LP will contest all Congressional seats, despite the begging and pleading of the older parties."

### ■ New York

Where can "anti-tax activists, state legislators, pro-gun activists, sane environmentalists, Libertarians, and the ACLU" all gather under one roof?

The Long Island Liberty Coalition Seminar, which took place at Suffolk County Community College on January 26.

"This event was a great networking success, and a great way to promote liberty," said Long Island LP Vice Chair **Audrey Capozzi**, who spoke at the seminar about the LP's local organizing activities. The event even garnered major media coverage, with reporters from *Newsday* and *National Review* attending.

### ■ Ohio

A group of high-powered attorneys issued a rare invitation to a non-lawyer to join their monthly panel discussion on January 28 — giving Ohio LP secretary **Donald Gallick** a forum to expound on "abusive law enforcement."

The Central Ohio Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers meets regularly to discuss current events in criminal and civil cases, especially those involving abuse of government power, said Gallick. The group includes attorneys for the ACLU, the People's Rights Organization, CopWatch and the Anti-Racist Action League.

"I am known for being a vocal critic of abusive law enforcements throughout the state," he said. The invitation gave Gallick an opportunity to talk about

civil asset forfeiture, the Second Amendment, police abuses, and the general erosion of Americans' civil rights.

### ■ Pennsylvania

Democratic and Republican state legislators showed "some agitation" as Libertarians berated them before the television cameras in early January at a hearing on a bill to reform ballot access laws.

"What problem does it solve to insist that third parties collect 12 times as many signatures as you people have to?" LP member **Ken Krawchuk** asked the 13 members of the State Government Committee.

State Chair **Tim Moir** lambasted the committee for supporting a bill last year that would have tripled the signature requirements for getting third parties on the ballot.

"I maintain that we have demonstrated more than enough that we are a real party with real people and a real base of support," said Moir, reminding the committee that more than 30 Libertarians were elected in Pennsylvania in November 1997.

The event marked the first time in history that state Libertarians got the chance to testify before a House committee.

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Americans are essentially pragmatic idealists. Although they know there is something fundamentally wrong with an idea, theorem, position, program, party, politician, etc. etc.; they are seldom willing to change unless they see a viable alternative: Witness President Clinton's standing in the polls.

Dr. Martin M. Shinedling, a medical psychotherapist with over 30 years' experience, has written a book in electronic format available on the web: [www.middleclash.com](http://www.middleclash.com)

which proposes both a way for a small percentage of the American Electorate to exercise decisive influence in most elections and the programs needed to convince the American Middle Class to abandon both the Republican and Democratic Parties in favor of a third Independent American Party.

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## Libertarian Party Membership

### The Power of Just One Signature

**D**o 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 new, powerful political force for freedom. **But we need your help to do it.**

Make a stand for freedom!

Join the Libertarian Party today!

### ☐ YES! Sign me up as a proud, dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party!

I have enclosed \$25. I'll receive 12 issues of your monthly party newspaper, LP News, and a Libertarian Party membership card.

**The Libertarian Party is the party of principle.** To publicly affirm what we believe—and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles—we ask our members to proudly sign this statement:

➤ I do not believe in or advocate the **initiation** of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP

### ■ Subscription

☐ Enclosed is \$25. I'd rather not join the party just yet. Instead, please sign me up for a one-year subscription to the party newspaper, LP News (12 monthly issues).

### ■ Name & Address

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax-deductible.

### ■ Payment

☐ To help you in your important work for liberty, I have enclosed an additional donation of:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Total payment enclosed

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check/money order enclosed.  
(No corporate checks, please.)  
Or: Please bill my ☐ Visa  
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ACCT. # \_\_\_\_\_

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### Beginner's Introduction

## A Liberty Primer

Send \$6.95 (Includes postage) to:  
SIL, Box 10224  
Rochester NY 14610



# LITERATURE BUTTONS & MUCH MORE!

## Libertarian Party Literature

- **LP Program.** 4 pages, blue ink. "Reader friendly" LP positions on education, jobs, political corruption, health care, and crime — plus solutions. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100
- **1996 Libertarian Party Platform.** 24 pages; 2-color (red & black). "Official" party positions (updated at the 1996 National Convention) on individual rights, the economy, taxation, poverty, & other political issues. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$50 per 100
- **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting outreach geared specifically for gun owners, explaining our 100% pro-gun position. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100
- **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto: Explains why (and how) government doesn't work, and why it will never work as well as voluntary solutions. Hardbound, 245 pages. **Cost:** \$11.95 (includes \$2 s/h charge)
- **Enough Is Enough/Vote Libertarian Yard Sign.** Great for campaigns — or anytime! 2-color (red & blue) 24" x 18", on sturdy foam-board. **Cost:** \$8.00 each
- **LP Fact Sheets:** Updated for 1998: 2-page LP history (political highlights 1971-1997) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100
- **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy. **Cost:** \$1 each

## Miscellaneous Items

- **Windbreaker.** Blue, with LP logo & party name. Available in M, L, XL. (Please specify.) **Cost:** \$25 each
- **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk. **Cost:** \$3 each
- **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
- **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** Back in stock! (Blue & red — big 15" x 3.25" size)
- **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; LP address and phone # below.)
- **Vote Libertarian/800-682-1776** (Blue & white.)
- **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

## 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

## Tools for Campaigning

- **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. **Cost:** \$1 each
- **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP ads. **Cost:** \$3 for set
- **Libertarian TV Ads:** A videotape of TV ads by LP candidates — from State Representative to president. (Not broadcast quality.) **Cost:** \$20.00 each

## Buttons (Cost: \$1 each or 75¢ 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

## HOW TO ORDER

**By Mail:** (And make checks payable to) **Libertarian Party**  
2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite 100 ★ Washington, DC 20037  
**By Phone:** Call: (202) 333-0008 Ext. 221  
**By Fax:** (202) 333-0072

Order Now  
For Immediate  
Shipment!



# Have a Million-Dollar Tax Day Outreach/Rally!

**W**ant to add some fun — and success — to your Tax Day rally this year? Want to generate more prospect names? Want to make your rally more enjoyable for LP volunteers? Our "\$1,000,000 bill" outreach literature will do the trick!

Printed in green ink, the front side looks like

a Federal Reserve \$1,000,000 note. The other side explains that the Federal government spends \$1 million of our money every five seconds — and the only political party trying to change that is the Libertarian Party. There is a reply coupon and our phone number.

The "\$1,000,000 bill" is one of the most

popular LP outreach devices ever, according to activists who have used it. Using the line, "How would you like a million bucks to help pay your taxes?" LP volunteers report an acceptance rate of over 80%. People smile, laugh, and joke when they get it, and even return to get extra copies.

## HOW TO ORDER:

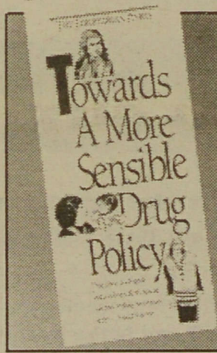
- The **"\$1,000,000 Bills"** are available for immediate shipment. **Cost: \$5 per 100.** (Call for rush shipping details.)
- Or, order the complete **"\$1 Million Tax Day" kit.** It includes:
  - 1 A 16-page booklet explaining how to use the "\$1,000,000 bill" to maximize the membership-building potential of your Tax Day rally. (Also: How to organize a successful rally; how to get more publicity; how to make signs; and more.)
  - 2 50 samples of the "\$1 Million Bill" literature.
  - 3 Two versions of camera-ready mechanicals to print the "\$1 Million Bills." One with the National LP's return address and phone number, and one with a blank area to personalize them with your local LP's contact information.
  - 4 A sample press release to publicize your "\$1,000,000 Outreach."
- Price for the complete package: **\$10.** (The **\$1 Million Tax Day** kit will be sent via Priority Mail.)

# 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



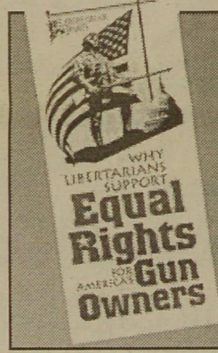
■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."

★ **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 the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for general audience.

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

## ALSO IN STOCK

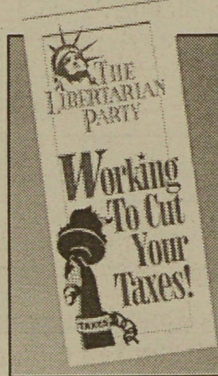
■ **LP Special Report.** 20 pages, blue & black ink. Comprehensive introduction to the Libertarian Party. With membership form/envelope. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$50 for 100

## Yard Sign

■ **"Enough is Enough /Vote Libertarian"** on sturdy foamboard. 24" x 18", red & blue. **Cost:** \$8 each.

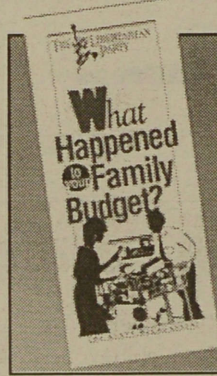
## LP Stickers

■ **5/8" x 2-1/8" stickers.** (24 per sheet.) **Cost:** Four sheets for \$1. Or 25 sheets for \$5



■ **Working to Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). Outlines how the Libertarian Party would drastically reduce taxes and government spending.

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



■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how government impoverishes the "typical" family through taxes and inflation.

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



■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's 5-point crime-control program that protects civil liberties and the public.

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

# ORDER FORM

Indicate the quantity you wish to order below.

There is no charge for standard shipping. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Or: Add \$5 for same-day shipping. Call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 221 for instructions on rush deliveries. Minimum order: \$5.00. Orders shipped via UPS; please add 15% for Post Office box deliveries. **Federal law** requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Ready-to-use Literature

Quantity	Amount
_____	<b>NEW: \$1,000,000 Tax Day Package (\$10)</b>
_____	<b>Tax Day Flyer: \$1,000,000 Bill Literature</b>
_____	<b>Brochure: "Is This/New Political Party?"</b>
_____	<b>Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"</b>
_____	<b>Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"</b>
_____	<b>Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"</b>
_____	<b>Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"</b>
_____	<b>Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"</b>
_____	<b>Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"</b>
_____	<b>Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"</b>
_____	<b>2-page LP history/2-page bibliography. (Package.)</b>
_____	<b>World's Smallest Political Quiz</b>
_____	<b>America's Libertarian Heritage booklet</b>
_____	<b>Why Government Doesn't Work book</b>
_____	<b>1996 LP Platform</b>
_____	<b>1995 LP Program</b>
_____	<b>Booklet: "Special Report"</b>

## 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

\_\_\_\_\_ LP stickers (24 per sheet)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL  
\_\_\_\_\_ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3  
\_\_\_\_\_ "Liberty" Teddy Bear

## Tools for Campaigning

\_\_\_\_\_ Libertarian TV Ads  
\_\_\_\_\_ Statue of Liberty logo master  
\_\_\_\_\_ 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).

## Total Due

\_\_\_\_\_ **Merchandise Total**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **RUSH handling:** Add \$5 for same-day shipping  
\_\_\_\_\_ **RUSH shipping:** Call office to arrange  
\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL PAYMENT DUE**

☐ Cash, check, or money order enclosed (No corporate checks!)  
☐ Bill my Visa ☐ Bill my MasterCard

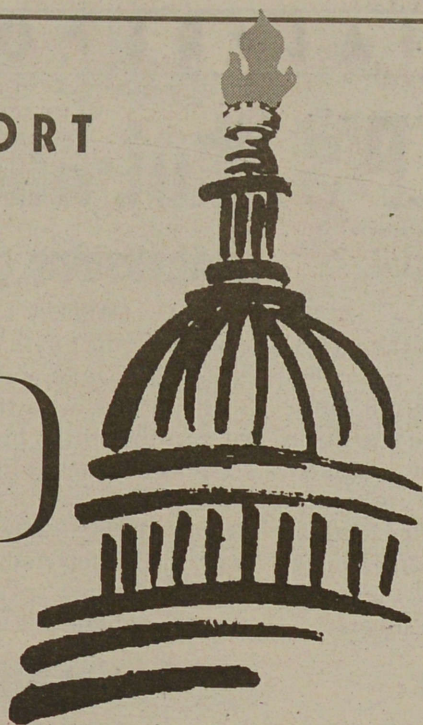
Acct. # \_\_\_\_\_  
Expires \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Membership ID# [On label] \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer \_\_\_\_\_



# LP ★ NEWS SPECIAL ★ REPORT

# THE ROAD TO VICTORY

## 1998 LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL CONVENTION



## Unsure about going? Here's what you could miss, past attendees say



■ **CORE** president (and new LP member) Roy Innis, who will speak at the 1998 LP National Convention

**W**here can you see a major civil rights leader, the "voice" of the NRA, the woman who dared to expose the IRS... and former Capitol Hill staffers who now sing funny political songs for a living? Only at an LP National Convention — specifically, the one in Washington DC from July 2 to 5, 1998. Here's all the information you'll need to attend... and to have the political time of your life!

**P**erhaps you've seen it on C-SPAN. Maybe you just heard about the experience from a fellow Libertarian. Or maybe you read a news report in a local newspaper.

But until you actually attend a Libertarian Party national convention — and are surrounded by hundreds of enthusiastic Libertarians, caught up in the drama of unfolding political contests, bombarded by ideas, entertained by dynamic speakers, and playing a *personal* role in American political history — you have no real idea of what it's like.

At least, that's the opinion of numerous Libertarians, who recently shared their comments on

what it's like to attend one of the LP's bi-annual political bashes.

**The questions:** What is it like to attend a national convention? What were your most *memorable* moments? And why should Libertarian newcomers take the trouble to travel halfway across the country to attend one?

Their responses ranged from the prosaic to the poetic — but paint a portrait of an LP national convention as a life-changing, principles-affirming, friendship-forging experience.

Here's what they had to say:

**F**or a libertarian "junkie," the convention's like a week-long high. The seminars, the speeches,

the stuff for sale — you can gorge on good ideas, make new friends, have your assumptions challenged and have so much fun it makes you wonder why the government hasn't tried to make it against the law.

— **MARC BEAUCHAMP**

Editor, *LP News* "Talking Points," (Virginia)

**M**y most memorable convention moment: Listening to the witty, idealistic, dare I say *patriotic*, messages delivered as the roll is called of all the states so they can tell us for whom they voted to be our presidential nominee. This part of the presidential nominating conventions is a highlight for me every time.

— **SHARON AYRES**

LNC Member, (California)

**I** was a delegate in DC in '96, and my best memories were sitting in the lobby, downing Maker's Mark and coke with old men while discussing the finer points of Ludwig Von Mises.

— **CALEB O. BROWN**

University of Louisville  
Young Libertarians, (Kentucky)

**T**he National Convention is the place to discover how alive and well libertarian ideas are all over the country. You'll meet people who think like you do, who are working hard to make this a free country.

— **HARRY BROWNE**

1996 LP presidential candidate, (Tennessee)

**A**fter a couple of years of blank stares (and, sometimes, outright hostility) from friends, family, acquaintances and co-workers, it's incredibly reassuring to be in a place with a thousand people who actually understand that the concept of individual liberty [and] respect for the equal rights of everyone else is *not* a nutty idea. Those few days of understanding, empathy and camaraderie with folks from across the entire country are inspiring and energizing enough to carry you through the next two years.

— **TIM O'BRIEN**

State Chair, LP of Michigan

See **ATTENDEES** Page 10

## Convention Q&A: When, where, and how?

### Who can attend?

Anyone can attend Convention '98. But to participate in official convention business, you must be a state party delegate. (Contact your state party for details on becoming a delegate.)

### When should I arrive?

Most delegates will arrive at the convention hotel (the Renaissance) on Wednesday, July 1.

The first convention event, the "First Step to Victory" party, begins at 8:00 pm that night. Official convention business — including the Keynote Address — begins early Thursday, July 2.

However, there are convention-related events starting as early as June 31, including a candidate training seminar with Jerry Russell on July 1. (See complete schedule at right.)

### Why does it cost money to attend the convention?

All convention business sessions are free to delegates; there is no cost for delegates to attend the Platform and bylaws debate, or the election of LP officers.

However, the other events of the convention — meals, speakers, panel discussions, and social events like the Saturday night

See **Q&A** Page 11

## CONVENTION AGENDA

### ■ Tuesday, June 31

- ★ Platform Committee Meeting
- ★ Bylaws Committee Meeting

### ■ Wednesday, July 1

- ★ Candidate Training Seminar With Jerry Russell
- ★ Platform Committee Meeting
- ★ Bylaws Committee Meeting
- ★ Credentials Committee Meeting
- ★ LP Leadership Summit
- ★ LNC Meeting
- ★ "First Step To Victory" Convention Welcome Party

### ■ Thursday, July 2

- ★ Campaign Workshop Breakfast With Jerry Russell
- ★ Convention Opening Welcome to Washington, DC!
- ★ Keynote Address by Michael Cloud "The Libertarian Party: The Unreasonable Alternative"
- ★ Opening of Convention Business Session
- ★ Credentials, Agenda, & Treasurer's Report
- ★ Campus Organizing Workshop With Professor James Lark
- ★ Gold Luncheon with Speaker (TBA)
- ★ Convention Business Session
- ★ Bylaws Committee Report and Debate
- ★ Speaker: Tanya Metaksa, Director, NRA/Institute for Legislative Action
- ★ Breakout Panels and Speakers
- ★ Liberty Torch Reception
- ★ Capitol Steps (Musical Entertainment)

### ■ Friday, July 3

- ★ Early Bird Party Building Workshops With Bill Winter: "Read All About It! Effective LP Newsletters"
- ★ Convention Business Session
- ★ Bylaws Committee Report and Debate
- ★ Major Speaker (TBA)
- ★ Gold Luncheon with Speaker (TBA)
- ★ Speaker: Jacob Hornberger, President, Future of Freedom Foundation
- ★ Convention Business Session
- ★ Platform Committee Report and Debate
- ★ Breakout Panels and Speakers
- ★ President's Club Reception
- ★ Waco: Rules Of Engagement: Film and Q&A with Producers

### ■ Saturday, July 4

- ★ Early Bird Party-Building Workshops With Bill Winter: "Mastering the Media"
- ★ Convention Business Session
- ★ Platform Committee Report and Debate
- ★ Major Speaker (TBA)
- ★ Special Local Organizing Luncheon With Perry Willis
- ★ Convention Business Session
- ★ Platform Committee Report and Debate
- ★ Speaker: Harry Browne, 1996 Libertarian Party Presidential Candidate
- ★ "The Road to Victory" Gala Honors & Awards Banquet

### ■ Sunday, July 5

- ★ Convention Business Session
- ★ Election of Party Officers and At-Large LNC Members
- ★ Election of Judicial Committee
- ★ Resolutions
- ★ LNC Meeting



# Attendees

Continued from Page 1

The reason to attend an LP convention is to renew old friendships and to make new ones. After all, where else would you find such a concentration of the world's greatest people?

— **DAVE DAWSON**

LP member, (California)

At the 1996 convention, I was chatting with friends when I noticed a gentleman with a familiar face standing nearby. David Brodër, *eminence grise* of political reporters and *Washington Post* columnist, had come to our convention! I welcomed him to the convention, thanked him for attending, and congratulated him on his fine work. He thereupon conducted an interview with me about the LP and my Libertarian groups at the University of Virginia. The interview ran in the *Post* as part of a very flattering column about the LP.

— **JIM LARK**

Libertarian student group faculty advisor, (Virginia)

The energy. Everywhere about you people are buzzing with excitement. The TV cameras are catching all the action, and broadcasting it nationwide. It's a blast watching everybody on C-SPAN on the hotel lobby TVs! You really get the feeling that we're going to succeed. You come home from the Convention feeling energized and ready to do your part.

— **STEPHANIE YANIK**

Farlandria Co. LP, (Virginia)

You will be energized by the speakers espousing the libertarian solutions to our country's problems. You'll be energized by the floor debates on the best way to position the party for success. And you will be supercharged for activism by being in the company of 1,000 like-minded Libertarians. Coming to an LP convention lets you know that you are not alone.

— **RON CRICKENBERGER**

LP National Director, (Washington, DC)

Your first convention experience wouldn't be like this star-struck rube from Utah, first time in a big-city hotel, surrounded by Libertarians, talking, excited, meeting [1980 presidential candidate] Ed Clark, winning a prize at the banquet when we celebrated his presidential nomination, handed to me, personally, by Alicia Clark, who smiled just like she cared about me, who sang about Liberty and had tears in her eyes just like mine, who

See **ATTENDEES** Page 11

## SPECIAL REPORT

# Speakers cover LP's "hot-button" topics



## Gun Rights

■ **TANYA METAKSA**

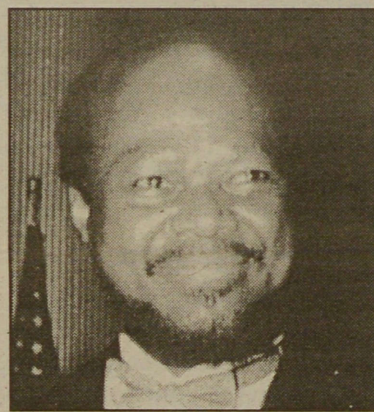
How can you defend the Second Amendment in a nation that seems increasingly anti-gun? Tanya Metaksa is an expert on that topic: She's the Executive Director of the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action. She's also the author of the woman's self-defense manual *Safe, Not Sorry*, and a competitive pistol shooter.



## Immigration

■ **JACOB HORNBERGER**

Would a more open immigration policy really benefit America? It's one of the toughest questions that LP members face. Jacob Hornberger, the president of the Future of Freedom Foundation, will present a Libertarian vision of — and moral arguments for — reclaiming America's heritage as a nation of immigrants.



## Civil Rights

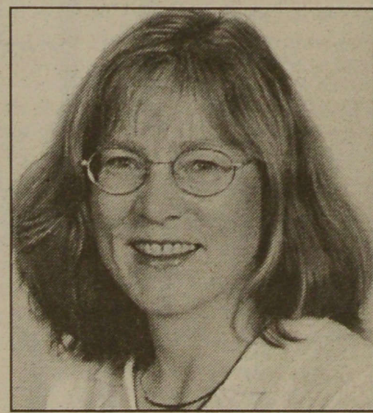
■ **ROY INNIS**

If government civil rights laws promote tolerance, why do race relations in America seem more frayed than ever? From his unique vantage point of 35 years in the civil rights movement and as National Chairman of the Congress of Racial Equality, Roy Innis will show how the USA can achieve genuine equality.

## Abolishing the IRS

■ **SHELLEY L. DAVIS**

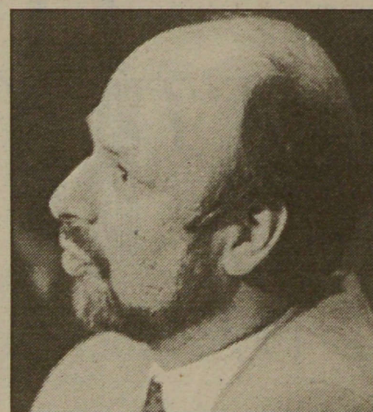
How bad is the Internal Revenue Service? No one knows better than Shelley Davis, who spent eight years as the official historian for the IRS before resigning in 1995. She wrote an expose about the agency (*Unbridled Power*), and was immediately audited — but hasn't stopped speaking out about the abuses she uncovered.



## Social Security

■ **MICHAEL TANNER**

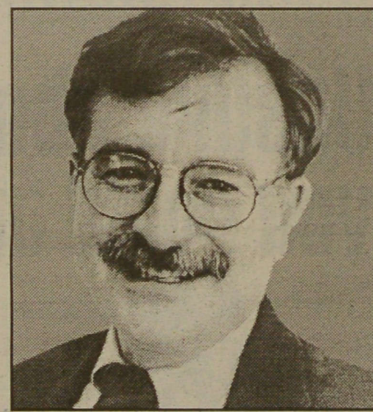
If we get rid of Social Security, what will happen to America's old people? Michael Tanner, Director of Health & Welfare Studies at the Cato Institute, will dispel the myths about Social Security — and show how the free market can provide more security, more income, and more freedom for all Americans.



## Drug Prohibition

■ **WALKER CHANDLER**

What happens when the War on Drugs comes down on *your* head? Walker Chandler found out when he was forced to take a drug test to run for public office in Georgia. So he sued — and went all the way to the Supreme Court. Hear how the "country lawyer" from Zebulon, GA, fought (and beat) the Drug War.



# LEARN HOW TO WIN ELECTIONS WITH GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNING

In conjunction with the 1998 LP National Convention, **Jerry Russell**, president of Campaign Consultants, will present an intensive

seminar on winning elections. Russell has worked in over 200 races from U.S. Senator and gubernatorial level down to local legislative and judicial races — and has maintained a 70% winning track record. He has

won his last 19 out of 19 political contests, and specializes in low-cost, highly effective grassroots campaigning techniques.

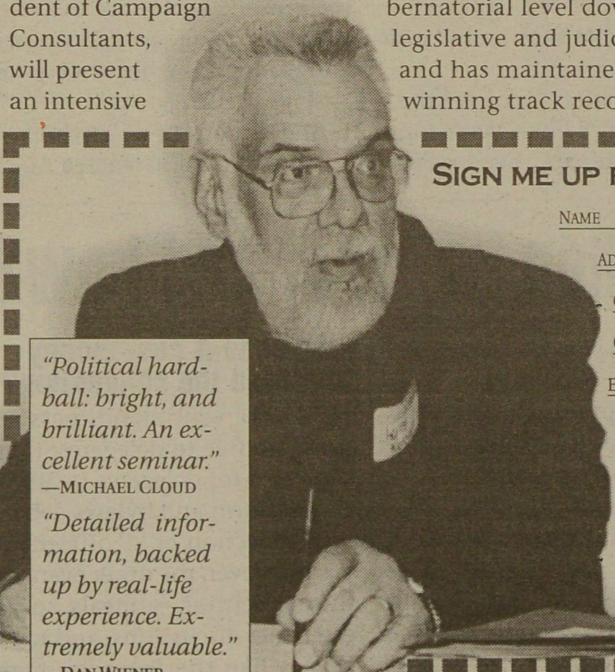
"I would urge every LP member who wants to improve his candidate or campaign man-

agement skills to attend Russell's seminar," said Ron Crickenberger, the LP's National Director. "You'll raise more money, earn more votes, and be a better representative for the party."

**Session topics include:**

- What to do before you tell Momma you are running.
- We Gotta Get Organized!
- Structuring your campaign.
- How to Raise your First \$200,000 in contributions.
- Media for Your Message: Effective communications.

The Grass Roots Campaigning seminar will be held from 8:30 AM to 6:30 PM, Wednesday, July 1, with a wrap-up breakfast on Thursday. Registration is separate from attendance at the LP National Convention. Discount price: Only \$89 before May 1.



"Political hardball: bright, and brilliant. An excellent seminar."  
—MICHAEL CLOUD  
"Detailed information, backed up by real-life experience. Extremely valuable."  
—DAN WIENER

## SIGN ME UP FOR GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNING!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Payment: My check or money order for \$89 is enclosed. Or: charge my ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

ACCT # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRES \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Libertarian Party/Grassroots Campaigning,  
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037



# Convention '98 Q&A

Continued from Page 9

banquet — cost thousands of dollars to put on, and LP members who wish to attend those events are asked to cover the cost. (Attendees also make independent transportation and accommodation arrangements.)

There are different package deals available, and LP members can choose which events they wish to attend, and how much they wish to pay.

## OK, I've decided to attend. What do I do now?

■ First, make your airline reservations. For special discounted airfare, call US Airways' Meeting & Convention Reservation Office: (800) 334-8644. (See below for more details.)

■ Second, reserve your room at the Renaissance Hotel. Call them at (800) 228-9290. (See the convention advertisement on page 12 for complete details.)

■ Third, send in your convention registration. (See registration form on page 12.)

## Which Washington DC airport should I fly into?

Washington National (recently renamed the "Ronald Reagan National Airport") is the most convenient. It's a 10- to 15-minute Metro ride from downtown Washington, or a relatively cheap cab ride. (It's right across the Potomac River in Virginia.)

Both Dulles and Baltimore/Washington (BWI) airports are 45-50 minutes away. However, there is fairly convenient shuttle-bus transportation from both airports to downtown Washington, DC. (Cost: \$20-\$24.)

## What does USAirways offer?

US Airways has been designated as the official carrier for the LP's 1998 National Convention, and will offer exclusive low fares for attendees:

- A 5% discount off First or Business Class and any published promotional round-trip fare.
- A 10% discount off unre-

stricted coach fares (7-day advance reservations required.)

■ An extra 5% discount: Ticket 60 days or more prior to departure.

All rules and restrictions must be met. Not combinable with other discounts or promotions. Valid from June 28th to July 8th, 1998.

To obtain discounts, you or your travel agent must call US Airways' Meeting & Convention Reservation Office: (800) 334-8644 (8:00 am - 9:00 pm EST). Refer to Gold File No. 176 101 07.

## What's the closest Metro (subway) stop to the hotel?

Both Metro Center and the Chinatown stops are within two blocks of the hotel.

## Should I worry about crime in Washington, DC?

You probably don't need to be too concerned in the area where the convention is being held. The Renaissance is in downtown Washington, DC; it's a popular area, and fairly well-policed. Of course, you should take the usual safety precautions that you would in any large city, and steer clear of DC's rougher neighborhoods.

## Will the convention be covered by C-SPAN?

C-SPAN officials have yet to confirm that they will broadcast the convention, but have strongly indicated they will.

C-SPAN retains the final decision over exactly what it broadcasts (and when), but we expect them to broadcast the major speakers, like Roy Innis, Michael Cloud, Jacob Hornberger, Tanya Metaksa, and Harry Browne. They may also cover some of the platform debate, breakout speakers, and panel discussions.

## I have another question; who should I call?

Call the Balcom Group at (800) 722-5141. Or e-mail them at: LPNATCONV@aol.com.



## Waco documentary producers to speak

How do you get "liberal Hollywood" to make a shocking documentary that bluntly accuses the U.S. government of premeditated murder in the bloody tragedy at Waco, Texas?

You'll be able to ask Dan and Amy Gifford (shown above) that question at Convention '98. They are the producers of the Academy Award-nominated *Waco: The Rules of Engagement*, and will host a Q&A session after the film is shown on Friday, July 3. The movie, an eye-opening expose of the events at the Branch Davidian compound, has been praised by the *New York Times*, Siskel and Ebert, and the Atlanta Film festival.

# Convention begins with Wednesday night party

The 1998 National Convention's kick-off event will put the "party" into Libertarian Party — with a festive opening night get-together on Wednesday, July 1.

The "First Step To Victory Party" will begin at 8:00 pm at the Renaissance Hotel, and "will last until the early morning," said convention organizer Kris Williams. The complimentary event will feature entertainment,

dancing, and refreshments.

"This party is the perfect opportunity to relax from traveling, see old Libertarian friends, and make new ones from around the country," he said.

Williams urged all delegates to try to arrive at the Convention on Wednesday to attend the party — and so "you don't miss the convention opening and the keynote address starting at 9:00 am on Thursday."

## Nominate the party's best

At the 1996 LP National Convention, a new tradition was born: Awards to recognize those members who had contributed the *most* to the growth of the party.

That tradition will continue at the 1998 convention, with three awards to be bestowed at the Saturday Awards banquet.

You can help select the winners by nominating candidates for the three awards. Then, convention delegates will vote for the winners from among the top three nominees in each category.

Use the ballot to the right to nominate one person for each award. Vote just once, and return the ballot by April 10, 1998.

**VOTE FOR THE BEST!**

Here's your chance to honor the best in the party!

Awards to be presented at the gala Saturday night banquet at Convention '98. **Deadline:** Nominations must be received by April 10, 1998. **Mail to:** Steve Givot, 1 Middlebury Road, Barrington Hills IL 60010.

**I nominate the following person for each award:**

■ **SAMUEL ADAMS AWARD**  
(Best LP activist):

■ **THOMAS PAINE AWARD**  
(Best LP communicator):

■ **THOMAS JEFFERSON AWARD**  
(LP Lifetime achievement):

# Attendees

Continued from Page 10

committed their lives and fortunes and sacred honor to this cause.

— **HUGH BUTLER**  
LNC Treasurer, (Utah)

The [1996] Convention was my first. The Convention opens with the National LP Chair introducing the first President of the United States: George Washington. An impersonator walks out on stage and proceeds to deliver Washington's second inaugural speech to the Convention floor. The delivery was very realistic and it was almost as if you were actually listening to George Washington. The words of the speech — about limited government — are as true today as they were two hundred years ago. The speech ends with the crowd of 600 or so delegates screaming 'Four more years! Four more years!' It was hilarious.

— **MIKE GINSBERG**  
State Chair, LP of Illinois

The 1996 Convention was [my] first. I got to meet David Bergland and thank him for writing *Libertarianism In One Lesson*; the book that brought me into the party. The most important thing about the convention was that I learned how to become a better Libertarian. I learned that there were a lot more dedicated freedom-loving people out there. And I learned how to put my libertarian ideas into action.

— **DANIEL N. SMITH**  
State Chair, LP of DC

My most exciting event at the 1996 Convention was when Jacob (Bumper) Hornberger roused the convention with his keynote speech, scalding the Demopublicans and exposing them for the hypocritical tyrants that they are. Undoubtedly the best speech this senior baby-boomer has ever heard.

— **JACK MATHENEY**  
State Chair, LP of Ohio

The most memorable [convention] moment for me was when leaving the Jefferson Memorial in the big-windowed tour buses and the driver unwittingly announcing various un-libertarian sites of interest on our way back to the hotel. 'This is the Housing and Urban Development Building, over there is the Department of Agriculture Building . . .' he said. The resounding boos from that bus full of Libertarians are still echoing on Constitution Avenue. I knew then that I was in good company.

— **RODNEY TRAVIS**  
State Chair, LP of South Carolina

## How would you like to reach 1,200+ active Libertarians in one place?

Then exhibit at the 1998 Libertarian National Convention!

- Act quickly: Only a limited number of booths available.
- Break-out speaking opportunity included with each booth rental.
- Special exhibitor packages available.
- Ask about Convention sponsorship opportunities!

For more information, contact: Larry Guilmette (Exhibits Manager)

By Mail: 3600 16th Street, NW • Washington, DC 20010

By Phone: (800) 722-5141. Via E-Mail: LPExhibits@hotmail.com



# THE ROAD TO VICTORY

## LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY 2-5, 1998 ★ WASHINGTON DC

### Convention Details

#### ◆ DATE

July 2 - 5, 1998. (Thursday - Sunday.)

#### ◆ LOCATION

The Washington Convention Center at 900 Ninth Street, NW, downtown Washington DC. Lodging: The Renaissance Washington Hotel at 999 Ninth Street, NW.

#### ◆ EVENTS

- Wednesday night welcome party
- Election of party officers
- Election of the National Committee
- LP Platform debate and changes
- Major speakers & panels
- Huge vendor & exhibitor area
- Candidate training sessions
- Gala banquet & awards

#### ◆ LODGING

Special discount room prices of only \$101 per night (single or double) are available at the Renaissance Washington Hotel. Please call the hotel directly to make your reservation. Tell them that you are attending the LP's Convention '98. For special group rates, make your reservation no later than May 29, 1998! (Room rate does not include DC's 13% sales tax or \$1.50 a night occupancy tax). For reservations, call: (800) 228-9290.

#### ◆ CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations received between February 1st and May 1st will be refunded with a 50% processing fee. Cancellations received after May 2nd will not be refunded. All refunds issued after the Convention.

#### ◆ MORE INFORMATION?

For more information or questions:

**The Balcom Group**  
Registration Management  
3600 16th Street, NW  
Washington DC 20010  
Phone: (202) 234-3880 or 3882  
Fax: (202) 234-3884  
E-mail: LPNATCONV@aol.com

## Meet Your Elected Libertarians!

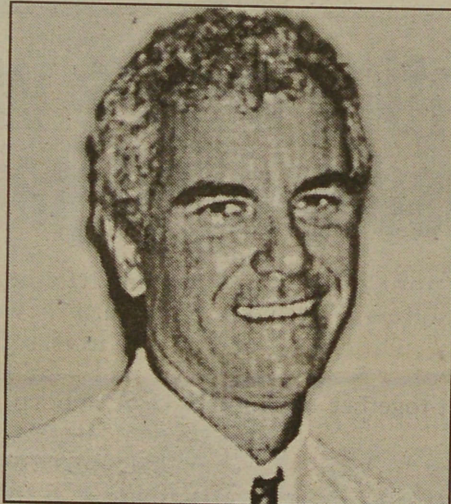
Confirmed '98 Convention speakers: Elected Libertarians from Michigan, Georgia, and New Hampshire!



### FRED COLLINS

■ CITY COUNCIL MEMBER  
Berkley, Michigan

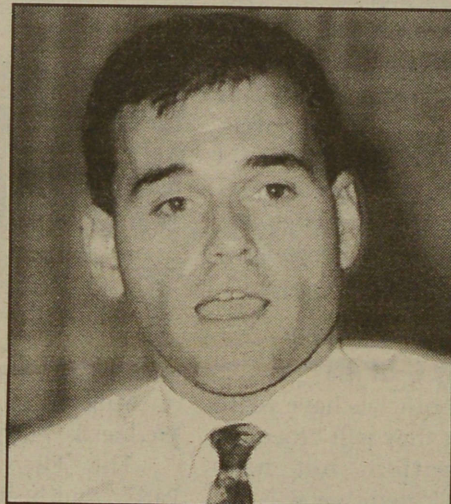
**H**e was elected to the City Council by focusing on three issues: Taxes, regulation, and "volunteering" city activities. Hear how he got elected, and what he's doing now.



### BRUCE VAN BUREN

■ MAYOR PRO-TEM  
Avondale Estates, Georgia

**H**e overcame a fierce anti-Libertarian "smear campaign" to get elected — and, once in office, led the fight to abolish a city agency. Find out what's next on his agenda.



### FINLAY ROTHHAUS

■ SELECTMAN  
Merrimack, New Hampshire

**H**e was part of the historic four-man Libertarian delegation in the N.H. State House in '94 — and is back in office as a Selectman. Hear the story of his electoral journey.

## REGISTER NOW & SAVE MONEY!

Register before April 1st and attend the convention for the decade's lowest prices!

#### CONVENTION GOLD PACKAGE

**Only \$289:** All panels, all speakers, floor pass, convention souvenir, program booklet, the Capitol Steps entertainment, gala Convention Banquet, and all meals.

#### CONVENTION SILVER PACKAGE

**Only \$229:** All of the above, but excludes meals.

#### CONVENTION BRONZE PACKAGE

**Only \$139:** Excludes Capitol Steps, Convention Banquet, and meals.

(Individual event tickets are available.)

## SIGN ME UP FOR THE ROAD TO VICTORY

Sign me up for the following package(s): (Prices good until April 1)

☐ **GOLD** \$289 ☐ **SILVER** \$229 ☐ **BRONZE** \$139

Prices after April 1 (and then good until July 1):

☐ **GOLD** \$319 ☐ **SILVER** \$259 ☐ **BRONZE** \$169

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

#### ■ Payment:

☐ Check/money order. Or: Charge ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

ACCT. # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: 1998 National Libertarian Party Convention

■ Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

#### ■ Special Needs?

Please let us know if you have any special needs or other requirements. We should know about:

- ☐ Visual ☐ Mobility ☐ Hearing
- ☐ Dietary ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ■ To Register:

Mail to: 1998 National LP Convention  
3600 16th Street, NW · Washington, DC 20010

Call toll-free: (800) 722-5141

Fax: (202) 234-3884

Via e-mail: LPNATCONV@aol.com

NOTE: PLEASE COMPLETE A SEPARATE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH ATTENDEE.



# TALKINGPOINTS

## Smoking out a big tax increase, destroying jobs, and childish lies

### Smoke screen

Anyone proposing stiff taxes on the poor and middle class would, presumably, face an uproar. But lo, such tax proposals exist and have barely aroused protest. President Clinton's budget assumes the equivalent of a \$1.10 per pack increase in cigarette taxes by 2003. Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) has a similar plan. Sen. Kent Conrad (D-N.D.) would raise the tax by \$1.50 a pack by 2001.

How regressive are these proposals? Under Conrad's proposal, someone who smokes a pack a day would pay \$547.50 in added annual taxes. If the smoker made \$10,000, that's 5.5% of income; at \$20,000, it's 2.7%.

What's being proposed is a vast income transfer system in which money moves mainly from smokers to others. The largest transfers involve new government spending. What justifies taxing smokers to support this spending? Studies have shown that, because smokers die younger, they have lower lifetime health costs than non-smokers. The latest study, done by Dutch researchers and published last year in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, estimates that if no one smoked, health costs would ultimately rise about 5%.

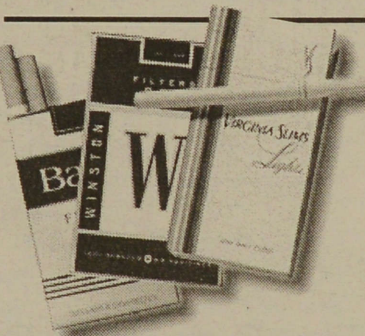
— **ROBERT J. SAMUELSON**  
*Washington Post*  
February 25, 1998

### Minimum wage

Here we go again. President Clinton wants to raise the minimum wage by another dollar, to \$6.15. Economists aren't certain about many things, but on the minimum wage, nearly all of them believe that the case is open and shut. Raising the minimum wage hurts people whose work is worth \$5.15 rather than \$6.15, depriving them of a chance to learn on the job and move up. Businesses have choices. They can replace workers with machines or with fewer but more skilled employees, or they can buy their labor abroad.

There's a bigger issue at stake here than economics: Whether the state should interpose itself between two people freely entering into a contract.

**MARC BEAUCHAMP**  
EDITOR



**"SOMEONE WHO  
smokes a pack  
a day would pay  
\$547 in added  
annual taxes."**

There may be a case for boosting the pay of low earners. Instead of hiking the minimum wage, why not end the payroll tax for everyone making, say, less than \$7 an hour? That would raise take-home pay while actually boosting demand for labor.

— **JAMES GLASSMAN**  
*Washington Post*  
February 26, 1998

### Does this make sense?

Now let me see if I've got this straight. It's legal for men to climb into a boxing ring and beat each other's brains out; to jump off a 500-foot bridge into a gorge with just a bungee cord to snatch them from certain death; to sky dive; to drive race cars.

But Congress has declared it illegal to smoke marijuana because we might harm ourselves.

— **DON ELLIS**  
*North County Times*  
February 9, 1998

### More "child abuse"

Maybe the Third Big Lie, "I'm from the government and I'm here to help you," should be amended to: "I'm from the government and I'm here to help the children." Lately, whenever bureaucrats or lawmakers want to intrude further into the life of the American family or increase the size of government, invariably we are told "it's for the children."

ably we are told "it's for the children."

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner wants to tighten standards for particulate matter and ozone in the air and assures us that the increase in asthma among children is a major reason. When examined more closely, the "for the children" argument collapses. The leading cause of asthma among children is an allergic reaction to cockroach droppings and carcasses.

The average family of four today pays almost one-quarter of its income in federal taxes, compared to three percent in 1950. If our lawmakers really want to help the children, they could begin by dramatically reducing spending, not increasing it, and then they could cut the taxes that are forcing a lot of spouses to work when they'd rather be home with the kids.

— **PETE DU PONT**  
*Washington Times*  
February 22, 1998

### Julian Simon, RIP

Julian Simon, one of the great myth-busters of our time, died February 8.

Simon challenged the people who predict that the world is running out of natural resources, that population growth will lead to mass starvation and global environmental catastrophe. And that free trade and legal immigration will destroy the U.S. economy.

Mr. Simon, a University of Maryland professor of business administration, came up with the hard data to not only show us that none of these dire predictions have happened — but why they won't and can't in a free market.

"We will never run out of the resources we need, because knowledge is an inexhaustible resource. The doomsayers have been wrong for 25 years. Every

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measure of material human welfare in the world has improved rather than deteriorated."

— **DONALD LAMBRO**  
*Washington Times*  
February 19, 1998

### Trade, not war

There is a simple way to improve the current impasse with Iraq. Buy its oil. Economic sanctions are not seriously inconveniencing Saddam. They do harm the Iraqi citizens, and this only increases their hatred of the "Great Satan." That's us.

End the sanctions and inspections. Our current policy is foolish and dangerous. We have much more to fear from a "Fortress Iraq" than a "Merchant Iraq."

Let's buy their oil and sell them food, medicine, computers, cars, whatever they want. The time for force is past. Free trade will make us safer.

— **RICH OSNESS**  
*Minneapolis Star Tribune*  
December 14, 1997

### Read the instructions

The Constitution established a government of delegated, enumerated, and thus limited powers. (Today) government has become Big Brother, Santa Claus and Mary Poppins all rolled into one. And the vice presidency of the United States, a position once held by Thomas Jefferson, is now held by a man who declares that the federal government should be like a grand-parent to the American people. Government not guided by firm principles is a government adrift, government run amok, like a gargantuan two-year-old with an Uzi. It's time to tell the politicians, "When all else fails, read the original instructions."

— **DAVID BOAZ**  
*Cato Policy Report*  
January/February 1998

■ Send "Talking Points" contributions to Marc Beauchamp, 2231 Kings Garden Way, Falls Church VA, 22043. E-mail: [mbeauchamp@ix.netcom.com](mailto:mbeauchamp@ix.netcom.com)

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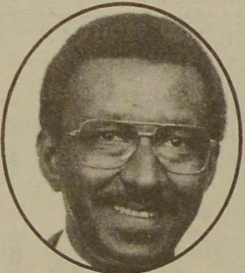
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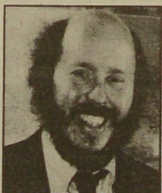
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# Ohio Libertarians help defeat \$11 million sports stadium plan

Ohio Libertarians have done it again — they've played a major role in killing a proposed multi-million dollar, tax-funded sports stadium.

On February 10, residents in Dublin, Ohio, rejected a proposed \$11.5 million stadium for the Columbus Crew professional soccer team by a 59% to 41% vote, thanks in part to LP member Dean Grinch and his work with Families Acting to Conserve Taxes (FACT).

Grinch was a "jack of all trades" in the anti-stadium campaign, writing letters to the editor of local newspapers, setting up a FACT telephone hotline, and helping to distribute post-cards and hand-bills.

Grinch said he opposed the stadium deal "from the day I at-

**"I TOOK IT  
personally and  
volunteered one  
more time."  
— Dean Grinch**

tended a council meeting where it was pitched" because "it was a subsidy of millions of tax dollars to set up a private entertainment business."

Plus, he said, "[a professional sports stadium] was hardly an essential service and the deal appeared to be slanted toward the promoters. The city was buying the land for \$5 million and then leasing it to pro soccer promoters for \$10 per year for decades. And of course, the city would likely end up spending more money on the place."

So he got active, said Grinch, despite the fact that "I am not a 'political activist.' We had a vote last year on whether or not to increase the sales tax another 1%.

I worked on that campaign [and afterwards] I told my wife, 'that's it. No more.' I just wasn't cut out for this sort of thing.

"Then the soccer guys resurfaced in Dublin with yet another proposal for subsidizing pro sports with tax money. I guess I took it personally and volunteered just one more time . . ."

## Not giddy

Despite the lop-sided win, Grinch said: "I am not giddy about our victory. It's too much like war to me."

Other Libertarians were a little more enthusiastic: "Central Ohio voters did it again!" exulted Dena Bruedigam, editor of the *Ohio Libertarian* newsletter.

In May 1997, Ohio Libertarians successfully spearheaded a campaign to kill a \$192 million sales tax to pay for two sports stadiums in Columbus.

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## POLITICAL NEWS

### Bergland campaign wins endorsements

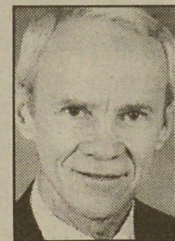
The David Bergland for LP National Chair campaign has racked up three dozen endorsements from prominent LP members during the first month of his campaign, according to campaign spokesman Jack Dean.

"Key endorsements include party co-founder David Nolan, 1980 Libertarian presidential candidate Ed Clark, 1996 vice presidential candidate Jo Jorgensen, past national chair Alicia Clark, immediate past national director Perry Willis, ballot law expert Richard Winger, and Libertarian activists Jon Coon of Michigan and Dick Rider of California," said Dean.

In addition, all current national officers have endorsed him, said Dean: National Chair Steve Dasbach, Vice Chair Karen Allard, Treasurer Hugh Butler, and Secretary Gary Johnson. And State Chairs on the endorsement list include Mark Hinkle (CA), Scott Benson (TN), Carla Howell (MA), and Tim O'Brien (MI).

Other endorsers include: Scott Kjar (AL), LNC member Ken Bisson (IN), Michael Cloud (NV), LNC member Joe Dehn (CA), past National Chair Mary Gingell (CA), LNC alternate member Scott Lieberman (CA), Muni Savyon (MA), Aaron Starr (CA), Farlandria County LP chair Stephanie Yanik (VA).

Contact the Bergland for National Chair Committee by mail at 1773 Bahama Place, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. Phone: (714) 751-8980. E-mail: [DPBergland@earthlink.net](mailto:DPBergland@earthlink.net).



■ David Bergland: Wins three dozen endorsements

### Tuniewicz campaign generates support

In the two months since his announcement, Mark Tuniewicz's bid for LP National Treasurer has received endorsements from party leaders in several states, including California, Illinois, Ohio, New York, and Massachusetts, according to Tim O'Brien, campaign co-chair.

Tuniewicz has won endorsements from Carla Howell (State Chair, LP of Massachusetts); Blay Tarnoff (past State Chair, LP of New York); Mike Ginsberg, (State Chair, LP of Illinois), Don Gallick (alternate member LNC); and Scott Lieberman (alternate member LNC).

"I'm proud that so many of the LP's finest have expressed their support for my campaign. I look forward to meeting all of our convention delegates and sharing my vision for moving the party forward," said Tuniewicz.

Some statements of support for Tuniewicz include:

"As the Regional Representative for New York and New England, Mark's style is very effective. He focuses on important issues, has good business sense, and is supportive and communicative," said Carla Howell (MA).

"What can you say about the commitment of someone who drives five hours — each way — to get to your regular state committee meetings, and contributes in a constructive way?," said Blay Tarnoff (NY).

"The LP needs people like [Tuniewicz]. He's someone who is willing to take the time to listen, to consider the opinions of others, while developing his own. Mark's a hell of a guy," said Don Gallick (OH).

For more information about the Tuniewicz for Treasurer campaign, e-mail: [nhliberty@aol.com](mailto:nhliberty@aol.com).



■ Mark Tuniewicz: Wins State Chair endorsements

### Kip Lee announces presidential bid

LP member Kip Lee has announced that he is seeking the 2000 presidential nomination of the Libertarian Party — and said his strategy to win the party's nomination will consist of making "speeches at colleges and universities."

If nominated, Lee said his campaign will focus on the following issues: "Abolish [the] monetary system; make education free; [and] create free communications and housing."

For information about the Kip Lee campaign call: (530) 246-0330. Write: 2045 Shasta Street, #19, Redding, CA 96001-0444.



# From THE EDITOR

## 17 billion reasons to stay an LP member

**H**ere's a number that will surprise you: \$17,307,452,200. That's \$17.3 billion — and that's the amount of money that Libertarians have saved taxpayers over the past eight months, according to stories in *LP News*.

It was eight months ago that I took over as editor of *LP News*, with a promise to beef up coverage of Libertarian political success; to present a more interesting mix of news, features, opinions, and analysis; and to make the newspaper more attractive and professional looking.

The response from party members to the changes in *LP News* has been overwhelmingly positive — and I thank you for that. But what I've accomplished as editor pales by comparison to what many of you have achieved as Libertarian activists — as the \$17.3 billion figure above illustrates.

Let me take a moment to review some of the highlights that have been reported in *LP News* during my first eight months as editor. I think it will make you glad to be part of America's "Party of Principle."

■ **\$17.3 billion in savings:** Libertarians across the USA have played a crucial role in numerous tax-repeal movements, and the pay-off has been enormous. LP members helped stop \$11.45 million for a tax-financed sports stadium (Bethlehem, Ohio); \$88 million for new sewer taxes (Hopatong, New Jersey); \$630 million and \$700 million respectively for tax-funded sports stadiums (Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and Minneapolis, Minnesota); \$15.8 billion for expanded mass transit (Colorado); \$78 million for school bonds (Illinois); and a more modest — but equally important — \$2,200 in higher school taxes (Roland, Iowa).

(Consider this: You paid \$25 to join the Libertarian Party. The return on your investment has been \$17.3 billion in the last eight months alone. Not a bad deal, is it?)

■ **Electoral victories:** Since September 1997, *LP News* has reported on the election of 39 more Libertarians to public office, and the appointment of five more. There are now a record-setting 250 Libertarians in office across the USA.

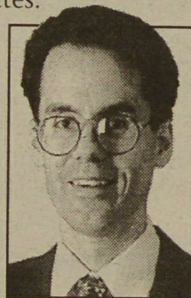
■ **Issues:** Libertarians are sometimes stereotyped as the "drug legalization" party. A look at news stories in *LP News* — about the kinds of issues that Libertarians are active in — shows that no *one* issue defines the Libertarian Party. Here are some of the political battles that Libertarians have been active in: Ballot access; computer encryption rights; government subsidies to business; separation of school and state; zoning laws; eminent domain; ferret legalization; curfews; proportional representation; anti-smoking laws; medical marijuana; mandatory tax-funded recycling programs; privatizing the Social Security system; anti-Bed & Breakfast laws; anti-gambling laws; home-based business permits; private property rights; Congressional pay raises; anti-gun laws; government racial classifications; asset forfeiture laws; privatizing state-owned businesses; marijuana re-criminalization; fireworks bans; campaign finance reform; and affirmative action.

Libertarians sometimes say that the LP defends Americans' rights "on *all* issues, *all* the time." The list above is an eye-opening reminder of how true that statement really is.

Again, thank you for the support you've shown during my first months as editor of *LP News*. And an even bigger thank-you for the amazing work you've done as Libertarian activists: You've made my job easier, made *LP News* more exciting, and given LP members a reason to stay LP members.

As long as you keep doing what you've been doing, I can't wait to read the good news in *next month's LP News*!

And I hope you feel the same way.



By Bill Winter, Editor

# Libertarian foreign policy: Ending welfare for nations — foreign aid

**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 Michael Tanner

## Introduction

The collapse of the Soviet Union has transformed the international environment and demanded a new look at foreign policy. As America searches for a new role in a changing world, what is needed is a Libertarian foreign policy — a foreign policy which understands that America must be a fully engaged participant in the world economy, but refuses to become the world's policeman or interfere in the internal affairs of other nations.

So, the Libertarian Party offers a principled, four-part foreign policy based on peace and free enterprise: 1) America should disengage from outmoded Cold War military alliances and resist new obligations. 2) Foreign aid should be ended. 3 & 4) At the same time, a free flow of goods and people across our borders should be encouraged. Such a libertarian foreign policy will enable America to defend its citizens and bring economic prosperity.

## Part II: Foreign Aid

Foreign aid is little more than welfare for nations — with the same disastrous effects as domestic welfare programs.

The U.S. currently spends approximately \$14 billion per year on foreign aid — far less than most people believe, but still a substantial sum. Since the end of World War II, the United States has spent more than \$400 billion on aid to other countries.

But there is little evidence that any of these programs has significantly improved the lives of the people in countries receiving this aid. Instead, foreign aid has typically slowed economic development and created dependence.

Indeed, the U.S. Agency for International Development itself admits, "Only a handful of countries that started receiving U.S. assistance in the 1950s and 1960s has ever graduated from dependent status."

In fact, despite massive amounts of international aid, the average annual increase in per capita GNP has declined steadily in developing nations since the 1960s, with many of the Third world's heaviest aid recipients

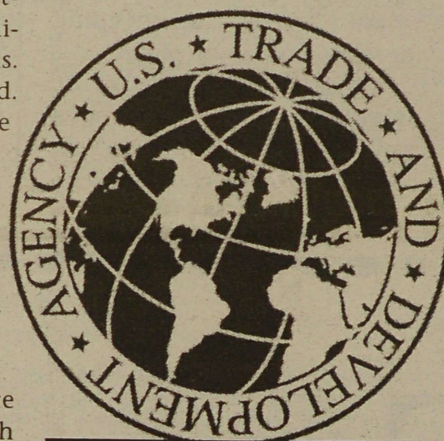
## LIBERTARIAN Solutions

actually suffering negative economic growth.

Tanzania provides a perfect example. Since the early 1970s, Tanzania has received more international aid per capita than any other country. Yet, the country remains the world's third-poorest nation and has had no per capita GNP growth between 1980 and 1992. During the same period, inflation averaged 25% and energy and agricultural production declined dramatically.

## 100 countries

A recent study by Peter Boone of the London School of Economics and the Center for Economic Performance con-



## PART TWO OF A FOUR-PART SERIES Foreign Aid

firmed that U.S. economic aid does not promote economic development. Studying more than 100 countries, Boone concluded that "Long-term aid is not a means to create [economic] growth."

There are many reasons for the failure of foreign aid. First, foreign aid has a widespread record of waste, fraud, and abuse. U.S. aid programs have built tennis courts in Rwanda, sent sewing machines to areas without electricity, and constructed hospitals in cities where a dozen similar facilities already sat half empty.

Frequently, the aid is stolen by corrupt foreign leaders. The Agency for International Development admitted in 1993 that "much of the investment financed by AID between 1960 and 1980 has disappeared without a trace."

Even when aid reaches its

intended beneficiaries, the results are often counterproductive. Just as domestic welfare prevents Americans from becoming self-sufficient, foreign aid keeps entire nations dependent. According to one internal AID audit, "Long-term feeding programs . . . have great potential for creating disincentives for food production."

Specific examples of counterproductive aid policies are easy to come by. For example, following a devastating earthquake in Guatemala, farmers trying to sell their surplus grain found the market flooded by the U.S. Food for Peace program. As a result, according to the Institute for Food and Development Policy, "food aid stood in the way of development." According to journalist Michael Maren, a long-time volunteer with such groups as the Peace Corps, Catholic Relief Services, and AID, aid to Somalia aggravated the country's famine, disrupted local agriculture and turned nomadic tribesmen into "relief junkies." Similar results have been documented in countries as diverse as Colombia, Haiti, and India.

## Economic prosperity

Moreover, foreign aid has often been used to prop up failing Socialist economies, preventing countries from moving to free-market economic policies. Yet, an examination of world economies clearly shows that those countries with free markets experience the greatest economic prosperity.

As a result, Alex de Waal, president of the human rights group, Africa Rights, concludes that foreign aid is "structurally bad because it undermines the incentive to take responsibility. The more aid a country receives, the less the government of that country has to answer to the people."

If Americans truly want to help other countries, they can best do so not through failed foreign aid programs, but by improving the U.S. economy, so that U.S. businesses have funds to invest abroad, and pursuing free trade policies. As the Congressional Budget Office recently admitted, "Critics rightly argue that the broad policies of the major Western countries — trade policies, budget deficits, growth rates, and the like — generally exert greater [positive] influence on the economies of developing countries than does aid."

■ **Next month:** Free Trade



# THE MAILBOX

## Ferret Freedom

It was very kind of you to list the "Ferret Freedom Walk" in *LP News* (Affiliate News, February 1998).

Readers should be aware of the terrible price of resisting authority. My ferret Rocky was killed by the authorities as a result of the walk. Rocky did bite a cameraman, and I thought as a responsible pet owner I should submit to a quarantine if Rocky's safety was guaranteed.

On January 8th, the Health Department learned that [the local animal control center] had my ferret in custody, and they seized Rocky from the vet. According to the *Los Angeles Times*, our Health Department — both county and state — conferred with the state veterinarian, the state epidemiologist, and the San

**"I TRUSTED THE bureaucrats. Once again, I see just how our government operates."**

Diego county counsel and decided to kill Rocky two hours after he was seized. At first they said they were following policies, however, this procedure had never been followed before. Now we get a "no comment."

I am hoping for a federal lawsuit against those responsible

for "conspiracy to deny civil rights." I have attorneys who I think will take it on contingency, but I still need \$20,000 to cover basic costs.

It has been very painful to lose Rocky because I trusted the bureaucrats. Once again, I see just how our government operates. I am grateful to all the support I have received from ferret lovers worldwide, and I am very grateful that the Libertarian Party is out there as a voice for individual liberty.

— **PAT WRIGHT**  
San Diego, California

## Rush to judgment?

John Nemeth (*The Pulse*, *LP News*, March 1998) should listen to Rush Limbaugh more often. Rush is very much disappointed with Republican performance and says so daily. Rush Limbaugh has 22 million listeners, mostly followers, and is ripe for Libertarianism — and he even said on radio that "the Libertarians have it nearly right." None of the Republican [politicians] are my idol, but Rush is.

— **FRANCIS BRANDT, JR.**  
Hampton, New Hampshire

## Where are gun owners?

As a member of the Libertarian Party, a gun owner, and ardent advocate of the Second Amendment, I was surprised and disappointed at the tiny response (.01%) of gun owners to Project Archimedes test mailings (*LP News*, March 1998).

I can only surmise this is because most individual gun owners are independent, skeptical of non-gun owners, suspicious of avowed good intentions, and reluctant to reveal their status as gun owners. In recent years they have been the target of unrelenting attacks and scorn as beer guzzling, pot-bellied, swaggering trouble makers who must, for public safety reasons, be restrained from owning weapons. Of course, this stereotype is promoted by the media and gun-control advocates. In reality, studies have indicated that gun owners are generally better educated, earn higher salaries, and

See MAILBOX Page 18

## Life & Rights: Joined at Conception

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# THE PULSE

## C'mon Clint: Make our day!

**H**ere's how Clint Eastwood could "make the day" of Libertarians: He could run for president on the LP ticket in 2000. The two-fisted movie star, Academy Award-winning director, and self-described libertarian was the winner of this month's Pulse question, as the "dream candidate" who Libertarians would most like to see run for president in 2000. Eastwood led the politically desirable pack with 23.8% of the vote.

On the heels of "Dirty Harry" was the *other* Harry — the Libertarian Party's own Harry Browne. The party's 1996 presidential candidate was urged by 16.6% of the voters to make it "two in a row" in 2000.

Third place featured a four-way tie with 7.1% of the vote, and included a syndicated columnist (Walter Williams); a Republican-turned-Libertarian-turned-Republican Congressman (Ron Paul); the president of a libertarian advocacy group (Jacob Hornberger); and a millionaire-turned-GOP-presidential-candidate (Steve Forbes.)

In all, 18 different individuals earned votes from Libertarians. Here's a representative sample of the responses:

■ **CLINT EASTWOOD:** Great name recognition — who in America has never heard of Clint Eastwood and who doesn't love him (or at least the characters he portrays)?

— **MATT PRINCE**, *Germantown, Maryland*

■ **DAVE BARRY:** One of the most successful humorists in America, with a widely syndicated newspaper column. He could build support for Libertarian ideas by giving the federal government the ridicule it so richly deserves.

— **NICHOLAS WEININGER**, *St. Paul, Minnesota*

■ **TED NUGENT:** His candidacy could address many Libertarian issues, such as firearm safety, freedom of speech, and even conservation issues.

— **ROB CHATFIELD**, *Boston, Massachusetts*

■ **STEVE FORBES:** A man of character and principles. He is intelligent and forward looking. I'm sure he would support repealing the 16th Amendment and eliminate once and for all the IRS.

— **JEAN BUCKALEW**, *Newton Square, Pennsylvania*

■ **WALTER WILLIAMS:** He is articulate, smart, congenial, persuasive, experienced, and has a national presence.

— **JAMES ARFT**, *Hilton, New York*

■ **RON PAUL:** As a Congressman, he would be the most serious, credible candidate we ever ran. And even though he is nominally a Republican, I think his libertarian credentials are as good or better than most.

— **PATSY BONTEMPO**, *Asbury Park, New Jersey*

■ **JACOB HORNBERGER:** He is not afraid to express our principles, and he articulates them quite well. In this day and age, charisma and youth go a long way in politics, and Hornberger possesses these qualities.

— **KEITH M. DONAT**, *Shaker Heights, Ohio*

■ **HARRY BROWNE:** People say you'll never find a candidate with whom you agree 100%, but Harry is such a candidate. He is eloquent, persuasive, and has name recognition, contacts, and respect.

— **SCOTT FROST**, *Seattle, Washington*

■ **GEORGE MCGOVERN:** Think of the enormous publicity and outreach he could generate! He could reach innumerable liberals with his conversion to the economics of genuine compassion.

— **ALLEN P. TURNAGE**, *Albany, Georgia*

■ **CLINT EASTWOOD:** His public persona is one of a strong, independent individual. He would be, as our forefathers envisioned, a true citizen statesman.

— **BING STAFFORD**, *Kissimmee, Florida*

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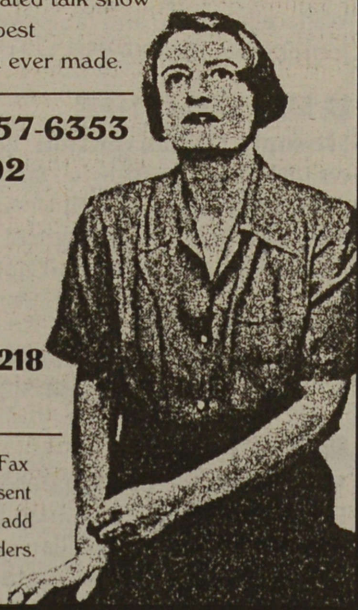
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# THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 17

occupy more responsible positions in society than do many non-gun owners.

Until the Second Amendment is recognized by the Supreme Court as meaning exactly what it says, prudence dictates keeping a low profile on the part of advocates of private ownership of firearms. Too much visibility invites even more virulent attacks by prohibitionists, both inside and outside of government.

This strategy will likely prove to be self-defeating in the long run. A better strategy would be joining with other freedom-loving activists and fighting for the Constitution and all it stands for. That is what I have done and I urge others to do the same.

— CHARLES W. JONES

Elizabethtown, New Jersey

## Building membership: No

I must take issue with Harry Browne's conviction that Libertarian Party success depends on building the membership of the Libertarian Party. (February 1998

LP News.) Ever since the 1996 election, Browne and members of the national party hierarchy have been claiming that Libertarian Party success is impossible without an enormous increase in party membership.

The key to Libertarian success lies in improving the quality of Libertarian campaigns. This means an unceasing effort on the part of LP candidates to competently explain, defend, and debate libertarian positions in the heat of a campaign. It also entails confronting opponents directly with the important issues of the day: i.e., ending, not reforming or saving, such things as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, public schooling, the drug war, trade and immigration controls, welfare, and taxation.

Libertarian success does not depend on the number of LP members but rather on the quality of Libertarian campaigns. People will support and vote for Libertarian candidates even if they don't join the party.

— JACOB G. HORNBERGER

Fairfax, Virginia

## Empowerment

It occurred to me the other day that perhaps what I like best about libertarianism is that it's so empowering. It teaches you how to be happy and successful — [to] stand up for your rights, never think of yourself as a victim, work hard, question authority, be an innovator, keep your financial house in order, etc.

Empowerment is a fairly big issue today, especially with women and minorities. Why not try to sell libertarianism to them with this angle?

— JOE BUCCIANO

East Quogue, New York

## Matching Funds: Yes

On the question of accepting matching funds (The Pulse, LP News, February 1998): Why is this any different from taking all itemized tax deductions which are legitimately available, or accepting unemployment insurance, or enjoying the use of a public park? In all cases, the citizen is benefiting from the use and application of funds extorted from a fellow citizen.

By itself, this is not an argument for or against accepting such funds. Rather, I mean to argue that so-called ideological purity leads to absurd results in many cases. With some limited and principled exceptions, obeying the laws or "operating within the system" is the only rational basis on which to work for change.

— LARRY ISRAEL

Woodside, California

## Matching Funds: No

The responses to the Pulse question on whether Libertarian candidates should accept matching funds has prompted me to add my opinions. I disagree with Patrick Sheldon's response that one "must sometimes compromise our principles for the greater good." Principles really don't mean much if one is willing to compromise them when they get in the way.

Robert Shuford hit the heart of the matter: "Only an idiot would put himself in the ridiculous position of accepting a subsidy he proposes eliminating." If we start using and depending on these funds, we may, reluctantly of course, conclude the subsidy "needs" to exist after all. But if we accept the funds and use them exclusively "for advertising that ridicules the entire concept of matching funds" as Brian Gomez suggests — we should be safe since the matching funds and our "need" for them would disappear together.

But isn't that compromising our principles? I think not, as long as we use the funds toward their own elimination.

— SUE COX & ROB NEWSHUTZ  
Rochester, Minnesota

# More UPCOMING EVENTS

## ■ April 24-26, 1998

**Colorado LP State Convention**, Sheraton Denver West Hotel, Denver. Speakers include radio talk show host Gene Burns, Bumper Hornberger, Richard Boddie, and Michael Cloud. For information, call (303) 837-9393 or (800) 211-5214. World Wide Web: [www.pageplus.com/~lpcolorado](http://www.pageplus.com/~lpcolorado).

## ■ April 24-26, 1998

**Ohio LP Convention**, Ramada Plaza Hotel in downtown Akron. Speakers include Harry Browne (LP 1996 Presidential candidate), David Boaz (Cato Institute), Steve Dasbach, (LP National Chair), Tim Slagle (comedian), David Bergland (LP 1984 Presidential Candidate), Lynn Scarlett (Reason Foundation), and Ron Crickenberger (LP National Director). For information, call (800) 974-5173. Or e-mail: [ae628@acorn.net](mailto:ae628@acorn.net).

## ■ April 25, 1998

**"Rock for Your Rights Benefit Bash,"** Madison, Wisconsin. A rally with music, featuring Daisy Head Mayzie and Trigger Happy. For information, call Rolf Lindgren at (608) 241-2863.

## ■ May 2, 1998

**Virginia LP Convention**, Dulles Airport Marriott, Chantilly. Speakers include Jim Bovard (author of *Lost Rights*), James W. Lark III, Michael Lynch (*Reason* magazine), Bill Redpath, Perry Willis (past LP National Director), and Bill Winter (LP Director of Communications). For information, call (800) 619-1776.

## ■ May 2-3, 1998

**North Carolina LP Convention**, Ramada Inn Market Street, Wilmington. Speakers include LP National Chairman Steve Dasbach, Paul Valone, Allen Phillips, Sean Haugh. For information call: (704) 664-5681 or (910) 251-8671.

## ■ May 2-3, 1998

**Washington state LP Convention**, Doubletree Inn, Bellevue. Speakers include Harry Browne (LP 1996 Presidential candidate), David Bergland, Michael Cloud, and Ron Crickenberger (LP National Director). For information, call Mike Hihn at (800) 353-1776 or (206) 329-5669.

## ■ May 3, 1998

**Oregon LP Convention**, Holiday Inn Portland South, Wilsonville. For information, call (503) 775-3299. World Wide Web: [www.teleport.com/~lpo/events.html](http://www.teleport.com/~lpo/events.html)

## ■ May 4, 1998

**Rhode Island LP Convention**, Bickford's Restaurant, Warwick. For more information, call (401) 848-9733.

## ■ May 9, 1998

**West Virginia LP Convention**, Holiday Inn Charleston House, Charleston. Speakers include National LP Chairman Steve Dasbach, Jacob Hornberger, author Dr. Mary Ruwart, Wallace Johnson, and James W. Lark. For information call John Brown at (800) 950-3421.

## ■ May 15-17, 1998

**Missouri LP Convention**, Rock Lane Resort, Branson. Speakers include Harry Browne, Jacob Hornberger, and Dick Boddie. For information, call Phil Horras at (417) 886-8330. Write: 1530 East Berkeley, Springfield MO 65804. World Wide Web: <http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/1865/convention.html>

## ■ June 6, 1998

**Kentucky LP Convention**, Executive Inn, Louisville. For more information, call (502) 254-3975. E-mail: [flagmax@aol.com](mailto:flagmax@aol.com).

## ■ July 1, 1998

**Vienna Coffee Club**, sponsored by the Future of Freedom Foundation, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC. Speakers include Walter E. Williams, Jacob Hornberger, and James Bovard (*Lost Rights*). For information, call: (703) 934-6101

# THE PULSE

## June Question

**L**ibertarians don't like a lot of government rules and regulations. But one government "document" that even Libertarians applaud is the Bill of Rights — because it restricts government, rather than individuals. But the Bill of Rights has been sadly battered in recent decades by the disease of big-government "elephantitis." Is it time for Libertarians to beef up that venerated document?

**QUESTION:** If you could add one new Amendment to the Bill of Rights which would in some *specific* way limit the power, cost, or scope of the government, what would it be? And why? (Please limit your response to 100 words.)

■ **DEADLINE:** May 5, 1998

## May Question

**T**he first line of the LP's Statement of Principles — which says: "We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual" — has been hotly debated at past national conventions. At issue: Whether it's odd and cultish sounding, or proud and principled. **QUESTION:** Should the party change that line to something more "mainstream" — or stick proudly with the original language? And why? (Please keep answers to 100 words or less.)

■ **DEADLINE:** April 5, 1998

**ENTRY GUIDELINES:** Include your name, please; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.

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



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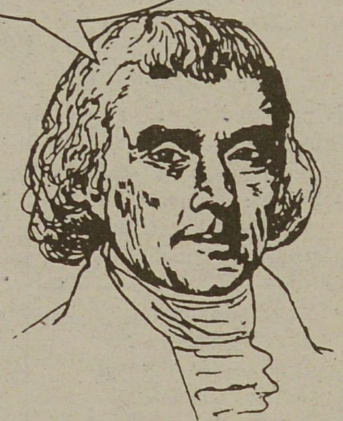
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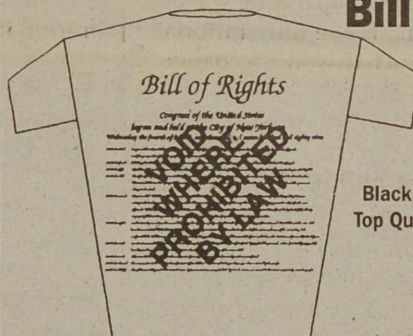
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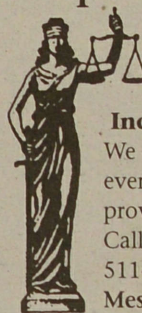
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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## ■ April 3-5, 1998

**Michigan LP Convention**, East Lansing Marriott, East Lansing. Theme: "Communicating Liberty." Speakers include Sharon Harris (Advocates for Self-Government), Bill Winter (LP Director of Communications), and David Bergland. For information, call Mike Brinkman at (517) 333-4857. E-mail: Brinkman1@aol.com.

## ■ April 4, 1998

**Maine LP Convention**, South Portland Marriott. Speakers include talk show host John McDonald, Sally Sutton (Maine Civil Liberties Union), Richard Komer (Institute for Justice), Jeff Weinstein (NRA), and National LP Chairman Steve Dasbach. For information, call Mark Cenci at (207) 780-1776.

## ■ April 4, 1998

**North Carolina LP Candidate Training Seminar**, Flat Rock. Training for candidates being held in western North Carolina. For information, contact Shannon O'Shields: (919) 420-7784.

## ■ April 4, 1998

**Alaska LP Convention**, Lake Lucille Best Western Hotel, Wasilla. For information, call (907) 566-1235.

## ■ April 17-19, 1998

**Illinois LP Convention**, Holiday Inn, Elk Grove. Speakers include Murray Sabrin and David Boaz. Contact Kathy Kelley at (815) 874-6345, or Mike Ginsberg (847) 776-8747. E-mail: lpi@mcs.com. World Wide Web: <http://www.mcs.com/~lpi/>.

## ■ April 17-19, 1998:

**Indiana LP Convention**. For information, call (800) 814-1776.

## ■ April 18, 1998

**Minnesota LP Convention**, Mystic Lake Hotel, Prior Lake. Speaker: Harry Browne (LP 1996 Presidential candidate). For information, call: (612) 874-8531. World Wide Web: [www.lpmn.org](http://www.lpmn.org).

## ■ April 18, 1998

**Wisconsin LP Convention**, Country Inn, Waukesha. Speakers include Gene Cisewski (Liberty Council), Michael P. Riley (Taxpayers Network), and Murray Sabrin (N.J. gubernatorial candidate). For information, call (608) 829-2913. E-mail: jjmuelle@execpc.com.

## ■ April 18, 1998

**Georgia LP Convention**, Chukkar Farm, Alpharetta. Speakers include Ron Crickenberger (LP National Director), Dewayne Metheny (Auburn City Council), Bruce Van Buren (Avondale Estates Commissioner), Sharon Harris (Advocates for Self-Government), and Walker Chandler. For information, call (404) 888-9468.

## ■ July 2-5, 1998

**Libertarian Party National Convention**, Washington, DC. Speakers include Michael Tanner of the Cato Institute, Sharon Harris (Advocates for Self-Government), Harry Browne (1996 LP presidential candidate), Jacob Hornberger (Future of Freedom Foundation), and IRS whistle-blower Shelley Davis. Performers include "The Capitol Steps." For information call (202) 234-3880.

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# INSIDE

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■ PAGE 1 Ron Paul's ballot access bills get House committee hearing



# FIRST WORD

**O**n occasion when I've identified myself as a libertarian, I've had people react as if I'd said "libertine" instead. Maybe the licentious would prefer a libertarian regime to a Democratic or Republican one — although after the [Clinton/Lewinsky scandal] it's hard to believe it makes any difference — but the converse is false. Libertarians are as likely to be virtuous as anybody else, in my experience; they are just unwilling to be coerced by the Nanny State into someone else's notion of good behavior.

— LINDA SEEBACH, *Rocky Mountain News*, February 1, 1998